Anthropology, Law, and the Pursuit of Social Justice:
A Conference in Honor of Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis

April 16, 2016
Welcome

Welcome to this special memorial conference held in honor of Justice Louis D. Brandeis entitled “Anthropology, Law, and the Pursuit of Social Justice.” We thank you for taking part in what promises to be an intellectually stimulating gathering of scholars across disciplines and institutions in the greater Boston region.

This conference is being held as part of our university’s celebration of the centennial of the nomination of our namesake as the U.S. Supreme Court’s first Jewish justice. In commemoration of this occasion, our community wishes to consider themes central to Brandeis’s legal and social ideals. Inspiring the focus of this meeting is the “Brandeis brief,” a document he employed as a lawyer to introduce empirical research into ethically guided jurisprudence. Within this setting our panelists share their own research and practical interventions to extend a tradition inaugurated by Brandeis and taken up in diverse ways over the past century to allow social science to speak meaningfully and productively in the public and legal spheres.

Location, Facilities, and Transportation

All events will be held in Schwartz Hall 103 (see map inset for assistance in locating this building). Parking will be available in the Theatre Lot, also indicated on the map. Restrooms are located both immediately downstairs from the conference room and also past the hallway leading to the first floor of the adjoining Brown Social Science Center, where you will likewise find the home of the Department of Anthropology. Any logistical questions can be addressed to Doug Bafford (bafford@brandeis.edu) before or during the conference.


Leonard Bernstein Festival of the Creative Arts

Participants are invited to attend events held throughout the weekend at Brandeis University’s Leonard Bernstein Festival of the Creative Arts. This celebrated annual event, inaugurated in 1952 by Brandeis professor and composer Leonard Bernstein, showcases nationally acclaimed performers and visual artists together with music, dance, theater, film, and artwork by more than 300 Brandeis students and alumni. Performances and installations will be held throughout the day of the conference and extend into Sunday, April 17. A full schedule of festival events is available on-site at the conference and at the arts festival website: http://www.brandeis.edu/arts/festival

Conference Schedule

Welcome Reception and Coffee 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM

Opening Remarks 9:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Douglas Bafford, Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University

The Social Effects of State Control over Bodies and Space in the United States 9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

Justin Helepololei, Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Wider Net, More Openings? From Treatment to Solidarity in the Post Mass Incarceration Age

Jara Connell, Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University

Creative and Irregular Movements: Navigating, Reappropriating, and Disrupting Racialized Space in St. Louis

Asad Ahmed, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University

Frameworks and Applications: Prospects for Anthropology in Legal Education 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

Leigh Swigart, International Center for Ethics, Justice, and Public Life, Brandeis University

Diversity and the Global/Local Conundrum in International Criminal Justice

Doug Smith, Legal Studies Program, Brandeis University

Why Not a Law-and-Anthropology-Based Tribal Lawyering School?

Lunch 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

Navigating Policy and Its Social Implementation 1:15 PM – 2:45 PM

Tanojkumar Meshram, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University

How to Bridge Education Policy and Implementation Gap in India

Jasmine Samara, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University

Debating Islamic Law Reform in Crisis-era Greece

Patrick Harhai, Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University

The Violence of School District Anti-Bullying Policies: Implications for Policy and Practice

General Discussion and Closing Reception 2:45 PM – 3:45 PM
Sponsored by the International Center for Ethics, Justice, and Public Life and the Department of Anthropology at Brandeis University