Tomorrow’s Scientists
Girls Launch Research Careers in Brandeis Labs

Leslie Meltzer ’03 enrolled at Brandeis in 1999 determined to become a doctor. However, after spending a few months conducting protein research relating to Alzheimer’s disease, she was hooked on research. Graduating summa cum laude with a double major in biology and neuroscience, she is now enrolled in Stanford’s Ph.D. program in neurobiology where she expects to study Alzheimer’s disease at the cellular level.

Like many of the more than 400 undergraduate math and science students at Brandeis, half of them girls, Meltzer benefited from the special advantage the University offers undergraduate science majors—the opportunity to do serious research in the laboratories of world-renowned scientists. This is especially true for biology majors, two-thirds of which are female.

Jamie Kugler ’03, who is now working toward a Ph.D. in molecular biology at Cornell Medical School, spent several years at Brandeis studying the actin cytoskeleton in Professor Bruce Goode’s cell biology laboratory. Actin is a protein that acts as a skeleton to give shape and protection to cells.

Margaret Pawlowski ’03, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in cancer biology at Stanford, worked on an important enzyme in Professor Chandler Fulton’s laboratory, which is well known in the field of cell differentiation and cell death.

Kathryn Patterson ’03 made a significant contribution to science while working on DNA repair in the Brandeis laboratory of world-renowned biologist Jim Haber. “The main achievement of my research was developing a new way of assaying sensitivity to hydroxyurea, a drug that inhibits DNA replication,” she explained. “We used a microscope to examine single cells, whereas most labs only get a broad picture by looking at cultures containing many cells.” Patterson was a Justice Brandeis Scholar who plans to study medicine.

Also working in Haber’s laboratory was Allison Landman ’03, who already had two years of research on cell cycle genes under her belt when she came to Brandeis. A long-time science enthusiast, Landman thought it was “the coolest thing ever” when she and her seventh grade pals learned molecular biological protocols at DNA summer camp. She and Kathryn Patterson both were picked for the highly selective Howard Hughes Fellowships and the Schiff Fellowship program, which gives students interested in academic careers a taste.
Celebrating 55 Years of Service, Friendship, and Learning

National Women's Committee members and chapters around the country are celebrating their long and satisfying association with Brandeis in this, our 55th anniversary year.

Estelle Jacobs, former National Women's Committee president and Brandeis University Fellow, (right) celebrated her 50+ years of active membership in the organization with NWC president Carol Kern and 50 of her closest friends. People came from as far away as California and Boston for the event, which featured tributes honoring Jacobs for the passion and creativity she has brought to many NWC projects over the years. Proceeds from the event went to the Library Technology Fund, which has now raised $2.3 million toward its $5 million goal.

Eight Visionary Women Found NWC

By the time Brandeis opened its first library in a converted horse stable, an inspired group of eight women had already organized a small army of volunteers to raise funds for its operation. Membership in the Brandeis University National Women's Committee, now one of the largest “friends-of-a-library” groups in the world, swelled overnight with women from coast to coast anxious to make this Jewish-sponsored nonsectarian university a success and its library first rate.

First Sachar Medallion Awarded

The Women's Committee established the Abram L. Sachar Silver Medallion Award to recognize women who made outstanding contributions to public education and awareness. Recipients have included actress Helen Hayes, opera director Sarah Caldwell, historian and author Doris Kearns Goodwin, scientist and antinuclear activist Helen Caldicott, Jehan (Mrs. Anwar) Sadat, Nobel Prize winner Rosalyn Yalow, journalists Nina Totenberg and Anna Quindlen, and cancer specialist Susan Love, M.D.

Faculty Goes on the Road

Brandeis faculty members “hit the road” for the first time to lecture in Women's Committee chapters, giving Brandeis greater visibility in communities across the country and providing a vital link to the University for supporters thousands of miles from campus. More than 100 faculty members have participated in what is now called “University Outreach.”

Faculty-authored study groups linked members nationwide to Brandeis. Thousands of members continue to meet in small groups in homes, public libraries and community centers to study everything from Shakespeare to American Jewish humor, using almost 100 syllabi and discussion guides written by the faculty.
Marie Kargman of the Boston Chapter has always been driven by a burning curiosity and fierce intellect. A lawyer by age 21, she later received an M.A. from Harvard in social relations and had successive careers as a public defender, research sociologist, marriage counselor, court investigator and guardian ad litem, lecturer, consultant, and author.

Kargman calls herself “an idea person” and an innovator, so it is little wonder that she was so inspired by the idea of women building a library for Brandeis that she joined the effort in 1956 as a member of the Boston Chapter. Soon after, her husband Max, a lawyer and real estate developer, loaned a first-floor commercial space in the heart of downtown Boston to the Chapter for one of its first used book sales to benefit the Libraries. “I thought the idea of the Women’s Committee was great,” she said recently. “Where would Brandeis have gotten the funds to build a first-rate library without us? I thought it was a very forward-looking organization—the first women’s group responsible for a library!”

Kargman, who was recently included in 2000 Women of Achievement, is celebrating the National Women’s Committee’s 55th Anniversary by making a gift to the Library Benefactor Fund, commemorating special occasions with Book Fund cards, and attending meetings in Boston and Florida. She still enjoys dropping by campus to see what’s new in the Libraries.
Looking back on this incredible year, I have come to realize that we face our challenges head on and continue to give of ourselves and our resources to support Brandeis University because we value what it stands for. Traveling around the country and meeting dedicated members at special meetings, chapter events, and region conferences has been a highlight for me as your national president. I’ve listened to your enthusiasm about planning special fundraising events, book and author luncheons, book sales through the internet, traditionally run book sales, and educational study group programs that rival those that are run by professionals—all in the name of Brandeis. We are indeed professional volunteers and ambassadors for the University working for a common cause—to help educate the best and the brightest to become “citizens of the world.”

What has been the greatest inspiration for me has been meeting and listening to the students. Read our cover story in this issue to see what a rare breed of young women and men Brandeis educates. Their desire to make the world a better place, to help others, to further the cause of peaceful co-existence makes me proud to be affiliated with a university that fosters this kind of learning.

At region conferences we spoke about “Imagining Possibilities.” Now, as we begin our 55th year of service to Brandeis University, let’s turn imagination into creating a National Women’s Committee culture worthy of the University we proudly work for. A culture that welcomes the new and honors the past; a culture that is inviting, interesting, and inspiring; a culture that understands time spent is worthy of the outcome—and the name of Brandeis. Creating this kind of culture may be more difficult than imagining, but it will be so much more rewarding.

As I wrote before, creating a living legacy is inspiring work. Making it happen takes foresight and courage. Our legacy is in our hands.
The National Women’s Committee (NWC) made a gift of $4,057,222 to Brandeis in fiscal year 2003, exceeding its goal for the year. This brings the total raised by NWC for Brandeis and its Libraries since 1948 to more than $86 million.

More than $1.1 million of the NWC gift went to the Libraries. In addition, NWC members and friends gave $1.7 million directly to the University, of which $770,000 was for the Libraries, making a total of $1.9 million for Library support. An additional $559,619 came from planned gifts.

Where the Money Goes

- **Endowment** 33%
- **General Library Operating Expenses, Including Books** 53%
- **Research Journals** 4%
- **Technology** 3%
- **Student Support** 7%
- **Other** 56%

GIFTS TO THE BRANDEIS LIBRARIES

- **Library** 44%
- **Gifts of NWC Members and Friends Direct to the University**

PRESIDENTIAL COMMENDATIONS

- **Aventura/Hollywood**
- **Boca Raton**
- **Boston**
- **Desert**
- **Florida Region**
- **Gotham**
- **Gulf Shore**
- **Los Angeles**
- **North Shore**
- **Phoenix**
- **Santa Clara Valley**
- **Washington DC**

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION AWARDS

- **SMALL**
  - Brevard County
- **MEDIUM**
  - TriCities
- **LARGE**
  - Wycliffe
- **EXTRA-LARGE**
  - Greater Boston

LOUIS AWARDS

The following chapters earned the prestigious Louis Award by reaching both their financial and membership goals in fiscal year 2002.

- **FLORIDA REGION**
  - Boca Raton
  - Brevard County
  - Delray Beach
  - Flager/Volusia
  - Gulf Shore
  - Lakes
  - South Dade
  - St. Petersburg
  - Tampa Bay
  - Trails
  - West End
  - Wycliffe

- **NEW YORK-NJ-SO. CT REGION**
  - Essex County
  - Meadowbrook
  - Middlesex
  - Nassau North
  - Rockland

- **NEW ENGLAND REGION**
  - Boston
  - Cape Cod
  - Norfolk/Sharon

- **MIDWEST REGION**
  - North Shore

- **MID-ATLANTIC REGION**
  - Washington, DC

- **WESTERN REGION**
  - Desert
  - Las Vegas
  - Los Angeles
  - Phoenix
  - Rancho Bernardo
  - Rossmoor
  - Saddleback
  - San Diego
  - San Diego Valley
  - Santa Clara Valley
The Brandeis University National Women's Committee thanks donors who made gifts of $1,000 or more between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2003.

**$500,000 AND ABOVE**
Estate of Bronnica Weinberg

**$100,000 - $499,999**
Bette Liebling Aschkenasy
Estate of Miriam Faverman
Estate of Frances Hirshhorn
Helen B. Rosen
Irwin Jaffe Family Trust
Norman Weil

**$50,000 - $99,999**
Oscar and Emma Getz Charitable Fund Trust
Henry and Sandra Stein Foundation

**$25,000 - $49,999**
Family of Eva and Frances Forman
Estate of Ruth B. and Isaac Friedman
Estate of Rose Gilmore
Lawrence Karp
Robert and Ruth King
Evelyn R. Perl
Estates of Hilda E. and Nathan E. Ross
Estate of Esther P. Schwartz
Estate of Dorothy Tavris
Estate of Esther P. Schwartz
Estates of Hilda E. and Nathan E. Ross

**$10,000 - $24,999**
Harry and Gloria Alhyster
Anonymous
Florence Bergen
Hershey and Marion Bernstein
Jean C. Carrus
Barbara and Justin Ehrlich
Elaine S. Elkis
The Lee A. and Helen G. Gifford Foundation
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The David and Barbara B. Hirschhorn Foundation
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Carol and Allan Kern
Joyce and Paul Krasnow Charitable Foundation
Livingston Foundation, Inc.
The Marvel S. Platoff Foundation
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Rita Price
Henry R. and Frieda L. Schwartz
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Shirley Spero
Rose Lustig Weil Trust
Estate of Andrew W. Weiner

**$5,000 - $9,999**
Bernadine Daskof
Maureen and Richard Darwood
George Freeman
Estate of Sophie Golbi
Milton and Henrietta Kushkin Foundation
LKCI Foundation
Estate of Celia "Chickee" Masters
Sandra and Gilbert Oken
Open Society Institute
Carol S. Rahmont ’59
Dena and Arnold Robbins
Estate of Elsa J. Schrager

Wolfgang Shapiro
Estate of Evelyn Lenore Silverstone
Bernice Smilowitz

**$1,000 - $4,999**
Theodore and Barbara Alfond
Olga Holman Alman
Anonymous
Ellen and Simon Atlas
Barbara J. Auerbach
Fannie Wolf Avrin
Lisbeth Baron
Jordan Baruch
Dorothy and Lee Baumgarten
Audrey and Willard Bear
Louis Berkowitz Family Foundation
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Audrey and Bernard Bernstein
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Henry and Ruth Bloom
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Robert R. and Dorothy G. Garret
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Rhona and Sidney Ozer
Harriet and Herbert ’56 Paris
Laura G. and David A. Pels
Victor and June Penso
Lois Wisch Pierce
Ruth Piken
Roslyn and Richard Polakoff
Annette Prich
Barbara and Frank Resnek
Dorothy Richards
Lois and Irving Ringel
The Frederick P. and Sandra P Rose Foundation
Dr. Bernice Rosen
Estate of Eleanor Rosen
Vera Rosen
Estate of Ruth Ross
Sarge Korman Ruck
Maurice S. Suge Foundation, Inc.
Helaine and Joel Saperstein
Joan Schatzow
Charlotte and Burton Schiff
Charlotte and Leonard Schlesinger
Barbara and Sheldon Schumacher
Harriet Shapiro
Barbara and David Sherer
Cynthia B. and Leon M. Shulman
Estate of Doris B. Siegel
Elaine and Leonard Silverman
Evelyn and Daniel Simon Charitable Trust
Florence Charwat Simon
Marcia Simon
Claire and Dr. Irwin Smith
Jeanne Snyder
Glorya Spero
Roslyn and Irving Stare
Barbara Starksay
Molly Stiller
Marsha and Herbert Stoller
Shirlee and Harry Strausberg
Elizabeth and Jerry Susser
Michael S. Swartz ’71
Sondra Homer-Warner and Oscar Warner
Natalie Kotzen-Warner and Leonard Warner
Rodolf Winkler
Arthur M. Winn
Gayle J. and George Wise
A. Lee Zeigler
Lois Zollo
Edith Zwick
Brandeis Names New Provost and New Dean of Arts and Sciences

Brandeis recently named Dr. Marty Wyngaarden Krauss provost and senior vice president for academic affairs and Dr. Adam Jaffe dean of arts and sciences.

The John Stein Professor of Disability Research and Director of the Starr Center for Mental Retardation at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Krauss most recently served as associate dean for faculty and academic programs at the Heller School from which she received her Ph.D. in 1981. She served as the Chairperson of the Massachusetts Governor’s Commission on Mental Retardation from 1993-1999. In 2000-2001, she was a member of the National Research Council’s Committee on Disability Determination for Mental Retardation, which is an advisory board to the Social Security Administration.

Her research focuses on the impact of mental retardation and other disabilities on families.

Dr. Adam Jaffe is the Fred C. Hecht Professor of Economics and has served as chair of the Department of Economics since 2000. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University where he served as assistant and then associate professor of economics before joining the Brandeis faculty in 1994.

Associate editor of the Rand Journal of Economics, Jaffe is a former senior staff economist for the President’s Council of Economic Advisers and serves currently as co-organizer of the Innovation Policy and the Economy Group of the National Bureau of Economic Research. In cases against the tobacco industry in Minnesota and Massachusetts, he was the primary economic expert in demonstrating conspiracy among tobacco companies to suppress competition, health research, and other activities revealing harmful effects of smoking.

EXECUTIVE View

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” Last year, the National Women’s Committee invested itself in “Imagining Possibilities” to fulfill the promise of Brandeis University, raising more than $4 million to support critical areas such as library technology and journals, basic research, and scholarships and fellowships. Our gifts indeed make dreams come true.

This year, the National Women’s Committee will not only imagine possibilities, but also create possibilities and a promising future for those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. One important way to accomplish this is by fortifying connections among our own membership as well as with all areas of the University. As partners in the University’s Campaign for Brandeis: Creating Connections, we resonate with President Jehuda Reinharz when he declares, “We find that remarkable people connected to each other—through Brandeis—can, and indeed will, create a better world.”

Volunteers and staff have been working hard to improve not only the information you receive about the NWC and Brandeis, but also the vehicles that distribute this information. News and Notes, Imprint, and the BUZZ are a trove of resources that bring fresh ideas and up-to-the-minute news and information to you numerous times throughout the year. You are also encouraged to take advantage of the assets offered through our newly redesigned website, www.brandeis.edu/bunwc. This dynamic resource is easy to navigate, full of exciting news about our myriad activities in chapters nationwide, and provides access to the University and its Library websites. Finally, the University just recently produced an exciting video, in conjunction with its $470 million campaign, which offers a window on the campus and introductions to some of its stellar faculty, groundbreaking research and programs, and extraordinary students.

George Alpert, founding chairman of the Brandeis University Board of Trustees, said, “A commitment to excellence is not that unusual, but an unflinching, unfailing devotion to its continuation is.” The National Women’s Committee has demonstrated its unfailing commitment in exceptional measure over the last 55 years by meeting each challenge with unflinching resolve. We have before us now the challenge to help the University “create a better world,” by raising $22.9 million in support of the Brandeis campaign. This will require us to imagine new possibilities, create new connections, and strike bold initiatives that reflect not only our remarkable past but also our limitless future. By working together with new friends and old and in partnership with the University, we will create the future that we all imagine possible.

Wise Fellow

Former National Women’s Committee President
Gayle Wise of the San Diego Chapter (center) was inducted as a Fellow of Brandeis University at the National Women’s Committee (NWC) Tri-Region Conference in Las Vegas. Performing the induction was former NWC President Barbara Ehrlich (left). Current President Carol Kern offers her congratulations.
of that life. Landman is now enrolled in a Ph.D. program in biology at MIT.

In addition to conducting research in the Brandeis laboratory of Susan Birren, neuroscience major Parizad Bilimaria ’04 hopes to one day publish short stories, perhaps even a novel. She plans to pursue a career in biomedical research, but she is also completing a degree in creative writing. Bilimaria’s research involves imaging the innervation of the heart in 3D in order to study the role of a receptor for neurotrophins, molecules important to the growth, survival, and function of neurons, work that recently earned her the Elihu A. Silver Prize for a junior carrying out research. She has been a summer Hughes Fellow and worked last summer at a laboratory at the National Institutes of Health.

The first person in her family to graduate from college, Melissa Morales ’03, a Phi Beta Kappa biochemistry major, is working in a National Institutes of Health (NIH) laboratory this year after winning an NIH Undergraduate Scholarship for her final year at Brandeis. She was one of nine recipients selected from a national pool of 160 applicants.

“Brandeis was such an awesome experience,” Leslie Meltzer reported. “The faculty are doing amazing things, and if you demonstrate that you are serious about doing research, they are very willing to show you the ropes. It’s a small university and the labs are all close together, so you make a lot of contacts with brilliant people. During my interviews for graduate school at Columbia and Stanford, it became obvious how respected and well-known the Brandeis faculty is.”

Women in Science
Brandeis Leads the Way

Editor’s Note. The following is based in part on an article by Cristin Carr that appeared in the Brandeis Reporter Catalyst.

A fter 50 years of doing groundbreaking scientific research in protein structures, work that has taken her all over the world and earned her membership in the National Academy of Sciences, there is no place Carolyn Cohen would rather be than in her laboratory in the Rosenstiel Basic Medical Sciences Research Center at Brandeis. Cohen says she still finds her work “endlessly interesting” and Brandeis “a good place for women.”

Cohen was hired by Brandeis in 1972 as the first tenured woman in biology, the first of many women faculty hires which today puts the biology faculty at an unusually high ratio of 50 percent female and the whole of the life sciences faculty at 30 percent women.

“Some universities have a high percentage of women at the junior level,” observes Eve Marder ’69, the Victor and Gwendolyn Beinfield Professor of Neuroscience and Volen National Center for Complex Systems. “Brandeis has an unusually high percentage of women at the senior level.”

According to the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Scientists and Engineers Statistical Data System surveys, female scientists and engineers hold fewer high-ranked positions than do their male counterparts in four-year colleges and universities. NSF also reports that women are less likely than men to be tenured.

Brandeis has hired and supported an impressive roster of women scientists, having long since established policies of hiring strictly on merit and paying men and women the same salaries. These women have played a significant role in securing the University’s place as a leading scientific research institution.

Leslie Griffith, an associate professor of biology and Volen National Center for Complex Systems, earned Klingenstein, Sloan, and Whitehall Foundation awards and received a McKnight Foundation for Neuroscience Technical Innovation Award. Gina Turrigiano, also an associate professor of biology in Volen, won a MacArthur Fellowship, commonly known as the genius grant. The work of Griffith and Turrigiano has significantly advanced understanding of synaptic plasticity and the development of intricate neural networks.

Other internationally recognized women scientists at Brandeis are Kalpana White, professor of biology, for her work on Alzheimer’s disease, and Melissa
Moore, associate professor of biochemistry and Howard Hughes Medical Institute associate investigator, whose work with RNA splicing has resulted in her being named a Harcourt General New Investigator, Searle Scholar, and David and Lucile Packard Fellow.

The research of Piali Sengupta, associate professor of neurobiology and the Volen National Center for Complex Systems, has earned her Searle, Sloan, Harcourt-General, Whitehall, and Packard awards, for which the best young investigators compete.

Dorothee Kern, assistant professor of biochemistry and Volen National Center for Complex Systems, is this year’s recipient of the Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry, one of the most prestigious awards given by the American Chemical Society.

Sengupta and Kern agree that women come to and thrive at Brandeis because they are not alone. Eve Marder, who was recently awarded the Mika Salpeter Women in Neuroscience Lifetime Achievement Award for her research involving the dynamics of small neuronal networks and her contributions to the professional advancement of women in neuroscience, agrees.

“I would say our ability to attract really first-rate women scientists to Brandeis is partially because they can look around and see that they’re not going to be the first one in a sea of men,” she says.

Undergraduates have the same experience. “Brandeis is a great place for girls,” reports recent graduate Leslie Meltzer ’03. “There are so many role models. For example, I only took one course with Eve Marder, but when it came time to apply for graduate school, she spent a lot of time with me and was very helpful.”

Journals “Indispensable,” Say Scientists

Although they are the lifeblood of scientific research and communication, research journals are pricing themselves out of the reach of the very scientists who need them. “The number of journals has increased enormously, which puts a burden on both the library and the reader,” observes Joan Press, associate professor of biology and Rosenstiel Basic Medical Sciences Research Center. “Nevertheless, relevant papers get distributed among all of them, which means we need access to all of them.”

Eve Marder, the Victor and Gwendolyn Beinfield Professor of Neuroscience and Volen National Center for Complex Systems, draws an analogy to pots and pans in the kitchen: “Without them you can’t cook. We can’t work without journals,” she points out.

“Journals are where we both publish the results of our own scientific research and find out what other people are doing,” adds biochemist Melissa Moore of Rosenstiel. “Unless a piece of work is published in a peer-reviewed journal, it might as well not have been done.”

The Brandeis Libraries are struggling to keep up with the exploding prices of journals. “The cost has increased more than 40 percent since 1999,” Susan Wawrzaszek, acting university librarian, explains. “Never before have we needed so critically National Women’s Committee’s support in this area. We will spend more than $1.8 million in FY2004 to subscribe to 3,724 print and 16,000 electronic journals. The increasing costs of the journals makes it difficult for us to provide all the titles our faculty requests.”

Gifts to the National Women’s Committee’s Learned Research Journal (LRJ), Journal Guarantor, or the Library Technology or Library Technology Endowed Funds help connect Brandeis researchers to scientific discovery around the world. Your gift will advance critical basic research at Brandeis on diseases such as leukemia, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, and AIDS.
CHAPTER/MEMBER NEWS

The NORTH SHORE, IL book sale brought in $104,000 in the first three and one-half hours, with the help of the 20-member National Book Sale Task Force. The Task Force, which had gathered in Chicago for training in Internet book sales (see www.BrandeisBooks.com), pitched in at the 12 checkout stations as buyers spent as much as $1,500-2,000 each on opening night.

BOCA RATON Chapter President Judy Yohay Glaser ’59 (center) poses proudly with her daughters Risa Beth Glaser, event manager (left), and Jodie Sue Rutstein, both 1985 graduates of Brandeis, at the chapter’s very successful Gala Library and Scholarship Dinner and Auction.

BOSTON George Freeman and his grandchildren attended the dedication of a Library Collection in music that he established in memory of his late wife Corinne.

RANCHO BERNARDO, CA Violin child prodigy Eugene Ugorski performed Bach, Luelenc, Handel, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Ravel with his father, Valeri Ugorski, and his mother, Luba Tzvibel, to an enthralled audience of 200. Proceeds benefited the Library Work Scholar Fund. Since his debut in 1998, the Russian-born 13-year-old musical virtuoso has performed more than 20 times with the San Diego Chamber Orchestra and with several symphony orchestras.

MEADOWBROOK, NY members Rita Price (seated) and Bea Wolf join with students from the Catiague Elementary School to show off the fruits of their labor on the afghan blanket project. The students raised $284 to purchase 180 skeins of yarn which Meadowbrook members then knit into the blankets for AIDS patients in hospitals, hospices, and nursing homes. The group has knitted and delivered more than 4,600 blankets over the past nine years.

NASSAU NORTH, NY, MEADOWBROOK, NY, and DELRAY BEACH have all enjoyed hearing the stories of World War II British war bride Sylvia Liebling, who is a member of the Meadowbrook Chapter. She shared with her audiences her experiences with British royalty, her evacuation from London with her school, and meeting the American airman she eventually married.

DESERT, CA Jean C. Camus (right), immediate past president of the Western Region, welcomed Professor Joyce Antler as keynote speaker for Women’s Education Day, co-sponsored with Hadassah and The Jewish Federation of Palm Springs.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY, CA Dr. Art Reis, associate provost and lecturer in chemistry, demystified forensic science at Santa Clara’s University Outreach event. Shown here with Selma Zinker (left), chairperson, and Joannie Mitchell, a Brandeis graduate, Reis discussed the application of forensic science in the Pan Am 103 and TWA 800 airplane disasters, the Lindbergh kidnapping, and the JonBenet Ramsey case.
BOOKS AND AUTHORS

From Shakespeare to Cuba

Editor’s Note. National Women’s Committee chapters sponsor hundreds of stimulating and creative fund raising events each year. We welcome detailed reports on these for use in this space.

In WEST END, FL Stephen Dubner, (center) author of Turbulent Souls and Confessions of a Hero Worshiper, wowed an audience of almost 500 members and guests at the chapter’s Book and Author Luncheon. Eppie Kaplan (left) and Norma Jacobson co-chaired the event. Eighteen students from nearby Yeshiva High School, who had used Turbulent Souls for a class project, were also guests at the event. A profit of $7,500 from the event has benefited the Library Work Scholar Fund.

NASSAU NORTH, NY heard Stan Johnson, son-in-law of member Jessie Hirschberger, describe how his obsession with writing has led him to write two books while working full time as a partner in a Park Avenue law firm and raising a young family. Once a Ranger, a love story set in a world of international intrigue, will be published this year. Johnson has almost completed Lethal Prescription.

In NORTH DADE/AVENTURA, FL two authors took their audience on harrowing escapes from war-torn Europe. Betty Heisler-Samuels’s The Last Minyan in Havana traces a Polish Jew’s run from the Nazis to Cuba and the story of his 25 years on the island. Pauline Bunin, former president of the Hills Chapter, discussed her latest book, Freedom Flight, about a young Jewish couple fleeing the chaos of the Russian Revolution.

PALM BEACH EAST welcomed Brandeis graduate Sami Plotkin (Speak the Speech: Shakespeare’s Monologues Illuminated) and Stuart Woods (Blood Orchid), a best-selling author of 25 novels. The event was co-chaired by Barbara Katz and Bobbi Horwich.

COME EXPERIENCE BRANDEIS CONFERENCE 2004

June 2-6

Kudos

CLEARBROOK, NJ
Dr. R. Barbara Gitenstein, the first woman president of the College of New Jersey, spoke to the Clearbrook Chapter about growing up in the only Jewish family in Florala, Alabama, receiving her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, and then achieving her current position at the College of New Jersey.

LAKES, FL
In only its second year, the award-winning Lakes Chapter has put together another ambitious schedule of activities, including a theater party and backstage tour; brunch and seminar at a home design studio, lunch and opera, and study groups. Its major fund-raiser, a goods and services auction, will be held in December.

MEADOWBROOK, NY
honored Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy; Linda Leonard, director of the Long Island Crisis Center; and Fran Kritchek, co-founder of 1 in 9 Breast Cancer Coalition, at its Women of Distinction Luncheon.

NASSAU NORTH, NY celebrated a very successful year with their final luncheon, featuring an entertainer who took the group back to the Fred Astair/Ginger Rogers era with film and music. The Chapter’s closing tea for new members also included the swearing in of the new board.
Her Planned Gift:
A Charitable Gift Annuity that provides a guaranteed income for life

“I am indebted to the National Women’s Committee for 22 years of learning and friendships. I had originally considered making a bequest that would be part of The Brandeis Campaign, but then I decided, since I had reached the age of 80, why not make my gift now and enjoy the fruits—in my case, a very safe return of 8.3 percent for the remainder of my life. With our medical and caregiving costs so high, I need the income at this time. Brandeis and the Pollocks will benefit. My gift will eventually go to the Endowed Library Technology Fund, a very important effort with an ambitious $5 million goal.”

“A Charitable Gift Annuity gives me a very safe return of 8.3 percent (age 80) and offers up to 11.5 percent (age 90) annually.” *

Shirley Pollock
Los Angeles Chapter

The Sachar Legacy Society recognizes alumni and friends of Brandeis who have indicated that Brandeis University is included in their estate plans. For more information on joining the Sachar Legacy Society or on planned giving opportunities, contact Judy Diamond, Brandeis University National Women’s Committee, P.O. Box 549110, MS 132, Waltham, MA 02454-9110, 781-736-4167 or jdiamond@brandeis.edu.

*Current rates. For specific information on rates, call the National Women’s Committee Development Department at 781-736-4163.