



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



At a Glance

THE PAST WEEK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA



November, 17, 2011

Issue No. 5

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“At the University of Haifa we are fulfilling Yitzhak Rabin’s vision, showing that pluralism and coexistence between the two peoples is possible,” said President of the University, Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze’ev at the University’s ceremony marking 16 years since the assassination of Israel’s Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. “There is no other University where young people from both sectors learn together in a pleasant environment of equality and fellowship. Life on our campus is proof that coexistence is possible. In these challenging times, our campus is a narrow corridor of optimism,” added Prof. Ben-Ze’ev.



2

Prince Albert of Monaco announced that he will be happy to visit the University and receive an Honorary Doctorate, following an inquiry by the Chairman of the Board of Governors Mr. Leon Charney and the President of the University Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze’ev. Prince Albert was nominated for his many pro-environmental activities and especially for his support of marine sciences; an important topic in the University’s research agenda. “We are pleased that a high-ranking figure like the Prince of Monaco knows and esteems the University and I am sure that this connection will be a great support to us,” said Vice President for External Relations and Resource Development, Amos Gaver.



3

The Nautilus research ship is arriving at the port of Haifa this week to embark on a second expedition of joint research activity with the University of Haifa’s Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences. The Nautilus project is an international endeavor to navigate the sea floor with the state-of-the-art technologies that are installed on the Nautilus, including diving robots and elaborate control rooms. The joint expedition affords the perfect opportunity for educational and public activities that raise awareness of the deep sea environment and its secrets. The research off the coast of Israel is a joint activity being conducted by a team of researchers from the University of Rhode Island, the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences at the University of Haifa, headed by Prof. Zvi Ben Avraham, and additional partners.



4

The School of Arts of the University organized a multicultural four-day festivity in cooperation with the Haifa Theater on the occasion of the production of “A man and One Woman” at the Haifa Theater. The celebration included performances by the Theater and Music Department, academic lectures and more.



5

Dr. Amos Morris-Reich and the Bucerius Institute for Research of Contemporary German History and Society at the University of Haifa are founding members of a new body that aims to revitalize and reshape the academic study of Antisemitism and racism: ICRAR - INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR THE STUDY OF ANTISEMITISM AND RACISM. The establishment of this body, which involves leading researchers from academic institutions from the United States, Europe, and Israel, was decided in a meeting in September at Birkbeck College, University of London. To promote and foster new thinking on Antisemitism the Consortium will hold annual workshops and summer schools and produce publications of the outcomes. Its first workshop will be "Boycotts: Past and Present". This will be held in London in 2012, hosted by the Pears Institute for the Study of Antisemitism.



6

Ms. Lea Dror-Batalion and Ms. Renate Dreesen reopened their joint exhibition "The Jewish Vocational School 'Masada' Darmstadt" in a festive ceremony at the Friedrich Schiller University of Jena. The exhibition tells the story of the vocational school that operated during the years 1947-48 and prepared Jewish youth, most of them survivors of the Holocaust for their immigration to Israel.



7

"In my view, the concept "security of the state" implies national security. That is why I deal with issues that are not only at the heart of security problems, but also with topics related to elements in Israel's foreign policy, such as the relationship between the United States and Israel or Israel and Egypt" explained the Gen. Chief Censor Ms. Sima Vaknin-Gil at a lecture during a seminar at the Sagi Center for the Study of the Internet. The lecture by the Chief Censor has been the focus of much interest and was published in *Yediot Ahronoth* newspaper, *Haaretz* newspaper, on "Five o'clock with Rafi Reshef" on Channel Ten, NRG, Nana 10 and others.



8

"It is incredibly important that we prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons, and the commitment of the Israeli government to this as an objective is not in doubt. It's important that you know that Britain is committed to this goal as well," said Britain's Ambassador to Israel, Matthew Gould at a talk that he gave at the University of Haifa. "The UK shares, 100% Israel's profound concern about Iran's nuclear program and the Iranian regime's nuclear ambitions." Although he did not disqualify any options, in his opinion the best approach to the matter at this point is by increasing economic sanctions on Iran. Speaking at the University of Haifa's Ezri Center for Iran & Persian Gulf Studies, the ambassador related to the global concerns regarding the Iranian nuclear program and noted that based on the most recent International Atomic Energy Agency report, it is clear that Iran is developing nuclear weapons. "The last IAEA report shows that we have reason for concern. The details in the report are not reasonable unless Iran is developing nuclear weapons."



9

A study led by Dr. Israel Waismel-Manor (with colleagues) from the School of Political Science that found that elections are a stressful event, also at a biological level was published in the New York Times.



10

Dr. Uri Shanas, Head of the Department of Biology at Oranim College, was interviewed for “Yoman” on Channel One and for “London and Kirschenbaum” on Channel Ten about the danger facing the sand dunes at Samar in the Arava desert, following the planes of the Israel Land Administration to mine the dunes. “We want to persuade the government and the people of Israel that the place is not only a unique tourist attraction, but rather of exceptional scientific importance” he said.



11

Prof. Soli Shahvar from the Department of Middle Eastern History and Head of the Ezri Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies was interviewed for “Good Morning Israel” on *Galei Zahal* radio station, following the statements attributed to the Iranian president Ahmadinejad published on the website of the Iranian president.



12

Prof. Avi Ben-Zvi from the School of Political Sciences was interviewed for *Harachat Mazav* [Evaluation] on *Reshet Bet* radio station about the possibility that the Muslim Brotherhood will win the elections in Egypt and estimated that such a regime would not necessarily be anti-Israel. “Paradoxically, Obama’s government that champions the values of liberalism and freedom, welcomed this possibility once the brotherhood supported Mubarak’s ouster” explained Prof. Ben-Zvi.



13

Beijing opposes sanctions against Iran. Dr. Yoram Evron from the Department of Asian Studies was interviewed for *Ma’ariv* newspaper and said that he believes that China is primarily motivated by economical considerations. “If the Chinese felt that there is going to be an attack, it might be possible to persuade them to prevent it through sanctions,” claimed he.



14

Researchers around the world learn how to set up a successful start-up. The Faculty of Law at the University, in cooperation with the WIPO, the World Intellectual Property Organization of the UN held a joint seminar that dealt with how to establish a start-up successfully with an emphasis on the importance of intellectual property in shaping business strategies, reported *The Maker* magazine.



15

Why do Israelis hate Tel Aviv? Prof. Maoz Azaryahu from the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and his colleague from the department and inventor of the expression "State of Tel Aviv", Prof. Arnon Soffer were interviewed for an article for the weekend edition of *The Maker* magazine. "Tel Aviv is a success story and this provokes two things: hostility and arrogance. There is hostility, but everyone wants to be a 'Tel Avivian'" claimed Prof. Azaryahu.



16

Following the rejection of former President Moshe Katsav's appeal to the Supreme Court, Prof. Emanuel Gross from the Faculty of Law was interviewed for "Five o'clock with Yaron Wilensky" on *Galei Zahal*, radio station. "I was not surprised and saw immediately after the decision of the district court that the Supreme Court would not accept the appeal," he said.



17

Also the supplement "Mazlul" of *Yediot Ahronoth* newspaper mentions the beauty of the University and recommends readers to visit the University and its observation gallery and to explore the Hecht Museum. We enjoy this view every day!



18

For the first time the course "Support during Childbirth (Doulas)" is going to open at the University of Haifa within the frame of the advanced studies track at the Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences. "The entrance of the course into academia is part of the professions development and it was natural that it would be taught in an academic institution with all its implications," said Sharon Kimchai and Ziv Ray Koren, coordinators of the course. The opening of the course was announced on *Mako* and other websites.

