



FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE

Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Road, Science & Engineering 482, Boca Raton, FL 33431

Phone: 561.297.4093 Fax: 561.297.4094 rothz@fau.edu www.floridaisrael.org

2006-2007 Annual Report

July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC) and Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU)



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Mission of the Florida-Israel Institute

The Florida-Israel Institute (FII) is a public organization that was created by the Florida Legislature and is administered jointly by Florida Atlantic University (FAU) and Broward Community College (BCC). Its primary purpose is to promote the development of enhanced governmental, economic, technological, cultural, educational and social ties between the State of Florida and the State of Israel. This mission is achieved through the formation of cooperative initiatives in research, academic development, student and faculty exchange, cultural exchange, and technical assistance between FAU, BCC and Israeli institutions of higher learning as well as private sector commercial endeavors. The Institute acts as a facilitator forging collaborative efforts between Israel's world renowned academic institutions and Israel's highly innovative hi-tech industry with Florida's higher-education institutions and Florida industry in areas essential to both states. Two groups assist FII in carrying out its mission: an all-purpose advisory committee consisting of members from academics, government and private industry; and a faculty committee which focuses exclusively on the academic activities of FII.

Among other means FII shall seek to co-sponsor visits from Israeli cultural artists, sponsor a monthly Israeli film series, invite Israeli faculty for academic collaboration, facilitate research initiatives, award legislature-approved tuition waivers, develop study abroad programs in Israel for American college and university students, and facilitate academic and other (e.g., business, technological) delegations to Israel.

Message from the Institute's Co-Directors



Dr, Daniel Rieger (BCC) Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU)

A major achievement during the 2006-2007 year was the restructuring of the Florida-Israel Institute's Board. The Board consists of government, community and academic leaders who all share a deep concern for the well-being of the State of Florida and the State of Israel. We would like to thank the Board President, Herb Swarzman, for his tireless efforts in making this achievement possible. We also thank the Southeast office of AIPAC and the FAU and BCC administrations for significantly contributing to that cause.

A reception on 10/9/06 hosted by FAU President Frank Brogan and BCC President Larry Calderon honored Herb Swarzman, as well as State representative Adam Hasner, the FII Legislator of the Year, and former BCC President Will Holcombe. It served as a memorable occasion to introduce the new Board, as well as the FII Academic Advisory Committee.

The legislatively allocated budget for the Florida-Israel Institute in 2006-2007 was \$200,000. For the first time in many years, no supplementary funds were needed from FAU and BCC, the two host higher education institutions. FII continued facilitating academic research collaboration between the higher-education institutions of both states. Ongoing projects focused in part on planning and submitting proposals that would build a funding base for bringing to Florida unique Israeli knowledge and technologies in certain priority areas for both states. Let us highlight FII's accomplishments last year:

- Hospitals Emergency Readiness Planning for Mass Casualty Incidents. FII, jointly with Enterprise Florida and the Israeli Consulate in Miami, co-sponsored a special Israel Session in the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA 2007) conference in Daytona Beach, Florida (1/28/06-2/1/06). The Israel Session featured two Israeli keynote speakers, one of whom, Mauricio Lynn MD (of the Jackson Healthcare System Ryder Trauma Center) presented a plan of an Israeli developed technology for hospitals preparedness for MCI, which currently is deployed at Jackson Memorial hospital, to hundreds of Florida Emergency Preparedness administrators.

- Portable monitoring of toxins and pesticides in groundwater and pollutants in lakes and the Everglades. A one-day workshop at the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), initiated by Rep. Adam Hasner, featured the

presentation of a unique Israeli infrared laser technology by Prof. Katzir (Tel Aviv University). The method can potentially provide for easier and more comprehensive monitoring of the Florida water resources systems. Dr. Katzir has recently collaborated with Florida environmental researchers in research proposals to the state and federal government.

- Initial planning for bringing to Florida promising methods for elementary mathematics education known as the Singapore Method commenced during the 2006-2007 year. Plans are underway for special teacher workshops and curricular planning for Math Teachers Education programs at FAU and BCC and several target model schools in Florida.
- To enhance biotechnology research collaboration between the two states, FII sponsored a South Florida pavilion at the BioMed 2007 conference in Israel (June 3-5, 2007) featuring ongoing biomedical research conducted at south Florida schools. FII further sponsored a Scripps Florida keynote speaker (Dr. Peter Hodder) at that event. Dr. Hodder, in his presentation, invited Israeli companies and academic research partners encouraging all to take advantage of Scripps' unique drug discovery robotics and automation facilities.
- In early 2006, the FII brokered a multi-year research agreement now in place between FAU and the Caesaria Rothschild Institute at Haifa University in the areas of Artificial Intelligence and Computer Technology applications. The academic year of 2006-2007 saw follow-ups to this partnership agreement. In his visit at FAU the Haifa University President, Dr. Ben-Ze'ev, called for expansion of the research collaboration in the areas of oceanography and marine studies, areas of particular interest at both institutions.
- FII sponsored a FAU-BCC delegation of International Education administrators to assess the possibility of restarting Study Abroad in Israel in both institutions. The delegation visited all major overseas programs in Israel and examined the curriculum and safety and security arrangements. As a result, processes are in motion to enable the FAU and BCC Study Abroad to Israel programs to resume as early as Summer 2008.
- During 2006-2007 the FII initiated and led the planning for a joint Israel Studies program at BCC and FAU, the first of its kind in Florida. Important links in the plan are the monthly Israeli Film Series and the FII Lecture Series established at the FAU Boca campus.
- FII, in administering legislatively mandated tuition exemption scholarship programs to Israeli students studying in Florida, has established a written application process and a clear set of award criteria.

Academic planning and facilitation of bi-state academic collaboration is a multi-year effort. We are grateful to the State of Florida for this long-term investment.

1. The Florida-Israel Institute's Governing Board and Academic Advisory Committee

Two groups assist FII in carrying out its mission: an all-purpose advisory committee (referred to as "The Board") consisting of members from academia, government and private industry; and a faculty committee (the FII Academic Advisory Committee, or AAC) which focuses exclusively on the academic activities of FII.

In 2006-2007 the FII Board has been fully restructured and its first meeting took place on 12/14/06. Refer to **Appendix A** for minutes of that meeting.

The FII Board has been instrumental in securing the 2007-2008 budget to FII from the Florida Legislature and in pushing for a change in FAU's and BCC's policies towards sending Florida students to Study Abroad programs in Israel.

The FII Academic Advisory Committee (see **Appendix B** for its membership list) has met every semester since its creation in the summer of 2005. The committee played a major role in creating budget priorities for FII, based on academic considerations. During the 2006-2007 year the AAC has been overseeing the FII Out-of-State Tuition Exemption program to Israeli students (see **Appendix G** for full lists of the scholarships awarded) and academic planning for the joint FAU-BCC certificate program in Israel Studies.

2. The FII 2006-2007 Budget

Refer to **Appendix C** for the categorized dollar expenditures during 2006-2007.

Around 55.16% of the FII budget was spent on salaries (FII directors' release time, the FII executive secretary, and hourly accounting and office support), 3.64% on office expenses and 5.15% on directors' and FII office related travel. The latter included the FII directors leading the two delegations to Israel in June 2007.

The new FII Lecture Series featured 17 lecture events at a cost of 10.08% of the budget. Additional 6.35% of the budget was devoted to the continuation of the year-long monthly Israeli Films and lecture series (13 film events).

The FAU Research Delegation to Israel in June 2007 coupled visits of Israeli universities with participation at the BioMed Israel 2007 conference. FII, in addition, sponsored a South Florida Universities Research exhibition booth at the conference and the participation of an invited speaker, a Scripps Florida scientist, all at the cost of 8.51% of the budget.

The FAU-BCC Study Abroad in Israel mission in June 2007 took 3.30% of the budget.

Another 7.89% of the budget was devoted to Faculty & Student Exchange and to support of symposia and conferences in Florida.

3. Facilitation of Science and Technology Research

Refer to **Appendix D** containing excerpts from the FII monthly newsletters September 2006 – July 2007. The newsletters highlight FII activities including initiation and sponsorship of science and technology projects linking Israeli scientists with Florida researchers.

FII chose to focus on specific areas in which recent Israeli technologies have the promise of benefiting high priority standing challenges for the State of Florida. These areas include Water Resources, Homeland Security, Hospital Emergency Readiness and Mathematics Education.

A successful research endeavor is that in which Florida and Israeli researchers join forces within the framework of a sponsored project (state, federal or industry sources). This is a slow process with uncertain outcomes. Some of the above activities began in 2005-2006 with visits to Florida of invited Israeli scientists to lecture and engaged in initial exploratory research meetings with select Florida faculty. This exchange continued through 2006-2007 and preparation of proposals.

4. The FII Film and Lecture Series and the Israel Studies Initiative

Refer to **Appendix E** for listing of the FII “Cinematic Visions of Israel” monthly Film series events in 2006-2007, directed by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm and Prof. Nava Dushi. Each event focused on a different aspect of the Israeli society, starting with a lecture, followed by a related film and concluding with moderated discussion. The events drew large audiences (200-400 per event, in the summer months as well), and provided direct contact between the FII and the local South Florida pro-Israel community. Newsletters of the Florida-Israel Institute were provided to this waiting audience as reading material.

Appendix F lists the 2006-2007 FII Lecture events which started in September 2006 and ran till April 2007. The lectures featured either North American speakers presenting about Israel, or Israeli speakers presenting about anything at all. Many of the events were co-sponsored with other organizations, such as the American Technion Society and the Israeli Consulate in Miami. Initial attendance, except for lectures related to politics or homeland security, was rather low. In spring 2007 it was decided to add Israeli films (thematically related to each lecture’s topic) at the end of each lecture. Attendance of the events quadrupled. This thus became a standard practice for all future lecture events. Another experiment introduced in 2006-2007 was to videotape each lecture event so that all lectures become part of the FII resource material archive. The problem of poor audio quality of the tapes has not yet been solved. It may require more professional recording equipment presently not owned by FII.

The Israel Studies program is envisioned as a joint FAU-BCC undergraduate Certificate program, the first of its kind in Florida. The FII Academic Advisory Committee created a planning sub-committee consisting of FAU and BCC faculty and administrators. The planning sub-committee met twice during 2006-2007 and

reported its observations and recommendations back to the FII AAC. Curriculum-wise, BCC seems to have the resources to start the program all by itself. Unfortunately, no certificate programs are allowed within the Florida Community College system Associate of Arts degree programs. It is essential that BCC partner with an upper-level education program for such an undertaking. The initiation of a certificate program proposal process at FAU may need to be delayed due to the lack of sufficient existing Israel-related courses in the FAU curriculum. Any Israel Studies future proposal shall rely heavily on the Israeli Film and Lecture series described above, as well as on Study Abroad in Israel.

In recent years Study Abroad in Israel at FAU and BCC (as well as in many other higher-education institutions around the nation) has come to a halt due to the standing US State Department warning against travel to Israel. Refer to **Appendix A** for a more in-depth discussion of the problem. The FII Board has called upon FAU and BCC to re-assess their policies on that issue. An FII Study Abroad in Israel delegation, consisting of the FAU and BCC administrators in charge of International Education, headed to Israel in June 2007 to check up and closely observe the curriculum and campus safety arrangements at all major Israeli overseas university programs. It is expected that real progress will be achieved during the 2007-2008 academic year.

Another problem in the FAU curriculum seems to be the extent and level of Hebrew language instruction that for years has been done by adjunct instructors. This issue was deemed top priority for the FAU Jewish Studies BA degree program. FII is expected to assist in improving the situation in years to come.

5. Plans for the 2007-2008 Academic Year

As components of the 2007-2008 FII Budget started to become known near the end of the 2006-2007 Fiscal Year, FII plans for 2007-2008 could be charted more realistically. The \$50,000 FII 2007-2008 Budget appropriated by the Florida Legislature made it mandatory for the FII to seek supplementary funds from its two hosting institutions – FAU and BCC. The nature of these supplements and strings attached will slowly reveal itself till the end of 2007.

Some early indications make it likely that the use of some FAU supplemental funds may be limited to potential FAU-Israel collaboration in the medical and biomedical fields. The year 2007-2008 may be characterized by much enhanced involvement of FII in such fields of Science and Engineering. The year 2007-2008 may allow FII to make accelerated progress in the ongoing project of Hospital Emergency Preparedness, and to open more related biomedical projects.

Obviously, the 2007-2008 Year will not be a year of FII delegations to Israel, of FII major co-sponsoring of conferences and of faculty exchange programs with Israel, at least not from the State FII budget allocation funds. These activity items tend to be too costly. The lion share of the \$50,000 FII allocation must be used to cover FII administrative costs. Consequently, much of the research promotion legwork will have to be done by the FII directors and staff, relying less on visiting Israeli scientists.

Continuation of the FII research projects is expected to be done at the proposal writing and submission phase. The last months of 2007 is the time of the year for

proposals submitted for consideration in conjunction with the Florida Centers of Excellence, and in conjunction with the FAU federal earmark funding top priorities. Two of the FII projects (Water Monitoring and RFID Technology) are integrated into two of the five FAU finalist proposals for the Centers of Excellence. The Water Monitoring project is also featured in a recent FAU earmark request in the Environmental Studies area.

The elementary mathematics education FII project is expected to benefit greatly from BCC's planned expansion into four-year programs that are expected to include Mathematics Education. Based on initial discussions, both at BCC and at the FAU College of Education, a FII-coordinated one-day workshop for Mathematics Education faculty is very likely to take place in early 2008. FII will try to couple it with one or more teacher training workshops at specific select schools in Florida.

For budgetary and for available space reasons FII decided to merge its Film and Lecture series: Full-size lecture followed by a short Israeli film during the winter months, and full-size films with shorter lectures during the summer months. All in all, 12 film/lecture events at the FAU Boca campus (a much reduced level of activity, compared to the 2006-2007 year).

Limited amount of fundraising commenced in the summer semester of 2007 in conjunction with the FII Israeli Film series produced most encouraging results. It is now expected that donations from the series audience will almost fully cover the series expenses (speakers fees, screening licenses, technical support, security arrangements etc), freeing up much needed FII funds to support other needed activity items.

It may seem counter-intuitive but the Israeli Films and Lectures concept established by the FII is rapidly spreading in South Florida, with the FII listed as co-sponsor, but at practically no additional expense to the FII. The first example is the monthly Israeli Films (with lectures by Dr. Talmon-Bohm) sponsored by the Broward County Jewish Federation, following the FII format, scheduled to start in early December 2007, culminating in the Israel 60th Anniversary celebrations later in 2008. The second example involves the FAU Lifelong Learning Society course "The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness – a Cinematic Perspective" scheduled to be taught by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm (October to December 2007) featuring eight Israeli films.

APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Minutes of the 12/14/06 Meeting of the FII Board (pp. 10-13)
- Appendix B: Membership List of the FII Academic Advisory Committee (pp. 13-14)
- Appendix C: Details of the 2006-2007 FII Budget Expenditures (pp. 15-16)
- Appendix D: The FII monthly Newsletters (September 2006 – July 2007) (pp.17-29)
- Appendix E: The FII Israeli Films and Lecture Series 2006-2007 (pp. 29-43)
- Appendix F: The FII Lecture Series 2006-2007 (pp. 43-62)
- Appendix G: The FII Scholarship program FY 2006-2007 (pp. 63-65)

Appendix A

Minutes of the FII Board Meeting on 12/14/06 (3/19/07 Revision)

Members Present: BCC Interim President Dr. Willis Holcombe, Israel Consul General Dr. Yitschak Ben-Gad, BOD President Herb Swarzman, State Representative Adam Hasner, Senator Nan Rich, Dr. William Greene, Dr. William Stronge, Dr. David Moore, Dr. Catherine Meschievitz, Barry Silverman MD, Dr. Paul Bianco, Evelyn Levinson, Joel Reinstein, Dr. Ken Ross, Bruce Levy, Lothar Mayer, Jack Tobin, Jonathan Kislak, Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC FII co-Director) and Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU FII interim co-Director).

Members participating via Conference Calling: Jason Unger and Evan Yegelwel.

Proxy Representatives: Lauren Morris (Political Director, AIPAC South Florida), representing Matt Levin (AIPAC Regional Director) and Camille Coley (FAU Associate Vice President for Research), representing Dr. Larry Lemanski (FAU Vice President for Research).

Members Absent: FAU President Frank Brogan, Roy Rogers, Dr. Marc Shapiro and Dr. Lawrence Davenport.

1) FII BOD President Herb Swarzman opened the meeting at 10:10 AM introducing the Board members. Dr. Willis Holcombe, Interim-President of BCC hosting the event greeted the participants.

2) Dr. Zvi Roth reviewed briefly some of the FII Science and Technology projects. He referred to some of the supplementary material included in the package provided to each participant.

3) Dr. Daniel Rieger reviewed briefly the FII Israel Studies certificate program and commented on the FII Israeli Film Series and FII Lecture Series.

4) **FII 2008 Legislative Request:** A draft of the FII \$290,000 State of Florida budget request was provided.

4.1. Both Senator Rich and Representative Hasner urged the FII to file the CBIR forms and file them through their offices.

Action: Drs. Roth and Rieger. Deadline: 1/8/06.

4.2. Representative Hasner stressed the need for demonstrating significant progress in some of the FII Florida-Israel projects prior to the 2007 Legislative Sessions. Dr. Roth related to the Board that the likeliest project candidates are the Hospital Emergency Preparedness project (promoted through the FII - Enterprise FL - Israeli Consulate joint sponsorship of an Israeli pavilion and special session in the upcoming 2007 FEPA conference) and the Water Monitoring project (further promoted by Prof. Katzir's February FL visit).

4.3. Herb Swarzman asked President Holcombe whether funding for the FII can be included in BCC's priority legislative requests. President Holcombe promised to positively review the matter.

Action: Dr. Roth will approach President Brogan with a similar request.

4.4. BOD Resolution: “The FII BOD endorses the FII Legislative Request” (moved by Jack Tobin, seconded by Joel Reinstein). Motion passed..

Action: Drs. Roth and Rieger shall communicate the FII BOD resolution to the FAU and BCC Boards of Trustees.

4.5. Representative Hasner stressed the need for the FII to develop a long-term plan for funding from the private sector.

5) Study Abroad in Israel:

5.1 The problem was presented first: Due to a long standing US State Department Travel Warnings listing Israel as a “dangerous country” many International Programs of US higher education institutions suspended indefinitely their programs with Israel. These institutions include FAU and BCC. Some of the Florida schools (such as UF and FSU) continue to send students to Israel.

5.2 Much discussion followed. Summary of comments made:

The overturning of some of the Florida schools’ policies may become top priority to the State Legislature; AIPAC may take on the issue at the national level; NAFSA may be the most proper channel to review the situation and promote a change; Israel is safe in any sense; Hillel organizations around the nation should become active on the subject; Students who wish to travel to Israel should be able to submit special petitions; Students going to Israel can file a secondary waiver in addition to the standard waiver; State Department warnings have several levels of severity – the one concerning Israel is at the highest level of severity; FAU and BCC should serve the special needs of the this region’s local community; FII can become involved in organizing special orientation courses to students intending to go to Israel. Some existing orientation programs (such as the ones used in conjunction with the Birth Right program) may form the basis for what can be done; Should the FL Department of Education be involved in reversing the travel restriction policies?; Agreements with Israeli universities, if made, need to be made on a case by case basis, based on the individual campus security arrangements; Most (if not all) Israeli campuses exercise strict access control, for cars as well as pedestrians.

5.3 Drs. Moore and Meschievitz explained FAU and BCC present policies.

5.4 BOD Resolution: “The FII BOD recommends that FAU and BCC re-examine their present school policies regarding travel abroad to Israel.” (moved by Bill Stronge, seconded by Barry Silverman). Motion passed.

6) Board of Directors – Name and Members’ Liability

6.1 A question raised earlier by a few BOD members had to do with potential personal liability of BOD members to actions taken by the FII. Specifically – should the name of the BOD be changed to “Advisory Committee” (as offered by the original Bill that created all linkage institutes) or “Advisory Board”?

6.2 Another question raised was whether an FII By-Laws document can be created explicitly exempting all BOD members from any liabilities.

6.3 The general consensus opinion was that liability of board members has nothing to do either with the name of the board or with any by-laws contents.

Action: Evan Yegelwel and Jason Unger volunteered to form an ad-hoc committee to study more closely BOD members' potential liability and recommend future actions to remove all such liabilities.

6.5 The general consensus opinion was that writing an FII By-Laws document is not urgently needed.

7) FII Mission Statement

The present FII Mission Statement (as worked out by FAU and BCC administrators and finalized on 3/31/06 by the FII Academic Advisory Board) was reviewed. Minor changes were offered. It was agreed to keep the issue open till the next BOD meeting. Meanwhile BOD members are invited to review more closely and offer corrections. One of the key changes suggested was to explicitly include the Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness areas within both the FII Mission Statement and the FII Legislative Budget Request.

8) The FII Tuition Exemptions Program

The FII scholarship program, its competitiveness and comparison to similar linkage institutes programs were briefly discussed. Questions were raised about the State DOE review of these programs and potential institutes' rivalry. General consensus opinion was to keep the profile of the FII tuition exemptions program low, for the time being.

9) FII Strategic Plans

9.1 Four FII Goals, presented in a document provided to the meeting participants, were briefly discussed.

9.2 On the issue of private sector funding a suggestion was made to distinguish between "fund raising" and "endowments," each may require a different approach.

9.3 Presently donations to the FII are done via the FAU Foundation (earmarked for the FII). Some discussion arose whether or not FII should ask for its own Foundation account. Members knowledgeable with the system commented that the present operation of the FAU Foundation, when it comes to distributing the donated funds to the right accounts, seems to be smooth and efficient.

9.4 The idea to consider adding more interested Florida higher education institutions to some sort of a FII consortium (still headed by FAU and BCC) may be worth pursuing with schools such as USF and UF (for the latter, the School of Agriculture is of particular interest). There is no explicit restriction limiting the number of participating institutions, in a linkage institute, to two.

10) FII Short-Term Objectives

Short-term objectives and plans were outlined in a document presented to the participants. At that point the meeting was running out of time – no discussion.

11) Post-BOD-Meeting Press Release

The idea was briefly mentioned but no discussion. It was left as an option for the FII co-Directors and BOD President.

12) Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.

13) Next FII BOD Meeting

We forgot to discuss this item during the regular BOD meeting session. The meeting presentation suggested four meetings a year (every September, December, February and May), and specifically offered to have the next meeting in February 2007, just before the Legislative Session (and in between the legislative committee meetings). Herb Swarzman's opinion was that two meetings a year (December and May) suffice. BOD members can always ask for more special meetings as necessary.

(Minutes created by Zvi Roth on 12/18/06. Final revision 3/19/07).

Appendix B FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE July 31, 2007

Fred Hoffman, Ph.D.

President, Academic Advisory Committee
Florida-Israel Institute
Professor of Mathematics
Department of Mathematical Sciences
C.E. Schmidt College of Science
Florida Atlantic University

Professor of Jewish Studies, English
Department
Director, Center for the Study of Values
and Violence after Auschwitz
The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts &
Letters
Florida Atlantic University

Zvi Roth, Ph.D.

Interim Co-Director
Florida-Israel Institute - FAU
Professor, Electrical Engineering
College of Engineering and Computer
Science
Florida Atlantic University

Frederick E. Greenspahn, Ph.D.

Gimelstob Eminent Scholar in Judaic
Studies
Professor and Chair of Jewish Studies
Department of Languages, Linguistics and
Comparative Literature
The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and
Letters
Florida Atlantic University

Daniel Rieger, Ph.D.

Co-Director
Florida-Israel Institute - BCC
Professor, Religion and Philosophy
Behavioral Science
Broward Community College

Isaac Elishakoff, Ph.D.

J.M. Rubin Foundation Distinguished
Professor of
Structural Reliability, Safety and Security
Professor, Department of Mechanical
Engineering
College of Engineering and Computer
Science
Florida Atlantic University

Alan L. Berger, Ph.D.

Raddock Family Eminent Scholar
Chair in Holocaust Studies

Mohammed Ilyas, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Computer Science
and Engineering

And Associate Dean for Research
College of Engineering and Computer
Science
Florida Atlantic University

**David Kumar, Ph.D. (David,
Devraj Kumar)**

Associate Dean, Research and Graduate
Studies
College of Education
Florida Atlantic University

Howard Hanson, Ph.D.

Associate Vice President, Division of
Research
Florida Atlantic University

Abhijit S. Pandya, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Computer Science
& Engineering
College of Engineering and Computer
Science
Florida Atlantic University

Daniel Raviv, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Electrical
Engineering
College of Engineering and Computer
Science
Florida Atlantic University

Oren Masory, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair, Department of
Mechanical Engineering
College of Engineering and Computer
Science
Florida Atlantic University

Myriam Ruthenberg, Ph.D.

Chair and Associate Professor, Department
of Languages,
Linguistics and Comparative
Literature
The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts &
Letters
Florida Atlantic University

Marianne Sanua, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and
History
Department of History

The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and
Letters

Florida Atlantic University

Eric Shaw, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair, Department of
Marketing
Barry Kaye College of Business
Florida Atlantic University

Edward W. Schwerin, Ph.D.

Chair and Professor, Department of Political
Science
The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts &
Letters
Davie and Boca Raton Campuses
Florida Atlantic University

Richard Appelbaum, Ph.D.

Professor, ESL/Reading
Broward Community College

Prof. Mimi Markus

Assistant Professor, English
Broward Community College

Winston Thompson, Ph.D.

Associate Dean, Social Sciences
Broward Community College

Professor Steve Godby

Social Behavioral Sciences
Broward Community College

Ofer Amit

Miami Children's Hospital

Miri Talmon-Bohm, Ph.D.

Academic Advisor and for the Florida-Israel
Institute's
Israeli Film and Lectures Series

Nava Dushi

Curator, Florida-Israel Institute's Israeli
Film and Lecture Series
Professor, Communications
College of International Communication
Lynn University

Itzhak Hayon

Student Member of Academic Advisory
Committee
Florida International University

Appendix C

Florida-Israel Institute FY 2006-2007 Budget Expenditures

Final Summary (10/19/07)
2006-2007 Budget (totaling \$200,000)

Salaries (\$110,329.46)

25% Release time Dr. Roth (salary and benefits)	\$30,735.30
Summer salary Dr. Roth (and benefits)	\$20,636.70
2 release times and 3 supplements Dr. Rieger (and benefits)	\$17,713.00
Full-time Executive Secretary (salary and benefits)	\$39,126.71
Graduate Student assistance	\$116.25
Fiscal Coordination and accounting 5 hours/week for 6 months	<u>\$2,001.50</u>
Salaries sub-total:	\$110,329.46

FII Office Expenses (\$7,277.43)

FII office Phone, Cell phones etc	\$1,911.42
Postage, Mailing, Freight	\$649.90
Printing, Copying	\$1,607.73
Supplies, Software Licenses	\$1,786.75
NAFSA Membership	\$325.00
Office Moving	\$865.18
FII Web Page	<u>\$131.45</u>
Office Expense sub-total:	\$7,277.43

FII Directors, Staff & Boards-related Travel (\$11,280.71)

Directors' FL Travel & Mileage	\$1,909.66
FII Staff's FL Mileage	\$393.96
FII BOD Members FL Travel (Reception, BOD meeting)	\$1,497.30
Dr. Roth's Israel Travel (Research Delegation and BioMed 2007 & Study Abroad in Israel delegation and Israel Studies Conference)	\$3,649.60
Dr. Rieger's Israel Travel (Study Abroad in Israel delegation and Israel Studies Conference)	<u>\$2,856.70</u>
FII Travel Expenses sub-total:	\$10,307.22

FII Projects involving Faculty Exchange, Symposia and Delegations

1. Ports Security Project

Dr. Benjamin Arazi (Ben-Gurion University) 2 FL visits	\$2,750.00
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2. Hospitals Emergency Readiness

Honoraria to Keynote Speakers at FEPA 2007 conference	\$3,600.00
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3. Water Monitoring Project

Dr. Abraham Katzir (Tel-Aviv University) FL visit	\$2,332.92
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4. FAU Delegation to Israel & BioMed 2007 Conference

	\$17,013.10
4.1. Dr. Larry Lemanski	\$3,464.00
4.2. Dr. Abhijit Pandya	\$3,315.10
4.3. Mr. Tom Barlow	\$3,464.00
4.4. Dr. Peter Hodder (Scripps FL)– keynote speaker	\$3,500.00

4.5. Dr. Borko Furht (at no cost to the FII)	\$1,120.00*
4.6. South FL Universities Research Booth	\$2,150.00*

**5.FAU-BCC Study Abroad Delegation & Israel
Studies Conference**

		\$6,591.70
5.1. Dr. David Moore	\$3,364.70	
5.2. Dr. Catherine Meschievitz	\$3,227.00	

6.Faculty & Student Exchange Israel Trip Subsidizing \$5,440.00

a. Dr. Isaac Elishakoff (Technion & Ariel College)	\$1,440.00
b. Nava Dushi (PhD studies at Tel-Aviv Univ.)	\$3,000.00
c. Melissa Morris (Robotics research at Technion)	\$1,000.00

FII Projects sub-total: \$37,727.72

Support of other FL Events & Activities \$1,652.50

Hezbollah 11/18/06 Lecture	\$500.00
Anti-Terrorism 2/11/07 Lecture	\$500.00
Hebrew Instruction material for FAU Languages Lab	\$652.50

FII Monthly Lecture Series \$20,160.16

Speaking Fees and Expenses (16 Lectures)
 Technician Fees and Videotaping Cost
 Security Arrangements
 Post-Lecture Films – purchase and license

FII Monthly Israeli Film/Lecture Series \$12,698.13

Screening Fees – purchase and license (12 films)
 Speakers Fees and expenses
 Technician fee
 Security

Grand Total: \$200,152.62*

* Some residual funds should have been carried over to the FII 2007-2008 budget (including \$1,120.00 refund from the FAU Computer Science and Engineering Department, three \$500.00 refund checks made by UM, FIU and NSU, and two end-of-year \$500.00 budget transfer refunds from the FAU Research Division and the FAU Electrical Engineering Department).

Appendix D

Florida-Israel Institute Monthly Newsletters (Excerpts)

September 2006 – July 2007



FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE

777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Phone: 561.297.4093 Fax: 561.297.2336 rothz@fau.edu www.floridaisrael.org

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

September 2006



Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC) Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU)

The Florida-Israel Institute (FII) is a public organization administered jointly by Florida Atlantic University (FAU) and Broward Community College (BCC). Its primary purpose is to promote enhanced governmental, economic, technological, cultural, educational and social ties between the States of Florida and Israel. This mission is achieved through the formation of cooperative initiatives in research, academic development, student and faculty exchange, cultural exchange, and technical assistance between FAU, BCC and Israeli institutions of higher learning and private sector commercial endeavors.

Two groups assist FII in carrying out its mission: a Board of Directors consisting of community leaders and members from academics, government and private industry; and a faculty committee that focuses exclusively on the academic activities of FII.

Florida-Israel Institute was created in the late 1980s by the state legislature as one of thirteen linkage institutes which paired public postsecondary institutions with selected foreign countries to enhance interactions between those countries and Florida.

FII co-sponsors visits from Israeli cultural artists, sponsors a monthly Israeli film series, invites Israeli faculty for academic collaboration, facilitates research initiatives, awards legislature-approved tuition waivers, develops study abroad programs in Israel for American college and university students, and facilitates academic and other (e.g., business, technological) delegations to Israel.

News Briefs

Florida-Israel Institute gratefully acknowledges the efforts of Florida legislators to fund the Institute at \$200,000 for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. The appropriation was sponsored by House Representative Adam Hasner.

The Florida-Israel Institute's office has relocated from the FAU Davie campus to the Boca campus, at Fleming Hall Room 405. The Institute thanks the FAU College of Business for its hospitality.

The Florida-Israel Institute welcomes its new executive secretary Ms Shari Saylor.

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS October 2006



Left: President Brogan, Rep. Hasner, Drs. Roth & Rieger and President Calderon. Right: Herb Swarzman

Florida-Israel Institute Fall 2006 Reception hosted by Florida Atlantic University President Frank T. Brogan and Broward Community College President Larry A. Calderon on Monday, October 9, 2006, at the Eleanor R. Baldwin House, honored

**The Honorable Adam Hasner, State Representative
BCC President (1987-2004) Dr. Willis N. Holcombe
Florida-Israel Institute Board of Directors President Herb Swarzman**

The Florida-Israel Institute's Board of Directors

President Frank T. Brogan

President Larry A. Calderon

Israel Consul General Dr. Yitschak Ben-Gad

Board President Herb Swarzman

State Representative Adam Hasner (District 87)

Senator Nan Rich (District 34)

Dr. William Greene

Dr. William Stronge

Dr. David Moore

Dr. Catherine Meschievitz

Matt Levin

Dr. Barry Silverman

Marc Shapiro

Evelyn Levinson

Dr. Larry Lemanski

Dr. Lawrence F. Davenport

Joel Reinstein

Jason Unger

Evan Yegelwel

Bruce Levy

Dr. Paul Bianco

Roy Rogers

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

November 2006



FII co-Directors Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC) and Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU). In an earlier newsletter we welcomed the new FII Executive Secretary Ms. Shari Saylor. Her photo is included above.

Florida-Israel Institute News

The **FII Academic Advisory Board (AAB)** had its Fall 2006 meeting on October 27, 2006 at BCC. Meeting was chaired by the AAB President Dr. Frederick Hoffman (FAU Professor of Mathematics). The following board members attended the meeting: Dr. Oren Masory (FAU, College of Engineering – Chairman, Mechanical Engineering Department), Dr. Mohammad Ilyas (FAU, College of Engineering – Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies), Dr. Howard Hanson (FAU, Associate Vice President for Research), Dr. Ed Schwerin (FAU, College of Arts and Letters – Chairman, Political Science Department), Dr. Alan Berger (FAU, College of Arts and Letters – Raddock Family Eminent Scholar of Holocaust Studies, and Director of the Center for the Study of Values and Violence after Auschwitz), Professor Steve Godby (BCC, Social Behavioral Sciences) and as special guest the FII newest Board of Directors member Dr. Ken Ross (BCC – Vice President of Academic Affairs). A new AAB Student Member, Mr. Itzhak Hayon (an Israeli student studying Business at FIU) was inducted to the Board.



Raddock family Eminent Scholar Dr. Alan Berger



AAB President Dr. Fred Hoffman

Prof. Alan Berger reported on the progress in planning a new joint FAU-BCC Israel Studies Certificate Program. The Israel Studies Planning Committee which met on October 26, 2006 consisted of Dr. Myriam Ruthenberg (FAU, College of Arts and Letters – Chair, Languages Department), Dr. Richard Appelbaum (BCC – Professor of English as Second Language) and Dr. Frederick Greenspahn (FAU College of Arts and Letters, Gimmelstob Eminent Scholar Chair and Chair of the FAU Jewish Studies Department).

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

December 2006

December 14, 2006 FII Board of Directors Meeting



FII BOD President Herb Swarzman



FL Senator Nan Rich



FL House Rep. Adam Hasner

The Florida-Israel Institute Board of Directors met on December 14, 2006 at the BCC Fort Lauderdale downtown campus. FII BOD President Herb Swarzman (Tampa FL) introduced the new board members: BCC Interim-President Dr. Willis N. Holcombe, Israel Consul General Dr. Yitschak Ben-Gad, State Representative Adam Hasner (District 87), Senator Nan Rich (District 34), Dr. William Greene (former BCC Assoc. VP for International Education) , Dr. William Stronge (former FAU Director of International Programs), Dr. David Moore (BCC Assoc. VP for International Education), Dr. Catherine Meschievitz (FAU Director of International Programs), Lauren Morris (representing Matt Levin, Regional Director of AIPAC), Evelyn Levinson (USF Assoc. Director of International Admissions), Camille Coley (representing Dr. Larry Lemanski, FAU VP for Research), Dr. Ken Ross (BCC Interim VP for Academic Affairs), Jason Unger (Gray-Robinson P.A. Tallahassee), Evan Yegelwel (Terrell-Hogan-Ellis-Yegelwel P.A. Jacksonville), Bruce Levy (President, Emerald Group, Weston), Lothar Mayer (past President, Liberty Hardware Mfg. Corp.), Jonathan Kislak (General Partner, Antares Capital Corp., Miami) and Jack Tobin (Jack Tobin & Assoc., former FL House Rep., Coral Springs), and the FII continuing board members Barry Silverman MD (Aventura), Dr. Paul Bianco (Fleit-Kain-Gibbons-Gutman-Bongini-Bianco P.L., Miami) and Joel Reinstein (Reinstein P.A., Boca Raton).

The Board reviewed the FII Mission, Strategic Goals and Short-term Plans, and endorsed the FII 2008 Legislative Budget Request. The Board further discussed the US State Department Travel to Israel Warning and its implications on the Study Abroad programs at FAU and BCC.

Members of the FII BOD who could not come to the 12/14/06 meeting include FAU President Frank Brogan, Dr. Lawrence Davenport (FAU Exec. VP for University Advancement), Roy Rogers (IBI Group, Pompano Beach) and Marc Shapiro MD (Orlando).

12/13/06 FAU Visit of Kiryat-Bialik Mayor Dr. Rafi Wertheim



At the FAU Biological Sciences Lab. From left: Dr. Roth, Shlomi Damary (Foreign Relations and Culture KB City Council), KB Mayor Dr. Rafi Wertheim and Dr. Ram Narayanan (FAU Biological Sciences Department). Right photo: Reuven Ginton, President of Relli Technology, Boca Raton.

The Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach has adopted the Israeli town of Kiryat-Bialik (north of Haifa, population 36,700). A delegation from the town, headed by Mayor Dr. Rafi Wertheim, has visited Boca Raton on the second week of December 2006. On 12/13/06 in the afternoon Dr. Wertheim and Mr. Damary were guests of the Florida-Israel Institute and FAU. They first toured Relli Technology, a major international manufacturer and supplier of military parts and equipment, as guests of the company's President Mr. Reuven Ginton. Later they toured the FAU Biological Sciences labs as guests of Dr. Ram Narayanan (co-Director of the FAU Center of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology), the FAU College of Biomedical Sciences (tour led by Dr. Bill Paull) and the Department of Mechanical Engineering as guests of Dr. Oren Masory (Chairman of the ME Dept).

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

January 2007



Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC)



Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU)



Dr. Abraham Katzir (Tel-Aviv University)

News: Prof. Abraham Katzir visits FAU at the end of January 2007

Abraham Katzir is a Professor of Physics at Tel Aviv University and the Head of the Applied Physics Group. He will be visiting South Florida as guest of the Florida-Israel Institute between January 30 and February 2, 2007. The main purpose of the visit is to promote research related to monitoring of water (see below). His lecture to the South Florida community tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, January 31, 2007 at 7:00 PM in the FAU Boca campus room PA 101** (watch www.floridaisrael.org for updates about the event) is titled **INFRARED LASERS AND FIBERS AND THEIR APPLICATIONS.**

The Applied Physics Group at Tel-Aviv University has been developing for many years special optical fibers which operate in the infrared. This group made use of these fibers for a large number of applications. Some of these will be discussed in the lecture:

- **Medicine – surgery:** A method for closing cuts in the body using laser heating (instead of sutures). This method generates strong bonding, without scarring.
- **Medicine – diagnosis:** A novel method for the early detection of diseases such as cancer, or Alzheimer.
- **Environmental Protection** - A sensitive method for the detection of pollutants in water (e.g. irrigation water or waste water) or in soil.
- **Homeland security** - Early detection of poisons in drinking water
- **Homeland Security** – Development of a novel laser that will be part of a countermeasure system against shoulder launched missiles
- **Astronomy** – A fiber element which will be part of NASA's mission to find life in the Universe.

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

February 2007



Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC) Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU) Mauricio Lynn MD (UM) Rafi Sela (AR Challenges)

Florida Emergency Preparedness Association Conference (FEPA 2007)

The Israeli Consulate General in Miami, Enterprise Florida and the Florida-Israel Institute teamed up to co-sponsor an Israeli Pavilion and a 2/1/07 special Israeli Session entitled "**The Israeli Experience in Emergency Response Implementation**" at the annual FEPA 2007 conference in Daytona Beach, FL. The invited presentations were:

"The Ten Commandments for Management of Sudden Mass Casualties" Mauricio Lynn, MD (University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine, Department of Surgery and Jackson Health System, Ryder Trauma Center)

"Hospital Management under Fire - The Tale of the Last War in Israel" (lecture prepared by Shifra Sela, D.Sc.(Head, Laboratory of Clinical Microbiology and Eliachar Research Laboratory, Western Galilee Hospital in Nahariya, ISRAEL) and delivered by Rafi Sela (President of AR Challenges, President of ILHSIA - Israeli Homeland Security Industries Association and co-Chair of HSIA - Homeland Security Industries Association in the U.S.).

The Israeli Pavilion themed "**Israeli Approach to EMS Technologies to Enhance Response and Management Efficiencies**" featured 12 Israeli companies presenting innovative Israeli products such as a

system that converts any bus to a mass casualty ambulance with no prior preparation, and a new type of stretcher that one man can operate, can go over steps and enables victim decontamination.

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS March 2007



Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC) Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU) Haifa University President Dr. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev

Visit of Haifa University President Dr. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev (3/2/2007)



From Left: Drs. Moore, Davenport, Pandya, Rieger, Ben-Ze'ev, Berger, Roth, Meschievitz and Hoffman

On 3/1/07 the University of Haifa President Dr. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev attended a Boca Raton Haifa University reception honoring Ms. Betty Zinman. He also visited FAU meeting with FAU President Frank Brogan. On 3/2/07 he was guest of the Florida-Israel Institute for a business lunch meeting attended by Dr. Lawrence Davenport (FAU, Executive Vice President for University Advancement), Dr. Alan Berger (FAU, Raddock Family Eminent Chair of Holocaust Studies), Dr. David Moore (BCC, Associate Vice President for International Education), Dr. Cathy Meschievitz (FAU, Director of International Programs), Dr. Abhijit Pandya (FAU, Professor of Computer Science and Engineering), Dr. Frederick Hoffman (FAU, Professor of Mathematics), Dr. Daniel Rieger and Dr. Zvi Roth. Meeting started with a status review of the Agreement of Cooperation (in the areas of Math and AI) between FAU and Haifa University Caesaria Rothschild Research Institute, brokered in 2005 by the Florida-Israel Institute. Key players in making the agreement a reality were Drs. Hoffman and Pandya (FAU) and Dr. Golumbic (Director of the

Caesaria Rothschild Institute). Dr. Ben-Ze'ev advocated the expansion of the agreement to include research cooperation in more scientific areas such as Ocean Studies and Marine Biotechnology. Tentative plans for a June 2007 visit of Haifa University by a FAU-BCC delegation were discussed. Meeting concluded with a discussion of possible Study Abroad at Haifa University of FAU and BCC students.

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

April 2006



Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC) Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU)

The Florida-Israel Institute mourns the passing of Dr. Alex Padva (1943-2007)



Dr. Alex Padva

Dr. Alex Padva was born in Jerusalem, grew up in the town of Giv'ataim (near Tel Aviv), served as an officer in the IDF, where as a paratrooper he fought in the 1967 and 1973 wars. Alex was an active member of the Boca Raton Synagogue, and a much beloved leader of the Boca Raton Jewish and Israeli community. He was a scientist of over 40 years of experience first as a high level administrator at the Palm Beach County Environmental Protection Agency and later as environmental consultant. Dr. Padva's PhD degree was obtained from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in Quantum-Physical Chemistry. He published articles in peer reviewed journals including the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, has been an invited lecturer to close to 100 conferences, workshops and professional meetings and frequently taught short courses around the nation on leadership and creative problem-solving for waste management control. In 1991 Dr. Padva was nominated for the President's Environment and Conservation Challenge Award in Education and Communication. In 1993 he made a presentation as an environmental expert to the Florida Cabinet and the governor. In June 1994, Dr. Padva was invited to speak before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space and Technology – Subcommittee on Technology, Environment and Aviation.

Dr. Padva will also be remembered as a dear friend of the Florida-Israel Institute. He tirelessly contributed much time and effort to promote the research mission of the Institute. He was involved in the planning and hosting of Dr. Abraham Katzir's visit to South Florida. Alex was

instrumental in the success of the special workshop on “Phosphorus Monitoring and Analysis in South Florida” organized on January 31, 2007 at the South Florida Water management District in which SFWMD scientists and Dr. Katzir discussed methods for monitoring pollution in Lake Okeechobee, the Everglades and South Florida ground water. Following the Workshop Drs. Katzir and Padva toured the STA-1W Phosphorus Sampling Site (Inflow and Outflow structures). On the next day (2/1/07) Dr. Padva drove Dr. Katzir to various sites near Lake Okeechobee. They attended the dedication ceremony and tour of the new Taylor Creek Algal Turf Scrubber Nutrient Recovery Facility, where Dr. Katzir collected water samples brought back to his lab in the Physics Department of Tel Aviv University. Most recently, Dr. Padva was involved in planning follow-up research actions related to the water monitoring project. Our condolences are sent to Alex’ wife Dr. Pat Padva, his son Steven and his family in the US and Israel.

Robotics Research Collaboration between Florida Atlantic University and the Technion Israel Institute of Technology

A scholarship from the Florida-Israel Institute has subsidized part of the cost of **Ms. Melissa Morris’** trip to Israel (see photo below). Melissa is nearing graduation in her MS studies at the FAU Mechanical Engineering Department under the guidance of **Dr. Oren Masory**. She is presently doing research at the Technion Mechanical Engineering Robotics Lab, under the guidance of **Dr. Moshe Shoham**, exploring potential joint advising of her upcoming doctoral studies.



Governor Crist's Trade Mission to Israel (May 28 – June 2, 2007)



FL House Rep. Adam Hasner



FII BOD President Herb Swartzman



FL Senator Nan Rich

Three FII Board of Directors members joined Governor Charlie Crist's Mission: FII BOD President Herb Swartzman, FL House Representative Adam Hasner and FL Senator Nan Rich.

Quoted news about the mission:

Governor Charlie Crist announced his intent to encourage other United States governors to follow Florida's lead in Iran and Sudan divestiture. Governor Crist announced the effort in a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert: "Florida has taken this important step in support of Israel, and upon my return to Florida, I will sign Senate Bill 2142, the Protecting Florida's Investments Act, and begin encouraging other states to do the same," said Governor Crist. "I commend the Legislature for their leadership on this very important issue — especially Senators Ted Deutch and Nan Rich and Representatives Adam Hasner, Ari Porth and Elaine Schwartz."

"I thank Governor Crist for his leadership by encouraging his fellow governors to join Florida," said Representative Hasner. "This action will have a significant impact on the funds that are currently propping up Iran's terrorist regime that seeks the destruction of Israel and the United States."

Governor Crist signed the Protecting Florida's Investments Act in Representative Hasner's district, which represents Palm Beach and Broward counties.

The announcement came as part of a week-long trade mission to Israel led by Governor Crist that included a team of state and federal elected representatives and key business leaders. Governor Crist and the delegation met with Israeli government officials and business leaders including Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni, Opposition Leader Benjamin Netanyahu and Minister of Industry, Trade and Labor Eli Yishai.

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

June 2007

Florida-Israel Institute 2007-2008 Budget

The Florida Legislature appropriated \$50,000 for the Florida-Israel Institute for the 2007-2008 budget year. Last year the Florida-Israel Institute received \$200,000 from the FL legislature. The 2007-2008 budget is likely to be supplemented by the FII two hosting academic institute – FAU and BCC. On June 29, 2007 the Florida-Israel Institute Academic Advisory Committee convened to a special summer meeting to discuss budget priorities.

Study Abroad in Israel Florida Delegation (June 2007)



Drs. David Moore and Cathy Meschievitz at the Hebrew University in Mount Scopus, Jerusalem (6/11/07)

An Israel Study Abroad Exploration delegation visited Israeli universities on June 8-15, 2007. The delegation consisted of Dr. Catherine Meschievitz (Director, Office of International Programs, Florida Atlantic University), Dr. David Moore (Assistant Vice President for International Education, Broward Community College), Dr. Daniel Rieger (Broward Community College, co-director, Florida Israel Institute) and Dr. Zvi Roth (Florida Atlantic University, interim co-director, Florida Israel Institute). Purpose of the mission was to explore undergraduate study abroad options for Florida students at leading Israeli universities.

For years FAU and BCC have suspended their Study Abroad programs in Israel, due to a US State Department advisory regarding “dangerous countries”. The delegation examined available academic programs and courses for American students, program costs and calendar features, student dormitory options and campus life, and the safety and security measures employed at the Israeli institutions. It visited four major institutions in Israel – University of Haifa, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University and Ben Gurion University in the Negev – touring facilities, meeting with directors, staff and international student coordinators, and receiving briefings on academic programs and safety and security procedures. The Florida-Israel Institute which sponsored the delegation would like to see Study Abroad in Israel restored as soon as possible.



At the University of Haifa on 6/10/07. From left (standing): Drs. Isaac Elishakoff (FAU, Mechanical Engineering Department), David Moore, Martin Golumbic (Director of the Caesaria Rothschild Institute at Haifa University), Cathy Meschievitz, President Aaron Ben-Ze'ev (University of Haifa), Zvi Roth and Hanan Alexander (Academic Head, University of Haifa International School). Sitting from the left: Drs. Abhijit Pandya (FAU, Computer Science and Engineering) and Daniel Rieger.

NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS July 2007

Biomed 2007 Conference (Tel Aviv June 2007)

The Biomed 2007 Conference held in Tel-Aviv (June 5 – June 7, 2007) is an important international annual forum featuring academic and industry advances in biomedical and biotechnology research. The Florida-Israel Institute sponsored the participation of one of the conference keynote speakers **Dr. Peter Hodder (of Scripps Florida)**. In addition, the Florida-Israel Institute (in collaboration with the Israel office of Enterprise Florida) co-sponsored an exhibition booth featuring biomedical research done at four southeast Florida universities. The universities sponsoring the booth included Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Nova Southeastern University and the University of Miami.



From left: Dr. Zvi Roth, Tom Barlow (FAU Director for Governmental Relations), Herb Swarzman, Dr. Abhijit Pandya, Nurit Gazit (Director, Israel Office of Enterprise Florida), Amnon Neubach (General Manager, Israel Office of Enterprise Florida) and Julie Balzano-Pizzaro (Director of Mexico & Special Projects, Miami office of Enterprise Florida)

Appendix E

2006-2007 FII Israeli Film Events

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS

ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

BONJOUR MONSIEUR SHLOMI

Saturday, July 8, 2006 at 8:00 PM

FAU Performing Arts 101

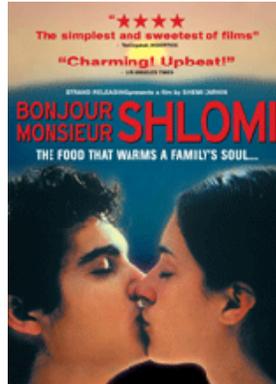
Admission is Free

Reservations are not required. Gates open at 7:00 PM – auditorium has 160 seats: first come first sit

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue and explore Israeli society and the reflections pertaining to its identity through film. This month's film was among the most popular films in Israel in 2003. It has participated in numerous festivals around the world, received awards and was picked up for commercial distribution in the United States by Strand Releasing. *Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi* is a sensible coming of age story that

offers a myriad of interpretations as to the existential condition of Israel's young generation, Israeli creative power, and Israel's everlasting search for an identity.

Introduced by Nava Dushi who will also conduct the post-film discussion



BONJOUR MONSIEUR SHLOMI (Shemi Zarhin, [2003](#), 94 minutes; Hebrew with English subtitles). Sixteen years old Shlomi is a caregiver for all members of his dysfunctional family. Yet no one in the family really sees Shlomi. Even Shlomi doesn't see Shlomi. Until one day a routine math test at school reveals the unique personality that is hiding behind this neglected and dormant boy. With the help of his teachers and Rona, the beautiful gardener with whom he falls head over heels in love, Shlomi discovers his true self.

Academic Advisor: Dr. Miri Talmon Dushi

Curator: Nava



NINA'S TRAGEDIES

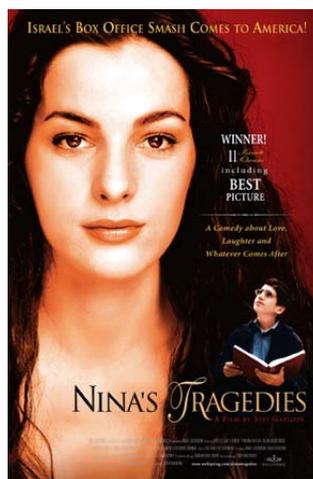
**Sunday, September 10, 2006 at 3:00 PM
FAU Performing Arts 101
Admission is Free**

Note: Film Series has moved to Sunday matinee

Reservations are not required. Gates open at 2:00 PM – auditorium has 160 seats: first come first serve

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue and explore Israeli society and the reflections pertaining to its identity through film. This month's film was among the most popular films in Israel in 2003. It was also the recipient of eleven Israeli Academy awards. *Nina's Tragedies* offers the sensible coming of age story of 14 year old Nadav (Aviv Elkabets) by fusing the tragic and the comic in a manner that brings us that much closer to the Israeli experience...

Introduced by Nava Dushi who will also conduct the post-film discussion



NINA'S TRAGEDIES (Savi GAVISON, 2003, 106 minutes; Hebrew with English subtitles). Peculiar humor stems from Israeli director Savi Gabizon's tender regard for the insistent imperfection of people and things writes Leslie Camhi of the Village Voice. Gavison's film offers an invitation to be touched and affected by the intricate human tapestry that makes up Israeli Society in a true piece of poetry.

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

Event co-sponsored by the Israeli Consulate in Miami, by the FAU Chapter of Students for Israel and by the Florida-Israel Institute

OUT OF SIGHT ("Lemarit Ain")

Film Director Daniel Syrkin will be present to introduce the film and speak after the screening.

Sunday, October 22, 2006 at 3:00 PM

FAU Performing Arts 101

Admission is Free

Reservations are not required. Gates open at 2:00 PM – auditorium has 160 seats: first come first serve

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue and explore Israeli society and the reflections pertaining to its identity through film. This month's film is the winner of Best Cinematography and Best Director Awards at the 2005 Israeli Academy Awards. (2005, 85 minutes; Hebrew with English subtitles)



Ya'Ara, a blind 24 year old Ph.D. student in Mathematics at Princeton, returns to Israel upon receiving news of her cousin's suicide. When she investigates and discovers the reasons behind her cousin's untimely death, Ya'Ara must redefine herself as a blind person.

Director Daniel Syrkin was born in Moscow, Russia in 1971, and has directed several comic, dramatic and documentary episodes for TV programs in Israel, including an episode of "Glida Vanil"/"Take Away" and the program "Zakuta"/"Shofar."

AVIV

Sunday, November 12, 2006 at 3:00 PM

FAU Performing Arts 101

Admission is Free

Reservations are not required. Gates open at 2:00 PM – auditorium has 160 seats: first come first serve

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue and explore Israeli society and the reflections pertaining to its identity through film. This month's film was written and directed by Tomer Heymann, (Documentary, Israel 2003, 80 min, Hebrew with English subtitles). **Pre-film lecture by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm who also conducts the post-film discussion.**



Our November film commemorates the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination on November 4th, 1995. Aviv Geffen, the mythic leading Israeli rock author and singer, was the last person to talk to the late prime minister right before the shots that took Rabin's life and shattered Israelis' dream for peace took place at the Tel Aviv square, now named after Rabin. The charismatic singer-songwriter has become the Bob Dylan and Jim Morrison of young Israelis, a voice for peace, counter-culture and ideological integrity.

The lecture accompanying the film illuminates Aviv Geffen's powerful cultural meanings in Israeli society. He represents the 1990s utopia and yearning for peace, the whole generation of young Israeli who demanded peace, and the new agenda in 1990s Israel: prioritizing the family, the private sphere of life and personal happiness; striving for "normalcy" and prosperity that peace could bring about, facilitating new masculinities in the post militaristic Israel and legitimizing the quest for individual self realization. The personal story of Aviv is of no lesser importance than the collective one it stands for: Aviv's creative endeavors and brilliant accomplishments, the quest for his father's love, his special relationship with his grandmother and his mother, these are recorded on rare footage that the film exposes for the first time.

ATALIA

Sunday, December 12, 2006 at 3:00 PM

FAU Performing Arts 101

Admission is Free

Reservations are not required. Gates open at 2:00 PM – auditorium has 160 seats: first come first serve

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue and explore Israeli society and the reflections through film pertaining to its identity. This month's film was directed by Akiva Tevet (Israel 1985, 90 min, Hebrew with English subtitles). **Pre-film lecture and post-film discussion by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.**



The story of Atalia (a biblical Hebrew name for a notoriously ruthless queen in the book of Kings) is set in 1973, Israel, on the eve of the Yom Kippur War. In the small and dense community of a Kibbutz, the 40 year old widow Atalia is an object of gossip and rejection, an easy prey to the husbands, and a menace to their wives.

Her daughter's friend Mati, an 18 year old and only son to his widowed mother, is rejected from the Israeli army. Sharing the sense of rejection and abandonment, the mature woman and the young man become romantically involved, and scandal erupts. The story of these rebels and "misfits", oppressed by the conformist and collectivist Kibbutz community, represents trends in Israeli society and culture of the 1980s. 1980s Israeli cinema typically articulates the collective fatigue of the on-going war in Lebanon, of the oppression of individuals and outsiders in Israeli conformist society, and of collectivist values no longer valid in new cultural realities. The army and the kibbutz- the ultimate metaphors for Israeli solidarity, commitment and altruism of individuals for the sake of the Israeli collective, become in 1980s films metaphors for the decline of old Israeli values and for the rebellion of individuals against the oppressive national collective.

Atalia tells a beautiful love story, yet deep and important social and ideological commentaries about militarism and the marginalization of women in Israeli society are embedded in this story.

Important note: We would rate this film **R**, for some sexual content and nudity.

YANA'S FRIENDS

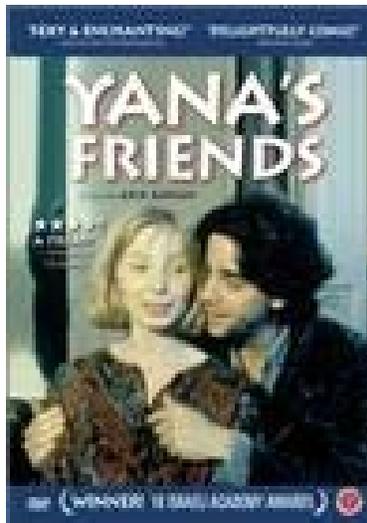
Sunday, January 7, 2007 at 3:00 PM

FAU Performing Arts 101

Admission is Free

Reservations are not required. Gates open at 2:00 PM – auditorium has 160 seats: first come first serve

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue and explore Israeli society and the reflections through film pertaining to its identity. This month's film was directed by Arik Kaplun (Israel 1999, 90 min, Hebrew with English subtitles). **Pre-film lecture and post-film discussion by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.**



This film, directed by Arik Kaplun and written by Kaplun and Semyon Vinokur, offers a look at the stories and sights of the massive immigration from the former Soviet Union into Israel in 1990-1991, coinciding with the Gulf war and Scud missile attacks on Tel Aviv. The authors of the script, as well as the director's wife, the lead actress Evelyn Kaplun, have all experienced what the fictional world is about in real life, being themselves immigrants to Israel from Russia.

The film won 15 prizes in the years 1999-2000, nine of which were awarded by the Israeli Film Academy in 1999 (Best Film, best director, best screenplay, best cinematography, best editing, best actor, best supporting actor and actress) as well as the Wolgin Award of the 1999 Jerusalem Film Festival for best Israeli feature. It also won numerous international awards.

Set against the backdrop of the 1991 Gulf War in Tel Aviv, "Yana's Friends" depicts the impact of the immigration boom from the former Soviet union on Israeli society, the pains of dislocation and absorption, the special culture of the immigrants from Russia, and the intercultural encounter of Israelis and the new immigrants.

Israeli spirit of cohesion and the integrative utopia of both Israeli popular culture and Zionism motivate the love story that flourishes in the sealed room, between Yana, a young woman, immigrant from Russia, and Eli, a young native Israeli man, a *Sabra*. Three couples in the drama demonstrate in their love to each other the utopian integrative drives in Israeli culture as well as the hardships and more problematic painful sides of immigration.

The lecture focuses on the 1990s cultural, social and cinematic context of the film: Aesthetically, it articulates the discourse of authenticity in films of the decade. Thus, the author of the film and his wife, a new immigrant as well (who acts the leading role of Yana) contribute from their own biography to the fictional reality. The film is a fine example of the 1990s pacifist and romantic utopia in Israeli culture of the younger generation, but it also represents new diasporic trends in Israeli culture and cinema.

SHULI'S FIANCE

Sunday, February 11, 2007 at 3:00 PM

**Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center
Admission is Free**

Reservations are not required. Gates open at 2:00 PM – auditorium has 500 seats.

Prior to this month's main feature film, the Florida-Israel Institute is proud to introduce three short films (all in English) produced by **Khen (Ken) Shalem**, an Israeli student studying Film Production at FSU, who receive scholarship from the Florida-Israel Institute. **Hope** (2004, 5 minutes; American viewpoint of the Iraq War), **My Last War in Lebanon** (2005, 7:30 minutes; personal story from the first Lebanon War) and **Abe** (2006, 8 minutes; drama about the society's handling of dogs) will be introduced by Mr. Shalem (whose biography is featured in the FII January 2007 Newsletter), who will be present to talk about his films.

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue our exploration of Israeli society through Israeli unique cinematic stories and visions. This month's film **Shuli's fiancé** [*Ha'Bachur shel Shuli*] was written by the Israeli female novelist Dorit Rabinyan and directed by Doron Tsabari, (1997. Hebrew with English subtitles, 45 min).

Post-film discussion by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.



Mazal (Esti Yerushalmi), the female heroine of the film, with the famous 1970s Israeli hairdo named after a town in Sinai, *abu ageila*

What is more important- love or the family? This is the crucial question at the heart of this month's film presentation. The film **Shuli's Fiancé** was broadcasted on Israeli prime time television in 1997, as part of a dramatic series produced by Sharon Shamir and Hagai Levi, titled: "Shorts about Love". Like most films of this decade, it depicts Israelis in the domestic sphere, and reflects the centrality of the home, relationships and the family in Israelis' lives and culture. **Shuli's fiancé** is both a romantic fairy tale and a subtle fable about ethnicity and politics in Israel.

The story tells of a Sephardic Israeli family in the Israeli town *Or Yehuda*, on the eve of their daughter Shuli's engagement to her sweetheart Avner. Avner, Shuli's fiancé, is to come on that special evening, meet the family, and propose to take Shuli's hand in marriage-according to the family's and the Sephardic tradition. While the whole family is waiting with anticipation for Shuli's fiancé, good fortune arrives at her sister Mazal's doorstep. What this good fortune is, and how important both love and the family are- remains to be seen!

The story is set against the backdrop of the May 1977 elections. In this dramatic, historical campaign, that Israelis remember as "the upheaval" [*ha-mahapach*], the long years of labor party hegemony ended, and the "*Likkud*" party, the major Israeli right wing, liberal and nationalistic party, headed by Menachem Begin, took the power. This is a significant political-historical background, because according to Israeli scholars and to popular public opinion, the *Likkud* party came to power with the enthusiastic support of *Mizrahim*, Sephardic Israeli Jews.

The pre-film lecture and post film discussion will illuminate the ways in which late 1970s Israel is represented in a 1997 film. We'll discuss the relations between Israeli cinema and Israeli collective memory. We'll speculate about possible links between ethnicity and politics in Israel, as suggested by this particular film, and discuss the centrality of both love and family in the Israeli cultural-cinematic context of the recent decade.

THE CHILDREN'S HOUSE

Sunday, March 11, 2007

PLACE AND TIME HAS BEEN CHANGED

Performing Arts Center PA-101

Admission is Free

Reservations are required. Please RSVP to 561-297-4093 by Friday, March 9th by 5:00 p.m. Priority in seating will be given to people who RSVP.

Gates open at 1:30 PM – Two Screenings:

2:30-4:00 PM and 4:15-5:45 PM.

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue our exploration of Israeli society through Israeli unique cinematic stories and visions. This month's documentary film **The Children's House** was written and directed by Tamar Feingold (2005, Hebrew with English subtitles, 52 min). **Introductory lecture and post-film discussion by Nava Dushi.**



The Children House effectively captures the power of art to initiate personal healing and spark a collective dialogue about a shared past. In the summer of 2005, a group of kibbutz-born artists living in Tel Aviv were invited to participate in an exhibit called “Communal Sleeping”, built around their childhood experiences on an Israeli kibbutz during the 1950s. The film combines ample footage of each artist’s creative process during the weeks leading up to the installation, archival footage of promotional films from the 1950s detailing the educational goals of the kibbutz (to raise an independent “kibbutznik” who understands the concept of sharing), and interviews with former communal mothers and kibbutz workers, as well as the artists themselves, whose painful memories are also expressed in their art. It becomes clear that for this group, the kibbutz was well-intentioned but ultimately misguided educational experiment, as evidenced by the artists’ reflections on their sense of isolation and abandonment as children and its effect on their current interpersonal relationships. The film won the Best Script Award in the Montenegro International TV Festival (2006) and Second Prize in the Haifa International Film Festival (2005).

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS
ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

Yom Ha-Shoah – Holocaust Remembrance Day Special
Screening

The Summer of Aviya

Sunday, April 15, 2007 at 3:00 PM
Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center

Admission is Free. The Florida-Israel Institute will greatly appreciate donations in the amount of \$5 per person per event (tax deductible if paid by a check made to the “FAU Foundation”). Reservations are not required.

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue our exploration of Israeli society through Israeli unique cinematic stories and visions. This month’s feature film **The Summer of Aviya [Ha-Kayitz Shel Aviya]** is written by Gila Almagor, adapted from her successful autobiographical novel, Haim Bouzaglo and the film’s director Eli Cohen. (Israel, 1988, Hebrew with English subtitles, 95 min).

The 1980s brought about a new wave of Israeli Holocaust related cinema later to be acknowledged and termed “second generation” films. “In the Israeli second-generation films the filmmakers focus both the camera and their own gaze toward their survivor parents” (Y. Loshitzky), challenging previous ideologically dominant attempts to deal with the immigrant survivor in the newly established state. **Introductory lecture and post-film discussion by Nava Dushi.**



Aviya (Kaipo Cohen) is a ten-year-old girl in 1951 Israel, raised by her single mother, Henya (Gila Almagor). Henya is a Holocaust survivor, called “*Partizunekhe*” for her reputation as a *Partizan*, who has joined the freedom fighters against the Nazi German army in the woods of Poland. Both Aviya and her mother are rejected outsiders in the small village of veteran Israelis in which they live. Henya, haunted by the memories of her past, is emotionally unstable. The newly founded state of Israel, in constant struggle for its existence, does not provide remedy for their harsh economic circumstances and striving to fit in. Aviya, longing for a “normal” family, ruminates that the man who has just moved into their village is her missing father. Henya, unlike her daughter, knows that he will never come back.

The film addresses the painful encounter of native *Sabra* Israelis with the Holocaust survivors in the early 1950s, and the traumas of both Holocaust survivors and other outsiders in the cohesive Israeli culture.

Both leading actresses, Kaipo Cohen and Gila Almagor were awarded the **Silver Bear for Best Actress** in the 1989 Berlin International Film Festival.

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS
ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

Israel Independence Day Special Screening

The Troupe (“Ha-Lehaka”)

Thursday, April 26, 2007 at 7:00 PM

Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center

Admission is Free. The Florida-Israel Institute will greatly appreciate donations in the amount of \$5 per person per event (tax deductible if paid by a check made to the “FAU Foundation”). Reservations are not required.

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue our exploration of Israeli society through Israeli unique cinematic stories and visions. This special feature film **The Troupe [Ha-Lehaka]** is an Israeli musical comedy, directed by Avi Nesher in 1978. The film (written by Sharon Harel and Avi Nesher), is set in Israel post 1967, during the war of attrition that followed the Six-Day War. The film, like the Hollywood classic back-stage musical, follows twelve young men and women, all members of an Israeli army entertainment troupe, during their preparations for a show. The show they are preparing is to be aired on Israeli Television for the Independence Day Festivities. Military troupes have been a central expression of authentic Israeli "Sabra" folk and popular culture, and the film pays homage to this mythic product of Israeli culture. The troupe, as all Israeli military entertainment troupes, performs in combat zones to boost soldiers' morale. Throughout the film, authentic radio news reports are intertwined during the troupe's bus rides, telling of Israeli casualties in battle and bringing home the constant threat the country has faced. Meanwhile, backstage, there is romance and competition, as the young soldier artists rebel against the veterans in the troupe, and articulate the 1960s counter culture's ethos and Israeli yearning for peace. Over the years this film has become a staple of Israeli culture; it is traditionally broadcast on national television on Israel's Independence Day (Hebrew with English subtitles, 112 min). **Introductory lecture and post-film discussion by Nava Dushi. The Florida-Israel Institute.**



ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS
ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

Lag Ba-Omer Special Screening

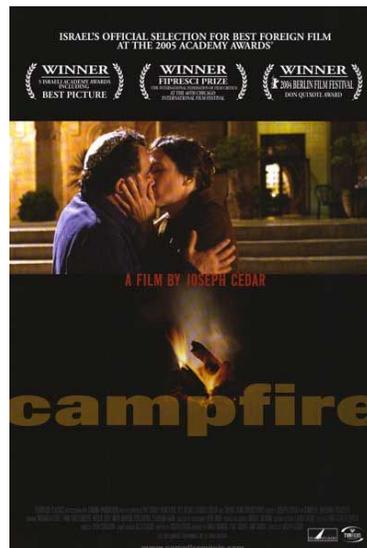
Campfire
(“Medurat Ha-Shevet”)

Sunday, May 6, 2007 at 3:00 PM

Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center

Admission is Free. The Florida-Israel Institute will greatly appreciate donations in the amount of \$5 per person per event (tax deductible if paid by a check made to the “FAU Foundation”). Reservations are not required.

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue our exploration of Israeli society through Israeli unique cinematic stories and visions. This month’s feature film **Campfire [Medurat Ha-Shevet]** is an Israeli drama, written and directed by Joseph Cedar in 2004. The film is set in 1981 and follows the widow Rachel Gerlik, and her two daughters, Tami and Esti, in search of their place in a conservative social environment, after the loss of the family’s patriarch. Rachel’s struggle to get accepted to a pioneer group of religious settlers in the West Bank provides the story’s historical background that once again emulates the tension in Israeli society between the demands of the collective and the needs of the individual. The film was the recipient of five Israeli Academy Awards including best film, best director, and best screenplay, as well as, the Berlin International Film Festival special mention award, and the Chicago International Film Festival FIPRESCI award (Hebrew with English subtitles, 96 min). **Introductory lecture and post-film discussion by Nava Dushi.**



ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS
ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

1967-2007: Six Day War 40th Anniversary Special Screening

AVANTI POPOLO

Sunday, June 24, 2007 at 3:00 PM

Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center

Admission is Free. The Florida-Israel Institute will greatly appreciate donations in the amount of \$5 per person per event (tax deductible if paid by a check made to the "FAU Foundation"). Reservations are not required.

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue our exploration of Israeli society through Israeli unique cinematic stories and visions. This month's feature film **Avanti Popolo** is a rare gem. An Israeli drama, written and directed by **Rafi Bukai**, 1986. (Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles, 84 min).



A cease fire was declared, and the Six Day War is over. It is a hot summer of 1967 in the Sinai desert. Two Egyptian soldiers and three Israeli soldiers are wandering, thirsty, in the desert. They want to go back home. Thirst and the deadly mines are the real enemy now. The surreal backdrop of the desert in the aftermath of war, rewrites the glorious Six Day War, and produces a potent anti-war film. During their journey to the bank of the Suez Canal the soldiers, both Egyptian and Israeli, lose their national distinction in a collective harmonious singing to the sunset, emblematic of their human vulnerability, longings, and aspirations. This beautiful, thought provoking movie, is one of the best pacifist films ever made; Written and directed by Rafi Bukai, the recipient of the Golden Leopard's Eye award of the Locarno International Film Festival in 1986. **Lecture and post film discussion led by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.**

The Florida-Israel Institute wishes to thank Maayan Milo-Bukai, the late director Rafi Bukai's wife, for her help in facilitating this special screening with a rare personal copy she provided. We would like to dedicate this screening to the memory of Rafi Bukai, to his legacy of brilliance, courage, and inspiration to Israeli filmmaking.

Appendix F

2006-2007 FII Lecture Series

Florida-Israel Institute Lecture Series

Conservative Judaism, Zionism, and the State of Israel: Convergence and Divergence

Dr. David B. Starr

Hebrew College

Wednesday, September 20, 2006 at 7:00PM

Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus

Lifelong Learning Friedberg Auditorium

Free Admission – no reservations required



Dr. David B. Starr, assistant professor of Jewish history and dean of Me'ah at Hebrew College, is an expert on the subjects of modern Jewish history, Jewish education and adult Jewish learning in America. The Me'ah adult learning program has grown significantly under Dr. Starr's leadership, and his writings set forth Me'ah as a model of Jewish education for lay and professional leadership nationwide. He is also a leading scholar on the life and work of Solomon

Schechter (the founder of the Conservative Movement) and has published numerous papers and articles on this leader. A popular lecturer for six years in the Hornstein Program for Jewish Communal Service at Brandeis University, Dr. Starr also instructed members of the Jewish Labor Committee for seven years. He was a rabbinic advisor to the Student Conservative Minyan at Harvard Radcliffe Hillel from 1994 to 1999. Prior to joining the Hebrew College faculty in 1994, he was associate rabbi at Temple Israel of Great Neck, N.Y. He received a B.A. from the University of Minnesota; an M.A. and Ph.D. from Columbia University; and an M.A. and rabbinical ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Abstract

Dr. David Starr observes that Conservative Judaism prides itself on its historic commitment to Zionism and the State of Israel. Both the elite and the folk support the return of the Jewish people to their historic homeland, as part of the movement's focus on people-hood and history, if not necessarily God and Torah. But, Dr. Starr argues, a closer reading of some of the movement's key thinkers, beginning with Solomon Schechter down to the most recent leadership of Ismar Schorsch, suggests deeper tensions marking the perceptions of Israel. These tensions include Zionist claims to centrality and leadership in contemporary Jewish life, as well as, the extent to which Israel represents continuity and change in Jewish culture and identity.

Florida-Israel Institute Lecture Series

Special Presentation co-sponsored by the Florida-Israel Institute,
FAU Students for Israel and the Israeli Consulate General in Miami

In the Aftermath of Lebanon War - an Israeli Perspective

Yaron Deckel

Reporter, Political Analyst

Washington Bureau Chief, Israeli Broadcasting Authority (IBA),
Radio and Television

Monday, October 16, 2006 at 7:00 PM

Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing Building Room 113 (Auditorium)
Free Admission – no reservations required



Yaron Deckel is considered by many to be one of Israel's top political reporters and commentators. A seasoned Radio and Television journalist, Mr. Deckel has covered the trials and tribulations of Israeli politics since 1985, including seven general election campaigns. He is known for having had unprecedented access to all the major players in this ever-changing arena, from aides and parliamentary assistants to virtually all-top politicians (including all the prime-ministers) in the past 21 years. Since September of 2002, Mr. Deckel has been reporting from Washington, as IBA's Bureau Chief. During this time he covered, among other things, the 2004 presidential campaign, the Shuttle Columbia disaster, Hurricane Katrina and US political events related to the Iraq war. Of note, in August 2005 Mr. Deckel was invited to interview President Bush in his Texas ranch -- an exclusive interview that was the first ever granted to an Israeli journalist. In Addition to his reporting responsibilities, Mr. Deckel has served as guest expert on Israeli politics to, among others, NPR, ABC News Radio, CBS News, and others. He has briefed US administration officials, congressmen, ambassadorial staff at the US Embassy in Israel, US and European Policymakers and business people about the state of Israeli politics. Mr. Deckel's speaking engagements also include the Brookings Institute, ABC News Nightline, London's New Israel Fund, Oxford University Middle East Center, Japan Institute for Middle East, and Goldman Sachs. Mr. Deckel holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminology and a Masters degree in Political Science from Bar-Ilan University. His Masters thesis focused on the intersection of politics and the media in Israel. He was a fellow at the World Press Institute Program (Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota) in 1993 and participated in the Reuter's Foundation Program at Oxford University in the UK, twice, in 1996 and 1999. Mr. Deckel is also an active participant in the Young Leaders Program on Politics and Media sponsored by the German Publishing conglomerate Bertelsmann. Mr. Deckel is the recipient of the 2006 Bnei Brith World Center Award for Journalism for a series about Jewish identity in the US.

Abstract

Two month after the war in Lebanon ended the Israeli Administration under the Leadership of Prime Minister Olmert faces new challenges. With a growing criticism in Israel, and with the withdrawal of his plan for unilateral withdrawals

from the West Bank, the Israeli government faces a threatening Middle East. The growing threat of nuclear Iran, war threats from Syria, and a weak Palestinian leader, who is controlled by a hostile Hamas government. The presentation attempts to predict where does all this lead to and assess where does the Bush administration stand in the aftermath of the Lebanon war.

The Role of Religious Fundamentalism in the Al-Aqsa Intifada

Joseph Hodes
York University

Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at 7:00PM
Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Lifelong Learning Friedberg Auditorium
Free Admission – no reservations required



Joseph Hodes is a Ph.D. candidate at York University in Canada. He received his M.A. degree in Middle Eastern History from Tel Aviv University. He is the 2006 recipient of the Joseph and Katie Klasner Graduate Fellowship in Jewish Studies. Mr. Hodes' work involves both the study of religion and contemporary Jewish history with an emphasis on Israel. He has an article, "Contemporary Jewish Fundamentalism: The Settler Movement," forthcoming in the *Studies in Religion* journal.

Abstract

The lecture focuses on the settler movement, Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the role each organization played between September 2000, and the emergence of "The Road Map" which was released on April 29, 2003. Each organization is examined separately and a full political, historical and ideological background is provided for them. The background traces the roots of each movement.

Joseph Hodes provides a detailed analysis of each group creating a history of the Al-Aqsa Intifada that depicts the conflict as religious warfare. The groups are portrayed not only as the greatest stumbling blocks towards any type of peaceful negotiation but are also shown as representing almost mirror images of each other. Joseph Hodes argues that all these groups are inspired by transcendental imperatives, all have as their ultimate goal a vision of sovereignty over the entire biblical land of Israel, and these groups violently oppose any government that seeks to give up land.

American Technion Society – South Palm Beach Chapter

Present

and
The Florida-Israel Institute

**Israel's Long-Range Defense Solutions:
How Do We Stop the Missiles from Striking Israel?**

Thursday, October 19, 2006

7 p.m.

Florida Atlantic University – Boca Raton Campus
Education Building, Room 119

Guest Speaker – Professor Alon Gany

A member of the Technion faculty since 1979 and a former dean of students, Professor Alon Gany holds the Lena and Ben Fohrman Chair in Aeronautical Engineering. He is currently the head of the Sylvia and David I.A. Fine Rocket Propulsion Center at the Technion Faculty of Aerospace Engineering

Professor Gany's world-class research focuses on propulsion and combustion, including rocket, ramjet and underwater propulsion, boron and metal combustion, supersonic combustion, and combustion synthesis of materials and nano particles.

Professor Gany was born in Tel Aviv in 1944. After completing high school, Professor Gany served in the Israel Defense Forces' Nahal Unit. In 1964, he began his studies at the Technion, but like many of today's students, served in army reserves. In that capacity, Professor Gany was involved in both the 1967 Six-Day War as one of the liberators of the Old City of Jerusalem, and in the 1973 Yom Kippur War among the forces that crossed the Suez Canal during the battle with Egypt on the Southern frontier.

At the Technion, Professor Gany earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering, his master's degree, and his doctorate in aeronautical engineering. After conducting post-doctoral research and sabbaticals in the United States, he returned to the Technion in 1986 and served as deputy head of the university's Aeronautical Research Center.

Culture, Immigration, and Identity in Russian-Israeli Film

Dr. Olga Gershenson

Judaic and Near Eastern Studies
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Wednesday, November 15, 2006 at 7:00PM

Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Friedberg Lifelong Learning Auditorium
Free Admission – no reservations required



Dr. Olga Gershenson is an Assistant Professor of the Judaic and Near Eastern Studies at University of Massachusetts in Amherst. She teaches courses on contemporary Israeli society and culture, and on the history and culture of Russian Jews. Dr. Gershenson's recent book *Gesher: Russian Theatre in Israel; A Study of Cultural Colonization* (Peter Lang, 2005) focuses on relations between Russian-Jewish immigrants and veteran Israelis through the story of the theatre. Dr. Gershenson's research on Israel cultural studies and critical ethnography has appeared in the academic journals *Multilingua*, *Western Journal of Communication*, *Journal of International Communication* and others.

Dr. Gershenson received her PhD in the Department of Communication at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst in 2003, MA (Magna Cum Laude) at the Department of Communication at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel in 1998, a Certificate of Intercultural Contacts Group Facilitator at the Brookdale Institute in Jerusalem in 1995, and BA equivalent degree from Urals State University, Department of Philology, Ekaterinburg, Russia in 1990.

Abstract

In "Culture, Immigration, and Identity in Russian-Israeli Film," Dr. Olga Gershenson charts the emerging field of films produced in Israel by directors/writers from the former Soviet Union. Her presentation will address the following questions: How do the films by Russian-Israeli immigrant filmmakers represent immigrants and Israelis? How do these films reflect and shape contemporary Israeli identity? What place do these films occupy in contemporary Israeli culture? What do these films mean for the language policy and the culture policy in Israel? To address these questions, Dr. Gershenson focuses in particular on a recent Russian-Israeli film, *Paper Snow*, and what it tells us about immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

Florida Atlantic University
The Electrical Engineering Department Seminars and the Florida-Israel Institute
Lecture series

Professor Jacob Gavan
School of Electrical, Electronic and Communication Engineering
Holon Institute of Technology
Holon, Israel



Thursday November 16, 2007, 2:00 PM at GN101 “Radio Systems Techniques for Enhancing Energy Efficiency and Reducing Interference and Parasitic Radiation”

Friday November 17, 2007, 2:00 PM at GN101, “Stratospheric Quasi-Stationary Platforms: Can These Replace Satellite Communication Systems?”

Tuesday, November 21, 2007, 7:00 PM at GN102, “Natural Radar Tracking and Radio Systems Direction Finding in Insect Flight”

Bio of Prof. Gavan

Jacob Gavan earned his B.Sc. degree from the Technion Haifa (Israel) in 1961, the MEE from the Eindhoven University of Technology (The Netherlands) with distinction in 1969, and the Ph.D. in Radio Communication in 1979 from ENSERU Grenoble (France) with high honors. He worked as an ITU Expert from 1963 to 1967 & 1971 to 1974 in Africa and Europe, and held positions in the radio communication industry in Israel. He teaches at Holon Institute of Technology (HIT). Jacob Gavan was nominated as an IEEE Fellow in 1995. He founded the Department of Communication Engineering at HIT (Israel). From 2001-2005 he served as the Dean of the HIT new school of Electrical, Electronic and Communication Engineering. Dr Gavan was Consultant for several large Israeli and international companies in radio communication systems, especially on Radio Mutual Interference, Radiation effects and RF circuitry. He has published over 150 peer-reviewed and conference digest papers. Professor Jacob Gavan is active in the Union Radio Science International Commission F and is a Chairman of E9 in “Interference in Radio Systems above 30 MHz” and common Session ECF on “Interference in communication”. He earned the best paper award from the IEEE International Symposium on EMC in Santa Clara, in September 1982 and was an Associate Editor of the IEEE Transactions on EMC for 10 years.

Abstract of the 11/16/07 lecture: Wireless Radio usage for communication is one of the main promoters of economic and social growth and its importance is predominant for defense and security issues. Therefore, significant resources are invested in improving radio communication systems, especially mobile Radio systems users, handsets and equipment. For cellular communication only, the number of handsets exceeds 1 billion and soon will outnumber wired phones. However, the energy efficiency of the systems base stations is still very low. Most of the transmitted energy and radiated power density are wasted as interference and only a very small part is useful and eventually reaches the desired receivers. The energy efficiency of the mobile handsets is worse, and up to 65% of the transmitted energy can be wasted

in the user's head and body, as a radiation hazard instead of reaching the adequate base stations. This seminar analyzes and computes base station radiation effects under far field propagation conditions and collocated handset radiation under complex near field conditions. Main mitigation techniques using other power control; signal processing methods, smart antennas and possible meta-material techniques will be described. This will be followed by proper shielding diversity, filtering, parasitic power cancellation and other mitigation techniques useful for reduction of non desired-parasitic radiation intensities and energy. This seminar's main purpose is to bring to light the possibilities for increasing energy efficiency and quality of base stations and handsets specifically by decreasing the required transmitted radiation power, equipment's power consumption, batteries load and the radiated power and energy absorbed by human beings.

Abstract of the 11/17/06 lecture: Continuous operation of long distance radio and global communication systems is usually achieved nowadays by using Geostationary (GEO) satellites and in a small scale by Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Satellites which were an economic failure. The main reasons for the failure were high cost and competition from the expanding terrestrial mobile and cellular systems. However, another solution is possible for local and regional communication systems operation distances of up to 1,000 km, by using Stratospheric Quasi-Stationary Platforms (SQ-SP) at a median altitude of 21 km. The feasibility and main characteristics of SQ-SP systems are described, followed by aeronautical and control techniques considerations. The wireless power transmission concept, rectifier antenna (rectenna) and fuel cells operation are explained as well as main payloads and applications. The SQ-SP future systems cannot replace GEO Satellite and terrestrial mobile systems, but can be very useful as complement to those systems, especially for local and regional communication services. Latest trends in the development and achievements of SQ-SP(popularly called High Altitude Platforms) will also be described.

Abstract of the 11/21/06 lecture: Hornets are insects known as fast predators. An hypothesis that hornets own a sophisticated biological RADAR for short distances up to 50m and a communication Direction Finding capacity for distances up to a few km will be discussed. Contrary to bats, whales and dolphins, that use low frequency natural RADAR, the hornets' presumed frequency ranges are between 150 to 3000 GHz (Far Infrared). The hypothesis of a natural sophisticated RADAR tracking system supporting hornets' flight will be analyzed and developed with consideration to the complex spike elements arrays on their skin. The existence of different spike length arrays, and their disposition, (by analogy with antenna, and radio theory and practice), leads to the hypothesis of the insects having transmitting and receiving phased array antennae, operating at three different frequencies in the sub-millimeter bands. The described properties of hornets could be useful for challenging applications such as detection and localization of explosives and drugs.

Chances for Peace in the Middle East

Dr. Yitschak Ben-Gad

Consul General of Israel for Florida and Puerto Rico

Wednesday, December 6, 2006 at 7:00PM

Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus

Friedberg Lifelong Learning Auditorium

Free Admission – no reservations required



Yitschak Ben Gad was born in Tripoli, Libya in 1941. He is the son of the late Gad Machluf, Chief Rabbi of the Libyan Jewish Community in the years 1950-1953. As an officer Yitschak Ben Gad participated in several wars to defend the State of Israel. Dr. Ben Gad served on the first Israeli delegation to the peace talks in Cairo, Egypt in December 1977. He later served as Consul General of Israel to the Midwest, USA until August 1992 and was in charge of eleven states. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from Dropsie University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in May 1975. His expertise is on the Middle East in general and the Palestinian Arab National Movement in particular. Dr. Ben Gad speaks and writes in four languages: Hebrew, English, classical Arabic and Italian. Dr. Ben Gad published 3 books: "The Palestine Arab National Movement: 1929-1939", Dropsie University, Philadelphia, PA – 1975; "Politics, lies and Videotape: 3.000 Questions and Answers on the Mideast Crisis". Shapolsky Publishers Inc., New York – 1991 and "The Roadmap to Nowhere", New Leaf Press, Arkansas – 2005 (The book analyzes Bin Laden's psyche). He has written hundreds of articles in Hebrew and English. Dr. Ben-Gad resides in Netanya, Israel. He is married to an American, Judith Ann Ben Gad (ne: Cohen) and they have four children.

ISRAEL: HOW TO REMAIN A JEWISH AND DEMOCRATIC STATE

Dr. David B. Starr
Hebrew College

Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 7:00PM

ABSTRACT: Israel faces internal and external challenges: the threats posed to its survival by its hostile neighbors, and the problem of maintaining a Jewish national state in demographic and cultural terms. This talk will consider the problem of the relationship between Israel as a Jewish state and as a democratic state. Are the two compatible and likely to continue to coexist?

“What am I Speaking, Chinese?” Alien Worlds in Kafka, Habiby, and Liebrecht

Dr. Iris Bruce
McMaster University
Department of Linguistics and Languages; Comparative Literature

Hamilton, Ontario

Lecture will be followed by an Israeli Film “Purple Lawns” (1998, Hebrew with English subtitles; Directed by Dina Zvi-Riklis; 56 minutes) introduced by Dr. Bruce.

Wednesday, January 24, 2007 at 7:00PM
Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Hillel Center Auditorium
Free Admission – no reservations required



Dr. Iris Bruce is an associate professor of German and Comparative Literature at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. She has published numerous articles on Kafka and Yiddish literature, Jewish folklore, Zionism, and Kafka in popular culture. Her forthcoming book, *Kafka and Cultural Zionism: Dates in Palestine*, will be published by the University of Wisconsin Press (spring 2007).

Lecture Abstract: The lecture explores different attitudes towards Zionism before and after the holocaust in the works of Franz Kafka, Emile Habiby, and Savyon Liebrecht. Kafka's treatment of Alterity in many ways informs the absurdity of Emile Habiby's protagonists' lives in *The Secret Life of Saeed. The Pessoptimist* (1974). "What am I Speaking, Chinese?"— the title of a story in Savyon Liebrecht's collection *Apples from the Desert* (1986)--shifts the emphasis to patriarchal modes of communication which silence the Other, be they holocaust survivors, women, or Palestinians. Liebrecht's female Jewish voice complements Habiby's Palestinian critique of Israeli society and opens up a whole vista of voices of Alterity within Israeli society. Though a political solution still seems to be a Herzlian fairy tale, the psychological and philosophical complexity of these texts is a sign of hope which surpasses even Kafka's nihilistic vision.



Based on a story by Savion Liebrecht. Yael is a dancer and a teacher of movement at an ultra-orthodox school in Bnei Brak, and Shlomit is a painter and graphic artist. The two young women, friends since childhood, share a spacious apartment in the heart of Tel Aviv. Their high rent forces them to take in a third flatmate, Malka, a mysterious ultra-orthodox woman, who becomes part of their lives. Her strange insistence on living with two secular women touches Yael's heart and arouses Shlomit's suspicions. Yael, who grew up motherless, is drawn to Malka, who appears to be calm and in control. Shlomit is jealous of the relationship that forms between the two and begins to trail Malka. Slowly, with many suspenseful moments and various twists and turns, Malka's secret is discovered. The orthodox woman's wretched fate moves both young women and they become determined to help her.

The rift between the secular and religious worlds, the prejudices, the mutual ignorance and the resultant mistrust and suspicion are at the heart of **Purple Lawns**. The film tells the story of women who decide to take fate into their own hands. Initially the possibility of any connection between them seems completely impossible. Yet, as the plot develops, they undergo changes that enable them to accomplish something and prove that the sisterhood of women is strongest of all.

Infrared Lasers & Fibers & Their Applications

*Professor Abraham Katzir,
Head, Applied Physics Group,
School of Physics and Astronomy,
Tel Aviv University, Israel*

**Join the Florida-
Israel Institute &
Tel Aviv University:
American Council
Southeast Region**

**Professor Katzir will speak about the applications
of Infrared Lasers & Fibers in:**

- Medicine.Surgery
- Medicine.Diagnosis
- Environmental Protection
- Homeland Security
- Astronomy

Abraham Katzir is a Professor of Physics at Tel Aviv University and Head of the Applied Physics Group. He studied at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel, was a senior researcher at CALTECH in California, and a Visiting Professor at MIT and Boston University in Massachusetts. His group has been involved in research and development of new methods and systems that are based on infrared lasers and optical fibers. These systems have important applications in medicine, science and homeland security. Professor Katzir supervised the work of 70 Masters and PhD students. The results of their scientific work have been published in numerous scientific publications. Professor Katzir has been a member of many international bodies having organized and chaired several conferences and international symposia in the laser and electro-optics fields.

**Wednesday
January 31, 2007**

American Technion Society – South Palm Beach Chapter
and

The Florida-Israel Institute Present

**THE USE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO
COMBAT TERRORISM:
CURRENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES**

**Guest Speaker: Professor Abraham Marmur
Director, Technion Center for Security Science and
Technology**

**Tuesday, February 13, 2007
7 p.m.**

Florida Atlantic University – Boca Raton Campus

Professor Abraham Marmur

Director

**Technion Center for Security Science and
Technology**

In 2002, Professor Marmur established the Center for Security Science and Technology at the Technion, whose main goal is to harness Technion know-how to Homeland Security applications. He has been actively participating in industrial and national activities related to the development and enhancement of the Israeli Homeland Security industry. Professor Marmur has served on counter-terrorism science and technology committees, and was among the founders of a national

consortium on airport security. **As director of the Technion Center for Security Science and Technology, Professor Marmur is particularly well-informed with respect to new technologies and new initiatives being developed for counter-terrorism.**

Professor Marmur has been working in the field of interfacial phenomena for over 25 years, published over 100 scientific papers, and consulted for many major companies. He has also participated in several international conferences and has been active in lecturing in universities and industrial sites around the world. At the Technion, Professor Marmur has received numerous awards for excellence in research and in teaching.

The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls for Judaism and Christianity

Dr. Adolfo Roitman

Curator of the Dead Sea Scrolls
The Shrine of the Book
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

Lecture will be followed by a film produced by the Shrine of the Book "**A Human Sanctuary**" (20 minutes; English)

Wednesday, February 21, 2007 at 7:00PM
Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Hillel Center Auditorium
Free Admission – no reservations required



Dr. Adolfo Roitman was Born in Buenos Aires, 1957. He received his M.A. in Anthropological Studies at the Univ. of Buenos Aires (1975), M.A. in comparative Religion from the Hebrew University (1985), Ph.D. in Ancient Jewish Literature and Thought (1993) and Rabbinical Ordination (Conservative) (1986). He wrote more than 60 articles and 4 books.

Lecture Abstract: The first Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in the late 1940s and since then and until these very days hundreds of Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek documents were retrieved from the Judean caves. These ancient manuscripts have changed all our understanding concerning the origin of Rabbinic Judaism and Christianity, and became crucial for the study of the Greco-Roman culture in the Land of Israel by the end of Second Temple times. The presentation tells the story of this discovery, surveying the basic literary, archaeological and historical facts. One of the scrolls is presently exhibited in the Fort Lauderdale Art Museum.

The Responsa Project

Dr. Aviezri Fraenkel

Professor of Mathematics, Computer Science and Applied Mathematics Dept
Weizmann Research Institute, Rehovot, Israel

Wednesday, February 28, 2007 at 7:00PM
Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Performing Arts PA 101
Free Admission – no reservations required



Among many honors and awards, Dr. Fraenkel received the Feder Foundation Prize in 1972 for initiating and creating the “**Responsa Project**.” The Responsa Project, which is housed at Bar-Ilan University in Israel, is a Global Jewish Database which includes the full text of the Bible and its principal commentaries, the Babylonian Talmud with Rashi’s commentary and Tosafot, the Jerusalem Talmud, the Mishneh Torah of Maimonides, Shulchan Aruch with Commentaries, Midrashim, 400 books of responsa, and the Talmudic Encyclopedia, representing a period of over three thousand years of Jewish literary creativity. On Israel’s Independence Day 2007, Dr. Fraenkel will be awarded this year’s Israel Prize for Judaic Studies Creativity. The Responsa Project is considered by many to be one of Israel’s most important technological achievements.

This Lecture is Co-Sponsored by the Florida Atlantic University Chapter of Sigma Xi

American Jews and the Issue of “Who Is a Jew?” in Israel

Dr. Marianne Sanua

Associate professor of History and Jewish Studies
Florida Atlantic University
Boca Raton, Florida

Lecture will be followed by an Israeli film produced by Gilad Goldschmidt “**A Green Chariot**” (Israel 2005, TV Drama, 48 minutes; Hebrew with English subtitles)

Wednesday, March 14, 2007 at 7:00PM

Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Performing Arts PA101 Auditorium
Free Admission – no reservations required

Dr. Marianne Sanua, a specialist in American Jewish history, is Associate Professor in the Department of History and the Jewish Studies Program at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. She received her PhD from Columbia University. Her books include *Going Greek: Jewish College Fraternities*

in the US (2003) and her forthcoming centennial history, *Let Us Prove Strong: The American Jewish Committee, 1945-2006* (University Press of New England, April 2007) which covers the last six decades of one of the oldest and most important American Jewish organizations.



“A Green Chariot” Film Synopsis: Twenty two year-old Sasha`s greatest wish is to become an Israeli. He has become religious, changed his name to Yair and speaks only in Hebrew -- even when he is addressed in Russian. He has completely cut himself off from his Russian past, including his father and his Russian friends. Now, Yair is about to marry his Israeli girlfriend. But when Yair receives a package from his aunt in the Ukraine, his world is shaken. Something inside challenges everything Yair believes about himself and the person he has tried to become. The revelation forces him to confront his religious beliefs and journey back to the Russian identity he has fought to suppress.

Comparative Zionisms: Singapore and Manila

Dr. Jonathan Goldstein

Professor of East Asian History
State University of West Georgia

Lecture will be followed by a documentary film by Dr. Johanna Spector **"2000 Years of Freedom and Honor: The Cochin Jews of India"** (1979, 80 minutes; in English)

Wednesday, March 21, 2007 at 7:00PM

Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus

Performing Arts PA101 Auditorium

Free Admission – no reservations required



Dr. JONATHAN GOLDSTEIN is Professor of East Asian History at the State University of West Georgia (since 1981) and Research Associate of Harvard University's John K. Fairbank Center for East Asian Research. His teaching responsibilities at West Georgia include graduate and undergraduate courses on China, Japan, India, Vietnam, and The Holocaust. He has held visiting professorships at various universities including the University of Cape Town [1999]. His numerous scholarly publications include *The Jews of China* (two volumes) and *China and Israel, 1948-1998*. Dr. Goldstein received a B.A. in Chinese History from the University of Pennsylvania, a M.A. in Chinese and American History from the University of Pennsylvania, and a Ph.D. in Chinese and American History also from the University of Pennsylvania.

Lecture Abstract: In “Comparative Zionisms: Singapore and Manila” Dr. Jonathon Goldstein addresses the specific political and economic conditions in which Zionism took root in Singapore and Manila. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries each of these large seaport cities had Jewish communities of approximately 2,000 individuals. Within the richness and variety of Jewish intellectual and political behavior in Singapore and Manila, Dr. Goldstein explores the characteristics of Zionism as it evolved in these cities up to and after the rebirth of the Jewish State on May 15, 1948.

Post Lecture Film Synopsis: Dr. Spector captures the conflicting emotions of two generations of Cochini Jews – the elderly, heartbroken by the mass emigration of the younger generation to Israel, and their children, who as young parents could only envision a bright future as Jews in Israel. The film explores

the religious, cultural, and economic life of the Cochini Jews in both their native India and in Israel.

**Special Joint Seminar of the Florida Atlantic University
Computer Science and Engineering and Electrical Engineering Departments**

Network Time Synchronization and One-Way Delay Estimation*

Professor Moshe Sidi

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, and
Professor of Electrical Engineering
Technion, Israel Institute of Technology



Friday, March 30, 2007 2:00-3:00PM

FAU Boca campus, Science and Engineering Building, Room 309

Abstract

Time synchronization is critical in distributed environments. A variety of network protocols, middleware and business applications rely on proper time synchronization across the computational infrastructure and depend on the clock accuracy. The Network Time Protocol (NTP) is the current widely accepted standard for synchronizing clocks over the Internet. NTP uses a hierarchical scheme to synchronize the clocks in the network to a universal clock and takes into account only round trip measurements between a server and its predefined ancestors in the hierarchy. In this talk a novel non-hierarchical peer-to-peer approach for time synchronization termed CTP - Classless Time Protocol is presented. This approach exploits convex optimization theory in order to evaluate the impact of each clock offset on a network-wide objective function. The clock-offset problem is defined as an optimization problem and its optimal solution is derived. Based on the solution a distributed protocol is developed that can be implemented over a communication network and its convergence to the optimal clock offsets is proved. The results show conclusively that the non-hierarchical approach substantially outperforms all previous hierarchical schemes such as NTP in terms of clock accuracy with respect to a universal clock, and without increasing the protocol complexity. Another highly related topic addressed in this talk is a novel approach for the estimation of one-way delays between neighboring nodes without requiring any time synchronization among the nodes of the network. This approach is use the maximum entropy principle and take into account the asymmetric nature of the network and links, and the fact that traffic flows are not necessarily the same in both directions. This approach is based on conducting multiple and simple delay measurements among multiple neighboring pairs of nodes and exploiting cyclic path characteristics. [*Joint work with Prof. Israel Cidon and Dr. Omer Gurewitz]

Bio-Sketch of Prof. Moshe Sidi

Moshe Sidi received the B.Sc., M.Sc. and the D.Sc. degrees from the Technion in 1975, 1979 and 1982, respectively, all in EE. In 1982 he joined the faculty of Electrical Engineering Department at the Technion where he is currently a Professor holding the Technion Chair for Electrical Engineering. He also serves as the Technion Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. Over the years he held several major editorial positions. His research interests are in the

broad areas of wireless, high-speed and computer communication networks. He published more than 160 papers in these areas in leading journals and conferences.

For more information call Dr. Zvi Roth (561-297-3471) or e-mail to rothz@fau.edu
Visit sponsored in part by the Florida-Israel Institute.

Jews and Arabs and the Virus of Diaspora in A.B. Yehoshua's "The Liberated Bride"

Dr. Ranen Omer-Sherman

Associate professor of English and
The Gabelli's Senior Scholar of Arts & Sciences
University of Miami
Coral Gables, Florida

Lecture will be followed by one episode of the highly acclaimed new Israeli documentary series **Did Herzl Really Say that? Part 2: O! My Homeland** (2006, 49 minutes, produced by Yanay Ofra and Oren Harman; Hebrew with English subtitles), introduced by Dr. Omer-Sherman.

Wednesday, April 18, 2007 at 7:00PM
Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Performing Arts PA101 Auditorium
Free Admission – no reservations required



Abstract of the Presentation

Few modern Hebrew writers have more consistently and zealously defended the traditional dichotomy of Zionism/Diaspora than A.B. Yehoshua, whose stridently negative evaluations of Jewish Diaspora identity have frequently outraged his Jewish interlocutors in North America and Europe. His well-known hermeneutics of Diaspora as a debilitating condition of neurosis has never wavered throughout his nearly five decades as one of Israel's most important public intellectuals and gifted novelists. Nowhere is the palpable tension between the values that Yehoshua ascribe respectively

to Zionism and the Diaspora more evident than in his most epic labyrinth of a novel to date, *The Liberated Bride* (Hebrew: *Ha-Kala Ha-Meshachreret*). In the current discourse between Zionist and Diasporic identities, the prevailing perspective of writers who lean toward the latter may be said to affirm the values of elusiveness, fluidity, and straddling contradictions. Such writers contend that Jews have not merely existed for centuries with such contradictory identities; they've genuinely thrived on them. And yet precisely in this regard, *The Liberated Bride* is a deeply fissured work that warrants our attention as a remarkably conflicted narrative about the problem of "being at home," the encounter between cultural homogeneity—Yehoshua's Zionist ardor for a "complete identity"—and the seductions of alterity. In this novel's warm portrayals of the prospects of cultural hybridity and the breakdown of stable identities that result from the encounters between Jews, Israeli Arabs, and Palestinians, Yehoshua the artist seems to thwart the intentions of the forceful public statements made by Yehoshua the polemicist.

Dr. Ranen Omer-Sherman is an Associate Professor of English and is the Gabelli Senior Scholar of Arts & Sciences at the University of Miami where he teaches a wide range of courses in American and British as well as Israeli and other Jewish literatures. He has published numerous articles and reviews on 20th-century and 21st-century American Jewish literature. His first book, *Diaspora and Zionism in Jewish American Literature: Lazarus, Syrkin, Reznikoff, Roth* (2002), was published by Brandeis University Press. His second book entitled *Israel in Exile: Jewish Writing and the Desert* (2006) examines sacred as well as political aspects of the writer's responses to the wilderness of Exodus, and is published by the University of Illinois Press. He is currently editing a book of essays on the "Jewish Graphic novel" and is researching Levantine identities in contemporary memoir and fiction. Dr. Omer-Sherman served for three years in the Israeli army in the late 1970s and early 1980s, including some time in Lebanon. He spent thirteen years living apart from Israel's more densely populated cities in the austere region of the southern *Arava* desert as a desert *kibbutznik*, guide, and ranger (He was a founding member of a desert kibbutz). Dr. Omer-Sherman received his Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame

Film Synopsis

Thirty-something Israelis, one a historian and one a biophysicist, explore the hopes and dreams of Israeli Arabs. Episode two in a much-acclaimed new Israeli series entitled "Did Herzl Really Say That?" is devoted to the paradoxes and problems facing Israeli society today. The Israeli newspaper *HaAretz* calls their approach "intellectual, cosmopolitan, and ironic without being cynical." *Maariv* calls Harman and Ofran "knowledgeable, yet still down to earth and straight shooting..." and raves about the "honest self-evaluation ... for the next generation ... in the State of Israel."

**Appendix G
FII Scholarship Program**

FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSITUTE OUT-OF-STATE TUITION WAIVERS FALL 2006				
First Name	Last Name	University/ College	Undergraduate Credits	Graduate Credits
Saar	Aharoni	FAU	3	
Nava	Amos	FIU	12	
Lital Miriam	Asher	BCC	12	
Sharon	Barak	UF		9
Itay	Basevitch	FSU		9
Meytal	Dvash	FGCU		9
Moshe	Doron	UF	8	3
Amir	Edry	BCC	12	
Danielle	Elberg	FAU	12	
Orit	Fisher	FSU		9
Rachel Moran	Gvili	BCC	12	
Itzhak	Hayon	FIU	12	
Chofit	Hillel	FIU	12	
Keren	Karni	MDC	12	
Niv	Karni	BCC	12	
Doron	Kima	FSU		9
Amir	Lichtenberg	FIU	12	
Michael	Lombrozo	MDC	11	
Luna Levana	Medina	BCC	12	
Amir	Melloul	FIU	12	
Michal	Nissim	FIU	12	
Ran	Poliker	FAU	1	
Gilad	Segal	FIU	12	
Khen	Shalem	FSU		9
Gadi	Sharoni	FIU	12	
Gilad Nahum	Weic	BCC	12	
Yaron	Zoller	FAU		7
Total Credits			215	65
Scholarships			17.9	7.1
Total Number of Scholarships			25	

BCC – Broward Community College
 FAU - Florida Atlantic University
 FGCU – Florida Gulf Coast University
 FIU – Florida International University
 MDC – Miami Dade College
 FSU – Florida State University
 UF – University of Florida

**FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSITUTE
OUT-OF-STATE TUITION WAIVERS
SPRING 2007**

First Name	Last Name	University/ College	Undergraduate Credits	Graduate Credits
Saar	Aharoni	FAU	1	
Nava	Amos	FIU	1	
Lital Miriam	Asher	BCC	8	
Sharon	Barak	UF		9
Itay	Basevitch	FSU		9
Moshe	Doron	UF	9	2
Amir	Edry	BCC	12	
Meytal	Dvash	FGCU		9
Danielle	Elberg	FAU	9	
Orit	Fisher	FSU		9
Itzhak	Hayon	FIU	12	
Chofit	Hillel	FIU	10	
Keren	Karni	MDC	9	
Niv	Karni	BCC	12	
Doron	Kima	FSU		9
Katia	Korpan	MDC	12	
Rimon	Levy	PBCC	10	
Amir	Lichtenberg	FIU	12	
Michael	Lombrozo	MDC	12	
Luna Levana	Medina	BCC	12	
Yael	Orgad	FIU		9
Gilad	Segal	FIU	12	
Khen	Shalem	FSU		9
Gadi	Sharoni	FIU	12	
Sara Raquel	Susterman	BCC	12	
Daniel Sasha	Susterman	FIU	12	
Gilad Nahum	Weic	BCC	12	
Arie	Yaker	MDC	12	
Total Credits			213	65
Scholarships			17.8	7.2
Total Number of Scholarships			25	

BCC – Broward Community College
 FAU - Florida Atlantic University
 FGCU – Florida Gulf Coast University
 FIU – Florida International University
 MDC – Miami Dade College
 FSU – Florida State University
 UF – University of Florida

**FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSITUTE
OUT-OF-STATE TUITION WAIVERS
SUMMER 2007**

First Name	Last Name	University/ College	Undergraduate Credits	Graduate Credits
Saar	Aharoni	FAU	1	
Roy	Brieman	BCC	12	
Meytal	Dvash	FGCU		6
Amir	Edry	BCC	9	
Orit	Fisher	FSU		6
Itzhak	Hayon	FIU	9	
Niv	Karni	BCC	7	
Rimon	Levy	PBCC	12	
Luna Levana	Medina	BCC	4	
Mery	Pepa	FAU	6	
Gilad	Segal	FIU	9	
Khen	Shalem	FSU		6
Gadi	Sharoni	FIU	3	
Dayana	Susterman	FIU	12	
Daniel Sasha	Susterman	FIU	6	
Arie	Yaker	MDC	6	
Avishai	Zonnenberg	FAU	12	
Total Credits			108	18
Scholarships			12.0	3.0
Total Number of Scholarships			15	

BCC – Broward Community College
 FAU - Florida Atlantic University
 FGCU – Florida Gulf Coast University
 FIU – Florida International University
 MDC – Miami Dade College
 FSU – Florida State University
 UF – University of Florida