The 44th Board of Governors Meeting is coming this June: June 6th – June 9th, 2016. This is a special time for us as we celebrate all that has been achieved thus far and look to the future and see where we want to be. Your attendance is vital as you are part of the fabric of this University and you help us realize its potential. On the program: A day of discussion centered around the issue of "Zionism – Past, Present, Future"; the Conferment of Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa to very distinguished recipients; the 20th Anniversary celebration of the Department of Business Administration; a visit to the Laboratories of the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences and the Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel (The Helmsley Charitable Trust gift) at IOLR and Sdot Yam. You are also invited to the Boston-Haifa International Conference - "Developing models of Judaism and Jewish Identity for the 21st century: The common and interdependent struggle of American and Israeli Jews", which will take place between June 5-6, 2016, and is in collaboration with the Ruderman Program for American Jewish Studies, headed by Prof. Gur Alroey. We look forward to seeing you!

Warm congratulations to Prof. Dani Nadel and Dr. Iris Groman-Yroslawski from the Zinman Institute of Archeology whose research about the beginning of agriculture in our area was ranked 24th in importance (out of 100 excellent research projects in 2015) by Discover Magazine. The conclusion of this unique research predated by thousands of years the date that was previously known for the beginning of agriculture in our area. The research is another link in a series of articles written by Prof. Nadel about the Ohalo excavation site on the Shores of the Sea of Galilee.

A Spotlight on the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library – A collaboration with Prof. Amos Megged, incumbent of the Helena Lewin Chair in Latin American Studies, with the Library, has led to a wonderful exhibition of colorful facsimiles of rare manuscripts from pre-Columbian civilizations. In the near future, the library will hold a special event where it will receive 6 volumes of documents from the colonial history of Guatemala. This event will be attended by the Guatemalan Ambassador to Israel.
The results of a comprehensive study conducted at the University of Haifa have shown that Holocaust survivors are at increased risk of developing schizophrenia. Prof. Stephen Levine, from the Department of Community Mental Health who undertook the study, explains: “The exposure to protracted multiple maximal physical, social and psychological adversities of the Holocaust increased the risk of survivors developing schizophrenia.” For further reading: Press Release, Haaretz, and the journal Psychological Medicine, published by the Cambridge University Press.

Did you know? Ballot voting can be a stressful event which may even cause fluctuations in our hormonal levels? This stress may be eliminated by voting from home. These findings are the result of a joint study by University researchers and University of Nebraska researchers which were published at the online publication PLOS ONE. “There are people who will not leave the house to vote because voting in public causes them stress. For these people, voting from home will be a good solution which will help them realize their democratic right.” Stated Dr. Israel Waismel-Manor from the University's School of Political Science who conducted the research.

Dr. Eran Segal, from the Ezri Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies at the University, interviewed for the Jerusalem Post about the ties Israel has with the Persian Gulf States. “It’s to everyone’s convenience to deny it. Evidence of the government’s ongoing relationship can be found if you dig deep enough. Flights running between the UAE and Israel are a good indication of that,” he stated.