From history to current events: New faculty members Smiley and Yack ask difficult questions

By Marjorie Lyon

Luminaries in their fields and recent Brandeis alumnus and Bernard Yack joined the Brandeis faculty this fall, each immersing students in similar debates coming from different vantage points.

Smiley, Ph.D., Princeton University, the Leroy-Neubauer Chair in Democratic Politics, trained in philosophy (her field is called analytic political philosophy), she explores the meaning of words—how to make logical inferences—and expands out of that to understand arguments and make sense of social relationships and more.

Their teaching style is to encourage debate, and she says that Brandeis students—verbally adept and far from shy—jumped on the idea arguing, much to her delight.

Yack, Ph.D., Harvard University, the Lerman-Neubauer Chair in Democracy and Public Policy, trained in philosophy, history and political science (his field is called political philosophy), focuses on a more historical version—by scrutinizing history, he tries to understand what made us what we are. “Marion started with problems, concepts, moral responsibility, welfare independence and then worked out to make sense of the world,” explains Yack. “I started with the world and then worked back to the ideas.”

Racial and ethnic minorities less likely to survive cancer

Continued from page 1

The SHP found that interventions to improve diagnoses and treatment are especially lacking among the older, racial/ethnic population.

The second service would ensure and track necessary cancer screenings for the Medicare beneficiary as well as follow-up of questionable screenings. Within this service the CHW would send the patient reminders, follow up on missed visits, and link the patient to further preventive services in a timely manner.

The third service involves supporting the patient throughout cancer diagnosis, treatment, and recurrence monitoring processes. The role of the CHW throughout this third step includes making referrals to health-risk management programs, assistance with benefits coordination and health and social service referrals coordination.

The three-tier program design was incorporated to support Medicare’s current structure, which reimburses for specific services. The structure of the program also allows CMS to easily track the costs and impacts of the program as well as link the patient to other services that could assist in reducing health care costs.

Cardinal Kasper

Continued from page 1

He warned that antisemitism presents a permanent struggle and may be in a favorable condition. It is, he said, “a wound, which is still open.” And he added that the Church miscalculated by believing it had achieved its purpose.

Father David C. Michael, the Catholic chaplain at Brandeis, said that the Pope has a public voice to add to the (Christian-Jewish) dialogue.

“I think we (Jews) all understand that this accuses a response on our part,” said Rabbi Barry Starr, president of the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis. “We all need to be courageous in a world where hatred and intolerance is rife. We take seriously our side of the relationship.”