

TO: Faculty and Staff
FROM: Marty Wyngaarden Krauss
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
RE: Announcements
DATE: September 29, 2004

I hope everyone had a productive and enjoyable summer and that the 2004-2005 academic year has gotten off to an exciting start. There are a variety of announcements regarding new programs, new initiatives, and new faculty and staff.

New Programs

With the generous support of a gift from Elaine and Gerry Schuster, the International Investigative Journalism Program was launched in September, 2004 under the directorship of Florence Graves, an award-winning journalist who has been a Resident Scholar in the Women's Studies Research Center since 1996. The Program is affiliated with the Journalism Program, housed in the Department of American Studies, whose director, Michael Socolow, has worked collaboratively with Florence in developing this new program. In addition to producing investigative journalism reports, it will provide internships and research opportunities for our students, provide administrative support for the Journalism program, and bring nationally recognized journalists to campus.

The M.A. in Coexistence and Conflict program, under the directorship of Prof. Mari Fitzduff (POL and the Ethics Center), admitted its first cohort of 14 students who hail from eight countries. The program is supported by the Alan Slifka Foundation. The master's program provides students with a solid grounding in both the theories of contemporary coexistence work and the professional skills to design and implement successful interventions that enable divided peoples to live together more equitably, respectfully, and peacefully.

The M.S. in International Health Policy and Management at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, under the direction of Prof. Larry Simon (HELLER), has admitted its first cohort of 16 students from 11 countries. The one-year M.S. degree combines the planning, management, and health policy expertise found at Heller in an international context, training professionals to play increasingly responsible roles in the health and well-being of the world's poorest children and families.

New Initiatives

In May, 2004, President Reinharz announced the University's commitment to a comprehensive review of the School of Science in preparation for the launching of a campaign to build a new science building. To this end, preliminary discussions have been held among faculty in the School of Science, university administrators, and potential donors to this exciting project. I have established a science faculty planning committee, chaired by Prof. Melissa Moore (BIOCHEM) to work with Dean Adam Jaffe, Executive Vice-President Peter French, and the Office of the Provost to begin identifying the

programmatic purposes of the building, in coordination with an external review of the School of Science scheduled for November, 2004.

The Crown Center for Middle East Studies, housed within the Abraham Shapiro Academic Complex, will significantly broaden scholarship of the region by promoting research on the history, politics, economics, religions, cultures, and institutions of the entire area of the Arab world, Israel, Turkey, and Iran. Prof. Ilan Troen (NEJS) will serve as interim Director of the Center until February 1, 2005 when Dr. Shai Feldman will assume the position as Director of the Center (see below). The formal opening of the Center will be held on April 4-5, 2005 in conjunction with a major conference on campus.

Program planning for the Edmond J. Safra Center for the Fine Arts has begun, with the assistance of a programming sub-committee chaired by Dean Adam Jaffe; architectural planning will follow. The building will primarily serve the Fine Arts department and allow us to update our curriculum with the space for new art studios, interdisciplinary collaboration, new media, and technology. The building is scheduled for completion in 2007.

A ten-person delegation of faculty and administrators from Al-Quds University in East Jerusalem, Israel is on campus from September 26 through September 30 to meet with University faculty and staff as part of a planning process to create a dynamic and groundbreaking partnership between an American university and a Palestinian university. A delegation from Brandeis traveled to Al-Quds University in December, 2003 as part of this year-long project supported by the Ford Foundation. A long-term plan for continued collaboration between the two universities is scheduled to be completed by December, 2004.

New Faculty and Staff

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Maria Pellegrini to the position of Vice President for Research, effective January 3, 2005. Dr. Pellegrini will join the senior administration, reporting to me, to lead and coordinate ambitious new goals for the entire research enterprise at the University. She will also join the Biology Department as a member of its faculty. She comes to Brandeis after serving for six years as Program Director for Science, Engineering and the Liberal Arts at the W.M. Keck Foundation. Previously, she was Dean of Research, College of Letters, Arts & Sciences at the University of Southern California. She holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Columbia University. I thank Prof. Melissa Moore (BIOCHEM) who chaired the search committee and the other faculty who participated in this national search.

Please also welcome Dr. Larry Steranka, Executive Director of the Office of Technology Licensing, who joined Brandeis in July, 2004. Dr. Steranka was formerly the Associate Director for Licensing at Harvard University. Dr. Steranka, and Deborah Burke, Assistant Director, are responsible for all intellectual property owned by the University. Their offices are now located in the Kalman building.

As President Reinharz announced recently, Dr. Shai Feldman will become the first Director of the Crown Center for Middle East Studies. Dr. Feldman is currently Head of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University. Upon arriving at Brandeis in February, 2005, he will also hold a faculty appointment in the Politics Department. Dr. Feldman also serves on the Council of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London and as a member of the Board of Directors of Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.

A total of 21 new faculty joined Brandeis University this year. The full roster of new appointments can be found on the Provost's website. Please peruse this list and join me in welcoming these distinguished teachers and scholars to the University.

Additional Plans

This year promises to be both busy and consequential for the University. The integrated planning process, begun in June, 2003, will continue this academic year. This process has focused on identifying and calibrating the strategic initiatives from multiple parts of the university—the academy, students and enrollment, finance and resource management, institutional advancement, and communications. The goal is to produce a five year plan for the University that balances programs, aspirations, and resources. Dean Jaffe presented information about his planning process and overarching goals for the School of Arts and Sciences at the September faculty meeting. Additional information and discussion sessions will be scheduled during the academic year to ensure wide community participation in the effort.

The Provost's Steering Committee on Diversity Issues, established last year, will continue throughout the academic year. One of the key efforts will be to draft a diversity vision statement for the university and to create a process to receive feedback from the entire community about this important document. In addition, a variety of diversity programs are planned, and I urge you to read announcements of these events as they are distributed.

On a related note, there are 22 authorized searches for new faculty across the academy this academic year. A very focused effort will be made in each search to ensure as diverse a pool of candidates as possible so that we take every opportunity to diversify the composition of our faculty.

I look forward to a productive year and invite you to contact me any time with your suggestions or ideas for how, together, we can continue to achieve excellence at Brandeis.