Gruber Foundation establishes faculty chair

The Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation has established a chair in neuroscience at Brandeis, bringing together a name associated with finding science prizes with one of the leading brain research centers in higher education.

The inaugural holder of the Peter Gruber Endowed Chair in Neuroscience will be Professor Michael Rosbash, a 2009 laureate of the Gruber Neuroscience Prize (along with Jeffrey Hall and Michael Young) and longtime Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator Rosbash, whose research into the molecular basis of circadian rhythms has provided important insights about the brain, health and sleep disorders, directs the Brandeis National Center for Behavioral Genomics.

“We are honored that the Grubers recognize the ground-breaking neuroscience research being conducted at Brandeis and are thrilled that they are committed to helping the University maintain its leadership in this critical area,” Brandeis President Fred Lawrence said. “We are proud and deeply grateful to link the Gruber and Brandeis names in perpetuity through the establishment of this endowed chair.”

Established in 1993, the Gruber Foundation moved its International Prize Program to Yale University in 2011. The prize program awards three $500,000

More donors going online to make gifts

More and more Brandeis supporters are making their gifts online through the University’s secure giving page (alumni.brandeis.edu/onlinegiving). Just nine months into the fiscal year, Brandeis had already exceeded last year’s record total for the number of online gifts and total dollars raised.

“We are pleased that so many of our alumni and friends are finding that making an online gift is the most convenient way to support the University,” said Mark Ablem an, assistant vice president of development.

Young alumni embracing Bold

For young Brandeis alumni, it’s a Bold new world.

Bold (Brandeisians of the Last Decade) is a new initiative designed to further engage young alumni with their alma mater. Bold addresses the needs and interests of young alumni through age-specific programming such as volunteer opportunities, special events and other enjoyable, engaging activities.

“I now feel more connected to Brandeis with the introduction of BOLD,” said Jeff Rosenspan ’04, who recently hosted a donor brunch in Boston for Bold alumni and members of the Class of 2012. “Bran- deis relies on recent graduates to be active alumni. We have a responsibility to support our University, current students, and fellow graduates.”

The Bold mascot, Flat Ollie, has already accompanied young alumni to all seven continents to promote the program. Ollie has nearly 625 Facebook friends and more than 250 photos of him at locations around the world have been posted. Ollie also appeared at each of the seven bold kickoff events that were held this winter and spring in Northern California, New York, Boston, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Chicago and South Florida.

“It is exciting to see that our young alumni are so enthusiastic about Bold and so eager to stay involved with Brandeis,” said Nancy Winship, P’10, P’12, senior vice president of institutional advancement. “These young alumni represent the Univer- sity’s future.”

For more information, visit alumni.brandeis.edu/bold.
President Lawrence
will take Brandeis to new heights

Every day that I spend with President Fred Lawrence, I am convinced that Brandeis’ future will be as glorious as our past. In our frequent travels together to meet alumni, friends and parents at gatherings both large and small, I have seen how quickly he connects with members of the Brandeis family. Everyone employs the same terms to describe him — warm, genuine, committed and brilliant.

As the parent of a Brandeis student, I know that he has also built strong bonds with the student body. He and his wife, Kathy, attend many student events, and I often see Fred chatting informally with students as he walks the campus. Ask a Brandeis student about him, and they respond, “Everyone loves Fred!”

Fred speaks passionately about Brandeis as a “small liberal arts university,” a special hybrid institution that is committed to providing undergraduates with an intimate educational experience, while also pursuing the high-level research that is the hallmark of much larger universities.

I am proud to be a member of the strong senior team that Fred has assembled: Provost Steve A.N. Goldstein ’78, MA ’78 is leading Fred’s Strategic Planning initiative, which is developing plans for what Brandeis will look like going forward. I am confident in the future of this institution.

Thank you for all you do for our students.

Sincerely,

Nancy Winship, ’10, P ’12
Senior Vice President
of Institutional Advancement

Board chair has helped Brandeis grow into a higher-education powerhouse

When Malcolm Sherman, P ’83 married Barbara (Gonter) Sherman ’54, P ’83 in 1959 at the Berlin Chapel on the Brandeis campus, he could not have known the central role the University would play in his life for the next 50 years. After his wife introduced him to founding President Abram Sachar, Sherman soon became an active member of the Brandeis family. His daughter, Robin, graduated from Brandeis in 1983 (Robin’s older daughter, Jessica, will celebrate her bat mitzvah at Brandeis in June). Sherman first joined the Board of Trustees, the University’s governing body, when he was elected chair of the Board of Fellows in 1978. The former chair of Zayre Stores and one of the pioneers of the off-price retail store concept, he used his business acumen in leading a number of important trustee committees — including development, budget and finance, audit and presidential search — before becoming the 13th board chair in 2007. He has generously supported the arts at Brandeis, and established the Barbara Sherman ’54 and Malcolm L. Sherman Chair of the Department of Theater Arts. He recently sat down with Connections to discuss the state of Brandeis as he enters the final year of his six-year term as board chair.

Q: In 2010, you led the search for Brandeis’ eighth president, Fred Lawrence. What impact has he had on the University since assuming the presidency on Jan. 1, 2011?

A: He has significantly exceeded expectations. In a relatively short time, Fred has made a tremendous impact at Brandeis. He has an instinctive understanding of the students, faculty and administration, and works very hard at creating a positive academic environment. He has reached out to alumni and friends in an effective way and reinvigorated alumni interest in the institution. He has a sound approach to fiscal issues and a thoughtful approach to personnel issues. He understands the Brandeis culture. He really knows what Brandeis is all about.

Q: You have led Brandeis through some difficult times — the worldwide financial cataclysm of 2008-2009, the controversy surrounding the Rose Art Museum and the resignation of longtime president Jehuda Reinharz, PhD ’72. How did you handle these situations and where do you see the University now?

A: Every organization has its own problems and issues. As you know, I have previously served as board chair at the Museum of Science and Tufts Medical Center. In every case, I’ve had to deal with difficult problems, some perhaps more difficult than others. I take great pride in working to resolve those issues. Brandeis is as strong today as it has ever been — both academically and financially. Under Fred’s leadership, I am confident in the future of this institution.

Q: You have been connected to Brandeis for more than 50 years. How has it changed in that time?

A: I have seen it evolve from a tiny enclave of very sophisticated intellectuals huddled around the Castle to a powerful academic institution known around the world. Brandeis is the best of all worlds — a small, intimate school in a bucolic atmosphere that is located just 20 minutes from Boston.

Q: Nearly two-thirds of the members of the Board of Trustees are Brandeis alumni. Is this an indication of the increased role that the alumni are assuming in leading the University?

A: It’s obvious that we have an alumni group that is significantly impacting the University. Going forward, we can’t rely on past relationships and “the kindness of strangers” to help us. We now must rely on the kindness of alumni who have benefited from the unique Brandeis educational experience. Fred is doing everything he can to involve the alumni in the destiny of Brandeis. He and they understand that the legacy of the institution is in their hands.

BNC launches new science campaign

The Brandeis National Committee has launched a $3 million fundraising campaign, Sustaining the Mind, to support the University’s pioneering research into neuroscience and neurodegenerative diseases and establish an endowed scholarship fund for students in the sciences.

Brandeis scientists in more than 50 different laboratories are involved in research into brain-related disorders in the hopes of gaining a better understanding of the causes of Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s and other neurological disorders. Undergraduates work in many of these labs as Brandeis prepares tomorrow’s leading scientists.

“As the population ages, more and more people will be affected by these terrible diseases,” said Leslie Pearlstein, P ’94, BNC’s national president.

“It’s important that we support the cutting-edge research being conducted at Brandeis and support students at the same time.”

Carol Rabinovitz ’59 is serving as chair of the campaign.

To learn more about the campaign or to make a gift, visit brandeis.edu/bnc.

Malcolm Sherman, P ’83 has served as chair of the Board of Trustees since 2007.

Malcolm Sherman, P ’83 with his wife, Barbara ’54, P ’83; daughter, Robin ’83; and granddaughter Jessica (top) and Lila.

Nancy Winship, P ’10, P ’12
Senior Vice President
of Institutional Advancement
Once Brandeis started the $3.5 million renovation project at the Joseph M. Linsey Sports Center, the wife of the longtime trustee who established the athletic facility in 1964 knew what he would have done.

Thelma Linsey made a $1 million gift to support the programs and operations at the Linsey Center. Joseph Linsey, a Boston businessman, died in 1994 at the age of 95.

"Joe took great pride in the pool," Thelma said. "I just knew that making this gift was what he would have wanted me to do."

President Fred Lawrence announced the gift during the "Making Waves" celebration that marked the reopening of the center's pool.

Thelma, a Brandeis fellow, credited Lawrence and the Brandeis Board of Trustees for their efforts to reopen the pool, which closed in 2008 due to mechanical problems. As part of the renovation, the heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems were replaced, and electrical systems and lighting were improved. Additionally, two squash courts were converted into multipurpose rooms and the locker rooms were enhanced.

Along with generously supporting the Annual Fund, Joseph Linsey focused primarily on the sports program at Brandeis. The Athletic Hall of Fame was named in his honor to recognize his contributions.

"He was instrumental in starting the athletics program at Brandeis," Thelma recalled. "He felt very strongly that Brandeis should not be known solely as an elite academic institution, but as a place where excellence in all endeavors, including athletics, should be pursued."
Three people e lected to Brandeis Board of Trustees

The Brandeis Board of Trustees has elected three new members to the University’s governing body. The three new trustees, whose terms on the board began May 20, are Michael Friese, chairman of Gordon Brothers Group, a business and finance firm; George Krupp, co-founder and co-chair of the Berkshire Group, a real estate and financial services company; and Lisa Kranc ’75, a senior vice president of AutoZone. The three new trustees, whose terms on the board began May 20, are Michael Friese, chairman of Gordon Brothers Group, a business and finance firm; George Krupp, co-founder and co-chair of the Berkshire Group, a real estate and financial services company; and Lisa Kranc ’75, a senior vice president of AutoZone.

Friese was a Brandeis trustee from 2001-05. His wife, Linda, is a Brandeis fellow and a member of the Board of Overseers at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management. The couple supports the University’s Annual Fund, the Transitional Year Program, Posse and scholarships for Heller students.

Krupp and members of his family are long-time supporters of the Nathan Perlmutter Institute for Jewish Advocacy at Brandeis. In April 2009, he and his wife launched the $3 million Krupp Scholarship Challenge, pledging to contribute $1 to support undergraduate scholarships in the arts and humanities for every $2 raised for student scholarships from new donors or those who were making increased gifts. Brandeis raised the $2 million to trigger the Krupp gift in less than two years.

Nine alumni and friends join Brandeis Board of Fellows

Nine alumni and friends of Brandeis have been elected to the Board of Fellows, an honorary society that recognizes members of the University family who have made significant contributions of their time and/or resources to Brandeis.

“We are pleased to welcome these new members to the Board of Fellows,” said Trustee Paul Zlotoff ’72, chair of the Board of Fellows. “All of these individuals have helped Brandeis become the institution that it is today.”

Robert “Robin” Brooks ’57, a retired senior student affairs administrator at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, has been an active alumnus for more than five decades. A president’s councilor since 1966, he has served as president of the Alumni Club of Greater Boston and been a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and Alumni Admissions Council. In 2010 he established a charitable gift annuity in honor of his parents.

Fern Davis Cohen ’62 and Hersh Cohen ’62 served as co-chairs for their 30th and 50th Reunion committees. They have supported Brandeis through the years and established an endowed scholarship for their 50th Reunion in honor of President Lawrence, Fern’s cousin. Fern, a retired librarian and media specialist, is also on the Alumni Admissions Council and a life member of the Brandeis National Committee.

Hope Rabb Edison and Julian Edison, who were married in the Berlin Chapel at Brandeis in 1959, have supported the University for many years. Hope is a life member of the St. Louis chapter of the Brandeis National Committee. Their gifts include the Julian and Hope Rabb Edison Endowed Scholarship and the Edison Family Lobby at the Shapiro Science Center. Her father, Norman, was a founding trustee of Brandeis and served as board chair, and her mother, Eleanor, was a fellow.

Dena Robbins has long been active with the Brandeis National Committee, serving on the national board from 2009-11. She has been involved with BNC chapters in Greater Boston and Boca Raton. Dena, her late husband, Arnold, and their family have supported Brandeis. She served as chair and host of the annual Sachar Legacy Society luncheon last year.

Robin Sherman ’83, who had a 20-year career in commercial real estate, joins her mother, Barbara ’54, on the Board of Fellows. Robin formerly served as president of the Alumni Club of Greater Boston and was a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Robin, her mother and her father, Malcolm, the chair of the Brandeis Board of Trustees, are longtime Brandeis supporters.
Website explains planned giving options

Interested in finding out more about charitable gift annuities? Searching for sample language for a bequest? Want to compare the tax benefits of different types of gifts? You can do it all — and more — on the new planned giving pages on the Office of Development and Alumni Relations website (giving.to.brandeis.gifplans.org).

The website features information on creating a legacy at Brandeis, steps in the planned giving process, updates on new laws that impact charitable giving, and a resource center. The site also includes a glossary of terms, answers to frequently asked questions, and profiles of Brandeis planned giving donors.

“We’re excited to offer alumni and friends these new features,” said Myles Weisenberg ’78, vice president of development. “The goal of the site is to help our supporters achieve both their philanthropic and financial goals in making a gift to the University.”

Class of 1952, Anastas to receive 2012 Alumni Achievement Awards

The Class of 1952 will be the first class to receive the Alumni Achievement Award.

The Class of ’52 is, fittingly, the first Brandeis graduating class to receive the Alumni Achievement Award. Members of the class not only went on to prominence in their professional lives, but played important roles in leading and supporting the University that they helped bring to life in 1948.

Class members enjoyed successful careers in the arts, business, education, law, medicine, science and many other fields. Class of ’52 alumni also served on the Brandeis Board of Trustees and took an active role in the Alumni Association, while generously supporting scholarships, fellowships, capital projects and the Alumni Annual Fund.

Anastas, who earned his master’s degree and doctorate in chemistry from Brandeis, is regarded as the founder of the green chemistry movement for advancing the science of the design and manufacture of environmentally friendly chemicals.

He recently returned to Yale as the Teresa and H. John Heinz III Professor in the Practice of Chemistry for the Environment after serving as head of research for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). While at the EPA, he played a critical role in decisions regarding the cleanup of the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, and in re-aligning the EPA’s research enterprise around the concept of sustainability.

From 2004-06, Anastas served as director of the Green Chemistry Institute in Washington, D.C. He was previously the assistant director for the environment in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where he worked from 1999-2004. During an earlier stint with the EPA, he is credited with establishing the field of green chemistry as the chief of the Industrial Chemistry Branch and the director of the U.S. Green Chemistry Program.

The Class of 1952 is, fittingly, the first Brandeis alumnus to receive the 2012 Alumni Achievement Awards during Reunion Weekend on June 8-10.

President Fred Lawrence will present the awards to “the pioneers,” the University’s first class, and to Paul Anastas, MA ’77, PhD ’90 during an on-campus ceremony at 11:15 a.m. on June 9.

Presented annually since 1988, the Alumni Achievement Award recognizes alumni who have made distinguished contributions to their professions or chosen fields of endeavor. It represents the highest form of University recognition bestowed exclusively on alumni.

The Class of ’52 is, fittingly, the first Brandeis graduating class to receive the Alumni Achievement Award. Members of the class not only went on to prominence in their professional lives, but played important roles in leading and supporting the University that they helped bring to life in 1948.

Class members enjoyed successful careers in the arts, business, education, law, medicine, science and many other fields. Class of ’52 alumni also served on the Brandeis Board of Trustees and took an active role in the Alumni Association, while generously supporting scholarships, fellowships, capital projects and the Alumni Annual Fund.

Anastas, who earned his master’s degree and doctorate in chemistry from Brandeis, is regarded as the founder of the green chemistry movement for advancing the science of the design and manufacture of environmentally friendly chemicals.

He recently returned to Yale as the Teresa and H. John Heinz III Professor in the Practice of Chemistry for the Environment after serving as head of research for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). While at the EPA, he played a critical role in decisions regarding the cleanup of the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, and in re-aligning the EPA’s research enterprise around the concept of sustainability.

From 2004-06, Anastas served as director of the Green Chemistry Institute in Washington, D.C. He was previously the assistant director for the environment in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where he worked from 1999-2004. During an earlier stint with the EPA, he is credited with establishing the field of green chemistry as the chief of the Industrial Chemistry Branch and the director of the U.S. Green Chemistry Program.

The Class of 1952 will be the first class to receive the Alumni Achievement Award.

In the planned giving process, updates on new laws that impact charitable giving, and a resource center. The site also includes a glossary of terms, answers to frequently asked questions, and profiles of Brandeis planned giving donors.

“We’re excited to offer alumni and friends these new features,” said Myles Weisenberg ’78, vice president of development. “The goal of the site is to help our supporters achieve both their philanthropic and financial goals in making a gift to the University.”

Grateful Glovers giving students opportunities at Brandeis

Gail (Corbin) Glover ’73 heard it from her parents and Ron (Glover) ’73 learned it from his grandmother: Education is the path to success. Turns out they were right.

The Glovers — Gail, a product of Brandeis’ pioneering Upward Bound program, and Ron, a Transitional Year Program alumnus — used their Brandeis diplomas as foundations to forge enviable careers. Gail just retired after 36 years as a teacher in the Boston Public Schools, while Ron serves as chief diversity officer at global corporate giant IBM.

To acknowledge the important role that Brandeis has played in their lives, the Glovers have generously supported the University.

Ron recently joined the Alumni Association Board of Directors as a member-at-large.

“We feel it’s important to give back to the University to allow other students to have the same opportunities that we had,” Gail explained. “As we have always told our children and other young people, ‘To whom much has been given, much more is expected.’ ”

Thanks to guidance and support from families that preached the value of education, the Glovers emerged from a late 1960s Boston school system that tended to steer black children away from higher education.

“Most of my academic career I had been discouraged from going to college,” Ron recalled. “I remember my grandmother confronting a teacher who told me that I should go to trade school and become a carpenter. She marched in to school and said, ‘Stop telling my grandson about trade school. You should be motivating and encouraging him.’ ”

Gail’s parents assisted her in enrolling in Brandeis’ Upward Bound program, which helped prepare promising Boston high school students for college. She participated in the program during the summer after her sophomore and junior years.

“Upward Bound provided an emotional and academic support system that gave us a chance to succeed,” Gail remembered.

As undergraduates at Brandeis, Gail and Ron found a similarly supportive academic system, coupled with a diverse, accepting student body. The combination made for a transformative four-year experience.

“I came onto the Brandeis campus and fell in love with the place,” Ron said. “Sitting in classes, I realized it would challenge me and stimulate me, but I wouldn’t be in an environment and left to sink or swim. I would be supported.”

Gail majored in African and Afro-American studies, while Ron chose to major in political science while pursuing a minor in philosophy. Outside the classroom, Gail worked at the Lemberg Children’s Center and served as a student teacher. Ron was active in student government, became the first African-American to lead the Student Union.

Events such as the assassinations of the Rev. Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, the Vietnam War and Kent State, and Brandeis’ own Ford Hall takeover had energized and empowered the student body. It was an exciting era to be on campus.

“It was a time when young people were mobilized to take action and improve the world,” Ron said. “We were at a university where we were made to feel equal and empowered to chart our destiny.”
Palm Beach Weekend

Brandeis alumni and friends from around the country gathered for the University’s annual weekend of events in South Florida. The highlight of the weekend was the Saturday night dinner at the Palm Beach Country Club, hosted by Fellows Gerald and Elaine Schuster. Armen Keteyian, chief investigative reporter for CBS News, served as the keynote speaker. Provost Steve A.N. Goldstein ’78, MA ’78 was the keynote speaker at the Norman S. and Eleanor E. Rabb Seminar. Susan Birren, dean of arts and sciences, spoke at the Fellows Breakfast. Sumner and Esther Feldberg hosted the Fellows Reception at their home in Palm Beach.

Fellow Margot Davis, MA ’05, PhD ’08 and Trustee Jonathan Davis ’75

President Fred and Kathy Lawrence, Armen Keteyian and Fellows Elaine and Gerald Schuster

President Fred Lawrence, Fellow Ronald Ansin and Trustee Malcolm Sherman, P ’83, chair of the Board of Trustees

Pepose Award

University of California, San Francisco professor Michael Stryker, whose laboratory has conducted pioneering research into the development and plasticity of the visual system, received the third annual Jay Pepose ’75 Award in Vision Sciences from Brandeis. The Pepose Award is funded by a $1 million endowment established in 2009 through a gift from Brandeis graduates Jay Pepose ’75, MA ’75, P ’08 and his wife, the endowment also supports graduate research fellowships in vision science.

Nancy Winship, P ’10, P ’12, senior vice president of institutional advancement; Fellow Phoebe Giddon ’56, President Fred Lawrence and Trustee Paul Zlotoff ’72

President Fred Lawrence, Fellow Ronald Ansin and Trustee Malcolm Sherman, P ’83, chair of the Board of Trustees

Hooding of Fellows

New Fellows Phoebe Giddon ’56 and Ronald Ansin were “hooded” during a ceremony in Palm Beach. Trustee Paul Zlotoff ’72, the chair of the Board of Fellows, recently reinstated the hooding ceremony for new fellows.

John Lismam ’66, the Zalmun Abraham Kekst Professor of Neuroscience and Jay Pepose’s mentor during his days as a Brandeis student; Jay Pepose ’75, MA ’75, P ’08, and Michael Stryker.
Scholarship Luncheon

Nearly 100 Brandeis scholarship recipients visited with the donors who support them at the annual Scholarship Luncheon on campus. Trustee Daniel Elkaim ’81, who received a scholarship that enabled him to attend Brandeis and established a scholarship to support today’s students, hosted the event. Shekeyla Caldwell ’14 delivered a stirring keynote address.
JFEW makes generous gift

The Jewish Foundation for Education of Women (JFEW) is making a gift of $900,000 to Brandeis to provide scholarship aid, summer internship stipends, and programming for students interested in advancing Jewish life and the role of women in it. JFEW will provide $10,000 scholarships annually for up to 10 students as part of the JFEW/Brandeis Scholars program. The first group of students will be selected from the Class of 2016.

“Brandeis and JFEW are natural partners, deeply rooted in the same community and strongly committed to the same values. We are delighted to work with JFEW to provide undergraduate scholarships to deserving students.”
— Brandeis President Fred Lawrence

to deserving students. “For over 130 years, JFEW has supported aspiring women to learn and to achieve,” JFEW President Jill Smith said. “We are pleased to be partners with Brandeis in continuing this work.”

Fisher family supporting Brandeis students

The recent gift that Bert and Sandra Shea Fisher ’56, P’83, P’88 made to Brandeis was not only personal, but personalized as well. The Fishers’ generous gift established four separate academic prizes for Brandeis students while also recognizing five family members with deep connections to the University.

Daisy International Prize — Sandy’s mother, Daisy, raised her as a single parent and made the sacrifices that allowed Sandy to attend Brandeis. The prize is awarded to an International Business School student to acknowledge Bert’s long career in international business.

Sandy Prize in the Arts — Sandy is an accomplished singer and actress.

Cariana Prize in Philosophy — Daughter Carrie Ann ’83 majored in sociology. She was known as “Cariana” during the time the family spent in South America. She went on to graduate from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Rosbash selected for new Peter Gruber Chair

Rosbash has been recognized with several science prizes annually in the fields of cosmology, genetics and neuroscience, and funds justice and women’s rights programs through Yale Law School. The Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation (www.gruberprizes.org) continues to make limited grants.

“We believe that the continuing excellence of neuroscience research at Brandeis, through the outstanding work of Michael Rosbash and with President Lawrence’s able guidance, will be an appropriate and lasting way to honor my husband, Peter,” Patricia said.

Lawrence’s connection to the Gruber Foundation predates his arrival at Brandeis as president in January 2011. While serving as dean of the George Washington Law School, he presided over a ceremony in which Judge Thomas Buergenthal, a GW law professor emeritus, received the 2008 Gruber Justice Prize, along with Jerome Shestack (Buergenthal received an honorary degree from Brandeis last year).

“When we first met Fred Lawrence, he demonstrated strong qualities of leadership and dedication to the highest standards, which paralleled those of our prize program,” Patricia said. “He was so impressive that we stayed in touch and were thrilled when he became president at Brandeis.”

Rosbash recently shared the prestigious Canada Gairdner Award, that nation’s foremost international scientific honor, with Hall (a Brandeis professor emeritus) and Young (a professor at Rockefeller University). At Brandeis, Rosbash and Hall collaborated closely for more than two decades, combining their expertise in fly genetics and molecular biology to clone the Drosophila fruit fly period gene, a key regulator of circadian rhythm. The mechanism of the molecular clock that they then discovered was later found to be universal in the biological world. Through ongoing research, Rosbash continues to advance understanding of the importance of circadian rhythms to health and disease.

Gila Prize in American Studies — Daughter Gail ’88 also majored in sociology. Gail later received her law degree at Northeastern University School of Law. She is currently employed at the University of California, San Francisco. “Gila” is Gail in Hebrew.

“We wanted to do something to help the faculty enhance the student experience,” Bert said. “We thought this would have a more personal, direct impact on students and give them an extra dimension in addition to their classwork.”

At Brandeis, Sandy’s professors included leading composers Arthur Berger and Irving Fine. Famed classical soprano Phyllis Curtin was brought in as the University’s first singing teacher to work with her. Sandy performed in the Creative Arts Festival under the direction of Leonard Bernstein, sang at baccalaureate services every year, and gave many special performances.

Reunion 2012

Hundreds of alumni and their families are planning to return to Brandeis June 8-10 for Reunion 2012, an opportunity to renew acquaintances with old friends, reminisce and learn about the post-graduation lives of classmates. For the first time, Brandeis will host 12 Reunion classes, as the Class of 1952 — the University’s first graduating class — celebrates its 60th Reunion. The classes of 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002 and 2007 will also be back on campus. Events include the Fire & Deis welcome back party, class dinners, conversation with President Fred Lawrence, presentation of Alumni Achievement Awards, Ralph Norman Barbeecue, class photos and alumni of color reception.

For more information, visit alumni.brandeis.edu/reunion or call 800-333-1948.

Alumni College

A number of prominent Brandeis faculty members, including Provost Steve A.N. Goldstein ’78, MA ’78, will be leading classes at Alumni College on June 8. Class topics include medicine, politics, public speaking, writing, economics and Jewish-ness. Alumni, members of the Brandeis National Committee, BOLLi members, parents and friends are invited to experience the unmatched Brandeis classroom experience — without required reading or final exams. Alumni College includes a continental breakfast and a specially prepared gourmet boxed lunch. Kosher and vegetarian options are available. For more information, visit alumni.brandeis.edu/alumnicollege or call 800-333-1948.

Sachar Legacy Society Luncheon

The annual Sachar Legacy Society Luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Sept. 12 at the Hassenfeld Conference Center. The luncheon recognizes members of the Sachar Legacy Society, an honorary organization of individuals who have indicated that Brandeis is in their will or have established charitable gift annuities with the University.

For more information, contact Orla Kane (781-736-4069 or kane@brandeis.edu).