



### JEWISH LIFE ON CAMPUS: INFORMED CHOICES

"What an amazing program! So much information and so many knowledgeable student representatives under one roof!" These were some of the many positive comments heard after our annual Jewish Life on Campus Program, held Wednesday night, December 23rd, for the junior parents and students of Torah Academy of Bergen County and Ma'ayanot. All felt privileged to hear from **28 student representatives and JLIC rabbi/educators, hailing from almost twenty universities**, including such varied schools as Yale, Princeton, Cornell, SUNY at Binghamton and Albany, Cooper Union, New York University, Columbia/Barnard, University of Pennsylvania, University of Chicago, Boston University, Johns Hopkins, University of Maryland, Rutgers, Queens, CCNY Engineering, University of Michigan, Washington University and Yeshiva University. The presentation was followed by an informal question and answer period in the gym. Both students and parents appreciated each student's highlighting what makes his/her college "Jewishly" unique, with many in the audience filling their programs with notes and others staying late into the evening to ask their specific questions of the many students and rabbis who participated in the evening.

It was both gratifying and heartwarming to see so many TABC and Ma'ayanot alumni, representing a full range of prestigious colleges and talking animatedly about the **shniurim, minyanim and other Jewish-related activities that they make it their business to seek out and participate in**, no matter which college they attend. Anyone watching so many intelligent and exemplary Jewish youth speaking so eloquently about the Jewish life they have chosen to either participate in or fundamentally create within the colleges of their choice would have been proud. Most of the colleges have JLIC rabbi educators on their campuses as well, who are sent from the OU and work in partnership with Hillel, to help college students navigate the college environment and balance their Jewish commitments with their desire to engage in the secular world.

**The program was jointly organized by the College Guidance Departments of TABC and Ma'ayanot**, through the diligent work of Dr. Carol Master, also Chair of the English Department at Torah Academy of Bergen County, and Ms. Leebie Mallin, Director of College Guidance at Ma'ayanot. Our Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Adler and Ma'ayanot Principal Mrs. Kahan introduced the evening, that was attended by Dr. Garry Katz, Director of College Guidance of Torah Academy of Bergen County, and Dr. Elliot Prager, also part of the TABC College Guidance Department. Rabbi Gideon Black, Director of Professional Recruitment and Leadership Development at the Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus (JLIC), explained JLIC's purpose. As a strong testament of all that JLIC does on college campuses, many of the JLIC rabbis, Rabbi Akiva Weiss of Binghamton, Rabbi Chaim Finson of Cornell, Mrs. Chana Cohen of Queens College and Rabbi Adam Frieberg of Rutgers, as well as Rabbi Yaakov Taubes of University of Pennsylvania, also attended.