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1

Congratulations to Dr. Hila Toledano, Head of the Laboratory for Stem Cell Research supported by Victoria and Marvin Sadowski, in the Faculty of Natural Sciences, who was chosen to be on the list of the 50 most influential women of 2014 by the "Lady Globes" magazine. Dr. Toledano discovered a mechanism that will enable the growing of stem cells and tissues externally to the body and returning them when needed, so that cells destroyed as a result of radiation would be replaced by cells grown outside the body.



2

Last week, The British Friends of the University of Haifa celebrated the Honorary Doctorate recently awarded to FW de Klerk, the former President of South Africa, with a lunch in his honor at the prestigious RAC Club in London's Pall Mall. Thirty of the University's top UK supporters attended the glittering occasion, including Lady Irene Hatter, who presented de Klerk with a commemorative album of his visit to Haifa, and Mick Davis, who hosted the lunch. University of Haifa President Amos Shapira also spoke at the event which was featured in [The Jewish Chronicle](#).



3

Dr. Moshe Lavi Levkovitz from the Department of Jewish History was a guest of the Mexican Friends Association and Ms. Gita Solay in Mexico where he presented his Cairo Genizah research in community centers, schools and in private circles. Additionally, Dr. Levkovitz interviewed for the online journal of the Jewish community, [Enlace Judio](#). The Cairo Genizah project, which contains no less than 200,000 Jewish manuscripts, some over 1,000 years old which tell the story of the Middle-East Jewry during the Middle Ages, stirred great interest among the Mexican Jewish community.



4

The national American Society of the University of Haifa team participated in a three-day retreat in Boscawen, NH that combined training with planning and brainstorming. Two experts from Brandeis University discussed current trends in Jewish philanthropy in the USA, methods of identifying, nurturing and effectively mobilizing lay leadership, and planning giving strategies. They also had time to discuss ways of further improving communications and teamwork with the University of Haifa resource development staff with Yariv Sultan, Vice President for External Relations and Resource Development who participated in all sessions, and Board of Governors Chairman and retreat host Dr. Fred Tauber.



5

The use of vinegar as medicine for jellyfish stings not only does not help the situation, it may even make it worse by causing the jellyfish's stinging vesicles to release more venom into the body. These findings came up in an experiment in Dr. Tamar Lotan's lab, a biologist from the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences, for last Thursday's "Night of Scientists." Her findings were posted on Galey Tzahal, NRG, and the [Jerusalem Post](#).



6

The study conducted by Dr. Osnat Atun-Einy of the University's Department of Physical Therapy and Dr. Dina Cohen, Moran Samuel and Prof. Anat Scher of the Department of Counseling and Human Development, which revealed that babies born in the winter will start crawling earlier than babies born in the summer months, is making waves in the foreign press – [The Times of Israel](#), [La Nación](#), [Science Daily](#), [Medical News Today](#).



7

"The ways of history are amazing. Who would have raised the notion that 13 years after that same bitter day, it would be the successor of George Bush Jr. himself, Barack Obama, who had engraved upon his flag the goal of leaving Iraq and Afghanistan and assembling the troops in US space, he would be the one to declare the increase in military activity, in Iraq of all places," so said Prof. Avraham Ben Zvi from the School of Political Sciences to the radio show "The International Hour" on Reshet Bet, denoting 13 years to the terrorist attacks on New York's Twin Towers and in anticipation of Obama's speech which he summarized in the Channel 10 show "London and Kirschenbaum."



8

The British author Russell Edwards declared a couple of weeks ago that "Jack the Ripper" is Aaron Kosminski, a Jewish-Polish immigrant who was 23 years old at the time of the murders. The discovery, whether or not it is true, brought once more to the forefront the unending sleeping issue of anti-semitism. "Already in 1888, in parallel to the murders, the angry mob on the streets of London blamed the Jews, great tension existed between the local community and the foreigners, and a connection was made between the hatred towards the new immigrants and the more traditional hatred towards the relatively established veteran Jews of London," said Dr. Guy Beker from the School of Criminology to Ynet.



9

Last week, construction began on the new pedestrian bridge that will connect the large external parking lots with the University buildings and allow for a safe passage to the campus entrance. The length of the bridge will be about 50 meters, and its weight is estimated to reach about 200 tons. Construction is expected to take about six months.

