

Brandeis National Committee



IMPRINT

Dedicated to the Support of Brandeis University and Its Libraries

Brandeis Student Ambassadors to Visit BNC Chapters

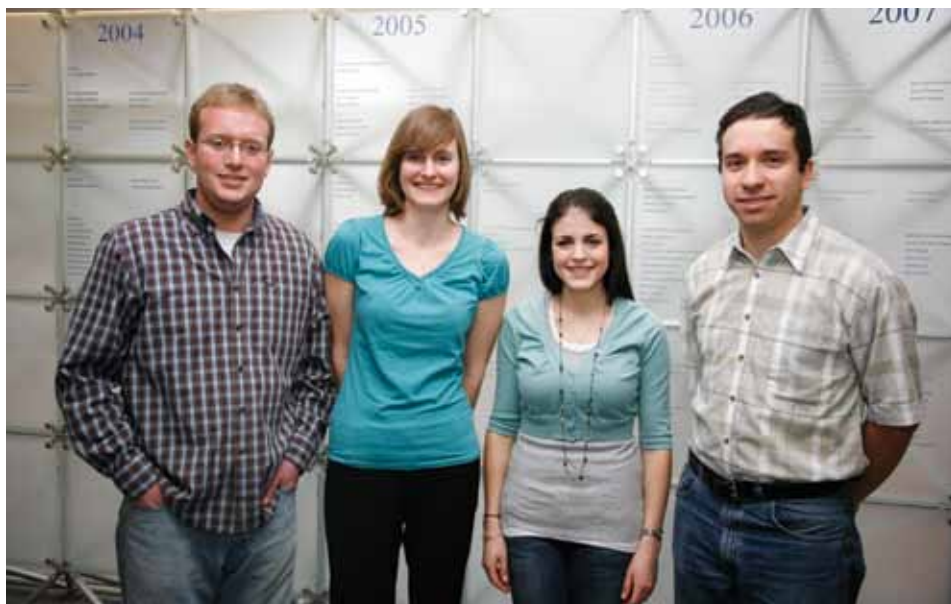
Third-year students Marti Dembowitz and Jason Gray are passionate about Brandeis and want to share their enthusiasm and appreciation with Brandeis National Committee (BNC) members. "It's important to show them the fruits of their labor, so to speak," Dembowitz said after addressing the BNC'S Sarasota chapter.

Describing Dembowitz's visit as "extremely worthwhile," Sarasota president Esther Rose said, "They couldn't have sent out anyone who could have made a better impression."

Student representatives on the BNC's national board, Dembowitz and Gray are among the many undergraduate and graduate students signing on for the Student Ambassadors program. During their breaks and vacations, ambassadors visit chapters to make presentations that focus on courses of study, research, and, most important, their personal experiences at the university.

"Brandeis is a place full of overachievers," Dembowitz says, "and I don't mean that in a bad way. It's full of people who take advantage of everything. It's a vibrant and active campus. I can sit down any time and have a serious conversation about the political scene, movies, a class on poetry. Everyone's excited about what they're doing, about learning and making an impact—and I mean *everyone*, not just a select few."

A native of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, who is majoring in health: science, society, and policy and minoring in Near Eastern and Judaic studies, Dembowitz earned early



• Student ambassadors (from left) Jason Gray '10; Amanda Hemmesch, PhD'10; Marti Dembowitz '10; and Eugene Kogan, PhD'13, at the BNC Tribute Wall

acceptance during her sophomore year at Brandeis to Mount Sinai Medical School in New York. Mount Sinai looks for students who are in liberal-arts programs during their undergraduate years, pursuing a variety of interests beyond premed. Dembowitz is president of the Hillel Theater Group, is active in Hillel on campus, and sings in the coed a cappella group Rather Be Giraffes. She has been in a musical production every year since fourth grade.

Now working part time at Arc of Massachusetts, a nonprofit organization that advocates for and serves the developmentally disabled community, Dembowitz has a long-term goal of opening an interdisciplinary clinic for developmentally delayed adults. She envisions a facility that includes not only physicians, but also occupational and physical therapists, social workers, and psychiatrists.

Like Dembowitz, Gray, a junior majoring in economics and politics, threw himself

into life at Brandeis from the beginning. "I came here," he explains, "because of the generous scholarship I received. I didn't know that much about Brandeis before I arrived, but I soon found out what a great place it is—from the friends I made, to a freshman seminar, to a class I took first semester with Tom Friedman. I can't say enough good things about my involvement with the debate team, student government, and the strong Jewish community."

Elected president of the student government this year, Gray found himself at the center of the financial crisis that is confronting almost every American university today. He has done such an exceptional job of representing student interests, keeping the lines of communication open, and mediating conflicts that the student newspaper the *Justice* sang his praises in a recent editorial titled "Gray Goes Above and Beyond."

• Continued on page 5

Dear Friends of Brandeis University,



Outstanding students from every state and from around the world apply to Brandeis for their college education because of its overall reputation for excellence. They

know the university's range of courses and fields of study are vast. They also know they will find a variety of activities to broaden their perspectives and enhance their college experience.

Brandeis students are thinkers and doers. This issue highlights a few of these students and the programs that benefit from their participation.

You will meet the ten talented young college graduates who auditioned and were selected for this year's Brandeis MFA program in acting.

You will get to know four Brandeis National Committee Student Ambassadors when you read the article about our new pilot program.

You will learn about a young man, a

library work scholar, who is helping both faculty and students work on an online course-management system.

And you will read about some of the many scholarship students who will take their education and values from Brandeis to address issues that affect the world.

The Brandeis National Committee (BNC) is taking great strides to provide scholarships for these young women and men. Chapters and individuals are designating their fundraising efforts and support to help ensure that Brandeis can continue to offer equal educational access to all applicants of merit. The need is always great, and it is especially critical during this economic downturn.

One of the most rewarding experiences of my presidency is walking alongside the students every time I am on campus. I invite you to "walk alongside" the students in this issue of *Imprint* and meet a few of our future citizens of the world. When you do, I am sure you will share my pride in knowing that the BNC supports their endeavors.

Carol Kern
National President

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Members of the Leadership Council serve as roving ambassadors, help to identify donors, donate and solicit gifts, perform noteworthy service, bring Brandeis and BNC news to chapters, and provide inspiration and a connection to Brandeis.

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS

Ellen Atlas
Laura Benedon
Barbara Berlin
Gloria Boris
Jean Carrus
Jay Coral
Barbara Elkind
Anna Greenberg
Honora Grossbardt
Belle Grusky

Sondra Homer-Warner
Estelle Jacobs
Cynthia Jartman
Dorothy Katz
Carol Kern
Joyce Krasnow
Faylene Kuperman
Mimi Leavitt '58
Barbara Miller
Sandra Oken
Katharine Packer
Dorothy Pierce
Shirley Pollock
Carol Rabinovitz '59, *chair*
Adrienne Rosenblatt '61
Cynthia Shulman
Eleanor Shuman
Elizabeth Susser
Gayle Wise
Rhea Wolfram
Beth Wolfson '75

Imprint is published for the members of the Brandeis National Committee. Materials submitted for publication should be typed or sent via e-mail and include a contact name, phone number, and e-mail address. Photographs should be fully identified on a separate piece of paper or sent via e-mail.

PRESIDENT

Carol Kern
Phoenix, Arizona

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Janice Fineman

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Beth Bernstein, MA'90
Director of Programming and Publications

WRITER

Mary Pat Prado

PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Lovett



Brandeis
National
Committee

Philanthropy.
Learning.
Community.

Brandeis National Committee is dedicated to providing philanthropic support to Brandeis University, a distinguished liberal arts and research university founded by the American Jewish community. Its membership is connected to the university through fundraising and through activities that reflect the values on which the university was founded: academic excellence, social justice, nonsectarianism, and service to the community.

CONTACT US

PO Box 549110
415 South Street MS 132
Waltham, MA 02454-9110

781-736-4160
781-736-4183 Fax

www.brandeis.edu/bnc
bnc@brandeis.edu

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2008–09

PRESIDENT

Carol Kern
Phoenix Chapter

VICE PRESIDENTS

Lydia Axelrod
Delray Beach Chapter

Leslie Pearlstein
Greater Boston Chapter

Stephen Reiner '61
Gotham Chapter

Joanie Small
Phoenix Chapter

Beth Wolfson '75
Norfolk/Sharon Chapter

OTHER MEMBERS

Ellen Atlas
Greater Washington Chapter

Elaine Bernstein
Aventura/Hollywood Chapter

Jean Carrus
Desert Chapter

Ethel Daub
Greater Boston Chapter

Norma Feinsod
Wycliffe Chapter

Zita Fine '55
Central Westchester Chapter

Janice Fineman
(*ex officio*)
Greater Boston Chapter

Lynne Groban
Greater Washington Chapter

Marjorie Housen '56
Boston Chapter

Ellen Lasher Kaplan '64
Boston Chapter

Joyce Krasnow
Los Angeles Chapter

Elinor Lubin
Gotham Chapter

Phyllis Perkal
San Dieguito Chapter

Rosalind Schacknow
Boca Raton Chapter

Cynthia Shulman
Boston Chapter

Florence Simon
Gotham Chapter

Shirley Spero
Greater Boston Chapter

Detlev Suderow '70

Lee Temkin
Boca Raton Chapter

Myles Weisenberg '78
Greater Boston Chapter

Michaele Whelan
Boston Chapter

Gayle Wise
San Dieguito Chapter

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Marti Dembowitz '10
Jason Gray '10

Brandeis Libraries: Spotlight on Lincoln

Alumnus Shares Memorabilia

Brandeis graduate Brian D. Caplan '82 has loaned 300 of the most interesting artifacts from his collection of historical memorabilia to Brandeis for an exhibition in honor of President Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday. Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War: A Commemorative Exhibition, on display through June 2009 in the Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections department of the Brandeis library, includes such diverse items as an original note handwritten by Lincoln in 1861, during the earliest days of the war, and a sash worn by a horse at Lincoln's funeral in 1865.

The artifacts in the exhibition cover the election of 1860; the commencement of the Civil War; camp life; the plight of African Americans in the Civil War; Lincoln's family; Confederate and Union generals; the reelection of 1864; children of war; and Lincoln's assassination and funeral, as well as the murder trial following his death.

Brandeis's Lincoln Collection

Joining in the celebration of Lincoln's 200th birthday, the archives and special collections staff featured Brandeis's own Lincoln artifacts on its Special Collections Spotlight, a monthly blog that showcases items from the department, including



unique manuscripts, rare books, and unusual ephemera.

The Brandeis collection of Lincolniana featured in February's spotlight includes an original *New York Herald* of April 15, 1865, announcing Lincoln's assassination by John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. Headlines read, "Important: Assassination of President Lincoln"; "Escape of the Assassins"; and "Intense Excitement in Washington."

"Only a short three months [after the assassination], on July 7, 1865," writes Katie Hargrave, archives and special collections assistant and a graduate student in cultural production, "four of the conspirators, Mary Surratt, Lewis Payne, George Atzerodt, and David Herod . . . were hanged in Washington, D.C., at Fort McNair. The public hanging was witnessed by thousands, including women and children. Photographs of the conspirators hanging . . . were reproduced in newspapers and as souvenirs."

Also spotlighted are a tiny book, *Addresses of Abraham Lincoln*, measuring 1.5 centimeters by 2 centimeters and containing four of Lincoln's speeches; a silhouette modeled on the Lincoln penny and made from worn-out paper money destroyed at the U.S. Treasury; and letters written by Lincoln when he was living in Springfield, Illinois. In addition, there are printed photographs, lithographs, and engravings of Lincoln, his generals, and his family.

- To view this collection and others, visit brandeisspecialcollections.blogspot.com. A new featured collection is added each month. Web site designed by Maggie McNeely, assistant archivist, Brandeis Archives & Special Collections department.

Brandeis Collection Goes Global

Brandeis has made many of the rare books housed in its special collections department available to scholars, researchers, and the general public around the world through the Internet Archive. The Internet

Archive provides free access to one million searchable, downloadable books, videos, and audio recordings, all in digital format.

(<http://www.archive.org/details/texts>)

The New Acting Company

More than 300 talented young college graduates auditioned, and ten were selected for the Brandeis MFA program in acting this year. They are preparing for a professional life in the theater and come from as far away as Alaska, Australia, the deep South, and the California desert.

Working as an ensemble over the next three years, the performers will study acting, voice, singing, stage combat, and movement with the Brandeis faculty and professional guest directors. “Our goal is to set the stage for a theater of the future that is alive with excitement and surprise,” says Eric Hill, the Barbara ’54 and Malcolm L. Sherman Professor of Theater Arts and artistic director of the Brandeis Theater Company.

JAPONICA BROWN

Mobile, Alabama

On the day of her audition, Brown saw actors’ profiles on the wall and realized they were regular people she would relate to, with goals similar to hers. She was not intimidated but encouraged by the approach of the Brandeis Theater Company.

MCCAELA DONOVAN

Bethlehem, New York

Donovan’s dream roles are Dot in *Sunday in the Park with George* and Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*. Her acting heroes? Judy Garland and Liev Schreiber.

TANYA DOUGHERTY

Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia

Dougherty is surprised at how many international students there are on the Brandeis campus. The diverse range of people and cultures makes her feel very



• From left: *McCaela Donovan, Levi Ben Israel, Equiano Mosieri, Jesse Hinson, Samantha Ann Richert, Ben Rosenblatt, Tanya Dougherty, Robert McFadyen, Japonica Brown, and Johnnie McQuarley*

much at home. Her dream roles are classical—the epic heroes and heroines.

JESSE HINSON

Gainesville, Florida

Hinson was a premed major. But the day before his undergraduate classes began, he decided he didn’t want to work outside of the theater, so he walked into his adviser’s office and changed his life.

ROBERT MCFADYEN

Bay City, Michigan

McFadyen’s favorite playwright is William Shakespeare, and his dream role is Richard III. The biggest draw to studying

at Brandeis was what he calls the “fantastic and unparalleled opportunity to work with and as part of an ensemble for three years.”

JOHNNIE MCQUARLEY

Birmingham, Alabama

McQuarley expected the faculty to be passionate, but says the indescribable energy that radiates from the undergraduate actors and others on campus is amazing.

EQUIANO MOSIERI

London, England

Mosieri always wanted to be part of an entity symbolizing greatness—something with a powerful and positive history—and says, “After reading about Brandeis’s beginnings and the exclusivity of the program, it was a no-brainer. The faculty is unbelievably talented and giving.”

SAMANTHA ANN RICHERT

Thermal, California

Although she admits it’s a cliché, Richert says she knew as long she can remember that she wanted to

be an actor. The welcome feeling on the campus and the community’s love for the arts made Brandeis a top-choice school to complete her acting studies.

BEN ROSENBLATT

Southington, Connecticut

Rosenblatt’s dream role is Hamlet and his favorite playwrights are Samuel Beckett, Shakespeare, David Mamet, and Eric Bogosian.

Challenging Times



These are extraordinary times that challenge all of us. They also challenge Brandeis University and the Brandeis National Committee (BNC). We are faced with the need to adapt to these challenges and carry

on toward our objectives with vision and resourcefulness.

For the university, the challenge is to respond to the immediate financial situation while also planning for the future. Brandeis faces an opportunity to take a fresh and innovative look at its mission, values, and curriculum. Faculty, students, and members of the administration are working together on committees and in

Town Hall meetings open to the entire Brandeis community to discuss all aspects of the undergraduate curriculum. They are focusing on academic excellence and preserving the esteemed educational and research reputation Brandeis has established over the past sixty years.

The Brandeis National Committee also has challenges to meet. We will concentrate on strengthening our chapters and regions, training our leaders, and developing programs that will further enhance our members' connections to the university.

Over the past year, I have had the pleasure of visiting chapters in New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts, and California, and corresponding with members from other areas. I continue to be impressed by the creativity and adaptability of our volunteers, and I am heartened by the

commitment and dedication to Brandeis that I felt in those meetings.

It is you, our members, who give me the greatest confidence for the future. Over the past sixty-one years together we have forged a strong partnership with the university. Our assistance is truly appreciated, valued, and needed by the university, and I know we can count on all of you to continue to lend your financial support to Brandeis.

Brandeis and the BNC are already taking innovative steps to confront the new economic realities. I am convinced that both the university and our organization will take on these new challenges with fortitude and will emerge the stronger for it.

Janice Fineman
Executive Director

Ambassadors to Visit BNC Chapters

• *Continued from page 1*

Already a seasoned political operative, Gray has worked on a mayoral race, interned on Capitol Hill, and field-directed a campaign for the Florida State House. He has also won debating awards at collegiate competitions around the country and was part of the Brandeis delegation to the 2008 World Universities Debating Championship in Thailand, which placed in the top eight in the world.

A resident of Coral Springs, Florida, Gray addressed a large Palm Beach East luncheon over winter break. There he spoke of the many opportunities at Brandeis, including study experiences around the globe, work in the university's exceptional science labs, double- or triple-majoring, directing plays, and involvement in peace movements. To hear Gray tell it, there is nothing quite like Brandeis.

Another student ambassador, Amanda Hemmesch, wants Brandeis National Committee members to know how much she has benefited from her graduate work in psychology at Brandeis; she especially likes talking about her research work with renowned faculty on how social relationships and personality affect normal aging processes and the progression of chronic illness. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, she grew up in a small farm town in Minnesota where rich intergenerational connections fostered her interest in aging. Currently, she is working on a research project examining how the symptoms of Parkinson's disease may alter communication and relationships for those with the disease as well as their friends, family, and caregivers.

Eugene Kogan, a doctoral student in international relations, joined the Student Ambassadors program to represent graduate students to BNC members. Born in Moscow, Kogan has earned degrees from Connecticut College and the London

School of Economics and studied at Oxford University and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He has extensive experience as a teacher, author, lecturer, and policy analyst on international security issues and the economic underpinnings of U.S. foreign policy.

Kogan, who has big ambitions to put his stamp on American foreign policy and the education of people about the U.S. role in the world, says he chose Brandeis for his PhD work because he knew he would have ready access to a world-class politics faculty. "Brandeis is a small research university where the whole community is totally engaged—undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and staff," he declares. "Unlike so many schools, it offers the exploration of the big ideas and the pursuit of knowledge and truth, the things I believe are the essence of a liberal arts education. Unfortunately, the education offered at some universities and colleges today is little more than a mechanistic pathway to a job—not so at Brandeis."

Brandeis University / Brandeis National Committee

FULFILLING THE PROMISE

BNC Rises to Meet a New Challenge

For sixty-one years, the Brandeis National Committee (BNC) has met every challenge in its support of Brandeis—from building the libraries, the heart of the university, to filling the shelves with one million books, and from advancing medical research to making it possible for talented students to take advantage of everything Brandeis has to offer. Now, the BNC is rising to the new economic challenges with Fulfilling the Promise, a two-year campaign that will officially launch on July 1. Pursuing an ambitious

goal of \$3 million, the new campaign will provide continuing support for the Brandeis libraries and much-needed scholarships for students who want to follow their dreams at Brandeis.

“The pairing of these twin campaign goals makes perfect sense,” says Carol Kern, BNC’s national president. “While libraries lie at the heart of every great institution of higher learning, the soul is the students who are in pursuit of knowledge. When we reach our campaign goal, we will have fulfilled the promise of BNC’s founders to support the libraries and Brandeis students.”

Since its founding in 1948, BNC has helped place more than a million books on the Brandeis library shelves, equipped the

facilities with the latest in computer technology, and greatly enhanced information resources in the digital age. Fulfilling the Promise extends BNC’s support further by raising important dollars that will help the university meet its longstanding commitment to admit students regardless of their ability to pay. Today, more than 70 percent of the student body receives financial aid.

“Scholarships,” Kern says, “are the key that unlocks the door to the unique Brandeis educational experience. Today’s Brandeis students will become tomorrow’s enlightened leaders—individuals who advocate on behalf of those without a voice, lead life-changing organizations, operate socially responsible businesses, and pursue groundbreaking medical advances.”

Guaranteeing the Future

Rajiv Ramakrishnan:
Taking a Global View

A member of the class of 2010, Rajiv Ramakrishnan is working on a double major in politics and international and global studies. Originally



from India, his family now lives in New Jersey. On campus, Ramakrishnan has worked with groups such as Positive Foundations and the Student Union, and

off campus he has worked around the world on several initiatives with the United Nations.

“I learned at an early age to count my blessings. And with that lesson came

an understanding that the world was rife with inequalities. I felt a call to take action against extreme poverty, hunger, and disease,” he says. “But it wasn’t until I came to Brandeis that I began to learn making a difference was really possible. As I explored the curriculum, I began to understand the complexities of sustainable development, political economy, and the global economy.”

Leila Alciere:
Change-Maker

Hailing from East Machias, Maine, Leila Alciere is a senior pursuing a double major in politics and international and global studies. She is the recipient of a Brandeis Achievement Award and a WOW grant for a summer internship at Boston Mobilization. Boston Mobilization is a

community organization that engages young people by using social issues as a point of reference. She worked with the Sub/Urban Justice program, which brought together high-school students from urban and suburban areas to discuss local social-justice



issues through the lenses of race, class, and gender. Alciere has been part of the Brandeis Institute for International Judges; Stand: A Student Anti-Genocide Coalition; the Student Committee on Disabilities; and the Student Global AIDS Campaign. Since coming to the university, she has worked at the Lemberg Children’s Center on campus.

• *Continued on page 7*

• Continued from page 6

“Before I came to Brandeis,” she says, “I did not see how a student like me could possibly effect change in society. Then I arrived here and saw my peers transforming society. I became a change-maker myself by getting involved in student activist clubs, Ethics Center events, and local nonprofit organizations. My greatest learning experience was when I studied sustainable development in rural Thailand for a semester.”

Jahfree Duncan:
Embracing Brandeis Values

Jahfree Duncan, a Cambridge, Massachusetts, resident who will graduate in May 2009, has a double major in theater arts and sociology. He has been an active Brandeis community leader as a member of the Board of Student Conduct, a senior admissions assistant, and a community adviser. He is also a member of the Undergraduate Theater Collective.

“While at Brandeis,” Duncan says, “I

have been surrounded by driven and socially conscious students and faculty.

“People here take action to address issues that affect the world; those are the people I have studied with and learned from,” he adds. “I am humbled by the invaluable education that Brandeis has given me and by the values I have inherited here.”



A Twenty-First Century Library

“Change and challenge are inevitable, but the ongoing support of the Brandeis National Committee makes it possible to continue serving the learning and teaching needs of the university. This support also ensures that the Brandeis libraries can provide extensive resources to scholars on campus and beyond and offer up-to-date and welcoming learning spaces to the entire Brandeis community,” Deputy CIO and Chief University Librarian Susan Wawrzaszek wrote in the *Brandeis University Library and Technology Services 2009 Summary Report*.

Following are some additional excerpts from this report.

Digital Information Resources

Digital information resources continue to gain in popularity, and the choices available continue to grow.

Broadening access to Brandeis’s unique materials via digitization is now considered to be a regular part of the library’s agenda. For more about special collections, see the story on page 3 and visit the Special Collection Blog online at brandeisspecialcollections.blogspot.com.

New Resource Sharing Initiative

The fact that libraries share resources is nothing new. Brandeis helped found the nineteen-member Boston Library Consortium in the 1970s for this very purpose.

So what is new? Imagine having the ability to search nineteen different library catalogs at once—and then simply click

a button to have a book sent to you! Technology is enhancing this service at a time when resource sharing is more important than ever.

Library Work Scholars

In this exciting new world of digital repositories and online learning environments, the demands for help from the staff of Library and Technology Services (LTS) seem to be growing. In addition to shelving books, today’s computer savvy, customer-oriented LTS students answer help lines, write computer code, and staff the Information Commons in the library.

Andrew Riker Library Work Scholar

When Andrew Riker ’09 heard about a work-scholar job in the Brandeis library during an open house, it seemed so perfect that he applied online before he arrived on campus. A computer science major, he has worked in the Instructional Technology Resource Center since his first semester, helping students navigate the LATTE course-management system. LATTE (Learning and Teaching Technology Environment)



is used by professors to share readings and multimedia, to accept assignments, and to organize online discussions with students.

“I help people figure out what they want to do with LATTE or to solve problems they run into,” Riker explains. “It’s very rewarding.”

Riker got his first computer when he was five years old and has been building Web sites since middle school. But despite his skill with technology, he is far from a computer geek. He came to Brandeis with AP credits in American history, European history, microeconomics, and English literature. “I really like to learn, so I think it’s fitting that I should be supporting students who are trying to learn,” he says.

Riker plans to apply computer-science techniques to linguistics in graduate school, studying machine learning to gain better understanding of childhood language acquisition.

Did You Know the Brandeis Libraries...

- ... Contain 1,207,217 books?
- ... Added 14,274 books in 2007?
- ... Now have 600 databases?
- ... Have more than 25,000 journal subscriptions, 92 percent of them strictly electronic, which can be accessed anytime and from anywhere?
- ... Are digitizing the Alfred Dreyfus papers to make them available to scholars around the world via the Web?

FLORIDA REGION

Continuing the Journey: Exploring Ourselves and the Stages of Life through Film and Literature was a daylong presentation by Brandeis Associate Professor of Psychology Derek Isaacowitz and BNC Director of Programming Beth Bernstein.

Participants were introduced to the concept of adult development, viewed a movie, and took part in facilitated discussion groups focusing on transitional journeys in life after retirement. This program proved that F. Scott's Fitzgerald's insistence "there are no second acts in American life" is outdated and demonstrated that there are not only two, but often more, that can be just as dramatic and important.



Roz Schacknow (left) and Rosalie Frank (center) of the Boca Raton chapter chat with Professor Derek Isaacowitz.



CENTRAL WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK

Pictured in front of Congregation Kedosha Janina, the only Romaniote/Greek synagogue in the United States, the Central Westchester chapter participated in a tour of the Lower East Side that also included the Eldridge Street Synagogue Museum and other historical places. Famous New York food establishments such as Yonah Shimmel's Knishes, Russ and Daughters Appetizers, and, of course, Katz's Deli were on the menu as well.

PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA

Among the many BNC members taking part in an event honoring philanthropist Jean Carrus were (from left) Marcia Stein, event chairwoman; Lorraine Lubin and Bonnie Kodesch, chapter copresidents; Jean Carrus, honoree and BNC national board member; Carol Kern, national president; and Janice Fineman, BNC executive director.



NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Potter Maddy Rapp Malovany '63, a member of the Northern Virginia chapter, sets aside some of her best creations throughout the year for a special pottery show, proceeds of which she donates to the Brandeis National Committee and Home Stretch, a local homeless shelter.

LOS ANGELES

The Los Angeles chapter welcomed Executive Director Janice Fineman to the West Coast. From left: Gloria Savinar, Evelyn Finkelstein, Gloria Stone, Fineman, Elayne Wexler, Shirley Pollock, Ruth Getzoff, and Jo Kierman.





▼ Former national president Dorothy Pierce of the Boca Raton chapter (right) receives a ceremonial hood in recognition of being named a fellow at Brandeis University. She is shown with Brandeis provost Marty Krauss (far left) and current BNC national president Carol Kern of the Phoenix chapter.



➤ **POMPAÑO/FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA**

Ninety-nine years young, Jay Coral, a member of the Pompano Fort Lauderdale chapter since 1961 and a Brandeis University Fellow, was feted at a birthday celebration during a Florida Region meeting.

BOOKSELLERS TO THE MILLIONS

Buy used books online and support the Brandeis National Committee! The Phoenix and Tucson chapters have taken book sales onto the World Wide Web and now benefit from the increased exposure and online traffic of Amazon.com. Visit them at www.amazon.com/shops/bntucsonbooks or www.amazon.com/shops/brandeisphoenix.



➤ **LOS ANGELES, SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, AND CONEJO VALLEY, CALIFORNIA**

University on Wheels brought Joyce Antler (left), the Samuel B. Lane Professor of American Jewish History and author of *You Never Call! You Never Write! A History of the Jewish Mother, to the Los Angeles, San Fernando Valley, and Conejo Valley chapters for a joint program. Pictured with Antler are (from left) Cookie Rosenbaum; Tobin Belzer, MA'98, PhD'04; and Shirley Pollock.*



Join the Brandeis National Committee in Making the Possible Happen

Honor, celebrate, or memorialize the important events in the lives of your friends and family with one of the three beautiful new Brandeis National Committee Book Fund tribute cards.

Your Book Fund contribution will strengthen the libraries at Brandeis University. The recipient is informed of your gift with a personalized tribute card.

The newly designed cards are available for \$5, \$10, or \$18. Each features the inspiring words of Louis D. Brandeis, namesake of Brandeis University.

To see all cards, visit www.brandeis.edu/bnc, click "Philanthropy," and then click "Giving Opportunities." To make a donation, contact Debbie LaBarge, dlabarge@brandeis.edu or 781-736-7588.

Shown: \$18 Justice Louis Brandeis card

Study with the Best



Crown Center for Middle East Studies

What's going on in the Middle East today?

Middle East Briefs, a “real-time” publication of the Crown Center for Middle East Studies, provides a succinct analysis of a single issue and current development that is at the top of the region’s political, social, or economic agenda.

These briefs are available online at www.brandeis.edu/crown/publications.

The Crown Center is committed to proving it is possible to produce balanced, objective, and dispassionate research regarding all aspects of the contemporary Middle East.

In addition to Arab-Israeli tension, the center also focuses on Arab politics, Islamic studies, economic and social development, and regional security and arms control.

Undergraduate and graduate courses at Brandeis offer students unique opportunities to learn about different perspectives on the Middle East.

Brandeis lectures are just a mouseclick away



Discover the excitement of being a student again and enjoying the opportunities of being on campus.

By clicking onto the Brandeis Web site, you can “attend” lectures by notables like Tom Friedman '75, who talked about global issues and his latest book, *Hot Flat, and Crowded*; Ted Sorensen, who brought his knowledge about presidential inaugural addresses; and Congressman Barney Frank, who discussed national banking issues. Go to www.brandeis.edu/now, then scroll down the page to Multimedia. Click and enjoy at your convenience.

Want to further your love of learning? As a member of the Brandeis National Committee, you can “study with the best” with Brandeis faculty-authored study guides written exclusively for BNC.

“Every citizen must have education, broad and continuous. This essential of citizenship is not met by an education that ends at the age of fourteen, or even at eighteen or twenty-two. Education must continue throughout life.”

—Louis D. Brandeis

- For a complete listing of BNC learning opportunities, visit www.brandeis.edu/bnc.

The Crime That Never Was: The Justice of Criminal Attempt Law

By Andreas Teuber • Chair, Department of Philosophy

In the Arthur Conan Doyle story *The Adventure of the Empty House*, Sherlock Holmes is stalked by Colonel Sebastian Moran.

To lure his enemy from hiding, Holmes commissions an eminent sculptor to create a wax replica of the detective’s own head. The “bait” is placed in the window of Holmes’s Baker Street house and is turned periodically to create the impression of movement.

Colonel Moran appears in an alley across the street, takes aim at “Sherlock Holmes” with his high-powered rifle, and fires. The bullet strikes the sculpture in the middle of the back of the head, smack through the “brain.”

Moran is captured and admits that his plan to murder Holmes has been foiled. As the arresting officer is leading Moran away, Holmes asks what the charge will be. “Why,” Inspector Lestrade replies,

“the attempted murder of Sherlock Holmes, of course.”

But can Moran be convicted of attempted murder if he shoots at someone or something that he believes to be Holmes, but that turns out to be a dummy? What do you think?

Professor Teuber looks at another in a series of legal conundrums, this time at “impossible attempts,” an especially perplexing area of criminal law. Study-group participants are presented with real and hypothetical cases and asked to give their own immediate intuitive responses as to how the cases should be decided, and then to understand and form an opinion as the judge in each case.

As the study guide unfolds, it takes participants deeper and deeper into the problem by bringing up harder and harder cases. Once again, Andreas Teuber shows us how the study of law can be satisfying, exhilarating, and fun.

Philip Roth's Late Work

William Flesch, Professor of English and American Literature

When did Philip Roth become a great writer? He's most notorious (still) for *Goodbye Columbus* and *Portnoy's Complaint*, but around the time of *The Zuckerman Trilogy* he started writing novels that are as good as anything written in American literature since F. Scott Fitzgerald, and he may turn out to be the great American novelist for our time. This study guide will consider six of Roth's late novels, starting with *Sabbath's Theater* and ending with *Everyman*. It will include

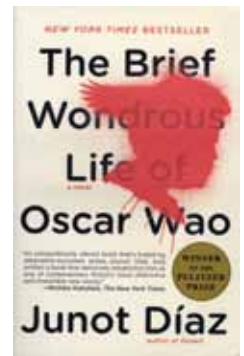
Roth's American history trilogy, *American Pastoral*, *The Human Stain*, and *I Married a Communist*, as well as the amazing speculative novel *The Plot Against America*, about what would have happened if Charles Lindbergh had become president in 1940.

Old age, they say, is not for sissies, and Roth is not a sissy: These novels are astonishing pieces of work, and they show a Roth very different from the brash upstart—no less outrageous but much deeper.

The Encore Series Preview

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao
By Junot Díaz

We invite you to join the Class of 2013 this fall in attending the Helen and Philip Brecher New Student Forum, which engages members of the incoming class with the author



of a noteworthy book. Come participate in a lively discussion, listen to the author, ponder questions prepared by Brandeis faculty members, and be a part of the Brandeis community.

This year's forum will bring to campus Junot Díaz, whose critically acclaimed novel *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for fiction just one month after receiving the National Book Critics Circle Award for best novel of 2007. The author spent eleven years writing the tale of teenager Oscar Wao, who lives in New Jersey, haunted by the vision of dictator Rafael Trujillo's ruthless rule in Wao's native Dominican Republic.

The story is radiant with the hard lives of those who leave and also those who stay behind; it is a rousing hymn about the struggle to defy bone-cracking history with ordinary, and extraordinary, love.

The novel has been widely praised. *Time* magazine called it "astoundingly great," while *New York Times* book critic Michiko Kakutani said *Oscar Wao* had established Díaz as "one of contemporary fiction's most distinctive and irresistible new voices."

Available for your chapter study groups late September 2009.

Brandeis in the Berkshires

Eighth Annual Lecture Series

This summer, come to the beautiful Berkshire Hills to hear from world-class experts on contemporary topics including American politics, the state of the economy, Israel, and Jewish life. The Eighth Annual Brandeis in the Berkshires Lecture Series will be held on Sundays in June through August at Shakespeare &



Company in Lenox, Massachusetts. Lectures begin at 8:00 p.m. For more information please visit www.brandeis.edu/berkshires or call 781-736-3355.

Alumni College 2009

Bring your inquiring mind to Alumni College 2009 on June 5

Brandeis professors Tom Doherty, Reuven Kimmelman, Stuart Altman, Gary Jefferson, Andy Hahn, Dan L. Perlman, Ann Koloski-Ostrow, and Bob Meyer will lead exciting lectures on environmental conservation methods, national health-care reform, China's political and economic landscape, ancient Rome, the story of Eve, and American cinema in the 1930s.

Experience the excitement and

challenge of a Brandeis class. Cost is \$35 per person, including four classes and a box lunch.

For more information about the classes or to register online, please visit alumni.brandeis.edu/alumnicollege. You may contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 781-736-4041, 800-333-1948, or alumnicollege@brandeis.edu with questions. **Pre-registration is required. Please be sure to register by May 27.**

Give the Gift of Education

Join Ruth and Robert King, who are ensuring the academic excellence of Brandeis and its libraries through a charitable gift annuity or bequest.

To learn about planned-giving opportunities or for the wording to ensure that your bequest is directed to Brandeis or its libraries, contact Janice Fineman, executive director, Brandeis National Committee, at 781-736-4179 or fineman@brandeis.edu.

Let us know if you have included Brandeis/BNC in your estate plans so that the university can recognize your generosity with membership in the Sachar Legacy Society.

“ Brandeis University has been a source of pride to us because it was founded by the Jewish community and ranks with the best universities in education and research. We chose to provide an endowed scholarship in memory of our son Jeffrey with a Life Income Gift to Brandeis as a way to make certain that other young people will have the benefit of an outstanding education.”



*Ruth and Robert King
Palm Springs, California
Desert Chapter*

I am interested in (check all that apply):

- Including Brandeis/BNC in my will
- Establishing a life-income gift
- I have already included Brandeis/BNC in my estate plans

Mail to:
Brandeis University
Brandeis National Committee
PO Box 549110, MS 132
Waltham, MA 02454-9110

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

E-mail

Chapter

IMPRINT

Brandeis University
Brandeis National Committee
PO Box 549110, MS 132
Waltham, MA 02454-9110

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hudson, MA
Permit No. 6