

SPRING 2017

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28		

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9 N/C
12 N/C	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
2	3	4	5 N/C	6 N/C
9 N/C	10 N/C	11 N/C	12 N/C	13 N/C
16 N/C	17 N/C	18 N/C	19 N/C	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29 N/C	30 N/C	31 N/C	1 N/C

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18 Final	19 Final	20 Final	21 Final	22 Final

Letter from the founder and president.

I would like to thank all the people who contributed their time and effort, despite their hectic schedules. First and foremost, I thank my vice president, Debra Cohen, for all her hard work, and sharing in the vision to create this paper. In addition, special thanks are extended to our talented graphic designer, Avigail Mizrahi, who put in countless hours of hard work to reach our deadline. I also would like to thank our director, Bracha Popack, for her contribution and our Editor, Heshy Gissinger, for his time and help. In addition, thanks to all the students, professors, and the graphic design class. Of course a major thank you to our dedicated Director, Esther Braun, who toils day in and day out, to enhance our education and experience in college.

I would also like to encourage students to contribute to the paper, as well as to share their thoughts and ideas for future editions. Please send all contributions and ideas to us at: tinyurl.com/gosrotj to upload your file. Good Luck!

Shneur Gansburg President, Founder, Editor-In-Chief



Debra Cohen Vice President, Co Editor-In-Chief



Avigail Mizrahi Graphic Designer



Heshy Gissinger Editor



THE POINT OF VIEW

From Machon

From Machon to Medical School pg. 5

Should Internet
be allowed in Jewish homes? pg. 7



Introducing Machon Point of View

The impetus for writing the introduction for Machon L'Parnasa's first Magazine/newsletter, *The Point of View* was, conceptually, the goal of addressing observations of both students and faculty. The architect of the tabloid, Shneur Gansburg, envisioned a rare opportunity for students, as well as professors, to ponder issues each may not have considered in the past. Advice on how to better approach homework assignments, and preparation for exams would be solicited from the students themselves. Guidance on career choices would be forthcoming from professors. Students would be encouraged to submit articles and personal essays of achievement on the most pressing issues of the day; what better way to shed a light on Machon's more creative talent.

The *Point of View* will not merely reflect a magazine that cements Machon's legacy of the healthy coexistence between the spiritual and secular in terms of career choices, but a perpetuation of that ideal through the communication of instructors and students alike.

Ronald Neal Goldman
Professor of English
Touro College



It is such a pleasure to welcome all of you – students, faculty, alumni, and friends to our first newsletter! It is a wonderful way to glean an overview of our most recent accomplishments as well as an understanding of who we are and what we do. I hope you enjoy reading the many articles featured, celebrating our students, faculty, and organizations.

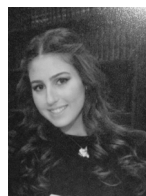
As the Director of Machon L'Parnasa, I have the privilege of meeting young men and young women, people of all ages, from a wide variety of backgrounds. They are all drawn to Machon L'Parnasa because of classes that are small, individualized, and taught in separate buildings for men and women. Machon provides academic training in professional fields, as well as basic language and other skills needed to meet the demands of today's highly-competitive job market.

When we opened the Machon program in 1999, with the tremendous backing of Dr. Bernard Lander, z"l, I felt a great deal of trepidation but also optimism that we were serving the greater good. I feel a deep sense of satisfaction when I look at my bulletin board and see cards from alumni who have reached great success. Therefore, I now reach out to our alumni to grace the pages of our future newsletters. Have you reached a major milestone, earned recognition or an award, or done something brand new that you feel good about? Tell us about it.

To our current students, staff and friends I say, share your thoughts with us. This newsletter will be an ideal place to share thoughts and to interact with others regarding ideas and opinions. I am filled with excitement about the launching of this new project – one that is a total compendium of the labors of students from various programs. I thank them and wish them all hatzlacha in this and future endeavors.

Esther Braun
Director of Machon L'Parnasa
Touro College

College Access = Internet Access



By: Avigail
Mizrachi

Internet. This one word defines controversy. The number of opinions voiced regarding this topic is uncountable, and arguments keep reigniting. Many people are unhappy that Jewish colleges require use of the internet. In contrast, there are those who appreciate having quick access to college-related needs. What's the right approach?

There are two basic opinions in our Jewish community. The first believes internet access shouldn't be accepted. In response, parents are afraid of sending their children to colleges which use internet.

Sending their children to colleges with internet means bringing it home, and they believe that Jewish boys and girls shouldn't be exposed to the immorality of this world via the internet. They don't want the negative influences of internet in their homes.

Others believe that internet makes life easier for students, because it contains the ability to accomplish work such as research, finances and the like. Through the internet, everything is at the student's fingertips, and it should therefore be used.

It is true that the internet contains immoral content, but technology is advancing quickly and we must be judicious about how we use it. Internet usage undoubtedly assists colleges and students. In fact, it is a necessity for any university student to prosper. Therefore, we must recognize and accept it as a fact of life.

For those who seek a college education, but are unhappy using the internet,

because they desire to protect their souls from its impurities, there is a solution in the many internet filters. Students can now put a filter on the internet, which holds back information and imagery they wish not to be exposed to. Still, there are those who refuse to accept the internet at all. Unfortunately for them, a college education is impossible, since college access means internet access.

It is undeniable that the internet has impure content, yet, some are undeterred, and it is up to everyone to choose their position on the topic. I may be right or wrong, as my opinion is just one out of many. However, I'm trying to be impartial and accepting to both sides. Internet could be both right and wrong. There are pros and cons to using the internet just as there are to everything in life. The fact that there is an ability to filter some of the cons is an asset to our community. Whether or not the internet filters actually work is a question that can be left for another article.

1) **What in your opinion, are the best careers for a Jewish mom?**

Special Education, Human Services (Social Work), Multi-media Design

2) **How many Yeshiva or seminary credits can one transfer?**

Men: 12 credits for AS degree – 48 credits for BA

Women: 3 credits for AS degree – 24 credits for BA

3) **From all your experience what is a tip you would give to students?**

Don't procrastinate and follow your dreams!

4) **Why aren't there morning classes offered?**

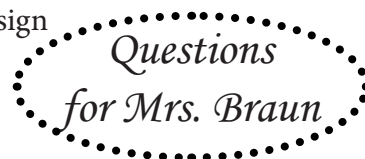
Because the majority of our students are either working or learning in Yeshiva and Seminary

5) **Why is there no student lounge/ cafeteria?**

The building does not have sufficient space for this accommodation

6) **Rumor has it that Machon L'Parnasa is moving? If yes when?**

Machon hopes to move into a new facility towards the end of 2018.





Light Laughs

By: Eli Weinreb

Joke #1- Late one night a mugger wearing a mask stopped a well-dressed man and stuck a gun in his ribs. "Give me your money," he demanded. Scandalized, the man replied, "You can't do this – I'm a US Congressman!" "Oh! In that case," smiled the robber, "Give me MY money!"

Joke #2- Joe asked God, "How much is a penny worth in heaven?"
God replied, "\$1 million."
Joe asked, "How long is a minute in heaven?"
God said, "One million years."
Joe asked "Can I have a penny."
God said, "Sure, in a minute."

Joke #3- A recent scientific study showed that out of 2,293,618,367 people, 94% are too lazy to actually read that number.

Joke #4- Why did the physics teacher break up with the biology teacher? There was no chemistry.

Joke #5- Daddy did you know that girls are smarter than boys? No, I didn't know that. There you go.



My Transition From France to America

BY: Dvorah Rajchman

Bonjour,

My name is Dvorah Rajchman, I'm originally from France. I started college in Paris at the Sorbonne University, where the classes were in English. That pushed me to get a higher education in America. I am so grateful to be in America and have the opportunity to accomplish my goals. The culture, academic system, and language are all different. At first, I was scared to study in English due to the language barrier, however, I told myself that my English could only improve and I was working to achieve that goal. I was very often embarrassed about my accent and the fact that I couldn't find the proper words in a conversation.

What helped me learn English was that whenever I found a difficult word, I would write it down. I created my own dictionary. I go through it sometimes and laugh at myself at the words I jotted down. I was dedicated. Trust me, it wasn't easy! Something that pushed me to work on my English, was every time I heard another foreigner speak the way I did, it encouraged me to want to learn the language better. I always stay optimistic and remind myself how far I've come.

Everyone has his/her own path and issues in life, but this shouldn't hold anyone back from pursuing his/her dreams. If you want to achieve something, just do it. Remember, you are the one who controls your life. We are all human and can be as successful as the next person, it all just depends on our mindset. I wish you the best of luck!

Democracy OR Hypocrisy



By: Shneur
Gansburg

There has been much controversy over President-elect Trump and his rhetoric. I'm not a Trump fan, not by a long shot. However, I cannot sit idly by and watch as our great nation erupts in chaos over distorted media, absurd double standards, and partisan reporting. People are burning American flags, vandalizing cars, and throwing around terms like racist, bigot, homophobe, as if they are getting a dime for every time they say it.

It's dangerous when these terms are used loosely, because they are often used indiscriminately which discredits the significance and power of words. It ultimately ends up being like the boy who cried wolf. Interestingly, many of these people have double standards. These same people who preach acceptance and respect, suddenly change when it does not go their way; or, should one disagree with them, they are fervently attacked, and labeled racist, sexist, etc.

We are living in a society where the media promulgates its biased views. We've seen the many videos of people rioting and breaking the law. Yet, news outlets like CNN choose to ignore that. Instead, they have news anchors who incite others to hate, calling the elections a "white lash". However, if this were said vice versa about Presidents Obama's win, the speakers would be called outright racist.

Instead of preaching acceptance like they often do, they are out there doing quite the contrary, creating more division and hate. This stems from the overhyped sensitivity our society encourages people to have. It leads to creating safe spaces in colleges, to professors giving students off from class after elections, because they can't face reality.

This is not only detrimental, but counterintuitive to life itself, because life has its trials and tribulations. Instead of teaching millennials to face their challenges, colleges teach them to fear adversity and run from it like the plague. If they can't run, then they throw a tantrum and burn American flags and they don't have to worry because the media will have their back. They will do anything to run away from reality.

There's a reason Trump won. People are sick of a politically correct America. The liberal media can't handle this new reality, so they blame it on racism. Instead of doing some introspection and realizing the true problem, that it's not only white middle-class voters who support Trump; it's women, blacks, and gay people; many of the very same people who voted for Obama. Yet, they marginalize all of Trump's supporters, and blame them for being racist, islamophobic and anti-gay, which is not factual and has no basis.

Americans are tired of worrying that every time they speak they might offend someone. Instead, our children should be taught how to stand up for themselves, and not run to other people for help. Instead of creating a bunch of scared and easily intimidated people, this would create strong and independent leaders. This is not about race, or being sexist. This is about Americans wanting a better and more prosperous country, and thinking Trump can achieve that. Instead of throwing tantrums, these people should practice what they preach; give the man a chance and respect our democracy!

Instead of preaching acceptance like they often do, they are doing quite the contrary, creating more division and hate...

Looking for a Job or Internship?

Touro students looking for a job or internship contact Chaim Shapiro.

Chaim helps students find jobs and internships through his large network. Additionally, he assists students with creating their resumes and learning interviewing skills.

Chaim Shapiro: Director of the office for student success at Touro College.

Phone number: (718)-535-9375

Email address: Chaim.Shapiro@touro.edu

Camp HASC

Camp HASC, an incredible camp for people with special needs, is looking to hire male staff for summer 2017. If you are interested, please contact Rabbi Avi Pollak.

Phone number: (718)-686-2600

Email address: avi.pollak@camphasc.org

Scholarships and Financial Aid for Machon L’Parnasa’s students

All FAFSA (financial aid) applicants are eligible for a Touro Scholarship. On a need only basis, there are also the Popack and Presidential Scholarships. Applications for both of these Scholarships are available.

If you have any questions regarding financial aid, please contact Raquel Lipschitz.

Phone number: (718)-252-7800 ext. 59331 **Email address:** raquel.lipschitz@touro.edu

TIPS FOR WRITING A GOOD ESSAY

By: PROFESSOR GOLDMAN

- 1** Begin free writing with little or no concern of the mechanics; just contemplate what in fact it is that you want to share.
- 2** In an intrinsic essay, gather all the information on the topic that you can muster from memory, friends or from personal experience and jot it down
- 3** Your opening sentence of the intro is important; it should give the push to the reader to want to continue to read-at any cost.
- 4** The thesis statement--implicit or explicit--is crucial to the essay. It is akin to a contract, in that the writer pledges to the reader that the essay, in its entirety, will fundamentally, reflect the last - or occasionally, next to the last-- sentence of the introductory paragraph.
- 5** A satisfactory or competent concluding paragraph rephrases some of the important points addressed in the essay; something new, however, as in a call for action, enhances the skill to the next level.
- 6** PROOFREAD PROOFREAD PROOFREAD

From Machon to Medical School



Dov Ber Hecht
Temple Medical School

Hi Dov Ber! Where are you from?

I grew up in a Chabad family in Chicago and now live in Pennsylvania, with my wife and child.

Why did you decide to go to med school?

I always had a desire to go into the Medical field. My father's a doctor and I wanted to follow in his footsteps. Most of my siblings went on shlichus (emissaries of the Lubavitcher Rebbe sent around the world to spread Judaism). I wanted to help people in a more tangible way.

What were some of your biggest challenges?

I felt that I was behind my peers and they had knowledge and information I didn't. It was like trying to learn Gemara (Talmud) without knowing the Aleph Bet (Hebrew alphabet). Additionally, it is tough being a religious Jew in med-school. I have a beard, and feel that people perceive me more as a Rabbi than a medical student;

however, patients need to see me as a medical student. To get rid of the feeling, I have to change my mindset and internalize the role.

What advice would you give students thinking about med school?

Don't give UP! You have to believe in yourself and in your abilities. In addition, start preparing early for the MCAT. If you can, shadow doctors, and build up your resume. Also, never compare yourself to others, and only focus on doing your best.

What do you think stood out in your application?

The fact that I was different and not your average bio major, since I came from an ultra-orthodox background, and the odds were stacked against me. In addition, having a good GPA is imperative.

How difficult is it to find a job after school?

Not hard. You usually find one through residency (working in a hospital right after Med school) and then stay there as a doctor.

In retrospect, what are some tips you would have given yourself before you started?

It's a long ride, and it's important to know the reason for doing it. It is also important to embrace the challenges as they arise, yet always keep your eye on the prize. In addition, take the challenge day by day and try achieving your best along the way.

How do you balance medical school and family life?

It's a team effort. Thankfully when I'm busy with work, my

wife takes care of our child, and vice versa. It's all about working together, we are fortunate to have a working system.

What was reality vs. expectation once getting into med school?

I expected to be on top of the world because I made it, however, it's quite the opposite, and it's very humbling. It's very difficult to see people in their worst state. It's just a very humbling experience. You'd think you would feel special and on top of the world, but it's a very serious grind and lots of hard work. I'm happy that it keeps me up all night and that it's not as glamorous as I thought; it actually brings me back to reality and keeps me humble knowing that I'm doing the right thing. It's a total 100% grind and I love it!!

What is your feeling about Machon?

It's an amazing program and the perfect stepping stone. I wouldn't be in med school without Machon; it gives students the individual approach that is rare. It's perfect for people with no background in secular education.

How did Machon prepare you for med-school?

It was a great foundation for the education to come. The English writing comprehension by Professor Goldman was my favorite class, and it prepared me well for reading and writing.