

# Brandeis

THE HELLER SCHOOL  
FOR SOCIAL POLICY  
AND MANAGEMENT

HELLER SCHOOL  
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

## Quick Facts

**Location (city, state):** Waltham, MA

**Website:** <http://heller.brandeis.edu>

**Undergraduate student enrollment:** 3,687 (as of fall 2022)

**Public/Private:** Private

**Graduate student enrollment:** 1,594 (as of fall 2022)

**Type of Institution:** 4 year – R1

## Institutional Description (limit 250 words):

Brandeis was established in 1948 by the American Jewish community at a time when Jews and other ethnic and racial minorities, and women, faced discrimination in higher education. Our visionary founders created a nonsectarian research university that welcomed talented faculty and students of all backgrounds and beliefs. From the outset, Brandeis focused on undergraduate education, while building a pioneering research enterprise.

The Heller School drives positive social change through our 7 graduate degree [programs](#), 9 research [centers and institutes](#), and school-wide commitment to public engagement. Heller is for people who want to find sustainable solutions to social inequities and are committed to careers that advance social justice.

## Partnership Information

### Possible Academic Areas of Collaboration:

The Heller School's management focus, with its emphasis on mission-driven management education, is uniquely positioned to contribute to the KUUC Partnership Program. Our program goes beyond traditional business education by integrating social impact into every aspect of our curriculum. This approach can provide valuable insights into how universities can adopt financial management systems and entrepreneurial models that not only ensure sustainability but also advance social justice and community well-being.

The strength of our faculty and programs are built on a foundation of strategic management, leadership, and financial skills, all of which are crucial for navigating the complexities of university financial management. By collaborating with the KUUC Partnership Program, we can share our expertise in budgeting, workplace operations assessment, and financial statement analysis, tailored to the unique needs of mission-driven organizations. This knowledge exchange can empower universities to make informed decisions that align with their social impact goals.

Our experience in mobilizing diverse groups and fostering collaboration across sectors can provide valuable lessons for the consortium members as they seek to develop innovative models for university management and entrepreneurship.

- **STEM Fields:** With a commitment to social justice and policy research, the Heller School can contribute to STEM education by integrating social policy perspectives into research methodologies and the publication process in STEM fields (specifically through our research centers and institutes).

**Institutional Strengths:**

**Interdisciplinary Research:** The Heller School's interdisciplinary approach, combining social, economic, and political science, can offer unique insights into the consortium's focus areas.

**Social Policy Expertise:** Ranked among the top schools of social policy, the Heller School can contribute to understanding university financial management systems and entrepreneurial models in the context of social justice.

**Global Engagement:** With students from 62 countries and a significant number of international students, the Heller School has a strong foundation for international collaboration.

**Partnership Interests:** *(e.g., faculty exchanges, student exchange, dual degrees, joint research, distance learning, etc.)*

**Faculty and Student Exchanges:** To facilitate cross-cultural learning and exchange of best practices in university management and research.

**Joint Research Projects:** Collaborating on research projects that align with the consortium's focus areas, particularly those addressing social and environmental challenges.

**Dual Degree Programs:** Developing programs that allow students to gain diverse perspectives by studying both in the U.S. and Kazakhstan.

**Distance Learning Initiatives:** Leveraging technology to offer joint courses or seminars that can be accessed by students and faculty from both countries.

**Interest in Partnership:** Why are you interested in partnering with a U.S./Kazakh institution? What do you hope to gain from such a partnership?

The Heller School is interested in partnering with U.S. and Kazakh institutions to expand our global reach and impact in addressing social and environmental challenges. Through this partnership, we hope to gain new perspectives and insights that can enhance our research and teaching in social policy and management. Collaborating with institutions in Kazakhstan, a country with significant developments in renewable energy and agriculture, aligns with our commitment to sustainability and social justice. Additionally, this partnership offers an opportunity to contribute to the global community of practice, sharing our expertise in university management and research methodologies, and learning from the experiences of our partners.

**Main Partnership Contact: (name, title, email):**

**Dr. Ravi Lakshmikanthan**  
Associate Dean, Global and Strategic Initiatives  
[Heller School, Brandeis University](#)

[kanthan@brandeis.edu](mailto:kanthan@brandeis.edu)  
+1.781.736.2753