

# **The Exchange**

**1998 SSSB**

**Election Coverage**

*Editor's Note:*

As you know, the elections are coming, and as people have complained in the past that elections are merely popularity contests, neglecting issues at hand, I have, under the suggestion of YC and SSSB Student Council Presidents, both past and present, undertaken this effort to inform you, the student body, of the potential candidates. Note that these profiles have been written by the candidates and reflect their personal opinions. Whether what they claim is logically attainable or not is up to your discretion, so "buyer beware." These individuals are only a fraction of the candidates running for office. They are the ones with the guts, the ones who undertook this responsibility to let you know about themselves and their platforms. We wish all the candidates good luck and we hope to see you vote on Thursday, April 2, 1998.

Sincerely

Yair Oppenheim

*Jeremy Matthew Blank*

**SSSB President Hopeful**

**March 25, 1998**

**Jeremy Blank currently majors in the dynamic study of finance. In addition, he also hopes to complete a minor in the ever exciting field of accounting, so that he will not only know how to take apart the books (finance), but also know how to put them back together (accounting). This path towards developing a more well rounded knowledge should enable Jeremy to pursue his lifelong goal of becoming a trusted business advisor who adds value to all those he serves. In fact, Jeremy has already begun his journey, not only on an academic level, but on a professional one as well. Twice, he has worked hard and long summers at Smith Barney in a derivatives analysis group and the global risk management area. Jeremy is also a proud alumnus of Ohr Yerushalaim, an experience he believes to have forever shaped his character, faith and feelings regarding modes of transportation.**

Jeremy plans to complete his studies and graduate in May of 1999. In the mean time, he would like to do all he can to help those who were kind enough to help him, namely Sy Syms School of Business. To best accomplish this Jeremy Blank respectfully asks that the students elect him SSSB President. As President, Jeremy could apply his abilities towards improving the school and helping his fellow students. After two years of observation, he has a collection of fundamental ideas that if applied carefully will raise our school to an elite level, one that each of us should strive to help build. To describe briefly, the strategy is to create a more goal oriented atmosphere where students focus on practical application of their studies with a view towards 'real world' situations. Each student will focus on how he is constantly bettering himself so that he will succeed in a professional future. Accordingly, recruitment efforts will be vastly improved on a qualitative and quantitative level. Students will meet with advisors on a periodic basis to discuss critical issues including potential summer or full time positions, individual resumes, interviewing skills and relevant coursework.

Jeremy - I am motivated and focused on transforming this school into a top-notch place so that we will all feel a sense of pride. I kid you not. Those who know me understand that when determined, I do not fail. I will not disappoint those who will help me. Do not doubt my sincerity and dedication towards improving our school. However, if you do, please feel free to call me at 740-0247. Thank you very much.

In the timeless words of M.L. King, " I have a dream".

*David Neiss*  
*Candidate for SSSB President*  
Dear Fellow SSSB students,

I am running for the office of President of the Sy Syms School of Business. It is essential to be qualified in order to undertake such a responsibility and I believe that I possess these qualifications.

As some of you may know, I attended MTA for high school. This means that I have been a close observer of every day activities on campus since 1992, excluding my year of study abroad at Yeshivat Shaalvim.

I am familiar with the workings of many of the student organizations, committees, and projects which regularly function here in the Sy Syms School of Business. In addition to serving on the Chanuka Concert Committee two years ago, I also actively assisted in the annual Seforim Sale. Additionally, I was able to gain unparalleled knowledge of the workings of student government during my brother Jonathan's term as Student Organization of Yeshiva President. Currently, I am assisting the chairman of the SSSB annual dinner Avi Karesh and at the same time, I am a member of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee which acts as a liaison between the administration and the Physical Education department.

Progress can be measured in terms of improvements and, if elected, I would like to attain the following: Reevaluation and improvement in the area of career guidance and placement. More effort should be made to meet the students' needs and to more actively cater to legitimate requests. A smoother functioning placement office is mandatory and those staffing the office must be made to understand the critical role they play in a student's job quest. Efficiency is a must. No student should be at the mercy of capricious or inefficient service. One must be able to rely on a promise being kept and a resume' being promptly mailed.

The SSSB administration should be made to understand that the needs of the finance, marketing, management, and MIS majors must be met and that they are as much a part of SSSB as the accounting majors.

Similarly, courses should be expanded with more choices available based upon student interest. This year, we have seen a step taken in that direction (with the addition of Speculative Markets) and I hope to encourage the administration to continue innovation.

Perhaps the most frustrating event at SSSB is registration. Immediate steps should be taken to revamp and restructure what is now an inefficient, time wasting, and aggravating process. The pent-up anger and hostility prevalent at registration certainly is not a good advertisement for SSSB. I have already discussed with various people plans for a major streamlining and improvement of this torturous experience. As your next president, I sincerely hope to be able to improve your quality of life as well as quality of education here at SSSB.

David Neiss- SSSB '99

*Isaac Galena*  
*Candidate for SSSB President*

Background: Worked for a major Financial Consulting firm in Philadelphia, Researched mutual funds for a major American Online Website. Staff writer for the Exchange. Bikur-Cholim Club Member. Rav Simon's Shiur

Platform:

Better School Reputation- Better Jobs:

How:

Establish a Summer Internship Program that involves Major Financial Institutions (not just Accounting) coming to recruit in Sy Syms on campus.

Establishing a community awareness teaching kids how to save and invest money – similar to that of the "Literacy Program" where we would send Sy Syms Students to the Eleanor Roosevelt Middle school where they would teach kids about the ways to save and invest money for the future.

We could then advertise to give the opportunity to large named Financial Consultants, Investment Bankers, Accountants etc. to be "GUEST LECTURERS" giving them the chance to give back to society while at the same time strengthening the tie between their firms and Sy Syms.

Have not only the Rosh Yeshiva give talks on " Being an Orthodox Jew in the Corporate World" but also hear from religious businessmen and Sy Syms professors (Snow, Pava, Krauss) about their own first hand experience that they confronted as Orthodox Jews (delivered in Muss Hall). - Developing a stronger Jewish ethical and practical education for all student.

Recruiting more Large names in the New York City Corporate World to Participate in Finance and Accounting Nights.

One Word "Dougies"

Two Words "Free Gift"

*Danny Lowy*

*Candidate for SSSB President*

The position of Sy Syms President is an instrumental position that has the capacity to implement radical and innovative changes in school policy. The student body deserves a President who will listen to their concerns and who is accessible at all times.

As President of Sy Syms I look forward to being your personal liaison with the administration and with the business world.

I am extremely excited over the opportunity to help each student get the most out of the college experience.

Being a student in Sy Syms opens many doors throughout the business world to us, what we need is someone to push us through the doorway. One of my most urgent goals is to invite executives from every field to experience Sy Syms first hand.

I will organize luncheons in which Sy Syms students will be able to sit and chat with everyone from Computer programmers to Mutual Fund managers. These luncheons will serve as magnificent situations where students will be able to impress the business world in a casual atmosphere. During my presidency, the students of Sy Syms will experience unsurpassed prestige and respect in the business community. Instead of us having to hunt down jobs, the recruiters will be knocking down our doors. We are about to embark on a journey that will lead to higher paying jobs and a fruitful future. A few students have already suggested to me that we should start a Finance Club. This club will help students develop and market their valuable skills. The club will publish a monthly Finance Journal that will be distributed to professionals throughout Wall Street. The journal will consist of twenty articles written by students dealing with various financial issues. We will also be taking trips to meet government officials who directly and indirectly influence world markets. The time has come for all of you Sy Syms students to earn the well-deserved prestige that you deserve.

I believe that the future of commerce will be directed by those who understand the unlimited capabilities of computers.

The MIS majors in YU are some of the most educated and knowledgeable computer experts in the college world.

I look forward to helping every MIS student reach the pinnacle of his industry. This will be done by pairing MIS majors with professors. They will then develop programs and projects that will be exhibited to the computer industry at MIS job fairs.

We all know the high cost of college, and it is not getting any cheaper. I will be contacting Kosher establishments and Movie theaters which will participate in a discount program. Every YU student will receive discounts of up to 20% on all purchases.

Starting next term, there will be joint YU-Stern classes given every week in addition to any classes currently given.

These classes will be taught by guest public speakers, ranging from Pat Riley to Steven Covey.

I look forward to a new horizon in which we will move on to a bright new future.

## *MENACHEM SCHECHTER FOR SY SYMS PRESIDENT IT'S TIME WE MAKE SOME CHANGES*

My qualifications are as follows: I was Freshman Class President in 95-96. As Freshman Class President I organized a Freshman Shabbaton, and I got the sani- covers for the toilet seats in the bathrooms. This past year, holding no official position because the elections for the Junior Class board were held while I was in Israel, I organized and ran a trip to Skirmish USA in conjunction with the Sophomore Class Board and YCSC.

There are a number of problems affecting Sy Syms students varying in seriousness, which need to be addressed in the coming year.

**Student Advisors:** There are 450 students in Sy Syms and there is only one Student Adviser to help us, and to sign sheets during registration. There needs to be more advisors, so that we are not left without help and waiting hours to see Dean Jaskoll.

**Summer School:** Under the current system, we are not allowed to take any Sy Syms courses in summer school. I understand the reasoning of trying to protect the integrity of our education, but there should be provisions to allow us to be able to take certain courses in certain schools selected from an assigned list.

**Alumni:** The placement office should have a program in conjunction with the Alumni Office of Yeshiva College who have attained upper level jobs and are in a position to hire Sy Syms students, not just talk to them. There are Alumni from the past 50 years in the business world, not just from the last 10. We need to find them and work with them.

**Student Committees:** YC has a number of committees that include both students and administration working together on many issues; the Academic Standards and Curriculum committees among them. Sy Syms needs to have a group of students working closely with the administration in order to protect our rights, and develop new programs and ideas.

I am willing to put in the necessary hours during the week and on weekends in order to make Sy Syms a better environment for us to study and give us a better chance of being successful after we leave here.

*Andrew Goldberg*  
*Candidate for Sy Syms Vice President*

**Major:** Finance

The vice president is generally regarded as having a nice title, but having relatively little power. I plan on changing this. I have numerous ideas for improving Sy Syms, and I am determined to have these ideas heard and carried out.

Some of my main concerns are that Sy Syms students have very little interaction with the "Real World," that there is not a big enough variety of courses offered and that the students don't necessarily enjoy their college experience. First, I feel that the computer lab should be stocked with real world simulation programs. (Example: On line programs which allow the user to do simulated stock and futures trades). I also feel that while the career office offers many lectures about how to get jobs, Sy Syms has to get more guest lecturers to inform the students of what they can expect to encounter when they graduate. Second, The students should be surveyed to see what new classes most appeal to them. This data should then be used to select new courses for the school to offer. Finally, college should be a "fun time", not just one in which you worry about getting a top paying job. I think this can best be achieved by having Sy Syms dinners and other activities – ones which you attend in order to relax and leave behind your worries of getting that great job. These are just a few of the problems which I would like to correct, if given the opportunity.

*Jack Almo*

*Candidate for SSSB Treasurer*

Majors: Management and Finance

Years on campus: 2

"An educated consumer is our best customer." This all too familiar phrase is more than an advertising slogan for a major retailer, it is an insight into my campaign. My fellow students, we are the customers. We elected to be the customers of the Sy Syms School of Business the moment that we enrolled in the school. Well, if we are the customers, what did we buy? The deans, the professors, the office of career placement, and even the classrooms themselves all belong to us. Bottom line is that we paid for them. The only true responsibility that we have is a moral responsibility to ourselves. That responsibility is to take advantage of the investment that we made in ourselves. Use our professors for their years of scholarly achievements, practical experience in the business world, advice, friendship, and yes, their connections. We must foster relationships with the instruments of our investment. Unfortunately, sometimes we see our semi-annual dividends (grades) as the final pay back of our investment. In the immortal words of Dr. Palumbo "You may have a 4.6 GPA, but a 4.6 GPA will not help you in the work place." The advancement of our education will take us far in the job market. Sy Syms offers courses that teach us specific marketable skills and will undoubtedly be useful late in life. However, I believe that we learn much more than analytical skills at our school. We learn the fundamentals of discipline. Discipline really is the fortitude to stay the course. We learn to respect deadlines and to respect ourselves by exerting maximum effort on every project we do. We learn that ultimately it is our name that goes on the top of any report that we do, we are held accountable and must conduct ourselves accordingly. But perhaps the greatest lesson that we can learn from our business education is that we are the masters of our domains—the creators of our own destinies. The key is **proactivity**. A proactive person is most effective when doors are open. I will open doors for you. I will cultivate our relationship with alumni. I will setup a center for tutoring, where students can walk-in and get assistance with their work. I will take our school to the next level.

A big part of what I intend to do is contingent upon your support. I will inspire you and give you the opportunity to be involved in the shaping of our school. I will fill our hallways with school pride. I will represent our concerns and ensure that action be taken. Be warned of one thing: when you elect me, you will have no excuse for failing to succeed. Next year you will thrive.

*Jonathan Walzman*

*Candidate for SSSB Treasurer*

- 1) I am currently a senior majoring in Accounting. I have been active in many clubs and societies in Yeshiva University in addition to assisting with the YCSC concerts and the SOY Seforim Sale.
- 2) Wherever I have been in my life, from high school, to Yeshiva, to Y.U. I have always loved to give something back. I have always been a hard worker and would love the opportunity to serve my colleagues and take my school to heights previously unattainable.
- 3) One of my biggest gripes since coming to SSSB had been summer school. Many Sy Syms students have the need for summer courses, yet very few summer courses are offered, and most that are tend to be extremely expensive. I would like to be a part of a government that would see to the expansion of the summer program and make it possible for students to take the desired courses in an economical manner.

*Joseph Dyckman*  
*Candidate for Vice President Sy Syms*

Dear fellow Sy Syms students,

I am running for the office of Vice President of the Sy Syms School of Business. There are many issues that have to be dealt with next year in order to improve Sy Syms, but there is one issue in particular needs to be addressed promptly. One of the major problems plaguing the Business school faces today is the connection between the Office of Placement & Career Services and the Yeshiva University Alumni. For some reason many YU graduates leave the University with a sour taste and don't want to look back at their Alma Madder, especially when it comes to recruiting. Just recently at a meeting between faculty and alumni, a YU graduate expressed his concerns that YU graduates are not properly prepared before going into interviews. While this wasn't the conviction expressed by the majority, this still raises many concerns that must be dealt with and quickly changed. Don't get me wrong, I'm not here to blame the placement office for anything, I don't know where the blame lies and frankly, it doesn't matter. In fact, this past year I have built a wonderful relationship with the placement office, especially Robert D. Bomersbach, who personally helped me with my resume and successfully guided me through all my interviews with Bear Stearns, where I just accepted a position for this summer. I was also chosen by the Deans to represent the students in a meeting with a potential candidate for the Sy Syms Board of Directors that will take place in the next few weeks. Fortunately, YU has placed countless former students into the vast workforce in New York City and this must be taken advantage of. Simcha Gissinger, the current SSSB President, has done a superb job of beginning the task to create this relationship that can ultimately lead to many jobs. But these efforts must not go to waste, and it is up to the next year's executive council to continue networking and secure the scores of opportunities that await us. Regardless of who is chosen to represent the Business school next year, this is an issue that cannot be dismissed and must be dealt with immediately. The one thing that separates Sy Syms from the top business schools is our alumni association, but with the proper work and effort, this can be resolved, and by the time we are the one's interviewing, we will hopefully be able to count on our predecessors for a little help. It is with your vote that I can assure this and other issues are dealt with in the appropriate manner. These efforts will help the Sy Syms School of Business in boasting of even more successful years than it has cherished since its inception.

Joseph Dyckman SSSB '99

*Yossi Knoll*  
*Candidate for Sy Syms Treasurer*

- 1) Majoring in Finance- Involved in many school activities and has an immense financial background.
- 2) "Show Me The Money"- Many people feel that the duties of being a treasure only entail the handling of Sy Syms funds, but this is not the case. Being Treasurer involves many Sy Syms functions, including Sy Syms tutoring. I have researched this job and feel that I am qualified for it. Further, I feel that I can make various improvements for the student body. I feel that I relate well to people and will do everything in my power to help those Sy Syms students in need of assistance.

I feel that with anything there is always room for improvement. I will therefore strive to improve anything that the Sy Syms body feels worthy of needing improvement.

*Stephen Nelson*  
*Candidate for SSSB Treasurer*

I am a finance and accounting major. I am expected to graduate in January 2000. I worked for Sunkyung in NYC handling the taxes. I was part of the tax department. I also tutored my fellow classmates whenever they required it. I am also a member of both the Star Trek and Aviation club.

I am running to improve the efficiency with which the Sy Syms School of Business Student Association uses their funds. My experience at Sunkyung (ie, in depth dealings with taxes and forms) has enabled me to determine what needs are monetarily justifiable. My fiscally conservative tendencies would allow me to maximise the output of student enhancement programs with those monies.

One thing that I would like to do to enhance the SSSB tutoring program is to offer tutoring for more advanced classes. I would like to have many field trips to see what the business world is truly like.

*Etan Walls*  
*Candidate for SSSB Secretary*

My name is Etan Walls and I am running for Secretary of the Sy Syms School of Business Student Association. I am currently a junior and have spent two years on campus after a year of study in Israel. In the two years that I have been on campus I have become very involved with the political aspects of the school. I have done extensive work for YCSC, YCDS, The Commentator, The Exchange, and the Macs (Y.U.'s basketball team). These experiences have helped to shape an opinion of the strengths and weaknesses of Yeshiva University and especially The Sy Syms School of Business.

My decision to enter stems from a need to see things change. I am the type of person who can not just sit around and let things happen, I must take action in response to problems. I hope to use my position on the SSSBSA to help influence administrative change. As a student I view the current accounting and finance program as top rate. But as a dual major in Marketing and Information Systems I feel neglected and without a voice. If elected I hope to improve the marketing and information systems programs by increasing the variety of classes and instructors. In addition, I hope to move the Information System department away from computer science type classes, to more classes that relate to business applications. Furthermore, the current procedures in the office of placement are flawed and need at least evaluation.

If elected to the SSSBSA I hope to make a significant difference within the Sy Syms School of Business utilizing all available resources. In conclusion, I would like to thank all those people who have helped me run this election. Thank you very much, and on Election Day remember

ETAN WALLS FOR SSSB SECRETARY.

*Josh Swedarsky-*  
*Candidate for SSSB Secretary*

1. -Finance major, Mathematics minor  
-Interned at Merrill Lynch, summer of 1997
2. To help build the community within our institution by hopefully being a part of the SSSB board as well as the Student Life and Registration committees.
3. -Push for acceptance of Business courses from other reputable institutions.
  - Try to create opportunities for students to meet business leaders in their work environment.
  - Easier registration by permitting other faculty members to sign registration forms.