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**FOR RELEASE**

**TOURO COLLEGE'S CHAPTER OF NATIONAL HISTORY HONOR SOCIETY  
INDUCTS 23 STUDENTS AS LIFETIME MEMBERS**

New York, N.Y., July 27, 2010 – Twenty-three history students at Touro College were recently inducted as lifetime members into the college's Nu Mu Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honor society, at its Second Annual Induction Ceremony held at Touro's Lander College for Women/The Anna Ruth and Mark Hasten School, in Manhattan.

Professor Theodore Lauer, history department chairman, and Dr. Karen Sutton, faculty advisor, presided over the induction ceremony.

Phi Alpha Theta holds national conferences, debates, and essay writing competitions for outstanding students in the field of history.

Guest Speaker Ariel Bielski, granddaughter of the late Tuvia Bielski, leader of the Bielski Partisans--which helped save more than 1,200 Jewish refugees during World War II by hiding them in a forest in Poland--gave a stirring account of what her family history means to her personally and to the world in general. Tuvia Bielski is portrayed by actor Daniel Craig in the 2008 film, *Defiance*.

Keynote Speaker, Leon Segen, a New York attorney and past president of his local Phi Alpha Theta at The State University of New York, spoke about how the study of history has helped prepare him for his law practice that specializes in litigation.

Cynthia Steinmetz, current president of the Touro Phi Alpha Theta chapter, expressed the importance of the study of history to other disciplines in her closing remarks.

*Touro is a system of Jewish-sponsored non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. Touro College was established in 1971 primarily to enrich the Jewish heritage, and to serve the larger American community. More than 18,000 students are currently enrolled in its various schools and divisions. Touro College has branch campuses, locations and instructional sites in the New York area, as well as branch campuses and programs in Berlin, Jerusalem, Moscow, Paris, and Florida. Touro University California and its Nevada branch campus, as well as Touro College Los Angeles, are separately accredited institutions governed in common by the same Board of Trustees as Touro College. For further information on Touro College, please go to: <http://www.touro.edu/media/>.*



**CAPTION:** From left--Dr. Karen Sutton, faculty advisor, Touro College's history department; Professor Theodore Lauer, history department chairman; and Cynthia Steinmetz, current president of the Touro Phi Alpha Theta chapter, recently presided over the Second Annual Induction Ceremony of Touro's Nu Mu Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society, held at Touro's Lander College for Women/The Anna Ruth and Mark Hasten School, in Manhattan. Twenty-three history students at Touro were inducted as lifetime members of the honor society.