THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL STAFF

Prof. Moshe Coll
Outgoing Head of the International School of Agricultural Sciences

Prof. Aliza Fleischer
Vice Dean for International Affairs
and new Head of the International School of Agricultural Sciences

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the International School of Agricultural Sciences

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and new Head of the International School of Agricultural Sciences

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Design: Daedalos
Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present you with the 2017-2018 annual report, summarizing last year’s activities and accomplishments at the International School of Agricultural Sciences of the Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The establishment of the International School a few years ago provided an academic home to the 30-year-old international teaching activities in Rehovot. It is a strong indication of our commitment to capacity building and the transfer of Israeli agricultural knowhow for the benefit of mankind. The new school also allows us to expand our global impact through an increase both in student enrolment and in the number of programs.

The academic activities at the International School continue to grow and now include six international MSc programs: four one-year programs in Plant Sciences, Environmental Quality Sciences, Animal Sciences and Nutritional Sciences; an 18-month-long program in Viticulture and Enology; and a new 14-month-long program in Development Practice (MDP), scheduled to open in 2019. The global interest in our programs as a whole, and in the newest programs in particular, provides strong evidence of the academic excellence of the International School and the high relevance of its educational tracks.

The new MDP program brings together developmental economics and business administration tools and agro-environmental knowhow to provide top students with basic theory and practical experience. We are very excited about this new program, which is a collaborative effort of the Hebrew University’s Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment and the Milken Innovation Center at the Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research. We expect this MDP program to attract top students from less developed regions, emerging economies and developed countries, including Israel.

In September 2018, 21 students completed their MSc studies in the Nutritional and Animal Sciences programs; 14 students graduated from the first class of the Viticulture and Enology program, and a new cohort of 24 students started the MSc programs in Plant and Environmental Quality Sciences. A year from now, with the opening of the MDP program, the number of enrolled Master’s students in the School is expected to exceed 60, three times the enrollment just two years ago. The high academic level of these programs is also evidenced in the high proportion of graduates that qualify to transfer to the thesis track at the Hebrew University.

The International School, with the support of MASHAV (Israel’s Agency for International Development Cooperation), also offered last year three postgraduate courses with about 75 participants from less developed countries from around the globe. The courses dealt with critical, pressing issues, such as food safety, nutrition, and agricultural and natural resource economics.

Finally, two summer programs for MSc and PhD students from India, China, Europe and beyond were held in the summer of 2018 with 40 participants in total. The first summer program, “Mediterranean Diet – from Genes to Health,” was organized by the International School as a partner in the EuroLeague for Life Sciences (ELLS). The second summer program, “Effluents – Reclamation, Irrigation and Environmental Implication, and Effects of Biotic and Abiotic Stresses on Agricultural Crops,” is a special program funded by the Israeli Council of Higher Education that we offered students from China and India. Both programs included academic lectures by faculty members, practical field trips, greenhouse practice and modeling exercises.

All these activities, together with our continued contact with our international alumni and service to other overseas exchange and graduate students and postdoctoral fellows on campus, are carried out by the School’s exceptionally professional staff, headed by our Administrative Director, Ms. Racheli Inbari. This has been a very busy year for us at the International School, yet we are highly motivated by our strong belief in our ability to make the world a better place for all mankind. I take this opportunity to invite you personally to visit us in Rehovot and share your thoughts with us.

Finally, on a more personal note, I wish to thank the dedicated staff of the International School for four wonderful years, packed with challenges, accomplishments and gratification. This is the last letter I am writing as the School’s Head; since October 2018, Professor Aliza Flesher has been heading the International School as part of her new position of Vice Dean for International Affairs in our Faculty. I wish her and the School much success and increased global impact.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Professor Moshe Coll
Outgoing Head, International School of Agricultural Sciences
Dear Friends,

At the start of this school year, in October 2018, I assumed a new position at our Faculty, Vice Dean for International Affairs, which includes the management of the International School. The Hebrew University has made a strategic move to expand its international footprint and my new role is a reflection of this effort. Another facet is the resolution passed by the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Benny Chefetz, stipulating that all graduate studies at the Faculty will be conducted in English. This will help us increase the number of exchange students from universities abroad and enable our students at the International School to study side by side with our Israeli students. We also proactively encourage our Israeli students to participate in student exchange programs and study abroad programs, whether for a whole semester or just a summer program. We hope this international exposure will prepare our students to operate in a global environment when they graduate. This is an interesting and very challenging time for us, and I am sure we will succeed in promoting these important endeavors, which will raise the profile of the Hebrew University on a global scale.

Sincerely yours,

Professor Aliza Fleischer
New Head, International School of Agricultural Sciences, and Vice Dean for International Affairs

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Nelson Mandela
FACTS AND FIGURES

30 years
For 30 years, the International School of Agricultural Sciences has been offering English-taught courses and academic programs.

3,000
Over 3,000 have participated in professional training courses at the International School of Agricultural Sciences.

127
Our students come from 127 countries.

300
Over 300 international students have graduated from the International MSc programs.

50%
At least 50 percent of International MSc students transfer to a thesis track.

OUR VISION
The Robert H. Smith Faculty’s teaching and research activities have always played a central role in advancing agriculture to strengthen Israel’s economy while training tomorrow’s scientists and agriculturists. The Smith Faculty’s mission is to protect and rehabilitate the environment while increasing food production and reducing world hunger; mobilize agriculture to meet human health needs; improve the quality and purity of agricultural products; and share the benefits of Israeli research and innovation with other nations.

The International School is dedicated to sharing the Smith Faculty’s knowledge and expertise throughout the international community by providing opportunities to acquire advanced academic knowledge and observe up-to-date practical applications. The educational programs encourage students to explore new fields and cultures, exchange ideas and experiences, contribute to capacity building and problem solving, and create partnerships for future cooperation.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN 2017-2018

The Hebrew University Promotes Internationalization
The Hebrew University has set internationalization as a strategic institutional priority and, to this end, has inaugurated a new International Office. As part of this drive, a new position was created at the Smith Faculty: Prof. Aliza Fleischer was appointed Vice Dean for International Affairs. These efforts have translated into a significant increase in the number of exchange students in the Smith Faculty in the 2017-2018 academic year.

Marketing Campaign
The International School at the Smith Faculty embarked on an Internet marketing campaign with McCann, a global advertising agency, in an effort to recruit more students for its programs and create more visibility for the School. The promotions primarily targeted India, China and North America, and more countries will be targeted in the next campaign.

Facebook
The International School’s Facebook page has drawn more than 2500 friends from around the world.
Branded Merchandise
In addition to increasing our marketing activities, we launched a line of branded products to promote the International School. These products help to bond the students to the Hebrew University and enhance their pride in being part of the University and the International School. The merchandise includes T-shirts, backpacks, umbrellas, flash drives, pens and notebooks.

Student Yearbooks
We produced for the first time a yearbook comprised of photos documenting the entire school year. The MSc yearbook was presented to the students at the closing ceremony. Graduates of the first class of the International MSc in Viticulture and Enology received a beautiful yearbook of their own.

Hebrew Ulpan
In response to numerous student requests to learn Hebrew, to help them better navigate in Israeli society, the International School opened a 60-hour Hebrew Ulpan in November 2018. Sixteen students attended the once-per-week Ulpan, which was offered at a greatly subsidized cost.

Classroom Renovations
The International School renovated two classrooms on the ground floor of its building. New flooring, lighting, a kitchenette, chairs and an outdoor deck have created classrooms that greatly enhance students’ learning experience.

Crop Management Workshop with Israeli Students
Previous Plant Sciences students have suggested that we include more hands-on courses in our programs. Therefore, we opened a unique Crops Management Workshop in October 2018, attended by new international Plant Sciences students and first-year Israeli Smith Faculty students. This project, initiated and run by Prof. Alon Samach, the academic head of the international Plant Sciences program, brings students together to work on the Faculty's experimental farm, growing and managing crops from seed to harvest. Elder members of the Ethiopian community in Rehovot, who receive plots to grow their own vegetables on the farm, are invited from time to time to join the group and acquire professional agricultural knowledge.

New Signage
Our new sign implements the Hebrew University's decision to use Israel's three national languages equally.
Collaboration with the Faculty’s Student Union

As part of our vision to bring Israelis and foreign students together, we are partnering with the Smith Faculty’s Student Union to organize events at the beginning of the 2018-2019 academic year. Some ideas being considered are ethnic parties; joint holiday ceremonies, such as Hanukkah candle lighting; a Christmas party; and cooking workshops.

Alumni Reunion

As part of our efforts to increase our alumni activities, we will host an alumni reunion that will coincide with next year’s graduation ceremony for Plants and Environment Master’s students. The alumni to be invited will be Plants and Environment graduates of the 2014-2015 and 2016-2017 classes.

New Position: International Programs Team Leader

The International School recently recruited Ms. Meital Salmor as the new International Programs Team Leader. Ms. Salmor will manage all international programs and marketing activities in the International School. We wish her the best of luck.

New Position: Social Coordinator

The International School recently recruited Ms. Hagar Zaid as a social coordinator to our team. This position addresses a range of student needs—such as initiation and coordination of trips, site visits, holiday celebrations and social activities—and provides a wider support net for our students. We wish her the best of luck.

Alumni Video

We are currently producing a video dedicated to the personal experiences of our Master’s program alumni. The video, filmed on both the Rehovot campus and the Volcani Center, highlights our alumni’s success stories, such as completing their thesis, pursuing their PhDs and the agricultural endeavors some of them have made in their communities back home, and will become an important marketing tool for recruiting students for our international programs.

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.”

Mother Teresa
The International Master of Science programs are 12-month-long accelerated non-thesis degrees in one of four fields of study: Plant Sciences or Environmental Quality Sciences, held biennially in even years, and Animal Sciences or Nutritional Sciences, held biennially in odd years. To earn the degree, students are required to complete 40 course credits. Excelling students may apply to transfer to the thesis track at the Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

In addition, the International School offers an 18-month Master of Science in Viticulture & Enology, with a Master of Science in Development Practice track set to open in October 2019.

2017-2018 Programs

MSc in Nutritional Sciences and MSc in Animal Sciences
The class of 2017-2018 consisted of 11 Nutritional Sciences students and 10 Animal Sciences students. The group of 21 students came from 13 countries: Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Nigeria, Rwanda, Swaziland, Uganda and the USA. In addition, two students, from Austria and Germany, participated in the programs for one semester.

Nutritional Sciences Program
The International Master of Science in Nutritional Sciences prepares students to become leading professionals in the field of Nutritional Sciences and apply the knowledge acquired at the Smith Faculty to modern nutritional challenges in their home countries. Students in the program learn the fundamentals of nutrition based on the most recent scientific findings, research and diagnostic approaches. The program is academically headed by Prof. Betty Schwartz and Dr. Aliza Stark.

Animal Sciences Program
The International Master of Science in Animal Sciences prepares students to become leading professionals in modern animal husbandry and contribute the skills and knowledge gained at the Smith Faculty to improve agriculture in their home countries. Students acquire the fundamentals of Animal Sciences based on the most recent scientific findings, as well as comprehensive knowledge on animal physiology, farm animal production and the environmental impact of animal husbandry. The program is academically headed by Prof. Sameer J. Mabjeesh.

MSc in Viticulture & Enology
The International Master of Science in Viticulture & Enology is the first MSc degree of its kind to be approved by the National Council for Higher Education of Israel. It is tailored to fit Israel’s climate and soils. The biennial, 18-month-long program spans four consecutive semesters and is comprised of theoretical studies on campus and practical hands-on learning in the vineyard and winery. Students also participate in a professional workshop abroad and are offered the opportunity to intern at a commercial winery in Israel or abroad. The first cycle of the program had a unique experience in Bordeaux, France, where they participated in an intense eight-day workshop on the Bordeaux Terroir. The visit included three days of intensive academic learning at Bordeaux Sciences Agro, four days of trips to different vineyards and wineries around the region, and a visit to Château Laffite, hosted by Baron Eric de Rothschild. The program is academically headed by Prof. Zohar Kerem.

The 14 graduates of the class of 2017-2018 are all now working in the enology field. The class of 2019-2020 will open in February 2019 and will include 16 students.

New Program: MSc in Development Practice
This unique International Master of Science in Development Practice - Sustainable Rural Development (MDP), dedicated to resource and development economics, is scheduled to open in October 2019. A joint venture with Jerusalem Institute’s Milken Innovation Center, the 14-month-long program is accredited by the Global MDP Association. Students are offered the exceptional opportunity to gain the tools to explore market-based solutions to agricultural, environmental, economic and business challenges of global, sustainable development. This multilateral program combines academic teaching by leading academics and professionals with practical internship training to achieve measurable project outcomes. The program is academically headed by Dr. Iddo Kan.
SHORT-TERM COURSES

MASHAV INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSES

MASHAV is the Hebrew acronym for Israel’s Agency for International Development Cooperation, a department established 60 years ago in Israel’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. MASHAV activities focus on areas in which Israel has a comparative advantage and/or accumulated expertise. For the past 30 years, the International School has been conducting short-term professional training courses for participants from developing countries in partnership with MASHAV. In addition to academic lectures, these three-week-long programs include hands-on experience, lab work, professional field trips and tours around Israel, and provide a framework for continued networking and research cooperation among the participants and with Israeli experts. The graduates of these programs return to their countries enriched with up-to-date knowledge about modern technologies, and become goodwill ambassadors of the State of Israel.

MASHAV Course: Nutrition in a Changing Global Environment

The field of Nutritional Sciences stands before new challenges due to global changes in the human diet. While the problems of malnutrition and infectious disease were of central importance in the past, an emerging trend toward over-nutrition and chronic illness, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer, is increasingly becoming the focus of research in this field. Our growing understanding of the relationship between diet and health has made it clear that dietary trends must be redirected. These issues were the focus of discussion in the MASHAV course in Nutrition in a Changing Global Environment, under the academic coordination of Dr. Aliza Stark. The course covered a wide range of current issues in nutritional science, such as the role of nutrition in the human life cycle: infants, children, adolescents, mothers, adults, and the elderly. Twenty five professionals from 15 countries (Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Swaziland, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda and Vietnam) participated in the course, held from May 27–June 15, 2018.

“Very effective and informative course. Unforgettable practical experience during the field visits. I am extremely thankful to the program coordinator and course coordinator for arranging all the lectures and field visits and for the guidance and support for project development.”

Participant in a 2018 MASHAV course

MASHAV Course: Feeding the Future – Food Safety and Technology in Times of Global Change

Appropriate measures are needed to ensure safe and sanitary conditions in all the stages in the chain of supply and trade, from cultivation and harvest, through processing and packaging, to the transport and storage of food. This study program provided 25 participants from 20 countries (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Macedonia, Moldova, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Paraguay, Serbia, South Africa, Ukraine and Vietnam) with management skills for confronting hazards and threats in the food industry. They gained tools for critical evaluation of the nutritional status of foods, and developed an awareness of potential health hazards during cultivation, processing, transport and storage of food supplies. The program, academically coordinated by Dr. Zippora Gershon and held from October 7–26, 2018, presented a thorough discussion of emerging trends and technologies for improving the safety and sanitation of food sources in the participants’ home countries.

MASHAV Course: Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics – Changes in the Era of Globalization

Addressing climate change and realizing a sustainable environment call for more sophisticated and efficient agricultural technologies as the world population grows and the amount of arable land decreases. More mouths to feed, plus less arable land and changing rainfall patterns, mean a growing need to develop methods of production from alternative resources and technological solutions that can increase productivity. This new course was held from November 4–23, 2018, under the academic coordination of Dr. Dafna DiSegni. The topics discussed included policies for sustainable development, resources and sustainable agricultural management, impact assessment and quantitative analysis and mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The 25 participants, from 13 countries (Bosnia & Herzegovina, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Georgia, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Vietnam) went home equipped with decision making tools that will enable them to confront the present and expected challenges in the agricultural sector.
SUMMER PROGRAMS

ELLS (Euro League for Life Sciences) Summer Program:
Mediterranean Diet – from Genes to Health

The Euro League for Life Sciences is a network of leading universities cooperating in the fields of Natural Resource Management, Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, Life Sciences, Veterinary Sciences, Food Sciences, and Environmental Sciences. The Hebrew University has been a member of this prestigious network for the past four years, offering two-week-long summer courses to students from network universities. After three cohorts of the highly successful summer course “The Use of New Sources of Water for Crop Irrigation: Case Study in the Middle East”, we opened a new course in the summer of 2018, titled “Mediterranean Diet – from Genes to Health”. This course, held for the first time on June 24–July 5, 2018, under the academic coordination of Prof. Oren Froy, included 15 participants from the Czech Republic, Germany, Israel and the Netherlands. The course introduced students to olive oil technology, evidence-based health benefits of the Med diet, and the timing of food in the Mediterranean. Topics such as Med diet and metabolic disorders and Med diet and bone health were also discussed. In addition to lectures, the curriculum included professional field trips and a Mediterranean cuisine cooking class.

As a result of our prolific cooperation with the ELLS network, a bilateral agreement with Wageningen University, one of the world’s leading agricultural universities, was signed in 2018. This agreement includes academic staff and student exchange. We are also happy to announce that we will be hosting the ELLS annual spring meeting that will take place in March 2020.

Council of Higher Education Summer Program:
Effluents – Reclamation, Irrigation and Environmental Implication,
and Effects of Biotic and Abiotic Stresses on Agricultural Crops

In the summer of 2018, a group of 24 students from China and India participated in a short-term study program incorporating academic, experimental and cultural elements, conducted under the auspices of the International School of Agricultural Sciences in collaboration with Israel’s Council of Higher Education. The program, academically coordinated by Mr. David Yalin and held from July 9 – August 8, 2018, included two advanced agricultural science courses, selected from the Smith Faculty’s course list for their relevance to international agriculture. The two courses were taught by experienced members of the Smith Faculty. In addition to classroom instruction, students gained hands-on experience and participated in professional field trips to observe practical applications of the course material.

“Every class was held by another professor, which improved the variety of the course even more. This summer program was very interesting to me and I will never forget this experience.”

Participant in the 2018 ELLS Summer Program
Pears Seed Grant Project: Chicken, fish and vegetable integrated farming for food security and rural livelihood enhancement in the district of Jimma zone, Ethiopia

The integrated livestock-fish culture approach envisages the integration of fish farming with livestock husbandry in a design that allows the waste from one system to be used as input in another system, with the aim of conserving resources while increasing farm yields and diversifying products. The integration of our project centers on the use of locally available resources and the adoption of feasible and locally sustainable technologies for home-gardening of vegetable crops by using fertile water from fish ponds and backyard poultry droppings. Moreover, the chicken litter is used as feed for tilapia. By doing so, we increase production while conserving natural resources. Therefore, establishing context-based small-scale chicken-fish-vegetable integrated farming is expected to reduce the food and nutrition insecurity of the community.

Constructing water reservoirs for irrigation in Kenya

After receiving the opportunity to study for my Master’s degree in Israel, I wanted to bring back to my community the knowledge I had gained. The water source nearest to my village is approximately 17 km away, with the only accessible means of transport being donkeys, since it is mountainous. People spend half a day just fetching water. When I went home during the semester break, I discussed with community leaders the idea of constructing water reservoirs to collect water runoff and use it for irrigation. My parents supported my idea and helped me dig. So far, my community has built five reservoirs.

Waseyehon Hassen Abate, Ethiopia
MSc in Animal Sciences, Class of 2013-2014
Pears Scholar

Beatrice Gedion, Kenya
MSc in Plant Sciences, Class of 2016-2017
Pears Scholar
Ruminant farming project in Uganda

A colleague and I decided to establish a model goat farm from which other farmers could learn better farming practices. My colleague contacted me because he was aware that I had acquired new knowledge and experience through the Master’s program in Animal Sciences at the Hebrew University. This knowledge was key to utilizing the natural resources in my country to bring the project to life.

My mentor from the Hebrew University, Prof. Sameer J. Mabjeesh, travelled to Uganda to offer me a helping hand with some of the pressing challenges on the farm. With his assistance, we designed a new and improved goat pen and addressed other concerns, which significantly improved the farm.

We have created jobs for several formerly unemployed youths and, at the same time, have trained several farmers on how to adopt better farming practices. We are also in the process of establishing a commercial feed center, which will preserve goat feeds to make them available to other farmers, especially during the dry season when grazing land is scarce.

Providing humanitarian aid and distributing food

I have five years of experience managing humanitarian work in disaster areas and in conflict, post-conflict and fragile settings, particularly in South Asia, the Middle East and East Africa. I have worked with leading humanitarian agencies, such as Oxfam, PIN, IOM, PIN and DRC, and have been part of Nepal Earthquake Response 2015 and Famine Response in South Sudan 2016.
Eco-friendly agribusiness in Mexico and rural development

I currently live in Mexico City and own a small business called VERDE AIRE. It is a small hydroponic greenhouse where I ecologically grow lettuce and other greens, mostly local produce. We started selling to supermarkets and, to a very small scale, to restaurants. I also work at a rural development start-up called ESOKO as an agricultural content creator. Lastly, I started teaching a course at the Bachelor of Sustainable Development, called Climate Change. Two things that I really wanted came true: working in rural development and starting a project.

Thesis Abroad: Effectiveness of Baby Friendly Community Initiative on Complementary Feeding in Koibatek, Kenya: a Randomized Control Study

Published research article in BMC Public Health journal, 2017

The World Health Organization and UNICEF have developed the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) to address poor breastfeeding practices in maternity wards. However, impact is limited in less developed countries, like Kenya, where more than half of all births are home deliveries. Therefore, Kenya has explored the adoption of the Baby Friendly Community Initiative (BFCI) in its rural settings. In contrast to the BFHI, the BFCI supports breastfeeding and optimal infant feeding in the community. BFCI has been implemented in Koibatek, in rural Kenya. This study aimed at assessing the effectiveness of BFCI on complementary feeding practices of children aged 6–23 months, by comparing intervention and control groups. Mildred conducted her research together with Smith Faculty co-advisor Dr. Sharon Iron-Segev and Kenyan co-advisor Dr. Judith Kimiywe for her Thesis Abroad, sponsored by the Pears Foundation.
Recruited by the United Nations World Food Program, 2018

Our graduate Adela Shabot was recruited by the Nutrition Division of the UN World Food Program (WFP). She will be interning at the European headquarters in Rome, Italy. Adele was recruited at a human resources seminar hosted on the Rehovot campus by the Faculty of Agriculture in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UN organizations focusing on agriculture and food.

Pears Foundation Thesis Abroad: Techniques and Additives for Feed Preparation

Collaboration with the Agriculture Ministry of Jamaica, 2018

Khalil Brown secured funding and full support from the Jamaica Agriculture Ministry to carry out practical research for his Thesis Abroad in Jamaica. With Prof. Sameer J. Mabjeesh from the Smith Faculty as his thesis advisor, Khalil is researching goat feeding. Goats are the most common animal used by farmers in Jamaica. Food sources are sparse and methods of conservation and maintaining the nutritional value of goat feed are undeveloped or deficient. Khalil is exploring techniques and additives for feed preparation. Khalil will return to the Faculty in 2019 to complete and defend his thesis.
Animal Sciences students visited Lachish Industries, a company that manufactures cattle-food-producing machinery.

Annual joint event with the International Master in Public Health (IMPH) and Glocal Community Development programs at the Mount Scopus campus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Christmas trip to Nazareth

Participating in the Faculty’s annual Tu Bishvat (“New Year for Trees”) planting ceremony

Visiting the Old City of Jerusalem
Preparing and sharing traditional dishes at the Annual International Meal

Graduates at the International MSc Closing Ceremony, September 7, 2018

MSc Animal Sciences graduates with Prof. Sameer J. Mabjeesh (third from left) at the International MSc Closing Ceremony, September 7, 2018

Lady Daniela (middle) and Tanya (right) Pears with Patricia Kiprono, a Nutrition student, at the International MSc Closing Ceremony, September 7, 2018

Graduates at the International MSc Closing Ceremony with Prof. Betty Schwartz (far right) and Dr. Aliza Stark (far left), September 7, 2018
MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM HEADS

Dr. Aliza Stark
Co-Academic Head, MSc in Nutritional Sciences

Working with the international students is truly an opportunity for ‘Tikun Olam’ (making the world a better place) and capacity building. We offer a unique environment for motivated individuals from developing countries, who have very limited access to quality education at home, to reach an academic level where they can compete on the global stage. Our graduates have participated in, or are currently enrolled in, doctoral programs in countries such as Japan, New Zealand, Canada, the USA, China, Switzerland and Denmark. My greatest satisfaction is to hear about the achievements of our alumni. The MSc degree they received at the Hebrew University allows them to accomplish any goal they set for themselves.

Prof. Sameer J. Mabjeesh
Academic Head, MSc in Animal Sciences

I wait for every cycle to begin in order to teach and mentor students from around the world in my specialty (farm animal husbandry and nutrition). The main drive is the tremendous effect on the students. The Hebrew University and our Faculty strive for excellence. Watching these students’ excitement on orientation day and then following their steps toward obtaining a diploma is indeed a process of creating excellence. Witnessing this process, from the fear of handling a pipette to conducting and leading a thesis research program, is what drives me to be a teacher and mentor for these students. Transforming a student into a leader is the purpose of the program and my goal as a teacher and mentor.

“The way to change the world is through individual responsibility and taking local action in your own community.”

Jeff Bridges
Armando García, Mexico
MSc in Plant Sciences, Class of 2016-2017
Claude Salomon Scholar

Studying at the International School of the Hebrew University gave me many tools that will allow me to excel in many sectors, such as industry, academy or business. I think that in the past I was a Mexican citizen, but after being part of the International School, I have become a citizen of the world.

Supporters and Friends

The School’s activities and accomplishments are made possible by the generous support and continuing commitment of our donors and collaborators. The International School thanks the following sponsors and organizations for their invaluable partnership.

- Pears Foundation (UK)
- Barbara and Mick Davis International Masters Scholarship (UK)
- Mauerberger Foundation Fund (South Africa)
- Foundation Marcelle et Jean Coutu (Canada)
- Claude Salomon Scholarship Fund (Mexico)
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- Mrs. Evelene Wechsler (USA)
- Ms. Iris Meller (UK)
- Moshal Foundation (South Africa)
- MASHAV - Israel’s Agency for International Development Cooperation
- ELLS – Euro League for Life Sciences
- OLAM
- The Council for Higher Education of Israel