



Vice President for External Relations  
and Resource Development  
Division of Marketing & Media



# *At a Glance*

THE PAST WEEK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA



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1

"I consider this [memorial at the University of Haifa](#) a very praiseworthy initiative. It is no coincidence that the same institution that has been educating the security forces over the years, and that provided notable assistance to the security and rescue services during the fire in the Carmel Forest, is the same institution to be memorializing the fallen now," said Minister of Internal Security Yitzhak Aharonovich at a memorial ceremony last week for the 44 victims of the Carmel fire disaster.



2

"Through this project my life is connected to yours, with the hope of bringing some consolation. I know that I will be strengthened and a better person by getting to know you and hearing about Danny," said Tamar Chakim, who received a scholarship in memory of Sergeant Major Danny Chayat who died in the Carmel fire. At the [moving ceremony at the University](#), 44 scholarships were dedicated in memory of the 44 victims of the disaster.



3

The University's Division for External Relations and Resource Development is putting forth great effort these days to establish the Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Science Complex: the complex will include classrooms, as well as new laboratories, modern clinics and research centers. "The establishment of the complex will increase the possibilities for growth of the Faculty significantly, both in terms of academic faculty members and students of all degrees, which will serve as a growth engine for the development of the entire University," said President of the University, Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev.



4

The University of Haifa has launched an [international and wide-ranging research project](#) aimed at developing a computerized system that will enable patients who need to be monitored and their healthcare providers to receive updates and medical advice in real time, outside clinically-controlled environments. This project will ultimately minimize the need to arrive at an ambulatory clinic or at the hospital for monitoring and follow-up therapy sessions, while improving the continuity of monitoring and enhancing the quality of care. The EU has granted close to €6 million Euro over the course of four years to fund the project whose proposal prevailed over sixty other proposals that were submitted.



5

Dr. Guy Podoler from the Department of Asian Studies published a new book [\*Monuments, Memory, and Identity: Constructing the Colonial Past in South Korea\*](#). The book examines the process of the commemoration of Colonial Japan in post-Colonial Korea and South Korea with a focus on museums, monuments, and memory halls.



6

The Master's degree program in Movie Culture and the Department of Communication held a full day seminar in honor of the release of the new book by Dr. Miri Talmon and Yaron Peleg entitled *Israeli Cinema: Identities in Motion*. Among the participants were Avi Neshet, the director of films such as *99 Dizengoff Street*, *The Band*, and *Sof Ha'Olam Smola*, Dr. Avner Faingulernt, a documentarian, and Yossi Oren, Artistic Director of the Rabinovitz Foundation and one of the initiators of the Cinema Law about a decade ago. The event was organized by Dr. Ouzi Elyada of the Department of Communication and Dr. Yvonne Kozlovsky Golan, Head of the Movie Culture Program, who said: "Our conclusion from the seminar day is that there is a future for Israeli cinema and the study of the unique subjects it represents – in the country and around the world."



7

The best way to identify suicidal youth is to ask them directly, but there is concern among educators that questions of this type will "put ideas into the heads" of young people. This is what is currently preventing authorization from the Ministry of Education, says Prof. Alan Apter, Director of the E. Richard Feinberg Department of Children's and Adolescents' Psychological Medicine, Schneider Children's Medical Center, in a seminar day on the topic of "emotional and social support for at-risk youth" which took place at the University.



8

Not only are we proud of our researchers and the studies carried out at the University – the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents the studies of our University's researchers to the entire world. Last week, the studies highlighted were those of Dr. Irit Akirav from the Department of Psychology for the connection between marijuana and post-trauma, and that of Prof. Abraham Haim, Head of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management, for the danger of white lamps.



9

A student delegation from the University of Haifa's Model United Nations Society, sponsored by the Student Union, became the center of attention at the [recent international MUN convention in Hamburg](#), Germany.



10

Prof. Eviatar Nevo from the Institute of Evolution and the Department of Evolutionary and Environmental Biology continues his long-time research on the blind rat. He recently set up an international research group with scientific partners from Israel, the Czech Republic, the United States as well as Palestinian and Arab-Israeli support staff, for a novel research study on the mole.



11

Is the media leftist? A study conducted by Prof. Gabi Weiman and Prof. Yariv Tsfati of the Department of Communication found that the television coverage of the 2009 elections included almost completely balanced coverage of the *Likud* and *Kadima* parties, including the amount of articles written, even the critical ones, common types of criticism, etc.



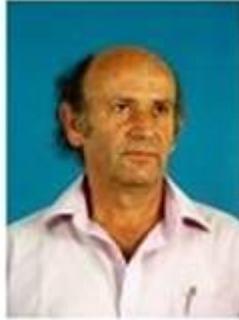
12

Is it permissible to surf *Facebook* at work? Dr. Yaniv Levyatan of the Department of Multi-Disciplinary Studies and The Ezri Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies asks that question in an article for *Globes* newspaper about the marketing advantages that surfers at work have on the social networks. "The proper use of the workers of the organization in the social media environment will assist critically in a time of crisis. In a time of crisis, the workers will be the first line of defense in blocking its spread."



13

Prof. Moshe Inbar from the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies was a guest at a conference of the International Geographical Union in Chile, and his visit received extensive coverage in the local press. Prof. Inbar refuted those theories that discuss an alleged rise in natural disasters.



14

What is the connection between air pollution and stocks in the stock-market? The *Calcalist* newspaper shows that the research of Prof. Yosef Yagil of the Graduate School of Management has found a connection between the two.



15

Prof. Gustavo Mesch from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology was interviewed for *YNET* about the place of social networks in mass demonstrations: "The social media is important, but it is not enough in itself for the protest. What do 100,000 'likes' mean? What about one million 'likes'? In certain cases it is translated into demonstrations in Israel of 200-300 thousand people, but in other cases it is not."



16

The Jerusalem excavations of Prof. Ronen Reich from the Department of Archaeology continue to provide fascinating discoveries. This time: Hordus is not the one who completed the building of the Western Wall. This conclusion was reached by coins found by the diggers at the Wall's foundations. The discovery received a lot of attention in the country and was published in many local papers and also abroad, where it even reached the news of [CNN](#).



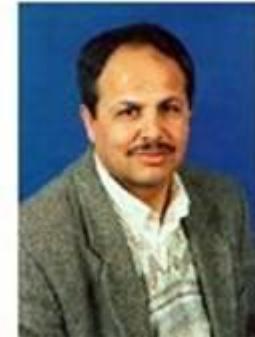
17

Already at a young age, parents are pushing their children into preparatory courses for screening exams for the gifted. Prof. Gabi Salomon of the Department of Leadership and Policy in Education and Prof. Baruch Nevo of the Department of Psychology were interviewed for the *Calcalist* magazine on the phenomenon and its effects. "Giftedness is socioeconomic since the upper classes invest more in education," said Prof. Salomon.



18

Prof. Rassem Khamaisi from the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies was interviewed for the radio show *This Morning* on Reshet Bet regarding the disparity in income between Jews and Arabs: "The figures show that an Arab wage-earner earns more or less 60-62 percent of the average wages of a Jew in the State of Israel."



19

Dr. Liad Porat from the University's Department of Middle Eastern Studies was interviewed for the television show *London at Kirschenbaum* on Channel 10 regarding the recent events in Egypt, and the rising power of the Moslem Brotherhood that may lead the country and form its government.



20

Prof. Ofira Ayalon from the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management was interviewed for the radio show *Baderech el Hateva* on Reshet Bet about the study tours within the framework of the Campus Energy course: "It's not enough to stand in front of the board and show one technology or another. There is nothing like seeing something firsthand, and this was the aim of the course."



21

"The Antitrust Authority Law allows for the attack on a monopoly in case of outrageous prices," said Prof. David Gilo, General Director of the Israel Antitrust Authority, in a lecture he gave to law students at the University which was also published in the *Calcalist* magazine.



22

Prof. Onn Winckler from the Department of Middle Eastern Studies was interviewed for the radio show *Good Morning Israel* on Galei Tzahal concerning the Arab sanctions on Syria. "The Arab League is sanctioning Syria by freezing deals with the central bank, freezing assets belonging to members of the government and senior officials, etc., but it is impossible to say that these actions are paralyzing, because according to the basic principle of the League, each country may decide for itself what to do," he said.



23

The University is launching a unique [Master's degree program in Holocaust Studies](#) headed by Prof. Arie Kochavi. A track opened in October 2010 whose goal it is to stop the decline of young students specializing in the Holocaust in Israel. The opening of this unique track was published in the newspaper *Yedioth Ahronot*.



24

The newspaper *Yedioth Ahronot* published in its weekend edition a large article about Judge Asher Grunis, a candidate to head the Supreme Court. The article cites the University studies that have examined the public's stance on the Supreme Court over the last decade.



25

There has been a drastic decline in Israel's placement in the international measurement of government corruption carried out by the organization *Transparency Watch*. Dr. Doron Navot of the School of Political Sciences was interviewed on the subject for by *The Marker* magazine: "The centralization of the economy makes decision-makers act in the interests of the wealthy individuals who are tied to them. The damage to the public happens in form of corruption, whether or not it's criminal," he said.



26

Dr. Soli Shahvar, Head of The Ezri Center for Iran and Gulf Studies and from the Department of Middle Eastern Studies was interviewed for the radio show *Nachon LeHaboker* on *Galei Tzahal* on the storming of the British Embassy. "This is probably about individuals who wish to divert the attention from the bombings occurring in Iran and whose source is yet unknown."



27

Why are there capital cities that are also the central cities in the country as opposed to capital cities that are more distant and weaker, and are these differences important in the lives of the capital cities? Prof. Maoz Azaryahu of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies says, in an interview for the weekend edition of the *The Marker*: "Symbolic acts have great significance in politics, much beyond the economy. It's like a national anthem, full of historic connotations."

