



Division of Marketing & Media

At a Glance

LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA



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1

Now revealed – the University of Haifa's Researchers behind the scenes. Our Academic Channel has produced a new series of short video clips showing us the less familiar side of the University's staff of academics. On film they answer a mixed bag of questions from how their passion in their subjects was kindled and how they think their students view them, to describing one of their most touching experiences and their favourite corner on campus. The videos are informal and give a real taste of the personalities behind the research. The first in the series is an interview with [Dr. Nurit Shtuber](#) of the Department of Land of Israel Studies (in Hebrew) although we plan to produce more videos in English which can be accessed through Youtube.



2

[The Zinman Institute of Archaeology](#) recently held its Annual Research Conference to showcase the projects and research conducted under the umbrella of the Institute. At the event, Dr. Iris Groman-Yroslavski, head of the new [Use Wear Analysis Laboratory](#) presented her research as well as Prof. Ronny Reich who described his survey of the ancient Ashkenazi *Mikveh* (ritual baths). Dr Danny Rosenberg, head of the [Laboratory for Groundstone Research](#), explained his excavation project in Tel Tsaf, and Prof. Yossi Zaidner spoke about his connection to the recent discovery of a large prehistoric site in a quarry in Ramle, which has revealed information about the diet of the inhabitants of this land 170 thousand years ago. This last study has received much publicity in Israel, including articles in the [Haaretz](#) newspaper and the [Jerusalem Post](#).



3

Mr. Maurice Kanbar, a Friend of the University who has contributed to the Maurice Kanbar Natural Science Laboratory Complex, hosted a dinner in San Francisco for the American Society of the University of Haifa. At the event, University President Amos Shapira gave a presentation on the range of academic programs and diverse research activities taking place on campus.



4

Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Barbara Zucker, Friends of the University from the United States, visited the campus recently. They met the President, Amos Shapira and toured Prof. Tamar Weiss's Laboratory, part of the Department of Occupational Therapy. She told them about her groundbreaking research, which is described in a [film clip](#), that uses virtual reality techniques to treat a variety of patients with mental health and learning disability issues. They also met with students from the School of Social Work and the School of Public Health who are this year's recipients of the Francine "Nicky" Zucker Scholarship Fund.



5

The [Ruderman Program of American Jewish Studies](#) and the State of Israel, was featured recently on the Israeli news website *Ynet* and its sister English language site *Ynetnews*. The [Ruderman Program](#) is a graduate studies course which explores the history and socio-religious make-up of Jewish American communities, as well issues like foreign policy and governmental structures. The article quoted Jay Ruderman, who heads the Foundation which supports the program, "The program's goal is first of all to provide knowledge, education, educate Israelis to get to know the US Jewry, in order to build a backlog of people who will be able to serve as a bridge between the Israeli and American societies."



6

Elad Uzan, a research associate with the Ruderman Program for American Jewish Studies and the State of Israel, has published an opinion piece in the British Jewish Newspaper [The Jewish Chronicle](#) about the centrality of the circumcision ceremony in Judaism. The article referred to two recent cases which have come up in the news. The first is a German court's decision that circumcision is "bodily harm" - leading to speculation that there may be circumcision bans elsewhere; and the second is a case where a woman who refused to circumcise her son has allegedly been ordered to do so by an Israeli rabbinical court.

