The International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life is pleased to announce a new three-year Initiative in Intercommunal Coexistence, to begin in July 1999. The initiative has been made possible by a $750,000 grant from the Alan B. Slifka Foundation.

The purpose of the initiative is to generate knowledge useful to the emerging professional field of coexistence, while at the same time engaging Brandeis faculty, staff and students in meaningful interreligious, interracial and interethnic encounter here on the Brandeis campus. By the end of the three-year period, we intend to be strongly situated to launch a Master’s program in Intercommunal Relations, a goal established during a year-long planning process involving Brandeis faculty and students, as well as leading scholars and practitioners in the field.

The grant ensures the continuity of the coexistence “strand” of the Ethics Center, which will now complement the Center’s other work on moral reflection, education, and the ethics of intervention. The initiative has been shaped by the pilot international and student fellowship projects undertaken by the Ethics Center during its first year. Through faculty seminars, conversations among scholars and practitioners, new courses, cross-regional exchanges among practitioners, and fellowships for artists, scholars and students, we will continue inquiring into the ethical and educational dimensions of intercommunal coexistence and reconciliation. The results of these inquiries will be shared with practitioners, scholars and students through publications, case studies, on-line working papers, and conference presentations.

Through the Initiative in Intercommunal Coexistence, the Ethics Center will support several members of the Brandeis faculty to develop new coexistence-related courses in the social sciences, arts and humanities. The syllabi of these courses will be compiled and made available to scholars and practitioners in the field.

Although our vision is both interdisciplinary and international, we believe strongly that the values of intercommunal coexistence must be learned locally and in all spheres of life. Therefore, we will launch a significant demonstration project on our own campus - reaching beneath the surface tensions surrounding issues of diversity that characterize most American colleges and universities. This demonstration project will be used as the basis for an exploration of questions of evaluation and assessment as well.

The Brandeis Initiative in Intercommunal Coexistence will be directed by Dr. Cynthia Cohen, who has been working on coexistence issues with the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life since 1997. As director of the initiative, she will be coordinating the faculty seminar, teaching, monitoring the campus demonstration project and its evaluation, and overseeing all aspects of this multifaceted program.

We welcome scholars, practitioners, activists and researchers to join our conversations! Contact us via our website: www.brandeis.edu/ethics or by emailing the director at cynthiacohen@brandeis.edu.
The work of the Ethics Center can be summed up in a phrase: moral engagement through crossing borders.

Our Fellows have crossed national and cultural lines to collaborate on conversations, projects, and publications. Our campus events have stimulated thinking across traditional disciplinary lines. Our institutes for professionals stress the ethical dilemmas that transcend specific places and professions.

Over the last two years, we have been in a start-up period, focusing on the ethical dilemmas in the field of intercommunal coexistence. I am delighted that our pilot projects in this field have developed into a full-fledged, university-wide program, which formally begins this summer. (See “New Initiative in Intercommunal Coexistence at Brandeis” on page 1.)

Now the Center is beginning the process of developing two new directions that will complement our work in coexistence.

We have begun the process of developing “Global Partnerships in Education,” focusing on the relationship between education and the development of a just society. We wish to encourage conversations, publications and projects that explore how schools address the question of competing cultural values and ethical conceptions. We are also interested in how schools as institutions can embody or challenge prevailing social and political norms. We seek to develop partnerships between the Brandeis community and educators around the world. Such partnerships will use history, community studies, and other creative approaches to encourage young people to examine their own values and beliefs in the light of diverse viewpoints.

The second direction we call “The Ethics of Intervention.” No issue has more bedeviled the international community in the 1990s than the question of “humanitarian intervention,” with this spring’s events in Yugoslavia as only the most recent example. We are interested in exploring the ethical underpinnings of “intervention,” at the levels of community and professional life, as well as in international affairs. Doctors, judges, teachers, and social workers, as well as diplomats and generals, face intricate moral problems when it comes to intervening in the lives of individuals or communities. Can these principles be articulated across professional lines? Can they be taught? We wish to bring together a diverse group of scholars and practitioners to explore these questions in the coming years.

We are just beginning our work in developing these new directions, around which we plan to construct our next rounds of fellowships, courses, conferences, and action projects. We welcome your input and thoughts as the Ethics Center enters the next phase of its work.

Sincerely,

Daniel Terris
Director
Congratulations to Ben Singerman, 1998 Ethics and Coexistence Student Fellow, who has been awarded a Fulbright Student Award in Ecuador for the 1999-2000 academic year. Ben will continue the work begun during his fellowship last summer that led to his highly-regarded senior thesis, “The Amazon Worlds Museum.”

Nageeb Ali was named as a member of the All-USA College Academic Second Team by the USA Today newspaper. Twenty members for each Team were selected from college students nationwide based on grades, awards and activities, leadership and service.

Congratulations to the other 1998 Ethics and Coexistence Fellows who completed their undergraduate degrees at Brandeis University this spring: Liora Cobin, Ariele Cohen, Manuel Costescu, and Eldad Elnekave.

The 1999 Student Fellows will be doing their summer internships in the following countries with these organizations.

- Wendi Adelson ‘01, Argentina, Linea Fundador de las Madres del Plaza del Mayo
- Tamara Beliak ‘00, Israel, Defence For Children International
- Lauren Elson ‘00, The Gambia, Gambian Musical and Dance Troupe
- Keren Ghitis ‘01, Bosnia, Soros Media Center
- Karen Hovav ‘00, Grenada, GRENED
- Devika Mahadevan ‘00, China, United Nations Development Fund for Women
On Sunday and Monday, October 10 -11, 1999 (Columbus Day Weekend), the conference “Jewish Perspectives on Bioethics in the 21st Century” will be held at Boston University. Keynote speakers include Rabbi Eliott Dorff and Lord Immanuel Jakobovits. The International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life is a cooperating institution. For more information, check out the conference web site at: http://www.apfmed.org/bioethics.

Lidija Obad (from Croatia) went to South Africa in April for a World Day of Prayer conference. Participants gathered from 180 countries to discuss this year’s theme of reconciliation.

Dragan Popadic (Yugoslavia) sent regular updates about the situation in Belgrade to the Ethics Center and the other fellows during April and May. The events of the winter and spring, of course, entirely halted some of the educational workshops involving Serbs and Kosovar Albanians that Dragan and his colleagues had begun to implement.

Galia Golan, Brandeis International Fellow from Israel, returned to the Brandeis campus in March for a two-day conference entitled: “Untold Stories: American Jewish Women in the Yishuv and Early State of Israel.”

Judith Green (Israel) went to South Africa to work with Philip Visser (South Africa). Philip is working on a video project in preparation for the upcoming election in South Africa. Judith helped with documentation and evaluation feedback methods.

Welcome to Jennifer Rouse, the new administrative assistant for the Ethics Center. Her previous work has been in the areas of spiritual growth, healing, and justice. Jennifer holds a B.A. in religious studies from the University of South Florida and an M.A. from Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge.
### Selected Highlights of Spring 1999 Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>“Transforming Conflict: How Do We Know What Works?” talk by Jay Rothman</td>
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<td>March 17</td>
<td>“Unarmed Bodyguards: Nonviolence Confronts Organized Terror” talk by Liam Mahony</td>
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<td>March 22</td>
<td>Talk by Palden Gyaltso, Tibetan monk who spent 33 years in prison</td>
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<td>March 24</td>
<td>“Creating Performance across Enemy Lines” presentation by Achim Nowak</td>
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<td>April 14</td>
<td>“What Makes Good Schools Work?” discussion with Deborah Meier, Theodore Sizer, and Michelle Witman</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
<td>“Crimes Against Humanity: How Should They Be Judged?” talk by Richard J. Goldstone</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
<td>“Resolving Conflict: Lessons from the Field” roundtable discussion with the 1998 Ethics and Coexistence Student Fellows</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>“Kosovo: How Did We Get Into This Mess? Can We Get Out Of It?” discussion with Professors Steven Burg, Andreas Teuber, and Seyom Brown</td>
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### Pilot “Education Partnership” Begins in Grenada

Four Brandeis University undergraduates will be participating in the summer of 1999 in a pilot “education partnership” with GRENED, a non-governmental organization focused on education issues in Grenada. Lucas Baker-Siroty ’00, Tal Delman, ’00, and Tova Neogut ’01 will join Ethics and Coexistence Fellow Karen Hovav ’00 on a program focused on teaching science and mathematics to elementary school children. The project also includes research on community environmental education, work in a rural medical clinic, and research on women leaders. Educators from Grenada will participate and will later be involved in an international exchange focused on sharing ideas about the relationship between grassroots education and social change. Sociology professor Dessima Williams, who is also the founder of GRENED, is overseeing the project.

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On April 22, the Ethics Center hosted Judge Richard J. Goldstone, Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa and former prosecutor for the United Nations War Crimes Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. His forthright talk covered the history of the war crimes tribunals, emphasizing the importance of a genuinely international commitment to justice. Addressing the current situation in Kosovo, Judge Goldstone argued that a more vigorous enforcement of the indictments made by the Hague tribunal — including the arrest of Bosnian Serb leaders — might have averted today’s disaster by sending a strong message to the Serbian community that leaders would be held accountable. The event was co-sponsored with the Office of Public Affairs and the Center for German and European Studies.
Cynthia Cohen, Coexistence Program Director, attended the State of the World Forum in Belfast, Ireland. In her workshop “Ethical Dilemmas We Face as Practitioners,” Cindy used some of the stories gathered from the Brandeis International Fellows to initiate conversations among community relations workers in Northern Ireland, conflict resolution and reconciliation practitioners from several African countries, and coexistence facilitators from the Middle East. Several points emerged repeatedly during the conversation: 1) the importance of articulating a code of principles that animate the work of any organization; 2) the need to address apparent tensions between the approaches of human rights and conflict transformation; and 3) the risks as well as potential benefits of professionalizing the field. Conversations throughout the conference reinforced the notion that Brandeis University can make a distinct contribution to the emerging field of intercommunal coexistence by focusing attention on ethical questions.

The Brandeis Seminars in Humanities and the Professions has been awarded a $40,000 grant from the State Justice Institute under the title, “Juvenile Justice at the Crossroads: Literature-Based Seminars for Judges, Court Personnel and Community Leaders.”

The grant will fund a series of six literature-based seminars in cooperation with the Judicial Institute of the Trial Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. During 1999-2000, judges and other court personnel will participate along with community leaders from outside the court system. This series of seminars highlights five crucial aspects of juvenile justice: 1) guardianship and custody; 2) adolescent rebellion against parental authority; 3) treatment of racial and ethnic minorities; 4) young women offenders; and 5) questions of community intervention.

Following completion of the seminars, we will develop a model curriculum and distribute it nationally. The project is under the direction of Mary Davis, academic director of the Brandeis Seminars.