

of Cincinnati were also invited to become members. The dues of \$3.00 a year were later increased to \$5.00 and then to \$10.00. Within the first two years 110 members from practically all colleges on the main and medical center campuses joined. Our peak membership rose to 150 within two or three years. Some evening meetings were held at the homes of members and, in addition, general meetings continued to be held at the University of Cincinnati.

The Executive Council met once a month—and more frequently during emergencies. These meetings took place at noon and many members brought their own lunch in paper bags. Sessions lasted as long as two hours. At times we had lunches with Israeli writers, professors and government officials who happened to be in town. One of our most notable guests was Alan Dershowitz who had come to participate in the Law College's moot court in 1973 when he already was a celebrity. Some years later, more than 100 members attended an impromptu talk by Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg. He had some spare time while on a business visit to Cincinnati and we hastily informed as many members as possible to attend his talk at Procter Hall where he spoke about the judicial body on which he served. University of Cincinnati students and Jewish communal leaders were invited to attend Executive Council meetings to discuss matters of concern.

We all enjoyed the frank and lively discussions that characterized the efforts to solve problems and accomplish goals. Uninhibited give and take with a good measure of kibbutzing thrown in characterized these meetings. Jewish faculty at other universities had groups of Jewish academics that got together in an informal way just to chat with each other or to study Jewish subjects, but the UCFCJA was unique because of its formal structure and clearly defined mission. Meetings were quite different from most other university meetings in which individuals or departments were generally concerned with advancing their own interests. Members worked selflessly on various projects for the good of the UCFCJA and much was accomplished.

Affirmative Action became one of the hottest topics on campuses around the country in the 1970's. It is well known that Jewish faculty and students had been traditionally prevented from gaining admission into the academic community or having advancement impeded in their academic careers by quotas in the United States and Europe. The UCFCJA members wanted merit to be the critical criterion to ascertain whether a person should be accepted and given the opportunity to rise