



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



At a Glance

THE PAST WEEK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA



September 1, 2011

1

The University's Executive Committee has approved the proposal of **President Aaron Ben-Ze'ev to change the titles of Mr. Baruch Marzan to Vice President and Director General and Mr. Shuki Shye to Vice President for Finance and Business Development.**



2

The recent visit of the President of the University, Aaron Ben-Ze'ev and the Vice President for External Relations and Resource Development, Amos Gaver to Poland was accompanied by an exceptional experience: A tour of the College for Jewish and Hebrew Studies in the heart of a small picturesque Polish town. This exciting tour was part of a visit hosted by new members of the Board of Governors in Poland with the purpose to strengthen their ties with the University.



3

A group of twenty students from Berlin and Maastricht (Netherlands) was hosted at the University of Haifa where they enjoyed the Israeli experience first-hand. The students were guests of the University of Haifa's Model United Nations Club and were very impressed by what they saw. Some even said they would like to study at the university.

**4**

Also in this year, the Office of the Dean of Students sent a delegation of Jewish and Arab students to participate in the "Breaking the Ice" expedition and to conquer the Mont Blanc; with 4800 meters the highest mountain in Western Europe. After an exhausting, but fascinating hike, the students reached the snow-covered top from where they sent the much-anticipated message "[The top is in our hands](#)". The unique project is a cooperation of the Office of the Dean of Students, the Student Union, the Center for Sports, the Jewish-Arab Center and the Beit Hagefen - Haifa Municipality, and is financed by the Suisse non-profit-organization *Coexistence*.

**5**

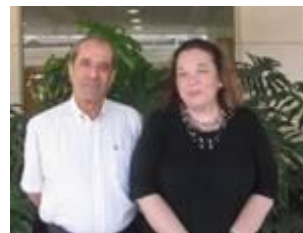
Rats exposed to stress during early development inherit the effects of that stress to their offspring, largely expressed in behavior impairments but also characteristics of resilience, shows a new study from the University of Haifa, published in the journal *Developmental Psychobiology*. Providing environmental enrichment to the future mother rats had a remedial role on some of the negative effects. "The similarities between rats and humans raise the question of whether similar effects might transpire in humans; for example, exposure to war or natural disasters might have heritable effects," explains Prof. Micha Leshem who headed the study.

**6**

The fencer, Meor Chatual, student in the Department of Computer Sciences represented the A.S.A team of Israel in the *Universiade* that took place in China and reached the honorable eighth place. Congratulations to Meor who did not forget to mention at every opportunity that he was a proud representative of the University of Haifa.

**7**

The **Division for External Relations and Resource Development** extended the sphere of influence of the Friends of the University around the world. **The University is establishing a new office of the Friends Associations in Switzerland** under the management of Ms. Bianca Simon. The new office does not only focus on the resource development in Switzerland, but also on the cooperation with other European countries. Ms. Simon will receive support from Mr. Ishay Haramaty. In addition, various efforts are made to establish Friend's Associations both in Panama and Mexico, as well as to extend the range of activities of the Argentinean Friends to promote the resource development in Latin America. These activities are initiated by Mr. Edu Pollak, Director of the Latin America, Spain and Portugal Desk.

**8**

[The Jerusalem Post](#) reports: "If the health system wants to reduce the length of elderly patients' hospitalization and save **money**, the simplest way to do so is by encouraging them to walk around the wards. This is the lesson of a new University of Haifa study that found such simple exercise significantly cut the number of days these patients stayed in the hospital. 'Given the over-occupancy of many hospitals, this finding can be of great importance,' said Dr. Efrat Shadmi and Dr. Anna Zisberg of the University of Haifa's nursing department." The findings were also published in *Yediot Aharonot* and *Globes* in Israel and in the [Daily Mail](#) and the [Daily Mirror](#) in Great Britain, as well as on the official website of the [British National Health Service](#).



9

Is there a connection between the riots in Great Britain and the recent protests in Israel? Prof. Dani Gutwein from the Department of History of the Jewish People was interviewed for the program *Osim Seder* on Channel Two and for [YNET](#): "There is a characteristic difference between both protests: In Israel the protests are supported by the middle class, the pillar of society, whereas the protests in England involve the lower class".



10

Prof. Haim Kutiel from the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies was interviewed for a segment in *Yoman HaBoker* on Channel Two dealing with the report of a state comptroller on the fire in the Carmel Forest. Prof. Kutiel claimed that the extreme climatic conditions that had prevailed in the respective days had turned the task of the firefighters into an extraordinary difficulty.



11

A study of Dr. Roza Leikin, Head of the Education of Gifted and Talented Program in the Faculty of Education on the "native quality" of creativity, and the website of Dr. Dror Angel from the Department of Maritime Civilization that maps the scattering of jelly fish in the Mediterranean Sea with an explanation of Dr. Angel on the mystery that surround the maritime creature for millions of years, were published in the last edition of *National Geographic* in Hebrew.



12

What is love? On the occasion of *Tu B'Av* the President of the University, Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev, one of the world-leading experts in the study of emotions, was invited to *HaOlam HaBoker* on Channel Two to speak on love. The President explained: "Not only that there is love, but it even experiences a comeback. The problem in the modern world is not love itself, but lies in relationships: the context from which love emerges".



13

The Director of the Ministry of Finance, Haim Shani, resigned his post. On this occasion, Prof. Ofira Ayalon, Head of the Program for Energy Management and Policy in the Department of Natural Resource and Environmental Management discussed in an article for NRG if the conclusion of the committee to reduce the hot gas emission will be implemented. "Sadly, the saving of energy is not part of the political agenda, as saving points to something that is not going to be done, whereas politics attempt to emphasize activity. This is exactly the place at which Haim Shani left the whole system".



14

The University of Haifa has launched a new [Postdoctoral Portal](#), providing a wealth of information for its postdoctorate candidates. The website is set up to enhance, support, and promote postdoctoral training at the University and to help postdoctoral scholars prepare themselves for successful careers.

