Janna Lowensohn is in her third year of graduate school in the Physics Department of Brandeis University. Her research involves writing DNA sequences and then looking at the ways she can use those DNA sequences as a specialized glue.

While she is pursuing a Ph.D. in Physics now, she originally thought she would become a lawyer fighting for civil rights. In college, a lobbying firm never got back to her about doing an internship with them, so she "settled" on a science-research job instead of living at home for the summer. Her love of lab work quickly made it clear that she would rather be struggling through research than gliding through constitutional law. Janna will share how one scrappy Californian’s first taste of research in Georgia led to an endless need for more data in Massachusetts, and how not having a plan led to a unique and promising career choice.