

**ILYA BRATMAN***Alumni Honoree*

*"In the 90's my involvement in the Jewish Life on campus or anywhere did not exist. I started at Pitt as a Russian-American Jew without any affiliation, without any interest. JHP became a bridge and portal towards the search for identity, tradition and culture that has lasted ever since. As an intern, I discovered Shabbat and holidays and other Jewish traditions at the house of our beloved Rabbi Weinstein in Pittsburgh. And I found such amazing friends and experiences that I will cherish for the rest of my life.*

*JHP became an integral part of my collegiate experience and without it the social aspect of my years at Pitt would have been incomplete. In 2004, upon my return to Pitt as a graduate student, I was given the privilege and honor to lead JHP as a fellow. Although a challenge, I embraced it wholeheartedly, because I knew the impact I could make on other Jewish students. JHP had such a significant effect on my life that I consider JHP partly responsible for my commitment to the Jewish people and Israel. Being part of JHP brought into my life the love and appreciation for brotherhood, history and tradition and introduced me to so many wonderful people. I owe a lot to JHP. It has been a major period in my Jewish growth and maturity."*