



BRANDEIS
UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL
WOMEN'S
COMMITTEE

*Dedicated to the support
of Brandeis University
and its Libraries*

imprint

spring 2003 ■ volume 23 ■ number 3

David Nuremberg '99, pours his heart and soul into his work, putting in 11-hour days on the job in a field that loses up to 50 percent of its best and brightest within five years. Nuremberg is not laboring in the bowels of a big law firm or burning the midnight oil at an Internet start-up. He is a high school teacher.

A recent graduate of Brandeis with a degree in English and a minor in education, Nuremberg is a product of one of the University's heretofore best kept secrets, its small undergraduate

Teaching—It's an Act of Faith



Maryann Cullinan '02 teaching at the Ware Middle School in New Hampshire.

teacher certification program. After 40 years of quietly sending Brandeis graduates out into the schools of America, the program has taken on a new life and is growing by leaps and bounds at a time when new teachers are needed.

With a new director and additional staff, a chair established for the director, and the development of new programs, the Brandeis Education Program expects to double the number of students enrolled within the next two years. A multidisciplinary program by its very nature, it has traditionally attracted history and English majors, but is beginning to draw more from math and science concentrations, specialties sorely needed in public schools today. "Two of the students currently in the elementary teaching program have strong science backgrounds, including neuroscience," program director Marya R. Levenson '64,

who is the Harry S. Levitan Director of Teacher Education, points out.

For Brandeis graduates such as Maryann Cullinan '02 and Debbie Schick '02, the University offers the perfect preparation for a teaching career. "Brandeis teaches you *how* to think rather than *what* to think, with an emphasis on social justice and public service," says Cullinan, a linguistics and cognitive sciences major. She is now teaching English and social studies, with improvisational theater as an elective, to seventh graders in New Hampshire. "That's what I'm trying to teach my students—how to make logical arguments, how to have opinions and back them up with facts, how to

work well with others."

Debbie Schick, who teaches ancient civilization and U.S. history to 80 seventh and eighth graders in a suburb of Boston, agrees. "Brandeis offers such a rich academic experience and teaches you how to learn—writing, reading, contributing to a class, developing relationships with professors," she explains. A sociology major with minors in education and health, law and society, she considered going to law school until a Brandeis law professor helped her decide on teaching. "Law would have been interesting and challenging academically," she suggests, "but teaching is more exciting. I never look at the clock when I'm teaching. There's never enough time."

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SETTING THE STANDARD

*New Program Aims to Raise
Quality of Jewish Education*

With enrollment swelling in Jewish day schools, Brandeis has joined an effort to set a new standard of quality in Jewish education through the DeLeT program (Day-school Leadership through Teaching). A post-baccalaureate fellowship program designed to increase the number and quality of Jewish professional day school teachers, the DeLeT program combines a rich 13-month full-time program of academic and practical learning and internships in day schools with a strong financial incentive to continue to teach and earn a master's degree during the two years

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Mission

To provide financial support for Brandeis University and its Libraries. It connects Brandeis, a non-sectarian university founded by the American Jewish community, to its members and their communities through programs that reflect the ideals of social justice and academic excellence.

NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF

The National Women's Committee staff, located on the Brandeis campus, provides administrative, programming, fundraising and membership support for the entire organization. Please contact the following staff members with any questions or concerns or email bunwc@brandeis.edu

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PRESIDENTIAL

Perspective

BY CAROL KERN

The year 2003 represents a significant landmark for Brandeis University National Women's Committee as we begin to celebrate 55 years of partnership with Brandeis University and support for its Libraries and student scholarship. I am proud to be part of an organization that has played a very important role in the building of the only Jewish-sponsored, nonsectarian university in the United States and I hope you are too. Our association with Brandeis is what makes the National Women's Committee unique—from its outstanding faculty-authored study groups to its University Outreach program which brings visiting professors into our communities to share their expertise and enrich our minds.



In this milestone year, Bessie K. Hahn, Brandeis National Women's Committee University Librarian and Assistant Provost, will be retiring after 22 years of service to Brandeis. We will be raising funds for the Library Technology Endowed Fund to honor her for all that she has accomplished and as part of our commitment to the University's five-year campaign, which we have also joined this year. Bessie has praised our organization many times over for sharing her vision and assisting every step of the way in creating a state-of-the-art information resource center on par with the best universities in the country.

Very often we speak of our past; however, it is important to understand why we support this great university today. Education at Brandeis combines the intimacy of a small liberal arts college with the intellectual power of a large university. In a free-thinking atmosphere, Brandeis provides an open environment where students have both freedom and structure in which to create and recreate themselves. I have met many Brandeis graduates working and volunteering in my own community engaged in the "repair of the world." Most likely you will also find them in your hometown involved in various acts of kindness because their Brandeis education prepares them to go above and beyond their chosen professions.

As foster alumni, as we've been called by University President Jehuda Reinharz, I can say that OUR university reflects the values honored by Jewish tradition: a passion for learning, commitment to social justice, respect for creativity, and concern for the world. Let us continue in our 55th year to give the best of what we are to Brandeis University as it continues to educate and prepare young people with the many shared values that we believe in. As always, thank you for supporting our mission.

We Get Letters

Your praise for *New York Times* columnist Thomas Friedman for "Making Sense of a Senseless World" makes no sense because Mr. Friedman is illogical.

You quote him as saying (in March, 2002) that "Israel cannot stay in the occupied territories . . . but they also cannot leave" because they can't trust the "self-restraint" of Arafat. Does this mean that if we camp on our neighbor's property, we had best stay there and not leave for fear of our neighbor's reaction if we do?

We happened to be in Washington, D.C. this year around the end of October. We noticed a small group of students, mainly women, struggling to hold aloft in the wind a large anti-war banner. In the corner of the cloth, we made out small print that said these ladies were from Brandeis University. The next time you want to praise someone, praise them. Cordially for justice and peace,

Florence E. and David W. Staub
Meadowbrook Chapter

On quality, diversity, finances, and the Jewish community...

A Conversation with the President

In his ninth year as president of Brandeis University, Jehuda Reinharz agreed to a new five-year contract to remain at the University. He spoke recently with David E. Nathan, editor of The Jewish Advocate. Following are excerpts from that interview.

Q What do you consider your greatest successes and failures at Brandeis?

A I think my greatest success was to help re-establish the reputation of Brandeis as one of the premier universities in this country. And I think because of that, applications to the university have soared, the board of trustees has increased in stature, fundraising has certainly tripled in the past nine years, and the university is on much firmer ground today than it was when I took over nine years ago. I also think we have succeeded in making clear to the Jewish community that Brandeis is an enormous resource. That is not a fundraising ploy but an obligation we have as the only Jewish-sponsored, nonsectarian university in the country. As such, I believe that we ought to use our academic prowess for the benefit of the Jewish community.

I think we are not yet on firm enough ground financially. . . . We have doubled the endowment in the past nine years (to \$380 million), but it should be at least twice that size, even now, for a university with the kind of ambitions that Brandeis has. Despite the small endowment, we have done spectacularly well, and I think one of the reasons is we can persuade faculty that Brandeis is the right place for them, though faculty at Brandeis are not paid sufficiently well in comparison to their colleagues.

Q Is it a difficult line to walk to be a Jewish university but not be a university just for Jews?

A It's not a difficult line to walk, but it's a difficult line to explain. It was created by the American Jewish community, but it is not a Jewish university. That is a misconception. When Brandeis was founded, Jews could not get into other universities—both students and faculty. That has changed considerably. What I always say is that Brandeis is a great American university, but what makes it different from the other 4,000 institutions of higher learning is it was founded by the Jewish community and has a commitment to the Jewish community. That's sometimes a difficult line to explain to people. Why does my kid not get into Brandeis? The answer is, the only way to get into Brandeis is on the basis of quality. The quality of the students at Brandeis has been increasing year by year (for example, the median SAT last year was 1,340, and it is already higher for the class of 2007!)



BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT JEHUDA REINHARZ

Q You have aggressively recruited students worldwide. Why is that?

A We have students from 101 different countries. We have 17 religions represented on the campus. I am absolutely convinced that having students from every background, every religion, every ethnic group is a necessary aspect of gaining a first-rate education. I think that much, if not most, of education takes place outside the classroom. If this entire place were homogeneous, the students would be the poorer for it. A student from Kenya who lives with an Orthodox Jewish woman from Brooklyn told me that she has learned more about Judaism and Israel in one semester from living with this friend, and vice versa. You can't get that from a textbook.

Q What is the hardest part of your job?

A The hardest part is that I have so many constituencies. I have so many people pulling at me in different directions—the students, the parents, the faculty, the trustees, the friends, the alumni. Everybody has an agenda and everybody thinks that their agenda ought to be my agenda, and that's not to speak of the entire Jewish people, each one of whom thinks that they know how to run this university better than any president.

I want people to care passionately about this institution and I want them to argue about what is the mission of the institution. My job is to make people march to the sound of the same music, make sure that in this huge orchestra that is composed of so many different instruments and voices that all of us end up with a beautiful composition. That's the hard part.



BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

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imprint is published for the members of the Brandeis University National Women's Committee. We welcome reports of chapter accomplishments and information about members that would be of interest to our readers.

We also welcome letters from readers, but reserve the right to edit for brevity and style.

Materials submitted for publication should be typewritten and include a contact name, phone number, and email address, if available.

Photographs should be fully identified on a separate piece of paper.

DEADLINE:
July 1, 2003

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Brandeis Launches \$470 Million Campaign

NWC to Raise \$22.9 Million

Brandeis University has launched a \$470 million "Campaign for Brandeis" to raise funds for endowment, scholarships and fellowships, faculty chairs, and capital projects, including new dormitories and science laboratories. The campaign had raised \$255 million in gifts and pledges as of January 31, 2003 or 54.3 percent of the total goal. The National Women's Committee, which pledged to raise \$22.9 million for the campaign, has also passed the halfway mark toward that goal.

The National Women's Committee (NWC) contribution to the campaign will include an endowment to support technological advancements in the Libraries, scholarship and fellowship funds, and continued strong support from the organization's 92 chapters for annual operating funds for the Libraries.

National Women's Committee member Bernice Smilowitz of the Essex County, NJ Chapter, helped kick off NWC participation in the campaign with a major gift to the NWC Library Endowed Technology Fund. A steady and generous supporter of all needs of the Libraries for years, she sees technology as "the future of the Libraries. It's so much easier for the students to be able to access information from their homes or dorms than to trudge over to the library," she commented.

Despite a recent drop in charitable giving in the United States, Brandeis has enjoyed record giving levels eight years in a row. "Brandeis is a unique institution," explains Susan Krinsky, associate vice president for the campaign, "one that stays faithful to its core values, incorporating social justice in everything it does. When people really believe in an institution, during tough times they give even more."



55th Anniversary Fund

Endowed Technology Fund to Honor Librarian Bessie Hahn

The National Women's Committee is celebrating its 55th anniversary with the launching of a "55th Anniversary Fund" to benefit the Library Technology Endowed Fund. Gifts may be made to the Anniversary Fund in honor of Bessie Hahn, the first university librarian to hold the Brandeis National Women's Committee University Librarian chair, who is retiring June 30, 2003 after 22 years at the helm of the Brandeis Libraries. She made technology a top priority at the Libraries and was responsible for bringing them from a world of books and paper into the electronic age.

The fund, with a goal of \$550,000, will form a key part of the National Women's Committee's (NWC) commitment to raise \$22.9 million for the Campaign for Brandeis. The NWC gift will

Taking the Pulse of BUNWC

BY BARBARA SELWYN
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & MEMBER SERVICES

Thank you to the many hundreds of BUNWC volunteers who took the time to respond to our national survey (featured in the last issue of *Imprint*). To borrow a popular slogan, BUNWC wants to “be all that we can be!” To this end, we asked you, our members across the country, about your opinions, lifestyles, personal interests—all in an effort to provide the type of programs and special events that will keep you involved in our organization and connected to our mission of supporting Brandeis University.

You are indeed a remarkable group! Was there ever a question about the intelligence and intellectual interests of NWC members? Here are some highlights:

- The overwhelming majority (70 percent) of our respondents are college educated, with more than 41 percent having graduate degrees.
- More than one quarter of our members have been involved in BUNWC for less than five years.
- As with other organizations, most heard about BUNWC and subsequently joined because of a friend.
- The single most compelling reason members noted for participating in BUNWC is intellectual stimulation, with more than 85 percent considering it a “very important” factor in joining.
- More than 40 percent listed “keeping the university in the forefront of great American universities” as a reason they joined, a reflection of our mission.

Generally, members seem satisfied with the quality of the programs, publications, special events, and leadership of the National Women’s Committee. Members’ favorite programs include Book & Author events and Brandeis faculty-authored study groups. And let us not minimize the social opportunities of being a BUNWC member, considered by most to be another important motivator to join our organization.

We’re most inspired by the suggestions many of you made for new programs—ranging from music appreciation and memoir writing to an exploration of current events and comparative religions. In the months ahead, you can look forward to a number of new study group opportunities. It will be very easy to check in regularly via our newly-designed web site where you will find a national calendar of events, new programs, and links to the exciting research and new educational frontiers advanced each day on the Brandeis campus.



The names of individuals making gifts of \$5,000 or more will be permanently engraved on the National Women’s Committee Tribute Wall in the main library on campus.

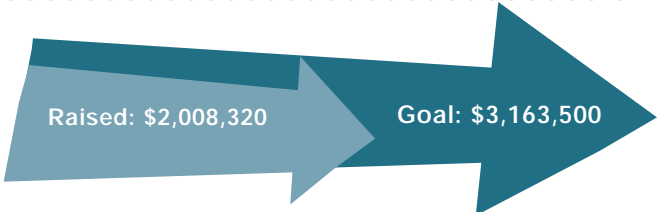
include \$5 million for the Technology Endowed Fund, \$1 million for scholarships and fellowships, and library operating funds of \$10.8 million over a six-year period.

Upon learning of this new opportunity, the Boca Raton Chapter designated a gift of \$50,000 to the Anniversary Fund. This gift will name a study room in the main Library. Individual gifts of \$5,000 or more will receive permanent recognition on the National Women’s Committee Tribute Wall in the main library on campus.

“An adequate technology endowment is the only thing that will guarantee we can continue to provide students and faculty with the resources they need,” explained Joyce Krasnow of the Los Angeles Chapter and chair of the 55th Anniversary Fund. “The Libraries need the stability an endowment provides to ensure that they can continue to provide state-of-the-art technology in the future.”

GETTING TO THE GOAL

Our 2002-2003 commitment to Brandeis and its Libraries is \$3,165,500. As of February 28, 2003, we had raised \$2,008,320.



Help us meet our commitment to Brandeis and its Libraries!

Librarian Bessie Hahn Retiring

With her retirement just weeks away, Bessie Hahn is still feverishly planning for the future of the Brandeis Libraries, fretting over the soaring cost of research journals, and figuring out how to make Brandeis graduates more "information-fluent." This determined executive, who will leave as her legacy one of the most user-friendly and technologically-advanced university library systems in the country, will retire June 30, 2003. In honor of her many contributions to Brandeis and the Libraries during her 22-year tenure, the National Women's Committee is establishing the 55th Anniversary Fund to benefit one of the causes closest to Bessie's heart, library technology. (See page 4 for information on the fund.)



To the Members of the Brandeis University National Women's Committee,

It is hard to believe that I have been the Brandeis University librarian for more than 22 years. My experience at Brandeis has been so intense and rewarding that, even though I have worked in other libraries before Brandeis, I often feel that my entire professional career has been here.

Since 1981, the Brandeis University Library has undergone dramatic changes, made impressive progress, and achieved many significant milestones. It has gained a reputation for excellent services here on campus and has served as a role model for other libraries across the country.

When I came here, librarians stood behind desks waiting for people to come to us. One of my earliest goals was to change that attitude. Our outreach and service philosophy has become the underpinning of how we do things here now.

The National Women's Committee has been there at every significant step. You have filled the stacks with books and journals. You have enthusiastically supported our preservation efforts. You have brought computer technology and electronic resources into the Library. You have created trusts and endowments to ensure the Library's future. Just as important, you have been there to share our vision, and give us encouragement.

The National Women's Committee has also been a major influence in my personal development. From you I have learned commitment, tenacity, creativity and enterprise. I am especially indebted to all the national presidents and other leaders who have traveled to campus to see the results of their fund raising efforts in our excellent libraries. They are not only intelligent and ambitious leaders; they are also compassionate and considerate human beings. I have strived hard to emulate them in my work. I feel proud to have them as my colleagues and friends.

Because new knowledge is created or discovered everyday, the Brandeis Library must expand its knowledge base continuously and find new ways of bringing information quickly to the scholars. We cannot afford to rest on our past accomplishments. I know the Brandeis Library can always depend on your generous support. I am also confident that, given the prestige of the University and National Women's Committee, you will be able to attract the best talent to be the next Brandeis National Women's Committee University Librarian.

With much gratitude and affection,

Bessie K. Hahn

BRANDEIS NATIONAL WOMEN'S COMMITTEE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN & ASSISTANT PROVOST FOR LIBRARIES

Keep in Touch Year-round

Please send us your seasonal address to ensure that you receive all BUNWC communications promptly and to save the cost of additional postage. Remember, all annual dues bills are now mailed from the national office. You may pay by check or credit card.

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A LOOK AT THE
LIBRARIES



Technology is bringing one of the oldest tools in the Libraries into the modern age.

A new digital microfilm scanner is allowing users to scan and digitize any of the one million items in the Libraries's rich microfilm collections and download the images onto a disk so they can be transferred to their computers in their dorms, homes, or offices.

Graduate student Daniel Becker, who has spent many hours reeling through the Libraries's very extensive newspaper collection, says the new scanner gives him images of the illustrated newspapers he reviews far superior to the microfilm prints he used to rely on. They are so good, in fact, that he will use some of them to illustrate his thesis, transferring them directly into the document. A new student at Brandeis, Becker is "amazed" at the lengths to which the Libraries go to facilitate research for students and faculty.

Are students and professors using libraries? Yes, but mostly by computer, from their homes or offices, according to a

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

recent survey of college and university students and faculty sponsored by the Digital Library Federation. Demonstrating just how important it is for academic libraries to provide access to information from remote sites, the survey indicated that "graduate students are most likely to pursue information while in physical libraries, undergraduates in their residences, and faculty, by a large margin, in their offices." In fact, faculty reported spending 74 percent of their time accessing information for teaching and research from their offices, and using the physical library only about 10 percent of the time.

Look smart with the National Women's Committee's charming new computer pin on your lapel. The pins, which are hinged just like a laptop computer, are available to those making a gift of \$100 or more to Library Technology.



A student makes a quick email check at one of the Macintosh computer kiosks in the Samuel S. and Bronnica W. Weinberg Electronic Research Center in the main Goldfarb Library at Brandeis. Students, staff and faculty can access the full collection of electronic resources via 21 networked computers in the center, much of it funded by the National Women's Committee.



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Thank you for your generous support of Brandeis University and its Libraries.

Teaching, An Act of Faith

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The professionals who supervise young people doing student teaching in their classrooms also recognize the quality of a Brandeis education. “They’re eclectic and have a wider view than some of the other students,” says Christine Mirabito, a Waltham third-grade teacher who has been supervising Brandeis students for nine years. “They have very good communication skills—written and verbal—and see things very clearly. Most important, though, is that they go the extra mile for a child. They are very intuitive and empathic to the kids, really tied in with them emotionally.”

“This is a very exciting time to be in education,” Marya Levenson suggests. “There’s been a surge of interest after 9/11 and the crash in high tech, but we now have more challenges without more resources. I don’t believe in just throwing money at education, but even the best salaries are inadequate, some starting as low as \$24,000. We have to figure out how to attract and keep good people in this profession.”

SETTING THE STANDARD *continued*

following completion of the fellowship.

The program has attracted ten bright and dedicated young people to Brandeis, one of only two sites that are piloting the program this year.

“I couldn’t believe how much more I learned in my first month at Brandeis compared to what I learned in a whole year in a masters in teaching program I was in prior to DeLeT,” reports DeLeT Fellow Jaimie Faith Woods, an NYU graduate who worked at a K-8 day school in Providence, Rhode Island where she is now doing her internship.

“The quality of our faculty is just amazing. I love the emphasis on lifelong learning—for us and for our students. Our course work is very integrated with our field work. Just about everything I learn in the classroom at Brandeis has an immediate application to my classroom of students. It feels like I’m being paid to learn!”

“Each year, more than 200 new teachers are needed to fill positions in existing Conservative, Reform and community day schools and to staff new schools,” says Sharon Feiman-Nemser, the Mandel Professor of Jewish Education at Brandeis. “Our fellows will be well prepared to help fill that need after studying and working in an intimate, supportive setting with experienced teachers and mentors, as they learn more about teaching, learning, and the enactment of Jewish values in the classroom.”

“It is extraordinarily demanding, but at least I can go home and say what I did that day at work was a genuine effort to make things a little better.”

Changing the World

Brandeis 1 of 5 Schools Chosen for Education Research Program

Brandeis graduate students are studying everything from school choice and a comparison of U.S. and French education to the teaching of holy texts and the history of antebellum African American education under a \$456,000 grant from the Spencer Foundation. Brandeis is one of five liberal arts institutions participating in the foundation’s new Discipline-based Scholarship in Education Initiative. The program provides generous fellowships to students working toward their doctorates in fields as diverse as history, politics, and Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, and smaller research grants to additional graduate students.

The majority of participants in the program have worked as teachers and are taking this opportunity to broaden their horizons at Brandeis. Sasha Slocum, who has degrees from Vassar and Harvard, is working on a Ph.D. in politics so that she can “figure out what politicians could do to change the inequality of education provided to American kids.” Slocum is doing her dissertation on the impact of education planning in the United States and France on educational equality for students from low-income districts.

Susie Tanchel ’92, who leads the bible department in The New Jewish High School of Greater Boston, chose the Ph.D. program in the Brandeis Near Eastern and Judaic Studies department over rabbinical school. She hopes to do her part to help fill what she calls “the desperate need” for Jewish day school teachers by becoming a Jewish teacher educator.

Sandy Resnick, a veteran teacher, earned her bachelor’s degree from Brown and master’s from Northeastern and the Heller School at Brandeis. She came to Brandeis, she says, because she wanted to take what she had learned about “the role of culture on our views to a larger audience and into the public policy world.” She is researching how parents choose schools for their children entering kindergarten.

“When I went to college, I became a social activist and took to heart the belief, current at the time, that if you wanted to change the world, you should be a teacher,” Resnick relates.

“This three-year program will allow these doctoral candidates and Brandeis faculty from across disciplines to explore in-depth the relationship between education research, policy and practice,” explained American Studies Professor Joyce Antler, who codirects the new initiative with Jewish education professor Sharon Feiman-Nemser. “We don’t have a graduate education program yet,” says Antler, “so we’re providing an intellectual home for faculty and students interested in education, a home furnished with unusual furniture—an interdisciplinary team of faculty from American Studies, the Heller School, the Education Program, and the Hornstein Program in Jewish Studies.”

Mrs. Baum's Discovery

BY DAVID MASELLO

Reprinted with permission of the author and Book magazine.

RECENTLY, MRS. BAUM—one of my old neighbors—had to sell her house. For years, Mrs. Baum volunteered for the (North Shore, IL) Brandeis Used Book Sale, a sprawling annual book fair held in the parking lot of a shopping center in Skokie, Illinois, a Chicago suburb. Every spring, Mrs. Baum would pull a red wagon through the neighborhood to collect old books that would be sold at the fair to raise funds for the libraries at Brandeis University. Throughout my childhood, whenever a book was weeded from a shelf, my mother would say, “save it for Mrs. Baum,” and I would add it to a pile in the garage.

Single-handedly, Mrs. Baum amassed enough books to fill several station wagons—*Reader's Digest* condensed novels, encyclopedia sets, high school math texts. It was a cause to which she was particularly devoted because her immigrant mother had been unable to read, a burden Mrs. Baum had never forgotten. While collecting for a sale, Mrs. Baum found something she had been looking for since she was a girl.

Mrs. Baum's parents had been born in Eastern Europe, and upon coming to Chicago her father had opened a small business that was doing well, even in the early years of the Depression. But one day, on his way to the bank with the day's proceeds, he was held up on the street and shot dead by a robber.

Because of her illiteracy, Mrs. Baum's mother was unable to take over the business. With two small children to raise, her only option was to work as a seamstress. Mrs. Baum often recalled how for years her mother would



describe her father in detail—the angle at which he parted his thick black hair, his green eyes, the smoothness of the back of his neck. But with no existing photos, Mrs. Baum never really knew what her father looked like.

One day, just before the Brandeis sale, a woman called Mrs. Baum to say she was moving and wanted to donate her extensive book collection. At the woman's apartment, Mrs. Baum found walls of floor-to-ceiling bookcases filled with volumes, but most were useless: college textbooks from the 1940s, typing

manuals, bound volumes of nursing magazines. While scanning the shelves and pulling out the occasional novel or biography she knew would sell at the book fair, Mrs. Baum came upon a jacketless, blank-spined volume, so tall it was wedged horizontally between shelves. It appeared to be the publication of a trade organization. She turned to the title page and saw that it was a book about Jewish businessmen in Chicago in the early decades of the century.

“When I first opened that book, it felt as important as a Dead Sea Scroll,” Mrs. Baum once said. “I was shaking so much I couldn't turn the pages. I gave myself a paper cut that still hasn't healed. I just knew I'd find what I'd been looking for all these years. And that's when I came to it, a picture of my father on one of the pages, the first time I had ever seen him.”

When Mrs. Baum moved to a retirement facility, her library of books had to stay behind. But the photograph of her father, now framed, is on a table in her room, in easy view. It is a picture that reflects a story as involved as any in an epic novel.—*David Masello*

NEWS

GOTHAM, NY Book and Author speakers were (seated, L-R) Linda Fairstein, Laurence Leamer, and Eleanor Dwight. Standing are moderator Marsha Stoller and event chair Marilyn Bond.



The **LAGUNA HILLS, CA** Book and Author, chaired by Dena Silber (center), featured (L-R) Helie Lee (*Absence of Fun*), Gregg Hurwitz (*Do No Harm*), Charmaine Craig (*The Good Men*) and Susan Vreeland (*The Passion of Artemisia*).



CONCORDIA, NJ Chapter welcomed Lee Child, author most recently of *The Killing Floor*, who gave his audience a window on how to write a mystery novel. His appearance helped the chapter raise \$9,000 for Brandeis.



The **MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL** Chapter honored Etheldoris Grais, an unsung hero of the Chapter and a founder of the Minnesota Jewish Historical Society. The chapter presented her with the Marver Bernstein Award, established in honor of the fourth president of Brandeis University, who was a native of St. Paul.



MEADOWBROOK, NY members, including Gloria Cohen, Millie Rinsky, and Ellen Zipkin, run a monthly bingo game for almost 100 clients of the A. Holly Patterson Extended Care Facility, including Ruth, pictured here.



Dee Kerner and her husband Richard from the **GOTHAM** Chapter enjoyed their first visit to Brandeis and the Libraries, where they saw a plaque honoring her aunt, former national president Lillian Tick.

The **SAN DIEGUITO** Book and Thrift Sale raised \$5,100 for Brandeis and the Libraries with the able help of chairman Judy Allegan (on the ladder) and (L-R) Irene Rubinstein and Shirley Markson.





CHAPTER / MEMBER

EVENTS

SAN DIEGO, SAN DIEGUITO,
SANTA CLARA VALLEY

Presenting the Joy of (Planned) Giving

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.



Planned giving donors Dr. Henry and Sandra Stein with Santa Clara Valley event chair Judy Marlin (center).

Did you know that you can make a gift of \$10,000 or more to Brandeis, receive an immediate tax deduction, have your name permanently engraved on the prestigious National Women's Committee Tribute Wall on the Brandeis campus, and receive income from the gift at competitive rates for the remainder of your life through the Planned Giving program?

The San Diego, San Dieguito, and Santa Clara Valley, California Chapters recently held small gatherings in people's homes to introduce their members to this popular program. When Michael Swartz and Beth Ann Saplin, representatives of the University, explained planned giving to 50 people over morning coffee in Santa Clara Valley and over cocktails at a San Diego/San Dieguito joint event, the response was immediate. Several donors stepped forward

at each event to announce their gifts, netting a total of \$110,000.

"I had thought about making a planned gift for a long time before this event," explains San Diego member Roberta Fredericks. "Michael Swartz's presentation brought it to a head. It's a good financial plan that also benefits Brandeis, which is very important to me."

"It's a matter of priorities at our age," Henry Stein said of the planned gift he and his wife Sandy made to the Santa Clara Valley Chapter. A retired school superintendent with two children, he continued, "You begin to look at what you've done in your lifetime. For most of us, it's been a life of materialism. There's got to be more than just 'consume and pass on.' If not now, when? A planned gift truly benefits a great cause—Brandeis—as well as ourselves. What could be better?"

Currently, donors can earn from 6.7 percent (for a gift made at age 65) to 12 percent (age 90) annually from a Brandeis Charitable Gift Annuity. For help in organizing a planned giving event in your chapter, contact Judy Diamond (781-736-4167; jdiamond@brandeis.edu).

Our Newest Chapter

Welcome to the Lakes, FL Chapter, chartered in June 2001 with nearly 500 members. The chapter welcomed 80 newcomers to its showcase meeting this year and offered 36 study group options "with sufficient variety to quench anyone's thirst for knowledge and entertainment," as Ruth Levine reported.

They also initiated a "Bring A Book-Buy A Book" program at their general meetings, and encourage members to drop off non-clothing items for a women's shelter. Many members serve as tutors in one of the community elementary schools.

Special events have included Opera and Luncheon, museum trips, and a Jewish Heritage tour of Miami; learning how eating appropriately for your blood type affects health, longevity and personality; a Lunch and Learn on whether America is slipping toward dictatorship; and a Book and Author event.

"We look forward to another gratifying year of learning, serving, and friendship," says Levine.

Kudos

BOCA RATON's Book Fund luncheon hosted Ted Ginsburg who spoke on the Jewish experience in Cuba during the last 60 years.

CENTER ISLAND, NY Chapter welcomed Judith Jacobs, presiding officer of the Nassau County Legislature, and William Alpert, a son of one of the founders of Brandeis University, as speakers at a recent event. Also, hats off to chapter volunteers who knit hats for newborns in special care nurseries of Long Island hospitals and for women who have lost their hair due to medical procedures.

GOTHAM, NY members were inspired and moved by the documentary film "Longing and Belonging: Luboml on Film" and their discussion with its producer, Aaron Ziegelman. "Luboml" tells the story of Jewish life in a small city in pre-war Poland.

Pauline Hartman of the ROSSMOOR WEST, CA Chapter carried the Olympic torch for her community of Walnut Creek.

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL Chapter volunteers provide "Hag Sameach" (happy holidays) with gifts for Chanukah and holiday provisions for Pesach for children and families served by the Jewish Family and Children's Service.

NASSAU NORTH, NY received an informed report on Cuba from *Newsday* columnist Rhoda Amon.

PALM BEACH EAST President Jan Spivak presented the chapter's American Heritage Award to former Attorney General Janet Reno, a native Floridian, at its "Hats-Off" luncheon.

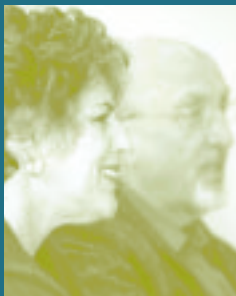
POMPANO/FT. LAUDERDALE named Dr. Zachariah P. Zachariah, director of cardiology at Holy Cross Medical Group, professor of medicine at the University of Miami School of Medicine, and chairman of the executive committee of the American Heart Association, "Man of Achievement" at their Gala Luncheon in March.

Dr. Ann Ruben, creator of the Margaret Doll and tee shirt with their "Someday a Woman Will Be President" message and a member of the WESTON-VENTURE, FL Chapter, gave an inspirational talk to the West End Chapter. The shirts are available from Weston-Venture and West End.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY received a commendation from California Governor Gray Davis upon the celebration of the chapter's 50th anniversary.

So Many Reasons . . .

"We're helping maintain the presence of a major Jewish-sponsored university."



"The programs and membership are a cut above the rest."

"These are highly curious and motivated people."

"The National Women's Committee gave me so much when I moved to Boston and didn't know a soul."

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