

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev



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Ben-Gurion University of the Negev



Ben-Gurion University and PayPal to Join Forces in Cybersecurity Research

Netta Cohen, CEO, BGN Technologies: "We offer cutting-edge research in big data, machine learning, and cybersecurity and make it available to meet the needs of leading global hi-tech companies"

November 30th, 2016

[Israel] - Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) and PayPal announced a new partnership this morning in order to conduct joint research and development in the fields of big data, machine learning and cyber security. It is the first such collaboration between PayPal and an Israeli university.

"This partnership will allow PayPal to leverage BGU's top-notch researchers and years of groundbreaking research", stated **Matan Parnes, PayPal's General Manager in Israel**. "The collaboration with BGU will further strengthen PayPal's global leadership in the use of machine learning and big data for cyber security, fraud detection and risk management, allowing us to continue to offer the most cutting-edge technologies that enable safe payments to more than 192 million customers worldwide" added Parnes.

Prof. Dan Blumberg, BGU VP & Dean for R&D remarked, "We are eager to extend our relationship with PayPal and help them safeguard the privacy of their hundreds of millions of clients. BGU is a recognized global leader in cyber security, big data and machine learning research and we look forward to putting that expertise to work to meet the unique challenges posed by PayPal's needs."

PayPal's involvement in big-data and machine learning technology has been supported by its significant R&D activity in Israel, starting with the acquisition of Fraud Sciences in 2008 and the establishment of a global risk and data sciences R&D center in Tel-Aviv. Over the last eight years, this center has delivered cutting-edge technologies in the fields of fraud detection, data sciences, and big data. PayPal's acquisition of CyActive in 2015, which blossomed at JVP and BGU's incubator, was another major step in this journey, resulting in the establishment of a global security products center in Beer-Sheva's Advanced Technologies Park, adjacent to BGU.

"Beer-Sheva has become a global cybersecurity hub in recent years, attracting major multi-national corporations", explained **Netta Cohen, CEO of BGN Technologies**, "PayPal's presence there allows it to tap into this eco-system's cutting-edge technology and top talent."

The new agreement further strengthens and extends the ongoing relationship between PayPal and BGU who already co-operate in training, talent development and recruitment.

About Ben-Gurion University

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev is the fastest growing research university in Israel, fulfilling the vision of David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, who envisaged the future of Israel emerging from the Negev. From medicine to the humanities to the natural sciences, BGU conducts groundbreaking research and offers insightful instruction.

The University is at the heart of Beer-Sheva's transformation into the country's cyber capital, where leading multi-national corporations leverage BGU's expertise to generate innovative R&D. A third of Israel's engineers graduate from BGU, with that number destined to rise as the IDF moves south and sends its brightest to swell the ranks of BGU's student body. To accommodate that growth, BGU has launched an ambitious campaign to double the size of its main campus.

As it counts up to its fiftieth anniversary, the University's research becomes ever more relevant as its global reach broadens. www.bgu.ac.il



Netta Cohen, BGN Technologies CEO (left), and Matan Parnes, PayPal's General Manager in Israel, sign the agreement at the Nextech Conference at the Gav Yam Negev Advanced Technologies Park in Beer-Sheva on Wednesday.

(Photo Credits: Dani Machlis/BGU)