



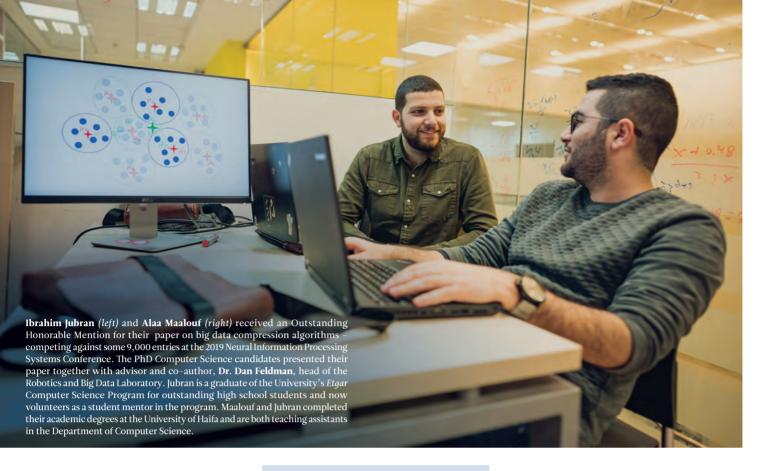
in and of the City

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Cover: The Lorry I. Lokey City Campus in downtown Haifa, the future academic home of the University of Haifa's School of Data Sciences.







Welcome to downtown Haifa

Lorry I. Lokey City Campus



FUTURE OF AI

and the data science campus

The City Campus is set to propel urban renewal in Haifa and will be a cornerstone of its revitalized high tech center.

Today, the big data 'revolution' is having a direct impact on every field of research, and the University of Haifa is positioning itself at the forefront of this massive trend. "The Lorry I. Lokey City Campus will play a major role in revitalizing the city of Haifa and strengthening the entire northern region. The City Campus will be part of an ecosystem by supporting the emerging industries of cyber security, data management, digital health and AI," notes President Ron Robin.

Israel's First School of Data Sciences

As the first in Israel offering an integrative BSc degree in data sciences, the proposed School of Data Sciences will house the Departments of Computer Science, Information Systems and Statistics and the Data Science Research Center. "Our inter-disciplinary curriculum will prepare the next generation of students for technically advanced 21st century jobs," notes Prof. Gadi Landau, Head of the City Campus.

The Data Science Research Center

"From bioinformatics to underwater microscopy and big data analytics, with applications in autonomous cars, robots and drones, the Center will play a key role in driving data science research," explains Prof. Mor Peleg, head of the Center. Thirty-five faculty members have already joined the Center to strengthen data science research across multiple disciplines, industry and community partners.

Artificial Intelligence for Social Good

The University's prestigious Edmond de Rothschild Foundation Institute for Interdisciplinary Applications of Computer Science is also set to open its doors on the Lorry I. Lokey Campus. The Institute plans to focus on AI-based applications that can benefit social and humanistic goals, including health, environment, education and inclusion.







From the President

t is an honor and privilege to serve as President of the University of Haifa. While each year has brought its unique milestones, opportunities and challenges, our core mission remains the same – a firm commitment to excellence in teaching and research. During the past year, we have worked diligently to recruit exceptional young researchers, expand our academic offerings and improve our international ranking. And

offerings and improve our international ranking. And if our goal is simply to improve steadily each year, we could say "dayenu" (it would have been enough) and be satisfied.

But, in a rapidly changing world, incremental improvement is not an option. We have a responsibility to bring the University to a new level. We need to prepare our students for careers that currently do

not exist; be at the forefront of research fields that rely increasingly on big data and artificial intelligence to solve problems facing humanity; and serve as an engine of change for Haifa and the northern region.

Multi-disciplinary Degrees: Multiple Career Opportunities

How can we prepare our students for jobs that don't even exist yet? There is no simple answer to that question. While we cannot predict the future job market, we can equip our students with knowledge, skills and strategies to approach tasks and problems from multiple viewpoints.

We believe that our expanding offerings of multidisciplinary and dual degree programs will give our students a more well-rounded education, have them



stand out in an increasingly competitive job market and make them more valuable to future employers.

The Future of Big Data: School of Data Sciences

For many years, big data analytics was reserved for big corporations with unlimited budgets. As processing power in our personal computers has increased, data analysis has become inexpensive and ubiquitous. Today, big data is influencing nearly every field of research and study.

The University of Haifa is well positioned to prepare the next generation of data science students. We look forward with great excitement to the establishment of the new School of Data Sciences, which will offer an integrated curriculum including computer science, information systems and statistics. The School will prepare future researchers and entrepreneurs to play leading roles in the economy, healthcare, environmental protection, education and national security.

The Lorry I. Lokey City Campus: A University-City "Win-Win"

By virtue of their missions, scope of research and academic activities and community involvement, universities play an outsized role in the life and vitality of their home cities. Urban serving universities throughout the world are anchor institutions locally – with both the city and the university reaping mutual benefits.

Perched atop Mount Carmel, the University's main campus is without a doubt one of the most picturesque in the world. It has served us well for four decades and we are now ready to expand beyond the Carmel campus. The multiversity model $-\,$ a multi-campus institution with locations around Haifa and throughout northern Israel - will allow the University of Haifa to play a more substantial role in revitalizing the city of Haifa and

strengthening the entire northern region. The cornerstone of the multiversity vision is the Lorry I. Lokey City Campus. The City Campus is breathing new life into Haifa's downtown district, making our institution more accessible to faculty and students from around the country and opening up new opportunities for internships and research partnerships with a growing number of high–tech companies and start–ups that are setting up shop in the downtown core. The Lorry I. Lokey City Campus is not "just another university building in the lower city," but rather a statement of intent by the University's management that we are present and fully engaged in the urban fabric of the city. We are greatly indebted to Lorry I. Lokey for his foresight, encouragement and generous support.

Future Plans

Based on an increase in many important metrics, the University of Haifa is on the upswing. We are very proud that this year our world academic ranking is at an all-time high, with significant growth in research publications. Research grants from competitive funds are growing and more doctoral students are choosing to study here. Our financial share of the Israeli government's research model continues to rise and we continue to register an increase in student enrollment.







And even with all of these significant accomplishments, I firmly believe that our institution still has a tremendous amount of untapped potential.

As part of our strategic plan for the future, we are hiring a new VP for Strategic Affairs, Ms. Shira Navon. Ms. Navon brings extensive experience from the Council for Higher Education in budgeting and funding. In addition to having many nationally leading programs, the University of Haifa plays an important educational role in Israel's northern periphery. This new hire will elevate our profile within the Ministry of Education.

If we are serious about being a leading 21st century institute of higher learning, we must establish a program of engineering studies. Our engineering program will interface with our current fields of excellence and be derived from data sciences, providing us with a niche area of excellence. Currently, we are being shut out of some of the fastest growing research fields and most lucrative career tracks. We learned from experience that this strategic path is full of obstacles. But, I remain convinced that we must join forces, redouble our efforts and move forward in the spirit of the Multiversity to ensure that our University will be positioned to tackle the next wave of technological disruptions facing higher education and society.

Looking Forward

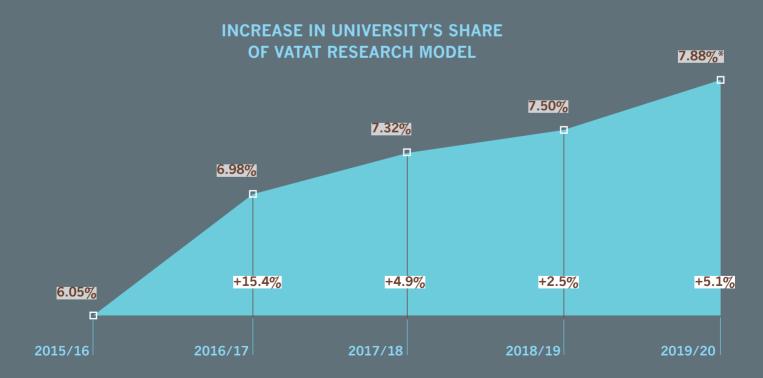
This Report will give you a small taste of some of the innovative and exciting developments taking place at the University of Haifa. Behind each of these stories stands a group of dedicated faculty members, graduate students, administrative staff, volunteer leaders and generous benefactors. We are grateful for the ongoing support and vital contributions of each and every one of you.

We have a bold vision for our future. Let's work together to see that the vision becomes a reality.

Prof. Ron Robin, President

OPERATING BUDGET

	2018/201 ACTUAL	9	20197202 BUDGET	(0	_
INCOME	NIS M	%	NIS M	%	% CHANGE
Government Allocation	641.0	67	662.0	69	3.3
Tuition Fees	206.8	22	206.0	21	-0.4
Other Income	107.6	11	98.0	10	-8.9
Total Income	955.4	100	966.0	100	1.1
EXPENDITURE					
Salaries & Pension Payments	732.4	77	750.1	78	2.4
Other Expenditures	223.0	23	215.9	22	-3.2
Total Expenditures	955.4	100	966.0	100	1.1

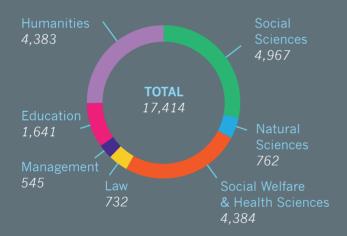


^{*} Estimate

FUNDS RAISED BY CARMEL HAIFA ECONOMIC CORP.

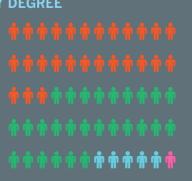
	INCOME	FUNDS RAISED FOR CARMEL FUNDS AND SUBSIDIARIES	TOTAL
2019*	5,600	8,000	13,600
2018	6,259	6,845	13,104
2017	6,072	6,070	12,142
2016	6,128	8,554	14,682
2015	4,992	4,750	9,742
2014	3,582	8,580	12,162
6-Year Total			75,432

STUDENTS BY FACULTY



STUDENTS BY DEGREE

7,886 7,864 1,513



UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA ESTABLISHED 1972



9 Schools



Faculties



Interdisciplinary **Research Centers**



3

Campuses



Marine Sciences Satellites



56

Academic Departments and Units



17,414 Students



1,200 International Students



International **MA Programs**







"The main goal of the dive is to get a first-hand look at the changing coastline and the toll that human activities are taking on the shallow waters," explains Dr. Beverly Goodman-Tchernov, Chair of the Strauss Department of Marine Geosciences at the Charney School of Marine Sciences.



Until recently, diving in the Dead Sea was considered too dangerous. "Diving here is much more complex than anywhere else the salt content is ten times that of the ocean," notes Goodman-Tchernov. "We wear full face diving masks, add extra weights to our regular diving gear and carefully rinse with freshwater when we return to shore."

Dr. Goodman-Tchernov and Dr. Michael Lazar are currently leading a multi-disciplinary research delegation of graduate students, certified divers and artists.

The artistic team is documenting the scientific activities in various forms to bridge the experience with the public, and exploring ways in which the Dead Sea can be expressed through visual and sound media. "Science and Art have traditionally been treated as two separate disciplines, but they intersect on so many levels," explains Lazar.

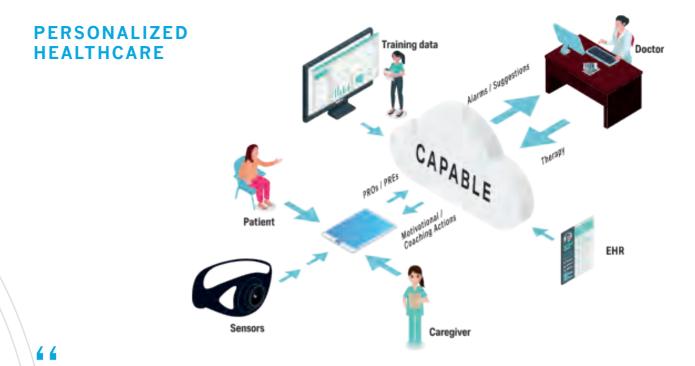
"The world's greatest scientific insights have long been linked with a vivid intuitive imagination and creative thinking."

The study is in its initial phase, with two more expeditions planned for the spring and continuation through next winter.









The medical data collected from hundreds of patients will be used to optimize treatment protocols ____

Imagine Maria, a 62-year old cancer patient, recuperating at home following surgery. Her husband is home only on weekends as he travels for work. In addition to following her oncological treatment plan, Maria finds it difficult to manage her diabetes and hypertension on her own. She has ongoing questions about her medications and their side effects. With no one to talk to on a daily basis, she feels very anxious and risks falling into depression.

Now envision Maria with a special medical app on her smart phone and a health-tracking belt around her waist. These devices are not only monitoring her vitals, they gather real-time medical data and update her personal records. Thanks to recent advances in AI algorithms and new analytic tools, in just 10 minutes Maria will receive a message from her medical team with clinical recommendations that are tailored to her situation. Maria feels that

her doctor is virtually by her side, and her anxiety dissipates.

Sounds like the future?

This is actually happening now, thanks to *CAPABLE*, an AI application being developed by Prof. Mor Peleg, head of the Data Science Research Center and Chair of the BSc Data Science program, in collaboration with Prof. Silvana Quaglini of the University of Pavia, Italy.

CAPABLE (CAncer PAtients: Better Life Experience) is a knowledge-based system designed to help patients with kidney cancer and diabetes manage their care at home. CAPABLE monitors the patient's physiological symptoms, collating, analyzing and cross-referencing the personal medical data with a growing database of medical guidelines and intervention strategies. The application also acts as a virtual coach to help patients better adhere to their treatment plan and deal with related psychological issues. Medical teams remotely monitor the patient's 'dashboard' so that they can promptly recognize any issues that require immediate attention.

The medical data collected from hundreds of patients will be used to optimize treatment protocols – with a special emphasis on patients with multiple morbidities.

CAPABLE is being developed in collaboration with an international consortium based in Italy, with funding from the European Commission.

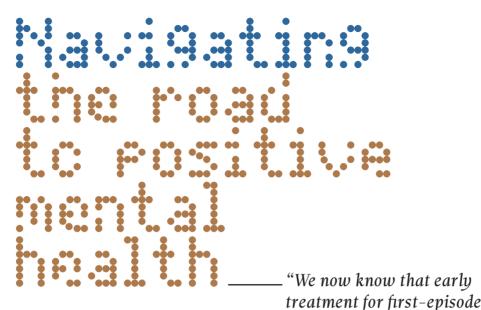
Prof. Peleg is a past recipient of the American Medical Informatics Association's New Investigator Award and recently received the University of Haifa Rector's Award for Outstanding Researchers.

"Our ultimate goal is to create a generic app and machine learning system that will help all types of patients," explains Prof. Peleg.









How should we talk about mental health? "The same way we talk about any medical issue," says Prof. David Roe, clinical psychologist at the Department of Community Mental Health. "Mental illness is not something to be ashamed of and it certainly should not define a person's identity, or preclude making plans or dreaming about the future."

Roe's research over the past decade is playing a pivotal role in changing the mental health discourse in Israel. He advocates a personal, recovery-oriented approach that focuses on helping individuals return to their lives, rather than narrowly treating their psychiatric symptoms. Roe and colleagues are responsible for pioneering the implementation of several recovery-oriented programs to the mental health system in Israel.

Most recently, Roe and his team introduced the NAVIGATE program in Israel — an evidence-based early-intervention for first-episode psychosis — making it the

first country to adapt the program outside the US. Impressed by the clinical outcomes of the program in the US, Roe sought to 'import' it to Israel. With the generous support of the Laszlo N. Tauber Family Foundation, he and his team are presently adapting NAVIGATE to meet the cultural needs of Israeli society, including in ultra-Orthodox and Israeli-Arab communities.

psychosis is critical

NAVIGATE puts together a multi-disciplinary team of specialized mental health professionals that intervenes at the critical initial stage of extreme emotional distress and confusion to support clients and their families. The team helps them identify and progress towards personal goals, like returning to school or work, making and keeping friends, and managing stress. A core principle of early intervention is 'shared decision-making', designed to help clients take a more active role in their treatment and make informed decisions about their own care.

"We now know that early treatment is critical for first-episode psychosis. Providing immediate and individualized treatment is crucial for the course of recovery," explains Roe.

Roe and his team have trained nearly 200 mental health professionals in the NAVIGATE intervention, provide supervision, and oversee its implementation at six clinics throughout Israel, including Jerusalem, B'nai Brak, and the northern mixed city of Acre. "The need for culturally-sensitive mental health services is especially acute within these communities, where the subject is often considered taboo," adds Roe.

"Our goal is to spearhead a paradigm shift in the mental health system by making programs like NAVIGATE more accessible and widespread. Treating psychosis early greatly increases the odds of enjoying a productive life and offers hope for the future. We are proud that our efforts are having a profound impact on the field of community mental health in Israel."

SUSTAINABLE NATION



ENSURING A CLEANER, **HEALTHIER** PLANET



srael has earned a global reputation for its creativity, ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit. And while Israel has established itself as the "Start-up Nation" in many high-tech fields, it has carved a unique role for itself at the forefront of

clean technologies. According to the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there are now more than 600 companies in Israel that are specializing in innovative CleanTech products and services.

UofH is doing its part to inspire the next generation of green entrepreneurs. The Global Green MBA Program is training responsible managers of the future through the lens of sustainability. "This isn't your typical MBA," explains Prof. Mashur Housh, head of the School of Management. "Our students enroll in traditional business courses such as economics, investments and marketing. But, what sets our graduates apart from other management studies is their commitment to the principles of sustainability. Students from around the world come to Haifa to learn how to evaluate projects with an eye toward social responsibility and environmental stewardship."

The Program's curriculum also includes a course on Green Entrepreneurship, where students learn to transform their green ideas into start-up ventures within the clean-tech and biotechnology industries. Mentored by faculty members and industry experts, students brainstorm new ideas, draft business plans and present their concepts in a "Shark-Tank" style competition. "The Zonnenshain Entrepreneurship Competition was established last year to encourage budding student entrepreneurs to develop the 'next great idea' in green technologies," notes Prof. Housh, who teaches the course. "The best projects are forwarded to private investors for consideration as an investment opportunity."



University of Haifa became Israel's first university to achieve "Green Campus" status over a decade ago.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: But Most of All, Reduce

According to the United Nations, 1.3 billion tons of food goes to waste each year across the planet. In a world of depleting resources, food waste poses a serious environmental problem, as well as a real threat to food security. The United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals target food waste as a key challenge, calling for a 50% reduction in per capita food waste production by 2030.

What gets measured, gets managed. How much of food waste begins in our own kitchens? Household garbage is a major challenge to waste collection and disposal in developed countries. However, with limited hard data on household waste composition, it has been difficult for policymakers and governments to change behaviors that are fueling our "throw-away society".

Until now.

Prof. Ofira Ayalon and Dr. Efrat Elimelech of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management, have developed a more reliable method that measures how much food is being wasted in our own homes. Previous measurement methods relied on self-reporting estimations and failed to pinpoint the source, amount and composition of the waste. Avalon and Elimelech's research solved these limitations by collecting the garbage samples directly from the participants' doorsteps. Household food waste accounted for 45% of total waste, of which 54% was deemed avoidable.

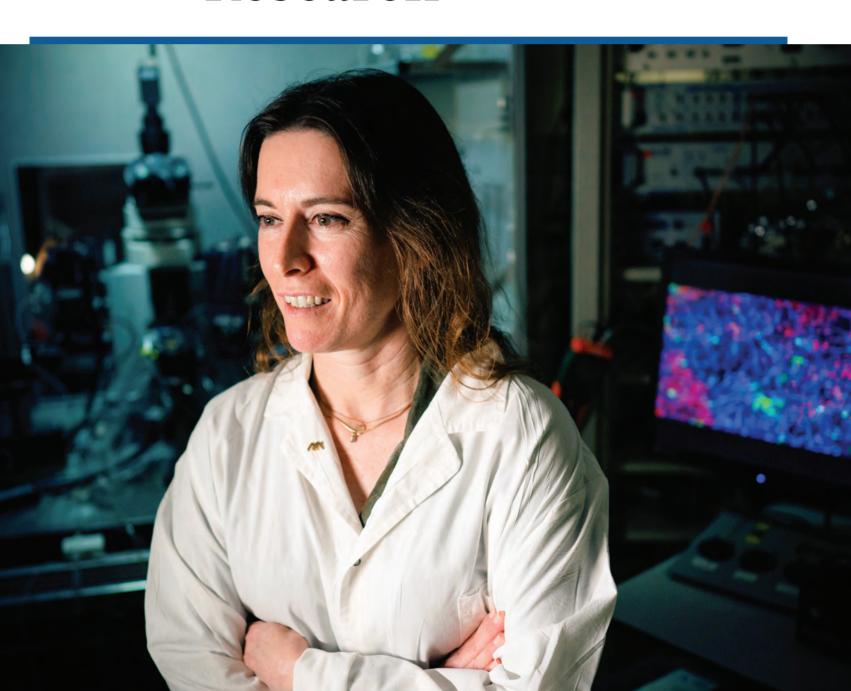
In addition, the study led to some interesting findings as to how to motivate consumers to minimize the amount of food waste they produce. The findings will serve to inform decision makers and help introduce educational programs aimed at reducing household waste.

Professor Ofira Ayalon received the Michael Landau Prize in 2018 for Sciences and Research in the field of Sustainability.

NEW RECRUIT _____

Re-Engineering Brain dr. shani stern

Research



44

We have developed a model that will enable doctors to predict with *over* 90% *accuracy* whether an individual will respond to lithium ____



MENTION 'HYPER-EXCITABLE BRAIN

CELLS' AND 'INTRACELLULAR

ELECTRICAL ACTIVITY' AND DR. SHANI

STERN'S FACE IMMEDIATELY LIGHTS UP

"We are using electrophysiology (electrical properties of the nervous system) to better understand the underlying causes behind Bipolar disorder and Parkinson's disease and advance the field of personalized drug therapy," she explains.

Dr. Stern's research builds on her expertise in electrical engineering, combining computational modeling and molecular and cellular methods to look for mechanisms underlying disease states of the brain. This unique combination of engineering and biology is already leading to marked improvements in the treatment of bipolar patients.

"While lithium is regularly prescribed as the first line of care for bipolar patients, it is only effective in 30% of the cases. We have developed a model that will enable doctors to predict with over 90% accuracy whether

an individual will respond to lithium, which could spare patients an ineffective treatment as well as help to better understand the disorder," she explains. Dr. Stern's findings have been published in Molecular Psychiatry 2018, and Biological Psychiatry 2019 and 2020.

Her laboratory is also focusing on identifying biomarkers for Parkinson's disease. "We see a distinct electrophysiological phenotype that is common to the neurons of Parkinson's patients. We are now exploring how the minor alterations found in these neurons trigger a cascade of events that eventually lead to cell death that is specific to Parkinson's disease."

As a teenager, Stern earned a degree in electrical engineering before beginning her IDF military service. When she left the army with the rank of lieutenant, Stern worked in the high-tech industry, until deciding to go back to the academia due to growing interests in processes underlying brain disorders.

She was immediately accepted to the PhD program in Physics

at the Weizmann Institute. After graduating, her family relocated to San Diego for four years where she pursued a postdoc at the Salk Institute in the Fred (Rusty) Gage Laboratory. During her stint there, she received the 2018 Women in Science Foundation award.

Dr. Stern is delighted to be returning home to Israel, and is now tackling what may be her toughest challenge yet – acclimating her four teenaged children to life in Israel – while launching her new Precision Disease Modeling Laboratory at the Sagol Department of Neurobiology.





Sex Gender Science & the Law

Some people know what they want to do with their lives from a young age. For others, a chance meeting sets them on an unexpected career path. "I was a second-year law student interning at the Legal Feminism Clinic," recalls Sudai. "We were sitting in a circle of students and members of the community when I struck up a conversation with the person sitting next to me." That conversation was Sudai's first introduction to the widely misunderstood world of intersex rights and legal issues. "I took the case, which turned out to be nothing short of life-changing."

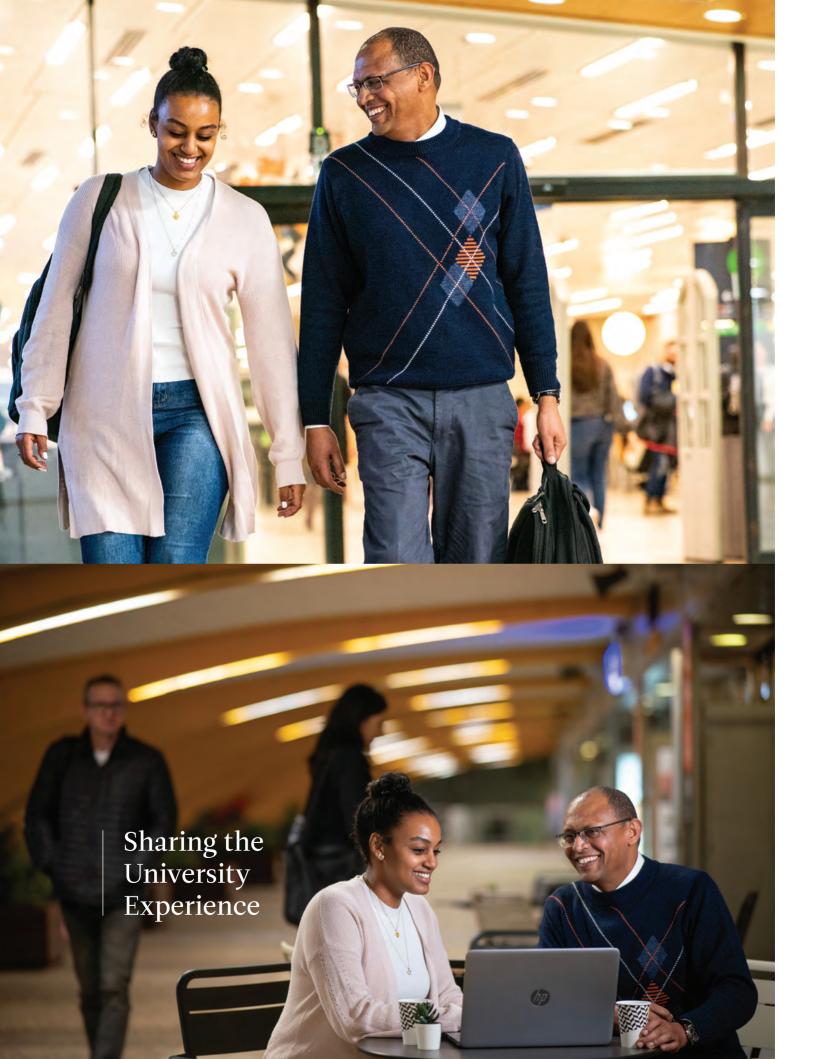
Sudai immediately began delving into the medical data and legal precedents of intersex individuals and eventually became an advocate for the intersex rights movement. "That case led me (along with my Professor Sagit Mor and fellow student Or Shay) to write the first legal paper on intersex law in Israel."

After earning her Bachelor of Laws degree at the University's Faculty of Law, Sudai continued to pursue the legal struggles of patient advocacy movements as the subject of her doctoral dissertation at Harvard Law School. Her work with the movement continues until today, facilitating negotiations among patients and their advocates, the medical community, and Israel's Ministry of Health. "An individual's biology doesn't always fit typical medical definitions of 'male' or 'female,' she explains. "All too often, medical decisions and legislation are based on outdated scientific literature regarding sex and gender differences."

Maayan Sudai has just returned to Israel after a prolific academic stint in Boston, MA. In just five years, she completed Master's and Doctoral degrees at Harvard Law School, and a fellowship at the Pertie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology and Bioethics at Harvard Law School,

and a second fellowship at the Kennedy School's Program on Science, Technology and Society (STS). In 2018, Dr. Sudai won the junior scholar "Dan David" prize for her dissertation on the capacity of social movements to influence and shape health policy using legal strategies.

Born in Nahariya to parents of Iraqi and Moroccan descent, Sudai is the first generation in her family to pursue higher education. "We are a close knit family that isn't afraid to argue loudly and emotionally." She says that returning to Haifa is "a dream come true" and she was thrilled to return to her alma mater. She credits the Faculty of Law as having a lasting impact on her life. "My experience as an undergraduate student made me who I am, in many ways."



LIKE INTERNATIONAL MBA FATHER & THE DELTA LIKE DAUGHTER

"It's a funny moment when you bump into your Dad at school..."

hasing dreams has no age. This father and daughter duo are both students at the University of Haifa, each pursuing their own unique career paths.

A typical day for most university students doesn't include meeting a parent in the library for a "study date." That, however, isn't the case with Eden Mekonen. A former IDF Officer in the Educational Corps, EMT volunteer with Magen David Adom, and native of Nahariya, Eden, 24, is currently a freshman in the Department of Physical Therapy.

"My Dad helps me with physics and I help him type his papers in Hebrew," notes Eden. Her father, Getahun Mekonen, is a student at the International MBA Program in the School of Management. He combines graduate school with his full-time managerial position at a high-tech company in northern Israel. Getahun, who immigrated to Israel from Ethiopia on his own

at age 18, embraces a can-do attitude and has high academic standards for his three children.

Eden's interest in public health and helping improve quality of life was first sparked during her high school years, where she elected to major in an accelerated biology track and volunteered with Israel ambulance services. After she completed her army service, her father strongly suggested that she pursue her interest in the health sciences field and join him at the University of Haifa. "He only had good things to say about the University, so I went for it!"

"The Physical Therapy degree is an extremely rigorous program," notes Eden. I am very fortunate to be part of the Delta Program for Academic Leadership in the Ethiopian Student Community, which gives us extra academic support and personal mentoring to navigate the challenges of university life."

The Delta Program, generously established by philanthropist and businessman Mr. Isaac Dabah, has been operating for the past seven years under the auspices of the Dean of Students' Unit for Academic Excellence. Since its inception, more than 125 students have taken part in enrichment workshops and classes in a variety of areas, including English, rhetoric, preparing for job interviews, and introduction to the employment market. Delta participants also attend a series of leadership and empowerment workshops throughout the year.

Eden lives in the campus dorms, but on weekends, at home in Nahariya, she and her father sit side by side and study together. "I'm really glad I took his advice about enrolling at the University of Haifa, and I look forward to working as a physical therapist and helping people when I graduate."

"Combining the degree programs of the military colleges under one academic roof will ensure greater long-term consistency in officer training and improve the quality of the academic education acquired in tandem with military courses."

- Prof. Yossi Ben-Artzi



Military officers from Israel and abroad meet at the newly constructed state-of-the-art conference room of the Military Colleges on campus.



(*l-r*) Brig. Gen. Itai Virob, Head of the IDF's Military Colleges, IDF Chief of Staff-Maj. Gen. Aviv Kochavi, and Prof. Yossi Ben-Artzi, Academic Director of the Military College, at the 46th commencement ceremony of the National Security College (MABAL) at the University of Haifa.

SELECTED BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA WILL GRANT ACADEMIC DEGREES TO IDF OFFICERS FROM THE IDF NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE, THE GENERAL COMMAND & STAFF COLLEGE, AND THE TACTICAL COMMAND COLLEGE.

Upon being awarded the national tender, the University quickly moved to construct a newly designated Israel Military College Complex in the Terrace Building. The new complex includes a modern conference room equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual technology and presentation devices. In addition, the conference room has an adjoining translation booth to serve the needs of senior military officers from around the world who travel to Haifa to attend the IDF National Defense College (MABAL).

"The courses offered in the Military Colleges will be rigorous and will benefit from our 25 years of experience in providing the widest range of security and diplomacy related research and academic programs," noted Prof. Ben-Artzi.

As Israel's leading academic think tank in the field of security studies, the University of Haifa enrolls the largest number of Israeli military and security personnel.

"We are proud to open our doors and provide an academic home to IDF forces. These fine people work day and night to ensure the security of the State of Israel, and we will provide them with an unparalleled academic experience," said President Ron Robin.

IDF National Defense College (MABAL)

alumni include Lieutenant General Gadi Eizenkot, former IDF Commander-in-Chief, current commanders of the Northern, Central and Southern Fronts, and the Head of the National Security Agency.

General Command and Staff College (PUM)

is the IDF's most elite instructional institution, and is used by the Israeli Navy, Ground and Air Forces.

The Tactical Command College (MALTAK)

trains company commanders from all land forces as well as from anti-aircraft and naval commando forces.



Remembering the Past... Looking to the future

"When Tzvika fell in battle, the family decided that we needed to preserve his memory in a way that reflected his character and beliefs," recalls Elhanan Abta. Even before the shiva period for his brother-inlaw had ended, the family moved to establish Koach Tzvika (Tzvika's Strength). Today, Koach Tzvkia is a non-profit organization that operates a broad range of educational activities. "We drew on Tzvika's letters and diary entries to identify values that were important to him and have designed programs that strengthen these values in Israeli society."

Elhanan, now a doctoral candidate in the Department of Hebrew Language, has a very full plate – and he likes it that way. Four days a week, he can be found on campus absorbed in his doctoral studies that focus on an analysis of the linguistic style and grammar of Nachmanides, a leading medieval Jewish commentator and philosopher. "My research is fascinating. Nachmanides lived at a pivotal point in Jewish and world history. He was a prodigious writer, but there is very little written about his published works from a linguistic perspective." Elhanan credits his wife, Tsippi also a graduate of the University of Haifa, with motivating him to pursue his doctorate. "She encouraged me to enroll. Even though we have our hands full raising five children, she saw that my interest in Judaic texts and linguistics was a source of inspiration."

The Abtas are part of a young, religious community that has taken root in nearby Acre. Community members volunteer in a range of Tikkun Olam, social welfare and educational projects throughout the city. In addition to working at the local schools, both Elhanan and Tsippi host Shabbat meals for lower income families and volunteer at the local food bank.

Somehow, he still manages to devote time to a lengthy list of educational projects that reflect and support the mission and vision of Koach Tzvika. "Tzvika believed in acts of loving kindness, being a good role model, personal responsibility, Jewish unity and a strong commitment to the Land of Israel and Jewish Sacred texts. All of our educational materials and programming are designed to continue his legacy."

"Ultimately, we are trying to create something positive out of a tragedy."



Captain Tzvika Kaplan was killed in action during the 2014 *Operation Protective Edge* in Gaza. He was only 28 years old and left a wife and two small children.







The Koach Tzvika program develops supplementary bible study resources entitled "Simanim Baderech" (Hebrew for 'signs along the way').

Academic Distinctions

Council for Higher Education Planning and Budgeting Committee Grant

to benefit University of Haifa's International School 8.75 million NIS

Major Research Grants

(partial list)

EU Horizons 2020 Fund & the Canadian Government Dr. Uri Hershberg,

Faculty of Natural Sciences

2.1 million NIS

VATAT

Mor Peleg, Ofer Arazi, Doron Chelouche, Itai Dattner, Stephan Levine, Margarita Osadchy, Data Science Research Center 8 million NIS

Minerva Center

Tova Band-Winterstein, Yisrael Doron, Zvi Eisikovits, Department of Gerontology 1.8 million NIS

The US-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund (BARD)

Tzion Fahima,Department of
Evolutionary and
Environmental Biology
1.18 million NIS

BSF-NSF

Tzion Fahima,
Department of
Evolutionary and
Environmental Biology
1 million NIS

The US-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund (BARD)

Tamar Krugman,
Department of
Evolutionary and
Environmental Biology
1.18 million NIS

Ministry of Education Miri Scharf, Yair Ziv, Salim Abu Rabia, Department of Continuing Education, Special Education 1 million NIS

Ministry of Science and Technology Mouna Mouron,

Sagol Department of Neurobiology 983,000 NIS

Prizes and Awards

Israel Prize

Prof. Avraham Ben-Zvi (2020) in the field of Political Science and International Relations Research

Prof. Deborah Bernstein (2019) in the field of Sociological and Anthropological Research

EMET Prize

Prof. Mechal (Emeritus) Sobel (2019), Department of History

Michael Landau Prize for Sciences and Research

Prof. Ofira Ayalon, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management

Bialik Prize for Jewish Wisdom Prof. Nili Shupak, Department of Biblical Studies

Lifetime Achievment Award from the Israel Association of Composers, Authors and Publishers of Musical Works (ACUM)

Prof. Oded Zehavi,Department of Music

Alon Fellowships

Dr. Noga Cohen, Special Education **Dr. Moshe Blidstein**, School of History

ESPAnet Israel, the Forum for Social Policy Research, Life Achievement Award Prof. Itzik Brick, Department of Gerontology

Krill Prize for Excellence in Scientific Research – Wolf Foundation

Dr. Noga Ron Zvi,
Department of
Computer Science

YAKIR Award - Middle East and Islamic Studies Association of Israel (MEISAI)

Prof. Gadi Gilbar, Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies

Sami Michael Prize for Equality and Social Justice

Prof. (Emeritus) Sammy Smooha (2019),
Department of Sociology

Rhodes Scholarships Lama Mounsour (2019), BSc Psychology

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2019-2020

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(April 1, 2020)

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Faculty of Humanities

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and Health Sciences

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