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Congratulations to Yariv Sultan who was recently appointed to the position of Vice President for External Relations and Resources Development of the University and assumed his new position last week. Sultan is a University of Haifa alumnus and a graduate of Tel-Aviv University, and he also finished his studies at Harvard University. In the past he served as Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund/Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael in Switzerland, the International Activities Director at WIZO, and Marketing and External Relations Director at the Jewish Agency. In addition to his various business positions Sultan also deals with public service, thus he sits on the directorate of several funds and philanthropies in Israel and abroad. "Exactly 25 years after entering the University as a bachelor's degree student I am coming home. I view this as a show of the University's faith in its graduates and I realize the great responsibility that sits on my shoulders. The world in general, and the philanthropic world in particular, have been going through great changes over the last few years and I am happy to join a team



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Leon and Tzili Charney visited the University last week to see firsthand the developments at the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences. They began their visit to the Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research (IOLR) Institute where Prof. Zvi Ben Avraham, Director of the Charney School, and Prof. Barak Herut, General Manager of the Institute, presented the collaboration between the two bodies, mainly with everything that has to do with deep sea research. Later on, everyone arrived on campus for an unveiling ceremony of the new logo of the Charney School. In conclusion, the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Prof. Gad Barzilai, presented the new program, and first of its kind in Israel, for Maritime Law, while Dr. Morel Groper presented the new Department of Marine Technologies currently under establishment.



that is dealing with these changes and the challenges therein," he said.

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A meeting took place last week that brought together all the students traveling to study abroad within the framework of the University's cooperative international activities (funded by scholarships from Marcus and Carole Weinstein and the Erasmus Mundus program). The meeting included the presentation of the international programs and ways to market them; meeting with returning students and learning from their experiences and a workshop of the Model UN project. In summary, Prof. Hanan Alexander, Dean of Students and Head of the International School, wished the students a good journey and good luck with their studies.



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Last week, Dr. Arnie Aberman, a close friend and supporter of the University from Canada, visited our campus and took a special interest in the happenings with the Elizabeth and Tony Comper Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Antisemitism and Racism and with the "Ambassadors Online" program. Dr. Aberman toured the University with Prof. Yossi Ben-Artzi as his guide, and he met President Amos Shapira, lecturers, investigators and students who greatly impressed him. Additionally, Dr. Aberman visited the research laboratories at the Faculty of Natural Sciences that were established with the help of the Canadian Friends of Haifa University and he also visited the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences.



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The public opinion survey conducted recently by Dr. Yuval Feinstein, a researcher of nationalism and public opinion from the Department of Sociology at the University of Haifa, is also making waves in the worldwide media. Various publications such as [Times of Israel](#), [Jerusalem Post](#), [Buenos Aires Herald](#), [Times of India](#), [Bloomberg](#) and others published the important findings arising from it.



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Dr. Emil Abramov of the Ezri Center for Iran and Gulf Studies interviewed for the Azerbaijan paper [Baku Post](#) on the Center's activities and on Azerbaijan's place in Israel's foreign policy, especially the state of Azerbaijan studies in Israeli academia.



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Dr. Soli Shahvar, Director of the Ezri Center for Iran and Gulf Studies and from the Department of Middle Eastern History, interviewed for "Voice of America" television in Persian on Gaza. "The Palestinian population is at a crossroads where it must choose whether or not to go on the path outlined by Hamas, meaning more destruction, death and loss for them. If Hamas will deny them a choice of a different path, they must remember that in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and other countries of the 'Arab Spring' the ruling powers were and are also strong, but the people rose up anyways and even succeeded in bringing some regimes to a downfall," he said. Dr. Shahvar also interviewed for the BBC regarding whether the US can be a fair mediator in light of its undeniable support for Israel and based on its decision to assist Israel with an additional \$225 million to the Iron Dome project.



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Prof. Eli Avraham, Head of the Elizabeth and Tony Comper Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Antisemitism and Racism and from the Department of Communication, in an interview for Ynet referred to the physicians' letter in the "Lancet" medical journal that attacked Israel viciously: "The attack on Israel on the part of the medical journals is not just anti-Israel, it is certainly anti-Semitic. It is definitely praiseworthy that investigators are seeking justice, but when they judge Israel by different standards than the rest of the world, this is exactly classic anti-Semitism in a new format which refers to Jews differently than to people of other nations," he said.

