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Tulane Hillel Serves Tulane University, Loyola  
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**For Immediate Release**

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**Gary Brandt to Serve as Executive Director of Tulane Hillel**

*Brandt will lead organization serving over 2,500 Jewish students*

**NEW ORLEANS – Tulane Hillel**, the leading organization supporting Tulane’s large Jewish student community, announced the appointment of Gary Brandt as its next Executive Director. Brandt, who joined Tulane Hillel in 2022 as Assistant Director, succeeds Ron Gubitz, Tulane Hillel’s Executive Director since 2020.

Reflecting on the announcement, **Gary Brandt, incoming Executive Director of Tulane Hillel**, shared, “I’m excited to step into the ED role at Tulane Hillel. Our students are the real leaders here, and we work hard to support them in creating vibrant Jewish life on campus. I’m honored to work with our staff and students, our Board and supporters across the country, and with Tulane University.”

Tulane University has one of the largest Jewish student populations in the country, with more than 2,500 Jewish undergraduates and 500 Jewish graduate students. Tulane Hillel hosts a wide array of engaging programming, from learning opportunities to holiday celebrations. Hillel’s signature Tulane Jewish Leaders Program (TJL) brings together a diverse and strategic group of Jewish students to create Jewish programming and leadership opportunities for others. TJL’s model has been replicated on a wide array of campuses nationwide.

**Ron Gubitz, Executive Director of Tulane Hillel**, said, “I look back on my time at Tulane Hillel with gratitude for this special community. Helping Jewish students explore their identity in new, creative ways is a privilege. I’m confident that under Gary’s leadership, Tulane Hillel will continue to play an important role in building community and looking out for the best interests of the thousands of students we serve.”

In addition to providing enriching student experiences, Tulane Hillel works with university administrators to ensure a positive campus climate for Jewish students. Antisemitism has rapidly increased on campuses around the country, with Hillel International tracking **more than 1,200 incidents on college and university campuses since October 7 alone**. On this challenge specifically, Gary Brandt added, “Integral to my work as Executive Director will be to ensure that Tulane remains a great place to be a Jewish student. Our large, dynamic community is a point of pride. I am committed to keeping Jewish students safe and engaged, continuing to diversify our outreach, and building bridges across differences.”

Brandt’s selection comes after a search led by **Kevin Wilkins, a Tulane Hillel Board Member**. Wilkins said, “After a very competitive search, we are elated that Gary Brandt will lead Tulane Hillel at this critical moment. In his time on campus, Gary has impacted the Jewish student experience in countless ways. The Board looks forward to working closely with him as he begins his leadership of our special Tulane Hillel community.” Wilkins added, “Gary has had great mentorship as Assistant Director from Ron Gubitz, whose remarkable leadership has made Tulane Hillel one of the best in the system. We are grateful for all Ron has done for Jewish life at Tulane and wish him the best in his next chapter.”

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