



TAU Campaign Co-Chair Ms. Dafna Meitar-Nechmad receives a certificate marking her election to the TAU Board of Governors as President Joseph Klafter (center) and Chairman Jacob A. Frenkel look on

### Preparing for the next stage

“We need to be prepared for the next stage, next challenges and next generations,” said TAU Governor Ms. Meitar-Nechmad, an alumna and benefactor of TAU’s Buchmann Faculty of Law and co-founder of its Institute of Law and Philanthropy. She noted that TAU’s strengths and needs were organized into 5 priority growth areas within the campaign: Israeli Global Edge, Sustainable Planet, Stronger Society, Health & Wellness, and Cultural Assets.

Ms. Meitar-Nechmad called on the 300-strong audience to spread word of the campaign and share leads for potential new friends and supporters. “Nothing can be done alone,” she emphasized, “especially when it comes to philanthropy, and nothing is more important than education.”

## “The Business of Ideas”

TAU \$1 billion Capital Campaign poised to spark new pursuits, big ideas and positive change

Being in the “business of ideas” means that Tel Aviv University has to remain competitive and inventive, especially globally, said TAU President Joseph Klafter at the opening of the 2017 Board of Governors meeting. “We need to continually rethink and refresh our methods,” he stressed. “We need to ask ourselves, ‘What’s a good idea, what do we do with it, and how do we generate more?’”

Referring to the University’s \$1 billion Capital Campaign launched last year, Prof. Klafter said that producing world-changing ideas requires considerable human and material resources. “We need to expand opportunities for fresh thinking *right now* – when the university and the city of Tel Aviv are riding an unprecedented wave of innovation.

“Our Governors and Friends are fantastic partners in this effort,” Prof. Klafter enthused. He expressed special thanks to the Campaign leadership, all major supporters of TAU: Ms. Dafna Meitar-Nechmad of Israel, the Capital Campaign Co-Chair, and the nine members of the Campaign Cabinet from all over the world.

### Bridging between pursuit and results

Chairman of the TAU Board of Governors Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel pointed out that “The Campaign bridges between the University’s pursuit of the unknown on the one hand, and the future of our research, teaching and social responsibility on the other.”

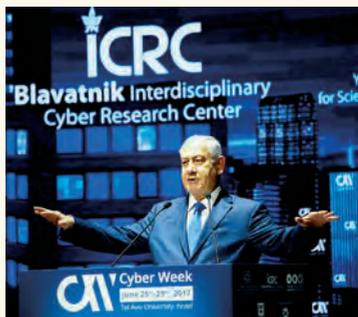
He said that, in an era when facts are sometimes grasped as subjective, “science is science is science. The University is the producer and protector of basic science and of critical reasoning, as much in the humanities as in the exact sciences.” Prof. Frenkel lauded the generous donors – many of whom were honored during the Board proceedings – for supporting major projects in the areas of basic research, technological innovation and cultural heritage.

Dr. Giora Yaron, Chairman of the TAU Executive Council, concluded the First Assembly with an overview of TAU’s activities in technology transfer and key contribution to the startup ecosystem in Israel.

### INSIDE



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Dan David Prize

From left: Dr. Boris and Marina Mints and TAU President Joseph Klafter



The inaugural Annual Boris Mints Institute Prize for Research of Strategic Policy Solutions to Global Challenges was awarded to an exceptional individual whose research and public advocacy have demonstrably influenced global policy formation.

Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs



The recipient was Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of Sustainable Development Solutions Network at Columbia University and former Director of its Earth Institute. Sachs is a world-renowned scholar of

**BORIS MINTS INSTITUTE PRIZE FOR RESEARCH OF STRATEGIC POLICY SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

# Prize Recognizes Excellence in Public Advocacy

economics, a leader in sustainable development, a senior advisor to the UN and a bestselling author and columnist. For over 30 years, he has advised dozens of heads of state and governments in the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East on economic strategy.

TAU President Joseph Klafter lauded the Prize and the vision of its benefactor, TAU Honorary Fellow Dr. Boris Mints, founder of the Boris Mints Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions to Global Challenges. “This prize reinforces Tel Aviv University’s commitment to improving public policy and deepening the

contribution of the University and Israel,” said Prof. Klafter, adding that “under Dr. Mints’s sponsorship, the Institute has had extraordinary success in its first year of operations, including hosting three international conferences in Finland, Malta and here in Israel.”

Head of the Institute, Prof. Itai Sened, said: “With the support of Dr. Mints we now have a group of renowned professors and public figures who sit on the Institute’s International Board of Directors. We have created an institute that provides impactful strategies and solutions.”

CULTURAL ASSETS

**AZRIELI SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE BUILDING**

# Providing a Home for Israel’s Promising Architects

In a major milestone for TAU, the cornerstone was laid for the Azrieli School of Architecture Building on campus. The new facility is being made possible through a generous donation from the Azrieli Foundation Canada – Israel.

The building will perpetuate the legacy of real estate developer, architect, philanthropist and TAU Honorary Doctor David J. Azrieli (1922-2014), who founded the School of Architecture in 1993. The building, which is scheduled to be completed in 2021, will extend over 5,000 square meters and be situated close to the main entrance of the campus adjacent to Lester and Sally Entin Square. The building’s design will be determined through an architectural competition.

The cornerstone laying ceremony was held in the presence of the Honourable Philippe Couillard, Premier of Quebec; Azrieli’s daughters Sharon, Danna and Naomi; officials of the Azrieli Foundation Canada – Israel; Deborah Lyons, Canadian Ambassador to Israel; and



From left: Danna Azrieli; Dean of Arts Zvika Serper; Sharon Azrieli; Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard; Dr. Naomi Azrieli; and Dr. Eran Neuman

Dr. Eran Neuman, Head of the Azrieli School of Architecture.

President Joseph Klafter said, “I believe that the late David Azrieli would have been moved to see how this project realizes his vision for a top-notch school in the urban heart of the country.”

Dr. Naomi Azrieli, Chair and CEO of the Azrieli Foundation in Canada, said, “One of the key aims of our Foundation is to support education and architecture, an objective that was close to the heart of our founder, David J. Azrieli. He felt passionately that Israel needed more architects to build the country and change its landscape.”

TAU Governor Danna Azrieli, Chair of the Azrieli Foundation in Israel, said, “We’re thrilled with what this building will offer as well as its prominent location on campus, which sends a message about the importance of training tomorrow’s architects. We are proud of what this school has become.”



TAU President Joseph Klafter and the Honourable Philippe Couillard

## Quebec Premier Receives TAU President’s Award

TAU bestowed the 2017 President’s Award upon Quebec Premier, the Honourable Philippe Couillard, during his economic mission to Israel and visit to TAU. Couillard was recognized for his significant efforts to deepen bilateral ties between the Province of Quebec and Israel, including a new exchange program for female engineering and computer science students.

 Prof. Tal Dvir


From left:  
Yitzhak Sagol;  
Tova and Sami  
Sagol; and  
TAU President  
Joseph Klafter

#### SAGOL CENTER FOR REGENERATIVE BIOTECHNOLOGY

## A Deep Belief in Science

Major TAU benefactor Sami Sagol further reinforces his belief that science can improve the world

The creation of smart biotechnologies is a ground-breaking approach to regenerative medicine that has captured the attention of the scientific world. Researchers are now regenerating organs in the lab with the aim of eventually transplanting them into patients – and curing diseases rather than merely treating them.

TAU endeavors in the field will now be coordinated under the single framework of the new Sagol Center for Regenerative Biotechnology. Scientists at the Center are engineering a new generation of biomaterials that can be used to regenerate diseased organs and body parts such as the heart, brain, spinal cord, bone, tendons, cartilage and eyes. In the long-term, they will advance biomedical techniques that reduce suffering and prolong life.

The Center was inaugurated in a ceremony held during the Board of Governors meeting. Addressing Sami Sagol, founder of the Center together with his wife, Tova, TAU President Joseph Klafter said, “You are creating the optimal conditions for us to attract the best talent to the University. You are helping us bring in the innovative young researchers who will achieve the scientific breakthroughs you dreamed about as a teenager and continue to dream of today.” With the Sagol family’s support, the Center will recruit scientists, award scholarships and provide vital laboratory and other resources.

Sagol, a TAU Vice Chairman and Honorary Doctor, responded by affirming his “strong belief both in the power of R&D and in multidisciplinary collaboration.” He congratulated Prof. Tal Dvir, head of the new Center, on “our new playground for making dreams come true. This is a place that I hope will help people live more meaningful lives,” he enthused. “Our vision is to become a global center of excellence.”

Sagol thanked President Klafter for listening to his dreams and reiterated his confidence that the University would make the new Center “shine like a diamond. May G-d help us regenerate and rejuvenate ourselves,” he concluded.

Four scientists connected with the center gave presentations: Prof. Dvir of the Department of Biotechnology and Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering, and of the Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology; Prof. Yael Hanein of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Head of TAU’s Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology; Prof. Yuval Ebenstein of the Raymond and Beverly Sackler School of Chemistry; and Dr.

Lihi Adler-Abramovich of the Department of Oral Biology, Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine.

#### Longstanding benefactor

The new Center is the latest in a string of Sagol family donations to TAU over the past 25 years. Gifts have ranged from scholarships at the schools of music and economics to the family’s visionary establishment of the Sagol School of Neuroscience six years ago. The School serves as the coordinating framework for all TAU teaching and research in the brain sciences, fostering collaboration among 120 research groups from the Faculties of Life Sciences, Medicine, Social Sciences, Exact Sciences and Engineering, as well as with clinicians working at 17 affiliated medical centers. “Now, with the new Center, the Sagol family is once again supporting TAU in a pioneering and ambitious initiative,” said Prof. Klafter.

Attending the ceremony were members of the Sagol family including Sami’s brother, Yitzhak Sagol; and Head of the Sagol School of Neuroscience, Prof. Uri Ashery.

**STEINHARDT MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**



Judy and Michael Steinhardt with grandchildren

## New Museum Inaugurated with Flare and Critters

The Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Israel National Center for Biodiversity Studies, was inaugurated at a spectacular celebration featuring giant green bugs, a lion and a troupe of acrobats. Museum benefactors Michael and Judy Steinhardt, two of their three children, David Steinhardt and Sarah Berman, and grandchildren, gathered with Governors, senior TAU staff, representatives of supporting organizations and friends, to mark the historic occasion. With the exhibits partially on display, guests were treated to a sampling of what the Museum will offer when it opens to the public in the Fall, as well as a reception on the Museum's terrace. Also attending were Daniel Atar, Chairman of the Jewish National Fund Israel, and Prof. Yaffa Zilbershats, Chair, Planning & Budgetary Committee of the Council of Higher Education.



Minister of Environmental Protection and Jerusalem Affairs and Heritage Zeev Elkin spoke of the "fascinating symbolism" of the Museum's structure – shaped like Noah's Ark. He is pictured here together with Prof. Tamar Dayan, Founding Chair of the Museum.



## A Brainsy Partnership

A strategic partnership has been established between McGill University's new Healthy Brains for Healthy Lives Initiative and TAU's BrainBoost Program at the Sagol School of Neuroscience. The aim of the partnership is to foster innovation among young Canadian and Israeli researchers toward the development of clinically effective treatments for brain disorders. BrainBoost is a campus-wide TAU accelerator for the development of novel technologies and therapeutics in brain science. The McGill-TAU partnership will be initiated with an innovation boot camp for graduate students of both universities.

# Campus Highlights



## All-Access Mission 2017

A diverse group of young international leaders joined TAU's 2017 All-Access Mission this spring, enjoying a wide range of experiences both on campus and in the Tel Aviv area. The mission offered participants an insider's view of the University, as well as the chance to attend the 2017 Board of Governors Meeting. Highlights included a visit to Israel's Aerospace Industries to view the nation's cutting-edge drone technology; a tour of the world's largest desalination facility; a display of quantum levitation and super conductivity; TED-style talks by top TAU researchers in the fields of Middle East politics, regenerative biotechnology, content websites and melanoma research; visits to TAU laboratories and the Steve Tisch School of Film and Television; and a range of stimulating social and culinary activities. Canadian participant Paul Davidescu said of the experience: "It blew my mind. In a week, I've met everyone and anyone who is an innovator in Tel Aviv and has a relationship with Tel Aviv University. This is a place that I will look to return to at least once a year!"

## Cyber Week 2017

TAU's international Cyber Week continues to garner global prestige and momentum with some 13,000 participants attending this year's five-day event. The conference was hosted by TAU's Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center and the Yuval Ne'eman Workshop for Science, Technology and Security, in cooperation with the National Cyber Directorate of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office. It featured 300 speakers at 50 sessions.



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke of the importance and urgency of cybersecurity, in terms of the threats and also the "endless business opportunities" it presents.



TAU Honorary Doctor and Governor Gil Shwed (left) receives Cyber Week's First Annual Award for Outstanding Achievements in Cyber. He is pictured here with Prof. Isaac Ben-Israel, Head of the Blavatnik Center and Cyber Week Chairman.

## SYLVAN ADAMS SPORTS INSTITUTE

## Taking Israeli Sports into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



From left: Israeli Olympian Yael Arad; Tel Aviv-Yafo Mayor Ron Huldai; Margaret and Sylvan Adams

In a lively and festive inaugural ceremony, the Sylvan Adams Sports Institute was launched at TAU's Elite Sports Center. With its mandate to develop world class Israeli athletes through sports research, testing and training, the Institute's emphasis will be on aerobic sports such as cycling, swimming, running and triathlon.

Among the attendees at the ceremony were Ron Huldai, Mayor of Tel Aviv-Yafo; Yael Arad, Israeli silver medalist at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics and Israel's first Olympic medal winner; Gazi Nujidat, International Coordinator of the Ministry of Sport and Culture; Dr. Osnat Fliz-Douer, adviser to the International Paralympic Committee; and TAU's Dr. Sigal Portnoy, an electrical engineer with expertise in sports biomechanics.

Sylvan Adams, who is a champion cyclist and a World, Canadian and Maccabiah gold medalist, thanked the University, particularly President Joseph Klafter and VP of Resource Development Amos Elad, for understanding his vision "as soon as I threw out the idea." He continued: "This is not just an academic project – it's applied science. We're looking to identify future athletes, then test, coach and nurture them on their way to Olympic champion status.

"The idea of this institute was to enable Israel to be the startup sporting nation," enthused Adams. "We want to show the world that we're a 'normal' country that does not just engage in wars. Israel is often poorly presented in the international media. Through sports, we can reach apolitical, unaffiliated sports fans, forge

bonds of friendship and show the strength of our country to the world," he said.

Prof. Klafter spoke of Adams's commitment to advancing sports in Israel. "Sylvan has translated his personal passion into social action," said Prof. Klafter. "He aims to single-handedly put Israel on the international map for competitive cycling. He won't stop until we win coveted sports medals – including Olympic gold!"

Concluding remarks were given by the Institute's first Head, TAU's Prof. Mickey Scheinowitz, Chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering. "The Institute will promote excellence in sports biomechanics, physiology, engineering, psychology and motivation," said Scheinowitz, noting that teaching programs in these fields will be at master's and doctoral levels.

## STRONGER SOCIETY

## DAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

## Training Israel's Future Communicators

With the proliferation of biased, agenda-driven fake news, the dedication of the Dan Department of Communication at TAU's Gershon H. Gordon Faculty of Social Sciences could not have been more timely. Training journalists, media professionals and scholars, the department adheres to the most rigorous standards of objectivity and integrity. Students gain the professional grounding they need to communicate the Israel story well and in all its complexity.

The Department was dedicated by Marla and Aubrey Dan of Canada, committed Zionists and friends of Israel. Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, TAU President Joseph Klafter said: "Aubrey and Marla understand the importance of communication for Israel and society in general. By investing in the communicators of the future, they are investing in Israel's future."

Aubrey Dan is a Tony Award-winning producer, impresario and philanthropist. Marla is a highly engaged member of the Jewish com-

munity and former President of Hadassah-WIZO Canada.

"The antidote to fake news is the truth," said Mr. Dan. "Proper journalism requires investment to bring the best professors to the University and to make TAU the greatest center of communication in the country. We also need people to showcase how wonderful this country is."

Dr. Daniel Dor, then Chair of the Department, said: "The world of communication is undergoing an immense revolution, requiring a fundamental change in both the structure of study programs and research methods. Aubrey and Marla's generous gift will enable us to take a big step forward, establish the first laboratory of its kind for internet research, build TV and radio studios, continue to upgrade our study programs, offer scholarships for graduate students and post-docs, organize large international conferences, invite leading researchers and media personalities from around the world, and



From left: CFTAU Executive Director for Ontario and Western Canada Stephen Adler; Aubrey and Marla Dan; Prof. Joseph Klafter; and CFTAU National Chair Jeff Wagman

reward research in the field of communication.

"The graduates of the Dan Department will be better professionals who will benefit our society, make it more democratic and transparent and a better place to live in," added Dor.

The keynote address was delivered by Ambassador Stuart E. Eizenstat, recipient of the 2017 George S. Wise Medal.

# Honorary Degrees Ceremony 2017

Honors reflect contributions to science, technology, arts, finance, industry, ethics and philanthropy

## Honorary Doctorates

### **The Honourable Tony Abbott, MP, Australia**

Former Prime Minister of Australia and Opposition Leader; advocate of civil rights for Australia's indigenous population; fundraiser for major charities; champion of close ties with the Australian Jewish community and with Israel.



### **Adv. Meir Linzen, Israel**

Senior Managing Partner of Herzog, Fox & Ne'eman Law Office; legal expert in international tax and e-commerce law; Israeli civic figure; alumnus and friend of TAU's Buchmann Faculty of Law; and mentor to generations of legal scholars and practitioners.

### **Prof. Eve Marder, USA**

Professor of neuroscience at Brandeis University; trailblazer in the field of neural networks; pioneer of the undergraduate study of neuroscience; member of the US National Academy of Sciences; dedicated teacher and mentor to generations of young brain researchers; and committed friend of TAU's Sagol School of Neuroscience.



### **Dr. Mario Draghi, Italy**

President of the European Central Bank; influential economist and policymaker; former Governor of Banco d'Italia and Executive Director of the World Bank representing Italy; professor at the University of Florence; and former Managing Director of Goldman Sachs International.



### **Pouran Nazarian, USA**

Prominent leader of the Los Angeles Jewish community; champion of women's welfare and rights; former Director of the Iranian Jewish Women's Organization in Los Angeles and Co-President of Hadassah Women's Zionist Organization of America; philanthropist and longtime TAU benefactor including of the Pouran and Izak Parviz Nazarian Building and a chair in modern Iranian studies.



### **Dr. Mario Draghi responding on behalf of the recipients**

"The values and judgements that lie at the heart of all our understandings need to be supported by continuing research, ever-increasing knowledge and uncompromising examination of facts. This was true in addressing the great 2008 financial crisis, in developing and implementing policies that improve the world economy, and in building institutions that deliver peace and prosperity, but it is also true of all the fields represented today by my fellow recipients. That is why we must be grateful to all places of knowledge, and today, to Tel Aviv University."

### **Prof. Günter Stemberger, Austria**

Professor emeritus of Jewish studies at the University of Vienna and former head of its Institute for Jewish Studies; foremost scholar of Roman, Byzantine and Talmudic literature; member of the Austrian Academy of Science and recipient of the 2010 Great Silver Award for Merit from the Republic of Austria.



### **Raya Strauss Ben-Dror, Israel**

Prominent Israeli businesswoman and former co-owner of the Strauss Group; champion of philanthropic and social initiatives in Israel and its periphery; Board member of the Jewish Agency and founding member of the Israeli branch of the JFN; TAU Governor and benefactor of the Raya Strauss Center for Family Business Research.

## Ratan N. Tata, India

Pioneering former Chairman of the Tata Group; highly influential business leader and generous philanthropist; recipient of an honorary knighthood; champion of close academic, strategic and business ties between India and Israel; supporter of TAU's Momentum Investment Fund and Tata Fellows Scholarship Fund.



## Prof. Qiu Yong, China

President of Tsinghua University; celebrated chemical scientist, educator and inventor; Co-Chair of the China-Israel Innovation Forum; promoter of academic, industrial and governmental collaboration between China and Israel in the fields of technology and innovation; member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and recipient of the State Technological Invention Award conferred by the President of China.

## George S. Wise Medal



## Ambassador Stuart Eizenstat, USA

Attorney and international diplomat; advocate of justice for victims of the Holocaust in his role as Special Advisor to the US Secretary of State on Holocaust issues; Chief Negotiator for the Jewish Claims Conference; promoter of social causes in the areas of free trade, energy, security and climate change policy.

## Honorary Fellows



## Habima National Theater, Israel

Israeli cultural icon and the world's first professional Hebrew theater; landmark institution for enriching Hebrew language and culture, showcasing Israeli artistic originality and mentoring generations of Israeli playwrights, directors, actors and designers.

Pictured: Habima representatives Odelia Friedman and Moshe Kaftan.



## Shira Shofty, Israel

Outgoing Director of the Dov Lautman Unit for Science Oriented Youth at Tel Aviv University; inspirational educator and scholastic visionary for over four decades; advocate of bridging educational and social gaps, particularly for Israelis of Ethiopian origin; and dedicated member of the Tel Aviv University staff.

# Major Prizes 2017

## Kadar Family Award

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Kadar Family Award for Outstanding Research was presented to four TAU researchers in two categories – the sciences and the humanities. The winners were: Prof. Ron Shamir of the Blavatnik School of Computer Science, a researcher of bioinformatics and computational biology; Prof. Nira Liberman of the Gershon H. Gordon Faculty of Social Sciences, for her work in social psychology; Prof. Oded Hod of the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences in the field of nanoscale materials; and Prof. Roy Mukamel of the School of Psychological Sciences and Sagol School of Neuroscience, a researcher of neural activity in motor pathways.



The Kadar Family Award was created by the Naomi Foundation, which honors the memory of Naomi Praver Kadar PhD, a lifelong educator and specialist in Yiddish children's literature and the late wife of TAU benefactor Dr. Avraham Kadar, a TAU graduate, physician, educator, and innovator. Their children, Maya, Nadav and Einat, are active board members of the Naomi Foundation.

Ms. Ilana Kurizki, the Naomi Foundation's Advisor to the Board and Ambassador in Israel said: "When the Kadar family envisioned this award it emphasized that recipients must be not only pioneers in research, but also true educators. This is what we focus on as a foundation – the power of teaching."

## Constantiner Prize

The annual Dr. Jaime Constantiner Prize in Jewish Education was awarded to the Lady Davis Municipal School in Tel Aviv for its development of an outstanding curriculum in Jewish education and Jewish thought. The prize, bestowed annually on a person or an organization working to bring Jewish tradition and texts into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, honors the late benefactor Dr. Jaime Constantiner of Mexico, former Deputy Chairman of TAU's Board of Governors. Jaime's son, TAU Governor Dr. Arturo Constantiner, who is a member of American Friends of TAU's Board of Directors, attended the ceremony with his wife, Caren. The Prize was accepted by Lady Davis School principal Sarah Halperin.



From left: Kadar Family Award winner Prof. Oded Hod; TAU VP for R&D Yoav Henis; Chairman of the Board of Governors Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel; Ms. Ilana Kurizki; Prof. Joseph Klafner and Rector Prof. Yaron Oz



From left: Caren Constantiner; Head of the Jaime and Joan Constantiner School Prof. David Mioduser; Sara Halperin; and Dr. Arturo Constantiner

## Gelrubin Prize

The Michel Gelrubin Architecture Prize was presented to two students of the Azrieli School of Architecture in recognition of their design skills. Asaf Jan and Noy Ilan won the prize for their design of a living/work space project, “Mi.”



The award was presented by the late Michel Gelrubin’s son, Samuel, in the presence of President of the French Friends Prof. François Heilbronn, Head

of the Azrieli School Dr. Eran Neuman and members of the extended Gelrubin-Benitah-Birene family. “This is the fourth consecutive year that this Prize has been awarded and every time I am impressed with all of your ideas,” said Samuel Gerulbin to the students. “My father would have been proud of all of you.”



Samuel Gelrubin, Noy Ilan, Asaf Jan and Dr. Eran Neuman



From left: Gaby and Etty Rotter, TAU President Joseph Klafter and Dr. Monique Barel

## Ramniceanu Prize

The 2017 Hugo Ramniceanu Prize in Economics was awarded to husband and wife team, Etty and Gaby Rotter, CEOs of the Castro fashion chain. The Prize honors the late Hugo Ramniceanu, a longtime President of the French Friends Association. It is awarded annually to distinguished personalities in the Israeli business world. The Rotters, newly-appointed Governors of TAU, were recognized for their “exceptional impact on Israel’s economic and industrial development and for their almost 40 years of leadership of Castro – during which it was transformed from a wholesale company to a national retail chain.” The Rotters doubled and donated their prize money toward scholarships for doctoral research at TAU. Ramniceanu’s daughter, Dr. Monique Barel, said that Etty and Gaby Rotter represented the very essence of the qualities her father sought for the recipients of the prize. “You work as a couple, you work in the field of textiles like he did, you began modestly and are now a listed company.” Also attending was Ramniceanu’s son, Gerard Ramniceanu, and members of his family.

The Hugo and Valerie Ramniceanu Scholarship in Economics was awarded to economics and linguistics student Maksim Frishberg, originally from Kazakhstan.

## DAN DAVID PRIZE

The Annual Dan David Prize, endowed by the Dan David Foundation and administered by TAU, was awarded for the 16<sup>th</sup> time to individuals whose achievements have had an outstanding scientific, cultural or social impact on our world. TAU Governor Mr. Ariel David, son of the late Dan David and board member of the Dan David Prize and Dan David Foundation, told an audience of prominent political, business, philanthropic and academic figures: “When my father created this prize, he did so out of a desire to show people, especially young people, that a life in the service of humanity and the pursuit of knowledge in all disciplines is something that should be aspired to, recognized and rewarded.”

TAU President Joseph Klafter lauded Dan David as an inventor, philanthropist and seeker of knowledge who was always fascinated by how the past informs the present, and the present heralds the future.

This year’s Prize for the Past Dimension, “Archaeology and Natural Sciences,” was awarded to geneticist Prof. Svante Pääbo of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, who is the world’s leading expert on sequencing the DNA of archaic hominins; and Prof. David Reich of Harvard Medical School, for his role in developing analytical and

computational tools to study DNA retrieved from ancient humans.

The Prize in the Present Time Division, in the field of “Literature,” was shared by the Caribbean-American writer, Jamaica Kincaid, who is one of the most unique voices of both postcolonial women’s literature and of ethnic minorities; and A. B. Yehoshua, one of Israel’s canonical authors whose work addresses underlying problems of Israeli existence.

The Prize in the Future Dimension, “Astronomy,” was shared by three trailblazing astrophysicists: the late Prof. Neil Gehrels of the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (1952-

2017), USA, for his ground-breaking work on cosmic explosions; Prof. Shrinivas Kulkarni of the California Institute of Technology, whose work has transformed our knowledge of the transient sky by revealing thousands of supernovae and other cosmic explosions; and Prof. Andrzej Udalski of the University of Warsaw, Poland, whose pioneering research has characterized over half a million variable stars of all types and discovered many tens of extra-solar planets.

Among the attendees were TAU Honorary Fellow Gabriela David, President of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities Prof. Nili Cohen and Chairman of the TAU Board of Governors Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel.

The family of Prof. Gehrels, represented by his widow, Prof. Ellen D. Williams, donated his prize money to astrophysics students at the University of Maryland.



From left: Prof. Svante Pääbo; Prof. Ellen Williams; Jamaica Kincaid; TAU Honorary Fellow Gabriela David; Chairman of the Dan David Foundation Prof. Itamar Rabinovich; Prof. David Reich; TAU Governor Ariel David; Prof. Andrzej Udalski; Prof. Joseph Klafter; A. B. Yehoshua; and Prof. Shrinivas Kulkarni



From left: Kelly and Miles Nadal; Prof. Joseph Klafter; and CFTAU National Chair Jeff Wagman

## MILES S. NADAL HOME FOR TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

# Nurturing the Israeli Entrepreneurial Spirit

Even the setting of the dedication ceremony for the Miles S. Nadal Home for Technological Innovation and Entrepreneurship hinted at raw potential. The floor that will house the Miles S. Nadal Home is still under construction at the Joseph Meyerhoff Building. It doesn't have any windows yet, and is mostly just concrete.

Yet, the rough edges of the location hinted at the very essence of the Israeli entrepreneurial spirit: daring, out-of-the-box thinking and *chutzpah*.

This spirit will undoubtedly be cultivated even more thanks to the generous support of philanthropist and TAU Governor and Honorary Doctor Miles S. Nadal, who inau-

gurated the project with his wife, Kelly, during the 2017 Board of Governors annual meeting.

The facility will house TAU Ventures, an ambitious initiative aimed at uniting all the entrepreneurial activity on campus. Once completed, the Nadal Home will be a buzzing one-stop shop for students to get business development advice, brainstorm with mentors and partners, work on prototypes, receive training from StarTAU, one of the largest community entrepreneurial non-profit organizations in the world, enjoy business services from Ramot, TAU's technology transfer arm; and more.

TAU President Joseph Klafter said, "This project is helping to fulfil one of the University's

highest priorities: to train the next generation of business innovators and leaders." He lauded Nadal's enthusiasm for fulfilling this objective. "Miles loves young people. He loves to see them fulfill their potential, and he's dedicated to making that happen. Indeed, these young people will be following in the footsteps of Miles himself, an entrepreneur in real estate and advertising who has contributed immensely to Canada's economy."

Nadal underscored his commitment to new business ventures and said, "Israel knows how to do entrepreneurship best." Further he said, "TAU has proven itself capable of creating tomorrow's reality today" in its unrelenting pursuit of the unknown. He explained that with the new Home for Technological Innovation and Entrepreneurship, he sees an opportunity to help TAU help Israel and the world. He said he was certain that TAU Ventures would reap "incredible results."

Prof. David Mendlovic, Chairman of TAU Ventures, along with several entrepreneurs and key figures from the venture capital field in Canada and Israel, spoke at the ceremony and reinforced the great potential of a TAU innovation center.

Moshe Sarfaty, an Israeli educated in the US and co-founder of Krypton Venture Capital, said that the new Nadal Home would empower young Israeli students and increase their chances of business success, as well as serve as an impetus for his own kids to stay in Israel to receive a world-class entrepreneurial education, instead of having to go abroad.

## SUSTAINABLE PLANET

### THE FABIAN-CYRIL BOISSON AUDITORIUM DONATED BY NATHALIE KERBER

# Auditorium Commemorates a Beloved Son and Nephew

In a bittersweet ceremony, the Fabian-Cyril Boisson Auditorium was dedicated at TAU's Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Israel Center for Biodiversity Studies. The large hall was donated by the late Nathalie Kerber, commemorating the memory of her beloved nephew Fabian-Cyril Boisson, the son of her sister Colette Kerber, who attended the plaque unveiling ceremony.

The Auditorium will provide a lively and attractive venue for academic and public events at the Museum, which will open this fall.

TAU President Joseph Klafter thanked Colette and acknowledged her late sister for her generous gift. "This beautiful auditorium will host scientific conferences, lectures and popular science events and will reinforce the Museum's mission to educate new generations of Israeli schoolchildren about nature and the environment," said Prof. Klafter.

Colette Kerber, whose family members are committed Zionists with a love of learning and books, spoke about her son and Nathalie. "It is

with profound sadness and joy that I dedicate this auditorium here today," said Colette. "I visited Tel Aviv University with my late sister, Nathalie, and we decided that this was the right place to commemorate Fabian-Cyril. He was a curious little boy who loved animals and plants so this is a fitting place to carry his name," said Kerber.

The Auditorium is the second major hall at Tel Aviv University to perpetuate Fabian-Cyril's memory. The first was established in 2009 at the Gretl and Fred Raymond Building of Health Professions, home of the Stanley Steyer School of Health Professions.



From left: TAU Vice President for Resource Development Amos Elad; French Friends President Prof. François Heilbronn; Ms. Colette Kerber; and TAU President Joseph Klafter



TAU Honorary Doctor Raya Strauss TAU Honorary Doctor Sami Sagol

## President's Circle Dinner

The third annual President's Circle Dinner was held in the Kuky and Sergio Grosskopf Family Foyer, Miriam and Adolfo Smolarz Auditorium, in honor of TAU's most generous donors. In keeping with tradition, new pin recipients were presented with the exclusive gold President's Circle pin by TAU President Joseph Klaffer and Chairman of the Board of Governors Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel. Recorded greetings were sent by TAU Governor and Honorary Doctor Miriam Smolarz. Guest speakers were TAU Honorary Doctors Raya Strauss and Sami Sagol. During the ceremony Prof. Klaffer was presented with the Commander of the Order of the Star of Italy by Italian Ambassador Francesco M. Talò.

# BOG in Brief

## Sunset Cocktail

Governors, friends and leaders gathered for a Kabbalat Shabbat cocktail party at dusk on the terrace of the Hilton Hotel, Tel Aviv.



## A Night at the Museum

Governors, guests and TAU staff kicked up their heels for a spectacular pre-opening celebration at the Steinhardt Museum of Natural History. The event featured music, singing and dancing.



From left: Edward Misrahi, Pamela Misrahi Crystal, Astrid Misrahi, VP of Resource Development Amos Elad and Dean of Medicine Ehud Grossman

## Remembering Henri Misrahi

The Henri Misrahi Graduate Fellowship Fund in Medicine was inaugurated by the late TAU supporter's widow, TAU Governor Astrid Misrahi, and children Pamela Misrahi Crystal and Edward Misrahi. The Fund commemorates the life and legacy of Henri Misrahi, founder and longtime President of the Spanish Friends Association, community leader and beloved family man. The ceremony was held at the Cymbalista Jewish Heritage Center in the presence of Vice President of Resource Development Amos Elad, Dean of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine Prof. Ehud Grossman, Co-President of the Spanish Friends Patricia Nahmad and members of the Spanish Friends and the TAU Trust in the UK. PhD student Ariel Angel gave a presentation on DNA editing technology as a new treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

## Dental Care for All

The Special Care Center for people with disabilities was inaugurated at TAU's Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine in the presence of Health Minister Rabbi Yaakov Litzman; TAU President Joseph Klaffer; International President of Alpha Omega, Dr. Mervyn Druian; and TAU Governor and Regional Director of Alpha-Omega France, Dr. Yves-André Amiach. The large new facility will provide professional oral care to people with disabilities and disadvantaged backgrounds for whom complex dental care still remains out of reach, as well as to those suffering from dental phobia. "The TAU School of Dental Medicine was founded on the principle of accessibility to excellence in dental care for all," said Prof. Ervin Weiss, Head of the School. The Center comprises nine modern dental treatment units and two modern operating rooms equipped for general anesthesia. The state-of-the-art facility was made possible thanks to the generous donations of many Alpha Omega Chapters around the world and the support of Henry Schein. During the ceremony, the Michelle Amiach, Annie Boubllil and Claudine Cattan Treatment Room; the Dr. René Arav and family room; and the Amiach, Boubllil and Cattan Room were also inaugurated.



From left: Dental School Head Prof. Ervin Weiss; Minister of Health Rabbi Yaakov Litzman; TAU President Joseph Klaffer; Dr. André Amiach (Alpha Omega France); Dean of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine Ehud Grossman; and International President of Alpha Omega, Dr. Mervyn Druian



## Gala Concert Wows Governors

Governors, friends and leaders enjoyed a lively gala concert performed by TAU's Buchmann-Mehta School of Music Symphony Orchestra and conducted by Maestro Zubin Mehta at the Lowy Concert Hall in Tel Aviv. TAU soloists performed a program of Vivaldi, Sarasate, Ravel and Tchaikovsky to a full house. TAU President Joseph Klafter said, "These young performers of the Buchmann-Mehta School are the best ambassadors for Israel and for Tel Aviv University. We are proud to have such talent. The School is a great model for what a benefactor of the University can achieve on a national and international level. Let us all applaud Dr. h.c. Josef Buchmann and Dr. h.c. Bareket Buchmann for this achievement."

## Renovation of Israeli Theater Archives

A ceremony celebrating the renovation of the Israeli Center for the Documentation of the Performing Arts was held at the Sourasky Central Library in the presence of Zana Andrée and Bernard Murat; Mr. Jean-Claude Trichet, former President of the European Central Bank, TAU Honorary Doctor and Honorary President of the French Friends; Dean of the Yolanda and David Katz Faculty of the Arts Zvika Serper; Culture Director of Israel Army Radio Muli Shapira; and French actors Evelyne Bouix and Gilles Cohen. "This is a great day for us," said Prof. Nurit Yaari, former Chair of the TAU Department of Theater Arts, who played an instrumental part in the center's renovation. The collection comprises over 7,500 items, including documents, videos, tapes, photos and private archives of famous personalities of the Israeli theater. The renovation was made possible by the generous donation of Bernard and Zana Andrée Murat and the French Friends of TAU. The ceremony was concluded by two stage performances with students of the Department of Theater Arts.



From left: Zana Andrée Murat, Bernard Murat, Prof. Nurit Yaari and Dean of Arts Zvika Serper

## Australian Friends Support Laboratory

Members of the Australian Friends attended the plaque unveiling ceremony for equipment purchased for the laboratory of Dr. Ayelet Lesman, a new recruit to the Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering. The equipment was purchased through a donation by the late Danielle Rubinstein together with the Australian Friends (Vic.). Dr. Lesman's laboratory investigates the effect of mechanical forces on biological processes, such as cell division and motion, differentiation of stem cells and communication between cells. Lesman stressed how this particular equipment will aid her work.



Dr. Lesman explains her research to members of the Australian Friends.

## Symposia x 3



Lt.-Gen. (res.) Moshe ("Bogi") Ya'alón

Rabi gave an analysis of current events, particularly in Syria and Iraq. He emphasized the ongoing need for hubs such as the Dayan Center to equip Israelis and people around the world with essential knowledge on Arabic language and culture. He also described the Center's constantly evolving "power configuration map" of the region, a crucial resource for international policy- and decision-makers.

The Symposium was moderated by Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel, Chairman of the TAU Board of Governors, and Richard Sincere, Chairman of American Friends of TAU. It ended with its traditional Q&A session.

## Gandel Symposium

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Gandel Symposium offered fascinating insights into the changing Middle East through the eyes of Lt.-Gen. (res.) Moshe ("Bogi") Ya'alón, former Israeli Defense Minister and IDF Chief of Staff, and Prof. Uzi Rabi, Director of TAU's Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies. Founded by TAU benefactor and Honorary Doctor John Gandel of Australia, the Symposium provides an examination of the contemporary Middle East situation. Ya'alón spoke of the collapse of the nation-state system in the Middle East and the rise of radical Islamists. Prof.

## Personalized Learning

TAU Rector Yaron Oz chaired a symposium at the Raya and Josef Jaglom Auditorium on research being conducted on learning and cognition by four prominent scientists. Dr. Tom Schonberg of the Sagol School of Neuroscience discussed novel methods of behavioral change; Prof. Naama Friedmann of the Jaime and Joan Constantiner School of Education and Sagol School talked about the importance of dyslexia research; Prof. Roy Mukamel of the School of Psychological Sciences and the Sagol School described his research into motor-skills training using 3D virtual reality devices; and Prof. Liat Kishon-Rabin, Head of the Stanley Steyer School of Health Professions, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, spoke on language development.



From left: Prof. Liat Kishon-Rabin, Rector Yaron Oz, Prof. Roy Mukamel, Prof. Naama Friedmann and Dr. Tom Schonberg



Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel moderates the symposium.

Trichet, a TAU Honorary Doctor, spoke of the current challenges facing the European Union, including pressure on the single euro currency and the debate over federalizing the EU.

## Geopolitical Symposium

Chairman of the Board of Governors Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel moderated a stimulating discussion of pressing global issues presented by three prominent public figures. Ambassador Stuart E. Eizenstat, Special Advisor to the US Secretary of State on Holocaust Issues and recipient of the 2017 TAU George S. Wise Medal, spoke of the unsettling impact of globalization on what he termed, "the other side of the digital divide – those who are not able to connect." Former Prime Minister of Australia, the Hon. Tony Abbott MP, a 2017 TAU Honorary Doctor, reaffirmed Australia's commitment to "supporting Israel within secure borders," while former President of the European Central Bank, Mr. Jean-Claude

# Top Global Friends Events

## Spain: Debating European Populism

The 2017 Spanish Friends of TAU Lecture Series kicked off with a lively and spirited debate in Marbella. Distinguished journalists and writers Arcadi Espada and Teodoro León Gross kept the audience riveted as they debated the pressing issues facing Europe.

From left: Teodoro León Gross; Tecla Lumbreras, Vice Rector of Culture, University of Malaga; Arcadi Espada; Francisca Caracuel, Third Vice President of the Provincial Diputation of Málaga; Remedios del Río, Vice President, Spanish Friends; Fernando Francés, Director, Contemporary Art Center of Málaga; Patricia Nahmad, Co-President, Spanish Friends; Helena O'Hayon, Committee Member of the Spanish Friends; Marie-Noëlle Erize, Secretary, Spanish Friends; and Virginia Quero, Coordinator, La Térmica Cultural Center



Bernard-Henri Levy discussing his new documentary

## Paris: Documentary Screening

The Cohen-Madar Family, longtime supporters of TAU, hosted the French Friends for the screening of *The Battle for Mosul*, a documentary by French philosopher and TAU Honorary Doctor Bernard-Henri Levy.

## Montreal: Summer Soirée

CFTAU Ottawa, Quebec and Atlantic Canada hosted an intimate evening of cocktails and mingling at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald (Reg) and Charlene Weiser. TAU President Joseph Klaffer spoke to the gathering of supporters, which included newly-elected TAU Governor Sharon Steinberg, about TAU's cutting-edge multidisciplinary innovations.

From left: Amos Elad, TAU VP of Resource Development; Miguel Pinkas, TAU Governor; Ziv Nevo Kulman, Consul General for Israel in Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces; Barbara Seal, CFTAU National President; Prof. Joseph Klaffer; Reginald and Charlene Weiser; Sharon Steinberg; Claire Dalfen, CFTAU Regional President; Sharon J. Fraenkel, CFTAU Executive Director Ottawa, Quebec and Atlantic Canada



## Frankfurt: Researching Alzheimer's

The German Friends invited 50 guests to a lecture on Alzheimer's research by TAU's Prof. Hagit Eldar-Finkelman of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine. The event, held at the home of gallery owner Sarit Lichtenstein, helped raise awareness and funds to battle this devastating disease.

Prof. Hagit Eldar-Finkelman talking about her research on Alzheimer's

## Buenos Aires: South American Economics

Dr. Alberto Abad, Head of Argentina's Revenue Service (AFIP), was the keynote speaker at a breakfast hosted by the Argentinean Friends at the Panamericano Hotel. The event, coordinated by Israeli Ambassador to Argentina, Mr. Ilan Sztulman, and attended by over 70 people, focused on the fiscal and economic situation in Argentina and South America.

From left: Claudio Zuchovicki, Director of the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange; Dr. Alberto Abad, Head of AFIP (Argentinean IRS); Ambassador Ilan Sztulman; Dr. Silvio Becher, Secretary, Argentinean Friends



## Mexico City: Waze to Success

The Mexican Friends welcomed TAU alumnus and Waze co-founder Uri Levine to the Hyatt Regency Hotel for a breakfast gathering of 80 guests. The event was attended by leaders from the Jewish community, the Israeli Embassy and the business sector. Levine spoke about Waze and his successes and failures as an entrepreneur.

From left: Salomon Chertorivsky, Secretary of Economic Development of Mexico City; Uri Levine; Jaime Murow, President, Mexican Friends

## AFTAU: Mission Accomplished

American Friends (AFTAU) led a highly successful mission to TAU, the highlights of which included a helicopter trip to the Golan Heights and dinner with TAU President Prof. Joseph Klaffer.

From left: A TAU student, Al Medaugh and Susan Mulvihill



## Zurich: Stress and Creativity

The Switzerland-Israel Chamber of Commerce and the Israeli-Swiss Association hosted a lecture at the St. Gotthard Hotel by TAU professor of psychology and philosophy, Carlo Strenger. The audience of over 120, including many members of TAU's Swiss Friends, heard how stress positively influences creativity in the lives of Israelis.



Prof. Carlo Strenger

## Sydney: Celebrating a Native Son

The Australian Friends (NSW) held a special ANZAC day reception with former Australian Prime Minister and TAU Honorary Doctor Tony Abbott MP at the home of Ruth and Robert Magid. One hundred Jewish community leaders attended the event, raising funds for scholarships for needy students at TAU.

From left: Mr. Andrew Whitten, President, Australian Friends (NSW); Prof. Joseph Klaffer; The Hon. Tony Abbot, MP; and Ruth and Robert Magid



## Los Angeles: Immersed in IDEAS



The IDEAS Immersion program, held by AFTAU and TAU in Los Angeles, hosted some of Israel's most talented women entrepreneurs. Some of the digital tech world's chief thought-leaders, angel investors

and venture capitalists spent time mentoring and sharing their insights on incubating startups, with the goal of encouraging the next generation of innovators.

TAU Immersion Los Angeles Class of 2017 (left to right): Eden Zohar, Janice Karbachinskiy, Corinne Gotlieb, Lerron Kalish, Adi Dekel and Mor Glotter

## Vancouver: Talking Tech

CFTAU and the Vancouver Israeli Tech Club hosted over 100 guests from the local area, including alumni and friends. Attendees heard from Prof. Yaniv Assaf of the Sagol School of Neuroscience who spoke about his work with Brainvivo, an innovative HD-MRI tool for diagnosing neurodegenerative diseases and brain disorders.

From left: Dr. Tom Schonberg, Sagol School of Neuroscience; Dr. Alan Rabinowitz, University of British Columbia, Co-Founder & Chief Medical Officer of PHEMI Systems; Prof. Yaniv Assaf, CTO & Co-Founder, Brainvivo; Ronen Tanne, Founder, Vancouver Israel Tech Club; Stephen Adler, CFTAU Executive Director for Ontario and Western Canada; Assaf Horowitz, CEO & Co-Founder, Brainvivo; Eran Elizur, TAU alumnus and founder of Vancouver Israel Tech Club



## London: Movie Night

The red carpet was rolled out for TAU Trust's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Gala Night at the Movies at BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) where over 200 guests attended. Four films by students of TAU's Steve Tisch School of Film and Television were screened, and Israeli Embassy Deputy Ambassador Sharon Bar-Ii recounted her experiences as a student at TAU.

From left: Richard Anton, Chair, TAU Trust; Cara Case, Chief Executive, TAU Trust; Maureen Lipman, actor and TAU Honorary Doctor; and Dan Patterson, TV producer