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1

Stef Wertheimer, Noam Lautman, Chairman of the Delta Galil Board of Directors, Gideon Bickel, Chairman of Agrexco Carmel Ltd., Imad Telhami, Founder and CEO of Babcom Centers, and dozens of other senior businesspeople arrived this week to the yearly opening event of the Israeli Friends of the University of Haifa, led by University President Amos Shapira, Association President Yonel Cohen, and Association CEO Dr. Dalia Perl-Olshvang. While raising a toast for Rosh Hashana, Amos Shapira invited Noam Lautman to the stage and said, "Noam is a man of many accomplishments, but I can't help and mention his father, my good friend, Dov Lautman Z"L. It was Dov who called me several years ago when I was still the CEO of Cellcom and urged me to come and take action for Israeli academia, and those who knew Dov know that you cannot say 'no' to him." The event was featured in the "Globes" newspaper.



2

An academic collaboration agreement was signed between the University of Haifa and Cleveland State University in the presence of Rector Prof. David Faraggi. According to the agreement, published in [The Times of Israel](#), the universities will cooperate in the areas of the natural sciences, Middle-East studies and educational leadership. During his stay in the US, Prof. Faraggi took part in an event with the participation of dozens of leading US businesspeople who discussed the University of Haifa's contribution to research developments in the area of natural gas. Later on, Prof. Faraggi met with friends and supporters of the University in an event organized in Chicago by the American Society of the University of Haifa in which he updated participants about the current happenings in Israel and discussed the University's dealing with the situation.



3

The John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University held a first of its kind meeting last week for students at the university where it was possible to get information on MA programs, scholarships and the registration and admissions process. The meeting commenced with opening remarks by Yariv Sultan, the University of Haifa's Vice President for External Relations and Resource Development, who had just now completed his own MA degree at Harvard and who shared his personal experiences in the academic and social areas with the participants. Afterwards, Matt Clemons, Director of Admissions at the Kennedy School of Government, presented the various tracts of study to those interested.



4

Want to know how many types of sharks there are in the Mediterranean? Or investigate the climate thousands of years ago with drilling from the heart of the sea? Maybe pirates interest you or perhaps you have always dreamt of adopting a dolphin? Tonight, the University of Haifa is once more hosting the "Researchers' Night" to explore the secrets of the seas and oceans. During the course of the evening, our investigators from all of the faculties and areas of interest will present their studies tied to marine research.



5

University of Haifa Professor of Law Jonathan Yovel (right) and Steve Forbes (left), Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of Forbes Media, were special guests at a Solidarity Shabbat Dinner hosted by the prestigious Hampton Synagogue on Friday, September 5, 2014, on Long Island, New York. They also participated in a special discussion attended by over 200 members of the Synagogue and guests on the current situation in the Mideast and the University's important strategic role in northern Israel. Also pictured are Regina Gottfried, American Society of the University of Haifa East Coast Director, and Yefet Ozery, National Executive Director.



6

About 18 University of Haifa administrative employees attended an educational symposium in Madrid within the framework of the Association of Professional Advancement of the Histadrut labor federation. The delegation toured the campus of the University of Madrid, where participants attended lectures relevant to their areas of interest; they additionally visited the monument in memory of those who perished in the Holocaust.



7

Recently, the summer session of an international MA program in psychodrama ended. Dr. Hod Orkibi of the Graduate School of Creative Arts Therapies and the School's staff taught during August a group of students from Russia who came to Israel, despite the situation, in order to begin their studies.



9

When a health risk hits closer to home, health care professionals base their positions on vaccines more on emotions and personal experiences than on scientific and analytical knowledge, according to a new study by the School of Public Health at the University of Haifa. "When the risk is remote it is easier for health care professionals to maintain a professional point of view as representatives of the system. When their close environment is at risk, they behave similarly to the general public and base their decisions on normative emotional barriers," said Dr. Anat Gesser-Edelsburg from the School of Public Health who carried out this study with Prof. Manfred Green and Nathan Walter. The research findings were published in [Science Daily](#), [International Business](#), [The Times of Israel](#), etc.



8

The new Internet site of the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library just went up. The site showcases an upgraded search engine to all of the Library's resources and much information on the various Library services. The site is built on a pattern that adapts to various screens: desktops, laptops, etc. And more from the Library – what would you say to the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library signage that found its way to a professional book presenting certain projects in the area of environmental signage and graphics design, and being published this month in Hong Kong?



10

Prof. Brenda Shaffer of the School of Political Sciences is currently on sabbatical in Washington where she is a guest lecturer at Georgetown University. Prof. Shaffer has recently published a number of op-ed pieces in the world's leading papers on energy security and Russia, at the head of which is an article in [The New York Times](#) which points towards Russia's involvement in the violent events that took place recently in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Caucasus, and warns against a recurrence of the case with East Ukraine. The [Washington Post](#) as well as the [Wall Street Journal](#) also published her opinions. Prof. Shaffer even recently provided the US Senate and Congress with a number of expert testimonies on the topics of Caucasus and the European energy policy towards Russia, and she appeared before the US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.



Did you know that cannabis prevents the negative behavioral and physiological effects of a traumatic event and its reminders? According to a new study conducted by the Psychology department by Dr. Irit Akirav and Nachshon Korem, the use of synthetic cannabis (cannabinoids) at close proximity to a traumatic event may prevent PTSD like symptoms in rats, caused by the trauma and its reminders. "The importance of the study lies in the fact that it contributes to the comprehension of the neurological basis for the positive influence of cannabis on PTSD and thereby strongly supports conducting studies on humans with possible ways of preventing the development of PTSD and anxiety issues in response to a traumatic event," noted the researchers. Local papers such as Ha'aretz and [The Times of Israel](#) published the findings.



Are Israeli wheat genes the answer to changes in climate? According to the [Jewish Daily Forward](#), the Wild Cereal Gene Bank at the Institute of Evolution, headed by Prof. Tzion Fahima, in concert with a novel technology that will distill the best genes from the plant life, are the key to creating more resistant strains whose production is higher even in extreme climactic changes.

