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1

During the academic year's opening event, held in cooperation with the Student Union, the band HaTikva Six and their guest Irmi Kaplan drove the University's students and faculty wild. Also in attendance was Dr. Naftaly Glasman, representative of the Rieger Foundation which is contributing to the development of the "Rieger Café and Garden" and is a partner in donating to University of Haifa students scholarships. When Dr. Glasman met with University President Amos Shapira, several new development plans were presented to him and he also met with students participating in the Social Involvement project and volunteering in "Gan HaYeled" in Haifa.



2

"I do not prescribe to the opinion that the goal of an academic institution is to train its graduates for the workplace. An academic institution is not a professional school; the goal of the seven research universities and 60 colleges in Israel is to prepare their graduates for a career and not for the workplace. The presumption that the diploma, in and of itself, will guarantee its graduates employment is faulty at its basis," said Prof. Itzhak Harpaz, Dean of the Graduate Studies Authority and Head of the Center for the Study of Organizations and Human Resource Management, in the local media.



3

Prof. Eli Somer from the School of Social Work received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to the advancement of research and knowledge in the field of trauma and dissociation from the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation. The prize was awarded in the Society's 31st medical convention, which took place at Long Beach, California in the US.



4

The Weiss-Livnat International MA Program in Holocaust Studies held an opening seminar with 30 students from different countries, among these from the US, Germany, South Africa, Poland, the Philippines, the Ukraine, etc. Prof. Arie Kochavi, Head of the program, spoke to the students about the importance of Holocaust studies, current research in the field and the aims of the program. "We are pleased to open a new and exciting year, and we are certain that our students will grow into leading researchers and educators," he said.



5

A University delegation, headed by Dr. Yair Ziv of the Department of Counseling and Human Development and Prof. Avi Sagi-Schwartz, Director of The Center for the Study of Child Development in the Psychology Department, returned a couple of weeks back from an official mission from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration in Ghana. The aim of the delegation is to assess the education system with regards to preschoolers in the country, and in so doing its members conducted interviews with key individuals, from kindergarten teachers and on to the CEO of the Ministry of Education. The members also conducted observations in the kindergartens via a variety of unique methods.



6

Dr. Ido Zerkovitz from the Ezri Center for Iran and the Persian Gulf Studies and from the Department of Middle Eastern History gave a speech last week on: "Israel and the Palestinians: A Post Arab Spring Overview of Complicated Relationships" in the framework of a community lecture series for the Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Minnesota, where he is a guest lecturer this year in the Political Science Department. The lecture drew a large crowd from the Jewish community in the twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.



"The terrorist organizations have become smarter. They very quickly learned to utilize all the platforms Western technology can provide for them. Paradoxically, the greatest enemies of the West and modernization are using the most current tools of the West and modernization in order to fight them," said Prof. Gabriel Weimann of the Department of Communication to a local radio show. He also interviewed at the [National Journal](#) about methods of ISIS propaganda on social networks.

