

## **STI Proposal Payment information:**

**Payment Plan:** While an exact dollar figure for this testing cannot be determined beforehand, as it is based on student demand, numbers from 2003—which was the last time that Brandeis offered free STI testing—can be used. According to Kathleen Maloney, 303 students (a little under 10% of the student body) received STI testing in 2003. Today, the full cost for an STI screen for women is \$195.84. This screen refers to a standard package of tests, which would all be done if someone came to the Health Center to be tested, including Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, HSV (herpes), RPR (syphilis) and HIV. The cost for male testing would be a bit lower, depending on how the test is conducted (culture or blood test). Using these two numbers, we can predict that the cost for free STI testing would be about \$59,339.52. (303 x \$195.84)

**Education:** Free STI testing would be coupled with increased education of sexually transmitted infections and how they are contracted. It is acknowledged that abstinence is the only 100 percent guaranteed way to avoid contracting an STI.

**Insurance:** In the State of Massachusetts, everyone must have health insurance. Brandeis' Health insurance plan now covers what is deemed an "accident or illness"; meaning if there are symptoms, the costs of testing will be covered by campus insurance. Screenings, however, are not included because there might not always be visible symptoms. Campus insurance covers only about 1,400 students on this campus (700 undergraduates, 700 graduates), mostly international students.