Coming together

Highlights from the Board of Governors Meeting
June 2017
“Thank you all for your participation in the University of Haifa’s 45th Board of Governors meeting. For me it has been especially memorable, my first as President. Over the course of the Board, which was packed with a variety of activities, lectures and celebratory events, we presented our ambitious Multiversity of Haifa vision and 5-year plan. In this complex and rapidly changing world, we must adopt institutional flexibility that will enable us to get close to what matters most – our students and the best sources of emerging fields. The ‘portal’ model, with multiple entry points and complementary partnerships, will facilitate opportunities for further growth in the region, research productivity, and our larger collective goals of re-skilling our future generations and increasing social mobility. We invite you to join us in advancing the next chapter of our university. Yours in gratitude and friendship.”

- Prof. Ron Robin, President

“Meeting the University’s leaders and decision makers has made me realize that the University is much more than an academic institution. It is a community of dedicated individuals, committed to nurturing and supporting Israel’s future leaders.”

- Ori Greenstein, Israel, MA student, Behavioral Neuroscience
“The Board of Governors meeting is a vehicle for bringing together the University community. This year it has left me with a sense of renewal. My personal highlight was visiting the various labs on campus and speaking with research students – good work is being done here, which is the lifeblood of this University. There is a real passion here.”

- Prof. Alfred Tauber, Chairman of the Board of Governors
The Multiversity of Haifa vision is a revolutionary shift which will enable us to adjust to a changing era and strengthen the social fabric of Haifa and the North.

- President Robin

We view this merger as a major uplift for our students and faculty.

- Prof. David Alexander, President of NB Haifa School of Design

We welcome the establishment of a unified entity. This union has the potential for enriching the academic activities of all partners while amplifying differential advantages and strengths.

- Prof. Arie Maharshak, President of ORT Braude College of Engineering

By 2022, the Multiversity of Haifa will extend its academic offerings to include engineering sciences, through an academic merger with respected ORT Braude College in Karmiel, and architecture and design, in a merger with the NB Haifa School of Design. It will also provide advanced research opportunities in the fields of biotechnology and the life sciences, through its partnership with Rambam and Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, and offer cutting-edge facilities and programs in emerging fields of artificial intelligence research and marine sciences with Chinese partners.
Tours at Future Partner Campuses

Rambam Health Care Campus

“The hospital is in need of more research. Partnering with the University of Haifa on the Biomedical Discovery Tower promises to accelerate medical R&D and ignite further innovation in the life sciences industry.”

- Prof. Rafael Beyar, Director General
  Rambam Health Care Campus

Prof. Beyar explains that the foundations of the future Biomedical Discovery Tower have already been built, and currently house the Sammy Ofer Fortified Emergency Underground Hospital. The Tower will join University researchers with scientists, clinicians and healthcare professionals from Rambam and the Technion in biomedical discovery and innovation.

“Our efforts focus on removing ‘traditional’ barriers separating professional disciplines to encourage discourse and collaborations between departments, with industry and other institutes of higher learning in Israel and abroad. We maintain a tight-knit community of scholars while nurturing professional growth and development.”

- Prof. David Alexander, President

Mooly Eden, Chairman of the Executive Committee, describes the future partnerships as a tremendous opportunity to transform higher education in northern Israel.

NB Haifa School of Design

Located at the heart of the German Colony neighborhood, the NB School of Design awards academic degrees in architecture and design in several fields, as well as a BA in Art Education.

Visual communications student integrates calligraphy, music, flow and improvisation.

On the tour, artist and longstanding supporter of the University, Soraya Sarah Nazarian with daughter Dr. Sharon Nazarian, Vice Chair of the American Society of the University of Haifa, stopped to admire “Love Heals,” a statue she recently dedicated to the Ruth Rappaport Children’s Hospital.
Students from Dr. Dan Feldman’s Robotics and Big Data Laboratory are developing novel data reduction algorithms such as Core-sets to make computational processing more powerful and affordable.

“Carmel Innovations offers a diverse portfolio to spread investment risk. Fund highlights include initial seed investment of $500,000 in each company, and holding of up to 75%. Investors are involved in the nomination of board members and project selection. Following the successful financing rounds of life-science companies in Fund I with global partners, we are ready to launch a second, more diversified fund, in the areas of biotechnology, IT, and marine technologies.”

– Elka Nir, CEO, Carmel and Carmel Innovations

Prof. Gal Richter-Levin of the Brain and Behavior Laboratory presents cutting-edge pain research he is co-heading with Prof. Irit Akirav of the Laboratory for Learning and Memory.

Reducing “emotional pain” in chronic pain patients

Transforming Healthcare with Big Data Mining & Analytics

(l-r) President Robin participating in a demonstration of the project with researchers Dr. Rachel Anunu and Dr. Shahaf Edut of the Institute for the Study of Affective Neuroscience.

(l-r) Prof. Leonid Brodsky, founding director of the Tauber Bioinformatics Research Center, with software engineer Avi Titievsky. Under Brodsky’s leadership, the Center’s team developed a powerful multi-omics analysis platform enabling faster and easier analysis, integration and visualization of big biological data, which led to the establishment of Pine Biotech, a Carmel subsidiary.

Prof. Manfred Lahnstein, Past Chairman of the Board of Governors and Prof. Gal Richter-Levin.
HARNESSING THE IMMUNE SYSTEM TO FIGHT BREAST CANCER

(l-r) Mooly Eden with Dr. Dalit Barkan and Dr. Amiram Ariel, head researchers of ResCure Pharma. The start-up was established following a cutting-edge breakthrough by scientists from the Departments of Biology and Human Biology.

Dr. Tali Treibitz of the Hatter Department of Marine Technologies in the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences, is developing advanced underwater imaging systems and computer vision reconstruction algorithms for enhancing underwater visibility in deep-sea exploration.

Dr. Lital Shavit (right) presents cutting-edge discovery at the Molecular Genetics Laboratory co-headed with Prof. Fuad Fares. Their efforts are leading the development of a promising mushroom-based anti-cancer agent for pancreatic cancer underway at CancuRx.

Prof. Aaron Avivi of the Institute of Evolution (left) describes the innovative cancer research investigating the natural resistance to cancer and longevity of the spalax, a subterranean blind mole rat, which led to the establishment of SpalRx, a Carmel subsidiary.

PORTFOLIO COMPANIES - Carmel Innovations Fund I

ARTSaVIT – cancer treatment activating a controlled cell-killing mechanism
CancuRx – mushroom-based treatments targeting pancreatic cancer
MemoBoost – cognitive enhancement drugs
MemoDero – drug for fear and anxiety disorders
ProteKt Therapeutics – improving memory functioning in Alzheimer’s patients
ResCure Pharma – curing breast cancer recurrence

COGNITIVE ENHANCERS

(l-r) Dr. Shunit Gal-Ben-Ari and Dr. Ilitana Barrera of the Sagol Department of Neurobiology, with Prof. Charles Milgrom, a recent University of Haifa Honorary Doctorate recipient. Gal-Ben-Ari and Barrera are developing memory enhancement drugs under the direction of Prof. Kobi Rosenblum, head researcher of ProteKt Therapeutics.

EYES BENEATH THE SEA

Dr. Tali Treibitz of the Hatter Department of Marine Technologies in the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences, is developing advanced underwater imaging systems and computer vision reconstruction algorithms for enhancing underwater visibility in deep-sea exploration.

CURING CANCER WITH NATURAL SOURCES

MemoBoost – cognitive enhancement drugs
MemoDero – drug for fear and anxiety disorders
ProteKt Therapeutics – improving memory functioning in Alzheimer’s patients
ResCure Pharma – curing breast cancer recurrence

PROTIFERATION COMPANIES - Carmel Innovations Fund I

ARTSaVIT – cancer treatment activating a controlled cell-killing mechanism
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Underground Against Cancer
“Groundbreaking research projects underway at the University combine the expertise of scientific experts and new talent to push the boundaries of science for a better future.”

- Dorin Asis, Israel
  MA student, Biology and Medical Sciences

Did you know?
The Faculty has recently recruited a dozen new faculty members and is opening dual undergraduate degrees in physics and mathematics, and physics and computer science.

Come together around research

Faculty Tours

FACULTY OF
NATURAL SCIENCES

> The Maurice Kanbar Natural Sciences Laboratory Complex

> The Sagol Department of Neurobiology Laboratory Complex

Dr. Dalit Barkan welcomes visitors to The Laboratory of Breast Cancer Dormancy and Metastasis, which she heads. Barkan was recently nominated one of the top seven breakthrough female scientists in Israel by Israel’s “Globes” business magazine.

Chairman Tauber and PhD student Noam Perry Levy at The Laboratory of Adult Stem Cell Research, which investigates adult stem cells of fruit flies.

Dr. Ram Reshef, Head of the Department of Evolutionary and Environmental Biology, leads the tour of The Maurice Kanbar Natural Sciences Laboratory Complex.
FACULTY OF EDUCATION

- Learning In a Networked Society (LINKS)
- The Edmond J. Safra Brain Research Center for the Study of Learning Disabilities
- National Center for Mathematics Teachers
- Center for Jewish Education in Israel and the Diaspora

Did you know?
We are home to the only faculty of education in Israel. Out of our total student population of 2,100 students, more than half are enrolled in advanced study programs (MA and PhD).

Members of the Board of Governors, faculty, staff and students join in on the Faculty tour.

Prof. Edi Barkai, Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, welcomes guests.

Prof. Hanan Alexander, Dean of the Faculty of Education, kicks off the tour.
Come together to recognize achievements

Tribute to the 2016 Emet Prize Recipients

Chairman Tauber and Prof. Avraham B. Yehoshua, celebrated Israeli author and faculty member at the Department of Hebrew and Comparative Literature.

Chairman Tauber and Prof. Ronit Matalon, one of Israel’s leading Mizrachi feminist voices in contemporary Hebrew literature.

Presentation of Awards for Excellence in Research

> Ettie and Dusty Miller Fellowship for Outstanding Young Scholars

> Rector’s Outstanding Young Researcher Award

Prof. Mesch with Dr. Agmon of the Cheryl Spencer Department of Nursing, who is studying the function of walking and mobility.

Prof. Mesch with Dr. Carmit Yefet of the Faculty of Law, a noted advocate for women’s right.

Prof. Mesch with Dr. Kristal of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, who is exploring the rising trend of income inequalities.
German Friends Festive Reception for Jewish–Arab Scholars

Meet this year’s recipients of the Werner Otto Scholarships for Outstanding Arab Students. The award is given to exceptional female Arab scholars engaged in graduate studies.

Scholarship recipients of the Jewish–Arab Community Leadership Program, supported by the German Friends of the University of Haifa.

Israeli Citizenship Award

Awarded in appreciation of leadership, volunteering spirit and outstanding contributions to the University residence community.

Recipients of the Israeli Hope in Academia Award, with Iris Fessler, Head of the Social Leadership Unit (second from right).

Prof. Adital Ben Ari, Chair of the Israeli Hope in Academia Steering Committee and School of Social Work.

Prof. Jenny Kurman, Dean of Students (far right), Osnat Weinstein, Dormitories Manager (far left), and award recipient.

Labor MK Merav Michaeli at the launch of the “Israeli Hope in Academia” Program.

Prof. Jenny Kurman, Dean of Students (far right), Osnat Weinstein, Dormitories Manager (far left), and award recipient.

Israeli Hope in Academia

An initiative by President Reuven Rivlin aimed at promoting diversity and multiculturalism in the higher education system.
University of Haifa awards 10 exceptional individuals with a Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa

“On behalf of my fellow recipients I would like to thank the University for this great honor that has been bestowed on us. We are proud of being part of this University. We know that when we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this University, we will see even more achievements, and more reasons to feel really part of this outstanding institution.”

– Prof. Klaus M. Schwab

Sandor Frankel with family guest.

SANDOR FRANKEL, USA
For promoting science and research in Israel through his role as a Trustee of the Helmsley Charitable Trust.

Prof. Ruth Arnon (center) with Chairman Tauber and Prof. Zvi Ben-Araham, Founding Director of the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences.

PROF. RUTH ARNON, ISRAEL
For her pioneering study of the immune system, work that led to innovative developments benefiting millions of patients around the world.

Prof. Kirshenblatt-Gimblett with President Robin.

PROF. BARBARA KIRSHENBLATT-GIMBLETT, USA
For her scholarship, originality and broad vision breaching existing barriers and the amalgamation of diverse disciplines.

(l-r) Hadash MK Ayman Odeh with Prof. Haick.

PROF. HOSSAM HAICK, ISRAEL
For his groundbreaking contribution to the development of cutting-edge approaches to non-invasive medical diagnosis of early-stage disease.

(l-r) Prof. Kirshenblatt-Gimblett with President Robin.

SONJA LAHNSTEIN-KANDEL, GERMANY
For her tireless efforts in promoting tolerance and coexistence, especially between Arabs and Jews in Israel and at the University of Haifa.

Sonja Lahnstein-Kandel with famous Israeli writer Amos Oz (left). Oz performed Mrs. Lahnstein’s hooding at the Conferment Ceremony.
For her unique contribution to Paralympic sports as one of the pillars of athletics for the disabled in Israel.

Keren Leibovitch (right) with family members, including sons Eitan, Daniel, Uri and Noam.

**KEREN LEIBOVITCH, ISRAEL**

For his breakthrough discovery of anomalous transport and contributions to solid state physics and geohydrology.

Chairman Tauber with Audrey and Dr. Harvey Scher.

**DR. HARVEY SCHER, ISRAEL**

For his exemplary public service and extraordinary dedication to the advancement of the alliance between Israel and the United States.

Ambassador Shapiro (left) and Mrs. Tzili Charney, wife of Leon H. Charney, z”l, former Chairman of the Board of Governors.

**AMBASSADOR DANIEL B. SHAPIRO, USA**

For his inspiring leadership and contributions to international society on the establishment of the World Economic Forum, and longstanding friendship with Israel.

(l-r) Prof. Schwab with wife Hilde Schwab and Mr. Sammy Sagol, businessman, philanthropist and longstanding supporter of the University.

**PROF. KLAUS M. SCHWAB, SWITZERLAND**

All musical interludes were performed by University of Haifa’s incredibly talented staff and students.

**PROF. DEBORAH E. LIPSTADT, USA**

For dedicating her life to the struggle against Holocaust denial, using academic research to expose the truth.

Prof. Deborah E. Lipstadt (right) and longstanding University supporter Mrs. Elana Livnat. The International MA Program in Holocaust Studies is named in honor of Yitzhak Livnat, z”l.

**PROF. DEBORAH E. LIPSTADT, USA**
Come together with exceptional people

“I had the rare honor of meeting the University’s Honorary Doctorate recipients – extraordinary people who have made the world a better place – each in their own way. This experience has inspired me and instilled a sense of belonging to the University of Haifa family.”

- Arthur Furmanovsky, Israel
BA, Computer Science

Honorary Doctoral recipient Prof. Deborah Lipstadt with guests and students

(l-r) Prof. Majid Al-Haj, Head of the Center for Multiculturalism and Educational Research, former Haifa Model UN member, Ms. Mor Beer, Sonja Lahnstein-Kandel and brother-in-law Gert Lahnstein, and Professors Fania Oz-Salzberger and Eli Salzberger of the Haifa Center for German and European Studies.

(l-r) Ruth and Sandor Frankel with President Robin and Prof. Morel Groper, Head of the Hatter Department of Marine Technologies.
Ambassador Shapiro (fourth from left) and spouse Julie Fisher (second from left) with friends from the American Embassy and Prof. Gur Alroey, Dean of Humanities and Director of the Ruderman Program for American Jewish Studies (far right).

Prof. Haick with mother (left), two boys and spouse.

Mr. Yossi Vardi and President Robin. Mr. Vardi, known as the grandfather of Israel’s hi-tech industry, performed Prof. Schwab’s hooding at the Conferment Ceremony.

New board member, Mr. Don Burris (second from right) and wife Patti with Prof. Kirshenblatt-Gimblett and guest.
Lectures, Dialogues, Masterclasses & Screenings

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

“The University of Haifa is the world’s largest meeting point of Jews and Arabs, who come together to study and deliberate on a better future, working side by side in peace to foster common values. The German Friends are longtime supporters and partners of meaningful academic programs that reflect and promote this goal.”

– Sonja Lahnstein-Kandel, President of the German Friends of the University of Haifa and Immediate Past Vice Chair of the Board of Governors, on the occasion of the German Friends Association Festive Reception.

**LECTURE**

Prof. Klaus M. Schwab gives a lecture entitled “Leadership in the Fourth Industrial Revolution,” at an event hosted by the Herta and Paul Amir Faculty of Social Sciences.

**LECTURE**

Prof. Hossam Haick discusses non-invasive disease diagnosis using wearable technologies at an event hosted by the Sagol Department of Neurobiology.

**DIALOGUE**

Ambassador Daniel B. Shapiro participates in a dialogue on the topic of national resilience with Dr. Dan Schueftan, Head of the National Securities Studies Center, which hosted the event.

(l-r) Dr. Dan Schueftan with board member Bastiaan Belder, Member of the European Parliament from the Netherlands, and Ambassador Shapiro.

(l-r) Prof. Gal Richter-Levin, Head of the Institute for the Study of Affective Neuroscience, Rector Prof. Mesch, Prof. Mouna Maroun, Head of the Laboratory for Neurobiology of Emotions, and Prof. Haick.
MASTERCLASS & FILM SCREENING

Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett delivered a masterclass at The Department of Theater and participated in a film screening of “Raise the Roof,” hosted jointly by the Weiss-Livnat International MA Program in Holocaust Studies and the Department of Communication.

PERSONAL JOURNEY

Paralympic champion Keren Leibovitch talks about how she learned to walk again at a special event held in the Aviva and Sammy Ofer Observation Gallery.

LECTURE

Prof. Deborah Lipstadt speaks about Holocaust denial and the new Anti-Semitism at an event hosted by the Faculty of Education.
Reception in Honor of Executive Committee Chairs

“The pace of the digital age is prompting new challenges to university graduates. As we do not know the challenges they will have to face, and there is no way to predict them, we will have to teach them to ‘learn’. In addition, we will need to foster a generation of students who are versatile and well prepared for handling ethical challenges created by the technological world. I believe that the University of Haifa can serve as a key change agent in this mission.”
– Mooly Eden, Chairman of the Executive Committee

“The art of navigation is leadership – a captain who knows the way can use every wind and stone to get there. I believe in the leadership of this new administration.”
– Admiral (Ret.) Ami Ayalon, Immediate Past Chairman of the Executive Committee (2011-2017)

“The Playing Cultures Music Troupe” of The Leo Baeck Education Center in collaboration with the University Flagship Program. The band performed three original songs.

Attended by students of the International MA in Child Development program.
I am thankful for the opportunity to study here, for the professors who see the potential in me, for my new friends who stand by me, and for the new perspectives that influence my life.

– Boglárka Kormos, Hungary

International MA student in Child Development

TRIBUTE TO ELIEZER RAFAELI, UNIVERSITY CHANCELLOR AND HONORARY LIFE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Eliezer Rafaeli was the University of Haifa’s first President. His vision and tireless efforts have had an immense impact on the University’s growth and achievements. He also played a key role in the promotion of coexistence in Israel, through the establishment of leadership programs and the Jewish-Arab Center on campus.

CARMEL AWARD OF MERIT

Presented to Arlette Adler, an influential and inspirational figure at the University and champion of gender equality. At 90, she continues to devote her energies to helping others.

“I am thankful for the opportunity to study here, for the professors who see the potential in me, for my new friends who stand by me, and for the new perspectives that influence my life.”

– Boglárka Kormos, Hungary

International MA student in Child Development

Rafaeli with family members, children and grandchildren.
Come together with friends

Chairman Tauber with Sonja Lahnstein-Kandel, in recognition of her long and fruitful service as Vice Chair of the Board of Governors.

Longstanding supporter and board member Lady Irene Hatter and Lieutenant General (Ret.) Benny Gantz, former IDF Chief of Staff. Gantz delivered the keynote address at the Symposium on National Resilience hosted by the National Security Studies Center.

(l-r) Prof. Shulamit Almog of the Faculty of Law, Jenny Kurman, Dean of Students, and board member David Lubarsky.

(l-r) Board members Lady Irene Hatter and Sir Walter Bodmer, with Cherry Torrance of the British Friends of Haifa University.

(l-r) President Robin, Haifa Mayor Mr. Yona Yahav, Chairman Tauber and Mooby Eden.

Tzili Charney with Pnina Erez, Director of the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library, and Naomi Greidinger, Deputy Director, alongside a poster announcing the launch of the new Leon H. Charney Digital Archives project. Tzili was elected the new Vice Chair of the Board of Governors.
This year I attended the Board of Governors as a student coordinator. I am proud to have taken part in the organization of this important effort, which involved the ardent cooperation of the Student Association, dedicated to protecting the rights of students while providing a variety of services for their benefit.

-Bat-el Ashkenazy, Israel
Recent graduate, Political Science
At 45, the University of Haifa is meeting its mission of fostering academic quality alongside multiculturalism, by pushing the boundaries of traditional fields, investing in advanced tools and facilities, enriching student experiences with social leadership programs, and encouraging entrepreneurship.

In our efforts to empower the leaders of tomorrow, the University is redefining academia by branching out into new fields through groundbreaking partnerships with key leaders in biotechnology, artificial intelligence, deep-sea research and other emerging fields, and in the process, reestablishing itself as The Multiversity of the North. We invite you to join us in charting our course for the future.
Tour of the Faculty of Natural Sciences.
SAVE THE DATE
46th Board of Governors Meeting
JUNE 5–7
We look forward to seeing you in 2018