Fast Forward to the Future

President’s Report 2013

Future
Fast Forward to the Future

President’s Report 2013

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A University with a Vision
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev aspires to be amongst the best interdisciplinary research universities in the world, a leader in scientific innovation, interdisciplinary research and applied sciences – all of which impact daily life. It is committed to social and environmental responsibility and is working to develop the Negev, Israel and the world.

The University attracts excellent students and researchers from Israel and abroad, original thinkers with a developed social conscience, who integrate into the country’s leadership in a variety of ways.
From the Chairman

Alexander M. Goren

As I complete my first year as Chairman of the Board, it is inevitable that I reflect on what this has meant for me personally. I believe in being actively involved in anything I take up and previously, as President of the American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, I was very involved locally, in the United States. Today I enjoy the challenges of being actively involved with the larger issues facing the University.

Throughout the year, I have had to deal at length with a number of issues, including governance and a recently resolved problem with the Council for Higher Education. I have been privileged through all of this to collaborate with our President, Prof. Rivka Carmi, and I want to take this opportunity to thank her for her partnership and for her inspiring leadership of this outstanding University, especially in such challenging times.

The subject of the role of the Board of Governors has been raised on several occasions, as it seems that there is some times confusion on this. For me, our role is quite clear: outreach, development, promotion of the University and its successes in our respective countries and, above all, corralling international financial support. We do this in order to make it possible for BGU to engage in research and support students beyond the narrow confines of the regular budget.

Noteworthy this year are the installation of the new MRI unit, the dedication of the Swiss Institute, French support for the Solar Energy Research Building and the first phase of the AABGU village at Sede Boqer. In spite of the side effects of Operation Pillar of Defense, 2012/2013 has been a very good year for BGU. Student accommodation however, remains a serious problem and the work of the Board must now concentrate on the urgent need to find financing for the first new dormitory building to be erected on the Northern campus. To help us achieve this, it is imperative that we add to our Board new international donors with the ability and willingness to help meet this as well as our other needs. I am delighted to bring to your attention this year’s new Board members featured in a separate publication. Please join me in welcoming them warmly.

I am singularly proud of the University’s continued close cooperation with the Municipality of Beer-Sheva to improve children’s education, quality of life in the city and development of the Negev. This relationship between community and the University is unique in Israel and an outstanding example of how an academic institution can produce great minds and in the process, make a real difference to people who live nearby.

Roy Zuckerberg, my predecessor, always emphasized the importance of developing a healthy alumni association. This has not been an easy task, but we have had some initial success and we will continue his good work to this end. I am happy that he has agreed to continue to be part of a senior Board forum – the Chairman’s Council – which he initiated and which we have now strengthened with several new international participants, all of whom bring additional individual experience and wisdom. I thank these members, who make great efforts to travel, often considerable distances, to attend our meetings twice each year and whose counsel is greatly valued.

Finally I thank all of our Governors, in Israel and overseas, for all that you do now and I urge you to reflect individually on what more you can do next year and in the years to come to ensure the continued success of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Signature
From the President

Prof. Rivka Carmi

This has been a building year for Ben-Gurion University of the Negev both physically and figuratively. The highlight was signing an agreement with the Israel Lands Authority to allow BGU to develop a whole new Northern campus on the 59 acre area adjacent to the Marcus Family Campus. This has opened our horizons, encouraging us to envision a future for BGU that is limited only by our imagination.

Cranes currently crisscross the Marcus Family Campus as part of a nearly $100 million University-wide building program that will significantly increase classroom and laboratory space. Expanded student housing opportunities are in progress. Much of this is due to the Israel Defense Forces’ move of many of its key communications units and basic training bases to the Negev and the anticipated growth in the numbers of students and faculty. The first building of the Advanced Technology Park is nearing completion and will soon be home to many international companies who have also realized that Israel’s future lies here in the Negev. The demand has been unprecedented. Work on the second building is now underway.

These developments open up new horizons, allowing us to assess our current needs in the context of our future aspirations. Twenty new faculty positions were created under the auspices of Presidential Appointments for Excellence. We continue to try and recruit the best and brightest young researchers as they are our hope for the future. We are focusing our hiring in strategic areas where we have identified a BGU advantage – in renewable energies, advanced water technologies, information and nano-technology, robotics and regenerative-stem cell, brain and cognitive research, Jewish thought and Israel Studies – while working to maintain the highest standards of teaching and student services.

A number of our faculty were honored for their lifetime achievements in Ladino studies, solar energy and Hebrew literature, while others were recognized for their future potential, particularly in chemistry and the life sciences.

Going global means that we have created a number of research collaborations with prestigious institutions over the past year, including the University of Chicago, the University of Michigan, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, the US Department of Defense (DARPA), and NSU of Singapore. We are also strategically focusing on China’s leading universities in hopes of developing joint-degree programs as well as entrepreneurial training and experience courses. The entire University family has committed to internationalization – from expanding educational opportunities and services offered in English to an initiative of the Student Union to integrate foreign students into all their programs.

BGU is proud to be making a difference, making lasting contributions to the communities and economies of Israel, the region and around the world. The 4th International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification brought some 500 scientists and community leaders from over 50 countries to Sede Boqer to confront the burning environmental issues of the day, once again reinforcing BGU’s role as a global leader in this critical field.

These accomplishments are part of a greater picture that includes our exceptional student body, which is involved in the community, working with local families and reaching out to improve people’s lives. This was never truer than during Operation Pillar of Defense last fall, when BGU students came through to help their neighbors endure the impossible reality of missile fire on civilian areas. Our researchers have proven that community resilience is what makes the difference during these difficult periods. I am proud to say that the BGU community – students, faculty and staff – came together to help us through those very difficult days.

And none of this would be possible without the support of our worldwide friends, who share our vision for a strong and safe Israel, focused on social justice and equal opportunity for all. Thank you for your support. Thank you for your friendship.

From the President

Prof. Rivka Carmi
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev continues to develop its research and teaching capacity, with funding from a number of prestigious funding agencies. In the academic year 2011-2012, funding from new research grants decreased slightly, from $66.7 million in 2010-2011 to $61.1 million, resulting in an overall decrease in research funding. This year’s budget was $81.3 million, with $30.5 million coming from competitive research grants.

**Distribution of Students by Faculty and Degrees 2011–2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Humanities &amp; Social Sciences</th>
<th>Natural Sciences</th>
<th>Engineering Sciences</th>
<th>Health Sciences</th>
<th>Business &amp; Management * AKIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010/11</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>1,641</td>
<td>5,251</td>
<td>1,393</td>
<td>1,027</td>
</tr>
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<td>1,647</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>1,008</td>
<td>1,635</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>324</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>128</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,916</td>
<td>2,162</td>
<td>6,162</td>
<td>2,533</td>
<td>2,711</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>178</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/12</td>
<td>3,884</td>
<td>1,678</td>
<td>5,113</td>
<td>1,592</td>
<td>1,011</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,426</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>1,423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>311</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>153</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5,901</td>
<td>2,183</td>
<td>6,148</td>
<td>2,572</td>
<td>2,475</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>183</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
<td>3,868</td>
<td>1,708</td>
<td>4,875</td>
<td>1,565</td>
<td>959</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,278</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>849</td>
<td>1,224</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>397</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>88</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>124</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5,799</td>
<td>2,221</td>
<td>5,943</td>
<td>2,614</td>
<td>2,229</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not all totals add up because there are students enrolled in multiple faculties or pursuing multiple degrees. (e.g., 197 interdisciplinary Masters students and Ph.D. candidates at the Albert Katz International School for Desert Studies and 128 interdisciplinary Ph.D. candidates of the Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies, who are included in the total figures) I The above figures relate to the first semester only I First- to third-year medical students are included in the Health Sciences – Bachelors category I Students of the Medical School for International Health, in collaboration with Columbia University Medical Center, receive their M.D. degrees from the Faculty of Health Sciences I An additional 674 students are studying for their Bachelors, Masters and Ph.D. degrees at the BGU campus in Eilat I Some 271 students are studying for their Teaching Certificates I *Other*: Preparation for graduate and doctoral studies I Total University figure does not include an additional 415 special students I * AKIS - Albert Katz International School for Desert Studies.
**Total External Research Funding ($US m)**

- Grants and contracts
- Other sources

**Total Investment in Research ($US m)**

- Total External Research Funding
- BGU Research Funding

**Percentage of Grants by Faculty 2011/12**

- **17% Faculty of Health Sciences**
- **11% Pinchas Sapir Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**
- **34% Faculty of Engineering Sciences**
- **26% Faculty of Natural Sciences**
- **1% Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management**
- **10% Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research**
### Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Operating Budget

#### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2010/11 NIS m</th>
<th>$ m</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2011/12 NIS m</th>
<th>$ m</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2012/13 NIS m</th>
<th>$ m</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning &amp; Budgeting Committee</td>
<td>740.1</td>
<td>198.4</td>
<td>71.2%</td>
<td>774.1</td>
<td>215.0</td>
<td>72.0%</td>
<td>827.6</td>
<td>206.9</td>
<td>72.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and Dorms</td>
<td>203.0</td>
<td>54.4</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>204.3</td>
<td>56.8</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>198.8</td>
<td>49.7</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Funds</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>39.0</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>48.7</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>47.2</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>51.7</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer from Funds</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,040.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>278.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,075.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>298.6</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,143.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>285.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2010/11 NIS m</th>
<th>$ m</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2011/12 NIS m</th>
<th>$ m</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2012/13 NIS m</th>
<th>$ m</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>749.0</td>
<td>200.8</td>
<td>72.0%</td>
<td>774.0</td>
<td>215.0</td>
<td>72.0%</td>
<td>833.0</td>
<td>208.3</td>
<td>72.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowships &amp; Student Assistance</td>
<td>58.9</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>63.2</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; Research Expenses</td>
<td>42.0</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>44.3</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>45.8</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutes &amp; Research Centers</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>37.6</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Expenses</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Expenses</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>33.1</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>82.7</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,040.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>278.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,075.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>298.6</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,143.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>285.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NIS/$ Exchange Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Exchange Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010/11</td>
<td>3.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/12</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.00</td>
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</table>

#### Higher Education Expenses Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010/11</td>
<td>111.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/12</td>
<td>112.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>119.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Our Worldwide Family of Associates at Work 2011/12 Year-End Figures

- **Contributions Received**: $35,235,350
- **Interest Income from Endowments**: $7,903,021
- **Endowment Fund Balance (as of 30/9/12)**: $216,425,958

**Notes:**
- Contribution figures are gross and do not reflect local fundraising charges.
- All figures are approximate due to fluctuating exchange and interest rates.
- 2011/12 interest income was calculated at approximately 3.0%.
- Figures do not reflect approximately $29.8 million in endowment and trust funds held in the U.S. by and on behalf of AABGU (including outside managed trusts).
**BGN Technologies**

With revenue from business entities of some $15 million, BGN Technologies – the University’s technology transfer company – signed about 100 new license and collaboration agreements this year. BGN focuses on forging unique business-academic partnerships, including collaborative programs and sponsored research, license agreements, creation of research centers and establishment of spin-off companies.

A particularly exciting long-term collaboration was launched by Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and BGU to fund the research and development of pediatric-specific medical devices based on unaddressed challenges facing surgeons and physicians.

Committed to the greater economic growth of the region, BGN has worked intensively to interest key corporations in opening research centers at the Advanced Technologies Park (ATP) adjacent to the University. Companies that will be opening there this summer include Deutsche Telekom, EMC and Oracle.

BGN has joined with Jerusalem Venture Partners, one of Israel’s leading venture capital firms, to create the country’s first ever cyber-security incubator. Part of the Israeli Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor’s incubator program, the group has committed to create at least 25 startup companies in the next six years.

The initiative comes in the wake of rising cyber-threats and attacks on critical infrastructure in Israel and around the world, as well as the University’s major role in that arena.

BGN signed a licensing agreement with a privately held biotechnology company in New York for the V-Smart™ drug delivery technology, which was developed by BGN researchers. Also noteworthy is the licensing of a patented breakthrough treatment for neurodegenerative diseases developed by BGN researchers to a private U.S. biotech fund based in Baltimore.

These are just some of the many ways that BGN brings value to the technological marketplace, to the University and to its researchers.

**2012/13 Overall University Budget** (NIS Thousands in Current Prices)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Operating Budget</th>
<th>Research Budget</th>
<th>Development Budget</th>
<th>Special Programs</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>1,143,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>89,723</td>
<td>116,204</td>
<td>1,486,306</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BGU hosts the delegation from Cincinnati Children’s Hospital on a recent visit
Senior Administration

Alexander M. Goren
Chairman of the Board of Governors

Prof. Moti Herskowitz
Vice-President and Dean for Research & Development

David Bareket
Vice-President and Director-General

Prof. Amos Drory
Vice-President for External Affairs

Adv. Yair Green
Chairman of the Executive Committee

Lord Weidenfeld of Chelsea
Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Governors

Prof. Rivka Carmi
President

Prof. Zvi HaCohen
Rector

Robert H. Arnow
Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Governors
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev deeply mourns the untimely passing of Prof. Ayala M. Pines, Dean of the Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management.
10 ways that BGU research is reinventing the future*

*in the past year!

1. **Prof. Esther Priel** of the Shraga Segal Department of Microbiology and Immunology in the Faculty of Health Sciences and her colleagues from the International Center for Cell Therapy & Cancer Immunotherapy in Tel Aviv have patented a breakthrough treatment for neurodegenerative diseases that has proven to slow the progression of ALS in laboratory mice.

2. Clinical trials of revolutionary heart scaffolding biomaterials developed by **Prof. Smadar Cohen** from the Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering and incumbent of the Claire & Harold Oshry Chair in Biotechnology, are being successfully carried out by Ikaria, Inc. in some 15 sites in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Israel and Spain, with hopes that the results will be available in 2014.

3. BGU received two grants from the Israel National Nanotechnology Initiative for groundbreaking research. Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Sciences **Prof. Joseph Kost** is developing a nano-carrier that will deliver medicines directly to the diseased cell while **Prof. Gabby Sarusi**, a member of the Ilse Katz Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology and the Unit for Electro-Optics, is developing a thin coating that will turn invisible infrared light into visible light for night vision glasses.

4. **Prof. Alon Tal** from the Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental and Energy Research received a three-year grant from the USAID’s Middle East Regional Cooperation (MERC) Program to work with Palestinian counterparts and test the area’s shared water supply for potentially health-altering endocrine-disrupting chemicals.

5. **Prof. Amir Aharoni** and **Dr. Marianna Zaretsky** from the Department of Life Sciences and the National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev together with researchers from Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. have engineered a natural immune system receptor into a promising drug candidate for the treatment of psoriasis.

6. **Prof. Moti Herskowitz**, incumbent of the Israel Cohen Chair in Chemical Engineering, and **Prof. Miron Landau**, both from the Department of Chemical Engineering and the Blechner Center for Industrial Catalysis and Process Development, were awarded a highly competitive Israel Strategic Alternative Energy Foundation (I-SAEF) grant to further their groundbreaking research in liquid fuels that facilitates commercially viable applications of carbon dioxide hydrogenation for the production of jet fuel.

7. The Israel Science Foundation’s Klein Prize for Outstanding Cancer Research was awarded to **Prof. Angel Porgador**, incumbent of the Albert Katz Chair in Cell-Differentiation and Malignant Diseases, **Dr. Eitan Rubin** of the Shraga Segal Department of Microbiology and Immunology and the NIBN and **Dr. Eyal Sheiner** of Soroka University Medical Center for their pioneering work in the field.
Thanks to a joint initiative between the Departments of Information Systems Engineering and Computer Science, BGU is the first Israeli university offering graduate study tracks in cyber-security to prepare graduates to work in this critical field and to ensure the long-term protection of information and national interests online and the first to collaborate with venture capitalists JVP to open a cyber-security incubator.

Prof. Yair Neuman from the Department of Education and Prof. Mark Last from the Department of Information Systems Engineering, in collaboration with Prof. Moshe Koppel from Bar-Ilan University and Prof. Shlomo Argamon from the Illinois Institute of Technology in the USA, received funding from IARPA (Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity) to develop artificial intelligence methods for automated detection and analysis of metaphoric expressions in natural language.

Books published by the Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism Publishing Unit are being progressively uploaded to the Institute’s site for use by subscribers, making it the largest Hebrew-language digital library of reference books available for users around the world.
The Future is Here

Construction progresses across the Marcus Family Campus and in Sede Boqer as the University invests in its long-term growth. Begun last year, the $100 million building boom will significantly increase classroom, laboratory and dormitory space over the next three years. At the same time, older facilities are being refurbished to suit the needs of the 21st century.

To be completed this year

1. Fanny’s House - WIZO-BGU Daycare Center
2. Ben-Gurion National Solar Energy Center on the Sede Boqer Campus
3. University Computation Center
4. Renovated lobby for the Zalman Aranne Central Library
5. Academic Faculty Lounge
Currently under construction

- American Associates Village at Sede Boqer – Phase 1 now underway
- Ruth and Heinz-Horst Deichmann Classroom and Computer Lab Building
- Interdisciplinary Laboratory Building
- National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev

Construction will begin soon on the building for the Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering, the Field Medical Simulation Center, and the Jusidman Science Center for Youth.

A new building for the Department of Information Systems Engineering is in the planning stage.
BGU officially leased the 59-acre tract of land adjacent to the Marcus Family Campus this year from the Israel Lands Administration allowing it to double in physical size. Work is now underway to design a master plan that will be the basis for all future development.
The first building of the Advanced Technologies Park (ATP) rises over the horizon across from the Marcus Family Campus giving physical expression to the hope for a vibrant new hub of commerce in the Negev.

Built as part of the collaborative initiative between Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, the Beer-Sheva Municipality, the American-Japanese company KUD and the Gav-Yam real estate management company, the ATP has already attracted many industry giants to the region.

The ATP will have bicycle trails and provide a variety of services to encourage synergy between industry, academia and the Israel Defence Forces’ technology units – where some 5,000 career staff and soldiers from elite units such as the Center of Computing and Information Systems are expected to work.

Proximity will allow researchers from all the companies and different bodies in the complex to cooperate in a wide range of fields and the project is expected to significantly change the employment map in Beer-Sheva and the Negev. With its close access to the Soroka University Medical Center, the ATP has the potential to become a center for biomedical research.

Work on the first building (20,000 square meters) is nearly complete. A range of international companies, including EMC, Deutsche Telekom, NESS Technologies, Oracle, the development center of the French company DALET and more are slated to move in this July.

Work has already begun on the second building. Both adhere to the LEED standard for green buildings and will be connected to a central energy center.

“NESS will realize the vision of Ben-Gurion and will help transform Beer-Sheva into a metropolis and hi-tech powerhouse.”

NESS Israel President, Effi Kotek
Giant Steps in the Nano World

"While equipment is necessary, it is people who do science"

The Ilse Katz Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology (IKI) was the only one of the six nano centers in Israel to receive approval for two multi-million dollar five year project proposals from the Israel National Nano Initiative (INNI) this year.

With an increased operating budget from INNI and these two major grants, IKI’s star is continuing to rise. “The two projects will harness BGU’s talent with those of other experts in Israeli academia to build cutting edge technology,” says IKI Director Prof. Yuval Golan, noting that the Institute was made possible through the magnanimous vision of the late Ilse Katz and the Negev Foundation, both of Switzerland.

Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Sciences Prof. Joseph Kost leads the first project. His team hopes to develop nano-carriers that would identify and deliver medicine molecules directly to the infected cells. The carrier is like a train, which can be loaded with whatever types of cars are needed. The train has GPS to find the right cell. Once inside the cell, the carrier would hook up to cellular motors which would tow it straight to the desired part of the cell.

The significance is staggering – the team is focusing on treating cancer, diabetes and obesity. These nano-carriers would, theoretically, carry the chemotherapy straight to the tumor, thus eliminating the debilitating side effects of such treatments.

Prof. Gabby Sarusi, a new BGU recruit from the electro-optics industry, and his team will build a nano-layer, less than a single hair thick, that will turn any pair of glasses into night vision goggles. The layer will replace cumbersome and expensive systems. “It will be like walking around under a full moon,” Sarusi explains.

In addition to the two new projects, IKI’s relationship with industry continues to grow. The Weiss Family Laboratory for Nanoscale Systems and IKI laboratories work closely with industry on projects such as chip development and more.

“While equipment is necessary, it is people who do science. We have some of the leading experts in the country as researchers and staff here. The work model that we have developed here has other parties extremely interested – particularly our services to industry,” notes Golan.
Dr. Sharon Hazan (Vanounou) from the IKI's Small Angle X-Ray Scattering (SAXS) Laboratory
Sometimes perception is just as important as reality. Relations between the police and minorities is one such area where statistics often take a back seat. Dr. Guy Ben-Porat and Dr. Fany Yuval, both from the Department of Public Policy and Management at the Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management, are conducting a major study of minority groups’ perceptions of the police.

“We started with a pilot looking at Arab citizens’ perceptions of the police, funded by the Abraham Fund Initiatives via USAID. With a grant from the Israel Science Foundation, we have expanded to look at other minority groups – Ethiopians, haredim and Russians, and Israeli-Arabs again,” explains Ben-Porat. Previously, he conducted research in Northern Ireland and Canada, studying relations of minorities with the police and has visited the LAPD to learn from the lessons it drew from its troubled histories with minority communities.

“In any interaction between an Ethiopian and a police officer, perception is a significant player. According to our focus groups, Ethiopians’ feelings about the police resemble sometimes what African-Americans feel about the police in the USA. Being a visible minority, they believe they are being singled out, are over-policed and the victims of profiling,” he reveals.

By contrast, “the perceptions of Russians are exactly the same as ‘mainstream’ Israelis. They’re not visible and they don’t have any particular feelings about the police.”

Haredim tend to view the police through the prism of political issues, he continues, “since they most often clash on more substantive issues. While a visible minority, they are not suspected by police of delinquent behavior and singled out like Ethiopians,” according to Ben-Porat.

Perhaps the most interesting data to emerge from the focus groups and the pilot study concerns Israel’s Arab citizens, who perceive themselves as being “under-policed.” “Internal checks on criminal behavior, such as respect for elders, are crumbling and crime is on the rise in Arab communities. Consequently, I heard the head of the Union of Arab Municipalities declare at a conference with the police that what he wanted and deserved as a citizen was more policing, a more active, visible and effective presence in the community.” This, according to Ben-Porat, suggests that police could make a difference by approaching communities and being active. “Perceptions change,” he explains, “when the police are willing and able to initiate reforms, like the LAPD experience demonstrates.”

The research is still ongoing and when it is completed, Ben-Porat, who acts as an academic advisor and facilitator to the Abraham Fund Initiatives community policing project, will share the data and use it to develop implementable procedures. He already knows what his ideal next research project is upon conclusion of the current study pending funding. “I want to study how post-conflict states rebuild their police forces,” he says.
Everyone is talking about solar energy and renewable fuels. The push to make clean energy accessible has now moved to the realm of organic photovoltaics (OPV), a whole new arena focused on the development of low-cost solar cells. Using a novel technique, researchers hope to create far more pliable materials for flexible photovoltaic surfaces.

Prof. Eugene Katz, a member of the Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental and Energy Research and the Ilse Katz Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology at BGU, is at the forefront of this field. He and his research team are among the world leaders in photovoltaic characterization and have been invited to participate in a number of inter-laboratory tests comparing the characterization of OPV efficiency and operational stability.

Organic photovoltaics have been suggested as a low-cost, lightweight, flexible alternative to inorganic photovoltaics. While the cost of inorganic photovoltaic panels is dropping, a low-cost, easily produced carpet-like material which would be easy to install would be a major improvement in solar technology. The most challenging problem in OPV technology yet to be solved is the development of devices that combine high efficiency, stability and processability.

Katz' team is the only Israeli team participating in the EU-consortium LARGECELLS, which focuses on the development of organic photovoltaic cells based on conjugated polymer materials, polymer-inorganic hybrid systems and their usage in large area stable devices fabricated using printing techniques. The hope is that the international team will be able to create an affordable technology that revolutionizes the field.

A member of the Ben-Gurion National Solar Energy Center at the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research, Katz is able to utilize the natural advantage of the sunlight in Sede Boqer and the accumulated knowledge of the researchers there as he moves forward with this innovative technology.
The Synergy of Collaboration

BGU signed a number of new research agreements and Memorandums of Understanding this year that hold the potential for true collaborative alliances in a number of emerging fields. Highlights are as follows:

Botswana International University of Science and Technology, Botswana — to explore the potential for cooperation in areas such as technology and desert studies and assist in the building of a world-class university in that country.

Monash University, Australia — to advance research in areas shared by both countries, such as water management and desert studies.

University of California, Irvine, USA — to encourage collaboration and faculty exchanges in fields such as hydrology, earth sciences and nanotechnology.

University of Chicago, USA — to create new water production and purification technologies for use in regions where fresh water resources are scarce.

University of Michigan, USA — to progress toward solving major challenges in the areas of advanced vehicle fuels, solar energy and thermoelectric materials that convert heat to electricity.
Physical disabilities with brain involvement are often asymmetrical. Stroke, for instance, can paralyze one side of the body, while cerebral palsy can affect one side of the body more severely than the other.

Dr. Simona Bar-Haim of the Department of Physiotherapy is pioneering a physiotherapeutic walking treatment that separates each leg and trains them separately. In her new Laboratory for Rehabilitation and Motor Control of Walking, she has a split-tread treadmill that can calibrate each belt to a different pace and monitor the brain activity of people with cerebral palsy to observe how they respond while walking.

“There is a plasticity to the brain – we can treat each leg separately and after the treatment there is a lasting ‘after effect.’ Some patients respond very well, while others don’t. We are trying to figure out who and why and whether it correlates with the location of the brain damage.”

The hi-tech method that Bar-Haim uses could supplant the more traditional methods of gymnastics and physical therapy. Ever the scientist, she has set up control groups to compare treatment successes, hi-tech versus low-tech. There’s an interesting twist – her control groups are in the Arab world.

“I formed a coalition about eight years ago to encourage treatment in the Arab world and to encourage women – both as patients and practitioners. We have groups in Jordan, the PA, and Morocco. They use the low-tech methods and I use the hi-tech one and we compare results,” she explains.

Working together with Prof. Amir Karniel, chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering, Bar-Haim’s latest project focuses on teenagers with cerebral palsy in the Middle East (CP-PALS). Funded by USAID, the research is just getting started.

Bar-Haim is also the founder of a start-up called Step of Mind, where she developed a unique rehabilitative tool – a pair of shoes based on chaos theory – that is helping people around the world walk again.
Taking a Positive Approach to Depression

“BGU’s Center for the Advancement of Research on Stress and Related Disorders (CARES) will be dedicated to the promotion of awareness and understanding of depression, anxiety and stress-related disorders,” says Prof. Golan Shahar, the founding director of the Center and a member of the Department of Psychology.

“The prevalence of stress related disorders is extremely high and their consequences are formidable,” he emphasizes. “For instance, The World Health Organization has labeled depression one of the world’s most alarming epidemics. Depression kills by suicide, by increasing mortality through physical illness and by increasing violent behavior.”

Currently under formation, the CARES Center will focus on anxiety, stress and depression. “Anxiety disorders usually go along with depression, and they are both partly caused by stress,” Shahar explains. “In fact, external stress – ranging from daily hassles to calamitous events – appears to be the number one psychosocial risk factor for any kind of mental and physical illness.”

Taken together, he notes, it is a major societal and medical problem globally. He believes that the University is uniquely situated to contribute. “BGU is committed to both scientific excellence and community involvement,” he says. “Capitalizing on ties with Soroka University Medical Center and the Mental Health Center in Beer-Sheva, the CARES Center also seeks to form bridges between clinical teams and basic scientists,” says Shahar who, prior to his arrival at BGU, served as Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology at Yale University.

“First, we have the interdisciplinary brainpower exemplified by the presence of a team of top-notch investigators, including Prof. Hagit Cohen, Faculty of Health Sciences and the Mental Health Center in Beer-Sheva; Prof. Alon Friedman, Head of the Zlotowski Center for Neuroscience; Prof. Haim Belmaker, M.D., Faculty of Health Sciences and the Mental Health Center in Beer-Sheva; Prof. Joshua Lipsitz, Department of Psychology; Prof. Gary Diamond, Department of Psychology; Dr. Hadar Shalev, M.D., Soroka, and many others.”

BGU’S CARES Center will be two pronged. First, it will lay the foundation for groundbreaking, cross-disciplinary research into these conditions “forming bridges between seemingly unrelated disciplines.” Second, “it will seek to increase public awareness as to the prevalence, consequences, assessment, treatment and prevention of depression and anxiety as well as to inform policy makers.

“Showing that we care”
Prof. Golan Shahar will direct the new CARES Center
“When you talk to the heads of some non-profit organizations and ask them about their past social initiatives, they don’t have any. Their qualifications for the top job are based on their business background and their MBA. Then you look at their deputies – they were involved in volunteer projects in high school, created an initiative as an undergraduate and have been active ever since.

“So why aren’t they heading the organization? Because they don’t have an MBA,” Prof. Pierre Kletz, director of the Social Leadership MBA at the Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management, offers as the rationale behind the creation of the new degree program.

“They need the business management approach and management tools to augment the impact of their actions as heads of nonprofit organizations.”

The program is a joint initiative with the Mandel Foundation. Students pay only half of the tuition and receive a living stipend.

The first cohort of 22 students graduated in January after an intensive 15 months. The students came from all backgrounds and all walks of life, but they do have one thing in common. “They are all excellent students. We took 25 for our second cohort out of 150 applicants. For the first year, we did a lot of publicity. The second time we did barely any – it was all word of mouth,” Kletz continues.

A third of the program’s faculty members are from abroad, “to offer different perspectives. “Here in Israel no one talks about performance in the third sector. In the US, they talk about it all the time, very easily. So we have a professor from Harvard University who comes and teaches about performance in the non-profit sector,” Kletz elaborates.

Students have all the requirements of a regular MBA but also take 50 percent more classes, focusing on the big issues in the third sector and bridging between the private and public sectors. A course in the basics in marketing is followed by marketing for the third sector, for instance.

The Mandel Foundation views this program as a powerful response to its mission to produce agents of social and organizational change in the world. The partnership between the GGFBM and the Mandel Foundation also offers continuing assistance and networking opportunities for the SLMBA graduates. According to Kletz: “It’s like a 20-year career shortcut.”
Faculty come from around the world and give those with a passion for social justice a solid grounding in business.
BGU’s Department of Emergency Medicine and the PREPARED Center for Emergency Response Research are exploring ways to save lives during disasters while defining standards for health and emergency professionals.

This spring, BGU signed a formal agreement with the Israeli Health Ministry to conduct research on its behalf. Over the past year the World Health Organization worked with the Department to write the report about the Israeli health system’s emergency preparedness, and the global organization sent a delegation of senior health officials from European countries to be trained by BGU’s specialists.

BGU offers the only academic degree program in emergency preparedness in the country and has developed a scientific approach to assessing preparedness in different emergency scenarios. Establishing standards and measures that facilitate comparisons and creating model operating procedures are the Department’s bread and butter, explains Dr. Limor Aharonson-Daniel, who is currently head of the Department and the PREPARED Center.

Community resiliency refers to the flexibility and adaptability of a community and its continuous ability to function under unexpected crises. This past year, the Center launched a standard for measuring community resilience that has already been adopted by Israel and some European countries and has elicited interest in the United States.

The resulting CCRAM (conjoint community resiliency assessment measure) was recently published after a large pilot study and was immediately translated into English, Arabic and German. It has been presented to the representative of the Secretary General of the UN for disaster risk reduction and is currently being used to support local leaders in Israel in their community preparedness planning as well as for building a national resiliency database that will be situated at BGU.

Also this year, fourteen Jordanian students graduated from a special three-year program in Emergency Medicine Management. The result of a unique collaboration between the Jordanian Red Crescent, Israeli Magen David Adom and BGU, the cooperation continues under the auspices of the Development Strategic Forum. The regional forum was created at the initiative of BGU’s team that includes Aharonson-Daniel and Drs. Bruria Adini and Dagan Schwartz.

Dedicated to ensuring a coordinated response to any possible disaster scenario, the Forum is comprised of key officials from Jordan and Israel, and maintained with the support of Israel’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MASHAV program), the European Union and private donors. On the agenda – developing standard operating procedures for the use of social networks to communicate during cross border disasters.

This past October, the first ever briefing on emergency preparedness adapted for deaf citizens was held in Beer-Sheva to help them cope with missile attacks on the city and to enhance their knowledge on preparedness for earthquakes.

Joint research has been conducted with partners from the Robert Koch Institute in Germany aimed at building preparedness for biological threats. A similar partnership has begun with partners from the Public Health Services (ISS) of Italy.
Dr. Limor Aharonson-Daniel (left) is revolutionizing the way countries approach disaster management with Oren Ben-Shitrit, a fireman in the Israeli Air Force and a BGU graduate.

The University took a number of immediate steps to protect students and staff when missiles were launched from Gaza on Beer-Sheva last fall. This included a complete two-day closure of the Marcus Family Campus, a weeklong cessation of classes and the immediate purchase of necessary protective equipment.

BGU actively helped Beer-Sheva residents cope through a number of different volunteering initiatives. The PREPARED Center coordinated volunteers including augmenting the ranks of Magen David Adom ambulance crews and outreach to populations with special needs – particularly the deaf.

Students from the Community Action Department stepped up their activities, with Fellows from the Lillian and Larry Goodman Open Apartments Program organizing programs in the city’s public shelters. With volunteers from the Student Union, they cleaned up bomb shelters and organized programs for the neighborhood children.

Students identified vulnerable populations – battered women’s shelters, homes for those with mental disabilities, and hostels for those dealing with emotional issues – and coordinated groups of volunteers to help out where they were needed most.
A fellowship abroad is always good for personal development, but sometimes it becomes about more than the academic experience. Two students are currently in the United Kingdom with new groundbreaking scholarships. The Rivka Carmi Scholarship at Oxford’s Exeter College marks the first such partnership between the University of Oxford and an Israeli university and was made possible through the vision of Prof. Raymond Dwek of Oxford. Named for BGU President Prof. Rivka Carmi, it is open to women, minorities and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Liza Futerman is now studying for her MSt in History of Art and Visual Culture at Exeter College, where she is the only Israeli student. “I’ve noticed that people don’t know much about Israel and at times consider it to be a militaristic third world country. However, once they put a face to this ‘exotic’ place they seem to change their mind about Israel,” she says.

“I’m happy to see that more and more people ask me questions about Israel and its culture – not about its politics or religion – but rather about Israeli music, TV series, architecture, education, climate and many more. I believe that my answers and my attitude towards my colleagues play a role in determining Israel’s image in the eyes of tomorrow’s leaders.”

The Oxford Brookes Scholarship is the brainchild of members of the Oxford Jewish Congregation, in particular Isaac Garson and Sandra Dwek of the United Kingdom. They are both active members of the Oxford Jewish Congregation, which endorses this initiative. Sandra Dwek heads the Working Group, which is actively seeking funds to make the scholarship a permanent annual commitment.

Elad Almog is doing his MSc at the Oxford School of Hospitality Management after graduating from the Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management. He discovered that his International Hotel and Tourism Marketing program truly did change other students’ and faculty members’ attitudes towards Israel.

Thanks to his presence they made Israel one of the research topics within the framework of the marketing across cultures module last fall. This is the first time in 25 years that they studied Israel, after researching some 85 countries from around the world.

“I believe that I have managed to influence and even change to some extent the perceived image of Israel from that of an embattled third world country to the more appropriate image of a startup nation, with Tel Aviv being a very popular destination for colorful individuals and a hotbed of Western values,” Almog explained. “I consider this change in my colleagues’ perception of Israel as my greatest achievement at Oxford Brookes so far.”
A Global Approach

The University continues to develop its international educational programs to enrich the entire BGU community, particularly on the graduate and post-graduate level. One of the milestones this year was the welcoming of 21 post-doctoral students from China and India who are studying at BGU as part of a new fellowship program supported by the Council for Higher Education.

In accordance with the decision of the Israeli Foreign Ministry to launch a new Israel-China Research Fund under the auspices of the Israel Science Foundation, a delegation of the University’s senior administration travelled to the People’s Republic to explore opportunities for collaboration. The group visited eight leading universities to examine the possibility of long-term research agreements and education exchange programs.

The Rector has launched an initiative to promote joint international doctoral programs, where outstanding candidates would study two years at their home universities and two years at BGU. A number of collaborative agreements have also been established with universities in China, Europe and North America. Students from Singapore are already studying at BGU.

Under the auspices of the Centre for the Study of European Politics and Society (CSEPS), in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Israel, BGU launched the Bologna Training Center in Israel. The Center promotes the creation of scientific and educational links between Israel and Europe for all Israeli universities and advances the Erasmus Mundi program for exchange students to and from Europe, and the Tempus – educational development program to encourage the creation of international consortiums.

The Brandeis-Middlebury Hebrew immersion program continues to grow. Six students are participating in the spring semester.

Currently there are more than 100 partnerships with North American academic institutions, allowing students to seamlessly participate in the Ginsburg-Ingerman Overseas Student Programs. The most successful track programs are in Global Health, Sustainability and Israel Studies.
Community Outreach

Community Action Department

The Community Action Department has operated a variety of programs for the past forty years with the aim of creating a living bridge between the University and the Negev population. The programs are designed to enhance the lives of the local population, while involving students in acts of social entrepenurship and civic engagement.

The year’s activities opened unfortunately with rocket attacks and the ensuing Pillar of Defense Operation. A number of students volunteered to help residents of Beer-Sheva who were forced to deal with the anxiety inherent in the situation. After the ceasefire, the Department returned to its normal activities.

The Lillian and Larry Goodman Open Apartments Program marked its 35th year in operation with the rental of an additional 10 apartments thanks to the generosity of Larry Goodman, USA, bringing the total number of units to 73. Goodman Fellows live in the local neighborhoods, organizing a range of social and holiday activities. They “adopt” some 100 families and take the initiative to improve the general quality of life through different projects, including the painting of some 100 apartments before Passover for the elderly and disabled.

This year a multidisciplinary community theater was launched by social activist and artist Zmira Ron. She works with 10 students who have created five different theater groups around the city, each of which develops original material to be performed at an end of the year event.

Another flagship program is the Keren Moshe Leadership Program, made possible through the generous and on-going support of the Halpérian family of Switzerland. Each year 120 students are selected to receive a generous scholarship and conduct extensive activities for the community in approximately 50 locations around the city.

The students receive theoretical training in subjects relevant to Israeli society and initiate original projects that benefit the community. Of particular note this year was a project to “renew” an old commercial center by organizing community events there in order to help local businesses, and the establishment of a neighborhood cooperative.

Many of the Keren Moshe students participate in the Kidma program, teaching adults aged 18-60 Hebrew, English, mathematics and computer skills. This year 140 “students” began the program. There were a number of heart-warming success stories of graduates who continue on to earn high school diploma certificates.

Work on the Rothschild Cube is now actively underway. Made possible through the vision and generosity of the Caesarea Edmond de Rothschild Foundation, Israel, the project is focused on increasing the effectiveness of civic involvement. The unique multi-media center will be housed in the Deichmann Building for Community Action and will include exhibits that emphasize experiential learning for different audiences, ranging from youth, university students, community leaders and public officials. Until the completion of the project, the Rothschild Cube operates an academic course on entrepreneurship and an in-depth course on social entrepreneurship.

Students in the Ted Arison Scholarship Program focused on helping one family during the annual national Good Deeds Day in March. They created a dramatic change by renovating their home and providing basic furniture and appliances.

The HaBarvaz high school theater group performed their show, “Mystery in the Laboratory,” at the Holon Theater Festival. They also
Children play at the annual Chanukah Party organized by the Lillian and Larry Goodman Open Apartments Program.
performed “We are the Palmach” at the Community Festival South.

Four issues a year of the magazine “Ben-Gurion Involved” are published and widely distributed.

**Perach**

The Perach Big Brother/Sister mentoring program provides scholarships for students who serve as mentors to local children. This year the scholarships were increased by 14 percent to reflect the increasing cost of living. The Southern Unit continues to be the largest and most diverse in Israel.

Children benefit from a wide range of daily activities and enrichment courses in areas such as art and computers and include a toy and book lending library, most of which take place at the enrichment center on the Marcus Family Campus.

Perach also operates the impressive Havayeda Teva Science Center in Beer-Sheva. Established in partnership with Teva Pharmaceuticals, the experiential science center offers children a chance to “touch” science in an informal and fun environment.

This year Perach expanded its activities for the public and initiated a Scientific Story Time for kindergarten children there.

Perach has also implemented a new program designed to reduce escalating youth violence. Titled Children of the Night, the project connects youth-at-risk with students trained to communicate with them, ultimately helping them find their way out of a cycle of alcohol, drug abuse and violence.

In this collaboration between Keshev L’Noar in the Beer-Sheva Municipality, the Student Union...
Sasa, a mother of five, who only had four years of schooling, celebrates completion of the Kidma program. She wanted to study so that she would be an example to her children.

and Perach, the students go out in the middle of the night to make contact. They serve as the bridge, working to approach the youth and hopefully find them support through the municipality.

**Alumni Association**

The Alumni Association has moved from the Public Affairs Department to the University Marketing Unit, reflecting the shift in the University’s approach to alumni outreach.

The Association purchased a new system to manage the existing alumni database. Efforts continue to identify and involve those who have not yet registered. Those wishing to update their details and experience difficulties can contact the Association Coordinator at alumni@bgu.ac.il.

Graduates now have the opportunity of maintaining a BGU e-mail address for life, indicating their affiliation with their alma mater. Presently the Association is working to strengthen the networking between academic departments and their alumni, between the graduates themselves, and between the Alumni Association and graduates.

For the first time, a special edition of the University’s Hebrew newsletter *Alef, Bet, Gimmel*, dedicated to BGU alumni under the title, “The people who make a difference,” was published. The Association’s new website can be seen at www.bgu.ac.il/alumni.

**Academic Preparatory Courses**

Focused on strengthening students who may otherwise not have access to higher education, the Pre-Academic Studies Center offers a variety of specially-designed programs that prepare students for the rigors of academic life. The Center also offers personal mentoring, tutoring and outside financial support to help weaker students realize their potential.

There are currently seven students of Ethiopian origin participating in the regular preparatory tracks, thanks to the support of the Unit for Guidance for Discharged Soldiers of the Ministry of Defense and Marmanet Organization & Projects Management Int. Ltd.

This year 113 students participated in the “Horizons to Hi-tech” project designed to promote academic studies among students from the socioeconomic and geographic periphery. In May 2013, the sixth cohort will begin. The project is funded by a consortium that includes the Rashi Foundation, the Unit for Guidance for Discharged Soldiers and Marmanet.

There are also some 15 Arab students who are integrated into a variety of programs through the support of the Council of Higher Education and Marmanet.
Office of the Dean of Students

The Office of the Dean of Students works to advance student welfare in all aspects of their university experience.

A great amount of effort and resources have been invested in upgrading the dormitory experience. Double rooms have been converted into singles. Renovations of the west wing of the Zlotowski Dormitory Complex have started. The furniture and appliances have been replaced in the rooms that are not being renovated. A social meeting room was refurbished. The laundry facilities are also being upgraded.

Working with the National Insurance Institute, the University has created a number of new services for students with disabilities. New technologies and computer laboratories have been designed for special needs students. A Student Support Coordinator was recruited to accompany and assist students with medical disabilities, and a special Academic Preparation Week was held for students with learning and medical disabilities to acquaint them with the available resources and offer additional support.

In collaboration with the Israel Anti-Drug Authority, an information campaign was launched with a number of anti-drug activities held on campus. Two student coordinators were recruited. The Zlotowski Student Activities Area has been refurbished. New furniture, including tables with built-in computer charging stations, has been purchased. A number of courses have been uploaded and can now be viewed online. The public photocopiers and printers were upgraded.

The University offered expanded support to students whose spouses were doing military reserve duty. Rooms for breastfeeding and diapering areas were increased on campus and seating solutions for pregnant students were placed in classrooms.

A number of specially tailored short-term courses were created, such as a “Treatment of Procrastination and Stress during Studies” workshop and an English Language course for Arabic-speaking students. A pilot program was created in the spring semester to reduce attrition rates among Arab students studying in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Activities and services were expanded in the learning disability diagnostic center, to include high school students and psychometric exam candidates.

The BGU Debate Club organized the Red Sea Open on the Eilat Campus last fall and placed in a number of events at the European Debate Championship. A representative of the Club won the Open Championship of Israel. The Zlotowski Dance Troupe prepared a new show that they are now performing at campus events and for local communities.

During Operation Pillar of Defense the Dean’s Office took a proactive role helping students cope with their anxiety and stress, including focused intervention when deemed appropriate. Extra support staff was engaged at the Sylvia A. Brodsky Psychological Walk-In Service (Crisis Intervention Program).

Student Union

The Student Union is committed to advancing student life on all levels – from helping the individual student academically to creating a strong community spirit. A number of new initiatives were launched this year to provide targeted support for specific audiences to complement the Union’s ongoing activities.

The Union opened a dedicated office to provide administrative, academic and material support for students who do military reserve duty, the first of its kind in Israel. The office brings together services and information for all students,
thus simplifying the process while reducing bureaucratic obstacles. Counseling and tutorial support are available. The office also rents out cellular modems at a nominal cost.

In addition, the Union hired two new employees as coordinators for Arabic-speaking students. Their role is to strengthen the relationship between Arab students and the University in general and specifically with the Union. As part of their work, the coordinators are engaged in translating into Arabic information distributed by the Union and are initiating cultural events and community involvement events suitable for students from the Arab sector.

Before the national elections held this January, the Union organized a number of political events, including lectures by leaders of the major parties. In addition, it held a large-scale mock election with more than 5,000 students “voting” that received significant press coverage.

The Union’s International Affairs Division continues to grow, with a number of new programs designed to strengthen the bond between Israeli and international students. The Buddy System program encourages social interactions between international and Israeli students. A Taglit-Birthright project was launched, in which Israeli students are chosen to participate in trips with a unique approach and perspective on how to introduce Israel to the international student groups.
Following the successful model of the nationwide StandWithUs program, the Public Diplomacy program of the Ambassador’s Club was expanded to include both international and Israeli students. A new group was formed to participate in the International Model UN program, with hope that a delegation will already participate in their first meetings this summer. The program includes participation in national and international Model UN competitions, serving as a platform for future cooperation and Student Union exchanges between other participating universities, particularly in Europe.

All of this is in addition to the traditional activities of the Student Union that range from protecting students’ academic interests to organizing a wide range of social events, including the annual delegation “To Remember and Never Forget” to Poland, the hugely-successful Purim Carnival and “Negative,” the University movie theater.

The Union offers a wide range of orientation activities for new students – both about BGU and the region – and a wide range of services for all students, including a textbook lending library, assistance for IDF reservists and their spouses and an “Exam Bank” that provides an online pool of final exams from all departments to help students studying for finals.

The Division of Computing and Information Systems continues to implement new applications and technologies to improve user services and functionality for the entire University community.

Establishment of a new central computer hall has been completed, including modernized infrastructure technologies intended to improve the stability of the computing infrastructure and to reduce operational costs. The moving of the servers from the old hall to the new has already begun and is expected to be completed during the year.
A decision has been made to replace HighLearn (the current e-learning platform) with Moodle (an open-source platform). Hundreds of courses are already being moved to the new environment. Students have also benefitted from the development of smartphone applications to see exam locations, access grades and follow tuition payments. The online course registration system has been significantly improved, including the English interface.

New technologies were implemented to augment the University backup (Data Domain), the recruitment of administrative staff based on the CRM program (SalesForce) and the University’s website (Sharepoint 2013). A number of green technology innovations have been introduced to reduce electricity costs for computers.

A comprehensive renovation of the library lobby went beyond improving the physical conditions – it reconceived the public space and transformed it into a center of activity for the community. The new lobby includes a Café-Gallery, comfortable armchairs and tables, wireless internet and changing art exhibitions at the Avraham Baron Gallery. An exhibition focusing on the library’s history was also added.

A separate area was built to allow for the printing and scanning of library materials. Technical assistance is available all day. The library continues to work with academic departments in identifying areas where its collections can be strengthened.

The collection has been enriched accordingly, with new books, journals and databases.

Emphasis was placed in 2012 on the purchase of electronic books in all fields and in various languages, including the purchase of two of the most prestigious and important Springer-Verlag series: “Lecture Notes in Computer Science” and “Lecture Notes in Mathematics.” This acquisition provides full access to thousands of the best and most important books in the fields of computer science, mathematics and statistics. “Kotar,” a collection of thousands of e-books in Hebrew, and a collection of e-books and e-documents in Arabic that deal with different aspects of Middle East Studies were also purchased. The library received a special grant from the Rector’s Office, which made possible the purchase of additional books in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Technological changes were introduced to improve service to students, researchers and management, including the computerization of the Interlibrary Loan procedure. A new home page customized to the library’s needs was created, including the in-house development of a search engine for the identification of appropriate databases. In the Circulation Department, a new, more efficient format for handling readers’ files was developed.
Milestones

1. The Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School, which was revolutionary at the time because of its emphasis on community-based multi-cultural healthcare, is marking its 40th anniversary.

2. Fourteen Jordanian students graduated from a unique three-year program in Emergency Medicine at the Faculty of Health Sciences.

3. BGU’s unique Academic Program – operated with the Pilot Training Course of the Israeli Air Force – marked its tenth anniversary. For the past ten years, Air Force cadets have received a Bachelor’s degree as part of their training course in one of four tracks: Mathematics and Computer Science (BSc), Information Systems Management (BA), Economics and Management (BA), and Politics, Government and Management (BA).
Now marking its 10th anniversary, the Eilat Campus has taken a leadership role in developing Israel’s most southern city and the Arava region. The Campus has expanded its academic offerings, invested in its research infrastructure and accepted its first post-graduate fellows. The majority of undergraduate students studying in Eilat are from other locales, while those studying for a Master’s degree are increasingly from the surrounding region.

Both the quantity and quality of the students continues to rise. This year for the first time 16 Master’s scholarships based on merit were offered, enhancing the advanced research work being done. There has also been an increase in the number of students who continue on to an advanced degree, particularly in social work, hotel and tourism management and marine biology.

Working with the nearby Arava Institute, the University is expanding its course offerings in English with the hope to transform itself into a truly international campus. Similarly, in coordination with the Municipality of Eilat and the Eilat-Elot Regional Council, the University is taking a leadership role in developing the local hi-tech industry in fields such as renewable energies and other green technologies, helping to realize the unique potential of the region.

Realizing the Potential of the Region

Keren Levy, a graduate of the Master’s Program in Marine Biology, exploring the depths of the Red Sea.

Photo: Omer Polek
New and Noteworthy (Cont.)

The Adelis Garden was dedicated in acknowledgement of the Fondation Adelis’ support of renewable energy research and solar energy.

New Academic Programs, Centers and Research Activities

With the generous support of Daniel Guggenheim, President of the Bona Terra Foundation, Switzerland, two departments in the Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental and Energy Research have been named: the Bona Terra Department of Man in the Desert and the Alexandre Yersin Department of Solar Energy and Environmental Physics.

The Jordan Baruch Stem Cell Research Fund was dedicated in memory of a renowned scientist and inventor, with the support of his wife Rhoda Baruch, USA, and the extended Baruch family.

A major research plan for the ABC Robotics Center, focusing on agricultural, biological and cognitive robotics, was made possible through the generous support of the Helmsley Charitable Trust Fund, USA.

Prof. Riad Agbaria, Director of BGU’s School of Pharmacy in the Faculty of Health Sciences, has been appointed advisor to the Rector for Arab Student Affairs.

Physical Development

Fanny’s House – the WIZO Day Care Center at Ben-Gurion University is being dedicated this May in the presence of Mrs. Fanny Cohen Kohn of Caracas, Venezuela and the WIZO administration.

The Ben-Gurion National Solar Energy Center on the Sede Boqer Campus will be completed this year with the support of the French Associates of BGU.

Photo: Yoav Galai
The Kahanoff Foundation of Canada provided generous support to fund the Desert Buds project that will significantly increase the number of Bedouin students enrolling and completing their studies at the University, particularly in the Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Honors Bestowed
André Deloro, founder of the Adelis Foundation, was awarded the Ben-Gurion Leadership Award in recognition of his visionary work to promote research in renewable energies and sustainable development shortly before he passed away.

CEO of Deutsche Telekom AG René Obermann was awarded the Ben-Gurion Leadership Award in recognition of his ability to recognize growth and development in ideas that are only just emerging.

Excellence Recognized
Shimon Adaf, a lecturer in the Department of Hebrew Literature, was granted the Order of Civil Merit at the direction of His Majesty King Juan Carlos I of Spain for her contribution to research about Sephardic Jewry and the heritage of Spain in the Middle Ages and her role in promoting Spanish-Israeli relations.

Prof. (Emeritus) Aharon Appelfeld of the Department of Hebrew Literature has been awarded the 2012 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize for his Holocaust survival story, Blooms of Darkness.

Prof. Ashraf Brik, a member of the Department of Chemistry and the Edmond J. Safra Center for the Design and Engineering of Functional Biopolymers, received the Tetrahedron Young Investigator Award - Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry for 2013 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of bioorganic and medicinal chemistry.

BGU’s Academic Secretary Prof. Ariel Feldestein received the President’s and Prime Minister’s Memorial Council’s Lifetime Achievement Award for his efforts to commemorate the memory and heritage of Israel’s first Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

The Eilat-Eilot International Renewable Energy Conference

The Jusidman Science Center for Youth

Established in collaboration between the University, the Jusidman family of Mexico, the Rashi Foundation, Beer-Sheva Municipality and the Ministry of Education, the Jusidman Science Center for Youth is in the advanced planning stage.

The Center will bring together all the University’s existing activities for science-oriented youth, while also developing a variety of new programs, all aimed at promoting excellence in education and encouraging young people’s interest in science and technology subjects.

Knowing that the future of the Negev depends primarily on its human assets, JSCY will offer ongoing programs for junior high and high school students as well as one-time visits that will expose them to these programs, in an effort to nurture the talents of local youth and motivate them to choose a career in science and technology fields.

Dr. Rachel Knoll, a graduate of BGU’s Department of Physics, was appointed as Director of JSCY. She is currently writing a design brief program that will serve as the basis for detailed architectural planning. The construction of the building, to be located near the University’s Gate of Aliyah, is expected to be completed within three years.
New and Noteworthy (Cont.)

More than 500 people from around the world participated in the international conference Drylands, Deserts and Desertification
Photo: Wolfgang Motzafi-Haller

bestowed a Lifetime Achievement Award upon Prof. (Emeritus) David Faiman on behalf of the Eilat-Eilot Regional Council, the Energy and Water Ministry and the Bryan Medwed family for his groundbreaking work as the founding director of the Ben-Gurion National Solar Energy Center at the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research.

Dr. Ya’akov (Kobi) Gal from the Department of Information Systems Engineering received the Krill Prize for academic excellence among young Israeli scientists, granted annually by the Wolf foundation, for his work designing “intelligent agents” – algorithms that let computers, robots and smart phones interact with other people or computers.

Prof. Hugo Guterman from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering was recognized by the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI), Israel Chapter for his work advancing the development of unmanned vehicles.

Prof. Amir Karniel, Chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering, was awarded the
Managing our Conflicts

The Conflict Management and Resolution Program is flourishing. Now in its seventh year, it recently opened two new unique academic programs in addition to the Master’s program on the Marcus Family Campus in Beer-Sheva. One in Eilat caters to senior officials in the city and the area, while another is being taught at the Haredi College of Jerusalem.

“We have always been connected to fieldwork. It’s very important not to barricade oneself in an ivory tower,” says director Prof. Shifra Sagy, incumbent of the Shane Family Chair in Education and head of the Martin-Springer Center for the Study of Conflict Management and Resolution.

Sagy’s background is in psychology so she has always insisted on studying conflict on multiple levels. One unexpected twist of the program is that all five faculty positions are filled by women. “It just worked out that way, but it does have its uses,” says Sagy. “They say women are more open to compromise, so maybe we are the case that proves the point.” Faculty members include psychologist Dr. Sarah Abu-Kaf, Dr. Orna Braun Lewensohn, poet Nidaa Khoury, and Dr. Ayelet Shalev-Harel, currently on sabbatical at UCLA, who is supported by the Ernst Fund.

Geneticist Prof. Ohad Birk from the National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev and head of the Morris Kahn Laboratory of Human Genetics at BGU appeared on the widely successful BBC’s Doha Debates, filmed in Qatar, as an expert on genetic diseases in Arabs.

Prof. Hugo Guterman from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering is leading the only foreign team accepted to participate in the US Department of Defense’s DARPHA Robotics Challenge, focused on designing control software for a designated robot.

Dr. Raz Zarivach of the Department of Life Sciences and a member of the National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev was named an EMBO Young Investigator by the prestigious European life sciences organization.

Regional and International Impact

Dr. Sigal Abramovich from the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences is spearheading BGU’s involvement in the new National Scientific Consortium that has been created to launch the Israel Center for Mediterranean Sea Research focused on research into gas extraction, marine infrastructure, desalination and related topics.
Guided by the principle that working together builds long-term relationships, the Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management organized a Business for Peace Competition. The year-long process involved fielding proposals from tens of projects. The final three winners were culled from the 19 projects that made it to the final round.

Contestants had to come up with innovative ideas to bridge the gap between Israelis and Palestinians that provide financial benefit to both sides. Generously supported by Guilford Glazer of Los Angeles, who has actively supported people-to-people encounters as a way to build coexistence in the region, the winning project was submitted by two undergraduate students from the Department of Software Engineering and involved creating an online system for hi-tech employment and job outsourcing between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.
The Future Starts With You

Thanks to your support and involvement, BGU is able to grow and meet the changing needs of the 21st Century

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Campuses
Marcus Family Campus
David Bergmann Campus
David Tuviyahu Campus

Dormitory Complexes
AABGU Student Dormitory Complex
American Associates Village at Sede Boqer
Zlotowski Dormitory Complex

Buildings
Alon Building for Hi-Tech
Jacqueline Ann Ayrton Sports Hall
Samuel and Milada Ayrton University Center
Boyko Research Building
Caroline House – Health Sciences Student Center
Gershon Cherni Classroom and Cultural Complex
Sir John and Lady Cohen Building
Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Building
Deichmann Building for Community Action
Deichmann Building for Mathematics
Ruth and Heinz-Horst Deichmann Building for Health Professions
Ruth and Heinz-Horst Deichmann Classroom and Computer Laboratory Building
Ruth and Heinz-Horst Deichmann Sciences Building
Helen Diller Family Center
Pedro Dondisch Building for the Ben-Gurion Heritage Institute and Research Center
Raquel Dondisch Education Building
Edy’s House – Ma’agan Beer-Sheva Community Center Cancer Care Project
Ariel Elia Medical Building
George Evens Family Auditorium
Fanny’s House – WIZO Day Care Center
Bâtiment de Recherche Clinique, Fondation “Flamme” Diane and Guilford Glazer Building

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Larry Goodman Family Administration Building for Engineering Sciences
Ida (Babe) Goodstein Building
Sam Gorovoy Building
Grosman Building for Geology
Pesla Toman Gutman Building
Guzik Family Auditorium Building
Nahum and Anna Guzik Building
Henwood-Oshry Life Sciences Teaching Laboratories Building
Kreitman Building
Kreitman-Zlotowski Classroom Building
Philip and Bernice Krupp Building
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Marjorie and Gustave Levey Dormitory Building
Foyer des Etudiants Fondation Simon et Jeanne (Hanna) Mani
Minkoff Family Senate Court
W.A. Minkoff Senate Hall
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Spitzer-Salant Building for the Department of Social Work
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Zlotowski Classroom Complex
Zlotowski Student Administration Building
Zlotowski Student Center
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Adelis Garden
Samuel Ayrton Sports Pavilion
Avraham Baron Art Gallery
Benhamou Incubation Center
Benhamou Technology Hall
Berelson Field
Marcel Bleustein-Blanchet Lecture Halls Wing
Simon Bond Physiology Wing
Frances Brody Laboratory
Niusia and Aron Chliewich Square
Charlotte and Evelyn Cohen Floor
Jerry J. Cohen Radiobiology Laboratory
Sir John and Lady Cohen Swimming Pools
Corob Center for Medical Sciences
Maxwell and Queenie Cummings Plaza
Deichmann Plaza
Department of Mathematics Research Laboratories Wing
Deutsche Telekom Laboratories at BGU
Michael Diller Teaching Pool
Raquel Dondisch Amphitheater for the Ben-Gurion Heritage Institute and Research Center
Harry T. and Shirley Dozor Medical Research Pavilion
Gerson Epstein Physiology Wing
M. Ernst Wing
Field Family Foundation Medical Simulation Center
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Stan and Ruth Elaine Flinkman Microscopy Wing
French House Dormitories
Nathan Galston Floor
Dr. Carl Gans Herpetology Library
Fanny and Louis Goldman Dining Room
Joyce Goldman Auditorium
Melvin Goldstein Laboratory for Environmental Hydrology
Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Wing for Diabetes Research and Education
Greenpark International Greenhouse
Guzik Family Antiquities Pathway
Morris Kahn Laboratory of Human Genetics
Carole and Barry Kaye Mall
Israel Chatar and Lola Blum Kohon Dormitory Wing
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Kreitman Fellows Common Room
Kreitman Plaza
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Lewar Cardiology Research Laboratory
Dr. Gabriele and Eng. Max Lichtenberg Floor
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Zlotowski Student Activities Area
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National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev
Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental and Energy Research
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Goldstein-Goren Department of Jewish Thought
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Toby Mower Curriculum for the Prevention and Treatment of Addiction
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Israel and Bernard Nichunsky Chair in Desert Agriculture – Prof. Dudy Bar-Zvi
Lily and Sidney Oelbaum Chair in Applied Biochemistry – Prof. Amir Sagi
Claire and Harold Oshry Chair in Biotechnology – Prof. Smadar Cohen
Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut Chair in Manufacturing Engineering – Prof. Yael Edan
Chairs (Cont.)

Alain Poher Chair in Hydrogeology and Arid Zones –
Prof. Elion Adar
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Edward and Bertha Rose Chair in Desert Meteorology –
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Davide and Irene Sala Chair in Nuclear Engineering –
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Eric Samson Chair in Advanced Materials and Processing –
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Ernest Scheller, Jr. Chair in Innovative Management –
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Prof. Pedro Berliner
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Prof. Haim Be’er
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Prof. Ron N. Apte
Bennie Slome Chair for Applied Research in Animal Breeding for Human Nutrition in Arid Lands –
Prof. Allan Degen
Milton (Mickey) and Frimette Snow Chair in Nanotechnology –
Prof. Yehuda Band
Robert St. John Chair in Objective Middle East Reporting
Clara and Alejandro Stransky Chair in Nephrology –
Prof. Yoram Yagil
Benjamin Swig Chair in Optoelectrics –
Prof. Joseph Rosen
Anne Tanenbaum Chair in Engineering Thermodynamics –
Prof. Eugene B. Zaretsky

Myles Thaler Chair in Plant Genetics –
Prof. Michal Shapira
Marsha and Kenneth Tucker Chair in Economic Development –
Pending incumbent
John A. Ungar Chair in Biotechnology –
Prof. Shoshana Arad
Stanley D. and Nikki Waxberg Chair in Advanced Materials –
Prof. Rachel Yerushalmi-Rozen
George and Florence Wise Chair in Medical Education
Solly Yellin Chair in Lithuanian and East European Jewry –
Prof. Edward Fram
Abraham and Bessie Zacks Chair in Desert Ecology –
Prof. Zvika Abramsky
Abraham and Bessie Zacks Chair in Biomedical Engineering –
Prof. Joseph Kost
Zlotowski Chair in Cognitive Neuropsychology –
Prof. Avishai Henik
David and Helen Zlotowski Chair in Operator Theory and Systems –
Prof. Avraham Feintuch

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Evelyn Metz Memorial Research Chair in Art –
Prof. Katrin Kogman-Appel

Career Development Chairs
Joan Baker Career Development Chair in Basic Medical Research –
Dr. Ayelet David
Norbert Blechner and Friends Career Development Chair in East European Jewish Culture –
Pending incumbent
Gerson Epstein Career Development Chair in Hospice and Palliative Care –
Pending incumbent
Ilse Katz Career Development Chair in Health Sciences Research –
Pending incumbent
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Dr. Rafi Shikler
D.E. Koshland Jr. Family Career Development Chair in Desert Studies –
Dr. Sarab Abu-Rabia-Queder
Lapin-Garner Career Development Chair in Clinical Surgery –
  Dr. Eldad Silberstein
Dr. Sam and Edna Lemkin Career Development Chair in Middle East Studies –
  Pending incumbent
Dr. Gabi and Eng. Max Lichtenberg Career Development Chair in Infectious Diseases –
  Dr. Lisa Saidel-Odes
Dr. Gabi and Eng. Max Lichtenberg Career Development Chair in Pediatric Medicine –
  Dr. Aviv Goldbart
Dr. Gabi and Eng. Max Lichtenberg Career Development Chair in Surgery –
  Dr. Boris Kirshtein
Franklin Nassery Career Development Chair in Cardiology –
  Dr. Arik Wolak
Belle and Murray Nathan Career Development Chair in Neurobiology –
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  Ms. Miriyam Farkash
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Alfassa Foundation Scholarship Fund
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Robert Arnow Fund
Robert H. Arnow Fund for Bedouin Students
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Margaret J. & Hyman Danowitz Scholarship Fund
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Dolfi & Lola Ebner Family Scholarship Fund
Abraham & Ida Echenberg Perpetual Scholarship/Fellowship Fund
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Julie (Judith) Eisner Nee Frolich Memorial Medical Scholarship Fund
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Prof. Chaim Elata Library Development Fund
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Fehr Chair Fund
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Aaron Fish Scholarship Fund
Eric M. Flanders Fund in Palliative Medicine
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Fohs Foundation Undergraduate & Graduate Scholarship Fund
Julius Fohs Student Loan Fund
Samuel Jacob Fox & Gertrude Alice Fox Scholarship Fund
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Lynne & William Frankel Center for Computer Sciences Fund
Estelle Frankfurter Columbia Program Fund
Estelle Frankfurter Fund
Rachel Freeman Memorial Open Apartment Endowment Fund
French Associates Institute for Agriculture & Biotechnology of Drylands
Aron & Yehudit Friedman Scholarship Fund
Ernest & Anna Fuchs Memorial Scholarship Fund
Erna H. Furst Memorial Scholarship Fund
Gaines Graduate Scholarship Fund at AKIS
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Dr. Carl Gans Herpetology Library Fund
Nessim & Renee Gaon Sephardi Heritage & Literature Library Fund
Lola Gerder Scholarship Fund
Lillian & Abraham Gezelter Scholarship Fund
Eliahu & Rowhani Ghodsian Medical Student Tuition Scholarship Fund
Dr. Zeev & Shlomit Gilad Memorial Scholarship Fund
Sid Gillman Competitive Sports Fund
Stanley Ginsburg Family Scholarship Fund
David & Luba Glatt Scholarship Fund
David & Luba Glatt Prize Fund for Excellence in Teaching
Guilford Glazer School of Business & Management Fund
William N. Goldenberg Scholarship Fund
Sam Goldfarb Social Work Fund
Irving Goldman Scholarship Fund for Doctoral Students
Joyce & Irving Goldman Family Medical School Fund
Horace W. Goldsmith Fdn. Graduate Scholarship Fund in Science, Math & Technology
Jean Goldsmith Ethiopian Jews Integration Fund
John Goldsmith Mem. Prize Fund for Excellence in Occupational/Environmental Health
Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Scholarship Fund
Goldstein-Goren Jewish Thought Dept. Fund
Avram & Stella Goldstein-Goren Biotechnology Engineering Dept. Fund
Jacob A. & Saralie Goodman Scholarship Fund
Robert Goodman Open Apartments Fund
Goodman Family Fund for Graduate & Post Graduate Research at Albert Katz Int’l. School
Lisa & Dunya Goodstein Scholarship Fund
Victor H. Graber Memorial Fund for Ethiopian Students
Dr. Harry Grabstald Memorial Scholarship Fund
Michael M. H. Gross Fund
BGU Major Endowment Funds (Cont.)

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<td>Lord Jakobovits Center for Jewish Medical Ethics</td>
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<td>Kabak Fund for Agricultural Research</td>
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<td>Aryeh Keshet Heart Disease Research Fund</td>
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<td>Dr. Herman Kessel Applied Biology Fund</td>
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<td>Sonia, Zvi &amp; Dr. Moshe Kroi Memorial Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Paul Ivanier Center for Robotics Research &amp; Production Management Fund</td>
<td>Ada Kruger Memorial Scholarship Fund for Medical Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goldie D. Ivener (Daughter of Charles &amp; Lillie Ivener) Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>Fredrick Krupp Memorial Scholarship Fund for Soviet Students</td>
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<td>Charles &amp; Lillie Ivener Mental Health Library Fund</td>
<td>Philip Krupp Memorial Scholarship Fund Kunin-Lunenfeld Chair Fund</td>
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<td>Lily S. &amp; Herman M. Kurz Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>John &amp; Rose Kurtz Memorial Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Ira Lahat-Gerzberg Fund Center for Business, Technology &amp; Society</td>
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<td>Landau Family Microalgal Biotechnology Laboratory Fund</td>
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Prof. Ladislaus & Nelly Laszt Fund
Eugenia Lauterbach Memorial Fund in Desert Research
Lauterbach-Landau Family Scholarship for Students of Desert Research
Eda Edith Lavitt Scholarship Fund
Sarah Lehman Scholarship Fund for Soviet Students
Adele Lehrer Memorial Cultural Series
John & Claire Lenoir Scholarship Fund
Stephen O. Lesser Scholarship Fund
Chaim Michel & Chaya Freyda Levine Scholarship Fund
Eda Edith Lavitt Scholarship Fund
Sarah Lehman Scholarship Fund for Soviet Students
Adele Lehrer Memorial Cultural Series
John & Claire Lenoir Scholarship Fund
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Dr. Jacob Mantheim Scholarship Fund
Margolin Scholarship Fund in Memory of Lisa & David Tuviyahu
Werner Marienthal Scholarship Fund
Hermine Weinberg & Frieda Maslin Schol. Fund for Education, Teaching & Jewish History
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Carmelo Mauro Scholarship Fund
Abe Mayman Family Medicine Research Fund
Waldo Mayo Memorial Scholarship Fund
Joseph & Cel Mazer Fellowship Exchange Fund
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Prof. Mehrez Memorial Fund for Prizes of Excellence in Management
David Mendell Scholarship Fund
Morris Metz Library Development Fund
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Reuben Menashe Meyer Fellowships for Medical Education Center
Joseph Meyerhoff Electrical Engineering Scholarship Fund
Prof. Dan Meyerstein Chemistry Research Fund
Minerva Junior Research Group on “Quantum-Atom Optics”
Louise Mitrani Center for Desert Ecology Fund
Marco & Louise Mitrani Scholarship Fund
Mitrani / Tekoaah Fund
Gertrude & Bernard Mohr Scholarship Fund
Monaster Center for Economic Research Fund
Dr. and Mrs. Morton Mower Scholarship Fund
Toby Mower Addiction Prevention & Treatment Fund
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Ruth & Arthur Ness Applied Research Fund
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Oberlander Fund for Research at Negev Center for Regional Development
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Rae & Judah Schaverien Scholarship Fund
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Ann Schoenfeld Scholarship Fund
Alexander M. Schoenfeld Scholarship Fund in Botany
David Schreiber & Clara Vinocur Schreiber Memorial Trust
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Schwartzman/Medvedi Fund for Research in Arid Zones & Aquatic Biotechnology
Leanor Segal Scholarship Fund
Leonard Shane General Fund
Charles & M. R. Shapiro Scholarship Fund
Scholarship Fund for Students from Ofakim
Harry & Abe Sherman Foundation Education Fund
Harry & Abe Sherman Teaching & Research Equipment Fund
Nathan Shreiber Scholarship Fund
George Shrut Scholarship Fund
Dr. Lee Winston Silver Memorial Equipment Fund
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Sklar Scholarship Fund in Memory of Samuel & Golde Sklar
Harriet & Stanley L. Sloane Yitzhak HaLevi Scholarship Fund
Stanley Laurie Sloane Memorial Graduate Scholarship Fund
Charles B. Sloane Scholarship Fund
Irene & Joseph Smelkinson Scholarship Fund
Sobkowska (Jadzia Schachter) Scholarship Fund
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Albert & Harriet Soffa Graduate Scholarship Fund
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Ida & Solomon Stern Psychiatric Research Unit
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Egon & Ursula Taus Scholarship Fund
Gate of Aliya Fund in Memory of Yosef Tekoah
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Herbert & Vivian Thaler Visiting Scientists Fund
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Zoltan Toman General Research Fund
Zoltan Toman Medical Research Fund
Maria & Zoltan Toman Fund for Academic Excellence
Zoltan Toman Library Fund
Zoltan Toman Maintenance Fund
Zoltan Toman Equipment Fund
Toronto Prize for Excellence in Research
Drs. Helen & Frank Trager Scholarship Fund in History or Government & Politics
Moises & Chana Trottnner Scholarship Fund
Marsha & Kenneth Tucker Scholarship Fund
Tuviyahu Archives Fund
Ullman for the Center for Women’s Health Studies & Promotion
Ungar Foundation Educational Counselling Fund
Irving Usen Library Development Fund
Ed Vickar Social Work Library Fund
Albert & Elaine Viton Scholarship Fund
Irene Walsh & H. Volder Scholarships Fund
Ilona & Bernat Wachs Fund
Mendel Wasserman Career Development Chair in Desert Studies Fund
Stanley D. & Nikki Waxberg Scholarship Fund
David Waxman Scholarship Fund in Memory of Nissan, Sara & David Waxman
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Jack D. Weiler Fellowships Fund
Jack & Doris Weiler Fund for Bedouin Studies
Elsa Weinberg Building Maintenance Fund
Josephine & David Weinberg Scholarship Fund
Lee Weinstock Memorial Scholarship Fund
Philip Weiss Cancer Research Fund
Rudolph Weiss Scholarship Fund
Louis & Anna Werfel Memorial Scholarship Fund
Sumner White Fund for MD PhD Program
Gary Winig Ophthalmology Fellowship Fund
Florence & George Wise Medical Education Chair Fund
Martin W. & Carol S. Witte Electrical & Computer Engineering Scholarship Fund
Wyler Fund for Extensive Dryland Agriculture
Zvi & Zvia Yemini Graduate Scholarship Fund
Dov Yitzhaky Memorial Scholarship Fund for the Study of Israel & Zionism
Maurice & Sylvia Young Memorial Scholarship Fund
Brian Yule Water Resources Fund
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Bloom Zeitlin Scholarship Fund
Max & Pauline Zimmer Family Scholarship Fund
Zlotnik Scholarship Fund for Outstanding Women in the School of Management
Zlotowski Fund
Sam Zuckerberg Scholarship Fund for the Zuckerberg Institute for Water Research
## Lifetime Achievement Award

### 1996
- Milada Ayrton
- Suzanne Zlotowski

### 1997
- Ilse Katz
- George Shrut

### 1998
- Dr. Heinz-Horst Deichmann
- Prof. Sidney Gelber
- Hyman Kreitman

### 1999
- Norbert Blechner

### 2000
- Robert H. Arnow
- Shimon Peres

### 2001
- Edgar D. de Picciotto

### 2003
- Jack J. Spitzer

### 2004
- Col. Ilan Ramon
- Lord Weidenfeld of Chelsea

### 2010
- Prof. Avishay Braverman

## Doctor of Philosophy Honoris Causa

### 1979
- Aron Chilewich
- Prof. Haim Hanani
- Hyman Kreitman

### 1980
- Lane Kirkland
- Dr. Alec Lerner
- Prof. Leo Picard
- Prof. Natan Rosen

### 1981
- Prof. John Beck

### 1982
- Judge Shlomo Elkayam
- General Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
- Dr. Zoltan Toman
- David Tuviyahu (posthumous)

### 1983
- Roberta Abrams
- Prof. Michael Evenari
- Senator Edward M. Kennedy
- Prof. Benjamin Mazar
- Prof. Cecil G. Sheps

### 1984
- Arnold Forster
- Dr. Thomas O. Hecht
- Shimon Peres
- Isaac Bashevis Singer
- Barbara Tuchman
- Prof. Ephraim Elimelech Urbach
- Lord Weidenfeld of Chelsea

### 1985
- Prof. Joshua Jortner
- Teddy Kollek
- Dr. George Wise

### 1986
- Justice Simon Agranat
- President Chaim Herzog
- Joseph Jacobson
- Dr. Paul Janssen
- Dr. Steven A. Rosenberg
- Dr. Abram L. Sachar

### 1987
- Lady Sarah Cohen
- Prof. Haim Harari
- Paul Ivanier
- Abba Kovner
- Bertram Lubner
- Prof. Moshe Prywes
- George Shrut

### 1988
- Conrad Abrahams-Curiel
- Milada Ayrton
- Sir Isaiah Berlin
- Yeshayahu Dan
- Prof. Michael Feldman
- Prof. Sidney Gelber
- Moshe Nessim
- Prof. Elie Wiesel
- Aharon Yadlin

### 1989
- Norbert Blechner
- Avram Goldstein-Goren
- Prof. Zeev Hadari
- Prof. Roald Hoffmann
- Philip Krupp
- Milton Petrie
- Prof. Menahem E. Yaari
- Haim Zadok
- Suzanne Zlotowski

### 1990
- Prof. Shimshon Amitsur
- Dr. Heinz-Horst Deichmann
- Ronald Oelbaum
- Leonard Shane

### 1991
- Nathan Sharansky
- Prof. Solomon H. Snyder
- Maestro Isaac Stern

### 1992
- Marcel Bleustein-Blanchet
- Uri Lubrani
- Annemarie Reenger
- Prof. Alexander E. Sheindlin
- Jack J. Spitzer
- Maj. Gen. (res.) Israel Tal

### 1993
- Prof. Kenneth J. Arrow
- Abba Eban
- Amb. Max Kampelman
- Ilse Katz
- President François Mitterrand
- Dr. Davide Sala
- Eric Samuel
- President Ezer Weizman

### 1994
- Yitzhak Ben-Aharon
- Mendel Kaplan
- Siegfried Lenz
- Naomi Shemer
- Anne Tanenbaum
- Prof. Pinhas Zusman

### 1995
- Amb. Mohamed Abdel Aziz Bassiouny
- Dr. Domingo Cavallo
- Prof. Daniel Cohen
- Ariel Elia
Dr. Wolfgang Hasenclever
Prof. Jacob Katz
Dr. Helmut Kohl
Harold Oshry
Justice Meir Shamgar
Avraham Shohat
Frederick Siegmund
Michael W. Sonnenfeldt
Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz
Martin Wyler

1996
Moshe Arens
Dr. Joseph Burg
Arye Love Eliav
Dr. Paul Feher
Dr. Johannes Gerster
Nadine Gordimer
President Prof. Ephraim Katzir
Hubert Leven
Prof. Bernard Lewis
Harry Stern
Prof. Joseph Stiglitz
Simon Wiesenthal
Dr. Felix Zandman

1997
S. Daniel Abraham
Amb. Asher Ben-Natan
Harry T. Dozor
Ruth Dayan
Shlomo Hillel
Prof. Ora Kedem
President Nelson Mandela
Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan
President Yitzhak Navon
Dr. Ferdinand Piëch
Prof. Howard Raiffa
Dr. Edward Steinberg
Prof. Zvi Yavetz
Zvi Zurr

2004
Eliyahu Amir
Nina Brink
Edgar M. Bronfman
Prof. Aaron J. Ciechanover
Prof. Beno Eckmann
Ida Fink
Prof. Alain Finkielkraut
Dr. Richard D. Klausner
Benzion Landa
Dr. Howard W. Marcus
Lottie R. Marcus
Amb. Thomas R. Pickering
Seymour R. Powers
Lt. Col. (res.) Arnold Simon
Prof. Sasson Somekh
The Rt. Hon. David Trimble

2005
Yossi Banai
Rear Admiral (ret.)
Dr. Susan J. Blumenthal
Lucien Y. Bronicki
Ralph I. Goldman
Dr. Leroy E. Hood
Prof. Daniel E. Koshland, Jr.
Claude Lelouch
Morton L. Mandel
Richard J. Pratt AC
Prof. Jehuda Reinharz
Terry Meyerhoff
Rubenstein
Ali Salem (in absentia)
Justice Jacob Türkel

2006
Shulamit Aloni
André Azoulay
Justice Aharon Barak
Stephen K. Breslauer
Prof. Yossi Gorny
Adv. Yair Glicker
Morris S. Kahn
Prof. Alexander Levitzki

1998
Yehiel Admoni
Eric A. Benhamou
Prof. Haim Doron
Prof. Stanley Fisher
President Roman Herzog
Dr. Henry Kissinger
Mario Vargas Llosa
President Dr. Johannes Rau
Yitzhak Shamir
Prof. Dr. Rita Süssmuth
Kenneth L. Tucker
Ed Vickar
Stef Wertheimer

1999
Yehuda Amichai
Roberto Benigni
Prof. Yehudit Birnbaum
Yoel De Malach
Uzia Galil
Prof. Sir Aaron Klug
Albert Memmi
Prof. Klaus Schwab
Murray H. Shusterman
Barbara Walters

2000
Zvi Alon
Ing. Pedro Donchischi
Prof. Jacob Frenkel
Haim Gouri
Sami Michael
Prof. Sadako Ogata
Prof. Michael Rabin
Prof. Meir Wilchek
James D. Wolfensohn
Prof. Amnon Yariv
Solly Yellin

2001
Dr. Hubert Burda

2002
Prof. Baruch Blumberg
Elie Elalouf
President Vicente Fox Quesada
Amb. Richard Holbrooke
Eli Hurvitz
Efraim Ilan
Prof. Philip Needleman
Prof. Gershon Shaked
Prof. Dan Shechtman
Friede Springer
Elsa Weinberg
Prof. Ada Yonath

2003
Prof. Haim Aviv
Arnold M. Bengis
Jack J. Dreyfus, Jr.
Prof. Joel L. Fleishman
Prof. Hillel Furstenberg
Dorian S. Goldman
Lawrence Goodman
Prof. Daniel Kahneman
Dr. Bernard Kouchner
Dr. Mathilde Krim
Dr. Richard A. Lerner
Dr. Paul A. Marks
Eliyahu Navi

2004
Eliyahu Amir
Nina Brink
Edgar M. Bronfman
Prof. Aaron J. Ciechanover
Prof. Beno Eckmann
Ida Fink
Prof. Alain Finkielkraut
Dr. Richard D. Klausner
Benzion Landa
Dr. Howard W. Marcus
Lottie R. Marcus
Amb. Thomas R. Pickering
Seymour R. Powers
Lt. Col. (res.) Arnold Simon
Prof. Sasson Somekh
The Rt. Hon. David Trimble
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Henry A. Weiss

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Prof. Aharon Appelfeld
Prof. Ruth Arnon
Robert Equey
Haim Israeli
Ada Karmi-Melamede
Dr. Marie-Claire King
Galia Maor
Channa Marron
Prof. Michael I. Posner
Marc Rich
Leanor Segal
Prof. Hermona Soreq

2008
Prof. Yehuda Bauer
MK Prof. Avishay Braverman
Prof. Claude Cohen-Tannoudji
Justice Dalia Dorner
Stanley D. Ginsburg
Dr. Ágnes Heller
Prof. Amos Oz
Tzipi Pines Proshan
Baron David René James de Rothschild
Carol Saal
Rubin Salant
Prof. Michal Schwartz

2009
Dr. Mohammed Al-Hadid
Gila Almagor
Prof. Hanoch Gutfreund
Dani Karavan
Amb. Ronald S. Lauder
Rina Schenfeld

Prof. Alice Shalvi
Prof. Anita Shapira
Prof. Dr. Bernhard Vogel
Haim Yavin
Roy J. Zuckerberg

2010
Rachel Elboim Dror
Prof. Peter Fritz
Yekutiel Gershoni
Gustave S. Levey
Maj. Gen. (res.) Amram Mitzna
H.E. Miguel Ángel Moratinos
Toby Mower
Abraham Ben David
Ohayon
Eliora Ron
Eric F. Ross
Dr. Martine Rothblatt
H.E. Simone Veil
A.B. Yehoshua

2011
Azaria Alon
Raya Strauss Bendror
Prof. France A. Córdova
Bob Geldof KBE
Sir Martin Gilbert
Yehudit Hendel
Rivka Michaeli
Prof. Donna E. Shalala
Karen Tal
Sir Stephen Waley-Cohen
Prof. Daniel Weihs

2012
Prof. Yakir Aharonov
Adina Bar Shalom
Justice Dorit Beinisch
Prof. Howard (Haim) Cedar
The Baroness Deech DBE

H.E. Matthew Gould MBE
Prof. Deborah Lipstadt
Jean-Pierre Raffarin
Prof. Jesse Roth
Meir Shalev
Berta Yampolsky
Dr. Debrework Zewdie

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Prof. Rudolf Bloch

1974
Prof. Ernst David Bergmann
Frederick Durrenmatt

1980
Erik Blumenfeld, MdB

1982
Col. J.R. Elyachar

1988
Sueng Yune Yoo

Honorary Research Fellow
1978
Giuseppe Saverino

Ben-Gurion Negev Award
1995
Prof. Dr. Rita Suessmuth

2001
Amb. Martin S. Indyk

2003
Prof. Erich Hecker
Dr. Chaim Huber
Sara Tadmor

2004
Herbert A. Thaler

Moshe Olenik
Dr. Viola Török

2005
Eliyahu Levant
Menachem Perlmutter

2006
The Dalai Lama of Tibet
Kai-Uwe Ricke

2007
Shmuel M. Rifman

2008
Brig. Gen. (res.) Yaakov Terner

2009
Dr. Yoram Singer

2010
Yehudit Mayer

2011
Nissim Alcheh

2012
Dr. Orna Berry

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2012
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Rene Obermann
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Beer-Sheva 84105

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Karen Verstraete, Vice President karen@karenverstraete.nl
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