

Help CFHU Advance Hebrew University's Excellence

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At the Hebrew University of Jerusalem many of the world's greatest scientific minds, young innovators and internationally renowned leaders, are working together across disciplines and uniting their areas of expertise to achieve a deeper understanding of the human body and its genetic makeup.

These insights are leading to life-saving discoveries.

- Hebrew University ranked 64th among the world's 100 top universities in the new Academic Ranking of World Universities issued by Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China. Hebrew University is the only Israeli institution included in the top 100.

Hebrew University is home to:

- 30% of all Israeli academic scientific research
- 43% of Israel's biotechnology research
- More than 1/3 of PhD students in Israel
- 16% of all research finds application in high-tech industry
- 3,500 research projects and 1,500 new projects are started each year
- More than 100 Research Centres
- 24,000 students and 1,600 Post- Graduate students in Biotechnology
- Hebrew University of Jerusalem is committed to improving the well-being of communities in the region, and the world at large.



You can make a difference.

[Nobel Prize Heritage](#)

- In the past seven years, seven HU alumni and faculty have received Nobel Prizes.
- In 2009, HU graduate Dr. Ada Yonath, was named co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

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Innovations Touching Lives December 2009



The Institute for Medical Research: Home of Modern Miracles

At this time of year, we commemorate two ancient miracles that occurred in Jerusalem: the triumph of the Maccabees and the tiny amount of sacred oil that nevertheless burned for eight nights.



Two thousand years later, modern miracles are taking place at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's new Institute for Medical Research Israel-Canada. IMRIC researchers - and their Canadian counterparts - are working together to solve some of the world's most pressing medical problems:

- **"Turning off" cancer cells:** IMRIC's Prof. Howard Cedar and McGill University's Dr. Moshe Szyf are working in the field of epigenetic research - how genes are regulated at the molecular level - to shed light on the genetic defects that can lead to cancer.
- **Radical new treatments for diabetes:** IMRIC's Dr. Yuval Dor has made the startling discovery that insulin-producing cells may in fact be able to regenerate. His team is collaborating with the University of Alberta's world-renowned diabetes researcher Dr. James Shapiro on a cure for this disease.
- **Bringing sight to the blind:** IMRIC's Dr. Amir Amedi is teaching the visually impaired to see through sound.
- **Working towards an HIV vaccine:** IMRIC molecular biologist Dr. Ofer Mandelboim and Canada's Dr. Frank Plummer director of Winnipeg's National Microbiology Laboratory and one of the world's leading specialists on HIV/AIDS, are combining their expertise to combat the effect of deadly viruses on the body.

Together, Israeli researchers and their Canadian counterparts are creating today's generation of modern, **medical miracles that will benefit all of humankind.**

18 Million Reasons to Support IMRIC

One year into Canadian Friends' fundraising campaign in support of the Hebrew University's Institute for Medical Research Israel-Canada, we have raised just over \$18 million - one third of our \$50-million goal!



The campaign's success to date, says CFHU National Director Rami Kleinmann, speaks to Canadian public support for medical research in particular. "IMRIC is conducting innovative research into the medical conditions - cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes, infectious diseases - that affect so many of us and our loved ones. It's no wonder the Institute strikes a chord for Canadian supporters."

Strong partnerships between IMRIC and Canadian researchers also appeal to Canadian donors, says National President Nathan Lindenberg. "We like to be able to support local causes. And with research partnerships in Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Montréal, and Ottawa, donating to IMRIC is a way to support innovative medical research in Canada as well."

Help Hebrew University change the way medicine is practiced the world over. **When you support IMRIC, you'll be in the esteemed company of Bill and Melinda Gates**, whose foundation just donated \$5 million to the IMRIC researcher leading the project for research into controlling visceral leishmaniasis - a disease that affects 500,000 people a year, mostly in the Indian subcontinent, East Africa and Brazil.

There is still time to make your commitment to **medical research** at IMRIC, [click here to donate](#), or contact your local [CFHU chapter office](#).



IMRIC: A Model to Follow

"IMRIC represents the kind of Israel we'd like to show the world, the kind of Israel we are proud of," says Amir Gissin, the Israeli Consul General for Toronto and Western Canada. **"It represents the creative energy and innovation that brings together the best in Israel for the benefit of the world."**



Consul General Gissin praises the partnerships between Israelis and Canadians. "I don't know why, but Israelis and Canadians tend to work well together and complement each other," he says. "IMRIC is the best example of cooperation between bright minds on both sides of the ocean, producing the best results for all of humanity. There's no doubt that, at the end of the day, the future of these two countries, those two economies, depends on innovation and the uniqueness of institutions like IMRIC. It is a model that should be copied."

Hebrew University Achievements

Research and Discoveries

Five young HU researchers were recently awarded competitive European Union grants for top young scientists. The Hebrew University, more than any other educational institution in Israel, serves as an incubator for Israel's scientific and scholarly leadership, resulting in advances like these:



- A new [antiviral hand sanitizer that completely inactivates the H1N1 virus](#) recently developed and commercialized by Yissum, the technology transfer arm of HU.
- A significant IMRIC discovery regarding the mechanism of insulin production that can lead to a [better treatment of diabetes](#).
- A groundbreaking discovery about a gene mutation responsible for a fast-moving form of Alzheimer's disease. This is key to developing an effective **new approach to treating Alzheimer's**.
- **Innovative research** about how nerve connections are formed in the central nervous system - a dramatic step toward **repairing brain damage**.
- The production of the medication **Doxil for treatment of patients with ovarian cancer**.
- The creation of the **EyeQ Chip**, a processing system analyzing signals from car-mounted cameras to **warn drivers of potential road hazards**, developed by MobileEye. The 2008 BMW 5 and 7 Series are among the vehicles using this life-saving technology.
- The **development of BriefCam**, a technique that allows security officers to review 24 hours of video recordings in less than a minute - **dramatically improving security systems**.
- Vital new means of **breeding edible fish in non-polluting ponds**. These innovative techniques are being shared with people in developing nations.
- The development of **cherry tomatoes and long shelf life tomatoes** of the Daniela variety is one of the world's most popular cocktail hybrids for greenhouse production.



You Can Make A Difference

Support Medical Research - Innovations Touching Lives



The Hebrew University's accomplishments remain exceptional, contributing to Israel's strength and research excellence.

The Institute for Medical Research Israel-Canada (IMRIC) needs your help. IMRIC's world renowned researchers are unlocking the mysteries of the genes and proteins that control fundamental processes in living cells. They are developing and applying innovative solutions to the world's most pressing medical problems. IMRIC innovators are creating the future of medicine.

Breakthroughs in biomedicine begin here.....

[Please make your tax deductible gift today that supports the strength of the Hebrew University, Medical Research, Israel and the World.](#)

About CFHU

Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem ([CFHU](#)) is a national not-for-profit organization that develops and promotes awareness of, leadership in, and financial support for the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Forging a meaningful partnership between Canadian Jewry and the people of Israel, CFHU helps to ensure the nation's well-being by nurturing Israel's greatest asset: the intellectual strength of its people.