



Letter from the Chief Financial Officer and University Treasurer – Fiscal Year 2020:

I am pleased to present the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Brandeis University, like many institutions, faced unprecedented challenges triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic that began during the fiscal year. In an effort to protect the health and safety of our community during the pandemic, the University made the necessary decision to suspend in-person classes and close residence halls to most students in March 2020, allowing only a small group of students who are not able to safely travel home to remain on campus. Additionally, the University also provided emergency financial assistance to students who are in need, allowing them to travel home, pay rent and grocery bills, and purchase laptops and other supplies.

Despite the health and economic challenges brought on by the pandemic, the University was able to reduce costs and generate a modest operating surplus of \$1.2 million. The University's cash position remained strong, ending the year at \$39.5 million. The University's net assets remained at \$1.2 billion and the University's endowment generated a 4.1% return, ending the year with \$1.1 billion in valuation.

During the fiscal year, the University received \$54.7 million in gifts and pledges, including \$0.5 million raised to assist with the emergency financial assistance to students who are severely impacted by the pandemic. The University raised \$12 million in contributions for the Springboard to the Future initiative, which aims to address operational gaps and serve as a down payment to funding the strategic goals outlined in Brandeis University's Framework for Our Future.

Brandeis University's long-term debt decreased by \$12.1 million to \$292.3 million, with \$30 million in bond proceeds remaining available to fund capital projects and deferred maintenance throughout campus. The University also drew down a \$35 million in line of credit as a safety precaution during the pandemic. The proceeds from the line of credit are invested in short-term Treasury bills and have yet to be spent.

The University's credit ratings remained stable with S&P Global Ratings and Moody's Investors Service reaffirming A+ and A1 stable ratings, respectively.

Overall the University has taken the prudent steps to weather the current pandemic and the related fiscal challenges. For the 5th year in a row we have had positive operating results and we are well positioned to continue this trend. The past year and the near term future are not without challenges but we are confident in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Samuel Solomon".

Samuel Solomon

Chief Financial Officer and University Treasurer