


SECTIONS	TODAY'S PAPER	<span style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">52</span> MY SAVED	
NEWS ▶	METRO ▶		
ARTS ▶	BUSINESS ▶		
SPORTS ▶	OPINION ▶		
LIFESTYLE ▶	MAGAZINE ▶		
INSIDERS ▶	TODAY'S PAPER ▶		
LOTTERY ▶	OBITUARIES ▶		
GLOBE NORTH ▶	GLOBE SOUTH ▶		
GLOBE WEST ▶	TERROR AT THE MARATHON ▶		
68 BLOCKS ▶			

Metro

# Brandeis looks to resume ties with Palestinian university

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE STAFF JANUARY 17, 2014

 ARTICLE	 COMMENTS
--	--

 PRINT  REPRINTS  E-MAIL  SHARE ▼

Brandeis University said Thursday that its president and other leaders are in discussions with a Palestinian college about reestablishing a partnership, more than two months after suspending ties over a controversial Mideast rally.

The nonsectarian, Jewish-sponsored university in Waltham halted its decade-old partnership with Al-Quds University in November after the president of the Arab school refused to condemn a campus demonstration at which marchers reportedly flashed Nazi-like salutes and that included banners of dead suicide bombers.

“Talks between the universities have been going on since the relationship was suspended,” Brandeis

spokeswoman Ellen de Graffenreid said Thursday. “The focus of the discussions is on what ongoing relationship might be appropriate between the two institutions.”

She said the ultimate goal of the talks is for the two institutions to become partners again.

“These are sensitive issues, and putting a timetable on these discussions is not appropriate,” she said. “Both institutions need to have discussions with their stakeholders.”

AdChoices 

The suspension came after the president of Brandeis, Frederick M. Lawrence, asked Al-Quds president Sari Nusseibeh to issue an “unequivocal condemnation” of the demonstration.

But a statement Nusseibeh released fell short of condemning the Nov. 5 demonstration. Instead, he described a university campus as “a sacred space for free and open discussion, the exchange of ideas, and the expression of contradictory views.” And parts of his statement seemed to be directed at Brandeis and Lawrence.

“These occurrences allow some people to capitalize on events in ways that misrepresent the university as promoting inhumane, anti-Semitic, fascist, and Nazi ideologies,” Nusseibeh wrote.

Brandeis called Nusseibeh’s statement “unacceptable and inflammatory” and suspended its partnership with Al-Quds.

“While Brandeis has an unwavering commitment to open dialogue on difficult issues, we are also obliged to recognize intolerance when we see it, and we cannot — and will not — turn a blind eye to intolerance,” Brandeis said at the time.

Brandeis administrators stressed that the university was suspending, not terminating, the partnership.

In December, three Brandeis faculty members and a university advisory board urged school leaders to lift the suspension. On Thursday, de Graffenreid said that Lawrence personally has been speaking with Al-Quds representatives.

*Matt Rocheleau can be reached at [matthew.rocheleau@globe.com](mailto:matthew.rocheleau@globe.com). For more coverage of area campuses, visit [boston.com/yourcampus](http://boston.com/yourcampus).*

 ARTICLE

 COMMENTS

---

## Learn more

[SUBSCRIBE](#) [BOSTON GLOBE INSIDERS](#) [REFER A FRIEND](#) [EPAPER EDITION](#)  
[NEWS IN EDUCATION](#)

---

### MY ACCOUNT

[LOGOUT](#)

 [MY SAVED LIST](#)

[MANAGE HOME DELIVERY](#)

### CONTACT

[HELP](#)

[FAQS](#)

[GLOBE NEWSROOM](#)

[ADVERTISE](#)

### SOCIAL

[FACEBOOK](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[GOOGLE+](#)

### MORE

[ARCHIVES](#)

[PRIVACY POLICY](#)

[TERMS OF SERVICE](#)

[TERMS OF PURCHASE](#)

[WORK HERE](#)

---

© 2014 BOSTON GLOBE MEDIA PARTNERS, LLC

---

---