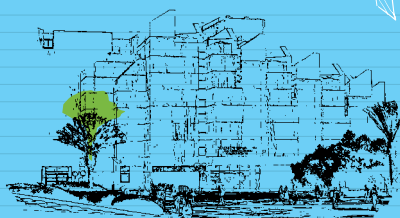
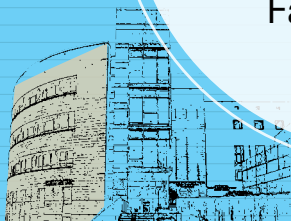


**Ben-Gurion**  
**University of the Negev**

## **An Oasis of Learning**

A Tour of the Marcus  
Family Campus



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev



## Welcome to the Marcus Family Campus



This is the main campus of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. Within its walls, ground-breaking research takes place along side graduate and undergraduate studies in natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, engineering sciences, management and health sciences. The Soroka University Medical Center and the Advanced Technologies Park, established in collaboration with the University, are nearby. We invite you to visit a few of the campus' unique sites and to soak in its special atmosphere. You can follow the route proposed here, start at any other point you like, or visit just a few of the sites. A map of the campus is on the back.

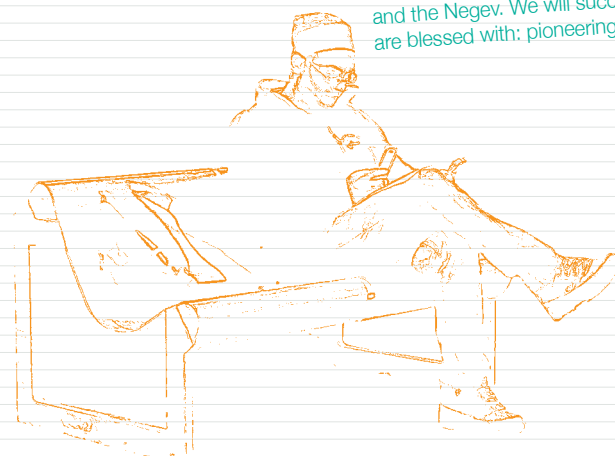
The proposed circular route begins and ends at Kreitman Plaza.



**The Statue of David Ben-Gurion**, Israel's first Prime Minister and the University's namesake, cast in bronze by the sculptor Don Winton, stands in front of the Zalman Aranne Central Library (3).

Also facing the Library entrance is **The Choir**, a bronze statue by Ofra Zimbalista. You will see more of her work further on.

*"The mission of the generation: Aliyah and the settlement of the South and the Negev. We will succeed if we use the two qualities that we are blessed with: pioneering and science." David Ben-Gurion*







## By the Stream

2

**Kreitman Plaza** is situated at the heart of the Marcus Family Campus. Shaded from the sun by indigenous trees, the Plaza is bounded by white limestone porticos featuring glass tiles that cast colored rays of light on the stone below. A man-made stream, reminiscent of a desert riverbed, flows through the center. The water is circulated and treated regularly to protect the environment. The Plaza was planned by Shlomo Aronson, for which he was awarded the Avraham Caravan Prize for Landscape Architecture in 1997.

Kreitman Plaza bustles with students for most of the day, but a quiet corner can always be found for study and conversation. Flanked by the Zalman Aranne Central Library (3), the Samuel and Milada Ayrtton University Center (7), the W.A. Minkoff Senate Hall (8), and the Zlotowski Student Center – the Plaza serves as a public square, a central meeting place for the campus community.

Go to the south end of the square, to the Zalman Aranne Central Library.

3

**The Zalman Aranne Central Library** is housed in a unique building whose honeycombed roof allows natural light to penetrate the central reading rooms. The Library holds over one million titles and is open to the general public.

The **Avraham Baron Art Gallery** situated on the ground floor hosts temporary exhibitions and a café.

The Library's stairways and lobby are home to **The Stairwell Museum**, where the exhibits include delightful permanent displays of miniature art by Liza Shabtay, made of found and repurposed materials.

The **Isaiah Berlin Room (3A)** on the third floor contains 255 books from the renowned philosopher's personal library, as well as his correspondence with David Ben-Gurion.

As you leave the library, turn right and walk down the stairs. Follow the path between the Diana and Guilford Glazer Building and the Spitzer-Salant Building, until you reach Deichmann Plaza.

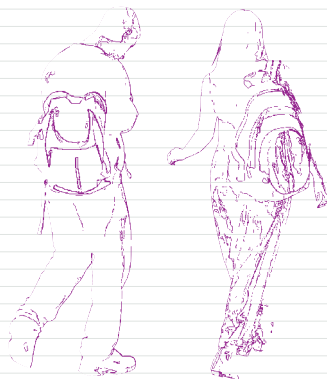




## A Place for Everyone

4

**Deichmann Plaza** – The Plaza’s unique design is intended to encourage gatherings and meetings between students and young participants of the many community outreach programs located in the adjacent Deichmann Building for Community Action. The planners, Chyutin Architects, designed an outdoor “carpet” that alternates large concrete tiles with strips of perennial and seasonal grasses and flora. Lights are embedded in the concrete benches, transforming the Plaza into a spectacular sight as darkness falls.



5

**The Deichmann Building for Community Action** serves as a center for a wide range of the University’s outreach activities. The Community Action Department is housed here, along with the Perach Tutorial Project and other programs offering various populations in Beer-Sheva and the Negev assistance and accessibility to higher education.

Jutting out from the building’s facade is the **Rothschild Cube - Center for Effective Social Action**, which uses innovative cutting-edge technologies to offer guidance, training and support programs for social entrepreneurship, in collaboration with the Rothschild Caesarea Foundation.

Proceed to the Helen Diller Family Center, situated north of Deichmann Plaza.







## Touching the Spirit

6

The **Helen Diller Family Center** houses a number of the departments of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. On the second floor, the **Hebrew Literature Archives of Heksherim – the Research Institute for Jewish and Israeli Literature and Culture** contain the personal archives of Israeli first-generation writers and poets, including Aharon Appelfeld, Amos Oz, David Avidan, Nissim Aloni, Ruth Almog, Shulamith Hareven, David Schutz and Yocheved Bat-Miriam. At the bookstore and café on the ground floor, you might meet some of the writers on the University faculty, whose books can be found on the shelves.

Return to Deichmann Plaza and climb the wide stairs to Kreitman Plaza; or take the elevator up to the third floor, exit the building and turn left. Pass the entrance to the Joya Claire Sonnenfeldt Auditorium on your right and continue to the Samuel and Milada Ayrton University Center. Enter the courtyard behind the cone housing the W.A. Minkoff Senate Hall.

7

## The Central Circle

The **Samuel and Milada Ayrton University Center** is the administrative center of the University, consisting of a square building surrounding the circular **Minkoff Family Senate Court**. The entrance to the courtyard is designed to evoke a passageway through a desert canyon, and the cone-shaped structure housing the **W.A. Minkoff Senate Hall**, a rock detached from the walls of the wadi.

To the left, **Three Fanfare Trumpeters and a Climber**, statues by Ofra Zimbalista, scale the wall of the Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Building for the Humanities and Social Sciences and the Senate Hall cone.

Enter the building and go down to floor -1 (elevators are on the left). You may also descend the outer stairs on the western (left) side of the building to the car park level and enter the building directly on floor -1.

On the -1 floor, the **George Shrut Visitors Center (7A)** hosts rotating art exhibitions curated by faculty members and students from the Department of the Arts.





7A



8

## The Central Circle

A model of the Marcus Family Campus is also on display in the Visitors Center. Here you can see the central axis of the campus running from west to east (from Deichmann Plaza to the Mexico Bridge), and another from south to north (from the Health Sciences complex to the Engineering Sciences complex). The campus design's principles include spatial division according to fields of study; construction around inner courtyards; arcades of exposed concrete or white stone; priority to pedestrians; and adaptation of the architecture and vegetation to the climatic conditions of the Negev.

8

Opposite the Shrut Visitors Center is the **W.A. Minkoff Senate Hall**, where important University events are held. The circular structure reflects the democratic principles on which the University Senate is based. The Hall is open only during events.

You can now take the elevator up to the 2nd floor and go out onto the balcony at the top of the cone, overlooking Kreitman Plaza. Return to Floor 0 and exit through the courtyard. Turn left, passing between Kreitman Plaza and the Zlotowski Student Center and turn right. Continue past the Kreitman Building and turn left towards the Gate of Peace.



## Hope's Gates

9

**The Gate of Peace** – Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin entered through this gate on June 27, 1979, the first day of the implementation of the peace agreement between the State of Israel and Egypt. The Gate was designed to commemorate their historic visit to Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and recognize the potential of joint research projects to bring these nations together.

Return to the Kreitman Building and enter the courtyard. The Sam Gorovoy Building for Natural Sciences flanks the courtyard on the east.







“All the better to eat you with!”

10

The fossilized skull of a Mosasaur and a giant ammonite fossil are displayed in the lobby of the **Sam Gorovoy Building for Natural Sciences**. The Mosasaur was a giant, meat-eating marine reptile that lived around 70 million years ago in the sea that covered the Negev region. The skull was discovered in the Zin phosphate mines of Rotem-Amfert by BGU Geology alumnus Uri Yassur. Under the direction of Prof. Chaim Benjamini of the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences, and with the kind assistance of Prof. Hans-Jorgen Hansen, it was prepared and exhibited at the University of Copenhagen, and then returned to Israel and BGU.

You can also visit the popular **boutique** run by the **Twice as Good for the Community and Environment** non-profit organization that sells second-hand clothing, fashion accessories and toys. This is a social enterprise that aims to integrate people with cognitive disabilities into the workforce with the support of student volunteers.

Exit the building and head east. You will pass another courtyard and a classroom building, and then turn right (south). Proceed on the causeway that transects the Life Sciences complex. Continue south across the Jim and Liz Breslauer Bridge to the Faculty of Health Sciences (there is an elevator to the right).



Get Well Soon

11

In the **Faculty of Health Sciences**, doctors-in-training, researchers and professionals in all fields of medicine, nursing and para-medical care study and work in collaboration with the nearby Soroka University Medical Center. The buildings surround a hidden inner courtyard with a stream trickling through it. An exhibition on the history of medicine: **The Physician as Artisan, Scientist and Ethicist**, is on permanent display in the **Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School**. The exhibition begins in the Regina and Charles Fisher Gallery on the 1st floor and continues on the upper floors of the building, presenting the evolution of medicine from antiquity to modern times, from bloodletting to catheterization and computerized imaging, and covering medical education, ethics and practice in Israel.

Retrace your steps back across to the main campus and proceed northwards to the **Sacta-Rashi Building for Physics**.





## Touching the Stars

12

The **Sacta-Rashi Building for Physics** has two wings. In the west wing (left) is the **Ilan Ramon Youth Physics Center**, where young people from across the Negev participate in a variety of educational programs. The dome of the **educational observatory** crowns the roof.

A **Foucault pendulum** hangs from the ceiling of the five-story-high atrium in the east wing of the building. This simple device demonstrates the Earth's rotation on its axis, which causes the pendulum's plane of oscillation to turn slowly: At the Earth's poles the plane of oscillation completes a full rotation in 24 hours, while at the equator the effect will not be noticed at all. In Israel the pendulum completes a full rotation every 45 hours.

Behind the building is a unique **Japanese-style garden** that thrives with no irrigation (because of the sensitive laboratories located directly below).

From here, you can walk north, between the buildings of the Faculty of Engineering Sciences, to the road leading to the Gate of the Future. Across the road you will see the **Guzik Family Antiquities Pathway (12A)**, which includes archaeological remains from excavations in the Negev.

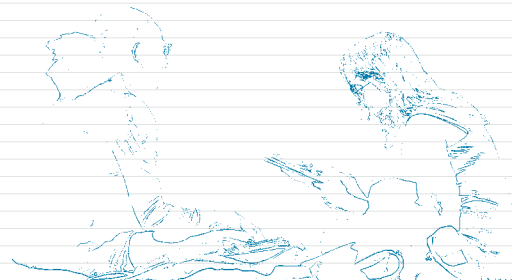
Return to the Sacta-Rashi Building for Physics and turn left, and continue east to the Mexico Bridge.

13

## A Bridge to Progress

The **Mexico Bridge** leads from the Marcus Family Campus to the Beer-Sheva North/University train station, established with the help of the Lillian and Larry Goodman Family Foundations. The covered bridge runs through the **Sharon Houminer Garden**, a park that highlights rare desert cacti representing the University's environmental and desert research, and overlooks the University's bustling sports facilities. It also connects the campus to the **Advanced Technologies Park** built in collaboration with the University. The first buildings are already occupied, with more on the way, serving as an engine of economic growth and an important source of employment for the entire Negev.

Walk back and continue on the main thoroughfare of the campus until you reach Kreitman Plaza.







Murray H. Shusterman Gate of Knowledge

Prof. Haim Hanani Street

Gate of the Future

Sharon Houminer Garden

Gate of Aliyah

Gate of Peace

Negev Gate

Ben-Gurion Boulevard

Uri Zvi Greenberg Boulevard

Arlozorov Street

Statue of David Ben-Gurion

Freitman Plaza

Salman Aranne Central Library

Leichmann Plaza

8 W.A. Minkoff Senate Hall

9 Gate of Peace

10 Sam Gorovoy Natural Sciences Building

11 Faculty of Health Sciences

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Statue of David Ben-Gurion                 | 8 W.A. Minkoff Senate Hall               |
| 2 Kreitman Plaza                             | 9 Gate of Peace                          |
| 3 Zalman Aranne Central Library              | 10 Sam Gorovoy Natural Sciences Building |
| 4 Deichmann Plaza                            | 11 Faculty of Health Sciences            |
| 5 Deichmann Building for Community Action    | 12 Sacta-Rashi Building for Physics      |
| 6 Helen Diller Family Center                 | 12a Guzik Family Antiquities Pathway     |
| 7 Samuel and Milada Ayrton University Center | 13 Mexico Bridge                         |





Ben-Gurion University of the Negev was established in 1969 //  
A university with an international reputation and one of the leading  
research institutions in the world in many fields // 20,000 students  
and over 110,000 alumni // Campuses in Beer-Sheva, Sede Boqer  
and Eilat // Trains over 30% of Israel's engineers // More than 800  
senior faculty // National research institutions, interdisciplinary  
research centers and state-of-the-art laboratories // 6,000  
students involved in a wide variety of projects in the community

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