

SUMMER 2011

BGU & YOU

NEWSLETTER OF BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV

אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב



Avram and Stella
Goldstein-Goren
Department of
Biotechnology
Engineering Dedicated



Ma'agan Community
Support Center for
Cancer Patients
and their Families
Renamed Edy's House



Showing Their
Appreciation



Geologists from
Generation to
Generation – Prizes
and Scholarships
Awarded to Students

Celebrating Creativity and Innovation – 41st Annual Board of Governors Meeting



At the University's Year in Review Meeting



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The 41st Annual Board of Governors Meeting of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev opened on an upbeat note when both University President **Prof. Rivka Carmi**, incumbent of the Kreitman Foundation Chair in Pediatric Genetics, and **Prof. Manuel Trachtenberg**, Chairman of the Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Council for Higher Education (CHE), announced at the Opening Plenary Session that the "Lost Decade" is over. "After a decade of continued budget cutbacks, the tide has turned and the government has decided to

pour more money into the country's seven public universities," Trachtenberg said.

What's more, he continued, thanks to a reform of the CHE's funding criteria, "This year, BGU has received the largest budget increase of all the universities in light of its significant competitive research outputs."

Chairman of the Board of Governors **Roy J. Zuckerberg** officially opened the proceedings with a call for all the participants to make the most of the Board



events and learn about all of the wonderful work being done at BGU. "Every time I come to this tremendous campus I am impressed with the level of dedication and commitment of the students and staff." He also commended **Adv. Yair Green** for being a true partner as the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Welcoming participants to the Board, Beer-Sheva **Mayor Ruvik Danilovich** remarked that "Israel has problems and challenges, but I want to talk about the opportunities that are here in the Negev." He praised the growing cooperation between the University and the city, saying that Carmi's vision was "Beer-Sheva is no longer a university with a city, but a city with a university."

Immediately following the session, guests were treated to a series of presentations highlighting some of the cutting-edge research being conducted in the fields of brain research, chemistry and social sciences. This was one of the many opportunities visitors had to see and experience firsthand the exciting research being carried out at BGU.

This year's Board focused on creativity and innovation with a special emphasis on the unique characteristics of Israel that have fueled the country's economic miracle.



Chairman of the Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Council for Higher Education Prof. Manuel Trachtenberg at the Opening Plenary Session

From a fascinating lecture by Governor of the Bank of Israel **Prof. Stanley Fischer** to an "Un-Conference" shaped by the vision of Israeli hi-tech entrepreneur **Dr. Yossi Vardi**, the three days combined the old with the new – recognizing the University's most dedicated supporters while highlighting the achievements of its students and faculty.

In addition to the traditional events such as the committee meetings and the unveiling of the new names on the Ben-Gurion Society, Negev and Founders Walls, this year the

new Living Legacy Society Garden was dedicated with over 200 names.

Guests also had an opportunity to learn more about developments on campus at the presentation of the University's Year in Review and unique student projects at the Annual Student Evening sponsored by the American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (AABGU). Festive dinners allowed Board members from around the world to relax and enjoy one another's company in an informal setting.

During a symposium entitled "Innovation in the Marketplace," co-author of the international sensation *Start-Up Nation* **Saul Singer** spoke about "What's Next for the Start-Up Nation?" Using anecdotes from his research, he outlined the ingredients that make Israel the world start-up capital and even a start-up project in and of itself. He noted that drive, mission fulfillment, daring, chutzpah and a world-class education – in the IDF and the universities – have produced a unique culture that nurtures innovation in Israel. Israel embodies all of the hopes of its immigrant population, he said, and may simply be the original "Beta-Country," ready to take risks that others are not ready for.



Author Saul Singer speaks at the symposium "Innovation in the Marketplace," while Prof. Moti Herskowitz looks on



Vice-Chairman of the Board Bertie Lubner (center) and his wife Hilary with the Lubner Prize recipients and Dean of Students Yaakov Afek (left, seated)

Moderated by **Prof. Moti Herskowitz**, Vice-President and Dean for Research and Development and the incumbent of the Israel Cohen Chair in Chemical Engineering, the session included a presentation by **Netta Cohen**, C.E.O. of BGN Technologies, BGU's technology transfer company, who outlined a number of the University's successful collaborations with private industry, and presentations by BGU researchers **Prof. Amir Sagi**, Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences and incumbent of the Lily and Sidney Oelbaum Chair in Applied Biochemistry; **Prof. Dan Sadot**, Chairman of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering; and **Prof. Smadar Cohen** former chair of the Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering and incumbent of the Claire and Harold Oshry Chair in Biotechnology.

The message was reinforced at the Innovation 2011 "Un-Conference," as hundreds of people crowded the hallways of the Diane and Guilford Glazer Building to see exhibits and hear from lecturers who emphasized creativity and original thinking. The Hi-Tech & Entrepreneurship Fair featured presentations of new technological developments by students, researchers and local entrepreneurs under the auspices of

the Bengis Center for Entrepreneurship and Hi-Tech Management, in the presence of benefactor **Arnie Bengis**, USA.

Welcoming remarks were offered by **Dr. Yossi Vardi**, Vice-President for External Affairs and incumbent of the Ernest Scheller, Jr. Chair in Innovative Management **Prof. Amos Drory**, and Director of the Bengis Center **Prof. Dafna Schwartz**. Notable speakers included **K. Shelly Porges**, a Senior Advisor to the U.S. Government's Global Women's Business Initiative, and **Paul Bloom**, the Chief Technology Officer of Telcom Research at IBM.

The Annual Zlotowski Event changed formats this year with a panel discussion focused on *Women in Academia – Breaking the Glass Ceiling*. The fascinating event brought together four university presidents who spoke openly about the real life challenges and barriers that women face in academia. University President **Prof. Rivka Carmi** was joined by **Prof. France A. Córdoba** of Purdue University and **Prof. Donna E. Shalala** of the University of Miami, both honorary doctorate recipients from the USA, and **Prof. Hagit Messer-Yaron** of the Open University of Israel.

The recipients of the Zlotowski Admission



Bank of Israel Governor Prof. Stanley Fischer

Award for Outstanding Students were on hand to thank their patrons, **Suzanne Zlotowski** and **Adelene Zlotowski**, UK, personally. Speaking on behalf of all the recipients, first year student **Barak Navon** of the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management explained that, "the Award inspires us to aim high and motivates us to excel. Your support makes our lives so much easier and allows us to focus our full efforts on our studies. Thank you for playing such an important role in our future."



Rt Hon Sir Martin Gilbert presents the Irene and Hyman Kreitman Annual Memorial Lecture



Honorary doctorate recipient Bob Geldof

The Irene and Hyman Kreitman Annual Memorial Lecture was delivered by another of this year's honorary doctorate recipients, the Rt Hon Sir Martin Gilbert, UK. The topic of his address was *Sowing the Seeds of Jewish Statehood: Britain and Palestine, 1909-1922*. Gilbert showcased his phenomenal research abilities by bringing the audience into discussions of events that took place nearly 100 years ago. He conveyed to the rapt audience even the smallest details, such as what had been said at specific meetings in the winter of 1919.

On Monday afternoon musician, humanitarian and honorary doctorate recipient Bob Geldof, KBE, UK, held a private meeting with students affiliated with the University's Africa Centre and the Medical School for International Health, who came to hear about his progression from rock star to international activist. The organizer of LiveAid in 1984 and Live 8 in 2006 eloquently and passionately argued for the Western world's obligation to aid Africa, which he called one of the future marketplaces of the 21st century.

The evening culminated in the moving Honorary Doctorate ceremony, an impressive outdoor affair that highlighted the accomplishments of the five exceptional honorees. Prof. Carmi remarked at the event, "Our ceremony this evening celebrates a group of individuals who each in their own way has benefitted mankind by making a major contribution to education, to society and to the world. These are people who effect change and create an impact which resounds amongst communities and nations. "Your actions and accomplishments are models and an inspiration for all of us here today," she added.

Rector Prof. Zvi HaCohen, incumbent of the Maks and Rochelle Etingin Chair in Desert Research, thanked the recipients for their contributions, noting that as a researcher he directly benefitted from the ICA Fund under the stewardship of recipient Sir Stephen Waley-Cohen, UK.

The following morning Bank of Israel Governor Prof. Stanley Fischer gave an insightful talk to a packed auditorium about Israel's financial situation, both domestically and vis-à-vis the rest of the world. He

explained that Israel had weathered the economic collapse of 2008 so successfully because it had been well prepared beforehand. A prudent fiscal policy ensured that no Israeli banks or financial institutions were overextended like some of those in the United States.

Fischer outlined several economic indicators showing that the Israeli economy was in good shape and set to grow even more than initial predictions for 2011 and 2012. He also warned that it was still too hard to do business in Israel, especially regarding construction permits and enforcement of contracts.

Moreover, the real issues were the increasing poverty in certain sectors and the slipping educational standards. He said the lack of Arab and ultra-Orthodox men in the workforce was a serious problem. Israel's problems are "not on the macro side. The Bank of Israel, the Treasury and the banking system all work. What's happening in education, the social gaps and poverty," is what should be concerning us, he concluded.



AABGU President Alex Goren and Arnie Bengis at the cornerstone-laying ceremony for the American Associates Village



Chairman's Council, including presidents of the regional associates' offices: Front L-R: Gérard Worms, France; Chairman of the Executive Committee Adv. Yair Green; Chairman of the Board Roy J. Zuckerberg; President Prof. Rivka Carmi; Alex Goren, USA. Back L-R: Jacques T. Halpérin, Belgium; Harold Paisner, UK; Michel Halpérin, Switzerland; Prof. Yitzhak Peterburg, Israel, Bertie Lubner, South Africa, Vice President for External Affairs Prof. Amos Drory, Gary Fine, Canada

Guests then set off for the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research to hear from the Director **Prof. Pedro Berliner**, incumbent of the Benjamin Schwartz Chair in Agricultural Biology, and a number of

young researchers about their work. At the event, Chair of the program **Prof. Paula Kabalo** presented the new Israel Studies International Program, the first one of its kind in Israel. Taught in English, the program

builds upon the research potential of the University's Ben-Gurion Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism.

To cap the day off, there was a party atmosphere at the cornerstone-laying ceremony of the American Associates Village at Sede Boqer, followed by tours of the Blaustein Institutes. Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Governors **Robert H. Arnow** joined American Associates President **Alex Goren** as they committed their support to build essential new dormitory facilities for the growing student body.

This year's Student Evening highlighted what makes BGU a student's home away from home through a hands-on experience of BGU's dynamic energy and the social atmosphere for which it is famous. The outdoor fair featured information booths which provided an ideal setting for guests to interact with students. The event was sponsored by AABGU members **Ricki and Zvi Alon**, **Eric Benhamou**, **Arline and Ben Guefen**, **Carol and Harry Saal** and **Harriet Sofa**.



Chairman Emeritus of the Board Robert H. Arnow and his son Joshua Arnow





Memorial Garden for Sandy Breslauer Dedicated



Steve Breslauer speaks at the dedication of the Sandy Breslauer Memorial Garden while Ben and Arline Guefen look on

“These majestic cypress trees will grow tall and elegant, just like Sandy, who raised the spirit of those around her,” said President **Prof. Rivka Carmi** at the dedication of the Sandy Breslauer Memorial Garden in the presence of her husband **Steve Breslauer** of Houston, Texas and friends.

Named for long-time friend of the University and a “special, elegant lady who touched the lives of everyone she met,” Carmi explained that the Garden was located

in the “Soref-Breslauer Estate” next to the existing Breslauer Family Garden and adjacent to the Samuel Soref School of Mechanical Engineering Building. “Sandy was a very special woman who combined her love for people with a special gift to make them feel good,” she said.

“When Sandy and I first visited BGU almost two decades ago, it was love at first sight... not with the buildings, as most of them were not here. She fell in love with the students

and with the spirit of the University,” said Steve, clearly moved by the setting. “Her greatest joy was visiting with the students on campus and off, hearing their dreams and aspirations,” he explained.

“Though Sandy is now gone, her spirit lives on through this garden, bringing beauty, serenity and joy to all who pass this way,” he said, before unveiling the plaque.

Immediately following the ceremony, family and friends visited Sandy’s Place, an activity center currently under construction in the Dalet neighborhood of Beer-Sheva. The center is part of the University’s Open Apartments project, where students live in the city’s poorest neighborhoods to reach out to the local community under the auspices of the Community Action Unit.

The Greater Texas Region of AABGU paid tribute to Sandy’s life at their recent annual community gala, raising significant funds for Sandy’s Place.



Dr. Lital Alfonta Awarded Marc Rich Foundation Prize for Women Researchers



Dr. Lital Alfonta with Prof. Rivka Carmi

Dr. Lital Alfonta of the Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering received the Marc Rich Foundation Prize for Women Researchers during the Opening Plenary Session.

Alfonta, incumbent of the Elaine S. and Alvin W. Wene Career Development Chair in Biotechnology Engineering, was recognized “for pursuing fruitful scientific endeavors and excellence in research, and for contributing

to the advancement of the status of women researchers in academia in general and at BGU in particular.”

Last year Alfonta received a prestigious € 1.4 million European Research Council Grant for “pioneering frontier research in any field of science, engineering and scholarship.” Among her current projects is a venture aimed at finding alternative energy sources through the coupling of enzymes with micro-organisms to produce energy.

Kick-off for the **American Associates Village**



The AABGU delegation at the cornerstone-laying ceremony for the American Associates Village at Sede Boqer

The cornerstone-laying ceremony for the American Associates Village at Sede Boqer took place in the presence of a delegation of American donors. The envisioned student complex will enable a significant increase in the number of graduate students presently studying at the campus by providing appropriate housing options.

President **Prof. Rivka Carmi** noted that she felt proud to be involved in the project. "We are determined to turn this place into the center of the world for the study of the

environment, desertification, energy, water and agriculture, as well as in Israel studies. We want to be the hub for Israel and Jewish studies in the world," she said, and thanked **Lis Gaines**, "the grand lady of AABGU," for her ongoing commitment to BGU.

"Our growth is limited by the number of students we can house," explained Director of the Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research **Prof. Pedro Berliner**. "The new student village will enable us to plan for the future and turn Sede Boqer into a truly

international center of learning."

"I know that the graduates who will come to these institutes for their higher degrees will be ambassadors for BGU and Israel," said **Robert H. Arnow**, Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Governors and a past president of AABGU. Speaking at the event, Arnow appealed directly to the audience to make their donations "even today" to enable the start of the building project.





Five Outstanding **Individuals Honored**



From L-R: Sir Stephen Waley-Cohen, Bob Geldof, Prof. Donna E. Shalala, Prof. France A. Córdoba, Sir Martin Gilbert

At the Honorary Doctorate ceremony, five individuals were honored for their outstanding achievements.

Causing a mild stir with his carefully nuanced challenge to Israel and Palestinian Authority leaders, rock star and social activist **Bob Geldof** called upon them to move beyond their current viewpoints and understand that only through education could there be any move beyond the “rejectionism of now.”

“Only through education and the expansion of the mind can we relieve the siege of the soul, the ghetto of the mind,” he declared.

Historian **Sir Martin Gilbert** called for universities to be a “forum for discussion and not quarrels” as he vigorously rejected calls for an academic boycott of Israeli universities.

“The world of academia knows no borders and rises above petty quarrels. Let universities be a forum for discussion, a place for harmony, not hatred,” he told the audience.

University of Miami President **Prof. Donna E. Shalala** echoed Gilbert’s calls to reject an academic boycott.

“It is vital to condemn discrimination against Israeli universities. The more we communicate ideas the stronger the bridges we will build,” the distinguished academic and former US government official declared. She added that as a Lebanese-American she was deeply touched to receive the honorary doctorate.

Purdue University President **Prof. France A. Córdoba** noted that, “Only by pressing the frontier of knowledge can we find the grand solutions to such problems as

hunger, education and disease.” She added that universities were a “central source of research on ways to ease the burdens of humanity.”

“Hail BGU, Shalom Shalom!” she concluded.

Entrepreneur and philanthropist **Sir Stephen Waley-Cohen** outlined how ICA, a philanthropic fund launched by his grandfather, has been shown to have “an increasing impact.” ICA aims to help Jews in rural areas – particularly the Negev and Galilee – to make a decent living through agriculture. He said they had always “tried to be more than just the money by offering mentoring and help as well.”

The citations read as follows: **Prof. France A. Córdoba**, USA: In appreciation of a highly regarded academic, President of Purdue University, Indiana, who

has guided the institution towards academic excellence, pluralism, equality and social justice; in honor of a brilliant, award-winning researcher in the field of astrophysics, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, who was appointed the youngest ever chief scientist at NASA and who won the organization's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Medal; in acknowledgement of a dedicated teacher who has devoted her time to educating the next generation of scientists while serving in key academic positions, working indefatigably to raise the quality of education and the training of science teachers; in recognition of her endeavors in public service, including her work as a consultant in the fields of science and education; and with gratitude to an influential leader among the Hispanic community in the United States, who has made a significant contribution to the promotion of students from minorities and women in academia by providing equal opportunities for all people to achieve their goals.

Bob Geldof KBE, UK: In recognition of a talented singer, songwriter and actor and a prominent fighter for human rights and aid for the poor, whose inspiring actions have raised awareness around the world of poverty and famine in Africa; in acknowledgement of his long-standing contribution to the global music industry and his dedication to the noble cause of supporting those in need; in admiration for an exceptional artist who has produced international events, including the notable Live Aid and Live-8 concerts, all the revenues from which were designated to eradicating hunger in Africa, and for which he won many prizes and distinctions, including Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire and the Nobel Man of Peace award; in deep appreciation of one who has recruited nations around the world to cancel the debts of the poorest countries and who has focused his many talents on the struggle for fathers' rights in Britain;

and in honor of a man for whom peace between all people is close to his heart, and who devotes his time and efforts to creating a just and better future for coming generations.

Sir Martin Gilbert, CBE, UK: In recognition of a leading historian of the modern world, one of the most prominent researchers of 20th century political and military history, whose penetrating vision and original thinking set down the essential foundations for studying international relations, thus facilitating our understanding of developments unfolding today; in acknowledgement of the author of numerous scholarly books on a broad range of subjects that provide a rich mine of information for future generations, including the official biography of Sir Winston Churchill and pioneering historical atlases; with esteem for a highly regarded lecturer, an expert in the study of Zionism and contemporary Israel and of the Holocaust era, who has mentored many students and researchers, and who was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) and later awarded a knighthood, who has loyally served his country as a member of the official governmental commission of enquiry into the war in Iraq and as a representative at the United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva; and in deep appreciation of a loyal friend of the State of Israel, who has provided an enduring voice for those whose stories would otherwise not have been told.

Prof. Donna E. Shalala, USA: In recognition of a woman of action who has dedicated her life to public service, promoting health and education to bridge social inequalities; in acknowledgement of the leadership and vision of the President of the University of Miami, who has led the institution to remarkable achievements; with respect for an eminent political scientist, a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, who has mentored generations of students

as President of Hunter College and Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison; in appreciation of one of the first volunteers in the Peace Corps, who harnessed her multiple skills and deep commitment for the benefit of humanity while filling key roles in the American government, including U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, and was granted the National Public Service Award, the Nelson Mandela Award for Health and Human Rights, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and many other awards; and in gratitude for her unstinting dedication to the improvement of health services in general and those of children in particular, the promotion of higher education and the enhancement of the quality of life for all members of society.

Sir Stephen Waley-Cohen Bt., UK: In appreciation of a man who began his career as a financial journalist and went on to found a thriving publishing group, a successful entrepreneur and owner of leading theaters in the United Kingdom who has left his mark on the cultural world; in acknowledgement of the Chairman of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts who has produced renowned plays including the world's longest running show "The Mouse Trap"; with esteem for the initiator of projects that provide new opportunities for thousands of young people in the UK and elsewhere, driven by his fervent belief in their ability to realize their potential; in honor of a man who harnessed his talents on behalf of the State of Israel and who, as Chairman of the ICA, contributes significantly to the development of the Negev and Galilee by promoting agriculture, rural tourism, education and scientific research; and in deep gratitude to a true friend for his active involvement in fostering higher education in the periphery and for his support of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev for the benefit of the residents of arid zones in Israel and around the world.





Presidential Panel Explores Issues of **Women in Academia**



From L-R: Prof. Rivka Carmi, Suzanne Zlotowski, Adeline Zlotowski, Prof. France A. Córdova, Prof. Donna E. Shalala

“Corporate CEOs cannot afford not to attract top talent [male and female], whereas academia is more of a guild,” noted President of the University of Miami **Prof. Donna E. Shalala** at the riveting panel discussion, *Women in Academia – Breaking the Glass Ceiling*. Held under the auspices of the Annual Zlotowski Event in the presence of benefactors **Suzanne Zlotowski** and **Adelene Zlotowski**, UK, the panel included four dynamic women university presidents, each with her own style and personality.

Joining Shalala were **Prof. France A. Córdova** of Purdue University, **Prof. Hagit Messer-Yaron** of the Open University of Israel and BGU President **Prof. Rivka Carmi**. Both Carmi and Shalala have been part of government panels in their respective countries examining these issues, adding a wider component to the discussion.

Under the skillful guidance of moderator **Dana Weiss**, an Israeli investigative reporter, the basic facts were presented as the starting point of the discussion: Increasing

numbers of women pursue higher education in both the US and Israel. However, in the higher ranks of universities – deans, provosts, rectors and presidents – there are fewer and fewer women, a phenomenon known as the “scissor effect.”

Shalala described the effects of the “old boys’ network” on faculty recruiting. While there are many more women obtaining advanced degrees, when a position opens up in a department, the department head – generally male – calls his colleagues, other males, for recommendations.

Carmi noted that part of what her committee discovered when writing guidelines for universities was that women don’t even apply to the first posting of a job opening. They wait to see if a qualified man answers first. If the announcement comes around a second time, then they know there wasn’t a qualified man and they apply,” she said.

Córdova noted that female faculty had increased by 50 percent at Purdue under

her guidance and more than 70 percent among the senior administration. However, “it’s harder to do it in the departments. I have to challenge them in clever ways through the rectors, the provosts and having the equity department ask why there are not enough women.”

The presidents also pointed to the more difficult balancing act women have between family life and careers. They suggested slowing down the tenure clock to enable women to both have families and receive tenure. Shalala noted that in the US there were more and more young men who were also demanding a better balance between family and career.

Messer-Yaron added that there were two other obstacles which prevented women from advancing at the same rate as men. “One is internal. Most women will sit on university committees to take care of the university – a service position that takes up a lot of their time and takes away from their research. The second obstacle is cultural. There’s a subjective timeline regarding promotion. People will say ‘wow, he hasn’t been promoted in three years, that’s a long time.’ However, about women, ‘they say she was promoted just four years ago.’”

Messer-Yaron said she actively intervenes to balance the membership of university committees but has discouraged women from joining them at the expense of their research. “What I care about is how a nation can be successful – and it can’t be without using all of its tools. That’s the argument and it’s an economic one,” she said.

Messer-Yaron added, “I do whatever I can for gender balance in the sciences, we need the best people. If we have gender bias at home, then it hurts our attempts to have unbiased scientific credentials.”



Living Legacy Garden Dedicated



Living Legacy Society members celebrate the dedication of the Garden

The Living Legacy Garden was dedicated at an inspiring ceremony. Many members of the Living Legacy Society were on hand at the event inaugurating the attractive Garden, in which the supporters are recognized for their visionary commitment to the future of BGU.

BGU President **Prof. Rivka Carmi** said in her speech, "In our experience throughout the years, Living Legacy giving is a promise for longevity and happiness. This garden is a promise for the future of Ben-Gurion University. We will not be here forever, but the University will. All of this will ensure the future of the University and the future of the Negev, which is the future of Israel." She also thanked the American Associates for taking the lead on this noteworthy project.

"I really can't say it any better than that plaque which says, 'A seed planted today brings beautiful blossoms tomorrow,'" said

Chairman of the Board of Governors **Roy J. Zuckerberg**. "The best story I can tell is my own," he continued. "When I became involved I decided to help build a water institute. I had no idea that today, 7 or 8 years later, we'd have over 100 scientists working in laboratories. If you had asked me to write down my expectations they would never have been in that order of magnitude. It's really a wonderful thing to make investments and feel that they will pay dividends and help ensure the future of this institution."

The Living Legacy Society recognizes those generous donors who have made planned gifts to BGU in a variety of ways, such as a charitable bequest; by leaving a gift on behalf of BGU in a will or trust; leaving real estate by will; a gift that provides an income; a gift of life insurance; or the gift of a pension or retirement plan.

Sunshine Universities Eager to Cooperate

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and the University of Miami signed a Memorandum of Understanding pledging to pursue academic collaboration.

"The University of Miami has quickly moved into the top ranks of American universities and we have now found our Israeli counterpart," Miami President **Prof. Donna E. Shalala** declared at the signing ceremony on BGU's Beer-Sheva campus. The agreement calls for the creation of "collaborative and cooperative programs of study in the fields of humanities and fine arts, social and behavioral sciences, life sciences, health sciences, physical sciences and mathematics, earth sciences, engineering and applied sciences and management sciences."

Shalala also extended an invitation to BGU President **Prof. Rivka Carmi** to come and give a lecture at her university in Coral Gables, Florida.

Carmi responded warmly, "We are very honored and pleased to be signing this agreement. You were a role model of mine and to other women when women weren't so prevalent in positions of power."

She added that conferring an honorary doctorate on Shalala "was one of the most appropriate degrees we've bestowed. Thank you for coming to Israel."





Guests hear from Dr. Gonen Ashkenasy. From L-R: Manouchehr Rasson, USA; Ehud Marom, Israel; Jim Blum, USA; Hoshang Cohanim, USA; Amit Reuven, Israel



Adv. Yair Green and Dov Tadmor of Israel



Unveiling the new names on the Ben-Gurion Society Wall (from L-R): Representative of Bank Leumi Le-Israel Dov Schwartz; Steve Breslauer, USA; Prof. Rivka Carmi; representative of Intel Israel Dr. Adar Klir



Larry Goodman, USA, and Prof. Rivka Carmi



Off to visit the Faculty of Health Sciences



Esther and Michel Halpérin, Switzerland, at the Chairman's Dinner



Judy and Charles Temel, USA



Daniel Guggenheim, Switzerland, David Znaty, France and Anath Guggenheim, Switzerland



Suzanne Zlotowski, UK, and Huguette El-Hadad, Israel



Dr. Yossi Vardi, Israel, and Arnie Bengis



Prof. Rivka Carmi with Yael Sarig, Israeli representative of the British Moshal Scholarship Program



Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering Dedicated



Three generations of the Goren family unveil the plaque for the Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering

"Your family has been part of the BGU family almost since its creation," President **Prof. Rivka Carmi** told the Goldstein-Goren family at the dedication of the Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering in June.

"Your father's commitment to Israel and the Negev was unwavering," she continued. "It has been my privilege to know you all and see how you are memorializing your parents' legacy with the naming of this Department."

Family members included **Alexander M. Goren**, President of the AABGU; **Viviana Goren Khazzam**, President of the Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Foundation; **Micaela Goren Monti** and **James Goren**. They came with their families and children from around the world to honor their parents.

Carmi noted that members of the Goldstein-Goren family were visionary benefactors of the University since its creation, generously enabling education and research through

the donations of the Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Humanities Building; the Goldstein-Goren Department and International Center of Jewish Thought; the Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Scholarship Endowment Fund; and now the Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering.

"You have made a wonderful investment in a young and promising department that you can rely on to grow and deliver. I'm sure you'll be proud," she added.

Rector **Prof. Zvi HaCohen** noted that the Goldstein-Goren family "recognized us when we were nothing. There are not enough words to express our thanks for recognizing our potential."

The Goldstein-Gorens were among the first donors to BGU in the early 1970s. Alex Goren explained how the Department was the perfect way to honor both of his parents' personalities. "My father would have liked that it is a department of young Jewish scientists and a platform for international

prominence. My mother would have liked that it is forward-looking," he said.

Department Chair **Prof. Razi Vago** and former Chair **Prof. Smadar Cohen** lauded the Department's exceptional researchers and students. "We are the youngest such department in Israel," explained Cohen, "but many of our graduates are already holding faculty positions at other universities." Cohen, whose algae-biomaterial for therapeutic treatment of cardiac patients is already in clinical trials in the United States, added, "This is really one of the new frontiers of science."

At the ceremony, members of the family received scrolls that read: "May this Department provide a fitting environment for students, teachers and researchers as they seek to extend the boundaries of knowledge, giving impetus to progress in the cutting-edge field of biotechnology engineering, thereby improving the human condition and contributing to enhanced quality of life."

Oxford University Offers Post-Graduate Scholarships to BGU Students

The University of Oxford, one of the most prestigious universities in the world, is offering Rivka Carmi Scholarships for post-graduate study to BGU students. The scholarships will be offered at Exeter College, Oxford and will be open to Master's and Ph.D. graduates of any discipline, with priority given to outstanding candidates who are women, minorities, or from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Founded in 1314, Exeter College celebrates diversity and excellence in teaching and research. Its Academic Fellows come from a dozen different countries, as far away as India, Australia and the USA, to as close as those in Europe. Registrar of the University Prof. Ewan McKendrick welcomed the scholarships as a "refreshing idea for promoting all that is best at universities."

"This is the first time that any Israeli university has partnered with Oxford University," said Oxford Rector Frances Cairncross, noting that the connection will hopefully nurture personal relationships between the two universities.

"The scholarships will broaden the horizons of BGU students through the one-of-a-kind relationship with this exceptional educational institute," said Prof. Raymond Dwek of the Oxford Glycobiology Institute and Emeritus Fellow of Exeter College, who has been a close partner in the creation of the scholarship as well as in the creation of the British-Israel Life Sciences Council of which he and Carmi are co-chairs.

The program is named after University President Prof. Rivka Carmi, who became

the first female dean of an Israeli medical school and the first woman president of an Israeli university. Carmi has also devoted much of her professional career – both medical and administrative – to working with those on the margins of society, striving to improve their lives.

"I am humbled and honored by the initiative of BGU's great supporter and my personal advisor and friend Prof. Raymond Dwek, whose commitment to help BGU realize David Ben-Gurion's dream to create an Oxford in the desert has inspired us all. I hope that this initiative will open new opportunities for collaborations between the two institutions to promote education and science," Carmi said.

Building for the Future in the Negev



From L-R: John Best from KUD, Beer-Sheva Mayor Ruvik Danilovich, VP and Manager EMC Israel Orna Berry, BGU President Prof. Rivka Carmi, Pat Gelsinger, and MK and former BGU President Prof. Avishay Braverman together hold a map of the ATP (Sagi Izibsky)

EMC Information Infrastructure Products President and Chief Operating Officer Pat Gelsinger was in Israel with a management team to inaugurate the company's new Center of Excellence in Beer-Sheva in late May. The Center will be moving into the Advanced Technologies Park (ATP) being built adjacent to the Marcus Family Campus. The ATP is a joint project of the University, the Beer-Sheva Municipality and Negev Ventures/KUD international.

Before the ceremony, Gelsinger and his team met with members of the Departments of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering for an overview of potential areas of collaboration between the University and researchers from EMC, a global leader in the development of business management IT solutions.



Ma'agan Community Support Center for Cancer Patients and their Families Renamed Edy's House



From L-R: Mayor of Beer-Sheva Ruvik Danilovich; Former Mayor Ya'akov Ternier; President Prof. Rivka Carmi; Sol Freedman; Chairman of Ma'agan Prof. Pesach Shvartzman; Administrative Director Aviva Segev; Director-General of the Israel Cancer Association Miri Ziv

Ma'agan Community Support Center for Cancer Patients and their Families in Beer-Sheva was renamed Edy's House in memory of founder Edy Freedman of New York, who passed away in January. The naming took place in the presence of her husband **Sol Freedman**. The event was timed to coincide with the 41st Annual Board of Governors Meeting, as both Sol and Edy were long-time supporters and board members of BGU. Edy was also a former national board member of AABGU. She and Sol gave to many projects in the US and Israel, but according to Sol, she always maintained that Ma'agan was one of those closest to her heart.

Established in 2000 with the aim of providing social and emotional support to people with cancer and their families, Ma'agan offers a variety of activities in

a warm, home-like setting. All of their programs and services are available free of charge.

Prof. Miriam Cohen spoke movingly about how Ma'agan helped her and her family through her battle with advanced kidney cancer six years ago. She first met and became friends with the Freedmans when she was a new Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences in 1990.

"I heard from them about Ma'agan, but to be absolutely frank, I thought – with the arrogance of a healthy person – that it really had very little to do with me, until it had everything to do with me." She described Ma'agan as "a wondrous place in which we have all had some peaceful moments and solace for our shattered souls and bodies," and in the name of "all of the members of

the alarmingly growing group of comrades in arms fighting the great wars of our lives, we salute Edy, our hero."

Edy's House is an integral part of BGU's Faculty of Health Sciences. "Over the years, Ma'agan has become a crucial community resource for the Negev population that enjoys this service, which in many parts of the country does not exist," explained **Prof. Pesach Shvartzman**, the head of the Department of Family Medicine and Division of Community Health and Chairman of Ma'agan.

Speaking at the ceremony, Sol stressed that for "every one of you who walks through the doors of Edy's House, she will be with you, whether you are parents or children, Jews or Arabs or Russians or Ethiopians, until there is no more cancer."

New Dean for the Faculty of Health Sciences

Prof. Gabriel Schreiber has been elected as the next Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, replacing Prof. Shaul Sofer in August.

Schreiber is Director of the Psychiatry Department at the Barzilai Medical Center and has been a member of the Faculty of Health Sciences since 1986. He has served as Chairman of the selection committee of the Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School, as Vice-Dean of Students and as

Director of the psychotherapy program in BGU's School for Continuing Education at the Barzilai Medical Center.

He completed a B.Sc. in biology, an M.Sc. in biochemistry and a Ph.D. in neuro-biochemistry parallel to his medical school studies at Tel Aviv University. He later specialized in psychiatry at Beer-Sheva's Mental Health Center and managed the clinic for trauma victims at the Soroka University Medical Center, before continuing

his psycho-pharmacological research at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

His research has won international awards, including the Bennett Award for young researchers, the Ziskind-Somerfeld Research Award from the American Society of Biological Psychiatry, and the Anna-Monika Prize for outstanding research in depression.

First Annual Daughters for Life Awards Presented



From L-R: Safa Abu Hani, Prof. Rivka Carmi, Amalya Ze'evi, Ma'ayan Givoni

The first annual Daughters for Life Foundation Awards, created by Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish in memory of his three daughters who were killed in Gaza, were awarded at the annual ceremony for Israeli scholarship

endowment funds. The Fund was created with the aim of providing young women in the Middle East with education and health opportunities and is granted to young women who volunteer to empower women.

"Only someone with the incredible personality of Izzeldin, with his deep commitment to bridging the two peoples, would be able to turn his own personal tragedy into such a positive force," University President Prof. Rivka Carmi said.

Abuelaish did his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Soroka University Medical Center, has taught at BGU's Medical School for International Health and has been involved with the Bedouin genetics project run by Dr. Ohad Birk of the Faculty of Health Sciences. He is currently a professor at the University of Toronto.

In total, 35 awards were distributed at 10 universities in Israel, Egypt, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. This year's BGU recipients were Amalya Ze'evi, from Holon, a third year student in the Department of Politics and Government and the Department of Education; Ma'ayan Givoni, from Ramat Yishai, a third year student in the Department of Management and the Department of Psychology; and Safa Abu Hani of Rahat, a sixth year medical student at the Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School.



Showing **Their Appreciation**

At the University's annual ceremony for Israeli scholarship endowment funds, more than 60 donors had the unique opportunity of meeting "their" students, and bonding with them in a warm, family-like atmosphere. Created primarily by families in memory of their loved ones, the event was both emotional and moving as students had a chance to say "Todah!" to the people who play such a major part in ensuring their future.



Representatives of the Diana (Trichel) Shejnberg Scholarship Endowment Fund and students



Nurit Stavy of the Yigal Stavy Memorial Scholarship Fund with student



The younger generation of the Anat Ginsburg-Solkowitz Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund



Zehava Vered (center) with recipients of the Scholarship Endowment Fund in memory of Yeheskel Vered and in honor of Zehava Vered

It's All about **Excellence**



Rector Prof. Zvi HaCohen with Dr. Tzahit Simon-Tuval

Dr. Tzahit Simon-Tuval of the Department of Health Systems Management which is a joint department of the Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management and the Faculty of Health Sciences was recently awarded the Prof. Charles Roth Prize for Excellence in Teaching at the annual Rector's Concert marking the end of the academic year.

The Roth Prize recognizes outstanding teachers, "dedicated to instilling a motivation for excellence in the new generation of students, thereby contributing to the reputation of BGU as a world-class institute." The prize, awarded for the second year, was established by Lyon Roth, USA, in honor of his father and enables students to honor a professor who has had a decisive influence on their life in general and academic life in particular. The Prize was presented as part of the greater Excellence in Teaching Awards Ceremony, where 41 University lecturers received certificates of appreciation from University President **Prof. Rivka Carmi**, Rector **Prof. Zvi HaCohen** and their respective deans.

Also at the same ceremony, the annual Toronto Prize for Excellence in Research

for Exceptional Achievement of Promising Young Researchers was presented to six talented faculty members. Created by the Toronto Chapter of the Canadian Associates of BGU, the prize for the 2010/2011 academic year was awarded to the researchers chosen to represent their Faculties because of their superb academic abilities and achievements to date, and most importantly, their future capacity to pursue outstanding research and shape tomorrow.

The Toronto Prizes were awarded as follows: to **Dr. Galia Avidan** of the Department of Psychology, **Dr. Ilanit Gavious** of the Department of Business Administration at the Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management, **Dr. Maoz Shamir** of the Department of Physiology, **Dr. Dvir Shabtai** of the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management, **Prof. Michael Meijler** of the Department of Chemistry and the Edmond J. Safra Center for the Design and Engineering of Functional Biopolymers in the Negev, and **Dr. Naftali Lazarovitz** of the French Associates Institute for Agriculture and Biotechnology of Drylands at the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research.

New Dean of the **Faculty of Natural Sciences**

Prof. Shlomi Dolev has been elected as the next Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, replacing **Prof. Amir Sagi** when his term ends in August. Dolev is the incumbent of the Rita Altura Trust Chair in Computer Sciences, a member of the Department of Computer Science, head of the Lynne and William Frankel Center for Computer Science and chairman of the Israeli Inter-University Computation Center.

Dolev holds a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering; a B.A. in Computer Science; an M.Sc. and D.Sc. in Computer Science, all from the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology. He was a visiting research specialist at Texas A&M University, joining BGU's Department of Mathematics and Computer Science in 1995.

In 2000 Prof. Dolev became the first head of the new Department of Computer Science. He has held visiting positions in several institutions, including LRI, DIMACS, and MIT. In 2006 he was part of the team of researchers that established the Deutsche Telekom Laboratories at BGU.

Several agencies and companies support his research, including IBM (faculty awards), Intel, the National Science Foundation, the Israeli Ministries of Science and Defense, the US Air Force and the European Union.



Snapshots

A glance at events at BGU



At the central Student Day event



CEO of BGN Technologies Netta Cohen hosts Minister of Industry, Trade and Labor Shalom Simhon on the Marcus Family Campus



German Federal Minister of Education and Research Prof. Annette Schavan meets Prof. Rivka Carmi on a visit to BGU



At a University panel about Academic Freedom: (from L-R): Justice Emeritus Dalia Dorer; MK Alex Miller; Prof. Yitzhak Nevo and Prof. Zaki Shalom



Pomp and Circumstance

It was a family affair as the University celebrated commencement in a series of ceremonies on the Marcus Family Campus this spring. Over a six week period, BGU granted 5,765 degrees, including 146 new Ph.D.s from the Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies; 119 M.D.s from the Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School and the Medical School for International Health; 3,552 undergraduate and 1,820 master's degrees. Another 120 people received teaching certificates.



Agness Peretz Block receives her degree



Graduates of the Medical School for International Health throw their hats in the air at the end of the ceremony



Graduates of the Faculty of Natural Sciences proudly display their diplomas



Alex Goldstein before the ceremony begins

Excellence recognized



Dr. Taleb Mokari

Dr. Taleb Mokari Awarded Prestigious European Research Council Grant

Dr. Taleb Mokari of the Department of Chemistry and the Ilse Katz Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology received a Starting Grant from the European Research Council (ERC) for 2011.

These highly-competitive grants are considered Europe's most prestigious research awards. Of the eight ERC grant recipients at BGU, three have been from the Department of Chemistry.

Mokari focuses on creating hybrid nano-materials to generate green energy. He hopes to develop materials that would replace silicon-based solar panels and be both cheap and efficient.

Mokari was recently awarded the Krill award, IUPAC award, Ma'of Fellowship and a Fulbright and Ilan Ramon post-doctoral Fellowship at the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Barak Weiss Awarded Highly-Competitive European Research Council Grant

Mathematician Dr. Barak Weiss has been selected to receive a Starting Grant from the ERC for 2011.

This is the eighth ERC grant awarded at BGU since their creation and is confirmation of the rising quality of the University's researchers and research facilities.

Weiss's research focuses on "exceptionally symmetric higher dimensional objects called parameter spaces. Their groups of symmetries move points around inside them and this leads to the field of dynamical systems. Understanding the dynamics of these Lie group actions on some parameter spaces leads to a better understanding of several classical questions in number theory, such as Minkowski's conjecture, and also to a better understanding of newer questions such as diophantine properties of typical points on fractals and billiards on rational polygons."

Weiss was the recipient of the Bergmann Memorial Award in 2001 and the Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences Research Award at BGU in 2009. His research has been funded by grants from the US-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF) and the Israel Science Foundation (ISF).

Prof. Haim Maor Awarded Ministry of Culture and Sport Prize

Prof. Haim Maor of the Department of the Arts received the Ministry of Culture and

Sport Prize for 2010 this year.

The award is intended to express the appreciation of Israeli society for his creative work, and appreciation for his activities and his contribution to society. The judges noted that at the heart of Maor's work is his dialogue with the "other."

According to the citation, "The sources of his inspiration are first and foremost his own personal observations of himself, as a man, as a Jew, as an Israeli, as the son of Polish-born Holocaust survivors, as secular, as a believer, as a former kibbutznic, as a resident of the Negev, as a husband, father and grandfather, and as a creative artist. In everything listed here he sees an opening to create his dialogue with the 'others,' representing the 'others' as his immediate family, Holocaust survivors, the recreated German people and the Palestinian people. In his wide range of work, even technically, there is the highly charged dialogue in memory of supervised observation of present and future. His creations represent through a very personal look, existential and social problems of the society in which he lives and works, Israeli society."

Barenholz Prize to Dr. Tamar Harel-Adar

Dr. Tamar Harel-Adar of the Avram and Stella Goldstein-Goren Department of Biotechnology Engineering has been awarded the International 2011 Barenholz Prize for Innovation in Applied Research. The Barenholz Prizes were generously established by Prof. Yechezkel Barenholz of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, Jerusalem.

Her research explores a novel strategy for repairing the heart after a heart attack.

Harel-Adar engineered artificial cells, called liposomes, which fool the heart into repairing itself, and showed that after intravenous injections, these mimicking liposomes accumulated in the infarcted heart, decreased the inflammation and improved the function of the heart.

HMBA Team Ties for First Place in the 2011 Sofaer International Case Competition

A team from the Honors MBA (HBMA) program at the Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management tied for first place in the Sofaer International Case Competition. Thirteen teams (four Israeli and nine teams from top universities such as Columbia, Cambridge and UCLA) participated in the competition.

The team, comprised of four students – **Matt Rides, Itay Gil, Jeremy Seltzer and Eyal Shani** – presented a strategic analysis and suggestions for action for the software company Incredimail, whose main product enables receiving and sending e-mails with advanced graphic effects.

The first place award was divided between two teams: that of BGU and the team representing Tel Aviv University.

BGU Students Win Google “Mobile Challenge”

Students from BGU’s Department of Communication Systems Engineering took first place in the Israeli Mobile Challenge 2011, sponsored by Google Israel’s R&D

BGU Salutes its Friends!



Elie Elalouf with Minister of Education Gideon Saar

- Executive Board Member and Director of the Rashi Foundation **Elie Elalouf** on receipt of the Israel Prize for Lifetime Achievement and his Special Contribution to Society and State on Israel’s Independence Day this year.
- Alumna **Orna Barbivai** on her appointment as Israel’s first woman Major General, who will be serving as commander of the Human Resources Division.
- Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Governors **Bertram Lubner** of South Africa for his placement on the Jerusalem Post’s list of Top 50 Most Influential Jews in the World.

Center. The winning application was “Mobile Party,” which allows users to broadcast their music to people around them, using Wi-Fi in an ad hoc fashion. The broadcast works in full synchronization. “Think about a bus crowded with teenagers, all listening to the same Lady Gaga single and following the same beat, and you get the picture,” they explained in their presentation.

Now in its second year, the Challenge relates to Android-based applications developed by students from all Israeli universities. Twenty-six teams participated, out of which the best six applications,

chosen by a professional committee from academia and industry, made it to the finals event, hosted at BGU.

The finalists, including student teams from BGU, Tel-Aviv University and the Technion, presented their ideas at an event open to the public. Applications ranged from social networking and location-based applications, through interactive video and musical instruments, to every-day productivity applications. The winning applications were selected at the Finals event by a group of judges led by **Prof. Yossi Matias**, Head of Google Israel’s R&D Center.



Geologists **from Generation to Generation** – Prizes and Scholarships Awarded to Students



From L-R: Ambassador Igali, Ambassador Bala, Yuval Levy, Prof. Jiwchar Ganor

Alumni of the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences set a new record this year, creating a number of new prizes and scholarships for outstanding students.

Speaking at the Departmental ceremony, President **Prof. Rivka Carmi** commended this initiative, noting that she was “very moved to see how involved alumni are in the future of our students” and thanked them for “investing in the future generation.” Their gifts were matched by Chairman of the Board of Governors **Roy J. Zuckerberg**.

The event took place in the presence of Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry and Water Resources of Nigeria and acting Chief of Staff of the President **His Excellency Ambassador Godknows Boladei Igali** and the Ambassador of Nigeria to Israel **His**

Excellency D. g. Bala. They came to show their respect to alumni **Yuval Levy**, who has been developing infrastructure in Nigeria for many years and who created a scholarship fund in memory of his father, **Yossi Levy**, one of Israel’s pioneering geologists. Levy told the students that, “There are so many possibilities in the area you’ve chosen to study. My father had a multi-faceted career as a leading geologist and played a major role in the geological history of the State of Israel. Therefore, we knew that connecting with the Department and granting scholarships was the right thing to do.”

Chair **Prof. Jiwchar Ganor** noted that strong alumni and family ties are becoming a tradition for the Department: “I’m proud to say that this year over 40 percent of our alumni participated in a recent reunion.

That is when I asked them to consider establishing a scholarship endowment fund, and to my delight, many of them stepped up to the plate.”

Sixteen prizes and scholarships were distributed at the ceremony, including two prizes for an undergraduate and a graduate student, given by a group of alumni; a prize for a teaching assistant, given in memory of researcher **Eli Shimshilshvili**, who taught in the Department; and a prize for a doctoral student in memory of alumnus **Dr. Assaf Gur**, given by three alumni who studied with him.

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