

# HAPPENINGS



## SINGLE DOSE OF NOVEL PEPTIDE PROTECTS COGNITIVE FUNCTION AFTER MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (MTBI)

Whether at school, in car accidents, on the sports field or the battlefield, mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) is a common part of our lives. Now, scientists at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem have shown that a single dose of a new molecule they developed can effectively protect the brain from inflammation, cell death, and cognitive impairments that often follow a mild traumatic brain injury.

Because it lacks visible external signs or objective structural brain damage, mTBI is an under-diagnosed injury. Yet it is often accompanied by long-lasting cognitive, behavioural and emotional difficulties associated with biochemical and cellular changes.

At her laboratory in Jerusalem, Prof. Daphne Atlas, from the HU Department of Biological Chemistry, has developed new molecules derived from the active site of Trx1, called thioredoxin-mimetic peptides (TXM-peptides).

Researchers induced cognitive impairments in anesthetized mice by a weight drop resulting in mild traumatic brain injury. The mice showed a decrease in spatial memory in the Y-maze test and a loss in visual learning ability in the novel

object recognition test. Lower learning ability was also detected 30 days post injury in the mTBI mice.

In these two independent tests, a single dose of either one of the TXM-peptides administered 60 minutes post-injury, at a 50 mg per kg of body weight, significantly improved the decline in cognitive performance and learning ability at 7 and 30 days post injury.

"This research demonstrates the potential for TXM-peptides to significantly reduce cognitive impairment after mild traumatic brain injury," said Prof. Atlas. "Further studies are required to establish and examine the potential of a single dose of TXM-peptide in preventing damage if administered even one hour after brain trauma in human scenarios.

"Another advantage to using peptides is in significantly reducing the risk of causing toxic effects, because they consist of amino acids which are the natural building blocks comprising cell proteins, in contrast to the use of drugs that are not natural. So the two TXM-peptides are promising treatment candidates to prevent secondary damage that affect brain function," said Prof. Atlas.

## IMRIC SCIENTIST AWARDED FOR WORK IN STEM CELLS & REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

Dr. Buganim is a young researcher who recently joined the Department of Molecular Biology and Cancer Research at the **Institute for Medical Research Israel-Canada** (IMRIC, <http://imric.org>). Part of the Hebrew University's Faculty of Medicine, IMRIC is one of the most innovative and multidisciplinary biomedical research organizations in the world.

Awarded for the first time this year, the Boyliffe Science & Science Translational Medicine Award in Stem Cells & Regenerative Medicine honours researchers for outstanding contributions in stem cell research and regenerative medicine around the globe. AAAS, Science, and Science Translational Medicine joined efforts with Boyliffe, an industrial-research consortium formed in Wuxi, China, in 2009, to sponsor the award. Composed of prominent researchers, the judging panel was co-chaired by a Science and a Science Translational Medicine editor.

In 2006, Japanese researchers discovered that it is possible to reprogram adult cells and return them to their embryonic stage, creating functional embryonic stem-like cells. In addition, these cells provide a good basis for modelling diseases and finding medical solutions, because they can be reproduced from different patients and different diseases.

Despite these cells' enormous potential, their quality is still not sufficient to be used in clinical

practice, and there is a need to find the best protocol that will enable production of high-quality iPSCs that will not endanger patients.

Dr. Buganim's laboratory has made two major breakthroughs in this area, representing a major step forward in the field of regenerative medicine and transplantation –

**Project A:** Cells produced in his laboratory (in this case mouse cells) are able to clone a whole mouse at a much higher percentage (80%) than other iPSCs (30%). This test is the most important one determine the quality of the cells.

**Project B:** Dr. Buganim's lab found the key genes of the placenta stem cells and by expressing them in surplus in skin cells, created placental iPSCs. These cells looked and behaved like natural placental stem cells. They have potential for use in regenerative medicine in cases of problematic placental functioning. The success of this project may enable women with placenta problems to give birth to healthy children and rescue pregnancies at risk of dysfunctional placenta. (See details at <http://new.huji.ac.il/en/article/27928>.)

Forward-looking: Alongside creating specific cell types (e.g. nerve cells in patients with Parkinson's disease, ALS and Alzheimer) from a patient's skin cells, a potential future use of iPSCs is the creation of whole organs (such as heart, liver or kidney) in a suitable animal model using cells taken from the patient.



Dr. Yosef Buganim

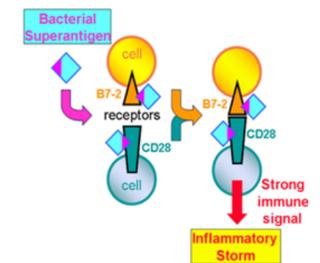
## GROUNDBREAKING IMMUNE APPROACH TARGETS HUMANS INSTEAD OF BACTERIA

Staphylococcal and streptococcal infections affect millions of individuals each year. They are a leading cause of sepsis and account for many cases of pneumonia and post-surgical infections. Despite the urgency of this situation, the antibiotic development pipeline is dwindling and multi-drug resistance is rampant, rendering the classical one-drug, one-drug approach obsolete.

The ability of staphylococcal and streptococcal bacteria to cause disease is due to numerous virulence factors, among which a group called Superantigens play a prominent role. Several dozen superantigens are highly lethal to humans and are critical contributors to sepsis and progression to toxic shock.

While the inflammatory immune response is essential to protecting humans against viruses and bacteria, superantigen toxins cause an exaggerated response – called an "immune storm" – that can do a great deal of damage in the body and can result in multiple organ failure. Even with currently available treatment strategies, most of these diseases have high mortality rates. Complicating treatment of these bacterial infections are multi-drug resistant strains.

Now, in a landmark research paper culminating 20 years of scientific investigation, researchers at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem show for the first time how bacterial superantigen toxins work, and how antagonists they designed can block toxin action and save lives. With major implications for medicine, the novel approach is both broad-acting and impervious to bacterial antibiotic resistance.



Newly-discovered mechanism of action of the bacterial superantigen toxins: Superantigens bind to both B7-2 and CD28, the major costimulatory receptors expressed on human immune cells. This binding enhances B7-2/CD28 receptor engagement, thereby inducing a powerful immune signal that evokes a harmful inflammatory storm. (Courtesy of Raymond Kaempfer)

## MISHPATIM SEMINAR DELIVERS INSPIRATION AND A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Interview with **Judith Latta**, current RMIT University Juris Doctor student, sharing some insight into her student journey.

You recently completed the Mishpatim Seminar as an elective, what drew you to this seminar?

I was interested in the opportunity to study both Israeli and international law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem – a prestigious 90 year old university, whose founders include Freud and Einstein – situated high on Mount Scopus overlooking what to many is the 'spiritual land' of the three great monotheistic religions. A scholarship awarded by the Australian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem assisted with my tuition fees.

What advice would you offer to other students who are attending a seminar like this?

Seize the opportunity, go with open eyes, hearts and minds and give it your all.

What did you gain from the experience and did it change your views on law or on yourself?

Undertaking the Mishpatim Seminar was a highlight of my professional life. The lecturers were international lawyers and legal academics who offered a global perspective and discourse on the Israelis achievements and challenges. The course also examined International Law and the role and challenges faced by the International Court of Justice in making decisions within a framework of competing national interests.

The Israeli Supreme Court is the country's highest court and the judges have a proud history of fighting to maintain a separation of the powers. A watershed moment for me was listening to Justice Hanan Melcer speak

about the Supreme Court's application of 'wisdom' in their decision making. Separation of powers is a doctrine worth fighting for!

My colleagues were Australian students studying postgraduate law, undergraduate law and international studies. Many of us have stayed in touch via catch-ups and a WhatsApp Group. It's great knowing so many people in the field – all over Australia. Personally, it gave me the confidence and self-belief that I could try something out of my comfort zone and have a sensational time.

Any other interesting facts from your student journey?

Oh, I forgot to mention that the food in Israel was superb; hummus, shawarma, salads, fruit, pastries, eggs and nuts. The hospitality of the Israelis was sensational – warm, friendly and appreciative that 30 Aussies had travelled across the world to learn about their achievements, challenges and aspirations.

Juris Doctor student, Judith Latta.



## HU #1 IN MIDDLE EAST, #26 WORLDWIDE, SAYS SAUDI-BASED CENTER FOR WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

The Center for World University Rankings (CWUR), based in Saudi Arabia, has ranked the Hebrew University of Jerusalem at #26 among the 25,000+ degree-granting institutions in the world. The annual rankings also place the Hebrew University at #1 in Israel and #1 in the Middle East.

Among the factors that contributed to the Hebrew University's overall ranking were its Quality of Education Rank (#16) and Quality of Faculty Rank (#15). The 2016 CWUR World University Rankings can be seen online at <http://cwur.org/2016.php>. The CWUR describes the World University Rankings as the largest academic ranking of global universities, using eight objective and robust indicators to rank the world's top 1000 universities: Quality of Education, Alumni Employment, Quality of Faculty, Publications, Influence, Citations, Broad Impact, and Patents. More at <http://cwur.org/about.php>.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is Israel's leading academic and research institution, producing one-third of all civilian research in Israel. For more information, visit <http://new.huji.ac.il/en>.



**AMBASSADOR YOSSI GAL**  
HEBREW UNIVERSITY VICE PRESIDENT  
FORMER AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE AND PEACE NEGOTIATOR  
WILL BE VISITING AUSTRALIA IN NOVEMBER

For the opportunity to hear Ambassador Gal speak about European Jewry and their current situation, contact your local Friends office – Melbourne / Perth / Sydney

## FRANCE'S HIGHEST HONOUR AWARDED TO HEBREW UNIVERSITY VICE PRESIDENT, AMBASSADOR YOSSI GAL

Named a Commander of the Legion of Honour

Ambassador Yossi Gal, the Vice President for Advancement and External Relations at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has been named a Commander of France's Legion of Honour. The honour was presented at a ceremony hosted by Mr. Patrick Maisonnave, the Ambassador of France to Israel, at his official residence in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Established by Napoléon Bonaparte in 1802, the Legion of Honour (Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur) is the highest French order for military and civil merits.

Born in Jerusalem, Ambassador Gal completed his elementary and high school studies in Jerusalem and graduated from the Hebrew University. Following his military service and university studies, in 1975 he began his career in the foreign service of the State of Israel.

Among his many posts at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he served as Director of the Information Department, Deputy Director-General for Communications, participated in

the peace negotiations with Israel's neighbours, and chaired the Israeli delegation to the multilateral peace talks on the environment.

He then headed the Press and Communications Department at the Prime Minister's office, served as Deputy Director-General for Economic Affairs, was then promoted to Senior Deputy Director-General and then Director General of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Abroad, he served twice in Washington (1976-1981 as Director of the Ambassador's office, and 1985-1989 as Spokesman of the embassy), then as Ambassador of Israel to the Netherlands (1995-2001), and Ambassador to France and Monaco (2010-2015).

Ambassador Gal participated in the Madrid Peace Conference, was a member of the peace negotiating team with Jordan and the Palestinians, headed the diplomatic process of Israel's adherence to the OECD, and led the negotiations on upgrading relations with the EU.

Mr. Patrick Maisonnave, the Ambassador of France to Israel, presents the medal of the Legion of Honour to Yossi Gal, Vice President of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and former Israeli Ambassador to France.



(Photo credit: French Embassy in Israel / Marine Crouzet)

## COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY HONOURS HU EPIGENETICS PIONEERS

Research led to the new field of Epigenetics, yielded insights into how cells and embryos develop

Columbia University announced that its top honour for achievement in biological and biochemical research will be awarded to two researchers from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a colleague from the United States.

The 2016 Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize will be presented to **Prof. Howard Cedar** and **Prof. Aharon Razin**, MD, PhD, chair of the Horwitz Prize Committee and chair of the Department of Genetics and Development at Columbia University Medical Center. "As our cells divide and become more specialised they need instructions on which genes to use and which to ignore. Epigenetics adds these annotations to our biological textbook; it's a process that is crucial to our development and continues throughout our lives."

Since the Horwitz Prize was first awarded in 1967, 43 of the 94 winners have gone on to win Nobel Prizes, most recently in 2014.

The researchers will be awarded for their fundamental work on how molecules regulate the structure, behaviour, and activity of DNA without modifying its genetic code. Their research has yielded key insights into how cells and embryos develop, and led to the formation of a new field of biology called Epigenetics.

Among the innovations attributed to Profs. Cedar and Razin is the concept of epigenetic reprogramming, a key process in development that erases and re-establishes the ability of cells to transform into different types.

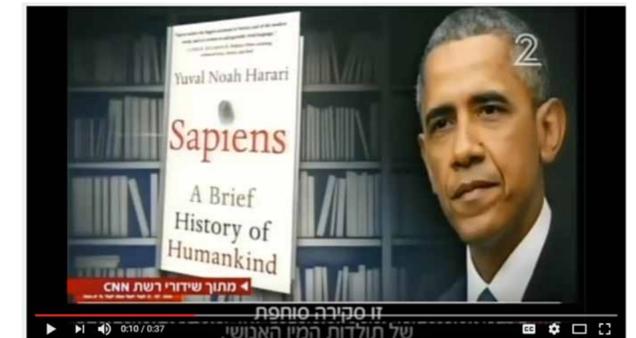
The awards ceremony will be held in New York on November 22, 2016, following the 2016 Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize Lectures. The Columbia University announcement is at <http://newsroom.cumc.columbia.edu/?p=37120>.



Prof. Aharon Razin (l) and Prof. Howard Cedar (Photo by Hezi Hojesta for the Hebrew University)

## WHO'S ON OBAMA'S READING LIST?

The president told CNN's Fareed Zakaria that he really enjoyed the bestselling 'Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind' -- by Prof. Yuval Noah Harari from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Recently Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg added Sapiens to his own reading list as well (<https://www.facebook.com/zuck/posts/10102182252999291>). See how Israeli TV reported the story below, and see Obama's full book review at [https://youtu.be/\\_DQeW5kzA4?i=1104](https://youtu.be/_DQeW5kzA4?i=1104).



## CONTACT US

Please contact us; we can assist.

• Do you want to know more about the activities of the Friends?

• Interested in upcoming events?

• Going to Israel soon and keen to visit the Hebrew University?

• Interested in study at the University, or do you know someone who is?

• Become our Facebook friend – join us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/AUSTFHUpage](http://www.facebook.com/AUSTFHUpage)

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## HISTORIC FIND AT TEL-HAZOR: A STATUE OF AN EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL

In a historic find, a large fragment of an Egyptian statue measuring 45 X 40 centimetres, made of lime-stone, was discovered in the course of the current season of excavations at Tel-Hazor, north of the Sea of Galilee in Israel. Only the lower part of the statue survived, depicting the crouching feet of a male figure, seated on a square base on which a few lines in the Egyptian hieroglyphic script are inscribed. The archaeologists estimate that the complete statue would equal the size of a fully-grown man. At present only a preliminary reading of the inscriptions has been attempted, and the title and name of the Egyptian official who originally owned the statue, are not yet entirely clear. The statue was originally placed either in the official's tomb or in a temple – most probably a temple of the Egyptian god Ptah – and most of the texts inscribed on the statue's base include words of praise to the official who may have served and most probably practiced his duties in the region of Memphis, the primary cult centre of the god Ptah. They also include the customary Egyptian funerary formula ensuring eternal supply of offerings for the statue's owner.

This statue, found this year, together with the sphinx fragment of the Egyptian king Mycerinus (who ruled Egypt in the 25th century B.C.E.) discovered at the site by the research team three years ago, are the only monumental Egyptian statues found so far in second millennium contexts in the entire Levant and indicate the special importance of the building (probably the administrative palace of the ruler of the city), as well as that of the entire city of Hazor. Interestingly, most Egyptian statues found at Hazor so far date to Egypt's "Middle Kingdom" (19th-18th centuries B.C.E.), a time when Hazor did not yet exist. It thus seems that the statues were sent by an Egyptian king in the "New Kingdom" as official gifts to the king of Hazor, or as dedications to a local temple (regardless of their being already "antiques"). This is not surprising considering the special status of the king of Hazor who was the most important king in Southern Canaan at the time. The extraordinary importance of Hazor in the 15th-13th centuries B.C.E. is indicated also by the Biblical reference to Hazor as "the head of all those kingdoms" (Joshua 11:10). All the statues at the site were found

broken to pieces and scattered over a large area. Clear signs of mutilation indicate that most of them were deliberately and violently smashed, most probably in the course of the city's final conquest and destruction sometime in the 13th century B.C.E. The deliberate mutilation of statues of kings and dignitaries accompanying the conquest of towns, is a well-known practice in ancient times (I Samuel 5:1-4; Isaiah 11:9) as well as in our time. Hazor is the largest biblical-era site in Israel, covering some 200 acres, and has been recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The population of Hazor in the second millennium BCE is estimated to have been about 20,000, making it the largest and most important city in the entire region. Its size and strategic location on the route connecting Egypt and Babylon made it "the head of all those kingdoms" according to the biblical book of Joshua (Joshua 11:10). Hazor's conquest by the Israelites opened the way to the conquest and settlement of the Israelites in Canaan. The city was rebuilt and fortified by King

Solomon and prospered in the days of Ahab and Jeroboam II, until its final destruction by the Assyrians in 732 BCE. Documents discovered at Hazor and at sites in Egypt and Iraq attest that Hazor maintained cultural and trade relations with both Egypt and Babylon. Artistic artefacts, including those imported to Hazor from near and far, have been unearthed at the site. Hazor is currently one of Israel's national parks.

The three volunteer excavators who found the fragment of the monumental Egyptian statue, from left to right: Valentín Sama-Rojo from Spain, Bryan Kovach from the United States, and Eran Swart from South Africa. (Photo credit: Shlomit Bechar)



## DAME HELEN MIRREN MEETS ARAB AND JEWISH STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITY'S BILLY CRYSTAL PROGRAM FOR PEACE THROUGH THE PERFORMING ARTS

Dame Helen Mirren, one of the world's best-known and most respected actresses, met with Arab and Jewish theatre students at The Billy Crystal Program for Peace Through the Performing Arts, at the Department of Theatre Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. At the memorial service for Muhammad Ali, Billy Crystal described the origins of The Program for Peace Through the Performing Arts (VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/wdmU6MMW5bg?t=441>): "[Ali] was an honorary chairman for a dinner in a very important event

where I was being honoured by the Hebrew University in Jerusalem... The most famous Muslim man in the world, honouring his Jewish friend. And, because he was there, we raised a great deal of money, and I was able to use it to endow the [Hebrew] University in Jerusalem with something that I told him about. And it was something that he loved the theory of, and it thrives to this day. It's a theatre group where Israeli, Arab, and Palestinian actors, writers and directors all work together in peace, creating original works of art."



Dame Helen Mirren pictured with students and Director of the Billy Crystal Program, Dr. Jeanette Malkin (top left); HU President Prof. Menahem Ben-Sasson (bottom left); and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Prof. Dror Wahrman. Photo by Dor Kedmi

## RARE FRESCOES FROM ROMAN PERIOD DISCOVERED IN HU EXCAVATIONS AT ZIPPORI IN THE GALILEE

New finds contribute significantly to research of Roman art

A team from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has discovered hundreds of fragments belonging to frescoes from the Roman period, in the Zippori National Park. The fragments, which contain figurative images, floral patterns and geometric motifs, shed light on Zippori (Sepphoris), which was an important urban centre for the Jews of the Galilee during the Roman and Byzantine periods. The discovery was made this summer in the excavations at Zippori, in memory of **Ursula Johanna and Fritz Werner Blumenthal of Perth, Western Australia**. The excavations are directed by **Prof. Zeev Weiss**, Professor of Archaeology at the Hebrew University's Institute of Archaeology.

The frescoes decorated a monumental building that was erected in the early second century CE north of the decumanus, a colonnaded street that cut across the city from east to west and continued to the foot of the Acropolis. The monumental building was dismantled in the third century CE for reasons that are unclear, and was replaced by another public building, larger than its predecessor, parts of which were uncovered during this season. The monumental building's walls were dismantled in antiquity and its building materials — stone and plaster, some colourful — were buried under the floors of a newly established Roman building on the same location. Hundreds of plaster fragments discovered during this excavation season were concentrated in one area, and it seems that they belong to one or several rooms from the previous building.

The new finds in Zippori contribute significantly to the research of Roman art in Israel. To date, excavators uncovered the walls of several public and private buildings from Roman Zippori (second and third centuries CE) which were decorated with colourful frescoes in geometric and floral patterns. This season's finds are the first, only and earliest evidence of figurative images in wall paintings at the site. The finds date to the beginning of the second century CE. Parallels to these finds are virtually unknown at other Israeli sites of the same period. Some panels bearing depictions of figures were discovered a few years ago in Herod's palace at Herodium, and according to Josephus (Life of Josephus 65-69) the walls of the palace of Herod Antipas in Tiberias were also decorated with wall paintings depicting animals; but beyond that, no murals with depictions of figures, dating to the first century and the beginning of the second century CE, have been discovered to date in the region. The various finds uncovered throughout the site indicate that Zippori, the Jewish capital of the Galilee, was home to many Jewish inhabitants throughout the Roman period, but the city also had a significant pagan community for which the temple was built to the south of the decumanus, opposite the monumental building, parts of which were discovered this season. The new finds clearly reflect the multi-cultural climate that characterizes Zippori in the years following the Great Revolt, in the late first century and the second century CE.



## NEW SOUTH WALES

**YAACOV MICHLIN VISIT**  
Yaacov Michlin, the CEO AND President of the Hebrew University's technology transfer company "Yissum" was in Sydney from Wednesday 14 September to Friday 16 September. In addition to one-on-one meetings, he addressed a luncheon hosted by the Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce (AICC) and a breakfast hosted by the Israel Trade Commission.



From Left: Yaacov Michlin, CEO and President, Yissum, Michelle Blum, CEO, AICC and Paul Rubenstein, Partner, Arnold Bloch Leibler

## COMMITTEE FOR STUDENT SUPPORT

This year, monthly meetings have alternated with Sunday luncheons. In February, Mrs Rina Baron kindly made her home available for a talk by Dr John Morrison titled "Sir John Monash, Life and Achievements". A further three meetings were held at the home of Mrs Irene Selecki. Dr John Morrison addressed the May and September luncheons on "Lincoln and the Jews" and "Charge of Australia's 4th Light Horse Brigade" respectively. Mrs Selecki chose the topic "The contribution of Jewish convicts and early settlers to the establishment of the Australian nation" for her talk held in July. Grateful thanks are extended to Committee members, who look after the catering and assist the hostess before and after the luncheons.

## HONOURS CLUB

2016 meetings began with **Dr Michael Abrahams-Sprod**, historian, linguist, author and educator speaking on "The Ideology and Practice of Zionism". **Peter Price OAM** brought our members up to date with the communication world of today with his talk on "Social Media and the Internet: How our Daily Lives are Impacted". Having recently attended the Hebrew University's Rothberg International School, taking part in the Trauma & Resilience program, **Dr Kumaran Ramakrishnan** addressed us on what he described as his life-changing experience - "Summer 2015: 6 Weeks in Israel". **Gideon Aran**, Emeritus Professor of Sociology & Anthropology at the Hebrew University was the Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Exchange Fellow at the University of Sydney during the Autumn term of 2016. His topic for our May meeting was "Judaism and Zionism: Current trends in Israeli Religion". In June, **Rachele Schonberger**, our NSW Division Co-President and Principal of the NSW Board of Jewish Education, whose entire working career has been focussed on education, updated us with "The Changing Face of Jewish Education". Professional demographic and statistical consultant, **Dr Gary Eckstein**'s special area of research interest is in intermarriage. His talk was titled: "Jewish Demography from the Shoah to the Twenty-First Century". **Nicky Gluch** also spoke of a life-changing experience at the Hebrew University. Nicky's time in Israel led her to re-investigate her first love – music. Her topic: "When you say

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### DR STUART SILBERT OAM HONOURED BY WA FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

Stuart Silbert, a longtime and tireless supporter of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJ) was honoured in May this year in Jerusalem when he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the HUJ in the presence of a co-recipient, the President of the State of Israel, Reuven Rivlin. A cocktail party was held in his honour at the Royal Perth Golf Club, on 14 August. In welcoming the many guests to the function, the WA President of the Friends of the Hebrew University, Dr Peter Winterton, said "The HUJ depends, since its inception in 1925 in the presence of Prof Dr Einstein, on the support from the Diaspora. Marshalling this support relies on the integrity, humility, humanity and honesty of people like Stuart, who has so tirelessly given of his time and energy in supporting the vision of the Founding Fathers of the HUJ, education for all, irrespective of race and religion, in the home of the Jewish People." Dr Winterton conveyed a message of congratulations from the Federal President of the Friends of the HUJ, Robert Simons OAM, and a special contribution by his brother Lindsay in his honour. Stuart, in the presence of many family members and friends, replied by reading the acceptance speech that he had delivered in Jerusalem some ten weeks earlier (plus some humorous additions). Stuart acknowledged that the HUJ is one of many organizations looking for support from the Diaspora. Members of the community should, if possible, choose one organization and give it special support. He had chosen the Friends of the HUJ because it allowed him to achieve many of his ideals and aspirations for the Jewish People, not only in Israel but also in the Diaspora. He stressed the importance of the recently established scholarship between the University of Western Australia and HUJ, which aims to support students going both ways with funds, administered by UWA. Donations to this fund are tax-deductible. Dr Winterton announced the Federal AGM of the Friends of HUJ will be held in Perth this year on 6th November. The evening before, the Jewish community is invited to attend a gala dinner on Saturday 5th November.



Stuart Silbert (centre) with HU President Prof. Menahem Ben-Sasson and Prof. Asher Cohen, Rector of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

### WA FRIENDS OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY HONOUR JERUSALEM QUARTET IN PERTH

On Tuesday 13 September the world famous Jerusalem Quartet gave a single performance at the Perth Concert Hall. The performance was hosted by Musica Viva Australia. A dedicated and enthusiastic crowd enjoyed their fine music and the atmosphere of this renowned Group. The WA Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (WAFHU) were privileged to be included in the event. The efforts of Lindsay Lovering, WA state manager of Musica Viva, and Lindsay Silbert, a long time supporter of WAFHU made this event possible. It is planned that Musica Viva and WAFHU will develop an ongoing MOU, facilitating special rates for WAFHU members for future concerts. Following the performance, WAFHU hosted a cheerful gathering at the Duxton Hotel, to welcome the Quartet members to Perth. The Quartet members signed the case of an antique violin body that had been salvaged and restored. The violin was auctioned and the proceeds of the sale were divided between the two organisations. "It was very heartening to meet and see so many new faces at this joint function of which this is but the first. It is a good example of when there are synergies in organisations; much is to be gained by mutual collaboration" noted WA Division president, Dr Peter Winterton. Musica Viva's foundation by Paul Morawetz (1914-2001), an Austrian refugee forced to flee his native Austria after the Anschluss in March 1938, had been instrumental in the early years of the Jerusalem Quartet's rise to fame. This evening's event was a tribute to his enthusiasm and vision.

yes, anything is possible . . .". Following his recent visit to Israel, **Dr Ron Weiser AM** brought the latest news from the region with his talk on "Israel: A report from the Field". **Prof Liran Carmel**, Hebrew University professor of computational biology, will be addressing our October meeting on "Glimpses into our mysterious past: What did it take to make us humans?".

## VICTORIA

Prof Chaim Lotan was in Australia in March 2016 to launch the new BioDesign Innovation Program at the University of Melbourne, a wonderful collaboration between The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and The University of Melbourne. Prof Lotan is a Director of the Heart Institute of Hadassah Medical Center and he established the Hadassah Cardiovascular Research Center. He was instrumental in setting up the BioDesign Innovation Institute in Jerusalem. Professor Gideon Aran, HU Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, lectured to Blake Street Synagogue club, led by Louise Dyskin and Eric Gordon in April about "Judaism and Zionism: Current Trends in Israeli Society". In May, Professor Tomer Broude, Deputy Dean of Law at the HU, lectured about international trade law to a reunion of Mishpatim (Law) students who attended the program at the HU's Rothberg International School in January 2016. Also in May, Swinburne University's leading academic team, led by Chancellor Graham Goldsmith, visited the Hebrew University and signed an MOU for joint collaboration with HU on innovation and technology research with President Menahem Ben-Sasson. In August, as part of Haseret Culture Club, Professor Dan Galal, former HU Dean of Business presented "The Economy of Israel - Start Up Nation" to over 80 members of Caulfield Congregation Schmoozday Club. Yaacov Michlin, the CEO of the Hebrew University's technology transfer company "Yissum" had a very busy visit to Australia between 12 to 21 September. Among the many functions and meetings arranged was a lunch at Square Peg Café (see photo).



From left - Prof David Grayden, UNIMELB Dept of Engineering, Prof Chaim Lotan, Sam Lipsky AM, Lady Anna Cowen AM, Patron AusFHU Victorian Division

## THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM THESE NAMES LIVE ON

Terna Alexander	Dr Isaac M Friedman	R M & A E Liddell	Rita Rossler
Minnie Apte	Lofta Galewski	Hilde Lightstone	Peter Salgo
Benjamin Barq	Helen Gans	Rae Lipson	Alice & Alfred Samuel
Philip Berg	Rae Gardner	Jane Lowinger	Salome Schiefel
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