February 2021

Dear future BGU student/post-doctoral fellow!

This To-do List was prepared for your convenience and includes important steps of your arrival to BGU, in short. More detailed information is at our International Students site.

To-do list BEFORE the arrival:

- 1. Complete your registration process. Receive a formal letter of invitation/acceptance from BGU.
- 2. Ask your advisor for a letter of acceptance in Hebrew. This is a demand of the Israeli embassies abroad.
- 3. **Get a valid health insurance** for the period of your stay in Israel. If you plan to stay for more than a year order it of 1 year and extend later). You can also get a health insurance through Harel – a company BGU works with, or bring it from your home country – but the policy must be in English and cover all areas stated at the above mentioned website.
- 4. Get an appropriate visa. A student/ a post-doctoral fellow will need an A2 visa and a multi-entrances visa (- which will allow you to travel outside of Israel for conferences and vacations during your fellowship). If you are not sure what kind of visa you'll need – please <u>click here</u> or contact <u>Meital Bar-Yossef</u>, the Research Coordinator of the Faculty of Natural Sciences.
- 5. Send the copies of health insurance policy and visa to your supervisor and to the administrative coordinator.
- 6. Only after the visa is approved look for plane tickets and plan your arrival to BGU according to you and your supervisor's needs, BGU/dorms working days and hours, public holidays, possible transportation to
- 7. Look for an apartment at BGU dorms (you can book right after the formal registration is over and you have a BGU ID number (starts with 850...)) / Research Housing / private market. (Please note that we can assist with dorms/ research housing only).
- 8. See the Pre-Arrival Guide for International Students and Researchers.

To-do list AFTER the arrival:

- 1. Meet your supervisor, lab manager and members, and an administrative coordinator of your Department. Find out who at the Department/Faculty/University is responsible for various issues – scholarships, courses, trainings, travels, equipment, etc.
 - Please note that each department and office in BGU has different opening hours. Most of them are open at mornings (Sun-Thu).
- 2. The administrative coordinator will register you as an active BGU student/fellow. You might need to send her the copies of health insurance policy and visa again.
- 3. Get a student card find out the options at Student Union association (located at Students Center at the entrance).
- 4. Get a BGU computer authorization (+ BGU email address) building 58, office 1. You will need to present your passport and your BGU ID number 850... The computer authorization usually becomes valid after up to 24 hours.
- 5. Open a bank account- please note that in order to open a bank account, you'll be asked to present 2 ID's. One is your international passport, and the other should be another ID from your home country – your "regular" ID, driving license (with a photo), etc. It is very important, and the banks refuse to open bank accounts without those documents.
 - You are welcome to check the prices and the conditions of international accounts of banks.
- 6. Make sure to update your new Israeli bank account at BGU system for scholarship payments and Refunds option.
- 7. Schedule yourself a reminder to extend the visa and the health insurance about 1 month before its validity date. We advise you to extend both visas – student visa and a multi-entrances visa.
- 8. Learn about your living area, closest facilities, super-markets, and their opening hours.
- 9. See the useful Information for the New International Student.

Meital Bar-Yossef, meitalby@bgu.ac.il **Research Coordinator Faculty of Natural Sciences** P.O.B. 653, Beer-Sheva 84105, Israel | 84105 באר-שבע 653, באר-שבע 653, באר-שבע הקריה על-שם משפחת מרקוס

