



I New Chamber Music Course Launched

It was a full house at the first recital of the University's new chamber music course.

"We prepared for seventy people," said Prof. Rivka Carmi as she looked out into the Joya Claire Sonnenfeldt Auditorium that was filled to capacity. "We never imagined that there would be so much interest," she continued, noting that clearly the need for such a course is long overdue.

Speaking at the recital, the initiator of the program Prof. Ute Deichmann explained that the project came about last year when she heard a student speaking at the Board of Governors Meeting who related that he was at BGU because he wasn't accepted into the Israeli Philharmonic. "In a second, I imagined all the musically talented students here," she recalled, and concluded that "we should try to find some of these students and create chamber music at BGU." She thanked the University for its ongoing support of the program organized under the auspices



The first of eight ensembles opened the event

of the Office of the Dean of Students and called upon more students to register, especially violists and violinists.

The evening included performances by eight chamber music ensembles comprised of 12 students and two affiliated performers. Daniel Lachish, himself a musician and the coach of the

program, explained how far the groups have come since they started six months earlier. "Many of the students hadn't played their instruments in years and were completely unfamiliar with the world of chamber music," he said. "It wasn't always easy to become accustomed to hearing things differently. It is like learning a new language."

He commended the students for their hard work and willingness to invest in their music despite being first and foremost dedicated to their academic studies. And though he described the whole performance as something of a "small miracle," it was clear that for members of the audience, it was music to their ears.

I Prof. Shlomi Dolev Elected Chairman of the IUCC

Prof. Shlomi Dolev of the Department of Computer Science, incumbent of the Rita Altura Trust Chair in Computer Sciences, and Head of the Lynne and William Frankel Center for Computer Science, was recently elected Chairman of the Governing Council for the Inter-University Computation Center (IUCC).

Dolev first joined Ben-Gurion University in 1995. He was among the founders of the Department of Computer Sciences in 2000, and served as the first head of the Department. His research focuses on the fields of self-stabilization, distributed computing, cryptography, security, communication

networks and optical computing.

The IUCC is a non-profit organization established by Israel's eight universities and is supported by the Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Council for Higher Education. The IUCC deals with communication infrastructures,

digital information services, learning technologies and grid computing infrastructures. IUCC also promotes cooperation in these areas among its member institutions, and between research institutes and organizations dealing with research and instruction, which share these common interests.