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**Tufts Hillel Raises \$6.4 Million**  
***Campaign Exceeds Goal; Establishes Record-Breaking Program Endowment***

MEDFORD/SOMERVILLE, Mass. -- Tufts Hillel announces the completion of a \$6.4 million campaign, exceeding an original fundraising goal of \$5.8 million. *The Campaign for Tufts Hillel Program Endowment* was the first of its kind and largest to date to direct funds strictly toward Hillel programming. The successful campaign also established a named directorship, a rare position within most Hillel organizations across the country.

“If we truly wish to have an effect on our university, on our community, and on the world, it is essential to partner with others. We are grateful to the many donors who have collaborated to make this campaign a success,” said Rabbi Jeffrey A. Summit, Neubauer Executive Director, Tufts Hillel.

Funds raised through the campaign will enable new programming and greatly expand existing programming open not only to Tufts’ 1,300 Jewish undergraduate students, but the entire university community.

“Tufts Hillel enhances Jewish life for students while helping to promote something every university wants: active, thoughtful, and responsible college graduates,” said Dan Kraft, a University Trustee, Tufts Hillel Board Member, and Chair of The Campaign for Tufts Hillel Program Endowment.

Tufts Hillel is the second largest student organization on the Tufts University campus. In 1994, the Granoff Family Hillel Center opened its doors to meet the growing need for students interested in Jewish culture to have a larger physical space on campus. Through programming and activities, students are empowered to take responsibility for their Jewish identity through a range of outlets such as community service projects, social events, or religious services. The interest and demand for such high-quality and enriching programming fueled a successful program-centric campaign.

Tufts Hillel is nationally recognized for its many stellar programs covering education, social justice, Shabbat and holiday observance, interfaith dialogue, health and wellness, Israel advocacy and cultural programs. As all programs are student run, the organization will continue to work directly with students to determine additional programming needs of the evolving campus community.

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Shabbat dinners exemplify the organization's approach to rich programming. For many students, Shabbat is a gateway to Hillel. Not only does Tufts Hillel offer a catered Shabbat dinner with both conservative and reform services, but they have created a "Shabbat Kit." True to the Jewish tradition of gathering around food and friendship for Shabbat dinner, this kit, including candles, challah, dessert, grocery gift certificates, and more, gives students a way to bring Shabbat into their own homes. "For many, they meet friends at our center, and then we can provide an extension for these relationships to blossom," said Rabbi Summit.

A sampling of programs established through the program endowment campaign includes:

- *Community Education Programming*
- *Entrepreneurial Programming*
- *Global Leadership Student Research*
- *Holocaust Education Programming*
- *Intercultural and Interreligious Programming*
- *Israel Programming*
- *Jewish Engagement and Outreach Programming*
- *Jewish Learning*
- *Shabbat Programming*
- *Social Justice Programming*

In addition, Joe Neubauer, a University Trustee, and his wife Jeanette established a \$750,000 matching challenge to the campaign. This gift created an endowed directorship for Tufts Hillel, something very few Hillel programs across the country have. "Our goal in participating in the campaign was to help sustain an important organization far into the future and create a model for vibrant Jewish programming on campuses across the country," said Joe Neubauer.

On May 1<sup>st</sup> a couple hundred Hillel Board Members, donors, parents, faculty and friends of Tufts Hillel will gather at the Granoff Family Hillel Center to celebrate the completion of the program endowment campaign. The event will publicly thank Dan Kraft for chairing this effort, as well as all of the donors and friends of Tufts Hillel who generosity made the organization's vision a reality.

Tufts University, located on three Massachusetts campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville, and Grafton, and Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged. Tufts' vision to propel the university forward across all schools and disciplines is reflected in *Beyond Boundaries: The Campaign for Tufts* and its \$1.2 billion goal. The most ambitious fundraising effort in the history of Tufts, the endeavor was publicly launched in late 2006.

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