

Facing the Future





Facing the Future – On the Cover

Top, l to r: Dr. Ashraf Brik, Chemistry; Dr. Galia Avidan, Behavioral Sciences; Dr. Tzemah Yoreh, Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies; Adina Grinberg, student, Hotel and Tourism Management; Koby Kopelman, Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Middle: Ido Twig, student, Electrical and Computer Engineering; Dr. Hila Riemer, Management; Dr. Yaakov Garb, Man in the Desert; Wafaa Natour, student, Social Work; Dr. Amir Aharoni, National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev.

Bottom: Naftali Aklum, Politics and Government; Dr. Lital Alfonta, Biotechnology Engineering; Emil Magrisso, Physiotherapy; Efrat Fedorovsky, Hotel and Tourism Management; Dr. Eli Lewise, Clinical Biochemistry.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	From the Chairman
5	From the President
6	Academic Development
8	Research and Development
10	From the Vice-President and Director-General
12	Senior Administration
14	Faculty of Natural Sciences
16	Faculty of Health Sciences
18	Faculty of Engineering Sciences
20	Pinchas Sapir Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
24	School of Management
26	Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research
28	National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev
30	Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies
31	Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism
32	Eilat Campus
33	Community Outreach
37	Student Life
40	Board of Governors
43	Partners in Development

From the Chairman

It is with great pleasure and pride that I reflect on the past year at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. During this time, we have marked the end of a spectacular era of physical development at the University and set our sites on new directions and new priorities. Under the strong and able stewardship of our new President, Professor Rivka Carmi, we are seeing a fresh perspective to the University's management while building upon the success of previous years. We look forward with optimism to the many opportunities before us for change and growth.

Although the need for additional physical facilities remains strong, a primary focus has now been directed at setting and achieving far-reaching goals of excellence in research and instruction. The University has already established a well-respected international reputation and is now looking to reach new heights in certain areas of concentration. BGU's institutes and centers are building a world-class status in such varied fields as: desert research – including my own personal area of interest, water research; biotechnology; nanotechnology; Hebrew literature; and much more. In order to promote this drive towards excellence, the University is investing tremendous resources in recruiting and retaining the best and the brightest researchers, both attracting some back from top institutions abroad and persuading others to stay in Israel despite alluring offers elsewhere.

With a sense of passion, BGU's faculty not only engages the students but pushes them to tap their creative potential and to aspire for more than academic mediocrity. And that deep level of involvement flows onward as the students give of themselves, volunteering in the surrounding communities in numbers far exceeding any other institution of higher education in the country.

The results, of course, speak for themselves. BGU graduates enter the professional markets with a mark of distinction and often distinguish themselves amongst their peers. Graduates of the Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School have long been considered some of the best trained and well-rounded physicians in the country. And BGU alumni are now taking center stage in hi-tech and med-tech professions, to name but a few.

The picture, however, is unfortunately not entirely rosy. Severe governmental budget cuts over the past few years have left all of higher education in Israel in a most perilous position. Although Ben-Gurion University has stood out as a shining example of fiscal responsibility, determinedly managing to maintain a balanced budget with no accumulated debt for over sixteen years, it cannot be expected to endure continued austerity measures while simultaneously forging a path towards growth. It is incumbent upon all of BGU's friends and associates around the world to rise to the occasion at this difficult hour and do our part to ensure the University's ongoing success.

I call upon all of you not only to bask in the radiance of our beloved University's truly remarkable achievements but to redouble our efforts to reach previously undreamt of heights. Together, I have no doubt that we can realize David Ben-Gurion's dream of creating a true miracle in the desert.



Roy J. Zuckerberg
Chairman of the
Board of Governors

From the President

It is hard to believe that a year has gone and that it is already time for my first report to you about the impressive developments here at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. This has been a year of intensive learning as I had the opportunity to unleash my curiosity and explore many new aspects of this fascinating institution.

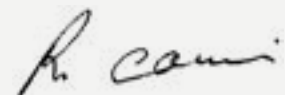
What I have seen has only reinforced my admiration for and commitment to our collective identity – as pioneers who continue to breathe new life into David Ben-Gurion’s dream of creating a center of learning that would be the catalyst for developing the Negev – and now – the world. In fields such as desert studies and water, international healthcare and disease prevention, our researchers are already having a global impact.

Inevitably, I am particularly impressed by this “extra spirit” that our students, faculty and staff bring to their endeavors - the spirit of caring. It is this special atmosphere that has turned the University into a magnet for outstanding students and promising young researchers, a sampling of whom are highlighted in these pages.

This year marks the end of a period of massive construction that has dramatically increased the laboratory, office and public spaces on both the Marcus Family Campus and at the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research in Sede Boqer. These impressive new buildings create environments that nurture excellence and encourage success. The University already excels in a number of areas – from hi-tech to the humanities – but we are determined to strengthen our overall commitment to research in cutting-edge fields and to further invest in the infrastructure needed for our scientists and scholars to compete in the international arena – and win!

Lest we forget, the joy of fulfillment of a student helping others while working in the community is in many ways comparable with the greatest of academic achievement. And so it is with tremendous pride that we celebrate the opening of new facilities for our many outreach programs and mark a decade of important activities on behalf of the Bedouin community. These are but a few of the many ways in which the University is involved in and reaches out to the Negev and to our neighbors in the region.

All of these accomplishments have been made possible through the efforts of our wonderful friends around the world. Together we are facing the future, with our commitment to excellence – in academic achievement and innovations in research that are making a difference in the lives of people in the Negev and throughout the world.



Prof. Rivka Carmi
President

Academic Development

Prof. Jimmy Weinblatt, Rector



“Cooperation” is the key word in describing the academic development of the University – between different Departments and Faculties, with other research institutions, with industry and between the University and the communities of the Negev. Each of these connections and collaborations contribute to the greater whole for the benefit of all.

This year, in addition to the traditional academic peer-review of our programs, the University was evaluated by the Council for Higher Education as part of a new national system of quality control for all universities. The process includes site visits, an assessment of study programs, teaching levels, faculty and staff qualifications and other more intangible factors, such as attitudes towards students and the suitability of the physical infrastructure. To date, all programs that have been evaluated – including the Departments of Business Administration and Management, Social Work, General History, Jewish History,

Computer Sciences, Physics, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Physical Therapy, and the Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School – received preliminary positive assessments, confirming our reputation for excellence.

Higher education in Israel is changing, with increasing numbers of students enrolling in private colleges. The University is adopting several strategies to confront this challenge. We believe we will meet our goal of increasing enrollment to 18,000 within four years, with a greater percentage studying for advanced degrees. This year, we are granting degrees to 130 doctoral candidates. Much of this success can be directly attributed to the Kreitman Foundation Fellowships, together with other scholarship programs encouraging advanced research at BGU. The newly-created Pratt Fund for Excellence has already brought some outstanding young faculty, post-doctoral fellows and doctoral candidates to our University.

Flexibility is the key to adapting existing academic programs to meet the changing needs of the 21st century. The reconfiguration of the Department of Behavioral Sciences into two new disciplines – Psychology and Sociology & Anthropology – has allowed for the creation of a number of new interdisciplinary degrees. A new Masters degree program in Tourism and Hotel Management was created.

Two existing interdisciplinary research centers were upgraded into institutes: *Heksherim*: the Research Institute for Jewish and Israeli Literature and Culture, and the Ilse Katz Institute for Meso- and Nanoscale Science and Technology. The Zuckerberg Institute for Water Research was enriched by its move into impressive new facilities.

The University has redoubled its proactive efforts to seek out academic cooperation with universities around the world through student exchanges, visiting

professorships, educational consortiums, and joint research projects through academic agreements. We are now in the process of establishing an Office of International Academic Affairs in order to centralize these activities. Students from around the world – including such unlikely countries as Jordan and Indonesia – studied at the University this year, creating a truly international atmosphere. English-language graduate degree programs, such as the Albert Katz International School for Desert Studies, the Medical School for International Health in collaboration with Columbia University Medical Center,

the Master of Arts Program in Middle East Studies and the Honors MBA Program at the School of Management, continue to grow despite tensions in the region.

More than 1,000 high school students participate in the Access to Higher Education Program. Programs such as *Madarom* (Science in the South), *Kidumatica*, *Perach*, the Community Action Unit and the University’s unique Center for Bedouin Studies and Development are but a few of the ways the University reaches out to the youth of the region to help them realize their dreams.

Distribution of Students by Faculty and Degrees for 2004/05 – 2006/07

2004/05								
Bachelors		3,610	1,486	4,235	1,279	620		
Masters		1,420	307	822	925	1,434		
Ph.D.		292	224	187	173	22		
Other		254	48	193	16	7		
Total		5,681	2,064	5,433	2,231	2,421		17,554
2005/06								
Bachelors	Humanities & Social Sciences	3,505	1,458	4,156	1,361	611		
Masters		1,418	257	764	913	1,450		
Ph.D.		275	237	194	177	24		
Other		290	29	220	29	17		
Total		5,509	1,981	5,334	2,480	2,102		17,630
2006/07								
Bachelors	Humanities & Social Sciences	3,345	1,456	4,312	1,309	717		
Masters		1,269	240	746	976	1,424		
Ph.D.		283	246	185	195	26		
Other		321	23	220	45	25		
Total		5,145	1,957	5,422	2,490	2,191		17,230

- Not all totals add up because there are students enrolled in multiple Faculties or pursuing multiple degrees. (e.g. 113 interdisciplinary Masters students of the Albert Katz International School for Desert Studies and 117 interdisciplinary Ph.D. candidates of the Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies, who are included in the total figures).
- The above figures relate to the first semester only.
- First- to third-year medical students are included in the Health Sciences - Bachelor category.
- Students of the Medical School for International Health in collaboration with Columbia University Medical Center, receive their Masters degrees in the Faculty of Health Sciences.
- An additional 496 students studied for their Bachelors and Masters degrees at the new BGU campus in Eilat during 2006/07
- "Other": Preparation for graduate or doctoral studies.

Research and Development

Prof. Moti Herskowitz, Vice-President and Dean for R & D



The University has made major progress in advancing cutting-edge research, which has resulted in a significant increase in the overall research output. This is a result of a proactive policy to enhance research infrastructure, distribute resources according to performance criteria and improve service for research activities.

A concerted strategy of enhancing applied research – in conjunction with B.G. Negev Technologies – has resulted in a major breakthrough in amplifying high-profile scientific opportunities. The establishment of the Advanced Technologies Park adjacent to the University is expected to increase University exposure.

BGU has implemented an active policy of recruiting the most promising scientists and scholars. Outside funding sources, such as the Rich Initiative for Excellence in

the Negev, the *Morasha* (Legacy) program of the Israel Science Foundation and the Converging Technologies program, have been essential in attracting top talent to the region. Furthermore, the University has received significant support from the Wolfson Foundation to upgrade its research infrastructure.

Interdisciplinary institutes have become a focal point for providing scientific leadership. Two highly active research centers were elevated to the status of institutes: the Ilse Katz Institute for Meso- and Nanoscale Science and Technology, supported by the Negev Foundation and the Israel National Nanotechnology Initiative amongst others, and *Heksherim*: the Institute for Jewish and Israeli Literature and Culture, partially funded by the Casearea Foundation. In Sede Boqer, three institutes are taking shape under the umbrella of the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research: the Zuckerberg Institute for Water Research, the French Associates Institute for Drylands Agriculture and the Institute for Energy and Environment of Drylands Research.

The University is proud of the accomplishments of its researchers, reflected in the quantity and quality of prestigious competitive grants received this year. Highlights include:

- A major European Union grant, awarded to a European consortium that includes a group of young BGU researchers from Biotechnology Engineering, "Glycans in Body Fluids – Potential for Disease Diagnostics." The leader and coordinator is a researcher from the Department of Microbiology and Immunology who is active in a number of high-profile projects.
- A grant from the *BIKURA* program of the Israel Science Foundation, awarded to researchers from the Departments of Chemical Engineering and Clinical Biochemistry to explore "Carrier-mediated ultrasound-enhanced sub-cellular delivery of phosphoinositides."

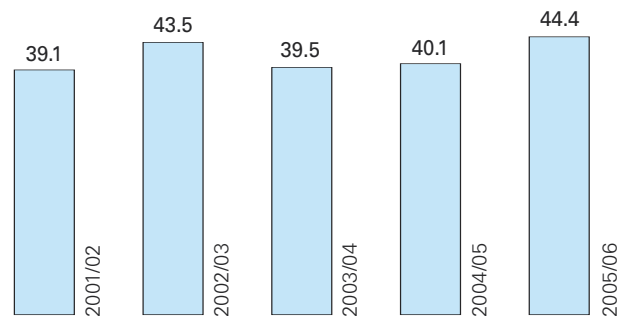
- Four grants specifically for young researchers, reflecting the quality of newly-recruited faculty members: a grant from the Morasha Fund to a researcher in the Department of Life Sciences; a grant from the Ministry of Science to a researcher in the Electro-Optics Engineering Unit; a grant from the Cancer Association to a researcher from the Department of Chemical Engineering; and a grant from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation was awarded to a researcher from the Department of Clinical Biochemistry.
- An important grant from AFSOR – U.S. Air Force, awarded to a researcher from the Department of Life Sciences to study “Protein Glycosylation in Archaea: A Post-Transitional Modification to Enhance Extremophilic Protein Stability.”
- A consortium led by a senior researcher from the Department of Behavioral Sciences, was awarded a grant from the Ministry of Education, titled “Impact of Neuro and Cognitive Sciences on the Education System.”

B.G. Negev Technologies

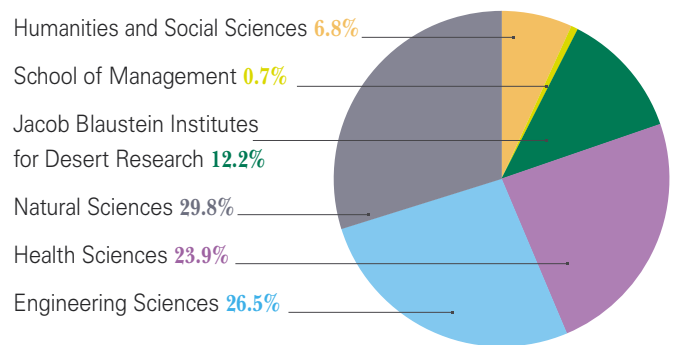
BGN Technologies is the University’s technology transfer company. Last year, BGU showed a 60 percent increase in annual revenue from research and royalties. In parallel, B.G. Negev played an important business role in the stages leading to the establishment of the Deutsche Telekom Laboratories at BGU.

A number of promising license agreements were signed based on the start-up potential of new technologies. In 2006, BGN founded a number of new start-ups, including the following companies: Protea Vaccines Tech in the field of pharmaceuticals; Zenith in solar energy; MultiPon in communication hardware; Polyrizon in biotechnology; EIMinda in medical devices; BotanoCap in environment and green agrochemicals; and Amorfical in biotechnology.

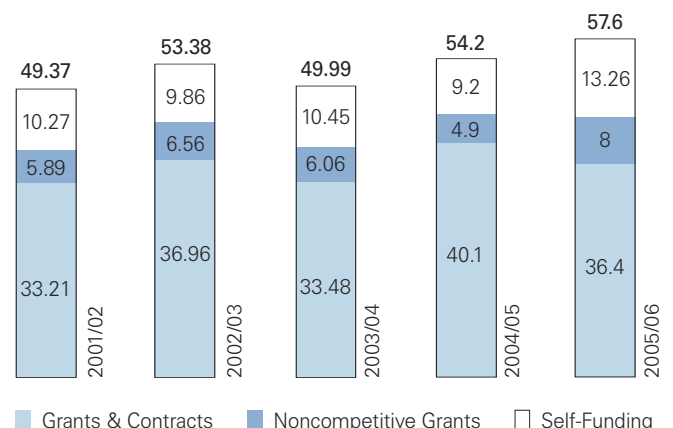
New Grants & Contracts (\$USm)



Percent of Grants by Faculty 2005/06



Total Investment in Research (\$USm)



From the Vice-President & Director-General David Bareket



The University currently faces difficult fiscal challenges. Continuing budget cuts by the Council of Higher Education's Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC) rendered the comprehensive five-year fiscal plan, effective 2003–2008, irrelevant. The Government established the Shohat Committee to address the budget crisis at all Israeli universities after nationwide cuts resulted in significant deficits.

Hopefully, the Committee will recommend increased allotments. If not, it is unlikely that the University will be able to balance its budget — for the first time in over 16 years. To offset the current cuts, we continue to reduce expenses and increase efficiency, while depleting limited monetary reserves.

An assertive marketing campaign was launched to strengthen the University in an ever more competitive market. Based on

true-life stories of outstanding students who were accepted at other universities but chose BGU, the campaign emphasizes academic excellence and has prompted an increase in both the number and quality of new candidates.

Internally, the University has undertaken a process of self-assessment to improve service for students and staff members. Led by the Office of the Vice-President and Director-General and the Division of Human Resources, the program encompasses academic, administrative and technical staff and students. The high level of cooperation reflects the congenial and professional atmosphere at BGU.

Physical development continues on all campuses, with a number of buildings completed and others still under construction. Advanced laboratories are being set up and the critical shortage of classrooms and computer labs is now a top priority. We are also investing in basic research equipment and the recruitment of new researchers.

Significant developments have taken place with the Advanced Technologies Park adjacent to the University. A joint venture with the Beer-Sheva Municipality, the Park will house the elite technology units of the Israel Defense Forces and serve as an anchor to attract hi-tech industries to the region. A large multinational company is interested in financing and constructing the Park and 2007 is expected to be a turning point for the project.

We are at a decisive juncture, with budget constraints on the one hand and great hopes and expectations for academic breakthroughs on the other. The University can contribute greatly to developing the Negev — if only given the opportunity.

Much credit for our accomplishments is due to the vision and support of our friends from around the world, working in harmony with the University staff and students. Ben-Gurion University of the Negev is the key to the future of the region. Together, we will make a difference.

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Operating Budget

	2004/05			2005/06			2006/07		
	NIS m	\$ m	%	NIS m	\$ m	%	NIS m	\$ m	%
INCOME									
Planning & Budgeting Committee	542.1	120.5	66.2%	536.2	119.2	65.1%	546.7	119.1	64.5%
Tuition and Dorms	154.1	34.2	18.8%	148.0	32.9	18.0%	151.5	33.0	17.9%
Contributions	20.3	4.5	2.5%	17.8	4.0	2.2%	14.1	3.1	1.7%
Endowment Funds	30.7	6.8	3.8%	35.0	7.8	4.2%	40.0	8.7	4.7%
Other Income	38.7	8.6	4.7%	41.2	9.2	5.0%	41.6	9.1	4.9%
Transfer between Funds	32.5	7.2	4.0%	45.8	10.2	5.6%	54.1	11.8	6.4%
TOTAL	818.4	181.9	100.0%	824.0	183.1	100.0%	848.0	184.7	100.0%
EXPENDITURE									
Salaries	610.1	135.6	74.6%	619.4	137.7	75.2%	636.1	138.6	75.0%
Fellowships	40.7	9.0	5.0%	42.9	9.5	5.2%	42.2	9.2	5.0%
Teaching Expenses	36.1	8.0	4.4%	33.4	7.4	4.1%	29.7	6.5	3.5%
Institutes & Research Centers	11.2	2.5	1.4%	9.7	2.2	1.2%	8.6	1.9	1.0%
Computer Expenses	11.0	2.4	1.3%	11.0	2.4	1.3%	10.2	2.2	1.2%
Library Expenses	15.8	3.5	1.9%	18.6	4.1	2.3%	20.1	4.4	2.4%
Administration & Maintenance	83.3	18.5	10.2%	77.9	17.3	9.5%	87.2	19.0	10.3%
Student Assistance	8.9	2.0	1.1%	9.1	2.0	1.1%	10.6	2.3	1.3%
Financing	1.3	0.3	0.2%	2.0	0.4	0.2%	3.3	0.7	0.4%
TOTAL	818.4	181.9	100.0%	824.0	183.1	100.0%	848.0	184.7	100.0%
NIS/\$ exchange rate:		4.5			4.5			4.59	
Higher education expenses index		99.7			102.1			104.0	

2006/07 Overall University Budget (NIS Thousands in Current Prices)

	Operating Budget	Research Budget	Development Budget	Special Programs	Total Budget
Expenditures	848,000	193,500	123,696	82,606	1,247,802
Income	848,000	193,500	116,395	88,791	1,246,686

Part of the difference between the Expenditures and Income is covered by a development loan from the German Government for developing the Sede Boqer campus.

Our Worldwide Family of Associates at Work: 2005/06 Year-End Figures

	Total	Unrestricted
Contributions from Associates	\$31,739,262	\$2,656,709
Interest Income from Endowments	\$6,849,279	\$3,579,432
Endowment Fund Balance (as of 30/9/06)	\$174,018,384	\$87,832,024

1. All figures are approximate due to fluctuating exchange and interest rates.
2. 2005/06 interest income was calculated at approximately 4.0%.
3. Figures do not reflect approximately \$32.7 million in endowment and trust funds held in the U.S. by and on behalf of AABGU (including outside managed trusts).

Senior Administration



Roy J. Zuckerberg
Chairman of the
Board of Governors



Lord Weidenfeld of Chelsea
Honorary Chairman of the
Board of Governors



Robert H. Arnow
Chairman Emeritus of the
Board of Governors



David Brodet
Chairman of the Executive
Committee



Prof. Rivka Carmi
President



Prof. Jimmy Weinblatt
Rector



Prof. Moti Herskowitz
Vice-President and Dean for
Research & Development



David Bareket
Vice-President
and Director-General



Prof. Avishai Henik
Dean - Faculty of Humanities
and Social Sciences



Prof. Abraham Parola
Dean - Faculty of
Natural Sciences



Prof. Yigal Ronen
Dean - Faculty of
Engineering Sciences



Prof. Shaul Sofer
Dean - Faculty of
Health Sciences



Prof. Arie Reichel
Dean - School of Management



Prof. Shaul Krakover
Dean - Eilat Campus



Prof. Ramy Brustein
Dean - Kreitman School of
Advanced Graduate Studies



Prof. Avigad Vonshak
Director - Jacob Blaustein
Institutes for Desert Research



Prof. Yehuda Gradus
Director - Ben-Gurion Research
Institute for the Study of Israel
and Zionism



Prof. Varda Shoshan-Barmatz
Director - National Institute
for Biotechnology in the Negev



Prof. Yael Edan
Deputy-Rector



Prof. Lily Neumann
Vice-Rector



Prof. Arie Moran
Deputy Vice-President
and Dean for R & D



Prof. S. Ilan Troen
Director - Kreitman
Foundation Fellowships

Faculty of Natural Sciences

Prof. Abraham Parola, Dean



Characterized by its synergistic connections between disciplines, the Faculty of Natural Sciences has successfully recruited a number of researchers who have already demonstrated exceptional professional promise through a variety of cross-disciplinary collaborations.

The prolific academic faculty published extensively, including a number of articles in prestigious publications such as *Nature* and *Science* and received a significant number of competitive research grants. This, combined with a focused investment in infrastructure and the creation of new multi-disciplinary laboratories, reflects the Faculty's commitment to scientific excellence.

With the move of the Department of Computer Sciences into the Alon Building for Hi-Tech and the completion of the Sacta-Rashi Building for Physics, the Faculty has undergone a comprehensive physical transformation. Since the year 2000, almost every department has moved into its own state-of-the-art building, including the Deichmann Building for Mathematics, the Grosman Building for Geology, the Toman Family Department of Life Sciences Building and the Henwood-Oshry Life Sciences Teaching Laboratories.

Two final projects that will further enhance the Faculty's research potential are still under construction: the impressive new building for the Ilse Katz Institute for Meso- and Nanoscale Science and Technology – academically elevated in order to reflect the breadth and scope of its scientific activities – and the physical expansion of the Department of Chemistry into the older

Facing the Future



Dr. Ashraf Brik, a member of the Department of Chemistry, returned to BGU where he did his Bachelors degree, with a Ma'of Fellowship and a prestigious European Commission FP6 - Marie Curie International Reintegration Grant for research. He earned his doctorate from the Technion jointly with the Scripps Research Institute in the United States, where he also did his post-doctoral work. Brik's research group uses organic chemistry to develop synthetic methods to manipulate protein structures and develop new peptidomimetics as anti-infective agents.

buildings now made available. Plans are in progress for the complete refurbishment of these facilities.

The new receptionist in the Alon Building is a female robot, developed by a professor from the Tokyo University of Science. Purchased by the Department of Computer Sciences together with the Paul Ivanier Center for Robotics Research and Production Management, "Ms. Saya" serves as a research tool for students. The Department has forged a number of significant relationships with industry – including IBM – that provide a significant advantage financially and intellectually to students in both math and computer sciences.

The Third Annual Moshe Flato Colloquium, organized by the University's Center for Advanced Mathematics, brought world-class mathematicians together to explore the complexities of mathematical physics. The Center, together with members of the Department of Mathematics and the Israel Science Foundation, organized a math workshop on the "Dynamics of Lie Group Actions on Parameter Spaces."

The Department of Physics is undergoing a period of renewal, as many of its most senior members are retiring. The Weiss Family Laboratory for Nanoscale Systems has expanded with the opening of its second, larger fabrication facility for the production of quantum technology chips, known as Atom Chips.

The dedication of the Ilan Ramon Youth Physics Center, honoring Israel's first astronaut the late Col. Ilan Ramon, is the jewel-in-the-crown of the University's science

outreach program. Located in the new Sacta-Rashi Building for Physics, the Center includes a planetarium, a roof-top observatory and a physics laboratory for the study of mechanics, electricity and optics. A four-story, 21-meter long Foucault's Pendulum brings physics alive for visitors to the Building.

The emphasis on interdisciplinary research has resulted in an increase in students pursuing multiple majors in multi-disciplinary fields such as bio-physics and bio-informatics, bio-chemistry and marine biology. The Department of Chemistry has absorbed a number of new faculty members who have already earned prestigious prizes for their research. With much of its research focused on pharmaceutical applications, the Department has close ties with industry.

Researchers at the Department of Life Sciences have attracted funding from diverse sources that range from the United States Air Force to a pharmaceutical company in India. The undergraduate program is one of the most popular offerings at the University and the Department is one of the most competitive of its kind in Israel. The Department is continuing its intensive investment in recruiting new faculty and equipment.

The Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences added a number of new programs in applied geology, such as geological engineering and environmental and water studies. Many of these programs are unique to Israel, including Geology and Life Sciences and Geodynamics.

Faculty of Health Sciences

Prof. Shaul Sofer, Dean



The Faculty of Health Sciences embodies the three-part mission of the University: excellence in research, innovation in education and service to society. It continues to receive international recognition for its unique approach to medical education and community healthcare.

Research activities flourished with the receipt of a number of significant, peer-reviewed grants, primarily from the U.S.-Israel Binational Science Foundation, the National Academy of Sciences and the German-Israel Foundation. The Joyce and Irving Goldman Foundation renewed its commitment to the mission of the Faculty and supported an expansion of activities in medical education, community health and faculty enhancement. Several outstanding new faculty members were recruited, strengthening the Faculty's research infrastructure. Nine Dozor Fellows – each an expert in his or her respective field – presented a series of public lectures and private consultations.

A new interdisciplinary Center for Infectious Diseases and AIDS was created to promote and facilitate cooperation between basic scientists and clinical researchers at the Soroka University Medical Center. Members of the Department of Virology have established cooperative projects with the Pasteur Institute in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and the Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology in China, to focus on developing antibodies against viral diseases.

The Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School's professionalism is reflected in the success of the Medical School for International Health, a unique collaboration



Facing the Future

Dr. Eli Lewis, a member of the Department of Clinical Biochemistry, did his post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Colorado's School of Medicine after completing three degrees at BGU. Recipient of a highly-competitive five-year Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Young Scientist Career Development Award and the prestigious Alon Fellowship Award in 2007, Lewis hopes to open Israel's first human islet center at the Faculty of Health Sciences, placing the University at the forefront of clinical immunology and tolerance studies today.

between the Faculty and Columbia University Medical Center. Despite the political turmoil last summer, 46 first-year students – the largest incoming class since the School's inception – arrived in Beer-Sheva to begin their studies. This year, 28 fourth-year students did their international clerkships in developing nations such as Vietnam, India, Peru, Ethiopia and Kenya.

The first class of the School of Pharmacy graduated this year, including the first female Bedouin pharmacist in Israel. Focused on clinical pharmacology, the interdisciplinary program prepares graduates to work as part of a medical team.

For the fourth year in a row, graduates of the nursing program at the Leon and Mathilde Recanati School for Community Health Professions achieved first place in the National Licensing Board Examinations. With innovative study tracks in nursing, physiotherapy and emergency medicine, the School's high reputation is a result of its exacting academic requirements within the context of a supportive and nurturing environment.

The Faculty celebrated its seven-year collaboration with the Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia (FCCC) with an academic symposium that focused on "Recent Advances in Cancer Research" and included a number of senior FCCC staff members. This was one of the two events that marked the one-year anniversary of the sudden passing of former Dean and BGU Deputy-Rector Prof. Shraga Segal, founder of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

A joint project of the Faculty and the Soroka University Medical Center, the Beer-Sheva Comprehensive Epilepsy Center hosted an international symposium on "Drug Resistant Epilepsy: From Basic Science to Pharmacological and Surgical Management," attended by over one hundred neurologists and neurosurgeons.

Malaria was the focus of the Center for Medical Education's Fourth Annual Symposium. Participants examined strategies to fight the disease and were briefed on ongoing global projects of faculty members. Research undertaken at the S. Daniel Abraham International Center for Health and Nutrition has shed light on how nutrition affects health issues of children in southern Israel. The extremes of malnutrition in the Bedouin community and obesity in Jewish children reflect a lack of knowledge about proper eating habits and nutrition that is being addressed by the Center's researchers.

A series of public lectures by senior faculty members on topics such as health promotion, disease prevention and a healthy lifestyle have gained in popularity. This is part of the greater Faculty outreach program, which includes presenting programs at local industries on a wide variety of topics such as aid in the cessation of smoking to nutrition and health promotion courses.

Now celebrating a decade of successful activity, the Medical Cadet program continues to offer pre-academic training in the health fields to students from the Bedouin community and development towns of the south who are interested in pursuing a career in the health professions.

Faculty of Engineering Sciences

Prof. Yigal Ronen, Dean



The Faculty of Engineering Sciences prides itself on its relationships with its growing student body, other Faculties at the University and, particularly, with industrial concerns – both in Israel and abroad – that provide vital support and inspiration for new courses and research directions.

The Israeli offices of Oracle, the world's largest enterprise software company, have partnered with the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management to support a laboratory dedicated to research of Enterprise Information Systems, with a focus on the business value of information technologies.

Researchers from the multi-disciplinary Deutsche Telekom (DT) Labs at BGU are working with its namesake, the German telecommunications giant, on a number of projects, including developing procedures that stop attacks on server systems and network components before they reach private or business customers. The DT Labs include over 20 faculty members and 60 graduate students from the Departments of Information Systems Engineering, Communication Systems Engineering and Computer Sciences.

The Department of Information Systems Engineering is involved in a joint research project with the University of Arizona to develop automated detection of multilingual terror-related content on the Internet. The Department's work has been recognized by NATO, which is planning a conference on cyber-terror at BGU in June.

With the completion of the spectacular Alon Building for Hi-Tech, many new laboratories were opened, including the Department of Communication Systems Engineering's Laboratories for Wireless Communication and Network Processing.

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering completed its new advanced Analog Design Laboratory.

Facing the Future



Dr. Lital Alfonta, a member of the Department of Biotechnology Engineering, completed her post-doctoral fellowship as a European Molecular Biology Organization Fellow at the Scripps Research Institute in the United States. She completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees in chemistry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem where she won a Kaye Award for Innovation for her dissertation. She is an expert in biosensors, bioelectronics, genetically engineered microbial bio-fuel cells, protein engineering for sensing and electrocatalysis.

The Department of Structural Engineering created a new field of study that focuses on designing structures to withstand extreme events, such as bomb blasts or earthquakes. The research is carried out together with the Department of Mechanical Engineering, which has developed its own unique programs in cooperation with Israel's Natural Gas Infrastructure Company. NESS Ltd., a company spun off from the Department of Mechanical Engineering's technology, earned \$5.7M from exports of its neuroprosthesis for treating paralyzed upper limbs and restoring hand function.

The Department of Biotechnology Engineering has doubled undergraduate intake and had a 50 percent increase in doctoral students. It received substantial funding from the European Community's 6th Framework program for a number of projects, the most important of which – Glycans – places BGU as the leader of a European consortium. Despite budgetary cutbacks, the Ministry of Science and Technology continues to support the National Know-How Center in Glycobiology.

Members of the Department of Chemical Engineering received significant outside recognition for their multidisciplinary work and were the recipients of a number of prestigious research prizes and awards.

Two new research laboratories have been established by the Department of Materials Engineering: one to study the properties and applications of bio-inspired materials and structures for use in electronics and nanotechnology, and the other for the development of biodegradable metal

implants. Scientific collaborations were initiated with Case Western Reserve University and the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the USA, Lanzhou University of Technology in China and Intel, the internationally recognized leader in the manufacture of microprocessors and memory chips.

Responding to a request from the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor, programs in Safety Engineering are being expanded and an undergraduate program based on current graduate courses is being created. The programs will be the first of their kind in Israel and are the direct result of a decision by the Ministry to train a group of professional engineers who will be able to maintain standards of building safety.

The Department of Biomedical Engineering, managed jointly by the Faculties of Engineering and Health Sciences, rose in popularity and showed a 20 percent increase in first-year students. The Department has joined with the Department of Nuclear Engineering to create new biomedical techniques using nuclear medicine and to certify professional medical practitioners in this field. The Department is reaching outside national boundaries through joint projects with Italy's Polytechnic of Milan and the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The Unit for Electro-Optics Engineering continues to expand and develop with a steady increase in graduate students and partnerships with industry. The United States Office of Naval Research and the Night Vision Lab are investigating development of an imaging camera.

Pinchas Sapir Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Prof. Avishai Henik, Dean



Like an orchestra, the Pinchas Sapir Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences harmonizes its widely different disciplines and areas of research into a symphony of activity. This is manifest in an exceptional number of interdisciplinary research centers that have earned a reputation for cutting-edge research and thought-provoking conferences.

With the completion of the Helen Diller Family Center, the Faculty has the space to grow and develop. The expansion allows for the establishment of long overdue teaching laboratories, a myriad of new public spaces and a new center for Hebrew literature archives – including the papers of beloved Israeli writers Nissim Aloni, Yocheved Bat-Miriam and David Schitz and part of the archives of Yehuda Amichai, as well as those of Amos Oz and Aharon Appelfeld.

Reflecting the diversity and breadth of its ever-growing local and international activities, the important work of *Heksherim*: the Research Institute for Jewish and Israeli Literature and Culture, was recently upgraded from a center to an institute. Beyond the physical establishment of the archives, one of the Institute's more ambitious projects is to create a comprehensive four-volume lexicon of Hebrew writers, including every published author, poet, essayist, critic and researcher of the last century. In cooperation with members of the Department of Hebrew Literature, the Center organized a number of annual lecture series. Together with the Moshe David Gaon Center for Ladino Culture, *Heksherim* published an anthology of interdisciplinary articles dedicated to the research of the culture of Spanish-born Jews in its *Mikan (From Here)* imprint. The Gaon Center

Facing the Future



Dr. Galia Avidan, a member of the Department of Behavioral Sciences, received her postdoctoral training at Carnegie Mellon University's Cognitive Neuroscience Lab in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and the Functional Imaging Unit in the Sourasky Medical Center in Tel Aviv. A recipient of the Alon Fellowship Award 2006, her research discipline is cognitive neuroscience, specifically, integrating behavioral and neural approaches to visual cognition by combining functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and behavioral techniques.

is also publishing a dual-language *Megillat Esther* for Purim in Hebrew and Ladino, with Latin lettering.

The prolific members of the Goldstein-Goren Department of Jewish Thought have published a number of impressive academic works this year, from *The Book in the Jewish World 1700-1900* to *Jewish Philosophical Polemics Against Christianity in the Middle Ages*. Work continues on three liturgy projects: creating a database of textual evidence for Jewish liturgy through the ages, funded by the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities; cataloging liturgy texts in a joint project with the University of Cambridge Library's Cairo Genizah; and building a database of prayer-related rabbinic texts. Together with the Goldstein-Goren International Center for Jewish Thought, researchers organized a host of intriguing conferences for an intellectual exchange of ideas within the context of ancient and modern Jewish philosophy.

Home to an international array of scholars with specialties in languages that range from Acadian to ancient Hebrew, the Department of Hebrew Language organized a major conference on Biblical Hebrew Philology together with the Department of Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies. An archaeological dig being conducted by the latter within the city of Beer-Sheva, together with the Israel Antiquities Authority and the municipality, has proven to be a rich source of findings from the period of the Iron Age. The Department recently signed an agreement for a student exchange and joint research program with Italy's Università Degli Studi di Napoli "L'Orientale."

The Department of Behavioral Sciences is reconfiguring into two departments – Psychology and Sociology & Anthropology – enabling each entity to offer degrees in its discipline, as well as a joint program and degree in Behavioral Sciences. Together, they will share the impressive new Abraham Ben-David Ohayon Behavioral Sciences Complex that is currently under construction. The Department of Psychology, which also offers a unique doctoral program in neuro-clinical psychology, opened a new psychobiology laboratory in cooperation with the Zlotowski Center for Neurosciences. An undergraduate program in psychology has been tailored to meet the needs of Bedouin and Ethiopian students, with enhanced academic support. Researchers have received significant international recognition for their breakthrough work into the causes of *dyscalculia*, a learning disability that makes it difficult to do basic math functions.

Comfortably ensconced in their new facilities, members of the Charlotte B. and Jack J. Spitzer Department of Social Work have expanded their research space and established a number of much-needed laboratories, including one for its growing art therapy program. A myriad of research-oriented social action and empowerment programs provide students with a variety of opportunities to work in the neighborhoods adjacent to the University and in the Negev at large.

The Center for Bedouin Studies and Development, made possible through the vision of Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Governors, Robert H. Arnow of the United States, is marking its tenth anniversary with a series of events. Alumni, who would otherwise not have had

Pinchas Sapir Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (cont'd)



access to higher education, will be on hand at the 37th Annual Board of Governors Meeting to celebrate the impact of the Center. The Research Unit published a number of provocative monographs addressing the situation in the Bedouin sector.

Taking a global approach to the region, the Department of Middle East Studies emphasizes interdisciplinary studies that combine language, anthropology and arts within a political context. The Department runs an annual

international workshop, publishes the academic journal, *Jama'a*, and supervises the international Masters of Arts Program in Middle East Studies. Together with the Chaim Herzog Center for Middle East Studies and Diplomacy, students and staff members traveled to Jordan to learn first-hand about the country's history and politics. An array of conferences brought journalists and researchers from around the region to Israel. This year, the Chaim Herzog Center launched a Faculty forum to discuss cultural aspects of Middle Eastern life.

After a successful pilot program, the Center has created an ambitious plan to revive the University's Africa Studies program, including undergraduate courses, an annual conference and workshops to be held throughout the academic year. The Ambassadors Forum, organized in cooperation with the Centre for the Study of European Politics and Society, brought seasoned senior diplomats representing Egypt, the United States and Germany to brief the faculty and students on the Middle East from the perspective of the nation they represent.

Together with members of the Burda Center for Innovative Communications, the Department of Communication Studies is at the forefront of an emerging field as new technologies alter the ways people communicate. Real-time research is examining how items such as cell phones and digital cameras are shaping civil society and redefining democratic debate. A newly-established weblog (blog) – aptly named “Good Neighbors” – is focused on using Internet technologies to create a new means of communication

Facing the Future



Dr. Tzemah Yoreh, a member of the Department of Bible, Archeology and the Ancient Near East, was the winner of the International Bible Contest, Diaspora Division, in 1994. Since that success, he has not stopped moving forward, receiving his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from Hebrew University at the age of 24. He is now pursuing his post-doctoral research at the University as a Kretiman Foundation Fellow, where his extensive knowledge of languages (both modern and ancient) is being put to use unraveling the sources of ancient Biblical texts.

with Israel's neighbors. The Center is consulting with the Deutsche Telekom Laboratories at BGU in one of the first exciting attempts to establish interdisciplinary ties with the Faculty of Engineering Sciences in the area of communications technologies.

The Department of Politics and Government is reaching out internationally and, following a recent visit of researchers from the Diane and Guilford Glazer Institute of Jewish Studies at Nanjing University in China, is developing an exchange program with this institute. The Conrad and Chinita Abrahams-Curiel Department of Foreign Literatures and Linguistics launched a program in Mandarin Chinese, thanks to support from abroad.

The Department of Jewish History organized a thought-provoking conference on the Second Lebanon War. The Department showed a significant increase in the number of undergraduate students. The Department of Geography and Environmental Development has initiated two new Masters programs in Geo-information Technologies and Urban and Regional Planning and has doubled the number of students studying for Masters degrees.

The members of the Department of Economics are involved in a number of national committees which shape Israel's economic policy and regional development. The Department includes a number of researchers in the pioneering field of Behavioral Economics, which integrates psychology and economics, and is currently building a laboratory to examine how people make economic decisions.

Students in the Department of the Arts are dedicated to breaking down the traditional boundaries of art history and music. Students are provided with the cross-cultural and interdisciplinary background necessary to study the artistic "presence" in a modern cultural context. The Department organized a number of major exhibitions, including "Dada and Surrealism – Works on Paper from the Arturo Schwarz Collection" and *REKAMOT* – Embroidery and Calligraphy in Contemporary Art in Israel, conceived and curated by the Art History Curatorship class of 2006/07.

The Department of Education responded to the special needs of Eilat's educational system and inaugurated a graduate program in educational counseling at the University's Eilat campus. The program is sponsored by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The members of the Department of Philosophy are passionate about the importance of teaching philosophical discourse to the next generation and have created a seminar to explore this topic. The Department works to show how philosophy relates to cutting-edge contemporary discussions through the creation of new courses in conjunction with researchers in cognitive science and physics.

Reflecting the overall approach of the Faculty, the General B.A. program is changing its academic structure and has been renamed the Multi-Disciplinary Studies program. A new undergraduate degree program in Ancient Christianity was also created this year.

School of Management

Prof. Arie Reichel, Dean



Dedicated to realizing its mission to train managers in and for the periphery who are ready and able to compete in the global economy, the School of Management integrates leadership and ethics into a rigorous academic program. This pioneering spirit has shaped many of the School's unique programs in Israel and the world.

A new executive Masters of Health Administration program has been developed by the Department of Health Systems Management specifically for employees of the national emergency medical unit, Magen David Adom. The School is continuing its long term commitment to train Israel Defense Forces officers in specially designed MBA programs.

The Department of Public Policy and Administration is coordinating a non-degree program for members of the Abu-Basma Regional Council. The program offers academic support to the newly-formed public body that is supervising the transition of nine unrecognized Bedouin villages into one recognized council. The program focuses on training professional managers at a local level as well as future council members who hope to be elected and operate in a democratic fashion. The Department has also created a new Laboratory of Workplace Safety Management and Policy, thanks to the support of the Manof Foundation and the National Institute of Social Security.

The Council for Higher Education (CHE) has recently accredited a Masters degree program in Tourism and Hotel Management. The program, the first and only

Facing the Future



Dr. Hila Riemer, a member of the Department of Management, served as a visiting Assistant Professor of Business Administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she earned her Ph.D. Before entering academia, she worked at Netafim, an international Israeli firm, where she established and ran the corporate Market Research and Business Intelligence Department. Her research focuses on consumer behavior, particularly on the emotional and unconscious factors that influence consumers' judgment and decisions.

one of its kind in Israel, will allow students to specialize in either a thesis or applied track. The accreditation by the Council is a testimony to the success of BGU's undergraduate studies program in this field. The Department will now provide students with an opportunity to choose between doing their three-month internship at one of the established locations in Manhattan through the New York Hotel Internship Program or at a world-class hotel chosen for this purpose in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The CHE has also accredited a new degree program that allows students to do a double major with the Department of Management and any of the other departments in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. This flexibility allows students to acquire advanced management skills which will be applicable in the workplace, whether they are social workers, educators or psychologists. Despite a significant rise in the acceptance threshold, enrollment increased by 25 percent, making this one of the School's more competitive programs.

The Management of Non-Profit Organizations track has had a significant increase in students. The Israeli Center for Third Sector Research marked its tenth anniversary with an international conference that examined the growth of the non-profit sector in Israel, which currently stands at more than 10 percent of all economic activity in the country. This interdisciplinary center studies the relationship between philanthropic and voluntary activity – the Third Sector – and how it is replacing social

services that were once provided by the government, such as support for residents of the North during the Second Lebanon War. Researchers from the Center are working with the InterAmerican Development Bank on its InterAmerican Initiative on Social Capital, Ethics and Development in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic.

A conference organized by the Department of Business Administration and the Department of Behavioral Sciences – under the rubric of the interdisciplinary Center for Decision Making and Economic Psychology and in collaboration with the Interdisciplinary Group in Behavioral Decision Making at the UCLA Anderson School of Management – attracted over 120 participants from 16 countries, including Nobel Laureate Prof. Daniel Kahneman, who was the keynote speaker.

This year, the prestigious Honors MBA Program was taught entirely in English, opening the way for international students to participate. Four of the eight projects submitted by members of the Program at the national BizTech Business Plan Competition made it to the semi-finals, to be held in June. Their participation in the highly-competitive event was made possible through generous funding from overseas. Conceived by the Technion after a model competition at MIT, the judging committee was comprised of venture capitalists, hi-tech entrepreneurs and academics, who evaluated the projects.

Students from the Department of Management work with the Young Entrepreneurs program, mentoring high school students from Beer-Sheva and the vicinity.

Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research

Prof. Avigad Vonshak, Director



Photo: Wolfgang Mozart-Haller

Entering their fourth decade of activity, the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research (BIDR) received significant recognition from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their leadership role in compliance with the United Nations Convention for Combating Desertification. As part of the international year of deserts and desertification, the Institutes hosted an international conference on this critical issue that attracted close to 300 guests from over 30 countries. The U.N. General Assembly has welcomed this initiative in a resolution.

The European Union recognized the BIDR as a "Research Infrastructure," a status awarded to the best facilities of their kind within the Sixth EU Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development.

In November 2006, the Israeli Government acknowledged the importance of water research taking place at the Zuckerberg Institute for Water Research (ZIWR) with the approval of a decision to establish a National Center for Advanced Water Technologies in Sede Boqer. The ZIWR will provide the National Center access to its scientific and human infrastructure to create a dynamic regional network with its base in the Negev.

With the completion of the building for the Zuckerberg Institute for Water Research, water-related activities are being consolidated. The Departments of Environmental Hydrology and Microbiology and Desalination and Water Treatment are now settled in their new home. A number of cutting-edge laboratories have been opened that required a significant investment in research



Dr. Yaakov Garb, a member of the Department of Man in the Desert, did his doctorate at the University of California, Berkeley and post-doctoral work at Harvard University and the Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton. His research focuses on interdisciplinary analysis of environmental and urban issues, with an increasing focus on landscapes, issues and populations of the Negev. He serves as a Visiting Assistant Professor in Brown University's Global Environmental Program in the United States.

infrastructure, made possible in part by the Wolfson Foundation. New laboratories include the Melvin S. Goldstein Laboratory for Environmental Hydrology and the David and Fela Shapell Desalination Research Laboratory. The newly-created Tessler Family Water for Peace Fund hopes to make clean water technologies accessible to all the residents of the region by encouraging joint research projects in desalination.

The Mitrani Department of Desert Ecology, the Albert Katz Department of Dryland Biotechnologies and the Wyler Department of Dryland Agriculture moved into the impressive new Biology Building. Significant support was provided to further the establishment of the Landau Family Algal Biotechnology Laboratory. Always conscious of the agricultural needs of developing nations and immediate neighbors, the Wyler Department organized a two week course for students from Hebron University.

With the support of Prof. Daniel S. Koshland, Jr., and the ICA Foundation, an integrated system site was created that combines the production of fish, algae, water lilies and *Jatropha*, a biomaterial for energy production, to explore water-use efficiency in dryland agriculture.

The consolidation of the nascent French Associates Institute for Drylands Agriculture is advancing. The Institute for Energy and Environment of Drylands Research is under development and was recently provided with significant funding by the Bona Terra Foundation of Switzerland for this purpose. The Ben-Gurion National Center for Solar Energy has made impressive progress

towards developing lower cost electricity, thanks to special panels manufactured by one of the European research partners.

On the eve of its tenth anniversary, the Albert Katz International School for Desert Studies – created through the magnanimous vision of its benefactors, the late Ilse Katz of Switzerland and the Negev Foundation – experienced a 30 percent increase in enrollment from last year. Thanks to special support of the Blaustein Foundation, six Jordanian students are studying at the School. Unique interdisciplinary programs attract students from the United States and European, African and Asian countries. The School is now accepting students for doctoral studies.

An ongoing array of conferences and visiting researchers contributes to the Institutes' international character. New links were created with a number of research institutions, including Guizhou University, China; BIRLA Institute of Technology and Science, India; Universidad Autonoma de Baja California, Mexico; and the Mexican Institute for Water Technology, Mexico. BIDR members have represented the State of Israel in talks with Singapore to develop novel water technologies and are working with NATO and other government bodies to examine the impact of regional environmental issues.

The online Newman Information Center for Desert Research and Development launched an online forum dedicated to combating desertification that brings together researchers from around the world.

National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev

Prof. Varda Shoshan-Barmatz, Director



The National Institute for Biotechnology in the Negev strives to create a unique, exciting atmosphere, where scientists from different disciplines can pursue ideas for new biotechnology applications through discovery-driven research.

Designed to become the first Israeli autonomous research body of its kind, the NIBN functions under University auspices but is gearing itself for a future in which it will operate as a separate and distinct institute, steered by its own Advisory Committee in which the Israeli Government, major donors and University representatives have equal representation. This has been made possible through the driving vision and commitment of Swiss banker Edgar D. de Picciotto, who created and has guided the Institute since its inception. The autonomous status of the NIBN as a not-for-profit private company under an independent Board of Directors entails an organizational structure and staff membership that differ from standard University practice.

Prof. Varda Shoshan-Barmatz was appointed Director this year. A member of the Department of Life Sciences, she played a pivotal role in the formation of the NIBN and, until recently, served as its Deputy-Director under Nobel laureate and Chairman of the International Advisory Committee of the NIBN, Prof. Sir Aaron Klug of the University of Cambridge. Prof. Shoshan-Barmatz' research focuses on mitochondria, tiny organelles in the cell which are central to basic cell life functions, but also contain the cell's "arsenal" of cell death activating proteins that may hold the secret to unneurodegenerative disorders such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease and cancer.

Facing the Future



Dr. Amir Aharoni, a senior lecturer in the Department of Life Sciences and a member of the NIBN, did his doctorate and post-doctoral work at the Weizmann Institute of Science and at the University of British Columbia, Canada. A recipient of the prestigious Legacy Heritage Fund and the Alon Fellowship Award for 2007, his research focuses on protein engineering using directed evolution technologies to allow for the development of proteins with new functions.

Over 50 links exist between NIBN scientists from different research and academic institutions around the world. Research is focused on five major areas: structural biotechnology, human genetics and functional genomic, computational biotechnology, immune system biotechnology and nano-medicine. Significant grants were received from a number of competitive foundations, including the Israel Science Foundation, the U.S. Israel Binational Science Foundation, the German Israeli Project Cooperation, the German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific Research and Development and the Legacy Heritage Fund.

The discovery of the genetic defect responsible for Infantile Neuroaxonal Dystrophy by researchers at the Morris Kahn Human Molecular Genetics Lab may allow for pre-natal diagnosis of this fatal disease. The neurodegenerative illness strikes apparently normal babies and causes neurological function to decline steadily until they reach a fully vegetative state a year later and die between the ages of seven and ten. The findings have implications far beyond this disease and may help unravel the causes of other severe neurodegenerative diseases in adults, such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.

The computational biotechnology group was chosen by Rosetta Biosoftware in the United States to deploy two unique, new computer systems for the study of Bioinformatics. The two systems – the Rosetta Resolver[®] system for gene expression analysis and the Rosetta Elucidator[®] system for differential protein expression analysis – will be used to conduct a study on plant response to stress. The systems will be used in

conjunction to integrate transcriptomic and metabolomic data for systems biology projects carried out at the NIBN and the University's Department of Microbiology and Immunology, in collaboration with the Weizmann Institute of Science and the Volcani Center for Agriculture Research. The NIBN plans to establish a test-bed program to assist researchers in identifying and prioritizing software and databases for biotechnology research.

Since the NIBN is designed to meet the challenge of bridging scientists and industry, one of the major activities over the last year has been the evaluation of the research at the NIBN and development of biotechnology excellence. The concept that the NIBN is an academic platform for the success of the biotechnology industry in Israel and the Negev region was addressed during meetings organized with the leaders of biotechnology companies.

The Structural Biology Unit introduced scientists from the University and the scientific community in Israel to the advanced capabilities and research potential of the 300 KV Cryo-Electron microscope – the only one of its kind in Israel – with a conference titled, "Frontiers in Microscopy." The facility is capable of acquiring three dimensional insights into the molecular organization of cells using a non-invasive method.

Other conferences organized by the Institute focused on "Biotechnology: Industry and Academia," "From Shrimp Gender to Cancer Therapy – Pharmapox Annual Meeting," and the Negev Systems Biology Get-Together.

The Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies

Prof. Ramy Brustein, Dean

The Kreitman Foundation Fellowships

Prof. S. Ilan Troen, Director



Established just over a decade ago by the late visionaries, Hyman and Irene Kreitman of the United Kingdom, the Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies and the Kreitman Foundation Fellowships have been joined this year by the newly-created Pratt Foundation Fellowships. Made possible by the generous support of the Pratt Foundation of Australia, the additional Fellowships have bolstered the University's capacity to attract promising young scholars. The combination of the School and the two highly prestigious Fellowship programs have positioned the University as an exceptional institute for advanced learning.

Currently a record-breaking 1,210 doctoral students are enrolled at the Kreitman School, with 241 new students registered this year. This is a nine percent increase over last year's enrollment. The students are fairly evenly distributed throughout the Faculties as follows: 337 in Humanities and Social Sciences; 255 in Natural Sciences; 227 in Engineering Sciences; 207 in Health Sciences and 46 in the School of Management. There are an additional 138 students in interdisciplinary programs.

Prof. Ramy Brustein of the Department of Physics was appointed Dean of the School last fall. In response to a request by the Council of Higher Education and its Budgeting and Planning Committee that universities nationwide limit the time it takes doctoral students to complete their requirements, the School has taken a number of steps to streamline the administrative and academic process. At the same time, an awareness campaign was initiated among faculty members who serve as doctoral advisors to involve them in the process. The School believes that increased funding for merit-based scholarships will ensure that leading students are provided with optimal research conditions.

There are currently 14 post-doctoral Kreitman Fellows and 49 doctoral Fellows and another 10 Pratt post-doctoral and 14 doctoral Fellows. In addition to the generous scholarships, the Kreitman Fellowships have proven to be an important marker for future success. Some 35 former Fellows have won tenure-track positions at the University, while an additional 25 are now faculty members at other leading universities in Israel.

This year, the Society of Fellows – now comprised of both Fellowship programs – enjoyed a number of special events including lectures on a variety of topics and social events. The Kreitman Common Room has become a center for intellectual dialogue and collegiate interaction for all of the Fellows.

Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism

Prof. Yehuda Gradus, Director



Faithful to its founding mission, the Ben-Gurion Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism has taken upon itself a multi-dimensional research task: to deepen the understanding of the historical development of the Zionist movement and the processes that led to the establishment of the State of Israel, within the context of world history and Diaspora Judaism, while examining the points of intersection between the two. Within this context, researchers are able to explore the dynamic nature of Israeli society and encourage public debate through a series of public lectures, conferences and symposia.

The region's troubled history was brought to the fore this year through a series of fascinating conferences focused on different military conflicts such as "The Day

Before World War I in the Sinai and the Negev"; the 50th anniversary of the Suez Crisis (Operation Kadesh), which was organized together with Yad Ben-Zvi – an independent organization that promotes the legacy of Israel's second president Yizhak Ben-Zvi; and a thought-provoking symposium that examined the implications of the Second Lebanon War, planned together with the Department of Jewish History.

The Ben-Gurion Archives provide researchers of Jewish history and Zionism with professional tools of the highest level and the option of studying first-hand the processes that resulted in the establishment of the State of Israel. The Archives integrate a comprehensive collection of original documents, including the diaries of Israel's first Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and the relevant documentation of the period. Thanks to the foresight and generosity of Ing. Pedro Dondisch of Mexico, the Gershon Rivlin Computerized Information Center ensures that this important information is available online in a searchable database and accessible by scholars around the world. Recently, the collection was enriched with the addition of a number of personal archives, amongst them the historical records of Hillel Kook, an outspoken advocate for the rescue of European Jewry during the Holocaust, which were donated by his family.

In the twenty years since its inception, the Ben-Gurion Institute Press has published some 120 books of the highest academic standard, covering a range of subjects. This year, the Institute published ten new titles, including Volume III of a comprehensive bibliography on David Ben-Gurion, including articles, information and reviews of books on David Ben-Gurion; and the thought-provoking book *Women in the South: Space, Periphery, Gender*, which was edited by three senior researchers from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Also published were new volumes of Institute periodicals: Volume 11 of *Israel Studies* and Volume 16 of *Studies in the Revival of Israel*.

Eilat Campus

Prof. Shaul Krakover, Dean



The momentum and growth at the University's southernmost campus has exceeded expectations. This year, enrollment increased from 370 to 490 students. Prof. Shaul Krakover, a founding member of the Department of Geography and Environmental Development and an expert in urban development of frontier communities, was appointed Dean, reflecting the University's commitment to the campus mission that it should serve as a catalyst for the development of the city.

A new, state-of-the-art marine biology laboratory opened during the first semester, providing advanced research facilities for third-year students in the Marine Biology

and Biotechnology track of the Department of Life Sciences. The students spend a year at the Eilat Campus, completing an intensive program in their specialization that includes research at the National Center for Mariculture and the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences, both also based in Eilat.

An academic exchange program for students and faculty was launched in conjunction with the OMNIS – Tourism and Commercial School in Strasbourg, France.

In addition to the existing programs in psychology, sociology, anthropology and management studies, new programs are being created in the fields of social work, economics and accounting. A number of new academic tracks were opened, including an interdisciplinary management track in behavioral sciences; a general B.A. studies program tailored to students over 30 years old; a nursing program for working nurses requiring academic credits; and first-year engineering courses.

The cornerstone was laid for the new University student dormitories in Eilat. Made possible through the magnanimous backing of the Municipality of Eilat, the Sacta-Rashi Foundation, the Jewish Federation of Toronto and the Jewish Agency and the United Israel Appeal of Canada, the new facilities will allow the Eilat Campus to expand. Currently, all students in Eilat receive free tuition in exchange for work in the community, thanks to the generous support of the Sacta-Rashi Foundation, the Jewish Federation of Toronto, the Eilat Fund and the Perach student-pupil mentoring program. In addition to the traditional University outreach activities, students have initiated programs that exist only in Eilat, such as a "street commando" team that works with homeless youth.

Approximately 120 people regularly attend Eilat's Academic Seminar, a lecture series geared for the general public.

Community Outreach



This year, the Community Action Unit and Perach moved into their impressive new home in the Deichmann Building for Community Action. Together with the Deichmann Plaza, the University has realized its dream to create a welcoming public space that reduces the boundaries between the University and the community. Experience has proven that these outreach programs have a positive and visible impact on the residents of the city and of the Negev as well as influencing the lives of the students who are involved.

Community Action Unit

The unique Community Action Unit (CAU) is at the forefront of the University's outreach efforts. This ambitious group of dedicated students is committed to nothing less than engendering social change, determined to help those in the community who might otherwise be forgotten.

The Keren Moshe Leadership Training Program, which uses innovative programming to prepare students for a lifetime of community service, marked its tenth anniversary. Made possible through the support of Esther and Michel Halperin of Switzerland, the program combines leadership training with hands-on community involvement. Students participate in a series of theoretical training sessions and social events intended to strengthen their social awareness, while providing them with the tools to be effective leaders. This year's theme was "Social Struggles in Israeli Society throughout the Years" and included lectures and discussion groups that examined the root causes of poverty and the methodology of social change. Students were encouraged to initiate their own entrepreneurial projects in the community.

Keren Moshe students are involved in a number of unique programs, including the *Kidma* (Progress) Project that offers basic educational training in reading, writing and mathematics to a group of fifty Ethiopian adults ranging in age from 25-60; Project 12, a "last chance" program for teenagers-at-risk who might otherwise drop out of high school; the *Yahad* Project that holds afternoon activities in clubhouses for youth at risk, including families of prisoners; the *Manof* Project, now in its second year, where students work in local high schools leading enrichment activities that encourage teenagers to volunteer in their community, and more.

The Open Apartments program involves some 100 students who are living in the 65 apartments operated by the Unit. Students live in the surrounding communities

Community Outreach (cont'd)



and offer a variety of after-school activities for the children of the neighborhood. In addition to serving as role models, they began an “adopt-a-family” project in which they are assigned to work with a specific family throughout the year and also operated a week-long summer camp for the neighborhood children.

Students from the Unit are involved in Operation Shield, a joint project of the CAU, the University’s Security Force, Beer-Sheva Branch of the Israel Police and the Beer-Sheva Municipality. The special safety and protection program is designed to reduce violence in schools throughout Beer-Sheva.

The program includes regular patrols of schools and their vicinity by members of the Security Force with a member of the Police’s Youth Division. Youth who are caught performing illegal acts or using violence are “adopted” by the CAU and encouraged to participate in more productive activities.

The highly-successful Barvaz Theater group is delighted to make use of the beautiful new facilities of the Sara Tadmor Auditorium. The impressive new performance space includes state-of-the-art lighting and sound systems and provides the program participants with a fitting stage for their activities. The program uses drama as a vehicle to involve and empower youth from Beer-Sheva neighborhoods.

All of this is in addition to the Unit’s traditional activities that include the administration of the ever-growing Program for Accessibility to Higher Education — now bringing some 1,100 tenth to twelfth grade high school students from 28 schools in 14 communities, including the Bedouin sector, to campus; specially tailored outreach programs to groups such as Ethiopian tenth graders and holiday events – from Purim parties to a Passover food distribution project.

Emil Magrisso

Coordinator, Keren Moshe



Perach

Perach's traditional activity was and still remains the individual tutoring of school-age children from third to twelfth grades, including unique programs for children with special needs. Students serve as Big Brother/Big Sister mentors for children in the community in exchange for scholarship funding. This year, Perach launched a number of special initiatives, including collecting Purim costumes for underprivileged families, raising awareness in health-related matters; collecting holiday food parcels and, in cooperation with the Office of the Dean of Students, pairing Perach tutors with female Bedouin students to ensure their academic success.

Though the majority of Perach programs take place in and around Beer-Sheva, there was a significant increase of activity in the peripheral communities and among the Bedouin sector. In Eilat, some 150 students answered the call of the Mayor to work with local youth. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, Perach was able to offer additional compensation to students who worked in the development towns of Yeruham, Netivot, Ofakim and Mitzpeh Ramon, resulting in a 30 percent increase of Perach activities in these towns.

For the sixth year, Perach has worked with the Beer-Sheva Municipality on the "Preparation for Matriculation Exams" program by providing intensive tutoring for high school students. These efforts have resulted in a significant increase in the percentages of students who complete high school and brought the city up to the national matriculation averages. Perach tutors also operate a variety of programs among the city's schools, including health education and related courses that encompass 7,000 children and youths. Plans are underway to expand these activities into the periphery.

"The Nature of Chemistry" program, operated in cooperation with the Teva pharmaceutical company,

provides extensive enrichment in chemistry for ninth and tenth graders to encourage excellence in the field. Perach operates an extra day of studies each week in the Bedouin sector, whereby some 100 children receive individual tutorials on Fridays.

The new Perach enrichment center, situated in the recently-dedicated Deichmann Building for Community Action, hosts dozens of children in its game room, library and computer center. Support from abroad contributed greatly to upgrading the new facilities. The *Havayeda* science enrichment center is constantly renewing and changing its exhibits. Perach now operates four such centers – in Beer-Sheva, Kiryat Gat, Yeruham and the Bedouin city of Rahat – the latter made possible with the support of the Teva pharmaceutical company.

Annual events for children and their tutors include holiday celebrations, a photography exhibition and happening, an ongoing theater program and a community-wide "Happening Day."

The Center for External Studies

The University Center for External Studies seeks to enrich the intellectual, cultural and professional life of individuals, organizations and society in the region. The Center avails itself of the University's academic resources and employs a gamut of lecturers and instructors to reach out to community members who are students by choice. Over 100 Adult Education programs range in subject matter from professional advancement, retraining and language acquisition to more personal topics such as travel and culture.

The Center oversees the academic aspects of the highly-successful program for Accessibility to Higher Education, which is administered by the Community Action Unit and has run for six years with the support of the Ministry



Community Outreach (cont'd)

of Education, the Sacta-Rashi Foundation, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Bank Leumi and Atidim. This year, close to 1,100 high school students came to the University for academic enrichment classes in a variety of subjects in the different Faculties. In addition to academic enrichment courses, students participate in a series of empowerment activities and field trips.

The Youth for Science Unit provides specialized courses for students in sixth to twelfth grades. Divided into seven different subject spheres, the material is presented in accordance with subject matter and age. Topics range from Youth and the Media to Computer Studies and Environmental issues. The Unit also runs short-term study days on campus for organized groups of youths from Beer-Sheva and the periphery. Project 100 encourages select high school students to pursue University studies for academic credit.

Alumni Association

Under the auspices of the Department of Public Affairs, the five-year old Alumni Association grows daily, with the addition of new and veteran graduates who are interested in maintaining a relationship with their alma mater. Thanks to the generosity of our graduates, the University Alumni Fund was able to grant a number of student scholarships this year.

The Association maintains an active website for both personal and professional networking and raises University visibility through reunions, lectures and social events. Alumni who have remained in the Negev benefit from a number of special discounts and are invited to participate in events on the Marcus Family Campus. Cooperation with the Student Association helps to identify, recruit and nurture future generations of contributors and leaders.

The first reunion for all graduates of the School of Management will take place in June.

Academic Preparatory Course

Created to assist students with the rigors of qualifying for university studies, the Academic Preparatory Course provides enrichment classes in the most relevant fields. Programs are specially tailored to the needs of different population groups to ensure a higher success rate. There are currently six different individualized courses: general humanities, engineering and nursing, in addition to specialized courses for new immigrants from different countries, for Bedouin veterans of the Israel Defense Forces and for Bedouin girls. Evening preparatory courses are offered for participants over age 30 who are interested in pursuing academic studies, including working nurses who intend to complete an academic degree in their field.

This year, several new summer courses were added, primarily to strengthen students already accepted for study. These include an introductory course in mathematics under the auspices of the Faculty of Natural Sciences; mathematics for students accepted to the School of Management; a physics course in the Faculty of Engineering Sciences; and an introductory course in chemistry at the Faculty of Natural Sciences.

Some 25 Bedouin veterans are participating in the *Shahaf* program. Operated jointly by the University, the Unit for Demobilized Soldiers, the Association for the Advancement of Education and the IDF, the aim of the course is to prepare the students for studies at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Students study in a supportive framework, which includes an educational adviser, a social counselor and senior lecturers, all of whom are experienced in teaching unique populations, to ensure their successful integration into the University.

Student Life



Dean of Students

The Dean of Students Office works to broaden and improve the range of student services while advancing their general welfare. This manifests itself in a number of ways, from negotiating the arrival of trendy food chains on the Marcus Family Campus to expanding the number of copy machines available for use in public places.

Together with the Division of Computing and Information Systems, new computer stations were installed in the Zlotowski Student Activities Area in the basement of the Zlotowski Student Center. The video viewing library is making the technology transfer to DVDs, with the appropriate investment in DVD players. An information pamphlet was published on learning disabilities and detailed University support options. Additional laptop computers were purchased for the use of students with learning disabilities while taking examinations.

The Sylvia A. Brodsky Psychological Walk-In Service has launched an emergency hotline that provides immediate support to students in need. The hours of the Academic Counselor for Arab students have been increased. Hundreds of students were assigned tutors and retention counseling.

A new, winter employment fair was added to supplement the traditional spring fair. Some 36 companies participated. Two professional workshops were opened to help students define and develop their career awareness and job-hunting skills. Other new workshops include a course on academic writing and another to improve studying skills. Plans for a career counselling center are almost finalized.

Renovations have begun in the Zlotowski Student Dormitories of the Gimmel neighborhood. The renovations should be completed by fall this year, enabling the University to offer better living conditions – including air conditioning, a bicycle room and a state-of-the-art study center – to its students. A campus-wide survey on physical accessibility on campus has resulted in a strategic work plan.

All this is in addition to the myriad of holiday celebrations, ceremonies and cultural activities that comprise the mainstay of year-long activities.

Student Association

The Student Association is a non-profit organization committed to improving the welfare of its members both academically and socially while serving as an advocate for student rights at the University and a voice in the political arena. During the Second Lebanon War last summer, the Association organized visits to shelters in the far north, opened students' apartments on the southern campus to refugee families and demonstrated on behalf of the kidnapped soldiers.

Student Life (cont'd)



Working with the Office of the Dean of Students, the Association broadened the services available to students who missed classes because of extended military reserve duty. Services include free photocopies of class notes, review summaries and access to lectures on video. Thanks to the assistance of devoted friends from abroad, most of the videos of lectures have now been transferred to CD-Roms so that students can see them anywhere, including from their personal computers. This process will be finished within the next year.

The Association works closely with the University administration to improve the quality of teaching. For the first time, unified exam regulations for all Faculties were established and the Association awarded its own "Prize for Excellence in Teaching" to a faculty member, based on the results of an online survey.

An Examination Bank with over 20,000 different exams and a constantly growing Lecture Bank that contains more than 1,500 lecture summaries are available for

general use. A text book lending library – operated in cooperation with the Dean of Students – allows students to borrow textbooks for a nominal sum. This year, a Lending Library for Laboratory Equipment was also established.

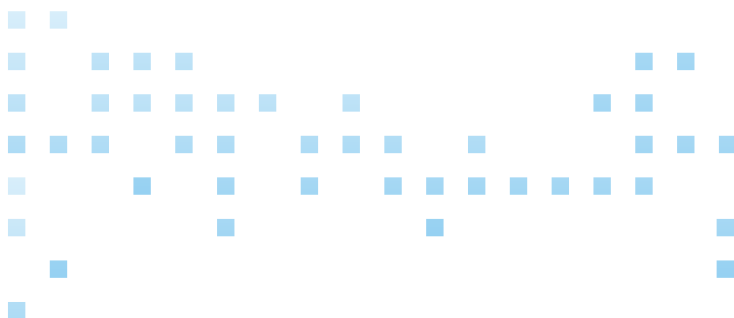
BGU had the largest delegation of all universities and colleges in Israel in the National Student Association's mission to the March of the Living trip to Poland. Outreach to first year students, including a bus tour of Beer-Sheva and welcome activities, was increased as part of a comprehensive plan to enhance the Association's visibility. Online registration and a weekly e-newsletter were introduced. New technologies that provide students with real-time information on student sports activities, movies, news and more were integrated into the Association's website.

The Association organizes an ongoing array of cultural events each week, ranging from movies to art fairs and musical performances. It took an active role in organizing the Jewish Eye International Film Festival and a number of exciting events, including holiday celebrations, a symposium marking International Women's Day and, of course, the ever-popular Student Day.

Numerous collaborative projects with various academic departments and centers at the University, such as Europe Day, enhance campus life. Students can participate in a myriad of classes from ceramics to salsa. Their talents are featured in Open Stage talent shows, the Zlotowski Dance Troupe and the campus choir.

Overseas Student Programs

Over the past year, the Ginsburg-Ingberman Overseas Student Program has invested in expanding its marketing activities while creating a number of new academic programs. Specially-tailored tracks have been created for topics such as "Peace Studies and Regional Security"



Efrat Fedorovsky
Hotel and Tourism Management



and regional environmental issues. The latter program is operated in cooperation with the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies at Kibbutz Ketura.

In addition to undergraduate and graduate course options offered in English, students with knowledge of Hebrew are encouraged to take regular University courses. This year, a graduate student from China is completing his thesis on the *Haskala* movement of the late 19th century.

The Student Association has increased its outreach efforts to involve English-speaking students in campus activities. A number of joint events were planned together with Hillel: Foundation for Jewish Campus Life. Organized trips, holiday celebrations and volunteer opportunities ensure that Program participants are exposed to the full gamut of activities available to Israeli students and are immersed into Israeli society.

The International Summer University in Jewish and Israeli Studies is marking its tenth anniversary. This unique program includes academic lectures and excursions held in the German language and a Hebrew-language *ulpan*, which includes regular OSP students. To date, over 370 students have participated in this very successful program. Last year's participants hailed from Germany, Switzerland, the Ukraine, the Netherlands and Italy.

The Zalman Aranne Central Library

Fulfilling a strategic decision of the University, the Zalman Aranne Central Library has begun to broaden its collections in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Over the past year, the Library has acquired some 11,000 new volumes, which were primarily purchased to enrich certain collections. The number of database subscriptions in related fields has also been increased.

The Library has begun to catalogue the working library of the late Sir Isaiah Berlin – part of a larger collection

housed at Oxford University, where he served as Wolfson College's first President, and generously donated by his family in the United Kingdom. The collection includes works in English, Russian and French, as well as doctoral dissertations by prominent members of Israeli society and it promises to be a fascinating addition to the Library.

The number of computerized work stations in the Library was increased to 260, of which 174 are for public use. Scanners and printers are also available for public use.

Computation

The Division of Computing and Information Systems has nearly completed its development and activation of computerized courses in e-learning. This is part of an overall program to improve service to students, faculty and staff that includes installing large multi-media information screens around campus and adding computer stations in the Zlotowski Student Center. Personal data has been centralized and is presented in a new user-friendly format in the Student Information Kiosk. Online services available for payment of tuition fees have been expanded.

An online employment service is under development, matching student information with potential employment opportunities, both on campus and around the region.

The wireless network on the Marcus Family Campus, including the Faculty of Health Sciences, as well as in Sede Boqer and Eilat has been upgraded. A new infrastructure supports guest users and improves services for BGU users. Students and staff will be able to access Eduroam (Europe Education Roaming), a RADIUS-based infrastructure that uses 802.1X security technology to allow for inter-institutional use. This international system enables users from other institutions of higher education involved in the project to log on as if they were at their home institution.

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (AS OF APRIL 2007)

BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV

Chairman

Roy J. Zuckerberg, United States

Honorary Chairman

Lord Weidenfeld of Chelsea, United Kingdom

Chairman Emeritus

Robert H. Arnow, United States

Vice-Chairpersons

Zvi Alon, United States

Eric A. Benhamou, United States

Sir Ronald Cohen, United Kingdom

Dr. Heinz-Horst Deichmann, Germany

Dame Vivien Duffield, United Kingdom

Bertram Lubner, South Africa

Michael W. Sonnenfeldt, United States

Dr. Felix Zandman, United States

Suzanne Zlotowski, Switzerland

Chairman of the Executive Committee

David Brodet, Israel

Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee

Dvora Tomer, Israel

Aharon Yadlin, Israel

Ex-Officio Members:

Prof. Rivka Carmi, President

Prof. Jimmy Weinblatt, Rector

Prof. Mordechai Herskowitz,

Vice-President and Dean for Research
and Development

David Bareket, Vice-President
and Director-General

Prof. Yael Edan, Deputy-Rector

Prof. Lily Neumann, Vice-Rector

Prof. Avishai Henik, Dean - Faculty of
Humanities and Social Sciences

Prof. Abraham Parola, Dean - Faculty of
Natural Sciences

Prof. Yigal Ronen, Dean - Faculty of
Engineering Sciences

Prof. Shaul Sofer, Dean - Faculty of
Health Sciences

Prof. Arie Reichel, Dean - School of
Management

Prof. Rami Brustein, Dean - Kreitman School of
Advanced Graduate Studies

Prof. Avigad Vonshak, Director -
Jacob Blaustein Institutes for
Desert Research

Honorary Members

Jacques Amir, Israel

Prof. Dov Bahat, Israel

MK Avishay Braverman, Israel

Prof. Chaim Elata, Israel

Prof. Nachum Finger, Israel

Nessim Gaon, Switzerland

Maj. Gen. (res) Shlomo Gazit, Israel

Martin Levine, Canada

Prof. Zvi Pelah, Israel

Shimon Peres, Israel

Chief Rabbi Dr. Jonathan Sacks, UK

Dr. Eric Samson, South Africa

Caroline Simon, Israel

Prof. Avraham Tamir, Israel

Harry Walsh, Q.C., Canada

Prof. David Wolf, Israel

Melvin Zwaig, Canada

Founding Members

Prof. Haim Doron, Israel

Eliyahu Navi, Israel

Joel Schechter, Israel

Yehoshua Zimra, Israel

Public Representatives

to the Executive Committee

Dr. Younis Abu-Rabia, Israel

Micha Dapht, Israel

Elie Elalouf, Israel

Yair Green, Israel

Moshe Haba, Israel

Asher Heled, Israel

Benjamin Machnes, Israel

Moshe Olenik, Israel

Shay Talmon, Israel

Yitzhak Taub, Israel

Judge Jakob Türkel, Israel

Yehekel Vered, Israel

Zwi Zurr, Israel

Members

Alfredo Achar Tussie, Mexico

Nachum Admoni, Israel

Yehiel Admoni, Israel

Eliyahu Amir, Israel

Giora Amir, Israel

Amb. Rachavam Amir, Israel

Adiel Amorai, Israel

Dr. Micha Angel

Amb. Shimshon Arad, Israel

Moshe Arkin, Israel

Prof. Samuel Aroni, United States

David Asch, Canada

Meir Avital, Israel

Prof. Haim Aviv, Israel

The Countess of Avon, United Kingdom

Danna Azrieli, Israel

Avner Azulay, Israel

Prof. Harold Baum, United Kingdom

Prof. John Beck, United States

Uri Ben Nun, Israel

Israel Ben-Amitai, Israel

Jacob Ben-Ezry, Israel

Amos Ben-Gurion, Israel

Amb. Asher Ben-Natan, Israel

Shaul Ben-Simchon, Israel

Raya Strauss Bendror, Israel
Shmuel Bendror, Israel
Prof. Gilbert Benhayoun, France
Terry Bensimon, Israel
Yechiel Bentov, Israel
Prof. I. Melvin Bernstein, United States
Pierre Besnainou, France
Itzhak Bezalel, Israel
Daniele Bidermann, France
Maj. Gen. (res) Avihu Bin-Nun, Israel
Prof. Yehudith Birk, Israel
Martin Blackman, United States
Prof. Baruch Blumberg, USA
Benjamin Breslauer, United States
James Breslauer, United States
Stephen Breslauer, United States
Jane Bressler, United States
Igal Brightman, Israel
Bruce Bronfman, Canada
Lucien Y. Bronicki, Israel
Eliezer Carmel, Israel
Prof. Malcolm Chaikin, Australia
Eric Charles, United Kingdom
Jacqueline Charles, United Kingdom
Joseph Ciechanover, Israel
Prof. Moshe J. Cohen, United Kingdom
Esther Coopersmith, United States
Elizabeth Corob, United Kingdom
Sidney Corob CBE, United Kingdom
Reuben Croll, Canada
Leslie L. Dan, Canada
Dr. Ute Deichmann, Germany
Isaac Devash, Israel
Helen Diller, United States
Prof. Charles A. Dinarello, United States
Ing. Pedro Dondisch, Mexico
Dr. Mathias Döpfner, Germany
Maj. Gen. (res) Aharon Doron, Israel
Brig. Gen. (res.) Amira Dotan, Israel
Rina Dotan, Israel
Moshe Dovrat, Israel
Prof. Raymond A. Dwek FRS, United Kingdom
Arye Edelist, Israel
Sara Ehrman, United States

Amos Eiran, Israel
Huguette Elhadad, Israel
Ovadia Eli, Israel
Ariel Elia, France
Victor Elias, Canada
Arye Eliav, Israel
Robert Equey, Switzerland
Irene Evens, Belgium
Dr. Halley S. Faust, United States
Lawrence N. Field, United States
Gary Fine, Canada
Aaron Fish, Canada
Aharon Fogel, Israel
Dr. Joseph Forgacs, Switzerland
Arnold Forster, Esq., United States
Alain Fraiberger, France
Edith Freedman, United States
Solomon Freedman, United States
Prof. Jacob Frenkel, Israel
Prof. Saul Friedlander, Israel
Jean Frydman, Israel
Lis Gaines, United States
Elon Ganor, Israel
Prof. Sidney Gelber, United States
Lic. Boris Gerson, Mexico
Eric Ghebali, France
Ariel Ginsburg, Israel
Hasson Goldberg, Israel
Dorian S. Goldman, United States
Lloyd Goldman, United States
Prof. Richard Goldstein, United States
Lawrence Goodman, United States
Alexander Goren, United States
Maurice Grosman, France
Michael M. H. Gross, Israel
Daniel Guggenheim, Switzerland
Yitzhak Gurevitch, Israel
Esther Halperin, Switzerland
Michel Halperin, Switzerland
Micha Harish, Israel
Noboru Hatakeyama, Japan
Dr. Thomas O. Hecht, Canada
Prof. Adam Heller, United States
Rosalind Henwood, United States

Amb. Esther Herlitz, Israel
Jakob Hirsch, Israel
Prof. Ehud Houminer, United States
Alan Hurst, United States
Miriam Hyams, United Kingdom
Ahouva Ilan, Israel
Haim Israeli, Israel
Irit Izakson, Israel
Paul Jacobs, Q.C., Canada
Elhanan A. Jaglom, Israel
Dr. Josef Joffe, Germany
Prof. Joshua Jortner, Israel
Prof. Peter Kahn, United States
Obadia Kalai, Israel
Mathilde Kandiyoti, Belgium
Mendel Kaplan, South Africa
Stanley H. Kaplan, United States
Dalia Katzman-Prashker, Israel
Avigdor Kelner, Israel
Erna Kimmel, Canada
Arieh Kleinman, Israel
Prof. Sir Aaron Klug OM FRS, United Kingdom
Doron Kofman, Israel
Alain Köstenbaum, Switzerland
Prof. Mordecai Kurz, United States
Martin Landau, United Kingdom
Bruno Landesberg, Israel
Amb. Dr. Yehuda Lankri, Israel
Dr. Samuel Lawson, United Kingdom
Dr. Noam Lemelstrich Latar, Israel
Prof. Ranana Ben-Gurion Leshem, Israel
Dalia Lev, Israel
Gustave S. Levey, United States
Dr. Robert Levine, Canada
Ilan Leviteh, Israel
Isaac Lieber, Israel
Yaacov Lifshitz, Israel
Barry Lipson, Canada
Yitzhak Livni, Israel
Ron Lubash, Israel
Yossi Maiman, Israel
Ellen Marcus, United States
Dr. Paul Marks, United States
Ehud Marom, Israel

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS (AS OF APRIL 2007 - CONT'D)

Francis C. Minkoff, Switzerland
Oren N. Most, Israel
Dr. Mort Mower, United States
Toby Mower, United States
Akiva Mozes, Israel
Suzanne Nash, United States
Yitzhak Navon, Israel
Prof. Philip Needleman, USA
Klaus Netter, Switzerland
Meir Nissensohn, Israel
Annette Oelbaum, Canada
Leora Ofer, Israel
Yuli Ofer, Israel
Abraham B.D. Ohayon, Switzerland
Yoram Oron, Israel
Suzanne Oshry, United States
Andrey Ozan, Israel
Harold Paisner, United Kingdom
Judith Paisner, United Kingdom
Martin Paisner OBE, United Kingdom
Michael Pappé, Israel
Amb. Aviezer Pazner, Israel
Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, Canada
Daniel Peremen, Israel
Nitza Drori Peremen, Israel
Menachem Perlmutter, Israel
Judge Yehoshua Pilpel, Israel
Prof. Samuel Pohoryles, Israel
Dan Propper, Israel
Prof. Yves Quere, France
Shmuel Rifman, Israel
Yaakov Robner, Israel
Barrie D. Rose, Canada
Haim Rosen, Israel
Amb. Dr. Meir Rosenne, Israel
Joseph Rosh, Israel
Maj. Gen. (res) Danny Rothschild, Israel
Avi Ruimi, Israel
Carol D. Saal, United States
Arnold L. Sabin, United States
Maj. Gen. (res) Yom-Tov Samia, Israel
Jean-Louis Sarbib, France
Jane Krieger Schapiro, United States
Zeev Schoenberg, Israel

Lic. Osvaldo Schvartzer, Argentina
Gaby Sebbag, Israel
Leonor Segal, Canada
Shlomo Segev, Israel
Avraham Seroussi, Israel
Arie Shachar, Israel
Oren Shachor, Israel
Moshe Shalit, Israel
Dari Shalon, United States
Yair Shamir, Israel
Col. (res) Gideon Shani, Israel
Dr. Nitza Shapira-Libai, Israel
Prof. Dan Shechtman, Israel
Eli Shefler, Israel
Dr. Yaacov Sheinin, Israel
Dan Sheinman, Israel
Amb. Zalman Shoval, Israel
Murray H. Shusterman, United States
Frederick Siegmund, United States
Arnold Simon, Israel
Dr. Joel Sinnreich, Switzerland
Harriet Soffa, United States
Amb. Dr. Ovadia Soffer, Israel
Edward Sonshine, Canada
Ruth St. John, United States
Shlomo Steg, United States
Prof. Daniel Sternheimer, France
Prof. Dr. Heinrich Strotmann, Germany
Dov Tadmor, Israel
Irona Taic, Israel
Micha Talmon, Israel
Omri Talmon, Israel
Joey Tanenbaum, Canada
Ruth Tekoah, Israel
Yaakov Terner, Israel
Zvi Tsafirri, Israel
MK Yoash Tsiddon (Chatto), Israel
Kenneth L. Tucker, United States
Benny Vaknin, Israel
Zahava Vered, Israel
Zwi Waldman, Israel
Alan Warshawsky, Israel
Prof. Daniel Weihs, Israel
Elsa Weinberg, Switzerland

David Wernick, United Kingdom
Elizabeth Weymouth, USA
Aileen Whitman, United States
Prof. Meir Wilchek, Israel
Dr. Thomas E.J. de Witt, United States
Martin Wolf OBE, United Kingdom
Gerard Worms, France
Michael L. Wyler, The Netherlands
Michael S. Wynston, Canada
Amb. Gad Yaacobi, Israel
Prof. Menahem Yaari, Israel
Estelle Yach, South Africa
Zvi Yemini, Israel
Meir Yitzhak-Halevy, Israel
Brig. Gen. (res) Chen Yitzhaki, Israel
Shlomo G. Yonas, Israel
Mayer Zaga Galante, Mexico
Prof. Moshe Zakai, Israel
Dr. Mina Zemach, Israel
Rubin Zimmerman, Israel
Adelene Zlotowski, United Kingdom

Representatives of the Senate

Prof. Zvi Abramsky
Prof. Nachum Finger
Prof. Noah Issakov
Prof. Moshe Justman
Prof. Yair Zarmi

Representatives of the Students

Ayelet Yochanan
Gadi Itzcovitch
Avishay Tsadik
Einat Balderman

Liaison Officer to the Board of Governors

Aliza Ben-Tal

Secretary to the Executive Committee

Dalit Solomon-Kfir



appendix booklet 15 pages

BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATES ORGANIZATIONS

ARGENTINA

Lic. Osvaldo Schvartzer,
President

ASOCIACIÓN ARGENTINA DE
AMIGOS DE LA UNIVERSIDAD
BEN GURIÓN DEL NEGUEV
Suipacha 531 piso 9
C-1008 AAM Ciudad Autónoma de
Buenos Aires

BELGIUM

Irene Evens, President
P.B. 26, Ixelles Louise
Lange Leemstraat 12
B-1050 Brussels-Ixelles

BRAZIL

Dr. Claudio Luiz Lottenberg
President
Av. Albert Einstein, 627 / 701
3er andar
05651-901 Morumbi
Sao Paulo SP

CANADA

Barry D. Lipson, Q.C.
National President
Leo Marcus
Executive Vice-President

NATIONAL OFFICE &
TORONTO CHAPTER
1000 Finch Avenue West
Suite 506
North York, ON M3J 2V5

MONTREAL CHAPTER
376 Victoria Avenue, Suite 250
Westmount, QUE H3Z 1C3

WINNIPEG CHAPTER
220 – 2025 Corydon Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3P 0N5

FRANCE

Gérard Worms, Chairman

Les Amis Français
de l'Université Ben-Gourion
16, rue de la Pierre Levée
75011 Paris

ISRAEL

Raya Strauss Bendror, President

ISRAELI FRIENDS OF BGU
3 Shaul Avigur Street
Ezorei Chen, Tel Aviv

JAPAN

Koji Akatsuka, President

FRIENDS OF BGU
JAPAN CHAPTER
75-1, Otobe, Tsu
514-0016 MIE

MEXICO

Ing. Pedro Dondisch
Honorary President
Dr. Ariel Kleiman, President

ASOCIACIÓN MEXICANA
DE AMIGOS DE LA
UNIVERSIDAD BEN GURIÓN
EN EL NEGUEV (AMAUBG)
Río Tiber 78
Colonia Cuauhtémoc
C.P. 06500 México, D.F.

THE NETHERLANDS

Paul A. Nouwen, President

DUTCH ASSOCIATES BGU
Postbus 488
2501 CL The Hague

Republic of PANAMA

Moises A. Mizrachi, President
Apartado 7347
Panama 5

Republic of SOUTH AFRICA

Bertram Lubner, President
Herby Rosenberg, Vice-President

NATIONAL &
JOHANNESBURG OFFICE
P.O. Box 895
Saxonwold 2132

WESTERN CAPE CHAPTER
P.O. Box 2350
Cape Town 8000

KWAZULU / NATAL CHAPTER

P.O. Box 74050
Rochdale Park
Durban 4034

SWITZERLAND

Michel Halpérin, Président

LES AMIS SUISSE DE
L'UNIVERSITÉ
BEN-GOURION DU NÉGUEV
5, avenue Léon-Gaud
CH-1206 Geneva

UNITED KINGDOM

BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION
Harold Paisner
Executive President
Lord Weidenfeld of Chelsea
Vice-President
Suzanne Zlotowski
Vice-President
David Wernick
Chairman

NATIONAL AND
LONDON REGION
ORT House
126 Albert Street
London NW1 7NE

BRIGHTON COMMITTEE
c/o Sam Barsam, Chair
47 Hove Park Road Hove
East Sussex BN3 6LH

MIDLANDS COMMITTEE
c/o Dr. Esther Barnett, Chair
2 Belle Walk, Moseley
Birmingham B13 9DF

UNITED STATES

Carol Saal, President
Prof. Amos Drory
Executive Vice-President

AABGU NATIONAL
OFFICE & GREATER
NEWYORK REGION
1430 Broadway, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

AABGU NEW ENGLAND REGION

1318 Beacon Street, Suite 8
Brookline, MA 02446

AABGU MID-ATLANTIC REGION

The Pavilion at Jenkintown
261 Old York Road
at Wyncote Road
Suite 417A, P.O. Box 1128
Jenkintown, PA 19046

AABGU WASHINGTON / BALTIMORE REGION

c/o Hessel and Aluise, P.C.
1050 17th Street, NW, Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20036

AABGU GREATER

DADE/BROWARD REGION
3900 Hollywood Boulevard, PH - E
Hollywood, FL 33021

AABGU SOUTHEAST REGION

20283 State Road 7, Suite 300
Boca Raton, FL 33498

AABGU GREAT LAKES REGION

4238B N. Arlington Heights Road
Suite 346
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

AABGU GREATER

TEXAS REGION
24 Greenway Plaza, Suite 550
Houston, TX 77046

AABGU NORTHWEST REGION

220 Montgomery Street
Suite 498
San Francisco, CA 94104

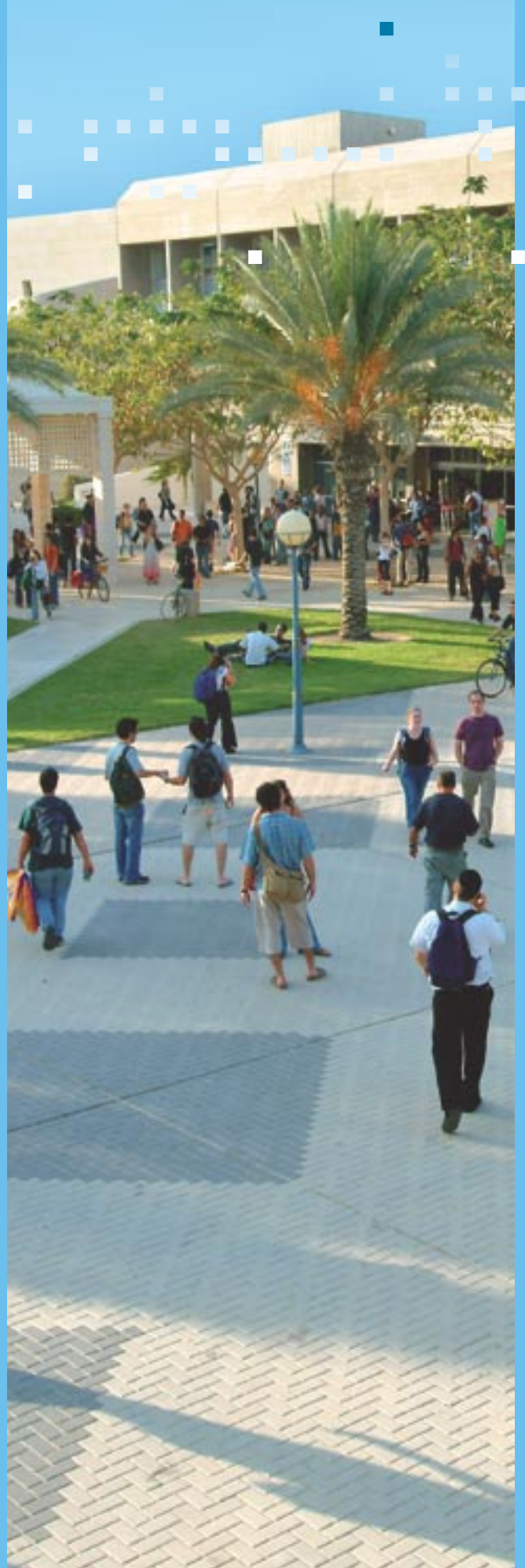
AABGU SOUTHWEST REGION

9911 West Pico Boulevard
Suite 710
Los Angeles, CA 90035

Produced by the Department of
Publications and Media Relations
Faye Bittker, Director

In coordination with the Department of
Donor and Associates Affairs
Jill Ben-Dor, Director

Editor: Faye Bittker
Associate Editor: Aliza Ben-Tal
Research: Yael Balaban
Contributing writers: Patricia Golan, Jeff Green, Tania Hershman
Photos: Dani Machlis
Graphic Design: www.image2u.co.il



“We seek to build a scientific research and teaching center
which will be a source of moral inspiration and courage,
rousing people to a sense of mission – noble, creative and fruitful.”

David Ben-Gurion



WWW.BGU.AC.IL

BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV, P.O.BOX 635, BEER-SHEVA 84105, ISRAEL