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The University of Haifa mourns the death of Lord Anthony Jacobs, a true friend and longtime supporter of the University who contributed greatly to the advancement of education and research, the recruitment of talented researchers, the welfare of the students and more. Jacobs was elected in 1993 as Chairman of the University's Board of Governors, a position which he held until 2002. The Lord Anthony and Lady Evelyn Jacobs Building for the Graduate School of Business and Department of Computer Science bears his name and the name of his wife. The University community would like to convey its condolences for the deep sorrow of the family.



2

The eighth Conference on Literacy held by the Faculty of Education in cooperation with the Israel Association of Literacy and Language was very successful with over 200 participants including Prof. Michal Shani from the Edmond J. Safra Brain Research Center for the Study of Learning Disabilities, Prof. Charles Perfetti, an international expert in language and reading research from the University of Pittsburgh, researchers and research students from various Israeli universities and colleges, policy-makers from the Ministry of Education and people from the field in the area of education and literacy. 43 posters of leading studies in the field were presented at the conference, with the winning poster going to our very own Yael Weiss, a doctoral student in the Faculty of Education.



3

In the event held by Leon Charney and his wife Tzili in London marking the bestowing of the Emmy to the movie "Back Door Channels: The Price of Peace," about 45 of their personal friends attended, including Sir Maurice and Lady Irene Hatter, Neville Shulman CBE and his wife Emma, Mr. Amit Ben-Haim and Mrs. Sabine Ben-Haim, Jonathan Lux and his wife Simone, and other friends of the University in London. The film was screened to denote 35 years to the Camp David Treaty between Israel and Egypt, in which Charney played a key role, and during the evening a campaign to recruit resources for the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences was launched. University President Amos Shapira and Dr. Tali Treibitz of the Department for Marine Technologies (being established) of the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences came especially and presented the wonderful development of the School.

**4**

The University Management took part in a ceremony denoting the purchase of a research vessel to serve marine research in Israel and which will serve all the academic institutions in Israel. The whole thing began with a meeting at the Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research (IOLR) in Shikmona. The cooperation between the University and the institute strengthened when we received the research grant from the Helmsley Charitable Trust and decided to establish the coastal facility of the Mediterranean Sea Research Center in IOLR. Later there took place a visit to the Haifa Navy base with the participation of the Director General of the Ministry of Infrastructures, Energy and Water Resources, Navy representatives, representatives of the Ministry of Environmental Protection etc. Prof. Zvi Ben Avraham, Director of the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences and Head of the Israel Center for Mediterranean Sea Research, spoke at the ceremony on behalf of the academic community in Israel.

**5**

The third summer session of the International Academy for Judges recently opened at the Law Faculty, headed by Prof. Amnon Carmi and Prof. Eli Salzberger. The seminar includes about 30 participating judges from around the world (including India, the Philippines, Australia, Uganda, Kenya, Cameroon, Poland, Romania, Bosnia, Spain, the US and Israel), with eight of these returning to Haifa for the third time. The crown jewel of the seminar is a visit to the Supreme Court during which the judges will receive a lesson on the rule of law by Retired Supreme Court Justice Dorit Beinisch.

**6**

The 25 master's degree students from the Ruderman Program for American Jewish Studies headed by Prof. Gur Alroey, Head of the School of History, have returned from a unique, one of a kind study trip to the US. This is the first program in Israeli academia focused on researching the ties between the Jews of the US and of Israel, and it was also the first academic tour aimed at learning first-hand and in a direct manner about American Jewry. The students met with American Jews of all streams of thought and Judaism, as well as with representatives of the larger Jewish organizations in the US. "It was like a reverse 'Taglit' project," said Prof. Alroey.



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A group of degree students from the Center for German and European Studies headed by Prof. Eli Salzberger participated in a joint seminar in Berlin with students from US's Brandeis University and a group of doctoral students from the University of Hamburg. The topic was 25 years to the German unification, the appeasement process between East and West Germany and the lessons that can be learned for other conflict regions around the world. The students met with resisters of the East German regime, German parliament members, representatives from various minority groups in Germany (including Turks and blacks) and with others holding key positions (like the manager of the Stasi archives). The project was funded by a special DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service of the German Foreign Ministry) scholarship.



9

"At the end of the day, the unity government [between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority] collapsed by itself," said Dr. Ido Zerkovitz from the Ezri Center for Iran & Persian Gulf Studies and the Department of Middle Eastern History in his interview to [Business Insider](#). As Zerkovitz put it, "From their own perspective, Hamas is ready to sacrifice their own infrastructure and their own members in order to be back into the political process in the Middle East."



11

Prof. Norman Bailey from the Center for National Security Studies and Geostrategy claims, in an article published at the [Globes English edition](#), that in light of recent events in the Middle East, Turkey has been placed in a most uncomfortable situation, with hard choices and few options. "On the one hand, it has supported the Iraqi regime for years which is now crumbling due to the rise of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and on the other hand its relations with Iran are fragile in light of



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Prof. Aaron Ben-Zeev from the Philosophy Department, and former University of Haifa President, discussed the issue of revenge in a Ynet article, why feelings of revenge do us good: "Revenge is like a fire, that in its nature tends to spread and widen quickly, without distinguishing what it scorches. Therefore, if we do not put out the fire of revenge quickly we may lose control and get burnt ourselves," he said. Prof. Ben-Zeev was also a guest on the channel 2 television program "Talking about it" and emphasized once more the obligation to avoid action fueled by extreme emotions.



10

Dr. Dina Lisnyansky, an expert on Islamist movements from the Department of Middle Eastern History, interviewed at the [Jerusalem Post](#) and discussed the strengthening of ties between Abdullah King of Jordan and the Chechen authorities: "There is speculation that Abdullah is concerned about radical ideologies gaining roots in the Chechen community in Jordan, and the infiltration of Chechen fighters from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), possibly entering the country as refugees," she said.



12

Prof. Benjamin Miller of the School of Political Science voiced his opinions regarding the current crises in the Ukraine, Iraq and Syria in the leading [Foreign Affairs](#) magazine. "There seems to be little connecting recent violence in the former Soviet space to ongoing bloodshed in the Middle East. In one place, a neo-imperialist power is attempting to reassert itself in a region that it ruled not so long ago. In the other, sect-based militant groups are grabbing up territory by the mile," he said.



the latter's recent support of President Assad in Syria. In the end, Israeli foreign and security policies are greatly influenced by what happens in the two non-Arab giants of the region, Iran and Turkey," he said.



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