

Dear Members of the Brandeis Community,

Two years ago, responding to strong student interest, President Lawrence convened Brandeis University's Exploratory Committee on Fossil Fuel Divestment. He charged the Committee with analyzing the social and environmental impacts of fossil fuel companies and understanding the impact of divestiture on our endowment.

Today we are pleased to announce that after many months of study, interviews, and debate, the Committee has fulfilled its charge. Attached for the community's consideration is our Final Report and Recommendations.

The Committee has taken great care in considering the University's financial needs as well as Brandeis' capacity to respond to this crisis. Climate change presents enormous challenges to human civilization and we believe Brandeis has an opportunity to emerge as an educational leader in taking action.

This report represents our effort to present the issues surrounding climate change, fossil fuel divestment, and possible University actions. We expect that an active debate will follow as the Brandeis community discusses how the University should address the challenges of climate change.

We hope you will actively participate in this crucial conversation.

Sincerely,

John Ballantine, PhD, Senior Lecturer, MS Finance Director, International Business School

Eric Olson, PhD, Senior Lecturer, Sustainable International Development, Heller School

Aneil Tripathy, PhD Anthropology (Candidate)

Philip A. Wight, PhD History (Candidate)

Elise J. Willer, MA SID/ MA COEX (Candidate)

Michael Abrams '15, B.A. History (Candidate)

Iona Feldman '17, B.A. Anthropology and Environmental Studies (Candidate)