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LDB Hosts Student Confab

January 2015

The Brandeis Center ended 2014 on a high note with the success of our second annual National Law Student Leadership Conference, which was attended by student leaders from fifteen law schools across the country. Also in the January Brief, read about the controversy surrounding Harvard University's decision to boycott the Israel-based company SodaStream, and recent efforts to bring BDS to the University of California. Hear firsthand from one of our newest LDB law student chapter leaders. As we enter the new year, we would

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like to thank all of our supporters who were kind enough to give end-of-year [donations](#) to support our campaign against campus anti-Semitism.

Articles

The Brandeis Center Holds Second Annual National Law Student Leadership Conference

David Leeds, Brandeis Blog

The Brandeis Center hosted its second National Law Student Leadership Conference in Washington, DC last week. The



conference engaged student leaders in dialogue on issues facing them as aspiring lawyers and proponents of civil rights through a series of lectures, panels, breakout sessions, and roundtable discussions with several prominent figures in academia, government and professional law. Topics included BDS, campus anti-Semitism, and international human rights law. Many participants had founded LDB chapters at their law schools or were in the process of doing so.

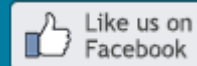
[Read more](#)

Harvard Dining Services Halts Purchases from Israel's SodaStream, School Probes Move

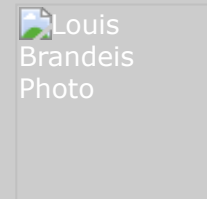


After anti-Israel pressure, Harvard University Dining Services (HUDS) suspended its purchase of soda and water machines produced by Israel-based SodaStream, the beverage carbonation company with a plant in Judea and Samaria. LDB

President Kenneth Marcus immediately urged Harvard to reverse the decision, calling micro-boycott efforts like this one "more dangerous than broader campaigns against the entire country of Israel." Other groups also urged Harvard to reverse course. Harvard's president, Drew Faust, subsequently ordered an investigation into HUDS' reasons for the decision. University Provost Alan M. Garber said in response that "Harvard University's procurement decisions should not and will not be driven by individuals' views of highly contested matters of political controversy." HUDS

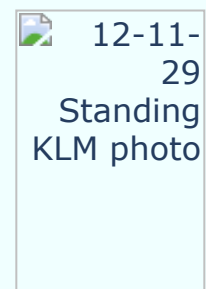


Support LDB



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.

Can We Help You?



Kenneth L. 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

ultimately admitted that it had erred in making its decision based on political reasons.

[Read more](#)

UC's Moment of Truth

Avi Snyder, Brandeis Blog

The University of California—once home of the legendary Free Speech Movement—has an academic freedom problem. Earlier this year, we witnessed Nicholas



Dirks, Chancellor of UC-Berkeley, co-opt the anniversary of Berkeley's Free Speech Movement to emphasize the limits that "civility" might, in his view, properly impose on freedom of speech. Now comes a new threat to intellectual freedom, as students across the UC system face a potential onslaught of classroom indoctrination: In December, the UAW 2865, the University System's union for graduate instructors, voted to support the movement for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel.

[Read more](#)

Promoting Diversity Isn't Trying to Stifle Free Speech

Kenneth L. Marcus, The Hill

Who wants to "stifle" free speech on campus, and who wants to protect it? In their Nov. 21 op-ed on The Hill's Congress Blog ("Stifling of free speech on campus"), Sondra



Hale and Bekah Wolf criticize the Louis D. Brandeis Center's efforts to ensure that federally funded Title VI outreach programs provide the "diversity of perspectives" that the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) already requires. Apparently, they believe that the First Amendment protects them against the unappetizing prospect of hearing views different than their own. When Middle East Studies centers refuse to provide a podium for speakers who challenge their anti-Israel politics, they are the ones who stifle free speech on campus.

[Read more](#)

Student-Led Law School Chapters to Fight Anti-Semitism Open in the

achieving legal compliance and best practices for eliminating campus anti-Semitism.

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Twin Cities

Bethany Hanson, Daily Planet



As we develop our skills to be the next generation of lawyers, we must be aware of the social issues today both in the Twin Cities community and nationally. As Jewish students, in many ways, we have an even larger

responsibility. That is one of the reasons I helped launch the recent opening of the first Midwest chapter of the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law (LDB) at the University of Saint Thomas School of Law. The LDB chapter at Saint Thomas School of Law will join a network of student-led law school chapters in Boston, Charlottesville, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. that combat anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism on college and university campuses.

[Read more](#)

Terrorism, "Lone Wolves," and "Virtual Wolf Packs"

Harold Brackman, Brandeis Blog

Violence to change or impact the existing order may be as old as humankind. In terms of collective violence-let's use the term "mob" for a phenomenon that may start small but can



even morph into a revolution-it has had varied political, economic, and religious-ethnic motives over the course of the last thousand years in western societies. In his book "Communities of Violence," David Nirenberg showed how, before about 1350, riots were regular, small-scale affairs, meant to reinforce the religious pecking order, with Jews and Muslims scapegoated in Spain to send a message for these minorities to stay in their place. Everybody got the message, and there wasn't much violence because the authorities made sure that there wasn't. After 1350, these "traditional riots" grew into full-scale pogroms that were very different beasts and eventually even shook the socio-political order.

[Read more](#)

Anti-Semitism on Campus - What Can the Jewish Community Do?



On January 7, the Temple Shaaray Tefila will present an interactive program

featuring Kenneth L. Marcus, President, Louis D. Brandeis Center For Human Rights under Law. Award-winning author Ken Marcus is the founder of the Brandeis Center, an organization dedicated to combating the resurgence of anti-Semitism in American higher education. Join us as we explore what is happening on campuses all over the country and what we all can do as parents and members of the Jewish community. All are welcome.

[Read more](#)

