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Happy New Year!

The Brandeis Brief

January 2014

You have probably heard about the debacle at the American Studies Association (ASA). This issue describes the five big takeaways from the ASA's anti-Israel boycott resolution, including potential legal action and what universities need to do next (beyond just

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making statements). The Brandeis Center has pursued a handful of new legal challenges against campus anti-Semitism this year and hopes to ramp up its battle further next year. It is not too late to help this year, as the Brandeis Center depends on your [contributions](#) to fight anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism on university campuses and at academic associations. We are also building a fabulous network of law student chapters, including important new developments this month. As we continue this battle with your help, we wish you a happy, healthy 2014!

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 Louis
Brandeis
Photo

The Louis D. Brandeis Center is a nonprofit organization supported by individuals, groups and foundations that share our concern about Jewish college students. Contributions are tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. To [support](#) our efforts to combat campus anti-Semitism, please contact us at info@brandeiscenter.com.

Articles

Five Takeaways from the ASA Debacle brandeis, Brandeis Blog



The ASA's New Image

There are five takeaways from the American Studies Association's infamous anti-Israel boycott resolution. The Jewish community got beat. But the ASA fared even worse, being publicly lambasted for its outrageous action. The organization is now seen as a

highly politicized group which is, at best, an enemy of academic freedom and at worst anti-Semitic. Over sixty universities have blasted the association for its resolution. More importantly, four universities have dropped their institutional memberships. There are many more universities that should take action by canceling their memberships, rather than just issuing statements. In the end, the courts may have the final say. Several organizations, including the Louis D. Brandeis Center, are considering taking legal action. Next stop: the MLA.

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The Very Foundations of the University

Kenneth L. Marcus and Sitara Kedilaya

The Journal of Academic Freedom



The modern Western university faces an existential threat. The danger is not what you think. It is not the cuts in government funding, the skyrocketing cost of tuition, the explosion of student debt, the rise of massive open online courses, the decline of residential learning, or the death spiral of the humanities.

Can We Help You?

 12-11-29
Standing
KLM photo

Kenneth
Marcus

The Louis D. Brandeis Center stands ready if we can help you to combat anti-Semitism in higher education. [Please contact us](#) if you are a student or professor who needs our help. We are also available to provide technical assistance to university administrators who are interested in achieving legal

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"Knockout Attacks" Don't Bode Well for Anyone

Harold Brackman, Brandeis Blog



The lid has finally blown off the simmering cauldron. For about a month, there have been reports of "knockout attacks," mostly in Northeastern cities.

These reports have not looked too closely at the ethnicity of the attackers

while generally characterizing the attacks as "random" and lacking the specificity of hate crime reporting.

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Penn Law Students Form Brandeis Center Chapter

This month, the Brandeis Center formed its first Ivy League law school chapter at the University of Pennsylvania



Law School. The Penn law student group is the latest addition to the Brandeis Center's law school initiative, which began this fall with student chapters at UCLA and American University. The new law student chapters bolster the Brandeis Center's ability to fight anti-Semitism on American college campuses.

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Judd Serotta Joins Brandeis Center Board

Brandeis Blog

Judd Serotta, a prominent Philadelphia litigator, has joined the Brandeis Center's Board. Serotta, who has previously served on the Center's Legal Advisory Board, strengthens LDB's legal advocacy capacity at a time when the Center is involved in several important legal battles.



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Judd Serotta

compliance and best practices for eliminating campus anti-Semitism.

National Law Student Conference Gains Star Power



This month the Brandeis Center announced two superstar additions to the faculty of the inaugural national law student leadership conference: international lawyers Richard Heideman and Abraham (Avi) Bell. The conference, to be held in Los Angeles, California on January 2-3, 2014, marks the launch of the Brandeis Center's law student chapter program. Heideman, a world-famous legal practitioner and civic leader, has served as President of B'nai B'rith and Head of Delegation to the United Nations Durban Conference. Bell, an internationally prominent international law scholar, is Professor of Law at the University of San Diego School of Law.

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