My life before BGU:
My professional life is divided into the research track on the one hand and the clinical track on the other. In recent years, while training as a clinical psychologist for children and youth, I completed a PhD and postdoctoral training at Bar-Ilan University, during which I used a unique brain imaging technology called magneto-encephalograph. Using this technology, I tried to understand the brain basis of various phenomena that characterize the mental illness schizophrenia.

Why BGU?
As in many cases, the decision was the result of a gut feeling. From the first moment I felt I had arrived home and that here I would arrive every morning full of passion and inspiration. As in many cases, the decision was the result of a gut feeling. From the first moment I felt I had arrived home and that here I would arrive every morning full of passion and inspiration.

An insight from my research:
I chose to research how people with schizophrenia understand new metaphors – expressions that they hadn’t been previously exposed to, and to decipher their meaning requires the ability to connect abstract concepts that are not obviously related to each other. People with schizophrenia are characterized by their associative thinking processes. Precisely this ability was found in our research to be an advantage when they need to attach meaning to new metaphors. Of course, the picture is more complex and the problem with people with schizophrenia is that they don’t stop at new metaphors and they find meaning in places where it doesn’t exist.

Something that doesn’t appear on my resume:
Almost nothing important is on my CV. For example, not that I love to eat. Everything (as long as it isn’t animals). My father was a farmer and I inherited his passion for plants (you are welcome to come and see the small jungle I am cultivating in my office). That I am mad about TV and cinema, literature and computer games, like to travel the world, and Israel, and to meet friends for good coffee at my neighborhood cafe.

When I grow up:
As a child I was sure I would be a dancer, then an athlete, then a photographer, and somewhere in the middle a pilot, because I really wanted to travel the world. At university, I enrolled in an undergraduate degree in mathematics and it took me two years to figure out that it wasn’t for me and to remember my love for psychology. It’s been 12 years and I don’t think I’m going anywhere else, so when I’m even older, I believe I will still be a researcher in psychology.

Lennon or Mr Carney?
My musical taste is so bad, the Beatles can’t seem to pass the trash criteria and stay off my playlist.

Winter or summer?
Winter! Winter! Winter!

Morning or night?
I love to sleep, but unfortunately I don’t excel at it all, so I usually begin my day at 5:30.