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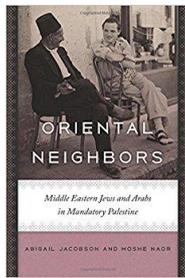
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Happy 45th birthday to the University! 700 University staff and faculty enjoyed a wonderful evening of celebration to mark the 45th anniversary of the establishment of the University of Haifa. Hundreds danced the night away to popular Israeli pop and rock band, Ethnix and were welcomed by President Prof. Ron Robin, Chairman of the Executive Committee Mooly Eden and Vice President and Director General, Baruch Marzan, who celebrated the success and excellence of the University at the heart of Haifa. Here's to the next 45 years!



Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and the University of Haifa recently launched a joint Innovation Center in Haifa. Rector Prof. Mesch attended the NTU Innovation Center inauguration, along with Mayor of Haifa, Yona Yahav. NTU is a leader in marine research and is keen to collaborate with the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences, which is itself internationally renowned in the field. The center aims to link top academic research with commercial development. Prof. Bertil Andersson, President of NTU said "Today's launch of NTU Innovation in Haifa will bring a step change to the university's strategic engagement with Israel." Prof. Andersson plans to visit the University in September as part of the expansion of collaboration between the two institutions.



Warm congratulations to Dr. Moshe Naor, of the Department of the Land of Israel Studies, whose book, [Oriental Neighbors: Middle Eastern Jews and Arabs in Palestine](#), has won the Association for Israel Studies [Shapiro Prize for Best Book in Israel Studies](#). The award ceremony was held on the Brandeis University Campus during the Association's annual conference. The award is presented each year as a tribute to scholarship on political, social and cultural aspects of Israel and pre-independence Palestine. It was set up in memory of one of Israel's most distinguished sociologists, the late Prof. Yonathan Shapiro z"l.



An extensive group of University child development researchers have shared expertise with scholars from 41 countries in the [International Attachment Conference](#), in London. Dr. Ghadir Zreik, of the Center for the Study of Child Development presented her work on the attachment of Arab infants to mothers, overseen by Center Director Prof. Avi Sagi-Schwartz who also spoke at the Conference. He was joined by a number of faculty members from the Center who come from varying disciplines: Dr. Rinat Feniger-Schaal of the School of Art Therapy, Dr. Smadar Dolev of the International MA for Child Development, and Dr. Yair Ziv of the Department of Counseling and Human Development. The conference brought together over 500 academics and clinicians to discuss the topics such as socio-emotional development, trauma of children and a wide variety of developmental issues. The Center's research and its programs are generously supported by a number of friends in Israel and abroad. The conference was attended by over 500 academics from around the world.



The [Ruderman Program for American Jewish Studies](#) participants have been exploring American Jewish Life close-up in a ten-day study tour in the USA. In a series of meetings with key Jewish figures, the group looked at the multifaceted nature of American Jewry and its relationship to Israel. Led by Prof. Gur Alroey, Head of the Program and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, the students met with community leaders on the East Coast representing top organizations such as the Jewish Federation, the American Jewish Committee, AIPAC and JStreet. The students explored major Jewish museums and stood in the immigration halls in Ellis Island where thousands of Jews before them had first stepped on American soil. They discussed the community's relationship with Israel in meetings with the Israeli Consul General to New York, Dani Dayan and Reuven Ezer, Deputy Head of Mission at the Israeli Embassy.



Prof. Esther Carmel Hakim, of the *Ruderman Program for American Jewish Studies* recently talked to an audience at the Kolbo Fine Judaica Gallery, USA about the evocative writings of Dorothy Kahn Bar-Adon, which she has co-edited in a recent book '[Writing Palestine 1933-50](#)'. Dorothy was an American born reporter whose accounts of mandate Palestine and early Israel gave a witty and perceptive insight on life for Jewish women in Israel at the time. The audience thoroughly enjoyed Prof. Carmel Hakim's presentation, which was introduced by Dr. Shulamit Reinharz, founder of the Hadassah Brandeis Women's Institute.



With the recent Qatar ultimatum throwing a spotlight on the Gulf region, Prof. Gabi Ben-Dor, Head of the International MA in National Security Studies has been interviewed by the [Jerusalem Post](#) about the US relationship with the Gulf States in the light of their strategic interests. "The US will go along with anything as long as it doesn't involve the direct use of force. The problem is that the Saudis and their allies are threatening, if necessary, the use of force which is really out of bounds as far as the international rules of the game are concerned."

