

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

University Award of Merit

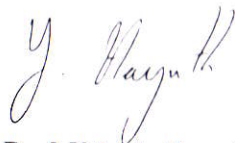
is hereby presented to

Pearla Nesher

for her scholarly contribution to the teaching of mathematics, in token of her activity
in helping to shape the University of Haifa, and in esteem for her part
in molding the educational system of the State of Israel.

24 Iyyar 5760

May 29, 2000



Prof. Yehuda Hayuth

President



Prof. Gad Gilbar

Rector

Pearla Neshet

Born (1930) in Tel Aviv, she served in the Hagana in Tel Aviv (1944-1948) and afterwards was a member of Kibbutz Nirim in the Negev (1948-1974).

She received her academic education at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she studied mathematics, physics, and the history, and philosophy of science. She then went to Harvard University, where she earned both a Master's degree and her doctorate (1972), graduating with distinction. Her research interests cover three major fields: cognitive aspects of early learning of mathematics; linguistic aspects of problem-solving; and critical analysis of the current educational system and the introduction of alternatives into schools.

In 1972, Professor Neshet began lecturing at the University of Haifa, and she was appointed a full professor in 1989. During these years, she also taught and did research at institutions in Israel and abroad: The Hebrew University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, and the Universities of Pittsburgh and Toronto. Her studies gained her a series of awards and grants, from the U.S. National Science Foundation and the AAUW (American Association of University Women), among others. She has written or edited four books and published more than 50 articles and book chapters in the area of mathematics teaching in the elementary school. She has also lectured at scores of international conferences.

Pearla Neshet has served in a variety of senior positions at the University. She was Head of the School (now Faculty) of Education from 1983-1988; she headed the Unit for Academic Planning, the Mathematics Laboratory, and the Institute for Alternatives in Education. She has been a member of the University Senate, of the Board of Governors, of the Executive Committee, and of different University committees.

Professor Neshet has also fulfilled a list of important functions outside the University. Among them: Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Education (1992-1996), president of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics (1986-1988), and member of professional councils on mathematics for the Israel Ministry of Education. She was a member of the National Council for Research and Development in the Prime Minister's Office and of the Tri-Lateral Commission (Israel-Jordan-USA) for Education and Science. She is an advisor to the Center for Educational Technology.

