



News and Events from CFHU, IMRIC, and Hebrew University

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- HOLD THE DATE!**  
 June Mission of Friendship, BOG, and Presidential Conf. June 13-23, 2011.
- TORONTO- Shalom Hanoch in Concert - Discount for CFHU - March 3 - [More info](#)
- New scholarship for Manitoba students wanting to study in Israel - the \$5000 Joel Weinstein Memorial Scholarship - March 31st application deadline. [More](#)



TORONTO - The Israel Program Fair - March 17th- [More info](#)



VANCOUVER - Hillel House Lecture March 8th - Dr. Nicole Adler from HU - [More info](#)



Israel and the Jewish World TV series on CTS with IMRIC researcher Prof. Ofer Mandelboim - March 6. [Shows/Channel Details](#)



Join us LIVE for Hebrew U's IMRIC Researchers on The Zelda Radio Show - The Global Jewish Connection. Listen - March 6th, - Prof. Ofer Mandelboim. [More](#)



New Coexistence In The Middle East academic program at HU. [Click here](#) for full details.



CFHU Western Region releases the Winter 2011 edition of the Between Friends Newsletter. [Click here](#) to view and download.



**CFHU eUpdate**

February 2011

**March Madness is Almost Here!**

**REGISTER NOW** for the 17th Annual CFHU March Madness Online Basketball Tournament will be starting on March 10, 2011.



Participation in this online tournament is open to everyone across the country. This year, funds raised will support THE BERNARD J. PERSIKO GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP FUND at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Named after dedicated Hebrew University supporter Bernard J. Persiko from Toronto, the scholarship is being established in order to allow Canadian students to benefit from the outstanding Masters programs being offered at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

[Click here](#) for full information and to register online today!

**Hebrew University Welcomes International Students Who Were Studying in Egypt**

Twelve students who were forced to halt their education at Egyptian universities began their semester at HU's Rothberg International School academic study abroad program on February 13. "With the ongoing turmoil in Egypt, the students decided to take the offer of the friendly, safe, stable and first-rate academic environment in Israel," says Rami Kleinmann, National Director, Canadian Friends of Hebrew University.



The offer to the international students is being labelled "Yetzeit Mitzrayim", a reference to the biblical exodus from Egypt.

[Click here](#) for the full story.

**IMRIC Researcher Amir Amedi New Study - The Brain As A 'Task Machine'**

The portion of the brain responsible for visual reading doesn't require vision at all, according to a new study in the February 17th Current Biology, a Cell Press publication. Brain imaging studies of blind people as they read words in Braille show activity in precisely the same part of the brain that lights up when sighted readers read. The findings challenge the textbook notion that the brain is divided up into regions that are specialized for processing information coming in via one sense or another, says Amir Amedi, a neuroscientist working at The Institute for Medical Research Israel-Canada (IMRIC).



[Click here](#) for more details.

**Recent Visitors To The Hebrew University**

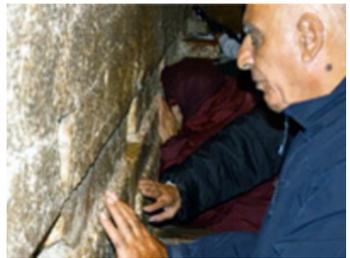
**New Canadian Ambassador To Israel Visits Mount Scopus Campus**

His Excellency Paul Hunt, the new Canadian Ambassador to Israel, visited Hebrew University and met administration and researchers as he learned about the campus, staff, and students. He enjoyed a tour of Mount Scopus, met with researchers at the Harry S. Truman Institute For the Advancement of Peace, had lunch with the president and vice president of Hebrew University followed, at which they were joined by the Director of the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies. [Click here](#) for the full story.



**CFHU Sponsored Visit of the Society for the Blind & Prevention of Blindness to Hebrew University**

A group of 130 mostly blind and visually impaired people with accompanying sighted people heard a lecture about ancient and modern coins, enjoyed a lunch on Mount Scopus, followed by a special tour of the Western Wall tunnels. [Click here](#) for the full story, additional images, and video.



**'Negative Democratic Gap' Serves as Predictor for Instability Such as in Egypt, Say HU Researchers**

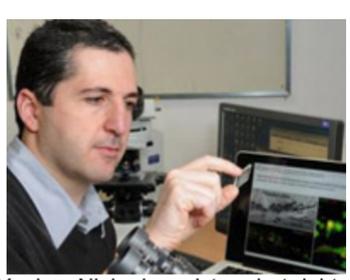
Research carried out at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem shows that it was possible already in 2008 to predict that countries such as Egypt and Iran were headed for dangerous periods of instability because of citizens' demands for democratization. The researchers were able to make this observation on the basis of a "democratic gap" scale of measurement between the level of freedom existing and the desire of citizens for more freedom, which was analyzed in about 90 countries around the world.



[Click here](#) for the full story.

**Low-Cost, Nanometer-Sized Drug Holds Promise For Treatment Of Chronic Diabetes And Burn Wounds**

A low cost, nanometer-sized drug to treat chronic wounds, such as diabetic foot ulcers or burns, has been developed by a group of scientists from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Harvard Medical School and others in the U.S. and Japan. Several proteins, called growth factors, have been found to speed up the healing process, however purifying these growth factor proteins is very expensive, and they do not last long on the injured site. Now, scientists at the Hebrew University and Harvard involved in the project have used genetic engineering to produce a "robotic" growth factor protein that responds to temperature. Increasing the temperature causes dozens of these proteins to fold together into a nanoparticle that is more than 200 times smaller than a single hair. The research at Hebrew University was led by Dr. Yaakov Niahmias, pictured at right.



[Click here](#) for the full story.

**Hebrew University Develops Environmentally Friendly Fish Farming System**

In a recent Jerusalem Post article Hebrew University researchers collaborate with entrepreneurs to develop an environmentally friendly fish farming system. Yaron Gissin, formerly a Foreign Ministry official responsible for technology and later an IT entrepreneur, founded GFA Advanced Systems Ltd. (Grow Fish Anywhere) as an interesting idea for a start-up. With several partners, he visited the Hebrew University in Jerusalem's Faculty of Agriculture, where Prof. Yap Van Rein showed them the technology he invented. The two main pollutants that most trouble fish farmers (and their coral-reef neighbors) are industrial waste and fish feces, both of which damage marine ecologies. "Our system is a closed system that prevents contaminating the outside, creating a complete solution to the problem of pollution from fish waste," GFA CEO Dotan Bar-Noi told Globes. The sophistication is in the system to clean the water of fish feces. "This task is carried out by biofilters, purifiers made from specialized bacteria that break down the nitrogen and carbon compounds in fish waste and convert it into carbon dioxide and gaseous nitrogen, which are discharged harmlessly into the atmosphere," Bar-Noi said. "The bacteria work round the clock, do not need electricity and are so efficient that there is no need to replace the water in the fish tanks."



[Click here](#) for the full story.

**You Can Make A Difference Support Medical Research - Innovations Touching Lives**

**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.

**About IMRIC**  
 CFHU is committed to promoting The Hebrew University's Institute for Medical Research Israel - Canada. IMRIC brings together Israel and Canada's most brilliant scientific minds to find solutions to the world's most pressing medical problems through a multidisciplinary approach to biomedical research. Together, researchers are creating innovative approaches to meet the challenges of medicine in the 21st century

Support IMRIC's groundbreaking medical research [Donate Now](#)

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- [Hebrew University Website](#)
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