Breaking News: Prof. Moshe Haddad Wins 2010 Israel Prize in Criminology

Celebrating 40 Years of Legal Leadership

On cover: Legal Clinics Director Karine Elharrar

BIU Launches New Faculty of Medicine!
Dear Friends,

This is a landmark year for Bar-Ilan University on a number of exciting fronts. Our distinguished Faculty of Law is celebrating its fortieth anniversary. This issue begins by focusing on its many achievements, with a special emphasis on its unique legal aid clinics. As you know, Bar-Ilan has always stressed the importance of Jewish education – the University’s stunning new Jim Joseph Education Building houses a number of one-of-a-kind programs that are highlighted within. Finally, this year Bar-Ilan University is to mark fifty-five years since its establishment, and we are celebrating this occasion by welcoming the brand new BIU Faculty of Medicine within our ranks!

Medical research has long been a top priority for us. The new state-of-the-art Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Nanotechnology Triplex is a boon for our researchers and returning scientists, some of whose life-saving studies in virology and spintronics are described within. This issue also highlights some of our grant-winning scientists’ achievements in brain research, engineering and mathematics, along with BIU’s unique program in creative arts therapy, research in cryptography, and study of Islam as a way of gaining a better understanding of our enemies. An article about Bar-Ilan’s research in alternative energy technologies compliments another piece explaining the symbolism behind the green beauty of our campus. Jewish history is explored by a Polish Doctoral Fellow of Excellence, while our Torah and Science-based Nitzotzot Program has been sparking interest throughout the academic community.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our annual Board of Trustees Meetings in May, when we will have the opportunity to “show off” our University’s achievements in person.

Sincerely,

Prof. Moshe Kaveh
President
The Faculty is unique in another way that is pure Bar-Ilan: it boasts more researchers working in the field of Jewish jurisprudence than any law school in the world.
In 1970, Bar-Ilan University launched its Faculty of Law with just forty students. This year it is celebrating its 40th anniversary, as well as the robust academic culture that has made BIU one of Israel’s most sought-after law schools. According to Professor Emeritus and Founding Dean Arnold Enker, the Faculty’s success stems from its longstanding commitment to innovation.

“We wanted to provide something different than what was available at the time in Israel,” says Enker, a Harvard Law graduate who founded the Faculty together with other prominent legal experts, including current Israeli Minister of Justice Prof. Yaakov Neeman. “We were looking for less frontal teaching, more independent thinking, and more programs that would integrate law into other aspects of society.”

Today, it seems that Enker’s hopes have been realized. In 2009, 99% of BIU’s law students passed the Israeli Bar exam – 30% higher than the national average. Some 1,500 students – more than in any other Israeli law school – pursue LLM programs for lawyers and multidisciplinary Masters degrees that teach legal principles to professionals from other fields. The Faculty’s PhD program is another point of pride: it is one of only ten programs worldwide admitted to ATLAS – an elite forum of leading law schools in which doctoral students are invited to study with distinguished international scholars and to present their own original research.

**A Youthful Perspective**

According to Faculty Dean Prof. Arie Reich, one of the things that sets Bar-Ilan apart is its teaching staff. “Fifteen years ago, the Faculty did something unheard of – it identified outstanding law students, then sponsored them for graduate work in top law schools abroad,” he says, crediting the initiative to a former Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Yedidia Stern. “These students then returned to Bar-Ilan to teach.”

The results still reverberate. “Most of our faculty members are in their thirties and forties – far younger than at any other Israeli law school – and are very widely educated,” Reich relates. “This makes for a very exciting academic atmosphere.”

**An International Gateway**

A major goal of the Law Faculty is to prepare students who will work effectively within the global economy. “Israeli attorneys need to understand other legal systems,” says Reich, himself an expert on international economic law. “The Faculty offers foreign exchange programs with leading law schools in Europe, North America and the Far East – including internships where students train under judges and lawyers in New York – designed to broaden students’ horizons.”

**Jewish Law; Jewish Values**

The Faculty is unique in another way that is pure Bar-Ilan: it boasts more researchers working in the field of Jewish jurisprudence than any law school in the world. According to Jewish law expert Dr. Itzhak Brand, deepening our knowledge in this area is key to creating a more resilient Israeli culture.

“Israelis are influenced by Western norms, and Israeli law is built largely on British and American models,” he says. “Mishpat Ivri – Jewish law – bridges the gap between Israeli culture, which is new and relatively fragile, and the Jewish culture that has sustained our people for thousands of years. I see this as one of the most important contributions of the Faculty.”

Dr. Gidon Sapir, a faculty member whose work focuses on constitutional law and issues of religion and state, describes the Law School’s mission in another way. “The faculty is made up of both religious and secular professors, as well as people on all sides of the political debate,” he says. “It is this pluralism, as well as the commitment to seek social justice based on Judaism’s moral teachings, that makes Bar-Ilan – an excellent university by any measure – an excellent place to study the law.”
“We emphasize to our students that we expect them to use their training not just for enriching their bank accounts, but to serve their society and country.”
The Heart of Legal Activism

Strolling through a college campus can give you the peaceful feeling of getting away from the world. But sometimes the world comes knocking at your door. No one knows this better than Karine Elharrar, Director of Clinical Education at the Bar-Ilan Faculty of Law.

“One day, the parents of a 38-year-old man with a severe mental disability came to us for help,” Elharrar recalls. “Both members of the couple were ill – the father was suffering from military trauma and the mother was recovering from cancer – and they were collapsing under the strain of caring for their son at home. Even though the son lacked the diagnosis that would entitle him to government-funded protective housing, our legal team got involved, and we were able find the son a suitable institution.”

This kind of personal intervention is all in a day's work for Elharrar, a 32-year-old Holon-born attorney. “The Clinical Education program functions on a number of levels,” she says. “First, we provide free, professional services to people in need. Second, we give law students practical experience in working with clients, and introduce them to the importance of pro-bono work. Third, we promote legislation aimed at the improvement of public policy.”

BIU was the first law school in Israel to establish a legal aid program, and participation in one of the Faculty's seven clinics is mandatory for 3rd-year students. Work in the clinics – which focus on the environment, mediation, human rights for persons with disabilities, women's rights, family, civil, criminal, and Jewish law – introduces students to the excitement of social responsibility. At the same time, it gives them valuable professional experience that can have a significant impact on their future careers.

“I've been volunteering ever since I was an undergraduate, and while studying for my Master's in Law at the American University's Washington College of Law in the US, I interned at two NGO’s dealing with rights of people with disabilities: AAPD – the American Association for People with Disabilities, and MDRI – Mental Disabilities Rights International,” says Elharrar, who herself uses a wheelchair. After returning to Israel in 2006, Elharrar, who was the recipient of a two-year fellowship grant for scholarship and activism given by the New Israel Fund, joined the Faculty's Clinic for Human Rights of People with Disabilities. She remained on staff at Bar-Ilan after the conclusion of her fellowship, and was chosen as the overall Director of the Clinical Education program last year.

“There is so much that we can be proud of,” Elharrar enthuses. “The Family Law Clinic drafted a bill – recently adopted as law by the Knesset – that provides for the distribution of property between a divorcing couple, even without a religious get. The Environmental Clinic has helped stop lands development that would irreparably harm a nature reserve, and advanced legislation that would require the Defense Ministry to pay stricter attention to environmental and health issues. And in my own Clinic, we recently went all the way to the District Court to cancel a regulation preventing severely disabled children from using personal caregivers in the classroom.”

Faculty Dean Prof. Arie Reich explains that the Clinic program is central to BIU's educational vision. "We emphasize to our students that we expect them to use their training not just for enriching their bank accounts, but to serve their society and country," he says. Elharrar couldn't agree more.

“The activities of BIU's legal clinics have an important role to play in the improvement of society, even if we're still not where we want to be,” she says. “But by involving law students in the pursuit of equal access to justice at the very beginning of their careers, we're definitely moving in the right direction. Our aim is to make Bar-Ilan students a part of the solution.”
Jewish education has always been an important focus at Bar-Ilan University, which, in fact, was established by American Jewish educators 55 years ago. In consonance with its dual Torah and science aims, Bar-Ilan fuses Jewish heritage with cutting-edge science to create a unique “value-added” learning environment in Israel. Recognizing that education is a key to ensuring Jewish continuity, the University has spearheaded innovative programs and outreach aimed at strengthening Jewish knowledge, reinforcing Jewish identity and enhancing the capabilities of Jewish educators in Israel and the Diaspora.

Jim Joseph Building
The University’s newly dedicated Jim Joseph Education Building provides an imposing home for Israel’s premiere Churgin School of Education, including its renowned Lookstein Center for Jewish Education and One-Year Overseas Program for American students. The building was designed by Architect Zadok Sherman, and the project led by BIU Deputy Director General Engineer Shmuel Gan-el.

Rising seven stories, the Jim Joseph Education Building serves as the focus of training for the School’s 2,000 degree students and an additional 2,000 enrollees in Israel’s largest professional development center. It similarly offers a state-of-the-art venue for innovative programs ranging from an English-language Master’s degree in Educational Leadership to special teacher training focused on autism and learning disabilities.

The Lookstein Center
The Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora – an outreach arm of the Churgin School of Education – is a leading resource center and think tank for Jewish education. More than 200 principals from the broad range of Jewish day schools have grown professionally via its unique Principals Program, and thousands of educators have benefited from a high quality array of online resources and professional development programs.
Jim Joseph Fellows

The Lookstein Center’s prestigious new Jim Joseph Foundation Fellowship Program aims to identify, train and empower educators – in both formal and informal Jewish education settings – to use ground-breaking technologies to develop and lead online collaborative communities in their professional fields. Fourteen Jim Joseph Foundation Fellows from the broad ideological and geographical range of the US Jewish community have been accepted into the first cohort, which began in Fall 2009. The two-year training program includes a series of seminars in the US as well as two longer seminars in Israel.

Israel Seminar

Community and Leadership – this was the dual focus of the program’s first intensive ten-day Israel seminar, which convened at BIU in December 2009. The Fellows were enriched by their Israel experience, which encompassed text study paired with lectures and workshops given by prominent scholars and thinkers; field trips to historic Jewish sites; and processing sessions to translate daily learning into meaningful messages for their specific communities.

Before returning home, the Jim Joseph Fellows warmly endorsed the seminar:

“I gained a better understanding of how the theories and concepts played out in our history...”

Ellen Dietrick, Director, Synagogue Early Childhood Program, Congregation Beth Israel, Charlottesville, Virginia

“...the merger between touring Israel in the morning and studying issues of community and leadership in the afternoons was an effective model ...The seminar definitely encouraged me to consider leadership and its challenges across diverse communities.”

Jonathan Fass, Director, Department of Jewish Living and Learning and Co-Director of the Center for Jewish Living and Learning at the Jewish Community Center, Houston, Texas

“...to review Jewish history and, specifically, the history of Israel, through the lens of community and leadership, while at the same time studying the general principles and social dynamics of community and leadership allowed us to step out of our comfort zone of what we know and appreciate the new perspectives...”

Nammie Ichilov, Head, Lower & Middle School, Jess Schwartz Jewish Community Day School, Phoenix, Arizona

“The weaving of a theme; a speaker and a field trip was nicely done... Jewish educators NEED to be involved in ongoing learning – it helps our teaching and it is good modeling for our students.”

Howard Blass, Director, Tikvah Program at Camp Ramah, New England

“The seminar really made me think about and understand alternative forms of leadership and the effectiveness of different styles of leadership.”

Barry Gruber, Director of Education, Youth, and Programming, Temple Beth El, Rochester, NY
“Young Diaspora Jews’ identities are being formed less by negative factors such as anti-Semitism and hatred, and more by positive factors such as education, upbringing and religion.”
Surveying the Global Picture of Jewish Education

**Which Jewish symbols express an important aspect of your personal Jewish identity?**

That was the question BIU Churgin School of Education lecturer Dr. Erik H. Cohen recently posed to more than 700 Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jewish campers in the United States. Over three quarters of the teens chose G-d, Bar/Bat Mitzvah and religion – “in line with the observation that even non-religious American Jews think of Judaism primarily as their religion, not as their culture or nationality,” elucidates Dr. Cohen, who has researched Diaspora Jewish identity for more than two decades. The educational policy advisor found sharp differences in perception of Jewish identity, with the Orthodox likely to select symbols related to Jewish practice, the Holocaust, Israel and discrimination; the Conservative – universal values such as democracy, co-existence, tolerance, ecology, humanism and peace; and the Reform – items related to Jews’ accomplishments in the non-Jewish world. Dr. Cohen’s recommendation: educational programming should reflect differences in Jewish identity.

The recipient of 33 research grants, Dr. Cohen has conducted numerous national and international surveys on Jewish education for Diaspora youth, French Jewry, the Israeli educational system and Holocaust education. He uniquely works in a comparative perspective. “The feedback I receive is that this kind of research is important scientifically and relevant for the decision maker and educators,” says Cohen, who serves as a consultant for Jewish organizations and Federations abroad.

He has compiled the largest existing database on Jewish youth around the world, allowing for cross-cultural and longitudinal comparisons. His *Israel Experience Ongoing Survey and Evaluation (1990-2002)* – the most comprehensive study ever made of Jewish Diaspora youth – surveyed 65,000 participants from 30 countries. One of his revelations: few Diaspora youth believe that the Holocaust plays a role in the formation of their personal Jewish identity but most (90%) feel that it has influenced their world view. “This shows that young Diaspora Jews' identities are being formed less by negative factors such as anti-Semitism and hatred, and more by positive factors such as education, upbringing and religion.”

His pioneering study, *Shoah Education in Israeli State Schools*, supported by the Claims Conference, found overwhelming satisfaction with Shoah education programs. The journey to Poland undertaken by highschool seniors was deemed an effective means of learning by 99% of the participants. The study’s foundational data, surmises Cohen in the 2009 report, “will hopefully make a significant contribution to an informed discussion and decision-making process regarding Shoah education in Israel.”

Cohen, himself, offers living proof to the impact of such programs. The Moroccan-born scholar, who grew up in France, joined an Israel Experience tour at the age of 16. “I saw and experienced by myself the strength and depth of this kind of Jewish education,” recalls Cohen, who in 1974, following his aliyah, became Culture and Education Director of the French Israel Experience programs at the Jewish Agency. His PhD thesis in Sociology (University of Nanterre, France) focused on French Jewish volunteers in Israel.

While it is difficult to influence policy on a large scale, there may be a cumulative effect of his work as a program evaluator, researcher, and teacher. Indeed, in recent years, he has published many scientific articles and books on educational youth tours to Israel; Jewish education and youth in France; and the Jewish identity, values and leisure of Israeli adolescents. He is currently spearheading the launching of a multi-disciplinary electronic peer-reviewed International Journal of Jewish Education Research, under the auspices of BIU’s Churgin School of Education and Joseph H. Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora.

Keenly aware of the challenges “as educators in the post modern world and as Jewish educators who have to address issues our grandparents did not know,” Cohen stresses the need to “get a better picture of Jewish life abroad.”

And that is precisely what he is doing. “My research contributes to a global picture of Jewish education today,” assesses BIU’s Dr. Erik Cohen, whose valuable finds may well impact future Jewish programming and policy.
“When you distance yourself from the problem via dramatic reality, other solutions appear.”
A child lines up his toy soldiers and, aiming his index finger, “shoots” them down, one by one. “You’re all dead,” he proclaims, before repeating the gruesome game for the umpteenth time. But then suddenly a voice interjects: “I’m not dead, bring an ambulance now!” And, although initially startled, the young lad heeds the call and sounds a siren. His obsessive play has been interrupted. A drama therapist has intervened to show him a way out.

“A child’s play is a mirror of all that happens to him,” elucidates Dr. Susana Pendzik, Coordinator of Bar-Ilan’s pioneering MA Program, Drama and Literature as a Healing Tool, in the Department of Comparative Literature. A leading figure in Israeli drama therapy, she has accrued years of experience in private clinical practice locally, as well as in the United States, Europe, and Mexico, supervising and intervening in cases such as the above. “When you help to unstick an individual, the possibility that he or she will be able to do this in real life is more realistic,” she notes.

Dr. Pendzik’s goal in establishing Israel’s first university research program for creative art therapists is to redress the yawning gap between the “amazing clinical work that Israelis have been doing in this area over the past three decades” and the dearth of research. “We could be at the cutting edge of the field if we could publish and provide evidence,” maintains the veteran drama therapist, who holds a PhD (summa cum laude) in Comparative Literature from Bar-Ilan, an MA in Clinical Psychology – Drama Therapy from Antioch University, San Francisco and a BA in Theatre Studies from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Enrollees in the program, which opened in Fall 2009, explore the efficacy of creative arts therapy techniques on challenged populations, e.g., elderly Holocaust survivors, troubled teens, children with developmental disorders, battered women. For their thesis, each student is conducting an original research project on such topics as:

1. The use of puppet-friends as an intervention tool in special education kindergartens
2. Drama therapy with children suffering from autism spectrum conditions
3. Reconstructing life stories of Holocaust survivors with dementia through literary means: the impact on both the seniors and their families (e.g., in boosting esteem)

In the past, within the framework of her popular Healing Principles department course (now an integral part of the MA program), students performed Peter Pan at an elementary school in a difficult neighborhood and then enabled children to role play Peter Pan, the lost boys and the nurturing Wendy. “This allowed the children to get in touch with their inner strengths, to ‘experience’ being rescued and how they may rescue themselves.”

According to Pendzik, dramatic reality (the “as if world” that we create with our imagination) is like a laboratory – it allows you to test different scenarios. “You can act out on stage, putting difficult feelings through even a mean character such as Captain Hook, because it’s not really you.” The creative arts, she contends, may also be used for prevention as well as therapy.

Embracing the fields of psychology, the arts, anthropology, education, social work and criminology, the new interdisciplinary research program also draws on the talents of noted BIU music therapist, Dr. Ehud Bodner, and two guest lecturers: Tel Hai Academic College’s Prof. Mooli Lahad, an internationally known Israeli expert in stress prevention; and Yale University drama therapist Prof. David Johnson, who focuses on trauma in the “fantastic realm.”

The Buenos Aires born Pendzik, who authored a book in Spanish entitled Action Techniques for Working with Abused Women, points out that the word, “drama” is Greek for “doing.” The idea, she says, is to “empower people suffering from learned helplessness, such as battered women and children, to take action to unlearn these roles. When you distance yourself from the problem via dramatic reality, other solutions appear.”

Encouraged by the recent debut of the BIU Drama and Literature Program, its founder and coordinator asserts that “Drama is a very powerful medium.” Stressing its tremendous benefit “provided that it’s done in a safe environment, with the proper supervision,” Dr. Susana Pendzik reiterates: “The drama therapy experience gives you insight that you didn’t have before.”
"This basic science could eventually be applied to preventative treatments for diseases triggered by herpesvirus infection, from Kaposi’s sarcoma to cold sores."
Sometimes a scientific career hinges on being at the right place at the right time. This is certainly the case for Prof. Ronit Sarid, of the Mina and Everard Goodman Faculty of Life Sciences. An expert in virology, Sarid’s professional life was changed when she accepted a post-doctoral research position at Columbia University in New York.

“The lab where I did my post-doctoral studies focused on Kaposi’s sarcoma-associated herpesvirus, or KSHV – a virus that had been discovered, in that same lab, only one year before,” says Sarid. “We did all the basic work that proved the association between this virus and a particular kind of cancer. From the moment we started getting results, I knew that I was involved with a project that would chart my career.”

Sarid’s research still focuses on KSHV – a virus that, in some infected people, triggers malignant skin lesions known as Kaposi’s sarcoma. Although usually found in AIDS patients, Kaposi’s sarcoma may also develop in other cases – particularly when the body’s immune system is compromised.

“Organ transplant patients take immune-suppressing drugs to prevent rejection of transplanted tissues,” Sarid says. “But even if the patient is a carrier of KSHV, that doesn’t mean he will invariably develop cancer. KSHV belongs to the herpesvirus family – a unique group of viruses that remains latent in cells of infected individuals. While those infected with KSHV stay infected throughout their lives, only about one in 5,000 infected individuals will actually develop cancerous tumors.”

A good deal of Sarid’s work is devoted to the epidemiology of KSHV infection. “Kaposi’s sarcoma is the most common cancer in certain parts of Africa, so it’s not surprising that about 50% of the population there is infected,” she says, adding that the infection rate in North America and Western Europe is under 5%, while Israel is somewhere in the middle, with about 10-13% infection. “We’re collaborating with medical centers in Israel to identify risk factors for transmission and disease development, and limit the spread of the virus within communities here in Israel,” she says.

The more pressing question, however, is what causes the dormant virus to “wake up” and trigger tumor growth in certain cases. Sarid’s lab has identified several factors involved in KSHV activation.

While Sarid emphasizes that there are still many unknown factors about what causes virus activation, some of the KSHV-encoded genes she works with are similar to a group of human genes involved in cell survival and proliferation. One KSHV gene, in particular, is structurally similar to a gene that, in human cells, modulates programmed cell death.

“When a cell ‘forgets’ to self-destruct, the result is uncontrolled cellular proliferation, i.e., cancer,” Sarid states. “It could be that the introduction into the cell of more genes of this type – caused by KSHV infection – increases the risk of tumor formation.”

Sarid is happy to be pursuing her research at Bar-Ilan, and cites the opportunity for cross-discipline collaboration as a boon to her research. “Along with my other projects, I’m working with Prof. Aharon Gedanken on a nanotechnology-based system which prevents viruses like herpesviruses from docking at the cellular membrane,” she says. “While we’re not at the point of developing an anti-cancer vaccine, this basic science could eventually be applied to preventative treatments for diseases triggered by herpesvirus infection, from Kaposi’s sarcoma to cold sores.”

“When I returned to Israel, I could have pursued a career at other universities,” Sarid says. “But Bar-Ilan stood out for its open atmosphere, and mutual support I’ve found among my colleagues. It’s this kind of teamwork that helps science move forward.”
“Every time we go online we share information – the ages of our children, the state of our health, and data about our finances.”
The Internet makes connecting with others easy – so easy, in fact, that security-minded surfers often go to great lengths to protect their privacy. But according to Prof. Yehuda Lindell of Bar-Ilan’s Department of Computer Science, true Internet anonymity involves more than making careful use of credit cards during online shopping sprees. In fact, says the 38-year-old, Melbourne-born cryptologist, whenever we’re online we reveal an enormous amount of information we never meant to share.

“Every time we go online we share information – the ages of our children, the state of our health, and data about our finances,” says Lindell, a BIU grad who earned his PhD from the Weizmann Institute and joined the faculty five years ago, after completing a post-doc at the IBM T.J.Watson Research Center in New York. “The fact that it is so difficult to guarantee basic privacy online is at the heart of some very serious security issues.”

The significance of the threat is illustrated by a major grant recently awarded to Lindell’s lab – two million Euros from the European Union for the funding of cryptographic research over the next five years. According to Lindell, his work will focus on two goals: to create a privacy infrastructure for individuals, and to help large organizations share information – without divulging secrets.

“We’d like to be able to do whatever we want on the Web without being traced,” says Lindell, adding that, aside from isolated solutions, no general solution exists for preventing outsiders from creating ‘profiles’ about our online activities. While the results of this surveillance are sometimes innocuous – being targeted by specific advertisements, for example – sometimes the stakes are higher.

“Let’s say two lawyers use the same public access database to prepare for a trial,” Lindell says. “If one lawyer is able to track how the other is searching for information, he will be able to anticipate the opposing team’s strategy. Ideally, we should be able to trust our colleagues, but from a security standpoint, we have to be able to deal with what happens if someone breaks into the server.”

Another area of concern is automated information sharing among institutions – something that can lead to unintended security breaches.

“When two organizations work together, they need to share some information, but not all of it,” Lindell says. “For example, if the FBI and the CIA were to pool their data, a spy in either organization would gain unlimited access to state secrets. Our goal is to minimize unnecessary information flow, while providing secure access to the data that’s really needed.”

According to Lindell, the EU’s willingness to invest in this kind of research reflects a hard-earned understanding of the dangers of too much centralized authority. Americans, too, are increasingly aware of the need for data security.

Israelis, however, seem less concerned. “Anyone who has ever given birth in an Israeli hospital and then spends months hounded by insurance salesmen and baby product companies knows how casually personal information is shared in this country,” he says. “But we need to be vigilant. The history of cryptography shows that when we don’t secure sensitive information, real attacks can occur. Our job is to come up with mathematical definitions that combat real threats, while allowing safe data sharing.”

In the decade between earning his Bar-Ilan Master’s degree and returning to the campus to teach, Lindell racked up an impressive resume in both research and industry. Accordingly, his activities combine theory and need for security solutions in the field. “Bar-Ilan’s Computer Science Department – which is home to top theoreticians, as well as applied scientists – is an ideal place to pursue this type of research,” he says. “It’s good to be home.”
The Imam and the Bomb: Radicalization of Religion in Iran

To outsiders, it might seem strange to find a scholar of Shi'a Islam within Bar-Ilan’s Faculty of Jewish Studies. But for Prof. Ze’ev Maghen — associated both with the Department of Middle Eastern History and the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies — the connection couldn’t be clearer. For this expert on Persian literature and Islamic history, BIU is an ideal place to pursue research about modern Islam because Islam is, ultimately, a product of Judaism.

"Both the methodology and content of Muslim jurisprudence derives heavily from the Talmudic system," says Maghen. "The Koran constantly references Biblical and rabbinic institutions, and mentions Moses 131 times — as opposed to four mentions of Muhammad." Moreover, two articles Maghen published recently in the prestigious journal Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam demonstrate how Muhammad’s biography is an almost exact replica of the story of King David. "Given the parallels, Jews knowledgeable about their heritage are the best equipped scholars for understanding the Islamic fundamentalist phenomenon," he says.

According to Maghen, the rise of Islamic fundamentalism — ironically assisted by the Western technology that speeds dissemination of religious materials — is catching Western-oriented societies by surprise. "We tend to believe that, long ago, people were more devoted to their faith," says Maghen. "But there has never been a more pious and religiously knowledgeable period in Muslim history than the present generation." He adds that understanding Shi’ite theology is the key to comprehending and confronting every aspect of Iran’s domestic and foreign policy, including the country’s irrepresible will to achieve nuclear power. "It is vital to invest in the academic study of Islam because Islamic doctrine now informs almost every trend in Iranian society,” he says.

According to Maghen, among the most important trends to watch are the religion-based forces that drive Iran’s leaders into — and out of — power.

“Revolutionary Iran is not a democracy, but its policy is influenced by elections,” Maghen says, while pointing out that — as evidenced by the violent post-election suppression of challenger Mir-Hossein Mousavi by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad — such elections are not always free and fair. "What’s important to note," says Maghen, "is that both the opposition and the conservative regime attempt to score points by painting their opponents as heretics reminiscent of Shi’ite Islam’s worst villains."

Does Maghen think that the political pendulum will soon swing back, sweeping Ahmadinejad from power? While he’s not making any predictions, Maghen says that, as Israelis, we should be careful what we wish for.

“Contrary to popular belief, the reformists are more radically anti-Western — and anti-Israel — than Ahmadinejad’s regime,” he says, adding that current members of the reformist camp were behind the hostage crisis at the US Embassy in 1979, and were among the initiators of Iran’s nuclear program. "Even though Mousavi’s ‘green’ party sounds peaceful to uninformed Western ears, I, for one, would much prefer to see Ahmadinejad — who is less radical — remain in power.”

Maghen says that another way in which Islamic religious values influence Iranian policy is in the country’s attitude toward non-Muslims. "In the classical Islamic texts, Jews are singled out — far more so than Christians — for hatred and vilification," Maghen says, adding that this difference can be traced to the fact that — at the time of the Muslim conquests — Christian Europe was strong while Jewish communities were relatively weak. "Today, there is an actual Muslim theocracy capable of formulating a genuinely Islamic foreign policy toward Jews — as represented by the State of Israel."

This Bar-Ilan University expert urges Israeli leaders to prepare themselves for the battle ahead. "If Israel takes the Iranian threat seriously and prepares to meet it with the requisite strength and creativity," Maghen says, "this challenge may yet turn out to be its finest hour."

Prof. Ze’ev Maghen
Imagine this scene – a businessman, half-way through a 10-hour flight, is using his laptop computer to research and communicate crucial information necessary to seal a multi-million dollar deal. Suddenly, the laptop flickers and dies. The average battery powering laptops has a four-hour life. The businessman’s productive work is at a standstill.

Enter Dr. Amos Sharoni, a BIU physicist who has returned to Israel to continue his research in Bar-Ilan’s brand-new, state-of-the-art Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Nanotechnology Triplex. Dr. Sharoni’s research could lead to the development of energy-efficient computers and devices, where the same batteries will last ten times longer than that of our fictional businessman. How is he doing this?

Through his ground-breaking work in a growing field of electronics known as spintronics. “My main interest lies in the nano-scale electric properties of materials and devices,” says Dr. Sharoni. “In the nano-world we are able to learn about effects that on a longer length scale might average out and disappear. While most of our research deals with basic physical properties of materials and devices, we are never far from possible useful applications. Here is where spintronics comes into play.”

“The basic unit of charge is known as the electron,” explains Sharoni. “All our electronic gadgets rely on the special way we can use the electron to do computations and to provide power for operation. What is less known is that in addition to the charge, the electron carries another property – a ‘spin’, which is like a small magnetic field which we can spin up or down – much like a dreidel that we can rotate...
both on its bottom as well as upside down. Spintronics can theoretically enable computers to operate with less power and at a faster speed. The aim of our research is to gain a better understanding of how to produce, move around and measure spin property,” adds Sharoni, who is back in the country with his young family after a five-year stay in the University of California, San Diego, where he took part in post-doc research in this field. “One thing slowing down computers today is that their memory and processor computing elements are separate. Spintronics enables us to combine the computation and memory into one device – very much like the human brain that merges thought and memory.”

One of the draws that attracted Sharoni to Bar-Ilan is the superior high-tech facilities in the Leslie and Susan Gonda [Goldschmied] Nanotechnology Triplex. In his ultra-modern lab he uses nano-lithography methods to create electronics on a length scale of one hundred nano-meters (the width of a human hair is 1,000 times longer than this!). “We need to use very accurate methods to enable us to make such small wires – so I am very happy to have the advantage of using the Nanotechnology Triplex’s state-of-

the-art clean room facility,” enthuses Sharoni.

As an experimental scientist whose field is condensed matter physics and magnetics, Sharoni particularly chose to join the faculty at Bar-Ilan because the University has a "very strong group of scientists in this field – indeed, the largest in Israel – as well as some great theoreticians with whom it is a delight to collaborate and consult. I also like the young, growing atmosphere and the feeling of change that you feel on campus,” concludes Sharoni, whose positive 'spin' will surely contribute to the success of his far-reaching research.

Since 2006, these experimental scientists have joined Bar-Ilan University’s ranks as part of the Returning Scientist Program

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<td>Amos Sharoni</td>
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<td>Arie Gruzman</td>
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America’s National Institutes of Health (NIH) fields funding requests from scientists all over the world. This year, three Bar-Ilan University labs broke through the international competition, receiving major grants for their promising bio-medical research.

In a project that draws upon both neuroscience and nanotechnology, Dr. Hamutal Slovin – a vision researcher in the Leslie and Susan Gonda [Goldshmied] Multidisciplinary Brain Research Center – and Prof. Zeev Zalevsky – an authority on nano-optics working in the School of Engineering – are examining neural mechanisms that underlie visual perception and higher cognitive functions. Building on Dr. Slovin’s experience taking real-time “snapshots” of how small groups of neurons in the living brain respond to visual stimuli, the researchers hope to increase the amount of useful information that can be derived from these images. They will be using a tool created by Prof. Zalevsky: a nano-pipette that transmits light and electrical signals to sensors. If successful, this new technology will revolutionize our understanding of deep brain activity.

Prof. Gal Yadid, another researcher in the Gonda Center for Brain Research, received an NIH grant to further his examination of the neurobiological underpinnings of drug addiction. In an intriguing new model that links an addict’s longing for cocaine to memory processing, Prof. Yadid has shown that electrical stimulation of a certain area of the brain can disrupt the memory-associated molecular mechanisms that mark the transformation of drug intake into a drug habit. According to Prof. Yadid, this line of research may form the basis of new therapeutic approaches for cocaine addiction – approaches that may help prevent former cocaine abusers from relapsing into addiction.

Prof. Yoram Louzoun, of the Department of Mathematics, is another NIH grantee. Employing a combination of genomics, immunology, virology and bioinformatics, Prof. Louzoun is creating mathematical models of human immune system activity – models that may lead to new strategies for vaccine design. In previous research, Prof. Louzoun created detailed libraries of “epitopes” – sites on the surface of invading molecules to which cells of the immune system can attach themselves. These libraries are an important resource for scientists wishing to understand how T cells clear foreign pathogens, as well as predict the activity of custom-designed drugs. Currently, Prof. Louzoun is expanding his work to focus on CD4 T cells – epitopes that regulate the body’s immune system.

Bar-Ilan University is home to a formidable cadre of exceptional researchers who are at the forefront of scientific discovery. Among all Israel Science Foundation grants that Bar-Ilan University received, presented here are the Centers of Excellence and BIKURA, which represent the most innovative, high risk, and breakthrough projects.

Israel Science Foundation: Centers of Excellence
- Chaim Sukenik, Chemistry
- Mordechai Kislev, Life Sciences
- Shlomo Havlin, Physics, and Sarit Kraus, Computer Science

Israel Science Foundation: BIKURA Individual Program
- Miriam Shlesinger, Translation Studies, and Ido Kantor, Physics
- Yaron Shav-Tal, Life Sciences, and Yuval Garini, Physics
- Mira Barda-Saad, Life Sciences, and Ramit Mehr, Life Sciences
- Yoram Louzoun, Mathematics
- Ruth Shahak-Gross, Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology
- Arie Zaban, Chemistry

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Yoram Louzoun, Mathematics
- Amnon Albeck, Chemistry
- Hamutal Slovin, Brain Science, and Zeev Zalevsky, Engineering
- Ed Stern, Brain Science
- Yanay Ofran, Life Sciences
- Aron Weller, Psychology
- Gal Yadid, Life Sciences

German Research Foundation (DFG): German-Israeli Project Cooperation (DIP)
- Shula Michaeli, Life Sciences, and Yaron Shav-Tal, Life Sciences
- Yosef Yeshurun, Physics, and Avner Shaulov, Physics
Bar-Ilan University (BIU) received approximately 40 grants totaling more than €6 million from the EU Framework 7 Research Program. Of this total, BIU received four of the highest funding grants for starting and advanced researchers (known as ERC grants) totaling more than €5 million. For ten other young researchers, BIU received €1.15 million. In addition to presenting the awardees of four ERC grants, below are several other awardees of EU grants in which BIU is the coordinator of two projects.

**ERC European Research Council for Outstanding Advanced Researchers**
- Zvy Dubinsky, Life Sciences

**ERC European Research Council for Outstanding Starting Researchers**
- Yehuda Lindell, Computer Science
- Haim Cohen, Life Sciences
- Michal Lavidor, Brain Science

**EU FP7**
- Aharon Gedanken, Coordinator, Chemistry
- Shlomo Shpiro, Coordinator, Political Science
- Jonathan Rabinowitz, Social Work
- Dana Cohen, Brain Science
- Ido Dagan, Computer Science
- Nirit Bauminger, Education
- Jean-Paul Lelouche, Chemistry
- Shlomo Havlin, Physics
In an industrialized world, energy production is vital – but the use of polluting fossil fuels is a trade-off. Rising to the challenge, Bar-Ilan University’s researchers are developing alternative energy technologies – and are positioning Israel as a leader in the worldwide quest for a greener, more sustainable future.

“Green activism used to be a fringe movement, but now it’s mainstream,” says Prof. Arie Zaban, an expert in photovoltaic solar energy technology who serves as the Director of Bar-Ilan’s Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials. “At Bar-Ilan, we work in a range of areas – from renewable energy, to energy storage, to solutions for lowering energy consumption and reversing environmental damage.”

Prof. Zaban’s lab has produced an inexpensive and highly efficient technique for solar cells, while his colleague, Dr. Yitzhak Mastai, has developed a composite material that improves the efficiency of commercial solar-thermal power plants. Energy storage expert Prof. Doron Aurbach is consulting on the development of electric car batteries. Profs. Chaim Sukenik and Aharon Gedanken are using different techniques to improve the efficiency of chemical reactions, thereby reducing the amount of energy – as well as the fossil fuel resources – required for industrial processes.

According to Gaby Kenan, Director of Bar-Ilan Research & Development Co. Ltd., green energy research fuels economic growth – because the alternative energy sector is growing, providing jobs in Israel and abroad. “We don’t tell the scientists what to study,” he says. “Instead, it’s our job to make connections, so that our scientists’ discoveries can form the basis of useful applications for industry and for the community.”

As the world becomes more environmentally aware, interest in what’s going on in Bar-Ilan’s laboratories will only increase, claims Dr. Francis Shalit, Head of Commercial Development at Bar-Ilan R&D. “Bar-Ilan University is helping to put Israel on the map as the ‘go-to’ address for green energy,” she says.
The Spirit of the Place:

Landscape Architecture on the Bar-Ilan Campus

Bar-Ilan University’s dramatic buildings and gardens are a powerful symbol of its success. But according to Vered Zutta, the landscape architect who oversees the design of BIU’s open spaces, the growth of the campus is also steeped in symbolism of a deeper kind – the kind that reflects Bar-Ilan’s status as a religious university.

"Just as there are many levels of commentary on the Torah, I see landscape development as something that takes place on many different levels," says Zutta, who trained at the Technion and has been a member of the BIU staff since 1995. "Designing the space between buildings is something like writing poetry – because the empty space between words is where meaning begins."

Zutta says she enjoys the challenge of creating gardens that reflect Bar-Ilan’s diversity. "BIU’s buildings represent a wide range of architectural styles, something appropriate to the wide range of disciplines studied," she says. "Beyond just harmonizing physical elements, I try to create gardens that express Bar-Ilan’s vision as a place that balances science and spirituality."

As an example, Zutta cites the garden at the School of Engineering Complex. "Along with geometric motifs illustrating scientific concepts, the design – especially the use of water – suggests the Biblical parting of the Red Sea, and the spiritual excitement of overcoming challenges," she says. "Another example is the landscaping of the Marcus and Ann Rosenberg Music Building, where a garden in the shape of a half violin reflects all the music that has yet to be created."

Ultimately, Zuta sees her mission as creating an environment in which Bar-Ilan University’s ideals – and its diverse community members – can come alive. "It’s a privilege to be part of an institution that understands the importance of aesthetic physical space," she says. "I’ve been lucky to be involved in the design of the campus from the ground up."

Above: On Tu B’Shvat this year Bar-Ilan organized a campus gardens tour and planting experience for its employees in which Vered Zutta (second from left) explained the symbolism of the various landscapes she has designed for the University.
“Bar-Ilan University is the best place to study Jewish history,” enthuses Doctoral Fellow of Excellence, Agnieszka ("Aga") Cyjak, whose research focuses on Warsaw’s Progressive Jewish community between the two world wars. The Polish student, who came to Bar-Ilan in 2007 after completing an MA at Wroclaw University, enumerates why: “The department offers a great selection of professors – the best in their field – and there are many classes to choose from.” She notes that her supervisor, Prof. Gershon Bacon – an authority on Polish Jewry – has been very encouraging and, in fact, swayed her to pursue a PhD degree at Bar-Ilan. Aga hopes that her efforts to reconstruct the “Great Synagogue” social profile will fill an important vacuum, though this is no easy task given the dearth of available sources.

Although she is not Jewish, Aga finds Jewish history fascinating. “For me, as someone from outside, it’s attractive to learn something different. I started in Poland when, as a literature student, I took a class about Hassidic Jews.” Aga is also intrigued with Jewish philosophy and religious studies. “These additional Bar-Ilan classes have helped me gain a more in-depth knowledge of my major that I wouldn’t have gotten elsewhere.” The former March of the Living coordinator says that her BIU Jewish studies are acquainting her with a deeper understanding of one of history’s most complex stories.

Aga, who gained fluency in the vernacular at the BIU Ulpan and also Yiddish on campus, served as a Hebrew teacher in Wroclaw. She commends the Bar-Ilan staff for being “very helpful because it’s not easy when Hebrew is not your first language.” “At Bar-Ilan you can meet all different kinds of Israelis – religious, secular, and even Arab students,” relates Aga. “I think it’s great to see that there is tolerance and understanding.”

The Doctoral candidate, who hopes to pursue a career in academia, is grateful for her Yisrael Pollack Memorial Fellowship – and for the opportunity to study at BIU. “Israel is a fascinating country full of culture, history, and diversity,” raves Agnieszka Cyjak. “Just being here is an experience and Bar-Ilan seems to me a microcosm of Israel itself.”
True to its name, a pathblazing BIU initiative, Nitzotzot (Hebrew for "sparks") – The Presidential Forum for Torah and Science Innovations – is sparking growing interest and dialogue throughout the academic community. Since its Summer 2009 launching, the monthly forum has brought together scientific experts, rabbinical scholars and outstanding PhD candidates to explore how research breakthroughs impact upon Torah, and vice versa. Recent topics include: synthetic biology and the Biblical prohibition of cross-breeding animals; the allocation of resources in voluntary organizations; the ethics of the welfare policy; and the definition of organ life.

“This is a new approach to Torah and science that has not really been tried before,” explains Nitzotzot founder, Rabbi Shabtai Rappaport, who heads the Ludwig and Erica Jesselson Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies Beit Midrash. The noted halakhic expert in medicine and organ transplants believes that “a new Torah thinking should be born of every scientific discovery.”

Rabbi Rappaport was ordained by the late Torah sage Rabbi Moshe Feinstein and is a trusted editor of his writings. In 2008, the veteran Hesder Yeshiva head came to BIU with an agenda: to promote Torah and science initiatives which reflect the University’s founding core goals. The idea of Nitzotzot, he says, is to “elucidate how the latest scientific and technological breakthroughs challenge Torah thinking or shed light on halakhic and philosophical issues.”

Rabbi Rappaport is also active on campus assisting the Jewish Civil Law Clinic and addressing the Psychology and Judaism Forum. In the Beit Midrash, he is creating a vibrant presence with thought-provoking shiurim and intimate study groups.

“The Torah should not be apologetic, rather it should benefit from science and create new ideas,” says Rabbi Shabtai Rappaport, whose flagship program, Nitzotzot, is illuminating new worlds in Torah and science.
Bar-Ilan is home to many internationally-based programs that attract students the world over. In addition the University has a number of exchange programs in which students study abroad, both actually and virtually, among them:

The International MBA at the S. Daniel Abraham Center of Economics and Business has developed a challenging curriculum that is international in scope, intimate in scale, and designed for success in the new millennium.

Also associated with the Shaindy Rudoff Graduate Program in Creative Writing is the first and only creative writing semester in Israel in an English program for undergraduates, which will be inaugurated in February 2011. In addition to classes in the craft of Fiction, Poetry, Non-Fiction, Playwriting and Screenwriting, an integral part of the program will be participation in field trips, volunteer and cultural activities, readings, and guest lectures.

The BIU Faculty of Law has signed student exchange agreements with six partner institutions in Europe, the U.S. and the Far East (American University, University of Florida, University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Paris, Bucerius Law School in Hamburg, and the University of Hong Kong). Part of the program is the Winter School for North-American students, an extension of the successful Summer School organized by Whittier and Pepperdine Law Schools and hosted by Bar-Ilan. The courses cover various legal fields, all with an international or comparative component and are taught by BIU faculty and visiting professors from leading law schools in North America and Europe. The academic program is complemented by extra-curricular activities for the students, including cultural events that introduce them to Jewish and Israeli history and culture, to the political situation and the Arab-Israeli conflict and peace process.

BIU law students now have the opportunity to study in Italy thanks to an agreement with Monash University, Australia, which runs an international campus in the city of Prato, Italy, in the vicinity of Florence. Professors and law
students from across the world arrive at the University for one semester during the course of their studies. Dr. David Hahn, of BIU’s Faculty of Law, will be teaching a course on comparative Bankruptcy Law at Prato.

BIU is now a member of the Association of Transnational Law Schools (ATLAS), a consortium of institutions of higher education from around the world dedicated to the intellectual formation of highly talented doctoral students and fostering reflection and research on issues broadly related, but not limited, to comparative legal and regulatory responses to various forces of globalization, international governance challenges and the evolution of transnational law.

Bar-Ilan University and the Tel Aviv Teach And Study Program (TASP) are offering students a unique MA program through the BIU Churgin School of Education. The MA program will be in Curriculum and Instruction with a specialization in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL). This is an interdisciplinary program with courses in both the Churgin School of Education and the Department of English and Linguistics. This two-year program offers primarily North Americans a unique opportunity to live in Israel, study for an MA and experience an intense internship in Israeli schools.

Bar-Ilan’s One-Year Program is now working in conjunction with Israel Experience – a program for overseas students combining studies of Jewish heritage, academic topics and exploration of the Land of Israel. Students on the Israel Experience Program spend their mornings learning Judaic studies. Students enroll in a range of two- and three-credit, secular academic courses taught in English each semester. Students who so desire, and whose Hebrew proficiency is acceptable, are encouraged to avail themselves of over 7,000 courses offered in Hebrew by the University.

The MIT-Israel Program facilitates dynamic connections between the thinkers and idea-makers of the MIT community and their counterparts in Israel. The short-term exchange program at Bar-Ilan University offers summer internships to MIT undergraduates. Students participate as research assistants to noted BIU academicians and are teamed with helpful graduate students who show them the ropes, and ensure that they feel welcome at every seminar, workshop and social event.

The Sunflower Project is an interdisciplinary, international, e-learning project designed to help students explore the moral questions raised by the genocidal acts of the 20th and 21st centuries. Based on the second edition of Simon Wiesenthal’s thought-provoking book, the project requires American and Israeli students to read The Sunflower and related Internet and hard-copy texts and respond to one another about the questions raised by, and examined in, the texts. The unique virtual project is an on-line unit designed and developed by Dr. Keren Goldfrad, of BIU’s English as a Foreign Language (EFL) Department and Yeshiva University’s Dr. Karen Shawn. Dr. Goldfrad is a winner of BIU’s Outstanding Lecturer Prize of 2009.
Training Israel’s Future Doctors in BIU’s New Faculty of Medicine

It’s official! In an historic and long-awaited decision, Israel’s Council for Higher Education announced in January 2010 that Bar-Ilan University will be the home of the country’s newest medical faculty to be located in the northern Galilee.

In an overwhelming vote of confidence, and despite the tough competition from other contending universities based in the north, the Council endorsed the recommendation of its Professional Evaluation Committee, following up with a formal invitation to Bar-Ilan University to open a medical school. The government voted that the new medical school will be located in the northern town of Safed.

The Bar-Ilan University medical school, the country’s fifth, will answer a desperate national need for training more doctors. Among the many reasons that Bar-Ilan was considered the best choice:

- Bar-Ilan’s commitment to providing outstanding leadership in the Faculty of Medicine through its dean designate Prof. Ran Tur-Caspa, a recognized expert in his field with a world-class reputation, significant clinical and research achievements, outstanding management skills and excellent interpersonal skills with a deep social/communal awareness.
- BIU’s pledge to incorporate innovative approaches in medical education based on Translational Medicine. This approach applies basic research to clinical work, while defining research parameters according to real-life needs that appear in hospitals and clinics. The BIU Faculty of Medicine will be the first to lead the way in Israel with this novel approach, joining the ranks of the most highly-regarded medical schools around the world.

Bar-Ilan’s new Faculty of Medicine will work in close concert with hospitals in the northern Israeli towns of Afula, Safed, Tiberias, Nahariya, and Nazareth, and community clinics throughout the Galilee region. As such, the University aims to advance and significantly upgrade the level of medical services in the Galilee, bringing it to par with similar services in Israel’s center.
“I view the establishment of a medical school in Safed as a giant lever for the development of the Galilee as well as the education and medical institutions in the north. The project is of national importance, and we have decided to carry it out.”

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

Prime Minister Netanyahu is heading an inter-ministerial committee which will decide on the funding for the Bar-Ilan Medical Faculty in the Galilee, estimated at $200M over the next five years, which will include not only the medical training and infrastructure, but also state-of-the-art research and upgrade of hospital facilities and capabilities. The University will work to match this sum by engaging the generous support of friends around the world.

“We are extremely proud to have been given this overwhelming vote of confidence from the government and this great opportunity to lead an initiative that will make the Galilee grow and prosper.”

BIU President Prof. Moshe Kaveh

“This decision is an important one for the Galilee, for Israeli youth, and for the health system, as it will help us to stem the expected shortage of doctors in the coming years.”

Minister of Education Gideon Sa’ar

BIU Faculty of Medicine  Fast Facts

- The Faculty of Medicine’s physical plant will consist of three specially designed complexes, which will include facilities for research, instruction, independent study, conferences, student and faculty services and amenities, and administration.

- The innovative academic program will be based on the world’s best practices in both general and medical instruction. The practical, clinical implications of the material will immediately be demonstrated, in the classroom and in visits to local hospitals and clinics, starting in the first year of instruction.

- As well as in hospitals, clinical training will also take place in Kupat Holim (Health Fund) clinics, which is yet another of the many innovations of the Faculty’s training program. Ambulatory chronically-ill patients, who are in the majority, rarely go to hospital, instead either going to clinics or staying at home. BIU medical students will have the advantage of seeing patients in non-hospital environments and via computer communication — providing a much-needed service and hands-on training to the benefit of the future doctor as well as their patients.

- The BIU medical school program calls for the upgrading of the infrastructure of hospitals in the region, thereby improving the ability to service the population in the north.

- In conjunction with its Faculty of Medicine, BIU will be launching Ilan Ba’Galil (“Tree in the Galilee”) for the benefit of residents of the north. The program will include such projects as providing fertility consultations and tests and creating innovative creative educational workshops in a variety of fields (i.e., ethics, leadership, increasing school productivity, improving relations between parents and children, teaching methodology, classroom management, cognitive thinking, family enrichment, and child-care).

- BIU aims to eventually establish 40 medical research teams within its Faculty of Medicine, providing employment for Israel’s returning scientists.
“...Thank you so much for proving that at Bar-Ilan the ‘customer’ (student) is important and that you really care about providing effective and courteous service.”

“...Thanks for your patience in guiding me through the complicated transcript application procedure. It was fantastic to get so much support on many different university-related matters at one polite and helpful address.”

“...It’s great that one phone number directed me to one caring person who was able to help me with so many different issues!”

The above is just a sampling of the many thank-you letters written by appreciative students who were assisted by the specially-trained student staff at Bar-Ilan’s new state-of-the-art Student Information & Service Center initiated by BIU Director-General Haim Glick. “Since the establishment of the Center, it has averaged 700 calls a day!” claims Glick.

“Now, finally, all students have a centralized first-stop phone-in, e-mail-in and walk-in center that will cater to every administrative need,” says Avital Amar, who heads the Center and is, herself, a former Bar-Ilan student. In fact, all employees working at the center are BIU students. “At one stroke we provide employment for students, while giving understanding and attentive service to other students by personnel who have gone through the very same procedures,” she adds.

Information and service can be obtained several ways. Students have the option of dropping into the center – open daily from 8:30 am – 6:00 pm – and conveniently situated in the heart of the University. There they are directly assisted with their inquiries. Alternatively, they can phone the Center to get help from one of fifteen receptionists on duty. Another source of information and service is by computer through the BIU Students’ Administration 24-hour-a-day Internet site.

“We try to help wherever we can,” says Amar. “For instance, the other day we contacted a specific department for a student who needed academic information. Recently we eased and shortened the administrative red-tape for a disabled IDF soldier. In another case, we even organized a tour of the campus for the American family of one of our students! The Student Information & Service Center is the first stop for prospective students to Bar-Ilan. As such, we are happy to provide such a positive first impression of the University.”
“Being in the right place at the right time is often a key to success and in my case, studying in Bar-Ilan’s International MBA program was an important cornerstone for the success of my company,” says Nadav Kidron, CEO and founder of Oramed Pharmaceuticals (www.oramed.com).

“My mother, Dr. Miriam Kidron, worked for almost 30 years as a researcher in Hadassah Medical Center’s Diabetes Unit, trying to find a way to deliver insulin orally rather than via injection” explains Kidron. “In 2005, the research team had a breakthrough that finally allowed for the oral delivery of insulin to become a reality for the millions of diabetics around the world. Realizing that this technology has the potential to capture a significant part of the multi-billion dollar insulin market, Oramed (ORMP.BB) was established in 2006. Oramed’s unique oral delivery technology serves as a platform for other vaccines and medications currently available exclusively in injection form, and oral insulin became the first product in the product pipeline. Oramed’s breakthroughs have earned the company the support of world-renown scientists (including Nobel Prize winner Prof. Avram Hershko) who have joined its Scientific Advisory Board.

“Shortly after establishing Oramed, I realized that I needed to increase my skills and acquire more precise knowledge in order to successfully navigate the global pharmaceutical realm,” continues Kidron. “To that end, I applied to Bar-Ilan’s IMBA program. The courses helped me to gain valuable insights and broaden my worldview of the international business scene. My overall experience was enriched through contact with my fellow students, from Israel and abroad, who each brought their professional and cultural experiences to the program. Finally, the fact that the courses were taught in English helped me to improve my ability to communicate with potential multinational partners,” adds Kidron.

“As I look back on what Oramed has accomplished in just close to four years, I realize that my experience and knowledge gained in Bar-Ilan’s IMBA program had a greater impact than I could have ever imagined,” concludes Kidron.
BIU hosts many prominent visitors throughout the year from academia, the media and government agencies in Israel and abroad. Among them:

At Bar-Ilan’s Third Ambassadors’ Forum, the University hosted Maj. Gen. (res.) Giora Eiland, who presented New Alternatives to the Two-State Solution at a special briefing for members of the diplomatic community in Israel. The Forum was well attended by many ambassadors and diplomats representing their countries in Israel. Since the Forum, several Ambassadors have shown great interest in returning to Bar-Ilan to discuss collaborative relationships between the University and their respective countries.

1. Ruth Cohen, Director of VIP Visits and Events, welcoming Per-Mikael Engberg, Ambassador of Finland
2. Guo Jiakun, Third Secretary, China; Zhao Jun, Ambassador of China; and Yang Jingyan, Attache, China, enjoying the Forum

3. Dionisio Ventura, Consul, Angola; Henry Hanson Hall, Ambassador of Ghana; and Stephen Lorete, Charge d’Affaires, Kenya, greeting each other
4. Michiel den Hond, Ambassador of the Netherlands, and Marc Sievers, Acting Deputy Chief of Mission, USA, exchanging a word
5. Prof. Efraim Inbar, Director, BESA Center; Prof. Shmuel Sandler, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences; and Maj. Gen. (res.) Giora Eiland presenting his theories to the Ambassadors
1. **The Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation/ American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise (AICE) Visiting Israeli Professors and Graduate Scholars Conference** met at BIU to discuss raising awareness and interest in Israel. The conference was organized by Prof. Gerald Steinberg, of the Department of Political Studies, founder of the Program on Conflict Management and Negotiation and Executive Director of NGO Monitor. Pictured: Prof. Steinberg; Mitchel Bard, Executive Director AICE; and Shlomo Avineri, AICE Academic Advisory Board

2. **The Ambassador of Georgia to Israel, Vakhtang Jaoshvili,** visited the Bar-Ilan Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials (BINA) and the Susan & Leslie Gonda (Goldschmied) Multidisciplinary Brain Research Center. Pictured: Foreground: Yuval Harpaz, MEG Technician and Ambassador Jaoshvili. Background: Dr. Moshe Shemesh, MEG researcher, and Shorena Duchidze

3. **Prof. Carlos Ferriera, Vice Rector,** and Prof. Vicente Andreas, Assistant to the President for Internal Relations, both of the University of Valencia, visited the Bar-Ilan Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials (BINA), the Physics Department, and the School of Engineering, following which they signed an agreement for research collaboration between the two universities. Pictured: Prof. Haim Taitelbaum, BIU Deputy Rector; Prof. Zeev Zalevsky, School of Engineering; Prof. Carlos Ferriera; Prof. Harold Basch, BIU Vice President for Research; and Prof. Vicente Andreas

4. A delegation of 14 girls from Ulpanat Netivot visited BIU along with the director of the Department of Education in the Netivot municipality and other representatives. BIU President Prof. Moshe Kaveh hosted a reception for the delegation and awarded 18-year-old Hadas Zaban, of Netivot, first place winner of the international competition “Nobel Prize for Youth in Physics,” a scholarship towards her BA in the Department of Physics, with the option to continue for an MA. Pictured: Sharona Maimon, Principle of Ulpanat Netivot; Prof. Kaveh; and Hadas Zaban, receiving her scholarship

5. **Knesset Member Danny Danon,** Head of the Committee for Children’s Rights, met with Prof. Pnina Klein, Director of BIU’s Baker Center for the Study of Development Disorders in Infants and Young Children, to discuss ways to protect children’s rights. Pictured: MK Danny Danon; Dr. Yisrael Galit, School of Education; and Prof. Pnina Klein in the Baker Center

6. Eitan Bachar, Assistant to MK Danny Danon; Dr. Shabtai Lubei, Senior Executive Vice President for Planning and Development; MK Danny Danon; and Ruth Cohen on a tour of BIU’s award-winning campus
1. Following the opening of the second year of the College for Military Tactics, a group of students came and heard interesting lectures from Dr. Ze’ev Maghen on Iran and Dr. Tomer Einat on criminology. Here the students visit the monument of the “Gate of the Fallen Soldiers” in Memory of Eldad Regev.

2. Marica Matkovic, Ambassador of Croatia, came to present the agreement for academic cooperation between BIU and the University of Zagreb. The universities are collaborating in such fields as economics, bioethics, Jewish philosophy and Middle Eastern studies, among others. Here Atara Kenigsberg, Deputy Head of the Ruth and Emanuel Rackman Center for the Advancement for the Status of Women greets Marica Matkovic, along with Dr. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari, Head of the Center.

3. Haim Glick, BIU Director General, greets a delegation from the Israel Police Traffic Division, who visited campus to learn about Bar-Ilan University’s interdisciplinary Road Safety Program.

4. Dr. Iveta Kovalcikova, Vice Rector of Presov University, Slovakia, met with Prof. Harold Basch, Prof. Haim Taitelbaum, Deputy Rector, Prof. Shmuel Sandler, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Prof. Zemira Mevarech, Director of the Churgin School of Education, to discuss including Bar-Ilan in an international Master’s program. She became interested in Bar-Ilan after hearing a lecture by Prof. David Tzuriel, of the School of Education. Pictured: Prof. Zemira Mevarech; Dr. Iveta Kovalcikova; Prof. Shmuel Sandler; and Prof. David Tzuriel.

5. Prof. Seeram Ramakrishna, Vice President of Research Strategy of the National University of Singapore, visited BIU to build a collaborative relationship in the fields of nanomedicine and brain research. The meeting has already begun to bear fruits, as Dr. Avinoam Zadok, of the School of Engineering at BIU, and Prof. Chua Soo Jin, of NUS, have commenced their cooperation. Pictured: Prof. Harold Basch and Prof. Seeram Ramakrishna.

6. Prof. Seeram Ramakrishna is shown Bar-Ilan’s unique Electromagnetic Brain Imaging Unit (MEG) by Dr. Ed Stern, an expert in Neurodegenerative Disease.
Delegations Visit Bar-Ilan University

A delegation of students from Strasbourg, France came to visit Bar-Ilan’s beautiful campus. They heard interesting lectures that discussed different aspects of religion and contemporary culture at a religious institution. They also studied at the Joseph Carlebach Institute.

A delegation from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI met with Bar-Ilan administrators and researchers in order to forge ties between the two universities. Some topics of interest included nanomedicine, law, and Middle East studies.

Mr. Stephen Feinson, Executive Director of Global Activities at Arizona State University met with several Bar-Ilan researchers, among them Prof. Chaim Sukenik, Prof. Zeev Zalevsky, and Dr. Dren Harman, Chair of the Graduate Program in Science, Technology and Society, to discuss collaboration between the two universities.

Prof. Peter Gruss, President of the Max Planck Society in Germany, toured BIU and met with distinguished Bar-Ilan researchers. The Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science is an independent non-profit association of German research institutes funded by the federal and state governments. Bar-Ilan University hosts several Minerva Centers, subsidiaries of the Max Planck Society, in order to support cooperative efforts between Germany and Israel.

1. Prof. Moshe Kaveh greeting Angelika Lange-Gao, Division of International Relations, Max Planck Society, and Prof. Peter Gruss, President of the Max Planck Society
2. Prof. Chaim Sukenik, Head of the Center for Advanced Materials in the Bar-Ilan Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials (BINA) explaining a point to Prof. Gruss
3. The delegation touring Prof. Yuval Garini’s Optical Bio-Physics Lab
Academic Conferences and Events

Bar-Ilan University hosts a plethora of conferences and events in the course of the academic year. Following is a sampling of some of them:

**September 2009**
- The 5th Israel Human Brain Mapping Meeting “Brain Signals” (Leslie and Susan Gonda [Goldschmied] Multidisciplinary Brain Research Center)
- Jewish Youth Movements in Morocco (Aharon and Rachel Dahan Center for Culture, Society, and Education in the Sephardic Heritage)
- Book Launching: The Spiritual Voyage of the Soul: The Soul of the ‘Zaddik’ and the Eternity of the Spirit in Habbad’s Doctrine by Dr. Shelly Goldberg (The Shlomo Moussaieff Center for Kabbalah Research)
- Nanophotonics and Biotechnology (The School of Engineering)

**October 2009**
- Seminar in honor of the release of new book Insolvency Law by Dr. David Hahn (Faculty of Law)
- Intelligence and Democracies in Conflict and Peace ([Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies]
- 2009 Michael Bruno Memorial Awards Ceremony (Office of the Rector and Rothschild “Yad Hanadiv” Foundation)
- Concert: A Little Different (Department of Music)
- Jewish Identity, Values, and Leisure (Churgin School of Education’s Institute of Education and Community Research in partnership with Tel Aviv University’s Kelman Center for Jewish Education)
- The Connection between Thought and Emotion in Biblical Hebrew (Department of Hebrew and Semitic Languages)
- International Literary Conference: From Creation to Creative Writing: The Bible and Literature (Shaindy Rudoff Graduate Program in Creative Writing)
- The Therapeutic Story (Department of Psychology)
- The 55th Annual Meeting of the Israel Physical Society (Department of Physics)
- Adolescence on the Web: Advice and Emotional Support for Youth on Internet Networks (Churgin School of Education’s Institute of Education and Community Research in partnership with ELEM [Youth in Distress in Israel])
- The Female Character in Literature (Department of Comparative Literature)
- Coping with the Paradox of Innovation (Graduate School of Business Administration)
- Seminar featuring Nobel Prize winner Professor Robert Aumann (Faculty of Jewish Studies and the Naftal-Yaffe Department of Talmud)

**November 2009**
- Low Vision (Department of Optometry)
- Book Launching: The Art of Time, The Art of Place: Isaac Bashevis Singer and Marc Chagall – A Dialogue by Dr. Ruth Dorot (BIU Brookdale Program)
- The Ascendancy of the God Concept during Psychoanalysis: Divinity, Belief and Psychotherapy: Philosophical and Clinical Perspectives (Louis & Gabi Weisfeld School of Social Work)
- Commune Settlements in Israel (Department of Geography and Environment)
- For a Few Cents More: Why Supersize Unhealthy Food? (Graduate School of Business Administration)
- Renaming Places in the Land of Israel from the Point of View of Translation Studies (Department of Hebrew and Semitic Languages)
- Seminar in memory of Rabbi Prof. Meir Simcha Feldblum (Faculty of Jewish Studies and the Naftal-Yaffe Department of Talmud)
- Gag Orders (Faculty of Law and the Israeli Press Council)
- Lecture by Mr. John Beechey, Chairman of the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) (Faculty of Law)
- Concert: Classics at Its Best (Department of Music)
- Hydrology in the Dead Sea Region: Cave Evidence (Department of Geography and Environment)
- 70th Anniversary of WWII (Department of General History)
- Storytelling and Books for Infants, Toddlers, and Very Young Children— from Research to Practice (Edward I. and Fannie Baker Center for the Study of Development Disorders in Infants and Young Children)
- Marking the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (Ruth and Emanuel Rackman Center for the Advancement of the Status of Women)
Seminar in honor of the release of new book Dare to be Human: A Contemporary Psychoanalytic Journey by Dr. Michael Shoshani (Department of Psychology)

• Stem Cells (Mina and Everard Goodman Faculty of Life Sciences)

• Lessons from the Israeli Language Applicable to the Revival of Aboriginal Languages and Cultures in Australia (Department of Hebrew and Semitic Languages)

• People with Disabilities at Risk of Abuse: Detection and Reporting (Louis & Gabi Weisfeld School of Social Work)

• New Studies on Jerusalem (Ingeborg Rennert Center for Jerusalem Studies)

• Concert: Classics at Its Best (Department of Music)

January 2010

• The Future of Subject Matter Eligibility After In re Bilski (The Faculty of Law’s Sanford T. Colb and Co. Intellectual Property Law Conference)

• Meeting the Right Person at the Right Time (Graduate School of Business Administration)

• The Gender Inflection of Animal Names in Haskalah Period and in Israeli Hebrew (Department of Hebrew and Semitic Languages)

• Dead End with the Palestinians? (Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies)

• 13 years of the Religious-Secular Dialogue Program (Student Union)

• Concert #6 from Concert Series #2: Classics at Its Best (Department of Music)

• Aggadah and Agagdic Interpretation Throughout the Generations (Naftal-Yaffe Department of Talmud)

• The Other: Theory, Literature, Theatre (Department of Comparative Literature)

February 2010

• Psychological Circles-Psychotherapy, Religion, and Sexual Orientation (Department of Psychology)

• Three-day Workshop: The Jews and the Sciences of the Stars (Department of Arabic)

• Art Exhibition: The works of Israeli artist Shulamit Tibor (Wurzweiler Central Library)

March 2010

• 13th Biology Olympics for High School Students (Mina and Everard Goodman Faculty of Life Sciences)

• International Women’s Day (Ruth and Emanuel Rackman Center for the Advancement of the Status of Women)

• Concert: Classics at Its Best (Department of Music)

Awards and Appointments

Prof. Emeritus Moshe Addad is the recipient of the 2010 Israel Prize for his multi-faceted contributions in Criminology

Prof. Haim Breibart, a leading researcher of cell and developmental biology in the Mina and Everard Goodman Faculty of Life Sciences, whose work has earned him the top 5% of cited authors for journals in Molecular Biology and Genetics, has been singled out by the American Asthma Foundation as a potential Senior Investigator of the study of asthma.

Moshe Goldstein, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Physics, won the Israel Physical Society Prize for his original contribution to the theories of one dimensional and zero dimensional electronic systems.

Dr. Yaron Harel, of the Israel and Golda Koschitzky Department of Jewish History, has won the Zalman Shazar Award for Research in Jewish History for his book Intrigue and Revolution in the Jewish Communities of Damascus, Aleppo, and Baghdad, 1774-1914.

The Tel Aviv-Jaffa Municipality this year will award its Dr. Chaim Weizmann Prize to Prof. Shlomo Havlin, of the Department of Physics, for his unique contribution to understanding the dynamics of disordered systems and complex networks, and for developing models for the calibration phenomenon in nature.

Prof. Shulamit Michaeli, incumbent of the David and Inez Myers Chair and Laboratory in Gene Expression and Infectious Disease in the Mina and Everard Goodman Faculty of Life Sciences, has been appointed head of the Life Sciences and Medicine section of the Israel Science Foundation (ISF).

Prof. Moshe Rosman, of the Israel and Golda Koschitzky Department of Jewish History, received the National Jewish Book Award, presented in New York, for “the best written, most comprehensive and engaging book” Rethinking European Jewish History (together with Jeremy Cohen of Tel Aviv University).

Lina Ziegler, PhD student of Prof. Ron Goldstein of the Mina and Everard Goodman Faculty of Life Sciences, was one of the winners of The Israel Stem Cell Society’s Annual Conference for Young Scientists Prize, for her development of a model for researching human nerve cells that originate from stem cells.
Global Outreach
Friends Around the World

American Friends of Bar-Ilan visit the campus

All people in photo captions are listed from left to right unless otherwise indicated.

1. Nissim and Mira Dahan, of Baltimore (center), flanked by Sharon Evans, Director of North American Operations (NAO) and Gila Slonim, Coordinator of NAO, stand at the recently dedicated Rachel Dahan Gates in The Dahan Family Unity Park

2. Russell and Ronalee Galbut, of Florida, together with Prof. Moshe Kaveh at the Presidential Founders Pavillion

3. Tony Gelbart, Chairman and Co-Founder of Nefesh B’Nefesh, receives a guided tour of the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Nanotechnology Triplex by Prof. Chaim Sukenik, Director of BINA (Bar-Ilan Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials) Nano Materials Center and Prof. Moshe Kaveh, BIU President

4. Prof. Chaim Sukenik treats Joseph Sokol, of NY, to a tour of the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Nanotechnology Triplex
5. Steve Rosenberg (4th from left) meets with students in the Marcus and Ann Rosenberg Music Building.

6. Automation Alley Mission of Michigan have an in-depth visit to Bar-Ilan University. Pictured: Noel Nevsheshir, Director of International Business Services Automation Alley, Prof. Uri Nir, Director of Nano Medicine, Sharon Evans, Gaby Kenan, CEO Bar-Ilan Research & Development Co., Kenneth Rogers, Executive Director, Automation Alley, and his wife Jane, Gila Slonim, Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Department of Planning and Economic Development, Mount Clemens, Doug J. Smith, Deputy County Executive, Waterford.

7. Cleveland residents and third generation contributors to AFBIU, Hildee and Gary Weiss, 4th and 5th from left, and their children, visited the BIU campus in the fall. Joining them is, far right, Prof. Gal Kaminka, a leading expert in robotics.

8. Floridian family lawyer Deborah Chames (2nd from right) visits the Ruth and Emanuel Rackman Center for the Advancement of the Status of Women, where she met with the Director, Prof. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari. Also seen are Sara Miller and Rackman Center Executive Director, Atara Kenigsberg.
IN MEMORIAM

The entire Bar-Ilan University family and friends abroad note with great sorrow the recent passing of Susan Gonda, dear wife of Leslie, and beloved matriarch of the Gonda family. Born in 1923 in Berehovo, Czechoslovakia (which later became Hungary), Susan survived the horrors of the Shoah and emerged subsequently to lead an accomplished life of devotion to family, generosity to humanitarian and medical causes and great dignity and stature. Her altruistic spirit lives on in the research laboratories of the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Medical Diagnostic Center, the Brain Research Center and the Nanotechnology Triplex, all bearing her name as well as that of her devoted husband, Leslie. May her memory be as a blessing.
Dedication of the Jim Joseph Education Building, October 2009

1. Audience seated at the magnificent dedication ceremony; seen on the screen in the right hand corner is a picture of the late Jim Joseph

2. Sheeba Performing Choir stands behind Foundation members and University administration at the dinner

3. Michael G. Jesselson, Co-Chairman of the American Board of the American Friends of Bar-Ilan, Jack Slomovic, Trustee of the Jim Joseph Foundation, Rena Slomovic, sister of the late Jim Joseph, Gideon Sá’ar, Minister of Education, Al Levitt President of the Jim Joseph Foundation and Prof. Moshe Kaveh in front of the building

4. Unveiling of the Miriam and Joseph Lipschutz Library in the lobby of the building

5. Dvora Joseph, daughter of the late Jim Joseph, addresses the audience

6. In 2007, Josh Joseph, son of late Jim Joseph, visited Bar-Ilan University and is seen standing at the site which is today the Jim Joseph Education Building. Two years later Josh returned to Bar-Ilan with his wife, Gaby.

7. Rabbi Ari Kahn, Director One-Year Program, Prof. Zemira Mevarech, Director, Churgin School of Education, Gabi and Josh Joseph, Dr. Shimon Ohaion, Administrative Director, Churgin School of Education, and Sharon Evans
New York Region

Memorial Tribute for Rabbi Emanuel Rackman held in NYC

1. Jack Nagel, Vice President of the American Friends of Bar-Ilan (AFBIU) Board and Chairman of the West Coast Region, Prof. Moshe Kaveh, Dr. Mordecai D. Katz, Global Board Chairman, and Dr. Monique C. Katz

2. Prof. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari and Jane Stern Lebell, Honorary President of AFBIU

US-Israel Relations International Conference held at Yeshiva University’s Geraldine Schottenstein Cultural Center in NYC

3. Berthe and Jacques Torczyner enjoyed the reception hosted by Asaf Shariv, Consul General of Israel in NY, which followed the Conference. Mr. Torczyner facilitated a grant from the Dorothy & Harold Greenwald Foundation to AFBIU, which made this Conference possible.

4. Among the over 300 people who attended the Conference were AFBIU leaders, from left, Stephen & Mindy Hoffman and Gail Propp

5. Long-time AFBIU supporters Eli and Greta Hirmes

Outreach Event

6. New AFBIU National Trustee Beth Jacob, far left, helped the New York Region organize a series of 2009 outreach events, including one at her law firm office of Schiff Hardin featuring, center, Prof. Uri Nir. Among the many lawyers attending this event was, far right, John Scholnick, partner at Schiff Hardin.
Southeast Region

Bar-Ilan Physics Professor Nathan Aviezer Speaks in Florida

1. Rabbi Moshe Scheiner, of the Palm Beach Orthodox Synagogue, is joined by Prof. Nathan Aviezer, who spoke about “Torah, Science & Creation of the Universe” at the inaugural “Bar-Ilan University Comes To Palm Beach” Speakers Series Event on December 21st at the Synagogue.

2. Prof. Nathan Aviezer, center, was the headline speaker on December 17th at the 8th International Miami Torah Science Conference. Joining him are Jayne Kaplan, Executive Director of the Southeast Region of AFBIU, and Rabbi Sholom Lipskar, spiritual leader of The Shul and founder and organizer of the Conference.

Midwest Region

3. Neil Fetter, his son, Mitchell, and Les Goldstein, Midwest Regional Director of AFBIU, gather to acknowledge the generous gift Mitchell made to AFBIU from his Bar Mitzvah money. With this gift, Mitchell became the fourth generation of his family to support AFBIU.

4. Prof. Stuart Cohen, of the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies at BIU, far right, spoke at an AFBIU Midwest Region outreach event hosted by Alan Kaufman, far left, and Sue Ellen Kaufman (not pictured). Presenting a cake to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Kaufman’s company, Burns and Wilcox, is Alan Zekelman, AFBIU Treasurer.

West Coast Region

5. The first cohort of the Jim Joseph Fellows met this fall at a luncheon in Los Angeles. Joining the Fellows are Jim Joseph Foundation founding trustee Jack Slomovic, seated fourth from left; Ron Solomon, Executive Director of AFBIU’s West Coast Region, standing sixth from right; and Karen Paul Reuven, Associate Director of AFBIU’s West Coast Region, far right.
The Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University joined with Beit Halochem Canada in a joint mission to Israel in October of 2009. Over 27 people toured the country and spent two days on the Bar-Ilan campus.

1. Canadian Mission outside the Gradel & Weisfeld Day Care Centre on the Bar-Ilan campus

2. Dov Altman, Executive Vice President of the Canadian Friends, with Carl and Edith Newton, of Toronto, at the Marcus and Ann Rosenberg Music Building

3. Andrew and Carole Harper, of Montreal, with Dr. Ed Stern (center), of the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Multidisciplinary Brain Research Center

4. Silvie Neman, PhD candidate at the Martin (Szusz) Department of Land of Israel and Archaeology, leads the group on a tour of Jerusalem’s Old City

5. Prof. Gerald Steinberg (far right), of the Department of Political Studies, joined the mission at their farewell dinner in Jerusalem. Pictured: Evelyn Sheftl, of Toronto, Dov Altman, Yvette Lerner, of Toronto, Sarah Green, of Vancouver, and Connie Steinberg

6. In early January 2010 a mission reunion was held in south Florida at the home of Gabi Weisfeld. Pictured: Yvette Lerner, Gabi Weisfeld, Dov Altman, Sharon Evans, Director of North American Operations (NAO), Joanne Weigens, Carl and Edith Newton, Isidor Weisz, Elinor Markovitz, Bertha Weisz, Oscar Markovitz, Chava Kwinta and Ruth Milne
1. Joanne Butbul (3rd from left) watches a practice session of the chamber music ensemble in the Marcus and Ann Rosenberg School of Music.

2. Zelda Young, radio station commentator from Toronto, visits Bar-Ilan University. Pictured: Gila Slonim, Coordinator of NAO, Zelda Young, Sharon Evans and Geula Hassid.

3. Lili Prince, of Toronto, cousin of the late Susan Gonda, visits the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Multidisciplinary Brain Research Center.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Bar-Ilan University deeply mourns the passing of Golda Koschitzky. Born in 1907 in Poland, Mrs. Koschitzky came from an Orthodox Zionist family, speaking perfect Hebrew at a young age. She survived both world wars and kept her family together through the horror of the Shoah, eventually moving to Canada. She and her late husband, Israel Koschitzky, worked tirelessly to raise their two sons and build a business, while maintaining a strong Jewish home. With the success of their business, the Koschitzkys embarked on a life of philanthropy. There are many yeshivot, synagogues, students and other community organizations that have benefited by the Koschitzky family’s generosity. At Bar Ilan, we were blessed with her decision to endow the Israel and Golda Koschitzky Department of Jewish History. Our hearts go out to Saul and Mira, Henry and Julie and to all their children and grandchildren on the loss of this truly remarkable woman.
1. Dr. Orit Shefi (far left) and Dr. Rachela Popovtzer (far right), returning scientists of the School of Engineering, together with Vera Muravitz, Executive Director of UK & Australasia Operations, welcome Dr. Adee Matan, of the British Council (second from right), to campus

2. Amir Levy and Rebecca Masry at the evening with Dr. Mordechai Kedar hosted by Goldman Sachs London

3. BIU Board Member Romie Tager with Dr. Kedar at the Goldman Sachs event

4. Board members David Gradel and Romie Tager

5. Goldman Sachs guests Ronnie Cohen, Nathan Gartner and Romie Tager with Dr. Kedar

6. David Gradel addressing the attendees at the Goldman Sachs event

7. Yehuda Apter and Shlomo Rechtschaffen, Executive Director, British Friends, at the Open Day organized by the Jewish Agency
Dedication of the Alter Family Auditorium in the Engineering School Complex

1. The Alter family, of Melbourne, with Michael and Helen Abeles

2. Helen and Michael Abeles, President of the Australian Friends of BIU, visiting with Prof. George Moschytz, Head of the School of Engineering, and Vera Muravitz, Executive Director of the UK & Australasia Operations

3. The Alter family cutting the ribbon to their auditorium

4. Rabbi Yitzhak Kraus, Head of the Midrasha for Women, on a tour of the campus with Rabbi Marcus Solomon of Perth, Australia

5. Prof. Eytan Gilboa, Director of the International Communication Program, Adina Appel, and Prof. Efraim Inbar, Director of the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies welcome Adam Lisser, of the USA, to campus

6. Prof. Gerald Steinberg, of the Department of Political Studies, was the guest of honor at the AJAC/JCT 12th annual Hans Bachrach Memorial Oration held in Melbourne. Pictured: Prof. Louis Waller AO, Prof. Steinberg and Dr. Colin Rubenstein AM, Executive Director AJAC
Business Forum with Guest Speaker Dan Gillerman, Former Ambassador to the UN and BIU Honorary Doctor

1. Dan Gillerman delivering his address to the guests

2. Adv. David Fuhrer, Chairman of the Israel Friends, welcoming the audience

3. Dr. Merav Galili, Acting Director of Global Resource Development, and Prof. Moshe Kaveh, BIU President, speaking with Tal Keinan, Chairman and CEO of KCPS & Company

4. Giora Romm, CEO of Civil Aviation Authority, Avihu Bin Nun, Chairman of Exactly Cost Co. and Dan Gillerman exchanging views

5. Dr. Joshua Rosensweig, Chairman of the Executive Council, chair of the event together with Prof. Joseph Menis, BIU Rector

6. Dov Lautman, Chairman of the Lautman Foundation, together with Prof. Moshe Kaveh
Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Faculty of Law

BIU celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Faculty of Law at a Breakfast Business Forum in January 2010. One hundred and ten attorneys representing the leading law firms in Israel attended the event, at which Minister of Justice Prof. Yaakov Neeman delivered the keynote address. The event marked the beginning of a new era of joint association between the Law Faculty and the Israeli legal community.

1. Prof. Arie Reich, Dean of the Faculty of Law, Dr. Joshua Rosensweig, Adv. David Fuhrer, Prof. Moshe Kaveh, and Prof. Yaakov Neeman seated at the dais

2. Lawyers mingling at the event

3. Adv. Karin Elharrar, Director of Clinical Education, guest speaker at the Breakfast, with Prof. Yaakov Neeman

4. Guests listening attentively to the lecture

5. Adv. Zion Amir, BIU alumnus, chatting with Prof. Yaffa Zilbershats, former Dean of the Faculty of Law
1. Adv. Bosmat Carmon is the newly appointed Director of the Israel Desk in BIU’s Global Resource Development Operations. Bosmat served in a long-standing position in the Prime Minister’s Office as well as running her own private law practice. With an MBA, she has extensive experience in fundraising and in working with many of the country’s top business leaders.

Rami Shavit, CEO of the New Hamashbir Lazarchan Ltd., visits Bar-Ilan University

2. Prof. Moshe Kaveh and Dr. Merav Galili, showing Rami Shavit (far left) the campus

3. Motorola representatives Aimee Schutzman, Orit Gabay and Michael Harel, among the celebrants at the Motorola Scholarships Awards Ceremony

4. A group photo of the happy students who received Motorola Scholarship awards

Uriel Linn, President of the Israeli Chamber of Commerce, visits BIU

5. Prof. George S. Moschytz, Head of the School of Engineering, welcoming Israel Many, Adv. Shosh Rabinowitz, Uriel Linn and Prof. Moshe Kaveh
Itzhak Tshuva visits BIU

1. Visually-impaired student Guy Simchi greets Prof. Moshe Kaveh and Yitzhak Tshuva, Chairman of Tshuva Group (center), at the Wengrowsky Visitor’s Center.

Michael Federmann visits BIU

2. Prof. Moshe Kaveh welcomes Michael (Mickey) Federmann, Chairman and CEO of Federmann Enterprises.

3. Mr. Federmann receives an onsite tour of the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldshmied) Nanotechnology Triplex from Prof. Chaim Sukenik, Director of BINA (Bar-Ilan Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials) Nano Materials Center (left).

Chemi Peres, Managing General Partner & Co-Founder of Pitango Venture Capital, visits BIU

4. Prof. Moshe Kaveh and Chemi Peres.

5. Returning Scientist Dr. Yuval Garini and Prof. Arie Zaban, Director of the Bar-Ilan Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials (BINA), show Chemi Peres Dr. Garini’s lab.
For the second year running, the Latin American Friends of Bar-Ilan University have had their annual event in Punta del Este, Uruguay. This year two successful events took place with the participation of Israeli singing sensation, Dudu Fisher, a dinner event sponsored by Kuky and Sergio Grosskopf and Bank Hapoalim, attended by some 140 people and an event at the Conrad Hotel with the participation of over 800 people.

1. Attendees watching Dudu Fisher at the dinner event staged at the home of Sergio and Kuky Grosskopf

2. Kuky Grosskopf welcoming the guests

3. TV presenter and friend of Bar-Ilan, Mario Kreutzberger

4. Yossef Bar-Magen, Director of the Iberoamerican Desk, and Sergio Grosskopf auctioning paintings donated by the Grosskopf family

5. The Dor-Hemshech [next generation] of Latin American Friends

6. The audience dancing to the music of Dudu Fisher
1. Prof. Moshe Kaveh, President of BIU, visiting the ORT Technical School during his last visit to Argentina

2. Haim Filler meets with Prof. Benzion Rozenfeld, Chairman of the Israel and Golda Koschitzky Department of Jewish History, during his visit to the BIU campus

3. The Liberson family visit the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Multidisciplinary Brain Research Center with Yossef Bar-Magen, Henia Gal, Administrative Director of the Center, and Michaela Gat, MA student

4. Simon Aizencag and family visit the Bar-Ilan campus

5. Trudy Spira, Rivka Yohai and Prof. Izak Yohai, Board of Trustees member and Chairman of the Iberoamerican Desk (standing from left to right), meet with Rabbi Pynchas Brener, Board of Trustees member and Chief Rabbi of Venezuela, and Henny Brener during the Yohai’s recent visit to Caracas

Bar-Ilan mourns the loss of two great visionaries who contributed significantly to the educational, social and cultural advancement of the Jewish people, the State of Israel and Bar-Ilan University.

Dr. h.c. Baruch Rappaport and his beloved wife, Ruth, who both hold BIU Honorary Doctorates, have dedicated their lives to improving the lives of their Jewish brethren in Israel and abroad in many areas, including the establishment at Bar-Ilan of the Ruth and Baruch Rappaport Center for the Study of Assimilation and the Rappaport Building for Jewish Studies. We extend heartfelt condolences to Ruth and the entire family.

Dr. Ernst Cramer was a champion of Israel who fought to improve relations between Germans and Jews, always emphasizing the importance of remembrance, reconciliation and partnership. Head of the Axel Springer Foundation in Germany, he was awarded a Bar-Ilan Honorary Doctorate in tribute to his life work and his generous contribution to scholarship programs at the University. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.
Bar-Ilan University faculty members do not limit their activities to scientific research and academic lectures on campus. Many of the University’s finest academicians travel far and wide, lecturing on a variety of topics, thereby broadening Bar-Ilan’s sphere of influence abroad.

Among them, Prof. Sam Lehman-Wilzig, of the Dept. of Political Studies, was in New York and the Midwest, where he lectured on “Getting the Message Out: Can the Israeli Government Do a Better ‘PR’ Job?” Dr. Aliza Lavie, also of the Dept. of Political Studies, spoke about her newly-released in English best-selling work A Jewish Woman’s Prayer Book at a number of venues in New York and Florida. While in Florida, Prof. Stuart Cohen, of BIU’s Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies, spoke about “Israel’s Strategic Challenges.” In New York his topic was “Between the Torah Scroll and the Sword: Dilemmas of Religion and Military Service in Israel.”

BIU scientists also share their insights with audiences when abroad. Dr. Ari Zivotofsky, of the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Multidisciplinary Brain Research Center, lectured in Florida. Prof. Uri Nir, of the Mina and Everard Goodman Faculty of Life Sciences, related “The Story of EMIZIL: A new anti-cancer drug ‘born’ at Bar-Ilan University” in New York, where he was also interviewed on the radio and by The Jewish Week. Prof. Abraham Nudelman, Director of the Medicinal Chemistry, Division in the Dept. of Chemistry delivered a talk about “Pioneering New Drugs in the Fields of Schizophrenia and Cancer” in New York. Ron Adany, a PhD candidate in of the Dept. of Computer Science, spoke about “Computer science, TV ads, Electrical Vehicles” and on “Personal TV and the Next Generation of Advertising,” while in New York.

Prof. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari, Director of the Ruth and Emanuel Rackman Center for the Advancement of the Status of Women in the Faculty of Law, spoke about “Economic Consequences of Marriage and Divorce: An International Perspective” at the New York Bar Association, and was the inaugural speaker at the “Bar-Ilan Comes to Riverdale” speaker series, talking about “A State of Their Own: Analysis of the Status of Women in Israel.”

While in New York, Dr. Mordechai Kedar, of the Dept. of Arabic and BESA Center, shared his views on “Israel as Seen through the Lens of al-Jazeera.” At Queens College Hillel he explained “Israel Through the Eyes of the Arab Media.” He addressed “How Will Israel’s New Leadership Win the Military and Media Wars?” at other venues in New York. Kedar also spoke in Cleveland and in London, England.

Prof. Nathan Aviezer, Chairman of the Dept. of Physics, was in Manhattan to illuminate his audience on “Chanukah at First Light: The Physics of Creation.” He also spoke at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale on “On Contradictions between Torah and Science: The Creation of the World.” In Florida, Prof. Aviezer was the headline speaker at the Torah & Science Conference, lecturing on “The $10 Billion Accelerator in Geneva: What Can We Learn From It?” and later speaking at the Palm Beach Synagogue on “Torah, Science & The Creation of the Universe.”
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