



Gratz Insider, January 2017 - Story Continuation

[To return to the newsletter, close this page.]

## **President Goldstein Resigns, Leaving a Legacy of Success at Gratz**

In June 2011, Joy Goldstein became the first woman president in the 116-year history of Gratz College, the first institution of advanced Jewish learning to accept women on a par with men. During the five-and-a-half years that have followed her appointment, President Goldstein recruited an outstanding executive leadership team, with whom she has worked closely to set Gratz on a path of sustained growth.

As president, Goldstein oversaw the expansion in number and breadth of the degree-granting programs offered by Gratz. Under her watch, we launched a master's program in Holocaust and genocide studies - the first of its kind to be offered completely online - and are currently preparing to introduce a doctorate in this area. We also rolled out our master's program in Israel studies and our certificate program in Jewish-Christian studies.

Under the careful guidance of Dr. Rosalie Guzofsky, dean and vice president of academic affairs and a leading member of Goldstein's executive team, Gratz created a new master's program in education, with several different concentrations, and is currently working toward the launch of an Ed.D. We also introduced our first Master of Science program: the popular M.S. in Nonprofit Management. Programs like these are consistent with the five-year strategic plan adopted by the Gratz College Board of Governors this spring, charging us to define our market more broadly with "new degree and certificate programs that prepare students for existing and emerging fields."

During her tenure as president, Goldstein hired Rabbi Erin Hirsh to establish a professional learning program for supplementary school educators. The result was [NEXT](#), a nationally recognized program that has taken off: over 1,000 supplementary school teachers and education directors from 29 states and two Canadian provinces have now participated in this program. And Rabbi Hirsh has taken off as well: she assumed responsibility for a wider-ranging portfolio of programs - including those for high school students - became a member of the executive staff and is now poised to become our interim president.

"I have loved Gratz since the day I arrived in 2012," says Rabbi Hirsh, "and Joy is an enormous part of the reason why. She has worked tirelessly to continue the College's legacy of 'Education grounded in Jewish Values,' while also helping Gratz to claim its place as a contemporary institution of higher learning. I am humbled and proud to continue her efforts until a permanent president has been appointed."

In addition to program expansion, during Goldstein's tenure, Gratz's permanently restricted endowment increased by more than 50%. Last year alone, we received the [largest endowment gift in our history](#), a bequest of almost \$1 million to establish the Benjamin and Dorothy Abrams Scholarship

Fund. For the last several years, we have also been receiving funding that has enabled us to create the [Gratz College Midcareer Fellowship](#), which brings education within reach to students aspiring to earn an M.A. in Jewish Education, an M.A. in Jewish Communal Service or an M.S. in Nonprofit Management.

In her resignation letter, Goldstein said that she was “honored and privileged to have served in the position of president since 2011, and to have been a part of this institution's history.” It is precisely because of her contributions to “this institution” that Gratz will now be able to move forward along its trajectory of growth and progress in the competent hands of our executive team, our faculty and staff and our board of governors. We at Gratz are grateful for President Goldstein’s service and leadership and wish her all the best in her new position with the Jewish Federations of North America.