



Issue No. 5 for Academic Year 2014-15

December 4, 2014

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Remember we told you about the Chicago Gala held a short while ago by the American Society of the University of Haifa (ASUH)? Now that the Gala has finished we have been informed that the fruits of this event in terms of fundraising will go towards establishing a new Center for Marine Strategy Research; this in cooperation with the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences, the School of Political Sciences, and the Reuven Chaikin Chair in Geostrategy and with the generous support of our friends in Israel and in the US.



2

ASUH on the West Coast, headed by Dr. Sharon Nazarian, recently held a festive event in California with over 200 guests. Ms. Annette Shapiro, a friend and contributor to the University of Haifa, organized the event. The main speaker, President Amos Shapira, spoke about Operation "Protective Edge" and its influence on Israeli society in general and on the University of Haifa in particular. Additionally, during his visit to the West Coast President Shapira met with UCLA Chancellor Gene Block regarding plans for student exchanges and with the Magbit Foundation Board regarding the Foundation's support of student scholarships.



3

Congratulations go out to the Faculty of Management which received much praise in the 2014 Eduniversal ranking, the most professional and comprehensive ranking in the world in the field of management. The University's Department of Business Administration in this Faculty was described in the ranking as "an excellent school of business administration with an international influence," and thus it surpassed about one-half of the schools in the US.



5

Among the archives of the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library, those from Tzefat are also to be found, including fascinating documents that describe the city from the beginning of the 1950s until the end of the 1970s. The documents are to be found in about 35 containers and they deal with many varied topics. The full collection includes the following three documents: a request sent by Abba Hushi (then Mayor of Haifa) to the Mayor of Tzefat in 1954 within the context of the "Respecting your Elders" project; information on the 1952 tour and reception for physicians participating in the Second National Congress of Jewish Physicians in Tzefat; and a work plan from 1955 to establish an academy of arts in the city.



4

The Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences and the Municipality of Haifa held the Second Haifa Conference on the Mediterranean Sea Research under the banner: "Deep Sea Research – The Next Challenge." The conference was held in the presence of Prof. Manuel Pinto de Abreu, Portuguese Secretary of State for Affairs of the Sea who dealt with many issues tied to deep sea research such as marine technologies, ecology and environmental preservation, artificial islands, marine noise pollution, etc.



6

In a new study by the University's Sagol Department of Neurobiology, published in the *Journal of Neuroscience*, researchers have found a way to improve memory by manipulating a specific molecule which functions poorly in old age (the PERK protein) and is closely linked to Alzheimer's. The researchers were even able to manipulate the molecule's activity for the first time without causing cognitive damage. "We know that with Alzheimer's the PERK protein does not function properly. Our success at manipulating its operation without harming the brain's function opens for us a way of also improving memory and perhaps also of slowing down the pathologic development of a disease such as Alzheimer's," said Prof. Kobi Rosenblum, head of the lab where the research was conducted. The research was published in *Ha'aretz*, the [Jerusalem Post](#) among others.



Dr. Soli Shahvar, Director, the University's Ezri Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies, from the Department of Middle Eastern History, was interviewed for the [Voice of Israel](#) radio show on the topic of a nuclear Iran. "I believe that extending the agreement serves all parties involved. On the one hand, it saves the Obama administration from further disgrace from the Congress and Senate, on the other hand it prevents the West from the need to take further sanctions against Iran, on the third hand it allows the Iranian regime to continue with their secret plans, and finally the Israeli government also views the continuation of talks as the lesser of all evils; this will even give Israel an additional opportunity for diplomatic activity against any agreement with the Iranian regime."

