



ACHIEVE GENDER
EQUALITY AND
EMPOWER
ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS

RESEARCH

Prof. Mouna Maroun named among the 50 Most Influential Women in Israel

Prof. Mouna Maroun, the first Arab female professor in the field of neuroscience in Israel, was named by the Israeli publication Globes as [one of the 2023's top 50 most influential women in Israel](#). Her research focuses on post-traumatic stress, aiming to develop a drug to alleviate traumatic memories. As Vice President and Dean for Research and Development at the University of Haifa, she promotes higher education in Arab society. Prof. Maroun engages in volunteer work, climate change collaboration, and fostering connections between the academy and religious communities in Haifa.

Gender Gap in Populist Radical Right Parties

School of Political Science faculty member, Dr. Liran Harsgor, is part of a team of researchers who recently published in the *American Journal of Political Science* an article that examines the [gender gap in support for populist radical right parties \(PRRPs\)](#). It suggests that men are more likely to vote for PRRPs than women, and this difference can



Laboratory for Neurobiology of Emotions members (Credit: lab website)

be attributed to variations in risk-taking tendencies. The research emphasizes the significance of gender differences in risk aversion and their impact on the voting gender gap.

Feminism and Mathematical Literacy

[‘Intersectional feminism to reinvasion mathematical literacies & precarity’](#) by Prof. Laurie Rubel of the Department of Mathematics Education and her team, published in *Research in Mathematics Education*, highlights the need to adapt math education given global challenges like COVID-19 and climate change. It critiques the Program for International Student Assessment's framework for mathematical literacy (FML), suggesting it's insufficient for addressing current crises and gender disparities. The study proposes integrating

critical math education and intersectional feminism to redefine mathematical literacy with a focus on feeling, acting, and problem context.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Legal Feminism Clinic

The Faculty of Law's [Legal Feminism Clinic](#) provided legal aid and representation to about 200 clients last year. The cases involved employment discrimination and sexual harassment; appeals against DA decisions not to press charges in sex crimes; eligibility for social security pensions for survivors of sex crimes; defense against SLAPP; protection warrants in cases of domestic violence; and more. The clinic was also involved in several projects for policy change relating to abortion

committees, treatment of victims of sex crimes in hospitals, exclusion of women from the public sphere, and a new initiative to conduct mediation between victims of sexual harassment and the alleged perpetrators.

Maternity Leave Museum Tours

Women on maternity leave are invited to explore culture and history at the Hecht Museum with [special guided tours](#). These free community tours offer an engaging and enriching experience, providing new mothers with an opportunity to connect, learn, and share the museum's treasures.

Working at the Intersection of Gender and Disabilities

Dr. Carmit-Noa Shpigelman of the [Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences](#) and the [Department of Community Mental Health](#) is a passionate disability advocate and researcher, [emphasizing gender inclusion within disability work](#). She serves on a round table managed by the Ministry of Law on the right of adults with disabilities to become parents; and works together with Prof. Sagit Mor of the "Haifa Forum of Disability Studies" to promote critical and ethical discussions on issues related to the people with disabilities and gender..

LEARNING AND STUDENTS

International Women's Day: Female Wisdom

Throughout the year, the university holds [a series of events](#) where faculty speak to students at local

bars. This year on International Women's Day, in collaboration with the Technion, there was an enlightening exploration into the realm of female wisdom, traversing ancient Greece to the groundbreaking discovery of DNA's structure. Celebrating the invaluable contributions, lead researchers' stories amplified the themes of empowerment, wisdom, and the pressing need for voice and resilience.

Aging Together: From Theory to Inclusiveness

Prof. Tova Band-Winterstein of the Minerva Center on Intersectionality in Aging (MCIA), led a conference on the topic [‘Aging LGBT: Exclusion to Inclusion’](#). The conference aimed to expose existing knowledge in theoretical discourse and interdisciplinary aging research, and to address the gaps in the interface between the realities of the lives of LGBTQ+ elderly populations, academic research, interventions, and policy. The conference was attended by a professional and academic audience from relevant disciplines and was sponsored by the Ministry of Social Equality and the Ministry of Welfare and Social Security.

Prestigious Na'amat and The President Scholarship Recipient

Doctoral student Asmaa Masarova from the Department of Gerontology received two prestigious scholarships. The Na'amat Scholarship 2022 and The Israeli President Excellence Scholarship for her outstanding research paper titled 'Between

Role Commitment and Abusive Behavior: Unmarried Girls Who Take Care of Elderly Parents in the Arab Family - An Intergenerational Perspective'. The committee [recognized her work for its academic excellence, originality, and groundbreaking](#) contribution to the field of gender research.

OPERATIONS

Werner Otto Scholarship for Arab Women

The Werner Otto Scholarship Program provides scholarships for Arab women studying towards MA and PhD degrees, enabling talented Arab female students to [pursue their academic careers](#), and promoting Arab women within Israeli society. Up to now, the University has granted scholarships to over 200 strongly committed women in partnership with the Jewish-Arab Center.

Preventing Sexual Harassment Amongst LGBTQ Students

To address and limit sexual harassment on campus, the university's management [appointed Prof. Anat Derech-Zehavi to be head of the complaints commission for matters of sexual harassment](#). During gay pride month this year, the complaints commission made a special appeal to the LGBTQ community on campus, citing that despite new research that shows that LGBTQ students at Israeli Universities are 6.5x more likely to experience sexual harassment, the commission receives very few complaints from the community.