



King Solomon tells us in Proverbs 22:6 that we need to customize our education for each student's path and level ("Chanoch l'naar al pi darko"). At Yeshiva University, this takes the form of having multiple undergraduate colleges, a wealth of majors in each college, multiple Torah Studies and Jewish Studies levels from which to choose, 150 student clubs (\_\_\_\_\_), the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in which students can participate, and a variety of other high-impact campus activities.

Another prominent example of our acting on King Solomon's advice is

When I joined Sy Syms almost three years ago, I convened a group of students and the director of the Honors Program, \_\_\_\_\_, to brainstorm about how to enhance the Honors Program for our students.

The students were particularly interested in our focusing on three areas: developing advanced and \_\_\_\_\_, adding \_\_\_\_\_, and conducting \_\_\_\_\_ exercises or trips. We used the students' input to create a distinctive strategy for the Sy Syms Honors Program that I detail below. Two donors, including Sy Syms Board of Overseers chairman Avram Blumenthal, were excited by our plans and made five-year commitments to the program.

As a result of the targeted investments we have made in the Honors Program over the last couple of years, it has truly become another gem of which Sy Syms can be proud. Please read below for more. Thank you also to the \_\_\_\_\_, led by Jonah Loskove, that we created two years ago and which has been an invaluable partner at planning and carrying out everything described below.

Dr. Noam Wasserman  
Dean



take introductory “Principles” courses in each of our five departments. We created enabling Honors students to be taught at an Honors level and students in the non-Honors sections to be taught at the appropriate level. For Honors students, working together with their Honors-mates in these Principles courses also creates a cohort, jumpstarting the relationship building that is a bedrock of the YU experience, and for many in the Honors Program a highlight of being in the program.

This semester, we also began expanding beyond the Principles courses by introducing Honors sections in non-Principles required courses: in Business Communications (taught by our head of , Prof. Marc Spear) and in our new curriculum (taught by R' Itamar Rosensweig, our new head of the Jewish Values curriculum).

A wonderful element of a YU education is , which enable much deeper relationships between students and professors, and among students themselves. This is particularly true within the Honors courses, which typically are even smaller and more tight knit.

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We also added a series of Fireside Chats. These Chats focus on role models who are stars in their industries, helping the students learn firsthand from their journeys and their life examples.

Each Fireside Chat is comprised of three elements:

A little more than a year ago,



After that, \_\_\_\_\_, an Emmy Award-winning writer and producer, was featured. Others over the last year included \_\_\_\_\_ (senior writer at the *Wall Street Journal*), \_\_\_\_\_ (an expert on healthcare who was the first tenured woman at Harvard Business School), and \_\_\_\_\_ (an all-star investment analyst who wrote \_\_\_\_\_). Last semester ended with [Prof. Laizer Kornwasser interviewing business and sports mogul](#) \_\_\_\_\_ and then opening it up to questions from the students.

However, the one that sticks out the most for me was our Fireside Chat with \_\_\_\_\_. Judge Solomson is an Orthodox federal judge who was interviewed for us by \_\_\_\_\_ of Cardozo Law School. Judge Solomson provided wonderful insights and reflections during the Fireside Chat, but the most unique part came at the end of the Chat. Judge Solomson invited our students to \_\_\_\_\_ without having to come down to Washington, D.C., because they were being conducted on Zoom. When he asked who would want to attend, several students stepped forward.

Judge Solomson did a pre-hearing prep meeting with them, they watched the hearing, and then he debriefed with them afterward on what they had (and should have) seen. In the process, he developed a relationship with some of the students. Judge Solomson ended up \_\_\_\_\_ for one of the students, and that student is now headed to an \_\_\_\_\_ this August.



