



Ethics Central

News from The International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life at Brandeis University

SUMMER/FALL 2022

Vol. 25, No. 2

FROM THE DIRECTOR
MELISSA STIMELL

A Busy Season for the Ethics Center

It is wonderful to see Brandeis University and the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life buzzing with activity. As you enjoy the beautiful fall colors, we are focusing our work and this newsletter on ethical discourse in complex conflicts. This season will be a busy one for the Ethics Center.

In October, we welcomed the winner of the Joseph B. and Toby Gittler Prize, Professor Carol Anderson. She was joined by Professor Chad Williams, the Samuel J. and Augusta Spector Professor of History and African and African American Studies for the keynote lecture “White Rage: From Reconstruction to the January 6th Insurrection”.

Also in October, we held a sold-out workshop on language and diversity for Brandeis faculty. (See page 9.) This training is the result of the Ethics Center’s seminal research on Multilingual Life on a Monolingual Campus: the linguistic experiences of international students in English language-medium universities.

Continuing our ongoing support for Brandeis University’s Year of Climate Action, which included co-hosting Peter C. Frumhoff’s 2022 residency on climate-based advocacy through the Richman

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Ethical Discourse on Contested Questions: The Public Square

The public square is not a place in the literal sense. Yet in a very real way, the public square is the place where the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life (The Ethics Center) does its work.

From the founding of the Ethics Center in 1998, the Center has been committed to focusing on the significant and emerging challenges of our time and to fostering ethical discourse on contested questions.

The Ethics Center has done this by engaging in the public square, developing and supporting long and short-term programs and initiatives aligned with that commitment.

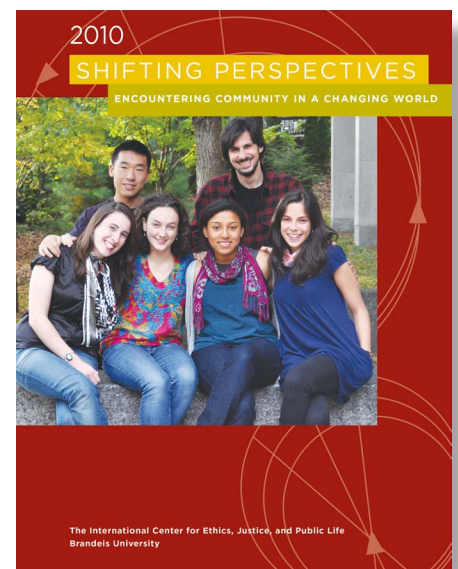
Some of those programs had a time-limited focus, such as conferences like “Just Performance: Enacting Justice in the Wake of Violence,” a two-day Ethics Center symposium that brought together international justice practitioners with leaders in the field of peacebuilding and the arts. Together they examined the approaches through which societies seek justice in the aftermath of violent conflict and gross violations of human rights. The exploration focused on four different types of “performance” used by communities and societies to pursue justice and restore trust: public ritual, theater, truth commissions, and judicial proceedings.

Some of those initiatives were signature programs for many years, such as the Sorensen Fellowship for Brandeis undergraduates, a forerunner of and model for many of the internship and fellowship

opportunities now in place at Brandeis. Having helped establish a robust ecosystem of similar opportunities at Brandeis, the Sorensen Fellowship was concluded in 2017 after 20 years.

Other programs developed by the Ethics Center grew and transitioned to new arrangements, such as the Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution and Coexistence program. Created and managed by the Ethics Center, it was moved to the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis to better integrate into related programs and benefit from being housed in a graduate school.

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The 2010 Sorensen Fellows engaged directly with and learned from communities in Ecuador, Egypt, India, Kyrgyzstan and Tanzania.

■ Ethical Discourse on Contested Questions

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Another initiative, developed by the Ethics Center's **Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts (PBA)**, recently transitioned to a new organizational arrangement. **IMPACT: The Imagining Together Platform for Arts, Culture and Conflict Transformation**, launched at Brandeis, is now its own global non-governmental organization. PBA continues to manage its programs in capacity building and advocacy, as the new organization consolidates its governance structure.

■ FROM THE DIRECTOR

A Busy Season —

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Distinguished Fellowship in Public Life (see page 5), we are teaching a student-centered design lab for solving complex environmental problems.

The Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts continues to create pathways for artists to assist in solving complex global problems. Our work takes us to advising UNESCO, working with Cambodian artists, and around the globe.

ENACT: the Educational Network for Active Civic Transformation, continues to teach students around the country about our democracy through engaging them in the state-level legislative process. (See page 4.) We currently are piloting ENACT Your Vote with our ENACT partner institutions Emory University and the University of Hartford to increase student civic engagement and voter participation in the upcoming midterm elections. Sign up for the app at [enactyourvote.motivote.us!](https://enactyourvote.motivote.us)

We hope to see you at these activities and many more. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

Wishing you good health. Enjoy the season.

▶ *CAST students, faculty and guests affirming their commitments to action while visiting the “Climate Action: Inspiring Change” exhibition at the Peabody Essex Museum.*

a continued commitment

Throughout this issue of Ethics Central you can read more about how our work continues to embody this commitment to engage in the public square:

Ethical discourse on challenging issues is the foundation of **ENACT: The Educational Network for Active Civic Transformation**. ENACT teaches students about our democracy through engaging them in the state legislative process. To function in a healthy democracy, community members must be able to discuss difficult issues across lines of difference.

ENACT students develop expertise on state-level legislation and meet with legislators and legislative aides on both sides of the political aisle. The students talk with people affected by the legislation and advocate with community organizations to advance the work. They connect with ENACT students at diverse colleges and universities across the country.

This year ENACT has developed **ENACT Your Vote**, an app-based initiative to encourage voter participation and civic engagement. *Read about ENACT Your Vote and other recent highlights from ENACT on page 4.*

For 16 years, the **Brandeis Institute for International Judges (BIJ)**, organized by our Programs in International Justice in Society, brought together judges serving on international courts and tribunals around the world to reflect on the practical challenges as well as philosophical aspects of their work – the only regular gathering of these judges.

Participants in the BIJ and other Ethics Center judicial colloquia have played and continue to play key roles around the world:



Hans Corell, (a former member of the Ethics Center's International Advisory Board) served as Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs at the UN; retired South African Supreme Court Justice Richard Goldstone (a former chair of the Ethics Center's International Advisory Board) has played key roles in international inquiries; and his Royal Highness Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Husseini of Jordan (also a former Ethics Center Board Member) served as UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Currently, Judge Raymond Dearie is serving as the Special Master reviewing material seized at Mar-a-Lago from the former president; former international prosecutor Hassan Jallow is Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Gambia; and Judge Erik Møse is leading the United Nations independent inquiry on Ukraine.

A signature element of every Brandeis Institute for International Judges was a session focused on ethics. After every institute, learnings and reflections from these sessions were shared in print. The Ethics Center makes these available as a continued resource to practitioners and the general public. *Read more about the Ethics and the Judiciary series on page 8.*

The Center's **Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts** has a central commitment to dialogue – in modes that include performance, visual and media arts, storytelling, and more.

Peacebuilding and the Arts Co-Director Toni Shapiro-Phim's work **documenting post-genocide Cambodian dance** was based on the

■ continued on page 3

priorities of both the Cambodian directors of performing arts centers in the refugee camp where she did her initial research, and of dancers inside Cambodia, where her research continued. And consistent with the Ethics Center's focus on ethical discourse, Shapiro-Phim ensured, decades later, that the footage she had recorded was made available to the people it featured, and she followed their lead for how to honor and use this resource in their community. *Read about Shapiro-Phim's work on page 6.*

PBA also continues to disseminate the resources of **Acting Together on the World Stage: Performance and the Creative Transformation of Conflict**, a collaboration between Brandeis and Theater Without Borders. In 2022, they are completing Ukrainian and Russian subtitles for the documentary film, with screenings and cross-community discussions planned in both diaspora communities, hosted by Serbia-based DAH Teatar as part of a conference focused on human rights.

climate justice in the public square

As the Ethics Center approaches its 25th year in 2023, the Center's focus on engaging in the public square with emerging and ongoing challenges continues.

In the 2022-23 academic year the Ethics Center's work includes a focus on **climate justice**, in collaboration with a broad Brandeis University commitment to a "Year of Climate Action." For example, PBA and our Programs in International Justice and Society, along with the undergraduate minor in Creativity, the Arts, and Social Transformation, are conducting a **design lab on climate justice**, in collaboration with the local Charles River Watershed Association.

Once again the Ethics Center is focusing on a critical challenge of our time, and doing so in ways that center discourse and consideration of impact...in the public square.

See more about the Ethics Center's climate action work, already begun with the Frumhoff residency, on page 10, some highlights of related Ethics Center events on page 11, and learn more about the University-wide initiative at brandeis.edu/sustainability/year-of-climate-action.

Remembering Gordie Fellman

Gordie Fellman, a beloved teacher and colleague, died on October 19, 2022 at the age of 88. He leaves behind his wife Pamela Blau, and their two children, Ezra and Talia. Gordie, a Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Brandeis University, retired in May 2022 after having taught at the university level for 60 years, 55 of those years at Brandeis.

Gordie was a valued member of the Ethics Center's Campus Advisory Committee, and was a frequent, important collaborator and partner with the Ethics Center from its founding.

"Many of the Ethics Center's most dedicated and effective students came to us through Gordie Fellman," said Dan Terris, the Center's Founding Director. "In classes that he made famous like 'War and the Possibilities of Peace,' Brandeis undergraduates were inspired to put their natural pessimism on hold and envision new pathways towards achieving peace and justice in the United States and around the world. Those students then came to the Ethics Center eager to put their newfound ideas into action, through the Sorensen Fellowship, for example, where they often interned in organizations where Gordie was revered from afar. Gordie had strong views, but also an amazing ability to accept a broad array of alternative viewpoints, which made him a lodestar for the Center and Brandeis for decades."



Read more about Gordie Fellman's incredible legacy: brandeis.edu/sociology/gordie-fellman-remembrance.html

As well as being a faculty member of the Sociology Department, he was a co-founder and, from 1990 on, served as chair of the interdisciplinary Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence Studies Program - PAX (originally called Peace Studies Program, and later, Peace and Conflict Studies Program).

"Gordie Fellman was the driving force behind the Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence Studies Program (PAX)," said Ethics Center Director Melissa Stimell. "He brought students together to think deeply about the nature of power and political participation. As the current caretaker of the PAX Program, his words of wisdom seem most necessary during this time of political polarization."

"Gordie was an inspiration," said Cynthia Cohen, Co-Director of the Ethics Center's Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts, "partly because of the way he embodied the value of mutuality and his commitment to the empowerment of students. He taught us about courage through the way he stood up for convictions, even when they were not popular. He taught us about peacebuilding through the way he engaged with us at the Ethics Center. We are so fortunate to have been in relationship for so many years."

"Gordie was a part of Brandeis during the tenure of every president of the University," noted David Weinstein,

Assistant Director of Communications and ENACT. "Throughout that time he impacted students, faculty and staff, including all of us at the Ethics Center, inside and outside of the classroom in ways that are impossible to capture. His Brandeis legacy will live on with all of those people, and in the institution he permanently shaped."

In a Year of Transitions, ENACT Meets the Moment

The 2021-22 academic year was a return to campus for many students – and a return to the state house for many legislators. In February 2022 the Massachusetts State House became the last in the United States to reopen to the public.

Through long periods of remote and hybrid legislative sessions, ENACT Faculty Fellows continued to adapt their courses and their students continued to actively engage with state government, developing their skills and helping to advance legislation.

Some highlights from Fall 2021 through Fall 2022:

ENACT Your Vote

In Fall 2022, ENACT launched ENACT Your Vote, a non-partisan initiative that features an app that encourages participation in the democratic process through voter registration, voting, and other forms of civic engagement.

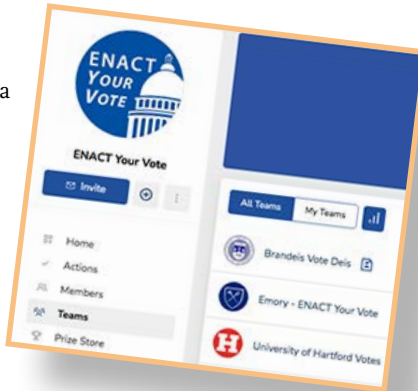
ENACT is supporting ENACT Your Vote at three ENACT partner campuses in 2022: Brandeis, Emory University in Georgia, and the University of Hartford in Connecticut.

At Brandeis, ENACT Your Vote is a collaboration with the non-partisan VoteDeis Campus Coalition organized by ENACT and the Dean of Students Office. Participants can form teams with friends, clubs, athletics teams, or classes, and earn prizes for individuals and/or the campus groups. Join Brandeis' ENACT Your Vote and earn points by engaging in our democracy!

"I'm excited about ENACT Your Vote because it's a great way to motivate Brandeis students to vote and engage in the political process by making sure they have access to all the information they need," said Mandy Feuerman '25, Co-President, with Maia Lefferman '25, of the VoteDeis Campus Coalition student group. "Lack of information can feel like an overwhelming barrier sometimes, and I really appreciate that we now have a way for Brandeis students to overcome it! I also love that we can support local businesses by incentivizing students to win and earn prizes for stores and restaurants in Waltham. I think we're making civic engagement both accessible and fun!"

Join ENACT Your Vote here: enactyourvote.link/brandeis

Want to do more? Contact the VoteDeis Campus Coalition: go.brandeis.edu/VoteDeis.



Faculty Mentoring Program

ENACT launched a new support structure for ENACT Faculty Fellows in the 2021-22 academic year: the ENACT Faculty Mentorship Program.

Fellows from the first two cohorts of Fellows with deep experience developing and teaching courses within the ENACT framework mentored the newest cohort of Fellows.

Each ENACT Faculty Mentor worked with a small group of the newest ENACT Faculty Fellows throughout the year to workshop syllabi, troubleshoot their courses, and explore topics related to the teaching of ENACT courses.

Building on the success of the mentoring program, in the 22-23 academic year ENACT Faculty Fellows led a series of mini-seminars for other fellows, helping each other deepen their practice. Session topics included how to teach an ENACT course while the legislature is not in session, how to engage with external organizations, and how to connect with legislators. Recordings of the conversations were then made available to fellows on the ENACT online resource sharing platform, enactnetwork.org.



Pictured: Faculty Fellow Albert Celozza of the University of Phoenix in Arizona (at left) and his ENACT students meeting with Arizona State Senator Lela Alston (at right). In Spring 2022, Fellow Kathleen Cole, political science professor and department chair at Metropolitan State University in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Celozza, from Cole's mentor group, met in person when both participated in the Western Political Science Association Conference in Portland Oregon. At the conference Cole presented a paper titled "Antiracist Pedagogy in Direct Advocacy Courses" and served as a discussant for an additional panel.

VoteDeis Campus Coalition student group past president Gabriella Lieberman '23 (center) joins current co-presidents Maia Lefferman '25 (left) and Mandy Feuerman '25 (right) to register students to vote during a registration drive on the Brandeis campus.



Student Delegates and Ambassadors

The 2021 ENACT Student Delegates, Elaina Pevide '20 and Alison Cantor '22, and Assistant Director of ENACT David Weinstein visited ENACT courses across the US via Zoom. They shared their experiences in ENACT, offered advice to students now engaged in the work, and highlighted the resources accessible to ENACT students on enactnetwork.org.

In March, Pevide and Weinstein had an in-person visit with Adam Myers' class at Providence College in Rhode Island. They had a lively conversation about the resources and networking opportunities ENACT offers students, and about career paths in policy and government.

Cantor and Pevide also led a very robust ENACT Student Ambassadors program. Nine ENACT students from ENACT courses at Randolph-Macon College in Virginia, Phoenix College in Arizona, the University of Hartford in Connecticut, Middle Tennessee State University, Providence College in Rhode Island, and Brandeis served as liaisons between ENACT and their classmates,



Visiting Prof. Elizabeth Rowen's ENACT course at Laramie County Community College in Wyoming (below) and Prof. Albert Celozza's ENACT course at Phoenix College in Arizona (left).

helping them access the ENACT online resource platform, and keeping them informed about ENACT events.

The Student Delegates also hosted two ENACT Alumni Networking Nights over the academic year. Alumni panelists shared advice for students in ENACT courses and for post-graduation plans, and made connections for future work. Elaina Pevide, herself now serving as Special Projects & Media Coordinator for the City of Fall River, Mass., moderated the discussions.

ENACT alumni guests included Kate Alexander, Brandeis '12, National EveryAction Manager for Indivisible; Myeisha Boyd, University of Hartford '17, Analyst at Goldman Sachs; Sahar Massachi, Brandeis '11, Fellow at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard and now co-founder of the Integrity Institute; Mark Hickey, Hendrix College (Arkansas) '17, Senior Political Finance Associate at Fulkerson Kennedy & Company; and Cole Riel, University of New Hampshire, Manchester, '17, Former New Hampshire State Representative.

More about the ENACT Student Delegates: brandeis.edu/ethics/enact/people/student-delegates



Elaina Pevide and David Weinstein visit Adam Myers' ENACT course at Providence College in Rhode Island.

Impact on Careers and Civic Engagement

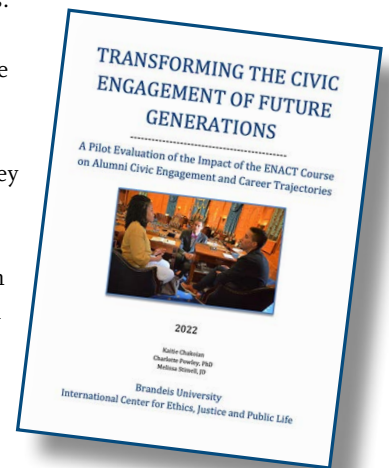
ENACT Academic Program Director Melissa Stimell collaborated with Brandeis graduate student Kaitie Chakoian PhD '23 and Brandeis alum Charlotte Powley PhD '21 to survey and interview alumni from 10 years of the Brandeis ENACT course "Advocacy for Policy Change" (LGLS 161b), which was developed by Stimell and has been taught by her since 2011.

Their report, released this year, shared several striking findings. Among their conclusions:

- ENACT alumni have high levels of political efficacy. They feel well qualified to engage with the political process and believe that doing so can have an impact on political outcomes. As a result, they are much more civically engaged than the average U.S. resident. They vote at substantially higher rates and engage in various other ways.
- ENACT alumni retain the knowledge they learned in the class about the political process, even years after completing it. They also retain skills (speaking and writing clearly, working effectively with others, and evaluating data sources) that have helped them in their professional work – whether that work is policy-related or completely unrelated.
- In addition to these skills, ENACT alumni credit the networks they developed and the mentorship of ENACT faculty with the trajectories their careers have taken since leaving Brandeis.

Read the full report online:

["Transforming the Civic Engagement of Future Generations"](#)



Documenting Post-Genocide Cambodian Dance Practice: *A Newly Digitized Archival Collection*

a very special hard drive

Toni Shapiro-Phim, Co-Director of the Ethics Center's Program in Peacebuilding in the Arts, recently traveled to Cambodia with a very special hard drive destined for the [Bophana Audiovisual Resource Center](#), a public archive in the nation's capital, Phnom Penh. On that drive were hundreds of hours of digitized footage from videotapes Shapiro-Phim shot in the early 1990s while undertaking dissertation research in Cambodia and in Site 2 Cambodian refugee camp in Thailand. This is the story of that footage, and its return to Cambodia.

in the wake of genocide

In the early 1990s Cambodia was still reeling from a genocide that had ended in 1979. Damage, disruption and displacement were acute: nearly everyone in the country had experienced the death of loved ones, and the loss of livelihoods and homes, if not entire families or communities, during the years of Khmer Rouge rule (1975-1979). Between a quarter and a third of the population, including an estimated 80% or more of the nation's professional dancers, had perished from starvation, disease, overwork and murder.

When Vietnam defeated the Khmer Rouge in 1979 and stayed in Cambodia, sharing political power with Cambodians who had defected from the ousted genocidal regime, the U.S. spearheaded an international embargo, isolating Cambodia from much-needed aid. (Vietnam and the United States were enemies at the time.)

Dancers were among those who, immediately after liberation from the Khmer Rouge, worked to bring the country out of its collective nightmare through the re-creation of beloved aspects of Cambodia's cultural heritage, including rituals that nurtured the well-being of the land and its people, even while hardship continued.

It was in this context that Toni Shapiro-Phim, then a doctoral student in anthropology



Photo by Meach Choulay

(Top) *Sampeah Kru ceremony, 2022.*
(Right) *Chea Samy teaching Ouk Solichumnith, 1991.*

at Cornell University, first arrived in Cambodia, in April 1990, after having spent time in Site 2 displaced persons camp, where more than 150,000 Cambodians had been living for years.

performing arts centers in a war zone

Site 2, even though it was inside Thailand, was in a war zone. The Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh was engaged in battle with the military arms of previous Cambodian regimes, including the Khmer Rouge, all of whom wanted to regain power, and all of whom had regrouped along the Thai-Cambodian border.

In the camp, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations established health, education, and sanitation programs, while the Cambodians themselves, living in constant danger and with complete uncertainty about their future, set up performing arts centers.



Still from videotape taken by Toni Shapiro-Phim

“From the very first day I was in Phnom Penh, dancers helped guide my research, and my documentation: they told me what and who was important to them, and to the art form.”

When Shapiro-Phim met with directors of those performing arts centers, they selected Cambodia’s classical dance as the first art form they’d like to document, and she worked with them on that effort. Shapiro-Phim filmed training, rehearsals, ceremonies and performances as well as some aspects of daily life, and interviews.

When she moved into Cambodia to continue her research, she left copies of the videotapes with the camp’s artists. But a fire in Site 2 destroyed all of their documentation. Fortunately, Shapiro-Phim had the original tapes.

teachers molding their students in a class or at the teacher’s home; dancers and musicians offering prayers to the spirits of the arts through melody and movement; performances on makeshift stages or in theaters or in the Royal Palace.

In May 2022, Shapiro-Phim returned to Cambodia with the hard drive containing all of the digitized footage. At special screening sessions, artists in Cambodia, including some who had been in Site 2 when Shapiro-Phim was there and who repatriated to Cambodia when the camp closed, watched clips from this digitized collection.

After reacting emotionally to this captured history, they shared ideas of ways to use the footage: showing selected scenes to current dance students; making films about specific teachers or particular dances; training younger dancers to interview people in the footage who are now in their 60s and 70s, asking them to reflect on that history and the future; sharing the material with their children, so “they know what we lived through.”

with crowns, masks and other dance accouterments. Rows of offerings – fruits and sweets, among other things, topped with incense and candles – stretched forward from the altar.

About 200 people participated, including dancers of many generations. “There were people I had first met and filmed when they were 10-year-old budding artists, and others who had been dancers before the genocide who, in my videos, take their place on stage or train new performers, as well as dancers just now in their 20s,” recalled Shapiro-Phim.

“Some, now in their 80s, with trouble standing and walking, were nonetheless moved to rise – with help from those nearby – and to dance as part of the ceremony, reinforcing their spiritual and kinesthetic connection and commitment to their heritage, and its future.”

“When I watch these videos, I’m taken back 30 plus years to a time, just after the genocide, in which we felt completely hopeless,” said Proeung Chhieng, a former dancer and dean of the Department of Choreographic Arts at The Royal University of Fine Arts, and currently an advisor to Cambodia’s Minister of Culture. “Maybe, we thought, this art, along with so much else, had been lost forever. This footage is living evidence of the effort my teachers and their peers, even in failing health and after suffering so much during the Khmer Rouge regime, gave to rebuilding their culture, and passing knowledge of it on to us so that it could flourish again. That cultural knowledge, which was almost extinguished, lives within us, and also in these videos, which will be invaluable for generations to come.”

connection and commitment to a heritage and its future

“One of the highlights of my visit was the *sampeah kru* ceremony, a ritual through which dancers and musicians honor teachers and spirits of these arts,” said Shapiro-Phim. “Artists prepared and participated in this ceremony to ask for blessings for the digitized material, to ask for guidance in its use, and to promise to continue to honor the spirits – and all teachers.”

The 10-terabyte hard drive, wrapped in red silk and covered with a garland of jasmine flowers, was on the altar, along

Image from website



The Bhopana Archives.

In Cambodia, Shapiro-Phim witnessed the same drive she had seen among dancers in the camp – a hunger to bring back as much of the repertoire of dances and dance-dramas as possible, to offer these stories with moral potency to their compatriots. “From the very first day I was in Phnom Penh, dancers helped guide my research, and my documentation: they told me what and who was important to them, and to the art form,” said Shapiro-Phim. “I stayed in Cambodia for over two years. Since then, I’ve been lucky to be able to return many times, including for another extended stay from 2008 to 2010.”

preserving and sharing an important record

In 2021, Shapiro-Phim successfully obtained a grant to finally digitize all of those hours of videotape, ensuring their preservation and accessibility.

The footage documents powerful moments: genocide survivors trying to help each other remember specific gestures and choreography after the almost four years when classical dance had been forbidden; dance

LEARN MORE

Panel discussion about this archival collection convened by the Center for Khmer Studies, in Siem Reap, Cambodia, featuring Cambodian dancers of several generations and clips from selected videotapes (in English and Khmer):

khmerstudies.org/panel-discussion-archive-and-documentation-of-the-cambodian-dance-2/

The Bophana Audiovisual Resource Center: bophana.org

Ethics and the International Judiciary — A Resource for Scholars and Practitioners

From 2002 to 2018, the Ethics Center's Programs in International Justice and Society convened the only regular gathering in the world of judges serving on courts with international or regional jurisdictions: [The Brandeis Institute for International Judges \(BIIJ\)](#).

Every 18 months judges serving on international courts and tribunals around the world – courts such as the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, the International Criminal Court, and the World Trade Organization Appellate Body – gathered along with guests and presenters for a multiday institute, which included public events.



A conversation during a BIIJ meeting.

The BIIJ provided these members of the international judiciary with a unique opportunity to meet and discuss critical issues concerning the theory and practice of international justice, especially as they relate to their varied jurisdictions.

In keeping with the Ethics Center's commitment to fostering ethical discourse, each of the 12 BIIJ sessions featured conversations around ethical questions faced by judges serving on international courts.

Whether discussing practical issues such as professional conduct on the bench and avoiding conflicts of interest, or more philosophical topics like shaping the judicial persona and the nature of moral authority,

BIIJ participants recognized the importance of ethical behavior to the international judiciary.

Recognizing the enduring value of these conversations for international justice practitioners, the Ethics Center's Programs in International Justice and Society created and hosts "[Ethics and the International Judiciary](#)," an online selection of BIIJ discussions.

"The discussions in this collection are unique in that they capture the diversity of experience and perspectives among BIIJ participants and follow their back-and-forth commentary as they grapple with challenging topics," says Leigh Swigart, Director of Programs in International Justice and Society. "One of the aims of documenting BIIJ proceedings in reports, and especially the sessions focused on ethics, was to demonstrate to the public that international judges operate within clear ethical boundaries even though their institutions lie outside of more familiar national systems. This public understanding remains important today as conflicts, human rights abuses and interstate disputes continue to occur around the globe."

LEARN MORE

- "[Ethics and the International Judiciary](#)" a selection of ethical discussions from the BIIJ: brandeis.edu/ethics/international-justice/past-projects/biiij/ethics-international-judiciary
- "[Institutes Through the Years](#)" – reports of all the institutes from 2002-2016: brandeis.edu/ethics/international-justice/past-projects/biiij
- "[The Oslo Recommendations for Enhancing the Legitimacy of International Courts](#)" – a collective statement by participants of the final BIIJ, (held in Norway in 2018) about how to ensure the reputation and credibility of their institutions: brandeis.edu/ethics/international-justice/past-projects/biiij/2018-oslo-recommendations



Toward Language Justice in Higher Education: Countering linguistic bias and creating linguistically open classrooms

As universities have become more linguistically diverse, questions are being raised about language discrimination on campus and the existence of problematic language ideologies.

These unspoken and sometimes unrecognized assumptions around languages and language use, such as associating a particular type of speech or writing style with intelligence or competence, can have a substantial impact at every level of higher education, from policies for admission, to curriculum and instruction, to academic supports and resources.

Yet institutional policies that seek to promote diversity, equity and inclusion at most US institutions of higher education consistently overlook language diversity.

Indeed, American sociolinguist Rosina Lippi-Green's 1994 observation that linguistic prejudice is "so commonly accepted, so widely perceived as appropriate, that it must be seen as the last widely open backdoor to discrimination" remains largely true today.

To begin to address this situation, during the 2022-23 academic year the [Language, Culture and Justice Hub](#) is exploring linguistic bias, the dominance of standard language ideologies, and strategies that can be used to counter these realities in the sphere of higher education.

This focus builds on last year's project [Multilingual Life on a Monolingual Campus](#). A number of Hub members, representing diverse areas of expertise, have been instrumental in designing these programs around language diversity on university campuses.

The initiative kicked off this fall with programs that featured leaders in the field from Brandeis and other institutions. The first event, "Toward Language Justice in Higher Education," was a webinar exploring

ways in which linguistic bias, standard language ideologies and monolingual assumptions affect various aspects of higher education. Dr. LeManuel Bitsóí, Brandeis' Vice-President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and a native Navajo speaker, offered an official welcome to the attendees.

New York University scholar Marguerite Lukes noted in her webinar remarks the widespread "invisibility" of language diversity at the university level, saying that "We don't adequately attend to or take stock of, investigate or learn from the languages or dialects of our students on campus." Middlebury College professor Shawna Shapiro, in her presentation, stressed that professors can "invite students to draw on their linguistic and cultural backgrounds and global orientations," all the while supporting them to meet academic expectations.

The webinar was followed by "Enacting Language Justice in the College Classroom: An Introduction to Critical Language Awareness," an interactive pedagogical workshop designed for Brandeis instructors.

"Both sessions were very well-attended,

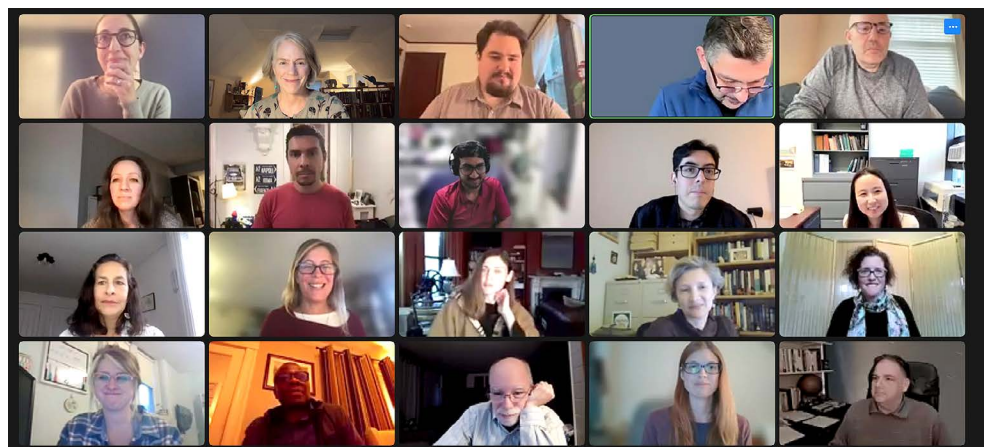
UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit the Language, Culture and Justice Hub for more on these events and upcoming spring 2023 events:

brandeis.edu/ethics/international-justice/language-culture-justice/events-and-projects

with a long wait list for the space-limited pedagogical workshop," said Leigh Swigart. "The high level of interest at Brandeis in these programs demonstrates the awareness in this community that linguistic inclusion is needed in our classrooms."

This year's programs are supported by Brandeis' International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life along with the Center for German and European Studies and the Education Program. Funding is provided by the Rice Family Foundation and Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst.



Participants in the pedagogical workshop "Enacting Language Justice in the College Classroom."

From Science to Action on Climate Change

Global change ecologist Peter C. Frumhoff was the 2022 Richman Distinguished Fellow in Public Life. The Richman Fellowship recognizes individuals active in public life whose contributions have had a significant impact on improving American society, strengthening democratic institutions, advancing social justice or increasing opportunities for all citizens. The Fellowship is hosted by the Ethics Center on behalf of the Office of the President and the Office of the Provost.

Dr. Frumhoff's March 29-31, 2022 residency kicked off a year of climate action at Brandeis.

The longtime chief climate scientist and director of science and policy at the Union of Concerned Scientists, Dr. Frumhoff led strategies and initiatives to bring robust scientific expertise to bear on informing public understanding and motivating public policies; guided science, equity and innovation post-doctoral fellowships; and served as senior liaison with the scientific community, policymakers and the media. He is currently on sabbatical at the Harvard University Center for the Environment, where he is researching the scientific basis for climate litigation against fossil fuel companies and governments.

"A more fitting individual for this fellowship is hard to imagine, especially given the crossroads at which our planet now stands," said Professor Colleen Hitchcock, Chair of the Environmental Studies Program, (pictured below with Dr. Frumhoff) in her introduction.

The following is an excerpt from Peter Frumhoff's lecture, "From Science to Action on Climate Change." Videos of the lecture, and of Dr. Peter Frumhoff in conversation with Professor Charles Chester are online: brandeis.edu/richmanfellow/videos

I was motivated by coming here to read a little bit about Justice Brandeis, and I was really struck by his writings about big banks in the early 1930s, in which he famously raised the alarm over the concentration of economic power in so-called private corporations that are sometimes able to dominate the state. It's hard to make a better description of what the fossil fuel industry does today, along with the banks, by the way, that finance their investments.

So in my view, the climate energy policies that we need to bend the emissions curve requires dramatic reductions in the power and influence of fossil fuel companies to thwart climate action....

One of the things that I'm also heartened by is efforts that are now stepping up to try to bring climate action in to the courts. ...I am not a lawyer or a legal expert, but I'm working with them. And I'm very excited by this because I think the courts have a real opportunity to shape this dialogue in a way that they have not.

But it's not the only source of reasons for hope. And I wanted to just say that the lawsuits, efforts to hold fossil fuel companies accountable really stand on the shoulders of the fossil fuel divestment movement, which has been, in my view, an essential public campaign.



It's worth remembering that the divestment movement only started a decade ago. And it started on college campuses including, I know, here at Brandeis. And it was dismissed first by many and ridiculed as a distraction, as hopelessly naive, but there are now institutions with nearly \$40 trillion in assets that have acted to divest, fully or partially, from fossil fuels. Universities' pension funds, faith institutions, the government of Ireland, some more than others....

The problem is not going to be solved by one organization or one theory of change, or one set of expertise. It's going to be solved by all of us be up and standing up. And there are a lot of ways to engage campus activism as essential in just one form of agency.

I also was happy to see justice Brandeis' quote about the most important political office is that of private citizen. Nothing could be more true than that in the case of

climate as well. One way to get engaged is to vote. And I want to encourage that fully....

I want to just close by turning to the work of Brandeis, both what's been done and what's been had. I'm just really honored to be here, as I said at the outset and really thrilled by the hard work and vision that went into the work of the President's Task Force on Campus Sustainability led by [Associate Director of Sustainability Programs] Mary Fisher and with so many others engaged in it. ... I'm glad to see that many of its recommendations have been picked up and drawn upon and adopted....

You've laid really important groundwork. I just want to close by calling on you to do more. And I mean that as generously as possible. This is without doubt, not just the year of climate action, this is the *decade* of climate action globally and locally, and we are desperate for leadership. *We are desperate for leadership.* And, to quote a phrase, "If not here, where? And if not now, when?"

So I want to encourage you to make this Brandeis' decade of climate action to expand the vision from a year, to think beyond the year, to think five years from now, seven years from now, about where you want to be in 2030 and what you can do, as students, as faculty, as administrators to live into that vision.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT EVENTS

FEBRUARY

The 2021 recipients of the **Maurice J. and Fay B. Karpf and Ari Hahn Peace Awards**, administered by the Ethics Center, were announced.

At an **ENACT Networking Night** alumni working in government, finance, and policy advocacy shared insights and advice with current ENACT students from across the US.

The Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts inaugurated a capacity-building initiative with nine non-profit arts and social justice organizations in **Colombia**.

MARCH

“**Languaging Myths and Realities: Journeys of Chinese International Students**,” a workshop with Prof. Qianqian Zhang-Wu of Northeastern University was co-hosted by the Ethics Center, the International Students and Scholars Office, and the English Language Programs.

The Brandeis ENACT class “Advocacy for Policy Change” hosted **Massachusetts state legislators and legislative aides** for a Zoom-based conversation moderated by State Senator Becca Rausch '01.

“Dignity in Motion” (CAST 126B), hosted Brandeis librarian **Laura Hibbler** on digital literacy; acclaimed director, designer, puppeteer and co-founder/artistic director of the OBIE winning Great Small Works visual theater collective **Jenny Romaine** on subversive street pageantry; and jazz tap dancer and Ethics Center International Advisory Board Member **Germaine Ingram** for a class on African American women tap dancers.

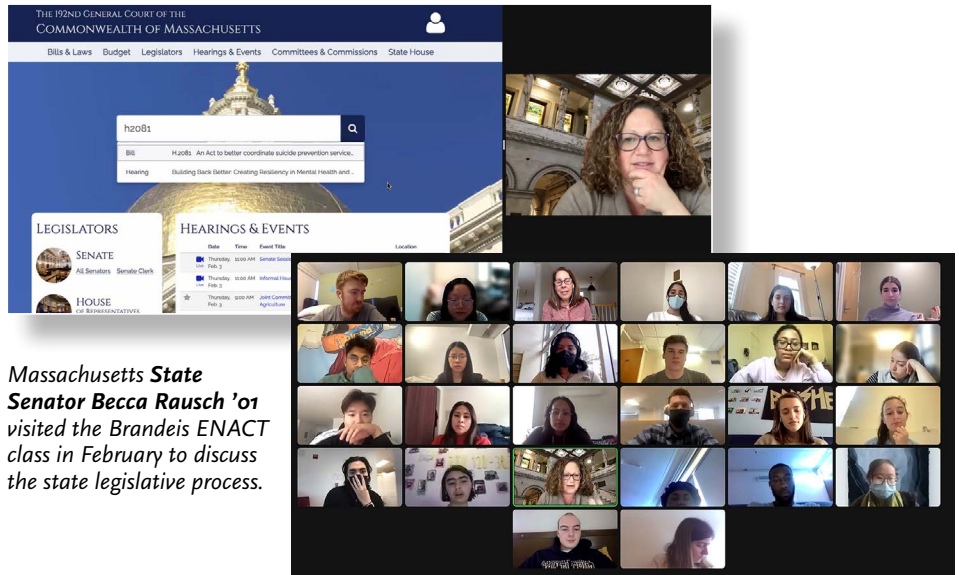
ENACT Student Delegate and Precollege alum Alison Cantor '22 hosted “**Activism, Advocacy, and Community Building**” an online discussion with Brandeis Precollege Programs alumni activists.

Peter C. Frumhoff delivered the Richman Distinguished Fellowship Lecture, “From Science to Action on Climate Change.” (See page 10.)

APRIL

Brandeis graduate student **Ashley Brown** spoke to CAST 126B about the whitewashing of Boston’s Black history.

The students of the Brandeis ENACT course “Advocacy for Policy Change” discussed their work at **Present and Defend**.



Massachusetts State Senator Becca Rausch '01 visited the Brandeis ENACT class in February to discuss the state legislative process.

MAY

Melissa Stimell, Kaitie Chakoian PhD '23, and Charlotte Powley PhD '21, released a report of a survey that showed the impact of the ENACT course on alumni civic engagement and career trajectories. (See page 4.)

SEPTEMBER

Brandeis students participated in a **climate rally at the Massachusetts State House** organized by the Massachusetts Youth Climate Coalition.

The Introduction to Creativity, the Arts, and Social Transformation course (CAST 150b) kicked off a collaboration with the **Charles River Watershed Association** which includes a “design lab” focused on local climate justice concerns.

CAST 150b hosted Argentinian artist and human rights activist **Claudia Bernardi**, and Liberian singer and anti-violence activist **Fatu Gayflor**.

OCTOBER

The Ethics Center, the **Center for German and European Studies** and the **Education Program** collaborated on programming that explores how linguistic bias, the dominance of standard language ideologies, and monolingual assumptions affect various aspects of higher education. (See page 9.)

The Student Union, the VoteDeis Campus Coalition, and ENACT Your Vote joined with Brandeis clubs for a **voter registration drive** in the center of campus that included assistance with requesting and mailing absentee ballots. (See page 4.)



The Politics Department and ENACT Your Vote hosted **Ballots & Breakfast**, featuring voter registration and participation info, donuts and coffee.

The Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts continued its collaboration with **the Buffer Fringe Performing Arts Festival** in Cyprus.

The CAST course “Provocative Art: Outside Your Comfort Zone” and the Rose Art Museum presented “Cultures of Camouflage: Art, Politics, History,” a conversation between **Assistant Professor of Fine Arts Sheida Soleimani** and **Harvard University Teaching Fellow Mahan Moalemi** from Iran and a rethinking of the politics of exposure.

Students in “Introduction to CAST” engaged with the “Climate Action: Inspiring Change” exhibition at the **Peabody Essex Museum** in Salem, Mass.

The Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts welcomed visual artist, designer, and filmmaker **Yosra El-Gazzar** to campus for a 6-week residency to research discrete aspects of socially-engaged art-making, part of the CEC ArtsLink International Fellowships program.

ENACT Student Delegates Tyler Carruth and Elaina Pevide visited Faculty Fellow Zachary Wood’s ENACT class at **Seattle University** via Zoom.

2022 Gittler Prize winner **Carol Anderson’s** Brandeis residency included a keynote address and multiple events.

The International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life

Mission: To develop effective responses to conflict and injustice by offering innovative approaches to coexistence, strengthening the work of international courts, and encouraging ethical practice in civic and professional life.

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The International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life

Brandeis University

MS 086, P.O. Box 549110

Waltham, MA 02454-9110 USA

+1-781-736-8577

+1-781-736-8561 Fax

ethics@brandeis.edu

brandeis.edu/ethics

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NEW PUBLICATION

Advocacy for Policy Change 2022: Brandeis Students Work to Reform Massachusetts Law

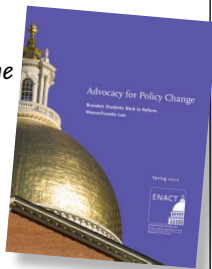
Law

Student work from the Spring 2022 Brandeis ENACT course.

View or download

PDF:

brandeis.edu/publications



STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

In January, **Armine Avetisyan** received a grant from The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation for the research project “What’s Next in Reconciliation Work in Turkey and Armenia after the Second Karabakh War?” ■ A summary of the Invite/Affirm/Evoke/Unleash report (see Summer/Fall 2021 Ethics Central page 6), by **Cindy Cohen** with support from **Armine Avetisyan**, **Toni Shapiro-Phim**, and their colleague **Polly Walker** was published in the August issue of the [International Peace Research Association Newsletter](#). In October, Cohen co-led a learning session on arts and peace hosted by Netherlands-based organization PAX, and was a respondent on a panel for the book launch of James Thompson’s *Care Aesthetics*. ■ “Absence/Presence/Silence/Noise,” a chapter by **Toni Shapiro-Phim**, was published in *Dancing Transnational Feminisms: Ananya Dance Theatre and the Art of Social Justice* (University of Washington Press). In April, Shapiro-Phim presented “Dinner, a Movie, and Liberian Song” at the Music and Conviviality Symposium hosted by the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka, Japan. In Honolulu, Hawaii in August, Shapiro-Phim delivered the keynote address, “Dance and the Seeking of Justice” at the Asia Pacific Dance Festival, and was a participant/presenter for a roundtable on Cambodian performing arts at the Asia Pacific Dance Conference. ■ In the spring

Melissa Stimell taught the 13th iteration of “Advocacy for Policy Change,” the model for ENACT (see page 4). In the fall Stimell is teaching “Global Justice and Societies in Transition,” building on her teaching with Brandeis Summer in The Hague. ■ In June, **Leigh Swigart** presented via Zoom her research on language services at the International Criminal Court for a linguistics, translation and interpreting seminar at the University of New South Wales. In November, Swigart participated in a roundtable at the 2022 annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, in Seattle, Washington, on the topic, “What Notion of Community Do Language Interpreters Respond To?” ■ In January **David Weinstein** was sworn in to his second term on the Cambridge Public School Committee. In March, Weinstein was the discussant for a conversation on “Connecting direct service and advocacy for justice” with Dr. Faluso Fakorede, hosted by Brandeis Precollege Programs. Dr. Fakorede, a physician based in Cleveland Mississippi, has connected the widespread incidence of amputation among his Black cardiovascular patients with larger issues in inequity, dating back hundreds of years. In the fall Weinstein served on the Maurice J. and Fay B. Karpf and Ari Hahn Peace Awards selection committee, and supported Brandeis applicants for the Fulbright Scholarship.

COURSES OFFERED BY THE ETHICS CENTER

FALL 2022

- Documenting Immigrant Experiences (CAST 170A)

Instructors: *Jenny Alexander*
& *Maya Jamaledine*

- Ethics of Community Engagement Practicum (CAST 181B)

Instructor: *Toni Shapiro-Phim*

- Introduction to Creativity, the Arts, and Social Transformation (CAST 150B)

Instructor: *Toni Shapiro-Phim*

- Transitional Justice: Global Justice and Societies in Transition (LGLS 129A)

Instructor: *Melissa Stimell*

SPRING 2023

- Advocacy for Policy Change – ENACT (LGLS 161B)

Instructor: *Melissa Stimell*

- Dance and Migration (CAST 110B)

Instructor: *Toni Shapiro-Phim*

- Project Design Practicum (CAST 189A)

Instructor: *Toni Shapiro-Phim*

- Provocative Art: Outside the Comfort Zone (CA 125A)

Instructor: *Will Chalmus*

For course updates and more info: brandeis.edu/ethics/core-programs/campus-programs