Mr. Yariv Sultan, VP for Development and External Relations, recently visited Switzerland and met with Prof. Klaus Schwab, founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum at the organization’s headquarters in Geneva. Prof. Schwab will be receiving an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Haifa for his contributions, in June 2016 during the Board of Governors Meeting. At that time he will also be delivering a keynote lecture titled “Leadership Requirements for the 4th Industrial Revolution” at the 20th anniversary celebration of the Department of Business Administration.

The American Society of the University of Haifa hosted a celebration to honor Prof. Carol Padden, Dean of the Division of Social Sciences at the University of California, San Diego, for her acceptance of a Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa, from the University of Haifa at the Board of Governors’ Meeting last summer. More than forty friends and colleagues of Prof. Padden gathered in the Faculty Club on the UCSD campus. Yariv Sultan, VP for Development and External Relations, was on hand to present Prof. Padden with a customized elegant “Memory Book”, prepared in Haifa, that chronicled her entire Honorary Degree last June. Prof. Padden thanked the University and all attendees for their support and encouragement.
The committee overseeing the project to build a new Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences Building, has paid a visit to the construction site to inspect progress. The building will be a major addition to campus, with 5,300 sq. meters of varied floorspace, providing a physical home to the ten Departments and schools which comprise the third largest Faculty in the University. Construction was generously supported by longtime University friends in the USA, Mr. Maurice Kanbar and Mr. Aaron and Mrs. Irma Spencer.

The University's Model UN Society is turning prize winning into a regular tradition. Warm congratulations go to the delegates who have returned from the London International Model UN Conference as award winners. Nesimyan Adawi, a student at the Faculty of Law, was awarded the Best Policy Prize, while Nir Bronstein, studying at the School of Political Sciences, received a citation for his performance. Our thanks to the British Friends of the University of Haifa for sponsoring the trip, while the students were generously hosted during their stay by longtime friend of the University, Ms. Marcia Green.

Prof. Daniel Statman, of the Department of Philosophy has been interviewed on what is becoming a heated public debate in Israel. The Yahoo! website has featured the Israeli Ministry of Education's recent go ahead to revise a key school textbook "Being Citizens of Israel". The move has provoked much public discussion and allegations of errors and inaccuracies. Prof. Statman commented that "Given the depth of the political divide in Israel, it is not surprising that such a dispute has arisen. Each side on the political map wants to dictate how the next generation will be educated."

The American Society of the University of Haifa sponsored its second in a series of gatherings in the city of Phoenix to inform and educate the community about the University of Haifa. The University's friend, Ms. Sheila Schwartz, generously opened her home for the event titled "The Campus as a Mosaic". This year Yariv Sultan, VP for Development and External Relations, who was visiting the USA, presented an overview of the University's priority projects.