17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

RESEARCH

Coral Survival Secret

A study led by Dr. Shani Levy (Marine Biology) and researchers from the Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG) in Barcelona uncovered how the Mediterranean stony coral *Oculina patagonica* survives even without its symbiotic algae. Published in Nature, it reveals the coral's cellular and genetic adaptations, offering insights into coral resilience under rising ocean temperatures. Featured by *Ynet and The Media Line*.

New Research Uncovers Two Types of PTSD

A study by Prof. Roee Admon (Psychology) and Dr. Ziv Ben-Zion (School of Public Health), with international collaborators, found that PTSD develops through two distinct emotional pathways, not only fear. Published in *Biological Psychiatry*, it identified a fear-based profile and a separate profile driven by deep emotional pain, including guilt, sadness and shame, which may be detectable through brain activity soon after trauma.



Prof. Ofer Arazy and colleagues advancing global collaboration for Biodiversity in Kenya (Credit: University of Haifa)

Studying Climate-Resilient Corals in Costa Rica

Researchers and students from the Department of Marine Biology, led by Prof. Tali Mass and Mr. Dar Golomb, are conducting field research in Costa Rica's Guanacaste region on corals that naturally withstand extreme conditions. With local conservation groups and international partners, they aim to uncover how these corals adapt to climate stress and help protect reefs worldwide.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Yekke Museum Opens at University of Haifa

The University inaugurated the new home of the Yekke Museum, dedicated to the heritage of German-speaking Jewry, at the Hecht Museum, with thousands of rare documents, photographs, letters and personal artifacts, as a new public and research hub.

Boston Leadership Delegation Visits University of Haifa

The University hosted a delegation of community leaders from Boston, on a visit supported by Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They met Prof. Tally Katz-Gerro (Vice President for Global Engagement), Tsameret Einav (Head of the Division of Global Engagement) and Dr. Marva Shalev Marom (Haifa Laboratory for Religious Studies) and learned about the University's multicultural character and Haifa's model of interfaith coexistence.

Innovation Authority Awards Three Grants to University of Haifa

The University secured three Israel Innovation Authority grants totaling approximately NIS 6 million, including matching university funding. The initiatives will support entrepreneurship, bio-convergence innovation, healthcare startups and high-tech workforce training, with a focus on expanding opportunities for Arab students and strengthening industry collaboration.

LEARNING AND STUDENTS

University of Haifa at Falling Walls 2025

The University led the largest Israeli university delegation to the Falling Walls Science Summit 2025 in Berlin. President Prof. Gur Alroey spoke on global academic collaboration, the Center for Cyber, Law and Policy led discussions on deepfakes, AI ethics, quantum security and biometrics, and faculty showcased research, including Prof. Roy Salomon on trauma among Nova festival survivors and Dr. Ziv Ben-Zion on resilience and trauma recovery.

University of Haifa Hosts West African University Leaders

Prof. Tally Katz-Gerro, Vice President of Global Engagement, welcomed a delegation of 10 presidents and vice presidents from universities in Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The visit showcased Haifa's international programs in early childhood education and public health, included meetings with African students at the University, and concluded with discussions on future partnerships.

Advancing Global Collaboration for Biodiversity

Prof. Ofer Arazy, head of the Division of Innovation and Sustainability, and colleagues are taking part in research initiatives in Kenya and collaborating with North American universities on an international PhD course combining ecology, biology, computer science and AI, to equip researchers with data-driven tools to protect biodiversity.

OPERATIONS

University Launches New Website

Led by Ms. Esti Levy, Head of the Computer-Assisted Instruction Unit, the University launched its new website as part of a broader digital transformation, with redesigned faculty sites, a modern user experience and advanced content management that improve accessibility and meet international standards. Additional enhancements are planned.

International Public Health Program Launches First Newsletter

The International Public Health Program published the first edition of its newsletter, initiated by Dr. Tair Ben Porat and Dr. Shira Freeman, introducing the current cohort: students from varied professional and international backgrounds united by an interest in global public health, health promotion, health policy and reducing health inequalities.

Academic Year Opens with New Medical School

The new academic year opened with the inaugural class of the Herta and Paul Amir School of Medicine, headed by Prof. Haim Bitterman. Thanks to a generous donation, all first-year medical students receive a full tuition waiver. The school operates with Carmel Medical Center and Clalit Health Services' Haifa and Western Galilee District.



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