

Meeting of the BNC National Board
February 26, 2026 on Zoom

Attending: Ron Levy, Merle Carrus, Mindy Frankel, Madalyn Friedberg, Iris Wigal, Nancy Sacks, Andrew Tievsky

IA staff: Ingrid Schorr, Jordan Tannenbaum, Kristen Burke

Jordan introduced Kristen Burke, the new Executive Director of Annual Giving. BNC is now part of annual giving and Ingrid reports to Kristen.

Ingrid gave a summary of the board's positions regarding dues increase and the need to reduce the \$234k budget deficit. The recent reduction in staff reduces spending by about \$100k starting in FY27.

Membership dues go to BNC operating expenses.

- Staff salaries (now 3 FTE)
- Student wages (currently 1 student at 10 hrs/week)
- Staff and faculty travel
- Donor recognition (donor wall in library)
- Mailing and shipping
- Printing
- Promotional materials
- Meeting expenses

We need to communicate to chapter leadership and membership

- The value of National staff, who provide essential oversight of operations for fiscal transparency and accountability
- We are committed to supporting you through the dues increase
- We have confidence in the commitment and creativity of BNC leaders

Dues were last increased from \$35 to \$60 in 2008. Increased three times in the organization's history.

- The board is concerned that members will resign and chapters will fold, based on response to the 100% increase in 2008.
- In 2008-9, 14 chapters folded. All but 3 were very small and unproductive with no leadership and would have closed anyway. There were a lot of member complaints about the increase in dues.

Board members restated their positions on dues increase and the need to consider other sources of income and a membership drive.

THE BOARD VOTED unanimously for a \$10 increase for FY27 membership and \$5 increase for FY28 and FY29.

THE BOARD VOTED unanimously to appoint Ron and Iris as co-presidents for the remainder of FY26 and to create a fundraising committee.

The new co-presidents will announce the increase at the Tea with the Team meeting on March 4 and follow up with an email to all chapter presidents.

Notes taken by Ingrid Schorr. Please email ingrids@brandeis.edu with any corrections.