FROM THE DIRECTOR – DANIEL TERRIS

The Evolution of International Justice

Twenty years ago this fall, Dragan Nikolić became the first person to be indicted for war crimes by an international court since the Nuremberg Trial.

Nikolić was the Bosnian Serb commander of the Sušica detention camp in eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina. During the summer of 1992, Muslim prisoners at Sušica were assaulted, raped and murdered, and Nikolić himself personally participated in some of the assaults.

The indictment was issued by the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia (ICTY), established in 1994 to help bring peace and accountability to a region that was still in the throes of violent conflict. The ICTY did not have Nikolić in custody. It would be another six years before he would be arrested, and another three years after that before he entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

The ICTY and its sister court that tried individuals responsible for the genocide in Rwanda (the ICTR) will close for good in the coming years. The 20-year mark for these courts offers an opportunity for thoughtful reflection about the strengths and shortcomings

Announcing the Minor in Creativity, the Arts and Social Transformation

The arts have played a special role advancing social justice and transforming conflict throughout history.

This semester, with input from faculty members from the schools of Creative Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Ethics Center is helping to launch a new minor at Brandeis University focused on the intersection of peacebuilding, justice and culture: Creativity, the Arts and Social Transformation (“CAST”).

Based on many years of pioneering work by the Ethics Center – on campus and around the world – in the developing field of peacebuilding and the arts, the CAST minor brings together the Center’s global network and the rich resources of members of the Brandeis faculty.

“Many faculty at Brandeis teach courses that incorporate aspects of art and social change,” says CAST co-chair and undergraduate advising head Jennifer Cleary of the Theater Department. “The minor will allow us to synthesize what we are already doing, and form new cross-disciplinary faculty relationships.”

The CAST minor will provide an academic and intellectual home for undergraduates interested in the arts and creative expression, who hold commitments to understanding and advancing social justice and the transformation of conflict. It will introduce them to the field, advance their knowledge, and allow them to participate in building knowledge and establishing best practices.

“I applied to Brandeis because of the Peacebuilding and the Arts program,” says Brontë Velez ’16. “As an artist I am interested in creating new narratives, expanding representation, and allowing people the space to exist outside of linear constructions of existence through various mediums and forms. I am incredibly excited that in the CAST minor I will be able to learn from and contribute to scholarship that furthers the important balance between

continued on p. 6
The International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life

Mission: To develop effective responses to conflict and injustice by offering innovative approaches to coexistence, strengthening the work of international courts, and encouraging ethical practice in civic and professional life.

Staff

Daniel Terris, Director
Cynthia Cohen, Director, Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts
Marci McPhee, Associate Director
Barbara Strauss '02, Senior Department Coordinator
Leigh Swigart, Director, Programs in International Justice and Society
David J. Weinstein, Communications Specialist and Newsletter Editor

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IN THE NEWS

Staff Highlights (January – June)

Cynthia Cohen led workshops on the “Acting Together on the World Stage” multimedia toolkit at the Metropolitan Arts Centre in Belfast, Northern Ireland in April; and at Project Social Impact in Massachusetts and LaMama Umbria in Italy, in August. □

Cynthia Cohen co-convened the Arts and Peace Commission at the International Peace Research Association annual conference in Istanbul, Turkey in August. □

In February Marci McPhee volunteered for “College Goal Sunday: FAFSA Day,” a nationwide program dedicated to improving college access by helping students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). □

Leigh Swigart spoke at Brandeis in February about the prospects of transitional justice in South Sudan in the wake of the ongoing violence in the region as part of a panel of experts at a “teach-in” organized to call attention to the situation Brandeis administrator Mangok Bol encountered during a trip to the region to assist members of his family following a tragic loss. □

Cynthia Cohen and Dan Terris, together with Rose Art Museum Director Chris Bedford, met in Los Angeles with renowned contemporary visual artist Mark Bradford and young people engaged with the foster care system in LA to collaborate on “Art-Practice” – an arts-based program for young people transitioning out of that system in Los Angeles (see p.6). □

Dan Terris was named to the Committee on Conscience of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. □

In July, David Weinstein and a panel of Brandeis colleagues spoke with high school students visiting from China about how international students can get involved in campus life.

New Publications

Brandeis Institute for International Judges 2013: The International Rule of Law in a Human Rights Era
View or download the full report of the ninth Institute, held in Sweden in 2013: brandeis.edu/ethics/internationaljustice

Advocacy for Policy Change: Brandeis students work to reform Massachusetts law (September 2014)
Students in “Advocacy for Policy Change” (Legal Studies 161b) tackled issues including minimum wage laws, sale of conflict minerals, solitary confinement policy, and more. Read excerpts: brandeis.edu/ethics/atbrandeis/advocacy

Putting Social Justice into Action: A “Sorensen Summer” of Connections and Reconnections

The 17th cohort of Sorensen Fellows – Ibrahima Diaboula ’16, Shimon Mazor ’16, Elad Mehl ’16, Ngobitak Ndiwane ’16, Sneha Walia ’15 and Shane Weitzman ’16 – recently returned from summer internships as near to Brandeis as Washington D.C. and as far afield as Ghana, Guinea, India, Kenya and Poland. Whether they were reconnecting with a community of origin or encountering an entirely new nation and culture, they strove to be of service, and to reflect deeply on the experience.

Sorensen Fellows Reflect on Connections and Reconnections: brandeis.edu/ethics/news/2014/August.15.html

While in Warsaw to intern with the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Elad Mehl (pictured with soccer ball) joined Makabi Warszawa, a newly resurrected Jewish soccer and athletics organization that had been destroyed by the Nazis – and he got to play (and win!) a match against a similarly resurrected Jewish team from Krakow on a historic field in the same area of Krakow where his grandfather did his Bar Mitzvah and suffered in the ghetto.
Kweku Mandela-Amuah and Ndaba Mandela Make an Impact at ’DEIS: The 3rd Annual Festival of Social Justice

“Make an Impact!” read the posters and flyers for the third annual ’DEIS Impact festival of social justice at Brandeis. And make an impact they did: more than 2,500 people participated in 55 events over ten days in early February.

Even a major snowstorm that shut down the rest of the University for a day didn’t stop the festival. Events included service projects, poetry, artwork, performances, lectures, conversations, a drumming circle, film screenings and a competition challenging participants to cook on a food stamp budget.

Alumni returned to discuss careers in social justice at the SoJust Leadership Forum. Brandeis professors held two days of open classes, grounding college students’ activist passion in solid theory in the first ’DEIS Impact College. And just two months after the passing of their grandfather Nelson Mandela, Kweku Mandela-Amuah and Ndaba Mandela spoke in the ’DEIS Impact keynote address about the way their work founding the Africa Rising Foundation carries on his legacy.

“Take a moment and look around you,” said Mandela-Amuah, speaking to a packed house. “What do we all have in common? Our DNA has a common thread: our thirst for social justice.”

“’DEIS Impact just keeps getting better and better,” said Brandeis President Fred Lawrence. “It is one of those genius events that feels like it’s always been here. …For the Brandeis community, social justice is not just a field of study, but a way of life.”

‘DEIS Impact is a collaboration between the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life and the Brandeis Undergraduate Student Union.

Our DNA has a common thread: our thirst for social justice.”

Visit go.brandeis.edu/deisimpact

Videos, photos, session summaries, blog posts, ways to continue the ’DEIS Impact momentum — and how to get involved with ’DEIS Impact 2015!

Join us in 2015!

Important dates:

• Be a ’DEIS Impacter: Apply online by September 12
• Event Proposal Deadline: October 17, 2014 by 12 Noon
• The 4th Annual ’DEIS Impact Festival of Social Justice: January 30 – February 9, 2015
Evolution of International Justice
continued from page 1

of international criminal justice, and its lessons for the future.

First, the ICTY and the ICTR have proved that justice and accountability are indeed possible for the world’s greatest atrocities. Dragan Nikolić was a “small fish,” but eventually the principal instigators of the Yugoslavia conflict would face their accusers as well. Radovan Karadžić and Ratko Mladić, the political and military leaders of the Bosnian Serbs, are on trial now. As of this year, 126 individuals have been convicted and sentenced by the two tribunals, with some cases still continuing.

Second, the experience of the courts suggests that law itself is not enough. The criminal tribunals were set up as mechanisms to help bring peace and reconciliation to the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. And indeed it can be argued, at least in the case of the ICTY, that the existence of the court helped lead to the Dayton Accords. But long-term peace depends on means other than law to build relationships between divided peoples. The arts – and their ability to help people hear and understand one another’s stories – can play such a critical role.

Finally, it is inevitable that issues of legal accountability and geopolitics become intertwined in the global sphere. As international justice gains traction, groups and nations are tempted to take advantage of its credibility to manipulate its language for self-interested ends. This is not a reason to abandon the pursuit of global justice. It is instead a reminder that international justice is an evolving process that requires both support and informed critique if it will meet its lofty goals of bringing peace and dignity to those who need it most.

Exploring Global Justice: Perspectives from Young Scholars and Practitioners

Through a Center-sponsored speaker series this spring, Brandeis students had a chance see some of the ways they might shape and pursue careers in international justice. It was a rare opportunity to learn about the career paths of people just a few years into careers in this field.

Up-and-coming academics and legal practitioners also shared frank assessments of the current status of international and regional courts and tribunals, and the rule of law around the globe. They painted a picture of a world in which international courts and tribunals and other global justice efforts confront complex political realities while endeavoring to carry out their respective mandates.

The speakers, in turn, were impressed by the depth of knowledge shown in these conversations by the Brandeis students – many of whom had completed the Brandeis in The Hague Program.

Spring 2014 Ethics Center Associate Jacqueline McAllister, a visiting professor at Wellesley College, kicked off the series with a discussion of how and when international criminal tribunals affect violence against civilians. She shared research she has carried out on the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, its intervention in conflicts associated with the break-up of that nation, and its impact on violence against civilians in the Balkans region.

Nicole De Silva, a Ph.D. candidate at Oxford University, discussed her research on two important regional courts based in Tanzania: the African Court of Human and Peoples’ Rights and the East African Court of Justice.

Dr. Alana Tiemessen of the University of Chicago’s department of political science spoke of “patterns of politicization” relating to the International Criminal Court (ICC), and of the Court’s tenuous relationship with Africa. While she cited the ICC as an example of international moral progress, she maintained it would never fully transcend politics, because of a variety of structural issues.

Speakers described the at-times unexpected paths of their careers. Emily Strauss, Special Counsel for Lawyers without Borders, emphasized that it is often beneficial for career paths to be circuitous, her own trajectory being a case in point. As an undergraduate, she did not anticipate a career in law. A stint with the Peace Corps in Cameroon, where she observed widespread corruption and lawlessness, changed that. The existence of overt banditry, together with limited educational opportunities – particularly for girls – underscored for her the fundamental necessity of the rule of law and good governance.

Strauss pursued an MA in international relations and a law degree, and now works on projects seeking to promote rule of law in West Africa through judicial and legal training – even working on the innovative African soap opera “Shuga,” which uses television and related media to promote awareness of rights and legal procedures, and AIDS awareness.

Details, bios and photos:
brandeis.edu/ethics/internationaljustice/exploringglobaljustice2014.html

This article was written with assistance from Amelia Katan ’15, a member of the Fall 2013/Spring 2014 Ethics Center Leadership Council.
All-In for an America that Works for All

Angela Glover Blackwell, the founder and chief executive officer of PolicyLink, a national research and action institute advancing economic and social equity, delivered a lecture on March 29, 2014 in conjunction with her appointment as the inaugural Fred and Rita Richman Distinguished Fellow in Public Life at Brandeis University. Richman Fellows are selected from among individuals active in public life whose contributions have had a significant impact on improving American society, strengthening democratic institutions, advancing social justice or increasing opportunities for all citizens to realize and share in the benefits of this nation. Blackwell, who has more than 30 years’ experience in public interest law, philanthropic foundation public administration and equitable policymaking, founded PolicyLink in 1999. “Angela Glover Blackwell’s contributions span multiple areas of public policy,” said Brandeis University President Frederick M. Lawrence, “but follow a common thread that links advocacy goals to tangible improvement of public health, economic vitality and neighborhood infrastructure.” The Fellowship is hosted by the Ethics Center on behalf of the Office of the President.

The following is excerpted from her lecture. Full video of the lecture and an interview with Ms. Blackwell are online: brandeis.edu/richmanfellow/videos

There is a seismic shift taking place in terms of demographic change. The good news is that demographic change is coming at exactly the moment when it’s needed most.

At the end of this decade, the majority of all children in this nation are going to be of color. By 2030, the majority of the young workforce will be of color.

To be competitive in a global economy it is an asset to be a world nation, [with a] population that is connected across the globe through kinship, through culture, through language. …

Did you know that Asians, Latinos and African-Americans are more than three times as likely as white people to start small businesses? There’s an entrepreneurial spirit there that could be just the development that the country needs.

We really need to invest in the people who are going to be the future. America can see its future. It’s a five-year-old Latina, it’s a seven-year-old black boy. It’s a 12-year-old Asian youth. But we have to invest in them to realize their full potential.

That older population that is white isn’t identifying with the younger population that is of color. [W]e need to have an identification, because people have to see the future for their grandchildren, for their children tied up in people who still feel like “the other.”

We have to embrace the challenge. We have to think about how to educate ourselves, how to talk about the tough issues, how to recognize the hardest problems for this country have been the existence, the legacy, the impact of racism. What does that mean and how is it continuing to be a threat? We have to lift this conversation up, find a way to enter it, to talk about it, stay on it. The future of the nation depends on it.

We really have to stop thinking of tradeoffs. I always get nervous when I hear [people] pit early childhood education against social security. We’re not a poor country and we need to stop acting like it. We have the ability to do it all and we need to stop making ourselves think that we don’t.

We have to develop an economy that works for all. That economy will be an equity economy. We don’t just want to grow and then think about equity. We want to invest in equity in order to grow, in order to prosper.

“We’re not a poor country and we need to stop acting like it.
We have the ability to do it all
and we need to stop making
ourselves think that we don’t.”

– Angela Glover Blackwell
Students Speak

Recent graduate Jacklyn Gil ’14 reflects on the impact of the CAST minor:

“Each class I took at Brandeis that is now part of the CAST minor provided me with new ways of understanding the world and myself, as well as tools – including engaged pedagogy, improvisational tools, and artistic repertories – with which to help others heal from the traumatic experiences we all face.

“In these classrooms I was able to embody, express, and further connect with transformative material I was learning, particularly writings and works of art by feminists of color like Gloria Anzaldúa, Audre Lorde, and Frida Kahlo.

“My experience with these courses, and with creative social transformation in general at Brandeis, allowed me to delve into much deeper levels of social change work – levels that address root traumas along with structural injustices.”

Art+Practice

The Center’s Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts is collaborating with the Rose Art Museum at Brandeis and renowned contemporary visual artist Mark Bradford to advise “Art+Practice” – an arts-based program for young people transitioning out of the foster care system in Los Angeles. Pictured: Mark Bradford speaks with Jennifer Largaespada ’16 during meetings in L.A.

Be a part of CAST!

To sign up for the minor or ask questions email Jennifer Cleary: jacleary@brandeis.edu or call 781-736-3377.

The minor’s core course, “Introduction to Creativity, the Arts and Social Transformation” (CAST 150b) will be offered in spring 2015.

Details and course requirements: go.brandeis.edu/CASTminor
**Advocacy Award Winners Go Beyond the Semester**

Four students from the spring 2014 “Advocacy for Policy Change” course (LGLS 161b) were awarded Advocacy for Policy Change Award grants to support their continued work on issues they focused on in the class. The winners and their areas of focus:

**Sela Brown ’15** is working with the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. In the Advocacy course she lobbied for in-state tuition for undocumented students.

**Marisa Budlong ’15** is working to support survivors of sexual and domestic violence. In the course her focus was *An Act to Establish Employment Leave and Safety Remedies to Victims of Domestic Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Assault*. **Dillon Harvey ’14** will be continuing his advocacy for homeless unaccompanied youth in Massachusetts, begun in the course in the spring. **Sophie Miller ’15** is advocating at the Massachusetts State House for comprehensive sexual education, building on her accomplishments in the course supporting *An Act Relative to Healthy Youth*.

Advocacy for Policy Change is supported by generous multi-year commitments from Center board member Norbert Weissberg and his wife, former board member Judith Schneider. More about the Advocacy for Policy Change Initiative: [brandeis.edu/ethics/atbrandeis/advocacy](http://brandeis.edu/ethics/atbrandeis/advocacy)

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**HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT EVENTS**

**JANUARY**

Spring 2014 Ethics Center Affiliate Jacqueline McAllister, visiting professor at Wellesley College, presented *On Knife’s Edge: the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia’s Impact on Civilian Violence*, the first in a series of four lectures by guests exploring global justice (see page 4).

*Exploring Xenophobia and Intolerance: Spotlight on Russia* featured journalist and LGBT activist Masha Gessen, and Smith College history professor Sergey Glebov. Hosted by the Brandeis-Genesis Institute for Russian Jewry.

The Brandeis Immigration Education Initiative hosted *Struggling to Win: Anarchists Winning Power in Chile*.

**FEBRUARY**

‘DEIS Impact! 2014’ (see page 3).

**MARCH**

The Inaugural Richman Fellowship was awarded to PolicyLink founder and CEO Angela Glover Blackwell (see page 5).

Diane Rosenfeld of Harvard Law School presented on *Legal Resources Available to Student Survivors of Sexual Assault* as part of the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance’s annual Sexual Violence Awareness Week.

Claudia Fox Tree of the Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness spoke on *Eliminating Stereotypes: Native American Health and Culture and Medicine Through a New Lens*, hosted by the “Leadership in Health and Medicine” Leader-Scholar Community.

**APRIL**

“Advocacy for Policy Change” students presented their work. (Related story above.)

The Department of African and Afro-American Studies hosted *The Hip Hop Wars*, featuring Dr. Tricia Rose, Director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at Brown University.

The Heller School’s Justice, Peace and Coexistence Working Group organized a 20th *Commemoration of Genocide in Rwanda* with speaker Chantal Kayitesi, Refugee Health Program Manager at Massachusetts General Hospital Chelsea.

*The Playback Experience* featured professional Playback Theatre performers Will Chalmus ’07, Sheila Donio, Katie Lear, Ukumbwa Sauti and Tim Van Ness.

**JUNE**

The American Studies Department conference “*Blacks, Jews, and Social Justice in America*” marked the 50th anniversary of the slaying of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner. Congressman John Lewis delivered the keynote address.

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**Extremists and The Challenge of Public Conversation**

In March, members of the Center’s International Advisory Board reflected on the moral, political and strategic dilemmas of public conversation. Diego Arria, former Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations (not pictured); Richard J. Goldstone H ’04, retired Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa (at center in photo) and Shiranee Tilakawardane, retired Justice of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka (at left in photo), led a spirited discussion.

For more photos: [brandeis.edu/ethics/news](http://brandeis.edu/ethics/news)

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**Interested in Ethics Center Cosponsorship? See: brandeis.edu/ethics/events/cosponsorship**

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**Photo: David J. Weinstein**
UPCOMING EVENTS

'DEIS Impact: A Festival of Social Justice

- January 30 – February 9 2015
  Brandeis University Campus

The Ethics Center and the Student Union present the fourth annual weeklong “festival of social justice” at Brandeis.

Get Involved!
- Become a 'DEIS Impacter: Join the student team that helps organize the festival – online application due September 12
- Create a 'DEIS Impact event: Get funding to be a part of the festival of social justice – proposals due October 17

More info: go.brandeis.edu/DEISimpact

NEW CENTER RESOURCES

Apply for a 2015 Sorensen Fellowship!

We Give You $4000, You Put Social Justice Into Action.
Conserve the rainforest. Help fight AIDS. Spread literacy. Teach art to orphans. Given the chance, how would you put social justice into action? Become a Sorensen Fellow and spend next summer working on issues that matter to YOU in the organization of YOUR choice.

New for 2015: Additional need-based funding available through the Summer Earnings Replacement Grant!

2015 Application Deadlines:
- Draft Application (optional): October 1
- Final Application: November 3
Details: brandeis.edu/ethics/atbrandeis/sorensenfellowship

Ethical Inquiry

In the regular online “Ethical Inquiry” series we call attention to a wide range of issues with implications that may be personal, political, or even global.

Recent topics include:
- The Ethics of Corporate Social Responsibility
- What are the Ethics of Hate Crimes Legislation?
- The Ethics of Sanctions
- Helping or Hurting? The Ethics of Voluntourism

You can write one too...if you are a Brandeis University student (undergrad or grad) or alum. Contact series editor David Weinstein at djw@brandeis.edu.

go.brandeis.edu/EthicalInquiry

Save the Date: February 3, 2015 – ‘DEIS Impact Keynote Address

Alan Khazei, CEO and founder of Be The Change, Inc. and co-founder of City Year.
One of “America’s 25 Best Leaders” (US News and World Report, 2006) and author of Big Citizenship: How pragmatic idealism can bring out the best in America, Khazei will speak about empowering citizens to make a difference. Details: go.brandeis.edu/DEISimpact

Full details of the new minor in Creativity, the Arts and Social Transformation: go.brandeis.edu/CASTminor