

TAU

Tel Aviv University Review | 2018
SPECIAL CAMPAIGN EDITION

AI Revolution
Change-Makers Club
Next Big Ideas



TAU

Tel Aviv University Review | 2018
SPECIAL CAMPAIGN EDITION

Issued by the Strategic Communications Dept.
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Tel Aviv University

Ramat Aviv 6997801

Tel Aviv, Israel

Tel: +972 3 6408249

Fax: + 972 3 6407080

E-mail: publicat@post.tau.ac.il

www.tau.ac.il

Editor: Louise Shalev

Contributors: Rava Eleasari, Ruti Ziv, Melanie Tafekman,
Idit Nirel, David Jozsef, Tallie Lieberman

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Founder of Alibaba

Jack Ma inspires the university community of academics, students, friends and supporters.



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The Shmunis Family Anthropology Institute

sheds light on the behavior, health and evolution of our ancestors.

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The Chaoul Center for Nanoscale Systems

is helping build up the university's capabilities in nano science.



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The Schulich Leaders Scholarship Program

nurtures highly talented students in scientific and technological fields.



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The Board of Governors Meeting **Moments**

BOG 2018

TAU conferred
its highest
distinctions on
nine exceptional
laureates



Honorary Doctorates:

Dr. Ilana Dayan-Orbach, veteran Israeli journalist;

Dr. Karnit Flug, Governor, Bank of Israel;

HE Luis Alberto Lacalle de Herrera, former President of Uruguay;

Prof. Lázló Lovász, renowned mathematician;

Ma Yun (Jack Ma), visionary entrepreneur;

Prof. Knut W. Urban, pioneering physicist;

Dmitry B. Zimin, engineer and philanthropist.

Honorary Fellowships:

Batsheva Dance Company, iconic cultural dance group;

Lili Peyser-Racine, philanthropist.

"Never Give Up!"

“People in Israel are taught never to give up. And it is this spirit that made Israel the miracle that it is in only 70 years!”

– TAU Honorary Doctor Jack Ma, China, Lead Founder and CEO of Alibaba. Mr. Ma was speaking on behalf of the 2018 Honorees.



Jack Ma Inspires TAU Students & Alumni

Jack Ma (third from right) meets with students and alumni at a special event organized by the TAU Alumni Organization.

In a Q & A session moderated by Israeli Friends President Amnon Dick, Mr. Ma encouraged students to follow their dreams.

Global Economic Prediction

De Herrera (center) was awarded an Honorary Doctorate for his warm friendship towards Tel Aviv University, his keen participation in events run by its Argentinean Friends and his unwavering friendship toward the Jewish people and the State of Israel spanning decades.



“The push of China to become the first rate player of politics in the world is one of the great game changing events we are living through.”

– HE Luis Alberto Lacalle de Herrera, former President of Uruguay



Two Central Bankers

Chairman of the Board of Governors **Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel**, a former governor of the Bank of Israel, congratulates current Bank of Israel governor **Dr. Karnit Flug**, a 2018 TAU Honorary Doctorate recipient.

Forging a Path to Tel Aviv University

“

“When we took a look at who is moving this world in the right direction, we found our way to Tel Aviv University. We are honored to be partners in this initiative.”

– **Dr. Anita Friedman**, President of the Koret Foundation, upon the inauguration of the Koret Foundation Tel Aviv University–Bay Area Collaborative Initiative, a joint Israeli-US research program in bioinformatics and smart cities.



All-Access Mission 2018



“Beyond all the beautiful science and the technology and all these things we can be so proud of, the most important thing that I feel when I am here in Israel is the peace that comes over my soul.”

– **Stewart Litvack**, Canada

Thirty-two young professionals, entrepreneurs and community leaders from the US, Canada, Hong Kong, Switzerland, Brazil, Israel and the UK joined together to participate in TAU’s All-Access Global Visionaries Mission.

“

“For me Tel Aviv University is really, really impressive. We’ve heard from people who are highly educated in foreign policy, science and technology, and it’s all taking place right here in Israel and especially at TAU.”

– **Mitchell Kurylowicz**, Canada

Mission participants toasting the town



“

“Leave your opinions with your hat and coat at the door!”

MAKING HIS POINT

CNN Anchor and Money Editor-at-Large **Richard Quest** stressed the importance of impartial reporting in an era of fake news at the Geopolitical Symposium moderated by Chairman of the Board Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel.



Old World Manners

TAU Honorary Doctor and former President of Uruguay **HE Luis Alberto Lacalle de Herrera** charms an attendee at the fascinating Geopolitical Symposium.

Serial Entrepreneur “Getts” Prize

“

“Transportation today is not just getting from A to B. The technology we have developed represents a big shift – from car ownership to service. TAU graduates in our Tel Aviv Innovation Center are playing a major role in developing these technologies.”

– Gett Founder and CEO **Dave Waiser**, winner of the 2018 Hugo Ramnicanu Prize in Economics

The serial entrepreneur and TAU alum is pictured here together with **Dr. Monique Barel**, daughter of the Prize’s founder, the late Hugo Ramnicanu.



Kadar Family Award

“

“This Award reflects our family’s belief that TAU is a hub of innovation and education which integrates a pioneering spirit to change the world.”

– **Nadav Kadar**, member of the Board of the Naomi Foundation and TAU alumnus



Nadav Kadar



The Kadar Family Award was established by the Naomi Foundation, founded by Dr. Avraham Kadar, a TAU alumnus, physician, educator and innovator to honor the memory and legacy of his wife, Naomi Prawer Kadar PhD, a lifelong educator and specialist in Yiddish children’s literature. This year’s recipients are pictured, from left: Prof. Iftach Haitner (Computer Science); Dr. Erez Ben-Yosef (Archaeology); Prof. Dana Ron-Goldreich (Electrical Engineering); and Prof. Assaf Pinkus (Art History).



Celebrating Israel's 70th Anniversary

Governors, supporters and Friends kicked up their heels to fabulous music at a party marking Israel's 70th anniversary. They enjoyed the great music, a warm atmosphere, mingling and heaps of delicious Israeli food.

President's Award

Dr. Victor S. Wayne, President of the Australian Friends (Vic.) (Center) receives the 2018 TAU President's Award, pictured with his wife, Dr. Karen Wayne and Prof. Klafter



From left: Dr. Michael Mirilashvili, Chairman of the Board of Governors Prof. Jacob Frenkel, TAU President Joseph Klafter and Laura Mirishavili

Recognizing the University's Visionary Donors

Twenty eight of TAU's most distinguished benefactors were awarded President's Circle Pins at the 4th Annual President's Circle Dinner, which was held at the Steinhardt Museum of Natural History. TAU President Joseph Klafter welcomed the honorees as "members of the TAU *mishpocheh* – a family which radiates warmth and caring and whose members watch out for each other, as you, dear Governors and friends, watch out for Tel Aviv University." Chairman of the Board of Governors Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel said, "It is wonderful to see how many of you are wearing the President's Circle Pin with pride – we acknowledge and thank you for that."

2018 Dan David Prize



“

“Crossing mental boundaries and revealing unpredictable connections captures the essence of the Dan David Prize.”

– TAU President Joseph Klafter

TAU President Joseph Klafter and Dan David Foundation Director Ariel David presented the 2018 Dan David Prize in the Future Category, “Personalized Medicine,” to TAU Honorary Doctor **Prof. Mary Claire-King** of the University of Washington, Seattle. Reminiscing about his late father Dan David, founder of the Prize, Ariel David said, “Everyone remembers my father as he deserves to be remembered: He was insatiable and unstoppable in his desire to do, create, to learn and to live.”



Welcome Home

TAU benefactor, Honorary Doctor, Governor and Campaign Cabinet member **Miles Nadal** (right) was guest of honor at the Housewarming for the Miles S. Nadal Home for Technological Innovation and Entrepreneurship, which provides a modern and attractive home for TAU Ventures, an umbrella framework for TAU's entrepreneurial activities. Pictured here together with Nimrod Cohen, Head of TAU Ventures, Mr. Nadal is a strong believer in Israeli talent and innovation.

... Change-Makers Club ...

The fields of bioinformatics and smart cities are the focus of a new two-pronged initiative that brings together TAU researchers with leading scientists at UC Berkeley and Stanford. Supported by the Koret Foundation, the TAU-Bay Area Collaboration aims to facilitate a robust synergy and cross-fertilization of ideas among American and Israeli researchers over the coming five years. Their goal: To advance R&D that could lead to economic growth,

better business practices, personalized medicine and enhanced quality of life.

At the inauguration ceremony, TAU President Prof. Joseph Klafter thanked Dr. Anita Friedman, President of the Koret Foundation, together with the Koret Foundation trustees, for their vision and generosity. He spoke of the importance of the Initiative for the Israeli-American relationship in general, and for TAU-Bay Area ties in particular.

Computer scientist Prof. Ron Shamir leads the bioinformatics component

that TAU and Berkeley already have close ties, which will be significantly deepened through the Initiative.

Head of the smart cities component, Prof. Irad Ben-Gal of TAU's Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering, predicted that in 15 years' time, "70% of us will be living in cities with outdated infrastructures that will pose major challenges in transportation, energy consumption and other spheres. This is why the Initiative is so important – to generate better solutions for how we



THE KORET FOUNDATION TAU-BAY AREA COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE

Israel-US Research Ties Ramped-Up Through New Initiative

of the Initiative under the auspices of TAU's Edmond J. Safra Center for Bioinformatics, which he heads. "The goal of this research is to develop computational tools to enhance human health using big data," said Shamir. He welcomed ceremony attendees including two representatives of the Edmond J. Safra Foundation. Shamir emphasized

live, work, consume and more," he said.

The ceremony concluded with presentations by students: Tal Geller, a master's student of business analytics, spoke on remote medicine, and Maoz Gelbart, an accelerated track PhD student in biotechnology and former Safra Fellow for Excellence, spoke on the evolution of HIV.

"The Initiative will generate better solutions for how we live, work, consume and more."

CONSTANTINER PRIZE

The Dr. Jaime Constantiner Prize in Jewish Education for 2018 was awarded to the Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, in recognition of its role in promoting pluralistic Jewish education for high schools and scholarship in Jewish thought. The Prize, bestowed annually on a person or organization working to bring Jewish tradition and texts into the 21st century curriculum, honors the late TAU benefactor Dr. Jaime Constantiner of Mexico, former Deputy Chairman of the TAU Board of Governors and TAU Honorary Doctor. 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.



From left: Prof. David Mioduser, Head of the Constantiner School of Education; Caren and Arturo Constantiner; Dr. Hanna Eshel; Mr. Eshel Kleinhaus; TAU VP Raanan Rein



THE SHMUNIS FAMILY ANTHROPOLOGY INSTITUTE

TAU Anthropology Research Gets Major Boost

A new unit dedicated to the ancient past was inaugurated by philanthropists Sana and Vlad Shmunis of the United States. The Shmunis Family Anthropology Institute will underpin cutting-edge research projects on campus, and at digs throughout Israel, shedding light on who we are and where we came from.

Speaking of his and Sana's reasons for supporting this important project, Vlad Shmunis said that TAU's Biological Anthropology Collection, which comprises 15,000 specimens gathered from throughout the southern Levant over 80 years, "is a treasure that we never knew existed. Our idea was to enable the team here to share with the global academic community and general public so that they can all learn from it," he said.

The goal of the Institute is to create a singular environment for scientists

from diverse disciplines to extract information etched in bones. This information will add to understanding on the biology, behavior, culture, society, health and evolution of our ancestors in the region.

"Israel is located at the crossroads of human evolution between Europe, Africa and Asia," said TAU President Joseph Klafter at the ceremony. "This, combined with TAU's interdisciplinary approach and pioneering ancient DNA

“Our idea is to share TAU's anthropology treasures with the world academic community and the general public.”

analysis methods and the Institute's location within the Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, makes it an ideal place to carry out anthropological and archaeological research.”

Institute Head Prof. Israel Hershkovitz of the Department of Anatomy and



Anthropology, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, gave an overview of the various branches of anthropology – physical (biological), socio-cultural, linguistic and archaeological – stating that “this is what your Institute stands for, Vlad and Sana, the study of our own species.”

Shmunis family funding has already enabled the purchase of a state-of-the-art Micro CT machine for extracting DNA from ancient bones, as well as other critical equipment needed for advanced research and the creation of a digital data bank that will be accessible to researchers around the world. The Institute is also supporting the biblical archaeology research of TAU's Prof. Israel Finkelstein of the Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology.



Dr. Rachel Sarig (far right) presents her research to Sana and Vlad Shmunis (second and third from right)

Four Symposia

Four symposia presenting perspectives on the global economic arena, the campus of the future, social impact and Middle Eastern current affairs were held during the Board of Governors Meeting. The Geopolitical Symposium was moderated by Chairman of the Board of Governors Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel, featuring the following panelists: 2018 TAU Honorary Doctors Dr. Karnit Flug, Governor of the Bank

of Israel, HE Luis Alberto Lacalle de Herrera, former President of Uruguay; and Dr. Ilana Dayan-Orbach, a veteran Israeli journalist, as well as CNN business anchor Richard Quest. “Stronger Society: Transforming TAU Academic Excellence into Social Impact, moderated by Rector Yaron Oz, showcased a small fraction of the University's many researchers working to create a better and stronger society. “Science Fiction for Real on the TAU Campus,” moderated by Dame Shirley Porter, Deputy Chairperson of the TAU Board of

Governors and Head of the Campus Development Committee, presented some of TAU's latest building projects, as well as talks on libraries of the future and transportation for university students. The Annual Gandel Forum, moderated by Nathan Disenhouse, President of Canadian Friends (CFTAU) Ontario and Western Canada, featured panelists Dr. Danny Gold, founding father of the Iron Dome Defense System and TAU Honorary Fellow; and Prof. Uzi Rabi, Head of the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies.

THE YANDEX MACHINE LEARNING INITIATIVE



Prof. Hanoch
Levy and
Arkady
Volozh

Leading an AI Revolution

Artificial intelligence (AI) and its subfield, machine learning (ML) are set to revolutionize medicine, education, environment, commerce, transportation, cybersecurity and even human interaction. It is at the very core of computer science research today. Now, with the inauguration of the Yandex Machine Learning Initiative at TAU's Blavatnik School of Computer Science, the field of AI, specifically machine learning, has been augmented both in terms of teaching and research.

The Yandex Initiative comprises a dedicated ML track to be run in the framework of the BSc Program in Computer Science at the Blavatnik School, as well as a visiting scholars fund and a lecture series. Along with machine learning and deep learning, courses will be offered in natural language processing (NLP), vision and robotics. Graduates are anticipated to be snapped up by industry upon graduation. As such, the track is expected to



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“Now, industry is realizing that machine learning is the key to many technological advances.”

have a strong impact on Israel's high-tech sphere and national economy.

The Initiative was established by benefactor Arkady Volozh, founder and World CEO of the Russian Internet giant, Yandex. Volozh is a Russian technology entrepreneur, investor, computer scientist and philanthropist. Before founding Yandex, he co-founded several IT enterprises and pioneered technological advancements in search methodologies.

TAU President Joseph Klafter said, “This is a foundational gift that will go far in boosting the field of ML at TAU and ensure a sufficient supply of high-caliber AI experts to lead the anticipated machine learning revolution.”

Dr. Volozh said, “Three years ago, I came as a new oleh to Israel and realized to my great surprise that although there are a lot of scientists and talent in Israel there was no dedicated teaching program in the field of ML. Now, industry is realizing that ML learning is the key to many technological advances. I am therefore delighted to create this hub for ML at Tel Aviv University.”

Volozh was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Tosha Volozh. Also participating in the ceremony were Prof. Hanoch Levy, Head of the Blavatnik School of Computer Science; Prof. Amir Globerson, Head of the Yandex Machine Learning Initiative; and Dr. Jonathan Berant of the Blavatnik School.

Prof. Eran
Neuman,
Yaëlle Sivan,
Ito Morabito,
Shahar
Kessler,
Samuel
Gelrubin



GELRUBIN PRIZE

The 5th Michel Gelrubin Architecture Prize was awarded to Shahar Kessler and Yaëlle Sivan for their project entitled “We Cover,” modeling a permanent rehabilitation center for women trapped in the circle of prostitution. The Prize was presented by Gelrubin's son, Samuel, and daughter, Leslie, in the presence of TAU Vice President for Resource Development Amos Elad, President of French Friends Prof. François Heilbronn, Director of the Azrieli School of Architecture Prof. Eran Neuman and former French Minister of Justice Dominique Perben.



The inauguration of the Chaoul Center for Nanoscale Systems marked the fulfilment of one of Tel Aviv University's major priorities: to build up its capabilities in nanoscience. To be managed by the TAU Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, the Chaoul Center will provide the new state-of-the-art home for laboratories that are currently spread across several locations on campus. Once complete, it is expected to be the most comprehensive and industry-oriented nano facility in Israeli academia.

Measuring 1,000 square meters, the Center will occupy the ground floor of the planned Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Building, slated to begin construction at the end of 2018. The Center will comprise cutting-edge clean rooms together with a visitor center, meeting rooms, offices and technical service areas.

The Center was established by long-standing TAU friend, Fred Chaoul. "Fred was already a believer in the power and promise of nano 12 years ago when he established the Chaoul Center for



CHAUL CENTER FOR NANOSCALE SYSTEMS

Advanced NanoFab Center at Tel Aviv University

In response, Mr. Chaoul stated, "For Nano Center Director Prof. Yael Hanein and colleagues, today is a dream come true. Yael has worked tirelessly all these

years for what will probably be one of the most important scientific facilities in Israel, with the top labs, equipment and researchers. I want to thank the University – and Yael – for

giving me the opportunity to be part of this team."

Mr. Chaoul greeted friends from Argentina, Israel and Uruguay in at-

tendance at the ceremony, among them 2018 TAU Honorary Doctor and former President of Uruguay Luis Alberto de Lacalle de Herrera.

Prof. Hanein said, "To pursue nano research of the highest caliber, we need the ability to see things on the nano-scale – and this can only be done by combining our unique scientific insights with very big and expensive equipment."

The Center will incorporate, build on and expand the multidisciplinary and cutting edge research conducted at the existing Chaoul Center for Nanoscale Materials and Systems.

"This will probably be one of the most important scientific facilities in Israel."

Nanoscale Materials and Systems, and the Marco and Lucie Chaoul Chair for Nanophotonics," said TAU President Joseph Klafter at the ceremony.

JERUSALEM POST AWARD FOR TAU INNOVATION

TAU President Joseph Klafter accepted the Jerusalem Post Award for Driving Innovation during the Jerusalem Post Annual Conference held in New York. The award was presented by Jerusalem Post CEO Ronit Hasin-Hochman in the presence of Yaakov Katz, Editor-in-



Chief, and Richard Sincere, National Chairman of American Friends of TAU. The University was cited for its work spearheading groundbreaking research in a variety of fields.




TAU President Joseph Klafter and Fred and Mirtha Chaoul



Jerusalem Post CEO Ronit Hasin-Hochman presents Innovation Award to TAU President Joseph Klafter



 TAU President Joseph Klafter and Boris Zimin

Dr. Dmitry Zimin of Russia, an engineer, businessman and philanthropist, has a broad-ranging vision: to harness Israel's renowned startup prowess to raise quality of life for people around the world. To this end, he has partnered with TAU's Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering to establish the Zimin Institute for Engineering Solutions for Advancing Better Lives.

At the inauguration ceremony for the Institute, TAU President Joseph Klafter said, "Dmitry Zimin's vision is to channel the boundless creativity of Israeli engineers toward bettering the

world. Once he saw that TAU could deliver such a vision, his decision to partner with us was swift and decisive." Prof. Klafter thanked Dr. Zimin's son, Boris, for representing his father, who was unable to attend the ceremony.

Founded in 1971, TAU's Fleischman Faculty of Engineering is Israel's largest and most influential engineering school. Faculty researchers and students apply their ingenuity toward generating solutions to the world's most pressing challenges in diverse areas, such as water purification, pollution and toxin monitoring, battling disease, renewable

energy, cyber-security and many more. of Economics, Moscow, with a rich academic career spanning over 60 years, he is the former CEO and current Honorary President of mobile telecommunications company VimpelCom. Zimin was the first Russian philanthropist to be awarded the Andrew Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy in 2013. At TAU, he previously launched a project at the Buchmann Faculty of Law in support of Israeli-Russian student exchange and the study of Russian law.

Head of the Zimin Institute Prof. David Mendlovic of the Faculty of Engineering, himself a serial inventor and entrepreneur, announced the winners of this year's Zimin research grants: Prof. Yael Hanein (Engineering) and Prof. Tom Schonberg (Life Sciences) in the area of skin sensors; Prof. Noam Shomron (Medicine), DNA sequencing; and Prof. Rami Haj-Ali (Engineering), AI algorithms for treating heart disease.

"I hope that this institute will be one of our best investments in the future and we hope to see results soon."

TRAJES-DRIMMER INSTITUTE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANTI-DEGENERATIVE DRUGS

Boost for Drug Development Institute

A plaque unveiling ceremony was held on campus to celebrate additional support of the Prajs and Drimmer families for the Prajs-Drimmer Institute for the Development of Anti-Degenerative Drugs at the George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences. The additional funding

supports extended research, fellowships and multidisciplinary collaboration between young scientists in the Faculties of Life Sciences and Medicine.

The ceremony was held in the presence of Norma Drimmer and her brother, TAU Honorary Doctor Sruel Prajs

from Berlin, who founded the Institute in 2008. In his opening greetings, Dean of Life Sciences Prof. Danny Chamovitz thanked the donors for their longstanding contribution and for supporting young researchers.

President of the German Friends Association and Mayor of Frankfurt Uwe Becker stressed the vast philanthropic activity of both Sruel Prajs and Norma Drimmer throughout their lives, and their continued support for Israel, for Jewish causes and for Tel Aviv University.

The donors thanked the audience for

**JACOB A. FRENKEL AND MORTIMER B. ZUCKERMAN INSTITUTE
FOR GLOBAL ECONOMICS**

Global Economics Institute Inaugurated



“We believe that the Institute will help Israel and other nations navigate their economies towards prosperity and stability”

What began as a tribute to two close friends, both of outstanding stature in the financial sphere, resulted in a new research institute at TAU. The Jacob A. Frenkel and Mortimer B. Zuckerman Institute for Global Economics was inaugurated by TAU Governors James and Eric Gertler, representing the Zuckerman Foundation. The Gertler brothers created

the initiative as a way to honor and express their deep appreciation and gratitude to Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel, Chairman of the TAU Board of Governors, and to their uncle, Mr. Mortimer Zuckerman, for their immense contributions to the State of Israel, the prosperity of the Israeli economy and Tel Aviv University.

Mortimer Zuckerman, media titan and real estate investor, is the founder of the Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program, which supports future generations of leaders in science, technology, engineering and math in the USA and in Israel. Prof. Jacob Frenkel is Chairman of JPMorgan Chase International, a former Governor of the Bank of Israel and an economics professor.

“Tel Aviv University, Israel’s leading university, stands at the vanguard of research in a plethora of fields, with outstanding individuals. It was a natural marriage between our vision and TAU’s pursuit of excellence to create this Institute,” the Gertlers announced at the ceremony.

“Our vision is for the Institute to become a hub for cutting edge research on international finance, as well as on emerging issues such as the effects of technology on economic growth. We believe that the Institute will help Israel and other nations navigate their economies towards prosperity and stability in an era where change is occurring at an ever-increasing rate.”

TAU President Joseph Klafter praised the Gertlers’ new initiative and the ongoing strategic partnership between the Zuckerman Foundation and the University. “The new Institute will advance the success of Israel in the global economy,” said Prof. Klafter.

“This Institute will pursue the best in theoretical and applicable studies, which will contribute toward improved economic policy-making to generate a strong and prosperous economy within the global economic system,” Prof. Frenkel said.



From left:
James
Gertler, Prof.
Klafter, Eric
Gertler and
Prof. Frenkel

their attendance and emphasized how important it was for them to support research and young scientists in such important fields of research. Together with Vice President for R&D Prof. Yoav Henis, they presented fellowships and travel grants to students.

Prof. Ronit Pinkas-Kramarski, Head of the Institute and Chair of the Department of Neurobiology, spoke on identifying new targets for cancer therapy, while Dr. Eran Schmukler lectured on the identification of novel targets for treating neurodegenerative diseases.



From left: Prof. Danny Chamovitz, Dean, Life Sciences; Mrs. Marina Prajs; Uwe Becker, President German Friends Association; Dr. Mira Marcus-Kalish, Director International Research Affairs; Mrs. Norma Drimmer; Prof. Yoav Henis, TAU Vice President R&D; Prof. Ronit Pinkas-Kramarski, Head of the Prajs-Drimmer Institute; Mr. Neil Fishler; Dr. h.c. Sruel Prajs; Mr. David Prajs; Prof. Karen Avraham, Vice Dean Sackler Medical Faculty.

SHLOMO SHMELTZER INSTITUTE FOR SMART TRANSPORTATION

New Institute Created to Support Breakthroughs in Smart Transportation



Prof. Klafter,
Atalia
Shmeltzer
and Asi
Shmeltzer

Three generations of the Shmeltzer family gathered at TAU to inaugurate the Shlomo Shmeltzer Institute for Smart Transportation, which will support R&D in advanced technologies that promise to revolutionize the field of transportation. The Institute commemorates the late Shlomo Shmeltzer, founder of the Shlomo Group, one of Israel's largest automotive and services companies.

"The vision of the Institute is a fitting legacy for Shlomo Shmeltzer, a born entrepreneur and a sharp and sensitive businessman," stated TAU President Joseph Klafter at the ceremony. "Shlomo was an innovator in the automotive field in Israel, and now, in his memory, the Institute will open the way for new technological and digital

solutions in cooperation with industry players and government agencies."

Asi Shmeltzer, Shlomo's son and Chair of the Shlomo Group, noted, "My family is deeply committed to advancing Israeli industry and specifically the transportation sector. Supporting the Institute is just like investing in a start-up – except that the results and outcomes are for the good of society

cles, as well as of shared transportation services such as bike and car-sharing. Research areas at the Institute will include developing methods for analyzing the vast quantities of real-time data available from vehicles, sensors and mobiles, and proposing new ways to optimize traffic and transportation systems. In addition, behavioral scientists will address the human factor in developing efficient, safe and easy-to-use applications for smart transportation.

"Shlomo was loved and respected for his openness to new

"Supporting the Institute is just like investing in a start-up – except that the results and outcomes are for the good of society at large."

at large."

Headed by Dr. Tal Raviv of the Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering, the Shmeltzer Institute will address the profound changes expected in mobility and transportation over the next few decades – mainly the rise of electric and autonomous vehi-

ideas, concern for others and social responsibility – all values that are held in high esteem by Tel Aviv University," summarized Prof. Klafter, "For this reason, this new partnership is an excellent fit and we feel privileged and grateful that the Shmeltzer family chose to establish the Institute here."

2018 BORIS MINTS PRIZE

The 2018 Boris Mints Institute (BMI) Prize for Research of Strategic Policy Solutions to Global Challenges was awarded to Prof. Michael Kremer of Harvard University, a world renowned scholar of global poverty, inequality and public health, in the presence of TAU benefactor and Global Campaign Cabinet member Dr. Boris Mints. Speaking at the award ceremony, TAU President Joseph Klafter said, "Awarding the prize to Prof. Kremer underscores the Boris Mints Institute's mission of confronting issues of inequality and poverty on a global scale." TAU students gave presentations on the new BMI-TATA Collaboration to bring Israeli agricultural expertise to farmers in India.

In a separate event, the Mints Institute held a symposium, "BMI as a Global Player: Cooperation with International Partners."





In a milestone for cancer research at Tel Aviv University, the Gail White and Anne and William Cohen Multidisciplinary Brain Cancer Research Program was inaugurated at the Sackler Faculty of Medicine. The program will leverage the ties between TAU cancer researchers and its 17 TAU affiliated hospitals to generate clinical translations of research on glioblastoma, the most common form of primary brain tumor and one of the most aggressive forms of cancer.

Vice Dean of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine Prof. Karen Avraham discussed the urgency of finding a cure for glioblastoma. "Without treatment, the median survival from glioblastoma is around three months. Only 1.8% of patients survive more than three years," she said. "We really need top researchers to tackle this disease, and we are very fortunate to have them at TAU."

Professors Neta Erez, Ronit Satchi-Fainaro and Tami Geiger, some of TAU's preeminent cancer researchers, will head the new cancer research program, which is supported by TAU Global Campaign Cabinet member William Cohen, his wife Anne, and his sister, Gail White. "We are proud that we are able to support your impressive research. You have my entire family's support. We are behind you 100 percent."

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"The median survival from glioblastoma is around three months – we really need top researchers to tackle this disease."



From left: Prof. Neta Erez, William Cohen, Prof. Ronit Satchi-Fainaro and Prof. Tami Geiger

GAIL WHITE AND ANNE AND WILLIAM COHEN BRAIN CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

Harnessing Scientific and Clinical Research in Cancer Treatment

The Program will support: three international postdoctoral fellows every year; a large-scale collaborative project between Prof. Satchi-Fainaro, Prof. Geiger and TAU alum Prof. Zvi Ram, Head of Neurosurgery at the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, that will examine differences between tumors

with the aim of identifying the proteins that enable long-term survival; and the development of models by Prof. Satchi-Fainaro and Prof. Erez for melanoma metastasis for identifying key cancer regulators that can prevent the invasion of melanoma into the brain.

Australian Friends Renovate Engineering Lobby

The Lobby of the iconic Wolfson Building of Mechanical Engineering has been attractively renovated thanks to a bequest from the late Australian Danielle Rubinstein, together with the Australian Friends of TAU (Vic.) The Lobby was inaugurated at the Board of Governors Meeting with the unveiling of the plaque by Dean of Engineering Prof. Yossi Rosenwaks and President of Australian Friends (Vic.) Dr. Victor Wayne. The joint donation helped fund equipment in the laboratory of Dr. Ayelet Lesman, as well as funding towards a mass spectrometer for the creation of hydrogen power.



From left: Boaz Nol, then Australian Friends Federal Executive Director; Rosie Potaznik; Prof. Yossi Rosenwaks, Dean of Engineering; Dr. Karen Wayne; Dr. Victor Wayne, President of Australian Friends (Vic.); Meir Buber, Resource Development, English-speaking countries; Harry Perelberg; Ros Kushinsky; and Rita Perelberg



From left: VP for Resource Development Amos Elad; Dean of Life Sciences Danny Chamovitz; Prof. Judith Berman, President of the Argentinean Friends; Polly Mizrahi de Deutsch; Guillermo Strauss and TAU President Joseph Klafter

STRAUSS GENOMICS RESEARCH UNIT

Strauss Facility Can Unravel Secrets of the Brain

All living organisms, from the simplest bacteria to the most complex plants and animals, share many common features. In particular, they all have their hereditary information encoded in

Neuro-Imaging is providing TAU scientists with on-site access to the powerful sequencing tools needed to unravel that DNA code.

The Unit will significantly upgrade the Center's capabilities, enabling researchers not only to image the brain, but also to understand it on the genetic and molecular levels.

The Unit was inaugurated in the presence of Guillermo Strauss, TAU Governor and Vice President of the Argentinean Friends; Polly Mizrahi de Deutsch, President of Argentinean Friends and TAU Honorary Doctor; Luis Alberto Lacalle de Herrera, for-

mer President of Uruguay and TAU Honorary Doctor; Prof. Danny Chamovitz, Dean of Life Sciences; and Prof. Judith Berman, Head of the Genomics Unit.

TAU President Joseph Klafter praised Guillermo Strauss as a "modest and kind man who is a true and committed friend of Tel Aviv University." Guillermo's parents, Lotte and the late Fredy Strauss, were members of the Argentinean Friends from 1990 and were active in numerous fields on campus," said Prof. Klafter. "In 2006, Federico's legacy was perpetuated through the Strauss Center for Computational Neuro-Imaging used by dozens of researchers for imaging both animal and human brains."

In response, Guillermo Strauss said, "To this day, my mother, three sisters and I are very happy with the progress made at this Center. Tel Aviv University is at the forefront of the exciting new field of molecular imaging and we are happy to be associated with it."

At the plaque unveiling ceremony, Prof. Chamovitz noted that high-level equipment in the new unit has also enabled TAU to recruit two new faculty members – one from MIT and one from UC Berkeley. "This has far-reaching effects for biological research and enables us to compete worldwide," he said.

“

"Tel Aviv University is at the forefront of the exciting new field of molecular imaging and we are happy to be associated with it."

DNA. The newly-inaugurated Strauss Genomics Unit at the Alfredo Federico Strauss Center for Computational

RENOVATION OF LABORATORIES AT THE ARCHIE SHERMAN BUILDING OF LIFE SCIENCES

Coming Full Circle

In a heartwarming ceremony, members of the Sherman family reaffirmed their love and support for TAU through a generous donation toward the renovation of laboratories in the Archie Sherman Building of Life Sciences. Some 45 years since their father, Archie, founded the original life sciences building, his three daughters, Rosalyn Springer, Jacqueline Gee and Diana Morgenthau, came from the UK to celebrate the Plaque Unveiling in Recognition of the Longstanding Generous Support of Archie and Marjorie Sherman and

Family. They were accompanied by their husbands, Nicholas Springer, Michael Gee and Allan Morgentau, respectively.

Despite the upgrades that have taken place in the Sherman Building of Life Sciences over the years, there is still much work to be done to bring the laboratories to a level that is conducive to pioneering, world-class research. The donation helps upgrade the infrastructure of the original Archie





**THE CUKIER, GOLDSTEIN-GOREN CENTER FOR MIND,
COGNITION AND LANGUAGE – “THE MILA CENTER”**

Toward Solutions for Language Disabilities



From left: TAU Governor Selina Goren Komeran; Prof. Martin Monti; Elior and Amaris Goren Komeran; Micaela Goren Monti

“This Center represents a multigenerational commitment to Tel Aviv University.”

What comes first, language or thought? Which cognitive processes are involved when we produce and understand language? And what happens when these processes are impaired, for example after stroke or in degenerative diseases? These complex questions are now at the heart of TAU’s new Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Center for Mind, Cognition and Language – “the MiLa Center.”

The Center brings together scientists from psychology, linguistics and com-

puter science to explore the connections between language and consciousness. Basic research will build up knowledge in the field, while applications will lead to novel therapies for language disabilities associated with stroke, Alzheimer’s and developmental disorders such as autism. The Center is housed at TAU’s Sagol School of Neuroscience.

Along with fellowships to PhD students and post-doctoral researchers, the center will advance interdisciplinary collaborations on campus, including

mentoring for students and purchase of equipment.

The MiLa Center was established by members of the extended Cukier and Goldstein-Goren family through the Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Foundation, founded by the late TAU benefactor Avram Goldstein-Goren.

The Center was inaugurated in the presence of family members: Mrs. Micaela Goren Monti, Avram Goldstein-Goren’s daughter and President of the Goldstein-Goren Foundation; her son, Prof. Martin Monti; and TAU Governor Selina Goren Komeran. Speaking at the ceremony Micaela noted that

the presence of Selina’s daughters represented the fourth generation of the family at the University.

TAU President Joseph Klafter said, “Micaela, Martin and Selina, you and your family are loyal friends of Tel Aviv University and Israel. You have been key contributors over the years in enhancing our work on campus – starting with your beloved late father and grandfather Avram and the Goldstein-Goren Diaspora Research Center, as well as other generous gifts.”

Sherman Building of Life Sciences, one of the University’s flagship facilities.

Dean of Life Sciences Danny Chamovitz said, “The Sherman family, with their continued support in maintaining their building, has assured that we can recruit the best young Israeli scientists in the life sciences and promote ground-breaking solutions in critical spheres, including hu-

man health, food security and the environment.”

TAU Vice President for Resource Development Amos Elad said, “We are thrilled to see the next generation of the Sherman family carrying on the tradition of supporting Tel Aviv University. The George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences is top ranked in Israel and one of the top ranked in the world; this would not be possible without the physical facilities that are vital to its success.”

Mr. Michael Gee, husband of the Shermans’ daughter Jacqueline Gee and himself a TAU Governor, gave a response on behalf of the family.

A presentation was given by Dr. Omri Wurzel of the George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences, whose lab is partially supported by the Archie Sherman Charitable Trust.



The daughters of Archie and Marjorie Sherman, from left: Diana Morgenthau, Jacqueline Gee, Rachel Pentol (friend), Rosalyn Springer; and their husbands: Allen Morgenthau, Nicholas Springer and Michael Gee; as well as TAU VP for Resource Development Amos Elad and Prof. Danny Chamovitz



Prof. Klafter Honored by Tsinghua University

Tsinghua University, China, conferred an Honorary Professorship upon TAU President Joseph Klafter, recognizing his “impressive leadership in steering the successful partnership between Tsinghua and TAU.” The two universities have been collaborating in the field of nanoscience since 2014. Tsinghua President Prof. Qiu Yong, a TAU Honorary Doctor, presided over the ceremony.

Colton Fellowship Fund Celebrates 30 Years

Major TAU benefactors and governors, Judith and Stewart M. Colton were on campus to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Colton Fellowship Fund, which took place at the Porter Building for Environmental Studies. The Fund has supported the careers of some of TAU’s most



talented students, many of whom went on to hold impressive academic careers. The Coltons are very proud of their Fellowship recipients and keep in close personal touch with them through the years. “We will continue to participate for years to come and then pass on the baton to our children and grandchildren,” said Stewart Colton.

Large Turnout at Cyber Week

This year’s Cyber Week attracted some 9,000 participants from 80 countries hailing from the fields of computer science, engineering, business, law, media, policy and more. The high profile event featured more than 50 sessions. Highlights included a plenary address by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Major Gen (res.) Prof. Isaac Ben-Israel, Director of TAU’s Blavatnik



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu

Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center and Cyber Week Chairman, and presentations by global cyber authorities, including Prof. Joseph Wye of Harvard University; international security guru Bruce Schneier; CEO of McAfee Chris Young; and Israeli Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked.

Prince Albert of Monaco Graces TAU Campus

The flags of Monaco, Israel and TAU were flying high this summer in honor of the visit of His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco to the TAU campus. While at TAU, Prince Albert met with Chairman of the Board of Governors



As a special project for their Royal guest, Tisch School students created a short film on Prince Albert’s mother, Princess Grace

New Agreement with Collège de France

A collaboration agreement was signed between Tel Aviv University and the Collège de France, Paris, strengthening existing ties between the two institutions in the humanities and exact sciences. The agreement was signed during a joint symposium held as part of the

2018 France-Israeli Exchange Season, addressing biblical archeology; literature and society; renewable energies; quantum physics; and string theory. The symposium was initiated by Prof. Antoine Compagnon of the Collège de France and Prof. Ruth Amossy of TAU.



College de
Franc



20th International Student Film Festival

The 2018 Tel Aviv International Student Film Festival, organized by TAU's Steve Tisch School of Film and Television, showcased more than 100 short films from 28 countries. The winner in the International Competition was Hungarian film student Aron Szentpéteri for his film *Invisibly*, while the Israeli competition's Tel Aviv-Jaffa Mayor's Award for Best Film went to Aryeh Asfari and Omer Ben Simon of TAU for their film *Well Done*. The Festival is supported by the Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality, the Israel Film Council, Tel Aviv University and the Blavatnik Student Film Production Fund.



Prince Albert visits the Steinhardt Museum of Natural History



From left: Prof. Frenkel, Prince Albert II and Prof. Klafter

Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel and TAU President Joseph Klafter, as well as with students of the Steve Tisch School of Film and Television. The visit culminated with a festive ceremony during which he was awarded a TAU honorary doctorate. The visit was organized by the French Friends, led by Prof. François Heilbronn, and the French-speaking Friends of TAU directed by Agnès Goldman.

The Prince's visit followed the visit of a TAU delegation to Monaco last December led by Prof. Klafter focusing on mutual areas of interest including the environment and ecology, smart city development and alternative energy sources.

... Top Global Friends Events

Frankfurt: Movie Night

German Friends of TAU and the Deutsches Filmmuseum hosted an evening of short films produced by students of TAU's Steve Tisch School of Film and Television. Introducing the films was Amos Geva, a Berlin based producer and graduate of the Tisch School. The audience also visited an exhibit marking the 50th anniversary of Stanley Kubrick's classic cult film, *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

From left: Uwe Becker, President of German Friends, and Dr. Nikolaus Hensel, Vice-President of German Friends and President of the Friends of the "Deutsches Filmmuseum."



Frankfurt: Netta in Town

In a separate German Friends event, this one in conjunction with Keren Hayesod-Germany, a charity concert celebrating Israel's 70th year of independence was held at the Palais Frankfurt. 2018 Eurovision Song Contest winner, Israel's own Netta Barzilai, performed in front of 650 people, including the President of German Friends Uwe Becker. The money raised goes toward TAU student scholarships and education projects in Israel.

Picture: Netta Barzilai and Uwe Becker



London: Innovate Israel

TAU Trust-UK collaborated with UK Israel Business on showcasing some of Israel's most original and disruptive companies at the second Innovate Israel conference in London.

Prof. Irad Ben-Gal, Head of the Laboratory of AI Machine Learning at the Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering, spoke to a group of over 200 technology and business professionals, sharing the latest ideas in artificial intelligence, big data, cyber security, digital health, machine learning and satellite technology. The London Stock Exchange graciously hosted the attendees to a Market opening ceremony.



London: TAU Shining Stars

TAU Trust-UK kicked off its "Starry TAU Nights" series at the London offices of Rothschild & Co. with "University for a Night," an evening of lectures by four of TAU's brightest minds: Prof. Noam Mizrahi (Biblical Studies); Dr. Dinorah Friedmann-Morvinski (Neuroscience); Dr. Rachel Sarig (Dental Anthropology); Prof. (emer.) Asher Susser (Middle Eastern History). Capping the soirée was the auctioning of three trips to Israel. TAU Governor Prof. Eli Talmor was the night's emcee.



From left: Cara Case, CEO, TAU Trust; Prof. Asher Susser; Anke Adler-Slottke, TAU Governor; Prof. Eli Talmor; Dr. Dinorah Friedmann-Morvinski; Warner Mandel, TAU Trust Trustee; Dr. Rachel Sarig; Richard Anton, Chair, TAU Trust; and Prof. Noam Mizrahi.



Montreal: 45th Anniversary Gala

Canadian Friends of TAU hosted their 45th Anniversary Gala dinner at the Montreal Science Center, in honor of child Holocaust survivor and philanthropist, businessman, artist and author (Chaos to Canvas) Maxwell Smart. The keynote speech was delivered by Holocaust expert Prof. Dina Porat, Head of TAU's Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry. TAU President Joseph Klaffer bestowed an honorary doctorate on the Honorable Irwin Cotler, renowned human rights lawyer, former Member of Canadian Parliament and recipient of the Order of Canada, as well as the TAU Friendship Award to the Quebec Division of the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA). The Gala, attended by 560, raised funds to support the University's ongoing mission to fight the scourges of anti-Semitism, racism and genocide.



From left: Tina Smart; Dr. Michael Tenenbaum, CFTAU Regional Chair; Barbara Seal Shiveck, C.M., CFTAU Immediate Past National President; Prof. Joseph Klaffer; Maxwell Smart.





Toronto: Golfing for Scholarships

Canadian Friends member and Toronto Blue Jays star Kevin Pillar hosted the CFTAU Golf Classic, a day of fun and golfing at the exclusive King's Riding Golf Club. More than 130 players raised in excess of \$180,000 in support of the Pillar-Lambert Scholarship Fund, which provides much-needed assistance to disadvantaged Israelis.

CFTAU Golf Classic team of staff and volunteers



Paris: Honoring a Valued Friend

TAU President Joseph Klafter presented the President's Award to Bruno Le Maire, France's Minister of Economy and Finance, in recognition of his contribution to combating anti-Semitism, strengthening France's Jewish community, support for the State of Israel and the Jewish people, and warm friendship spanning many years with TAU's French Friends. The gala event, hosted by French Friends and sponsored by Israeli philanthropist and TAU Honorary Doctor Alfred Akirov, was held at the newly refurbished Hôtel Lutetia, a Paris icon which played a prominent role during the Second World War.

From left: Alfred Akirov, TAU President Joseph Klafter, Bruno le Maire and Prof. Francois Heilbronn, President of the French Friends



Israel: Celebrating Independence Day

Israeli Friends of TAU celebrated Israel's 70th Independence Day with its flagship group – the Business-Academic Club. In a panel discussion, Major-General Nitzan Alon, Head of the IDF's Operations Branch, spoke with military commentator Alon Ben David about current security issues. TAU Honorary Doctor and TV presenter Ilana Dayan-Orbach spoke with Israeli Friends Chairman Amnon Dick about the state of freedom of speech. Guests included TAU benefactors Sami and Tova Sagol, Yair Rotlevi and Eti and Gabi Rotter.

From left: Sigal Adar, former CEO of Israeli Friends; TAU President Prof. Joseph Klafter; Ilana Dayan-Orbach; Amnon Dick; and Major-General Nitzan Alon



Israel: Music Night

TAU Governor Aviad Meitar and his wife, Ravit, opened their home to TAU Governors for an inspiring musical experience and presentation on the new Institute for Promoting Dialogue through Music, which they funded. Composer and conductor Dr. Ori Leshman and his wife, singer Mai Israeli Leshman, a graduate of TAU's Buchmann-Mehta School of Music, entertained the guests with a selection of classical compositions, including special requests from Chairman of the Board of Governors Jacob A. Frenkel and TAU President Joseph Klafter.

From left: Iris Lavie; Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel; Aviad and Ravit Meitar; and Adi Olmert, new CEO of Israeli Friends



Israel: Welcoming the Attorney General

Israeli Friends President Amnon Dick welcomed Israel's Attorney General, Avichai Mandelblit, to a gathering of 240 TAU Governors and guests at the Friends' Business-Academic Club. A graduate of TAU's Buchmann Faculty of Law, Mandelblit shared personal stories of his time at TAU, as well as insights on current events in Israel.

From left: Amnon Dick; Avichai Mandelblit; TAU President Joseph Klafter



Israel: Driving Technology

Over 400 TAU alumni and guests attended an event organized by the TAU Alumni Organization, featuring Prof. Amnon Shashua, co-founder of Mobileye, which was recently purchased by Intel for \$15 billion, the largest purchase of an Israeli technology company to date. Among the attendees was TAU alum, Boaz Dotan, co-founder of Amdocs, and his wife Varda, both prominent supporters of Tel Aviv University.

From left: Boaz Dotan, Prof. Amnon Shashua, and TAU President Joseph Klafter

Melbourne: Oration 2018

Australian Friends (Victoria), together with Dr. Harry and Rita Perelberg, held its annual Oration Dinner in memory of the late Helen and Stanley Grosman, two of the original founders of Australian Friends and longtime contributors to TAU. The 260 attendees listened to featured speaker Major-General Amir Eshel, former Commander of Israel's Air Force from 2012-2017, as he gave a pilot's perspective on the Middle East region. He also shared his feelings leading a squadron of F-15s as it flew above the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in 2016. Sally Capp, Lord Mayor of Melbourne, also spoke at the event. Funds were raised for the National Center for Traumatic Stress and Resilience at TAU.

From left: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Dr. Harry Perelberg and Rita Perelberg



Perth: Feeding the World

Australian Friends hosted Prof. Danny Chamovitz, Dean of TAU's George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences, who spoke to a group of 150 academics and business people at the University Club of Western Australia in Perth, and at a brunch at the home of TAU supporters Deidre and Keith Beville in Melbourne. Chamovitz described how Israeli innovations are helping feed the world's hungry, especially in developing countries.

From left: Mark Majzner; John Cluer, Chief Executive, Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce (WA); Meir Buber, TAU Resource Development Executive, English Speaking Countries; Prof. Danny Chamovitz; local business executives Robyn Sermon, Tom Goerke and Neil Kavanagh; and Clive Donner, President, Western Australian Friends



Hong Kong: Next Gen Gathering

Hong Kong Friends Chairperson Sharon Ser hosted a lunch for 35 TAU supporters at the Hong Kong China Club. Guests included members of the local business and Jewish communities, along with members who attended the 2018 Board of Governors meeting in Israel.

From left: Sharon Ser; William Hwang; Ada Lau; Andrew Au; Meir Buber, TAU Resource Development Executive, English Speaking Countries; Hannah Zion; Ephraim Zion; Michal Mor Shtorch, Executive Director, Hong Kong Friends; and Emilio Penn



San Francisco: TAU Talks

American Friends held their second "TAU Talks" event at the home of longtime TAU supporters Debbie and Barry Cohn. AFTAU Board member Aaron Tartakovsky interviewed the guests of honor, newly appointed AFTAU Board member Dr. Kathy Fields-Rayant and her business partner, Dr. Katie Rodan. TAU President Joseph Klafter and VP for Resource Development Amos Elad also attended.

From left: Prof. Joseph Klafter, Aaron Tartakovsky, Dr. Katie Rodan and Dr. Kathy Fields-Rayant



Buenos Aires: Innovation Week

Argentinean Friends of TAU hosted their fourth annual TAU Innovation Week, with conferences, seminars and workshops on cybersecurity, space research, neuroscience and entrepreneurship. Over 2000 participants gathered to learn about the latest advances at TAU and in Israel, including representatives from the Argentinean foreign ministry, the technology sector and leading universities.

TAU Prof. Isaac Ben-Israel, Chairman of the Israel Space Agency, met with his Argentinean counterparts to discuss furthering cooperation between the two countries. He also dined with several TAU Governors.

From left: Ilan Sztulman, Israeli Ambassador to Argentina; Polly Mizrahi de Deutsch, President of Argentinean Friends; Prof. Isaac Ben-Israel; Dr. Lino Barañao, Argentinean Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation; and Jorge Aguado and Agustin Campero of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation





Boston: Tel Aviv Night at the Movies

A packed Coolidge Corner Theater was the venue for American Friends' 6th Tel Aviv Night at the Movies, presented by TAU's Steve Tisch School of Film and Television. The three short films screened, billed as "Women about Women," were each written and directed by TAU film students. Special guest speakers were Shulamit Reinharz, Professor (emer.) of Sociology, Brandeis University, and Israeli-born film critic and journalist, Oron Shamir.

Picture: Oron Shamir



Sao Paulo: Courting International Students

Brazilian Friends and leading Israeli academic and business development institutions hosted over 1,300 attendees in both Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, at the Israeli Universities Fair – Internships and Opportunities. Amazon's Brazil Country Manager and Brazilian Friends member Alex Szapiro spoke about new business models in a technological world and how Israeli universities are both creating opportunities and capitalizing on them.

Andre Chusyd, TAU alumnus, and Betina Hakim of Brazilian Friends



Moscow: Law Association Conference

Russian Friends hosted a dinner at the Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center in Moscow, as part of the festivities surrounding the Jewish Law Association's 20th annual conference. The evening's keynote speaker was former Buchmann Faculty of Law Dean and current Israeli Supreme Court Justice, Prof. Dafna Barak-Erez. Among the 120 guests attending were Israel's ambassador to Russia, Gary Koren, and Rabbi Alexander Boroda, President of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Russia.

From left: Prof. Gayane M. Davidyan, Moscow State University; Prof. Arje Edrei, TAU Buchmann Faculty of Law; Dr. Haim Ben Yakov, Senior Executive for Regional Development and Public Affairs, TAU; Prof. Aleksandr K. Golichenkov, Dean, Law Faculty, Moscow State University; Amos Elad, VP Resource Development, TAU



Verbier, Switzerland: Musical Treat

TAU Governor Susan Collier hosted a dinner in Verbier for visiting Friends from around the world, who were in town to enjoy the famed Verbier Music Festival. Buchmann-Mehta School of Music graduate, contrabassist Naomi Shaham, and New Zealand violinist Olivia Rose Francis, performed compositions for violin and double bass for the guests at the evening event organized by TAU Swiss Friends and TAU Trust-UK.

Picture: Olivia Rose Francis and Naomi Shaham performing



Mexico City: Lt. Gen. Benny Gantz

Mexican Friends held a conference at the Mount Sinai Community Center, with TAU alum and supporter Lieutenant-General (ret.) Benny Gantz, former IDF Chief of Staff, regaling the gathering of over 100 people with stories from his time in the IDF. The event, attended by Jonathan Peled, Israeli Ambassador to Mexico; Jaime Murow, President of Mexican Friends; and Karen Rossow, Executive Director of Mexican Friends; helped raise money for the Mexican Scholarship Fund, which assists Mexican students wishing to study at TAU.

From left: Jaime Murow; Lt. Gen. Benny Gantz and Karen Rossow



St. Ottilien, Bavaria: Memorial Concert

Renowned violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter (pictured), performed with the Orchestra of TAU's Buchmann-Mehta School of Music in a special concert commemorating the "Liberation Concert" of Jewish survivors (27th May 1945) at the Monastery of St. Ottilien, Bavaria, as part of the Ammersee Music Festival.



Change-Makers Club: TAU Global Campaign

TAU's 10-year, \$1 billion Global Campaign aims to help our talented students and researchers conceive and develop their big ideas. Thanks to the vision and generosity of our donors from around the world, we are achieving this goal. In five years we've reached the half-way mark, gaining the resources we need to fulfill our leadership role in shaping the future of Israel and the world – today.



\$1b.

\$517 million pledged

Your generosity has supported the following initiatives in just five years:



8 Buildings



4 Schools & Departments



11 Institutes



9 Centers



53 Scholarship funds



Be Part of the Next Big Idea | TAU Global Campaign

<http://Campaign.tau.ac.il> @globaltau telavivuni

As part of TAU Online-Innovative Learning Center, the University is partnering with cities across Israel to create “online academic high schools.” High school pupils in participating cities take TAU’s state-of-the-art online courses during regular school hours, led by their local schoolteacher. At year’s end, they can attend final exams for the courses on the TAU campus, earn academic credit, and begin their application

to TAU via a new digital admissions track. The Project equips both pupils and teachers with 21st century skills; helps close the “college preparedness gap”; overcomes socioeconomic and

geographic disparities; and guarantees the flow of talented graduates from diverse backgrounds into the economy. The project is spearheaded by Yuval Schraibman, CEO of TAU Online.



High-Schools Go Online



Nano Satellites

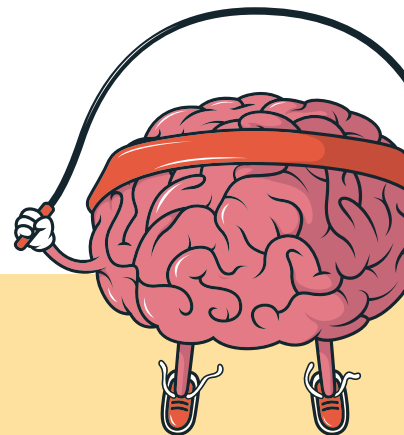


“Imagine a satellite that’s no bigger than a carry-on suitcase.”

Downsizing Satellites for Space Research

Satellites can weigh a ton or more, and cost at least \$150 million to build and launch into space. Imagine, then, a new type of satellite that’s no bigger than a carry-on suitcase. Building so-called nanosatellites for environmental and

space research is at the heart of a new interdisciplinary project led by Prof. Colin Price of the Porter School for the Environment and Earth Sciences. Nanosatellites – 10 cm. (4 inch) cubes that can be fitted together like Lego – provide faster, cheaper and better access to data on climate control, geophysical conditions, deforestation and the melting of the arctic ice caps, among other phenomena. The tiny satellites will be built by TAU students. Seed money for the initial stages of the project has been provided by the Porter Foundation and the TAU President’s Office.



Brain Games Cause Brain Gains



Imagine Our Brains Regenerating Injured Tissue

Lizards that lose part of their tails can grow new ones; sharks continually replace lost teeth; and spiders can regrow missing legs or parts of legs. The ability of certain animals to regenerate tissue is central to the research of Dr. Omri Wurtzel of the George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences. Wurtzel, a new faculty recruit from MIT, is investigating how simple organisms like worms can recover from virtually any injury by regeneration. “Once we understand the fundamentals, we can start asking questions about why certain mammals

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“The field of regeneration has huge implications for medicine and health”

do not have the ability to regenerate and how we can modify ourselves or at least increase our potential to regenerate body parts,” he says. Wurtzel believes the field of regeneration has high potential for big discoveries – especially in re-growing brain cells damaged by injury or disease. He was a 2017-18 Faculty Scholar of the Mortimer B. Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program and received additional seed funding from the Archie Sherman Charitable Trust upon joining TAU.

New System for Cleaning Industrial Pollution

A new process being developed by a TAU-led team could provide an economical, earth-friendly solution for cleaning up soil, sludge and sediment polluted by industry. The two-step process, called phased



transaction extraction (PTE), helps get rid of both organic and metal pollutants, especially near water sources. The system is being developed by Profs. Amos Ullmann and Naima Brauner of TAU's Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering, together with the Hebrew University.

What would it be like for students of neuroscience to actually crawl inside a neuron, experiencing its structure, tunnels and signals from the inside? This fantastic idea became a reality at TAU through “Purple Brain,” a unique project that involved building an escape room to expose students to complex course material in an innovative way. Trendy around the world, escape rooms are generally used for entertainment.

Groups of up to five individuals are locked into a room and must solve puzzles and riddles within 60 minutes to “escape.”

The project was launched by Minducate, the research and entrepreneurship center focused on the science of learning of TAU's Sagol School of Neuroscience together with TAU Online. Says Dr. Dana Bar-On of the Sagol School, who heads the project:

“The idea is to forge a model for complex teaching concepts, encouraging teamwork, raising motivation and fostering leadership.”

“Purple Brain” was one of three escape rooms created by a team of students based on course material and syllabi in neuroscience and chemistry. More rooms in different disciplines are planned for the next year.

Schulich Program Seeks Israel's Next Leaders



The Schulich Leader Scholarships program accepts socially-minded and exceptionally talented candidates in scientific and technological fields

up in Nesher with a single mom and two younger brothers, Shahaf says that the scholarship provides her with a sense of security and peace of mind, as if someone had laid a safety net under her feet. "Without this scholarship, I am not sure that I would have managed such a demanding track as neuroscience, which combines both biology and psychology, and may have settled for a less challenging field so that I could work and support myself." Now, she is already dreaming of continuing on to an advanced degree, and is determined to excel in her studies and "earn" the Schulich Foundation's faith in her.

Similarly, Yarden Haskin, 25, a first year biomedical engineering Schulich Scholar from Pardes-Hanna, says "I cannot begin to describe how life-changing this scholarship is. These days, taking on a degree in biomedical engineering is nearly impossible without some kind of economic backing and support. For me it has made a world of difference."

Having served in the army in the elite combat unit *Duvdevan*, Yarden says that social responsibility was an inherent part of his upbringing. During his high school years, he volunteered regularly in the scouts with Holocaust survivors, new immigrants, and youth at risk.

While the Schulich program seeks students with leadership qualities and a commitment to social involvement, voluntary activity during the degree is not a prerequisite, allowing recipients to fully concentrate on their studies and aim high for the future. Despite this, both Shahaf and Yarden say they feel even more committed now to give back to the community.

"I wish I had a way to express my immense appreciation to Mr. Schulich for his true generosity and kindness," says Yarden. To future candidates he recommends: "Ask yourself whether this is indeed the place for you, if social involvement really flows in your veins? If so – this is the place for you."

Shahaf Sigal, 22, a first year student at the Sagol School of Neuroscience, couldn't have received the news that she was accepted to the Schulich Leader Scholarships Program at a more symbolic time: she was at a summer camp for diabetic children, where she had been volunteering for the past 3 years. Having attended the camp every year as a child, she had now returned as a counselor, providing these kids a fun and empowering experience alongside peers facing similar challenges. "Being selected for the scholarship was a huge vote of confidence in my ability to lead."

Shahaf is one of 10 TAU students accepted each year to the *Schulich Leader Scholarships* program. This prestigious framework was established in 2012 by Seymour Schulich, one of Canada's best-known philanthropists. The program

enables outstanding students – in Israel and Canada – to dedicate themselves to their studies in the most demanding scientific fields, and aims to nurture the next global scientific leaders. The generous scholarships are granted based on merit, social involvement and need. They support the entire course of studies for an undergraduate degree in scientific and technological fields. Nearly 50 scholarships have been granted to top TAU students since the program was launched, with the first batch of recipients having already successfully completing their degree.

Shahaf's initial dream to study either medicine or psychology was formulated while she volunteered for *Sherut Leumi* (National Service) at a public medical clinic, since – as a diabetic – she wasn't called for regular army service. Growing



Schulich Scholars
Yarden Haskin (left) and Shahaf Sigal

By Idit Nirel



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