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1

The Weiss-Livnat International MA Program in Holocaust Studies, in cooperation with the Embassy of Switzerland, held a seminar on teaching the Holocaust through the stories of 'the Righteous Among Nations' like Carl Lutz. During the seminar, participants, who included representatives of the Embassy of Switzerland and the Swiss Foreign Ministry, discussed the challenges of teaching the Holocaust and listened to presentations of study programs developed by students based on the story of Carl Lutz. The highlight of the day was the launch of an exhibition that tells the life story of Lutz which the Swiss ambassador to Israel, Dr. Andreas Baum, attended.



2

The Herzl Institute and The Comper Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Antisemitism and Racism recently held the Dr. Reuben Hecht Memorial Conference around the theme of Holocaust denial and its significance. During the conference the Hecht Prize was awarded by Hecht Foundation Chair, Dr. Harry Sessler to Dr. Arie Dubnov of the Department of History for his research "The Dream of the Seventh Dominion – The Location of Palestine (The Land of Israel) in Liberal Imperialist Philosophy of the Interwar Years: The Metamorphosis of a Federalist Utopia." During the event, a panel of experts discussed Holocaust denial, and students of the Weiss-Livnat International MA Program in Holocaust Studies introduced how this is reflected in their homeland and what efforts they themselves are taking to combat the problem.



3

What is the impact of new technology on children with special needs? This question was answered by Prof. Tamar Weiss of the Department of Occupational Therapy, when she spoke to senior members of the scientific community of the University of San-Salvador in Buenos Aires. The lecture by Prof. Weiss was part of an evening organized by the President of the Friends of the University of Haifa in Argentina, Mr. Carlos Fuks, together with the University's representative of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics, Prof. Moty Benyakar to introduce the audience to groundbreaking research at the University. The speech can be seen on [this link](#).



4

A group of Israeli entrepreneurs has developed the new [Infibond](#) site with the assistance of Prof. Shimshon Rubin, Director of the International Center for the Study of Loss, Bereavement and Human Resilience, and Carmel-Haifa University Economic Corporation Ltd. It is a new social network which makes possible the immortalization of loved ones who are no longer among the living by posting photos, videos, memories, eulogies and stories about them. In his interview for Channel 2's "First Edition", Prof. Rubin said: "I think we are standing at the forefront of an internet revolution and of the ability to remember and immortalize people through communication and creativity." The venture was also publicized in the NRG website.



5

The key word to understanding Abu Mazen's conduct is "despair," claimed Dr. Ido Zerkovitz of the Department of Middle Eastern History and from the Ezri Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies in the Channel 2 program "23 Minutes." According to Zerkovitz, by signing an appeasement agreement with Hamas, the Head of the Palestinian Authority is allowing Israel to choose one of two paths: either to view him as one whose leadership is recognized and thus continue the negotiations with him, or to see him as someone with whom we cannot negotiate since he signed the appeasement.



6

Dr. Micha Barchana of the University's School of Public Health has come up with a new venture: a computerized medical file for cancer patients. The file allows the patients to digitally centralize all of the information concerning their disease and to incorporate the most important information on a single clear main screen that they are able to present to most of their treating physicians. Dr. Barchana said in an interview for *Globes* and for *NRG* that the reasons for developing the application are the mistakes and the difficulty that exist for physicians treating patients when not all of the information is available and accessible to them.



7

The "Blue Great White" is a type of shark that was spotted in Eilat Bay during Israel's Independence Day. Reporters at the *Ynet* website interviewed shark expert Ms. Adi Barash from the Department of Evolutionary and Environmental Biology to learn about this visitor. According to Ms. Barash, the shark's body is built for quick and perfect swimming. It also has a symmetrical tail, a sword-like tail (like on a surfboard) on the back end of its body and a completely "turbine" build. It is an excellent swimmer and tends to jump out of the water while chasing after its prey or when attempting to free itself from the fishermen's hold.



8

What is a future learning space? Links is a new concept outlined by researchers of the Center of Research Excellence alongside the Ministry for the Development of the Negev and Galilee according to which advanced technologies, like a three dimensional printer, iPads, and touch screens, will be brought into the classroom to help students develop creative ways of thinking, scientific orientation and work capabilities. According to *Ynet*, the venture will already be integrated into classrooms during the upcoming school year.



9

Changes in our thinking habits. The gradual disappearance of the written text in favor of digitization will bring about far-reaching changes in the manner of teaching and of higher education, claims Prof. Sheizaf Rafaeli, Director of the Center for Internet Research in his interview for the *Haaretz* newspaper. According to Rafaeli, these changes will even bring about a drastic change in the patterns of human thinking.



10

"There will be a tsunami on our shore – the question is when," said Dr. Beverly Goodman, whose lab is housed in the Dr. Moses Strauss Department of Marine Geosciences, in the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences for an article in the [Jerusalem Post](#) on the topic. According to Dr. Goodman, the best way to prevent such a catastrophe is by planning ahead. In order to do so, she is working with additional researchers from the lab on building a data base on tsunamis that have hit the Mediterranean region in the past so as to give them a better picture of the phenomenon in this region.



Dr. Emil Abramov of the Ezri Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies interviewed at a regional news agency in anticipation of Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs', Avigdor Lieberman's, upcoming visit to Azerbaijan. According to Dr. Abramov, Azerbaijan, which borders on Iran, is one of the most important countries to Israel since it is rich in natural mines. Furthermore, Israel is currently developing ties with them in many vital areas such as intelligence, agriculture, technology, etc.

