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1

Mr. Leon H. Charney, Chairman of the University's Board of Governors, visited the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences along with University President Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev and Vice President for External Relations and Resource Development Mr. Amos Gaver. Mr. Charney received an overview of the School's development and of how the University won the tender for the establishment of the Israel Center for Mediterranean Sea Research from the Head of the School Prof. Zvi Ben-Avraham.



2

University President Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev and Rector Prof. David Faraggi signed an agreement of cooperation with Prof. Nilanjan Chattopadhyay from the Indian Institute of Management Technology (IMT), Ghaziabad. Prof. Chattopadhyay has been visiting the University of Haifa over the past several weeks and has been lecturing in our Graduate School of Management in a course titled "Culture and Business in India" within the framework of a lecturers exchange program. IMT Ghaziabad has been ranked among the top ten business schools in India; it has collaboration agreements with leading universities around the world.



3

The Faculty of Education is continuing to train future generations of Israeli teachers: the third cycle of the Teach First Israel program for the training of excellent teachers for the education system just began in the Department of Learning, Instruction and Teacher Education. There was an increase in the number of students who registered. 95 students will be trained in five intensive weeks in a boarding school setting for teaching in middle and high schools across the country. For the first time since the program began three years ago in the Faculty of Education, there is now also a track for training elementary school teachers.

**5**

The University's International School has been increasing the number of Israeli students participating in student exchange programs and as such, the School has for the first time held a meeting regarding "The Israeli Diplomacy" for these students. The point of the meeting was to provide the students with the tools necessary to handle a variety of difficult situations Israeli students oftentimes encounter abroad.

**7**

A new study carried out by the University's Department of Gerontology and funded by the Ministry for Senior Citizens has brought to light the finding that about 40% of the Israeli elderly citizens suffering from cancer also suffer from mental distress which requires treatment. "It is important to emphasize that the number of members of the elderly population sick with cancer who were studied is very little. The research should be expanded to study how to best assist them," said Prof. Miri Cohen, who was the research editor and who was quoted on several local internet sites.

**4**

Prof. Marc Gelkopf of the University's Department of Community Mental Health, held a student seminar in Psychology at the Indonesian Yogyakarta University touching on assistance to people suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome, especially with regards to the explosion of the Mount Murphy Volcano about two years ago. The seminar was held in collaboration with Prof. Siswa Widyatmotko, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology at the Indonesian university, in light of several academic publications on the successful treatment of PTSD in children, a treatment led for several years by Prof. Gelkopf.

**6**

Gabriel Geva, a doctoral student in the Faculty of Law, has been appointed Legal Advisor to the Israeli PolitiWatch organization, a non-profit organization for ameliorating the public's state of mind and examining the system of political declarations by politicians and public figures in Israel.

**8**

A new and fascinating discovery at the University of Haifa's 13th season of excavations at Israel's ancient site of Sussita-Hippos: the image of an inhabitant of the city, most probably from the Roman period (circa 3rd century C.E.), chiseled in a burial stone. "I lifted a stone that was covering a piece of embossed basalt and realized that a face from Sussita was gazing out of the stone," described Dr. Michael Eisenberg who is heading the excavations. As with many archaeological findings, it was a surprising discovery in a surprising location: <http://newmedia-eng.haifa.ac.il/?p=5971>.



9

"Israel has no local government, only an eclectic collection of 256 authorities," says Dr. Itai Beeri, Head of the Local Government Administration program of the University's School of Political Sciences in an extensive interview in *The Marker* on the state of local government in Israel.



10

To whom did an Iranian student in mental distress turn? To the TEHTEL (Teheran-Haifa-Tel Aviv) site of the Ezri Center for Iran & Gulf Studies, where he was even offered assistance, as covered extensively in *YNET*. This site is the Persian site that translates Israeli writings into Persian. Its forum pages have already generated thousands of conversations between Israelis and Iranians.



11

A "green" tag on products helps boost sales, says a finding from a study carried out by Ms. Hila Potterman of the Graduate School of Management under the supervision of Drs. Yael Steinhart and Ofira Ayalon. A *Ma'ariv* article about the study stated that "the research found that when it is a necessary product (like toilet paper), an environmental tag strengthens the perception of the product's necessity and appreciation for it."



12

The discovery of the Israeli gas reserves and their geo-political significance continue to interest the world media, which has turned to Dr. Brenda Shaffer of the School of Political Sciences for explanations. This time around in *National Geographic* and *The Times of Israel* (an Israeli site mainly for Jews abroad).



13

The "Making History" podcast site focused on marine archaeology and this time, Prof. Yaacov Kahanov and Dr. Gil Gambash, both of the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences' Department of Maritime Civilizations, discussed the ancient vessel from Ma'agan Mikhael.



14

In our last edition we told you about Prof. Gabriel Weimann of the Department of Communication and his study pack of the lone terrorist. Prof. Weimann was subsequently extensively interviewed on the subject for *Ha'aretz*, the interview also covering his decade of monitoring the web for terrorist sites.



15

"So we didn't earn any gold medals in London? It's unpleasant, though probably not such a big deal. There is no doubt that the issue of national sentimentality has decreased. The world is becoming much more global and individual," said Prof. Oz Almog from the Department of Land of Israel Studies in his *Reshet Bet* radio interview on "The Week According to Judy."



16

And still in sports: After nearly 90 years of activity, the "HaPoel" club is establishing an archive to store materials still in existence on the sports activities of the Labor movement. Doctoral student in the Department of Jewish History Mr. Tal Elmaliach, who is researching the culture of the Labor movement, among which is sports, interviewed for a piece in *Ha'aretz*: "'HaPoel' has a unique history and story that is its contribution to popular sports, or, as defined by the legendary promoter and educator in the field of Jewish sports Yitzhak Sadeh: 'Sport for the Masses and not Champions.'"



17

Prof. Yoseph M. Edrey of the Faculty of Law said in a *Globes* article concerning the Ministry of Finance's intention to tax undistributed profits: "We're talking about damaging the government's credibility."



18

Prof. Eran Vigoda-Gadot, Head of the School of Political Sciences, attempts in a *The Marker* article to answer the query: "Who is the public servant?" "The main problem today in the public sector in Israel is that the country does not have a clear outlook regarding the treatment of human resources. There exist no novel wide-scope mechanisms for sorting, training, guiding, and career planning, and there is no leadership development among senior public servants," he said.



19

Dr. Soli Shahvar, Head of the Ezri Center for Iran & Gulf Studies and from the Department of Middle Eastern History, interviewed in the *Jerusalem Post* for an article about the dangers of nuclear Iran. According to him, an early attack will bring with it many civilian casualties and thus will unite the entire population against the aggressor. On the other hand, a "surgical" strike with few civilian casualties can actually breathe new life into the Iranian opposition.

