



FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE

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2007-2008 Annual Report

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

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



FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE

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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



The academic year of 2007-2008 marked the celebrations of Israel's 60th anniversary. Three FII Board members were instrumental in initiating and passing historic bills in the Florida House and Senate congratulating the State of Israel on this momentous occasion. A Florida Senate Bill 2922 introduced by Senator Nan Rich, and joined by 37 bi-partisan co-sponsors, was adopted on 3/27/2008. The bill even mentions explicitly the contributions of the FII "... The connection between the State of Florida and Israel is reflected by the support of the Florida-Israel Institute as well as other cultural and business exchanges...". Florida House of Representatives Bill 9081, introduced by both Majority Leader Adam Hasner and Minority Leader Dan Gelber, co-sponsored by the entire House, was adopted on 4/10/2008. Israel's Consul General Ofer Bavly was present on both occasions and spoke to both forums.

The preparations for Israel 60th Independence Day lasted for the whole year and marked a renewed collaboration between FII and the local Jewish Federations. It started with collaboration on Israeli Film festivals and then expanded to other areas of cooperation. Most notable are the Israel60 events coordinated by the Broward Jewish Federation. FII co-sponsored some of the films, provided the academic planning and arranged for the speaker (Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm). Later Dr. Roth joined the Federation's Israel & Overseas Committee and became involved in the planning for setting a Center of Excellence that is expected to involve the Israeli town of Nesher (adopted by the Broward Jewish Federation), the Technion, University of Haifa and south Florida higher education institutions. Another good collaboration that started during 2007-2008 is between FII and the Palm Beach Jewish Federation in creating a monthly Israeli Film and Lecture Series at the FAU Jupiter campus.

The \$50,000 FII 2007-2008 Budget appropriated by the Florida Legislature fell drastically short of the previous year budget. It made it mandatory for FII to again seek supplementary funds from its two hosting institutions – FAU and BC.

The budget supplement provided by BC aimed at securing FII's administrative support system and underwriting some FII projects that are of strategic importance to BC, such as Math Education. FAU's supplemental funds were on the other hand earmarked specifically to promote FAU-Israel collaboration in the medical and biomedical fields. Much in-kind support was provided by FAU to FII in the form of release time to the co-Director (from FAU) and by allocating office space at the Boca Raton campus to the FII.

Obviously, the 2007-2008 Year was not a good year for sending FII delegations to Israel, FII co-sponsoring of conferences and faculty exchange programs with Israel.

Continuation of some of the FII research projects was done at the proposal writing and submission level. Two of the FII projects that were promoted in previous years (Water

Monitoring and RFID Technology) got integrated into two of the five FAU finalist proposals for the 2008-2009 Florida Centers of Excellence cycle. One was the FACE Initiative, a major environmental study of the South Florida coastal area. The proposal featured Dr. Katzir's Infrared Spectroscopy techniques for monitoring toxins and pollutants in lakes, rivers and ground water. The other proposal aimed at creating a center of Healthcare Engineering focusing on technologies for home-based elderly care. The proposal featured RFID-technology ideas contributed by Prof. Benjamin Arazi (Ben Gurion University). Unfortunately it became known near the end of the year that the very competitive field left both proposals empty handed. The authors of the above proposals may now seek alternative funding elsewhere.

Three science and technology Florida-Israel cooperative thrusts promoted by the FII were featured at the last FII Board meeting on 10/23/07, with keynote brief lectures by Drs. Len Berry (Florida Environmental Center), Mauricio Lynn (Jackson Memorial Hospital) and Yoram Sagher (FAU). These were: Water Monitoring (focusing on collaboration with Prof. Abraham Katzir at Tel Aviv University), Hospital Emergency Preparedness (with Dr. Mauricio Lynn of Jackson Memorial as the key contact) and Elementary Math Education (focusing on the so called Singapore Math, with Prof. Ron Aharoni of the Technion and Prof. Yoram Sagher of FAU, as the main researchers).

After successful participation of the FII in BioMed Israel 2007, the 2007-2008 year continued the collaborative effort between Israel and FAU in the medical and biomedical fields. Three Israeli researchers delivered seminars at the FAU College of biomedical Science, two in the area of Neuroscience and one in the area of Infectious Diseases. Plans that were underway to send an FAU stem cell researcher as keynote speaker at BioMed Israel 2008 and to set a FAU research exhibition booth were halted due to a freeze imposed later that year on all travel on State funds.

Another promising plan that got aborted (due to the travel freeze) involved a short course in Israel on Preparedness for Mass Casualty Incidents designed for Homeland security regional chiefs and hospital administrators. The course was created by Dr. Lynn (of Jackson Memorial) as part of promoting on-going MCI preparedness standardization currently under study in 81 Florida hospitals. The idea will continue to be pursued in coming years.

It was the third major FII science and technology thrust (Singapore Math) that became FII's most successful initiative during 2007-2008. At the end of March and early April 2007 Dr. Aharoni delivered a sequence of teacher and faculty workshops on the Singapore Math method, including actual classroom demonstrations. The events that were fully funded by the FII involved cooperation with Broward College's Holcombe Center for Learning, the FAU College of Education, the Broward School Board, and three local schools: Sunland Park Elementary, Donna Klein Academy and A.D. Henderson. The elementary mathematics education FII project benefited greatly from BC's planned expansion into four-year programs that are expected to include Middle-School Mathematics Education

FII's initiative to transform FAU and BC's policies toward Study Abroad in Israel that started in late 2006-2007 had several impressive follow-ups on both campuses. In October 2007 the Board of Trustees of Broward College approved a pilot study involving a summer course at the University of Haifa. FAU set a new university-wide committee to study safety and security matters in countries listed under US State Department advisory, with the goal of possibly approving study abroad programs in select institutions. Slow progress continued during 2007-2008.

Plans that were announced in 2006-2007 to create a joint FAU-BC Certificate Program in Israel Studies suffered a set back when it was discovered that due to insufficient number of regularly offered Israel-related courses the chances for approval by the institutes' curriculum committees were slim. It became clear that FII's effort should focus on commissioning of new

courses, on helping enhance the quality of Hebrew instruction at both FAU and BC, and on team building involving more universities. A high-level dialogue between FAU and Hebrew College, the first of its kind in six years was brokered by the FII. Time will tell if this preliminary contact will evolve into an academic partnership.

For budgetary and for available space reasons FII decided to merge its Film and Lecture series: A 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, FII scheduled 12 film/lecture events at the FAU Boca campus (a much reduced level of activity, compared to the 2006-2007 year). Counter-intuitively, in some respects FII managed to expand its community outreach by means of Israeli Films and lectures. A new series opened in June 2008 at the FAU Jupiter campus. A course on "Holocaust in Israeli Consciousness" was commissioned and taught successfully in Fall 2007 by Dr. Talmon at the FAU Lifelong Learning program. The collaboration with the Broward Jewish Federation was mentioned earlier. The various series events became almost self-sufficient due to donations made by a very enthusiastic audience. Several preliminary negotiations for further expansion into individual local synagogues and condominium associations commenced and are still on-going. During summer 2007, FII began soliciting donations at FII film events. 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.

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 FY2007-2008 the FII Board met on 10/23/07. Refer to **Appendix A** for minutes of that meeting. FII welcomed four new Board members: BCC President David Armstrong, Israel's new Consul General Ofer Bavly, Fred Glickman (Enterprise Florida) and Dr. Ed Pratt (FAU). It bid farewell to the following outgoing members: Dr. Will Holcombe (BCC), Dr. Lawrence Davenport (FAU), Dr. Larry Lemanski (FAU) and Dr. Marc Shapiro. With no funding from the state legislature for FY2008-2009, FII Board plans to be instrumental in addressing the challenges for FY2008-2009 that such lack of funding poses for FII. The FII Academic Advisory Committee (see **Appendix B** for its membership list) continues to meet every semester since its creation in the summer of 2005. The committee continues to play a major role in creating budget priorities for FII, based on academic considerations. During the 2007-2008 year the AAC continues to oversee the FII Out-of-State Tuition Exemption program to Israeli students (see **Appendix F** for full lists of the scholarships awarded) and academic planning for introducing the Singapore Math Method to the teacher education programs at Broward College and Florida Atlantic University.

The FII 2006-2007 Budget

Refer to **Appendix C** for the budget and dollar expenditures during 2007-2008. The total resources included State funds as well as Foundation money coming from donations. As some

of the supplements from the host institutes and carry-forward funds from the previous budget year did not necessarily come at the beginning of the year, and some came rather late, FII had to rely more than ever before on its Foundation account to fund regular community activities (films, lectures).

APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Minutes of the 10/23/07 Meeting of the FII Board (pp. 7-11)
- Appendix B: Membership List of the FII Academic Advisory Committee and Minutes of the 4/4/08 meeting (pp. 11-17)
- Appendix C: Details of the 2007-2008 FII Budget and Expenditures (pp. 18)
- Appendix D: The FII monthly Newsletters (August 2007 – June 2008) (pp.17-29)
- Appendix E: The FII Israeli Films and Lecture Series 2007-2008 (pp. 29-43)
- Appendix F: The FII Scholarship program FY 2007-2008 (pp. 63-65)

Appendix A

Minutes of Board Meeting on 10/23/07

Members Present: BCC President Dr. David Armstrong, Israel Consul General Ofer Bavly, Board President Herb Swarzman, Dr. William Greene, Dr. Ed Pratt , Dr. David Moore, Barry Silverman MD, Joel Reinstein, Dr. Ken Ross, Roy Rogers, Bruce Levy, Lothar Mayer, Jack Tobin, Matt Levin, Jason Unger , Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC FII co-Director) and Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU FII interim co-Director).

Members participating via Speaker Phone: Evan Yegelwel. (we tried but could not hook up Fred Glickman, who was waiting by the phone).

Invited Guests: Lauren Morris (AIPAC), Mauricio Lynn MD (Jackson Memorial Hospital), Dr. Len Berry (FAU), DR. Yoram Sagher (FAU), Louis Reinstein and Lesli Rosenblatt.

Members Absent: FAU President Frank Brogan, State Representative Adam Hasner, Senator Nan Rich, Dr. William Stronge, Dr. Catherine Meschievitz, Dr. Paul Bianco, Evelyn Levinson, Jonathan Kislak.

1) FII Board President Herb Swarzman opened the meeting at 12:10 PM introducing the new Board members: BCC President Dr. David Armstrong, Israel Consul General Ofer Bavly, Fred Glickman (of Enterprise Florida) and Dr. Ed Pratt (FAU).

2) Herb Swarzman briefed the FII Board about Governor Crist's trade mission to Israel 5/28-6/2/07 focusing on two major achievements of the visit: a) The Florida Divestment program, affecting organizations who do business with rogue countries like Iran, and b) The Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Florida and the State of Israel creating a solid funding base for hi-tech industry collaboration.

3) **Water Monitoring Project:** Guest speaker, Dr. Len Berry (Director of the Florida Environmental Center) was invited to brief the FII Board about the status of Florida-Israel research collaboration in the area of Water Monitoring. [ZR: *The ongoing collaboration evolves around a unique laser technology developed by Dr. Abraham Katzir (of the Tel-Aviv University Physics Department) that allows toxins and pollutants in the water to be monitored on-line.*] Dr. Berry elaborated on the need for on-line water monitoring in ocean and coastal studies, mentioning a pending FAU proposal for a Florida Center of Excellence for the Florida Area Coastal Environment, in which the Israeli technology is included and may play a crucial role. He also mentioned an existing FAU Center of Excellence for Ocean Energy, that should become interested in on-line monitoring as a method of complying with strict environmental regulations. He finally spoke about future potential need of this technology for the Lake Okeechobee and Everglades phosphorus monitoring. [ZR: *The Board has been briefed before about Dr. Katzir's visit to Florida in January 2007, and his participation in a special workshop at SFWMD organized through the office of Rep. Adam Hasner.*] In the discussion that followed it was commented on the potential benefits to Florida from such a breakthrough technology.

4) **Hospitals Emergency Readiness Project:** Guest speaker, Dr. Mauricio Lynn, briefed the Board on the unique needs for hospitals emergency preparedness to (natural or man-made) mass casualty incidents (MCI), and elaborated on Israeli technologies currently deployed at Jackson

Memorial Hospital, and on a one-year pilot study funded by the Florida Department of Health to standardize MCI readiness protocols at 81 (out of 200 or so) Florida hospitals.

Dr. Roth explained the connection of the FII to this project, citing FII sponsoring of the Israel session at the FEPA 2007 conference (*listed in the FII 2006-2007 annual report distributed to the board members in the handouts package*), and tentative plans for FII sponsoring of Florida delegations to Israel focusing on hospitals readiness.

Much discussion followed Dr. Lynn's lecture: a) In response to inquiry about specific connections to Israeli hospitals. Dr. Lynn mentioned medical and administrative personnel of four Israeli hospitals that were trained at Jackson Memorial on MCI matters, b) an expansion of the project scope was offered, to also include Israeli technologies for Communications, Command and Control, c) an inquiry about the feasibility of joint bi-state regular hospitals drills, d) a suggestion that FII organize a one-day workshop inviting to it representatives of all 81 hospitals currently participating in the one-year pilot study, and representatives from Israel, e) an inquiry about the likelihood of funding through the Department of Homeland Security, either at the state or federal levels, and on that issue another Board member thought that direct budgeting through the Florida Governor's office may be more appropriate.

5) The Israel Studies Initiative: Dr. Daniel Rieger briefed the Board on the status of the joint FAU-BCC Israel Studies program. He spoke about the connection between such a future program and the Study Abroad in Israel at both fAU and BCC. His talk focused on the up-hill challenges en-route to a successful implementation: a) Not enough existing Israel-related courses currently taught at FAU, and the need to commission the development of new courses, b) The status of Hebrew Language instruction at FAU, done by adjuncts only at the most elementary level, and the need for the FII to co-sponsor a full-time Hebrew language instructor position, c) BCC's inability to create a BCC-only Israel Studies Certificate Program as part of the AA degrees offered at the college (alas, no certificates are presently allowed as part of the AA degrees).

6) Study Abroad in Israel: Dr. David Moore (BCC, Assoc. VP for International Education) reported, from the BCC viewpoint, on what has been done regarding the FII Board's call for FAU and BCC to re-examine their policies regarding Study Abroad in Israel. He reported on the Study Abroad in Israel Florida delegation sent to Israel last June. The delegation visited all major Israeli universities' overseas programs and looked closely into curricular matters as well as students' safety and security arrangements. He related the delegation's impression regarding how superb are security arrangements at the Israeli campuses. He finally briefed the Board about a proposal, to be presented for the BCC BOT's approval (on its meeting on 10/24/07), calling for renewal of a limited-scope summer program to BCC interested students at the University of Haifa, as a pilot study.

7) Study Abroad in Israel: Dr. Ed Pratt (substituting for Dr. Catherine Meschievitz) presented FAU's approach to the Study Abroad in Israel issue. The key ingredient in the plan, created by Dr. Meschievitz, as a follow-up to the June 2007 delegation trip to Israel, is in the process of rapid implementation at FAU. It involves a university-wide committee for study abroad safety and security, charged in performing reviewing of specific study abroad overseas programs, including ones in countries listed in the US State Department advisories and warnings. The committee shall review FAU faculty proposals regarding establishment of study abroad program in a particular university. The committee is advisory to the FAU Office of International Programs (OIP). Positive recommendations by the committee shall be forwarded to approvals by

the FAU Director of OIP, Dean of Undergraduate Studies and the Provost. The establishment of the committee now opens the floor for near future proposals to resume study abroad in the four programs reviewed by the FII delegation last June – University of Haifa, The Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv University and Ben-Gurion University in the Negev.

8) Open discussion about **Study Abroad in Israel**: a) There is ongoing lobbying at the congressional level trying to lift the current US State Department advisory regarding Israel. AIPAC considers it a major issue. Part of the lobbying effort includes high-level discussions with the Insurance Industry, b) Ofer Bavly briefed the Board about a recent meeting that he had with Governor Crist, in which the issue came up. The Governor needed to know which Florida higher-education institutions currently restrict students travel to Israel. There will be a follow-up meeting between the two to discuss the issue, c) One of the Board members urged exercising extreme caution in any case of future relaxing of travel restriction arrangements. He advised the FII and the respective schools to develop emergency plans to cover all envisioned contingency cases. He argued that in permitting BCC and FAU students to attend Haifa University (for instance) that neither school nor the Florida-Israel Institute appears in any way to be assuring student safety. No study-abroad location is 100% safe these days, and while release forms may not be of much value, statements of assumed risk can be helpful. We never want to be in a position where a student or parent can say that safety was guaranteed. d) Another Board member spoke about the needs of the Florida community to have unrestricted students travel to Israel academic programs. He mentioned that any perpetuating perception that Israel is unsafe is disturbing, e) the largely-attended Israel trips organized by several pro-Israel Florida mega-churches was mentioned– security is not considered an issue at all, f) It was commented that all BCC students who wish to go to Israel be asked to sign a release of liability form, specially created for trips to Israel, g) Another member called for easing the burden on the students who wish to pursue an academic program in Israel, allowing the students to more easily receive credit in Florida for academic work done in Israel, h) It was finally mentioned that presently the University of Florida appear to be the only Florida higher-education institutions allowing Study Abroad in Israel. UF students who enroll directly to programs in Israel, do sign a release of liability, can transfer back their credits and can hold on to their UF financial-aid support while in Israel.

9) **The 2007-2008 FII Budget**: Dr. Roth briefed the Board on the FII Budget: a) The expenditures from the legislatively allocated \$200,000 2006-2007 FII Budget are listed and explained in the 2006-2007 FII Annual Report document, b) The 2007-2008 FII Budget of \$50,000 provided by the Legislature is used to cover part of the necessary administrative cost items of the FII – directors' release time and partial salaries, executive secretary's salary and office expenses, c) BCC's budget supplement of \$37,000 to cover half of the FII secretary's salary and Dr. Rieger's release time was greatly appreciated preventing the FII overall budget to "go in the red", d) FAU's recent supplement of \$40,000 earmarked for medical and biomedical research collaboration with Israel still needs to be budgeted – a report to the Board on the whereabouts of these funds shall be made by the end of the calendar year, e) FII's lecture and Israeli films series have been generating funds for the FII Foundation. As a result, these series more or less pay for themselves.

10) **The 2008-2009 FII Budget Request**: Dr. Roth further presented tentative FII CIBR budget request plans for 2008-2009, asking the Board's advice regarding the recommended requested amounts and the way to present it to the Legislature. All plans contained the same minimum-level projected FII administrative cost, and variable projected costs for specific programs. The FII directors recommended that the budget request letter list the requested funds for each of five

FII program categories - Faculty Exchange, Student Exchange and Study Abroad, Co-sponsoring of specific conferences at Israel, Delegations and the Israel Studies program (with the exact projected administrative costs integrated into the request for each individual category).

11) Open discussion regarding **2008-2009 FII funding:** a) It was clarified that in all other states in which there is a link organization with Israel, such organizations are publicly funded. The FII is the only state-funded linkage institute, b) One member thought that restricting the budget request to five categories misses many other intangible activities and involvements of the FII. These should be mentioned as well, c) Another advised against listing explicitly FII administrative projected costs. He however recommended a much increased budget request, d) It was suggested that FII propose for a longer list of projects, allowing the Legislature to strike out less favorable items, e) Another member supported the idea that FII ask for more than what was presented and stressed the importance of actively recruit endorsements of key elected officials. He advised that such meetings happen soon and offered his help in arranging it, f) It was reminded of this year's State budget cuts and the outlook for the coming years, and it was further suggested that the FII Board consider the possibility of augmenting State dollars by private fund raising. The Board can play a role in identifying interested individuals who might want to donate to the FII, g) it was added that such privately raised funds, when in place, may be presented to the State as matching funds, h) it was further added that FII should consider soliciting corporate support, i) David Moore reiterated BCC's commitment the well-being of the FII, and said that FAU and BCC try to work hand in hand towards securing the Institute's funding base.

12) **Elementary Math Education by the Singapore Method:** Guest speaker Dr. Yoram Sagher (of the FAU Mathematics Department) briefed the Board about the method's key principles, and on recent initiatives, both in Israel and in the US, to bring this method to American schools. Testing scores of students who were exposed to the innovative education system are very promising. He further related recent attempts to bring the method to the Florida schools and on the challenges facing those who do it. Ken Ross briefed the Board on recent plans at BCC to include the Singapore Method in the curriculum of the new BCC degree program in Middle School Math Education. He spoke about a planned joint FAU-BCC one-day workshop to Math Education faculty planned for 2/1/08 [ZR: *workshop is planned to be taught by Dr. Ron Aharoni of the Technion Israel Institute of Technology, if only the present faculty strike at all Israeli universities does not linger too long, causing a disruption of the Israeli academic calendar year*]. In the brief discussion, a member asked about spreading the method to private schools in the area. In response, the Board was briefed about current plans for teachers training workshop (again with Dr. Aharoni) at the Tampa Independent Day School.

13) **FII Board Sub-Committee Report:** [Sub-committee consists of Jason Unger and Evan Yegelwel]. Jason Unger commented on two issues implied by the 288.8175 Florida Statute regarding the Florida Linkage Institutes. The first has to do with the Board's name: Statute speaks of "a private sector and public sector advisory committee" (or "advisory committee" in short). The subcommittee advises against using other names such as "The FII Board of Directors" or "The FII Board". Another section of the statutes speaks about the linkage institutes that are governed by an agreement between the Board of Governors of the State University System and the State Board of Education for the Community Colleges and a counterpart organization in each respective foreign country. Jason Unger inquired whether such an agreement had been ever developed. Due to the late hour discussion was very minimal – one of the Board members remembered that such an agreement was indeed created many years ago, its whereabouts are unknown, but effort will be made to uncover it. There was no discussion about

the sub-committee's advice to replace the word "Board" by "Advisory Committee" from now on, including in this set of minutes. Issue is tabled to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM without setting time for the next Board meeting.

(Minutes created by Zvi Roth on 10/31/07.)

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

Zvi Roth, Ph.D.

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

Daniel Rieger, Ph.D.

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

Alan L. Berger, Ph.D.

Raddock Family Eminent Scholar
Chair in Holocaust Studies
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

Frederick E. Greenspahn, Ph.D.

Gimelstob Eminent Scholar in Judaic
Studies
Professor and Chair of Jewish Studies
Department of Languages, Linguistics and
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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

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
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Marianne Sanua, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and
History
Department of History
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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
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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

Florida-Israel Institute

Minutes of the Academic Advisory Committee Meeting on Friday 4/4/2008

Present:

FAU: Drs. Isaac Elishakoff, Howard Hanson, Fred Hoffman, Mohammad Ilyas, Oren Masory ,
Cathy Meschievitz (Invited Guest), Abhi Pandya, Zvi Roth, Eric Shaw and Ed Schwerin and Ms.
Shari Saylor.

BCC: Dr. Daniel Rieger

FIU: Mr. Itzhak Hayun (Student Member)

Absent:

FAU: Drs. Alan Berger, Fred Greenspahn, David Kumar, Dani Raviv, Myriam Ruthenberg and
Marianne Sanua.

BCC: Drs. Richard Appelbaum and Winston Thompson and Profs. Steve Godby and Mimi
Markus.

Non-FAU/BCC: Mr. Ofer Amit, Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm and Prof. Nava Dushi.

Material Provided at the Meeting:

- 1) Drs. Rieger and Roth's presentation handouts. (Copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached to these set of minutes).

Additional Attachments to this set of Minutes:

- 1) FII Projects proposed to the FAU College of Biomedical Science
- 2) FII 2008-2009 Legislative Budget request
- 3) FII Singapore Math Project Summary
- 4) Hospital Emergency MCI Preparedness Course Proposal

1) General

Fred Hoffman, Chair of the Academic Advisory Committee, opened the meeting at 2:10..

2) Meeting Posted Agenda

- 1) Update on the 2007-2008 budget and the 2008-2009 FII legislative request
 - 2) Outlook for next year and contingency plans
 - 3) Study Abroad in Israel status and plans
 - 4) Report on the Singapore Math 3/27-28/08 workshops and future plans.
 - 5) Status of the Israel Studies program and report on recent contacts with Hebrew College
 - 6) Status of FII lecture and film series and plans for next year.
 - 7) Any other business.
- 3) 2007-2008 Budget:
- 3.1) FII received \$50K from the Florida Legislature and a \$37K supplement from BCC.
 - 3.2) A \$40K FAU supplement earmarked for medical and biomedical collaboration with Israel has hardly been used. As of 4/4/2008 only \$1,750 were used to budget an Israeli speaker to the FAU Neuroscience Lecture Series. Dr. Roth reported on projects proposed to the FAU College of Biomedical Science (see attached) and rejected, some due to lack of interest by college faculty and some due to the overall travel freeze imposed by FAU due to the recent budget cuts.
 - 3.3) Dr. Roth reported that all carryover funds from the 2006-2007 have been transferred to the 2007-2008 budget and thanked FAU Associate Provost Norm Kauffman.
 - 3.4) Dr. Roth thanked the FAU College of Engineering for the temporary FII office space in the Science and Engineering building, and for the 50% release time that he received during the 2007-2008 academic year, at no monetary compensation to the College of Engineering.
 - 3.5) FII Foundation account income from donations, made by Israeli Film patrons and totaling \$7,000, was reported.
- 4) Outlook for 2008-2009
- 4.1) Dr. Roth reported on the 10/23/07 FII Board Meeting. Specifically he showed the minimum FII administrative needs (totaling \$111,500) and what can be done if FII receives again a budget of \$50,000.
 - 4.2) The 2008-2009 FII CBIR legislative budget request (filed through the offices of House Representative Adam Hasner and Senator Nan Rich) was discussed. The request (see attached) totaled \$385,000 and included a few projects proposed to be directly sponsored by the FII (a deviation from the past where FII played a facilitating role only).
 - 4.3) Dr. Roth quoted Rep. Hasner's advice to all government units "to operate in a Survival Mode". The State's budget crisis is very severe and it is likely that FII's legislative budget could be zero next year. In such a case FII shall explore the possibility of a special FII Board Meeting to discuss fundraising strategies.

- 4.4) Implications of Zero FII 2008-2009 Budget were discussed in detail. Drs. Rieger and Roth outlined a “Hibernation Plan”, contingent upon a BCC \$17K supplement that would enable Dr. Rieger’s release time. The plan consists of the following elements: a) Dr. Roth’s stepping down (hopefully only temporarily) from the FAU co-Directorship of FII, passing the helm to Dr. Cathy Meschievitz (Director of the FAU Office of International Programs which oversees the FII) – Dr. Roth cited that it would be unfair to the FAU College of Engineering to continue his administrative duty without his buying out his time from his college and department, b) FII Scholarships to Israeli students shall continue with a very minimal secretarial support and with the help of a AAC selection committee chaired by Dr. Rieger, c) Israeli Films and Lectures can continue indefinitely as long as funds continue to flow to the FII Foundation account – Dr. Roth is willing to volunteer, as part of his continuing membership of the FII AAC, d) FII shall continue to promote Study Abroad in Israel. All in all the hibernating FII can still maintain significant visibility among the South Florida Jewish community and other pro-Israel communities.
- 4.5) Much discussion followed the FII Hibernation Plan: Dr. Meschievitz said that FII leadership issues shall be discussed by the FAU administration whenever these issues arise. Dr. Hanson reminded that the FAU Division of Research (which too oversees all FAU centers and institutes) has recently decided that all centers and institutes must be headed by faculty members, reporting to their respective College Dean. As Dr. Roth reports to Dr. Karl Stevens (Dean, FAU College of Engineering) the FAU COE should agree to allow the FII to continue to operate despite their zero budget. Dr. Roth mentioned that he also reports to the FAU OIP and then to Dr. Ed Pratt (Dean, FAU Undergraduate Studies). Dr. Meschievitz questioned what happens when a center is interdisciplinary – which of the units (receiving the report) dominate? Dr. Hanson re-iterated that FAU no longer allows any center or institute to operate with zero budget. Such events prompt the onset of closure planning. Dr. Hoffman mentioned that all other Florida linkage institutes operate essentially with zero budgets. Dr. Shaw reminded that FAU cannot unilaterally close the FII. FAU and BCC are partners as was set legislatively. Dr. Rieger mentioned that any plan by FAU to withdraw from running the FII requires a legislative act.
- 4.6) Additional discussion evolved around the FII tuition exemption scholarships. Dr. Hanson inquired why these are not included in the budget. Dr. Roth said that the scholarships from the viewpoint of the FII budget are “paper money”. For the Israeli students who receive the scholarship this is real money. He added that the FII Annual Reports to the Florida Department of Education do contain full accounting of the scholarships awarded each year.
- 5) Study Abroad in Israel
- 5.1) Dr. Meschievitz reported on FAU’s new committee for International Programs Safety and Security. The committee started to meet regularly last November and so far has done some very important groundwork – planning related to health insurance for participating students, evacuation plans etc. Soon the committee may be able to address proposals to approve specific (possibly faculty-led) programs at specific higher-education institutions in countries listed on the US State Department Travel Advisory List.
- 5.2) Dr. Roth mentioned that the FII has already e-mailed the committee its intent to submit a proposal to approve four institutions in Israel as soon as the committee is ready to accept such proposals. Dr. Meschievitz said that she has been in contact

with the four institutions (Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, University of Haifa and Ben-Gurion University) ever since her visit to these places in June 2007.

- 5.3) It is possible that these programs in Israel will be the first of their kind to be reviewed by the new committee. Dr. Meschievitz further added that it is envisioned that faculty associated with the FII AAC (such as Drs. Greenspahn and Ruthenberg) as well as other FAU faculty will eventually join the proposal team and/or endorse a proposal that is prepared.
- 5.4) Israel specific pre-departure orientations would be prepared and given to FAU students. "Israel Safety Training" mini-courses for participating students like those currently provided by some Jewish organizations and by the Israeli universities themselves might be of some assistance as well.
- 5.5) Dr. Rieger reported on Study Abroad in Israel from the BCC viewpoint. He reminded that the BCC BOT has approved one pilot program – a study tour available through the University of Haifa.
- 5.6) Dr. Rieger is the BCC Faculty Coordinator for such a course. Much advertising was done, but by the 4/1/08 deadline no applications were registered. It is unclear if the reason for the lack of interest is the relatively high GPA entry requirements, or the general economic situation that now affects almost all study abroad programs.

6) Singapore Math Project

- 6.1) Dr. Roth reported on Dr. Ron Aharoni's Florida visit on 3/27-3/28/08 and the workshops that were conducted in collaboration with BCC Holcombe Institute, FAU College of Education, the Broward School Board and several interested private schools (Donna Klein Jewish Academy and A.D. Henderson).
- 6.2) Several follow-up steps, all focusing on seeking funding, for project continuation, were outlined: a) Multi-institute NSF proposal, b) Work through the Florida Jewish Federations, as related to specific Israeli communities adopted by these organizations, c) Translation to English of Israeli Singapore Math Teachers Guides – this can bring funding from Singapore Math textbook publishers, d) Establish workshops for teachers in schools that can afford it (from Title 1 funds etc), e) Establish Singapore Math curriculum at both the new BCC four-year program for Middle-School Math Education and at the FAU Teachers Education Department. (see attached project summary)

7) Israel Studies

- 7.1) Dr. Rieger reviewed what has been done in the last two years regarding plans to create a joint FAU-BCC Certificate Program in Israel Studies. BCC has sufficiently many courses but is unable to implement the certificate all by itself, as no certificate programs are allowed within AA programs. FAU cannot do it due to the lack of sufficiently many existing Israel Studies related courses.
- 7.2) Dr. Roth then reported about a renewed approach by Hebrew College (in Boston MA) exploring the possibility of an academic partnership with FAU. Such partnership was on the planning board several years ago but did not go through for many reasons. It is felt that much has been changed in recent years regarding all aspects of Jewish Studies at FAU to warrant a renewed dialogue.

8) Israeli Film and Lecture Series

- 8.1) Dr. Roth reviewed FII's successful experience with its Israeli Films and Lecture series in the last two years. This monthly year-round series draws large crowds and is very visible to the Boca area Jewish community.

- 8.2) Four types of film/lecture events were discussed, starting from the original Israel Cinematic Visions concept, through the merged lecture and film series and new ideas involving fact-finding-lectures and festival-type fundraising events.
- 8.3) FII is constantly approached to serve as coordinator (and co-sponsor) of similar series extending to farther-away geographical regions and local developments. Four such expansion projects, currently under negotiation, were reviewed. Some have the potential of being strong fund raisers to the FII, guaranteeing, if successful, the long-term survival of this project.

9) FII Scholarship Selection Criteria

- 9.1) Dr. Rieger described the problem: So far no students' areas of study were prioritized. The posted written guidelines indicate that FII may reserve 5 scholarships each semester to promote project areas that fall within the Institute's mission. He offered to consider a new idea in which priority be given to Israeli students who pursue areas of study considered high priority for the State of Florida such as Math and Science Education and Nursing.
- 9.2) He added that students selected based on such priority will have to use their practical training period working in Florida. FII shall try to influence a Florida legislative act to extend the practical training period awarded to such students prior to their return to Israel. Chances are that both states (Florida and Israel) do share the same priority areas, therefore such an arrangement will be beneficial to the State of Israel as well.
- 9.3) Some discussion evolved: a) Shari Saylor indicated that the official practical training period awarded by the US government to foreign students graduates, in many professional disciplines, is about to be extended from one year to 29 months, b) Dr. Hanson inquired whether Dr. Rieger's proposal is related to BCC's recent plans to create four year B.Ed programs in Math and Science Education. Dr. Rieger responded that many of Florida community colleges now have approved four-year degree programs in such priority areas, most notably St. Petersburg College. Dr. Pandya added that Indian River Community College has started to do it too. It's a wide-spread phenomenon, c) Dr. Hoffman mentioned that due to the tuition waivers program the community colleges may lose their advantage that they currently have over universities, d) Itzhak Hayun inquired whether more changes to the scholarship criteria are possible in the near future. Most needed in his opinion is some relaxing of the 3.0 GPA selection criteria. Dr. Roth responded that some relaxing de-facto of the criterion is done for students who apply for the scholarship in summer semesters, giving students that their GPA has dropped to improve their academic performance.

10) Florida Centers of Excellence

- 10.1) Dr. Roth reported on two Israeli scientists who participated in the last cycle of the Florida Centers of Excellence proposals: a) Dr. Abraham Katzir (Tel Aviv University), whose unique method for on-line laser spectroscopy water monitoring was included in the FACE Initiative proposal submitted by the FAU Civil Engineering Department and the Florida Environmental Center, b) Dr. Benjamin Arazi (Ben-Gurion University) whose ideas in RFID and Database Management were part of the Healthcare Engineering proposal. Both proposals made it to FAU's Top Five proposals submitted to the state late last Fall. Dr. Roth asked Drs. Hanson and Ilyas about the fate of these initiatives.
- 10.2) It turns out that the results for the latest Centers of Excellence cycle just came in, and have not yet been publicly announced. Unfortunately both proposals (above) did not make it to the next competition level..

11) Hospitals Emergency Preparedness Project

- 11.1) Dr. Roth reported on a proposed short course in Israel (see attached) that has been developed by Dr. Mauricio Lynn (Jackson Memorial Hospital) last January. At that time the plan was to run the workshop in early April 2008 to coincide with Israel's National Large-Scale Disaster Preparation Drills. The idea was to invite to the workshop Florida Homeland Security Regional Chiefs and Regional Hospital administrators.
- 11.2) Financially, the course organizers in Israel needed \$15,000 and ten participants to assure that the course go. FII planned to use \$30,000 from its \$40,000 medical/biomedical fund to underwrite much of the course's cost. The local Jewish Federations were consulted to see whether any was interested in co-sponsoring. The FII Board was consulted as well and some good suggestions were generated.
- 11.3) Unfortunately the currently imposed FAU Travel freeze put a temporary end to this initiative. The FII 2008-2009 legislative budget request includes a proposed \$65,000 to fully fund such a course next year.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.

[Minutes were taken by Dr. Zvi Roth. Revisions to the minutes were offered by Drs. Cathy Meschievitz and Daniel Rieger]

Appendix C
Florida-Israel Institute
FY 2007-2008 Budget & Expenditures
(Final Summary 9/17/08)

1. Resources (State funds and Donations)	
1.1. FII 2008 Legislatively Appropriated Budget	\$50,000
1.2. Budget Supplement (BCC)	\$37,837
1.3. 2006-2007 Carry-Forward (FAU)	\$12,654
1.4. 2006-2007 Carry-Forward (BCC)	\$ 3,100
1.5. 2006-2007 FII Foundation end balance	\$ 4,455
1.6. Donations to Foundation (Israeli Film events)	<u>\$ 8,110</u>
Total 2007-2008 Income	\$111,701
Total 2007-2008 Resources	\$116,156
2. Expenditures - Salaries	
2.1. Executive Secretary's Salary & Benefits	\$48,019
2.2. FAU co-Director's 50% Summer B Salary 2007	\$ 9,673
2.3. FAU co-Director's 30% Summer A Salary 2008	\$ 5,804
2.4. BCC co-Director Release Time & Supplements	<u>\$ 14,000</u>
Total 2007-2008 Salaries	\$ 77,496
3. Expenditures – OPS (Technical support – events)	\$ 1,080
4. Expenditures – Expense (paid from State funds)	
4.1. Phone, Cell Phone, Web	\$ 2,560
4.2. Supplies, Mail, Copying, Dues	\$ 3,143
4.3. In-State Travel (Directors, Speakers, Board)	\$ 2,124
4.4. Films & Lectures (Honoraria, License, Police)	\$ 5,059
4.5. Math Workshop (Honorarium, Books)	\$ 4,674
4.6. 2006-2007 FAU Carry-Forward charges	<u>\$ 7,064</u>
Total Expenditures State funds:	\$24,624
5. Expenditures – Expense (paid from Foundation)	
5.1. Films & Lectures (Honoraria, License, meals)	\$10,699
2007-2008 FII Foundation end year balance	\$2,257

Appendix D
Florida-Israel Institute Monthly Newsletters



FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

August 2007

Welcome to new Florida-Israel Institute Board Members: BCC President J. David Armstrong, Jr. and Israel Consul General Ofer Bavly



BCC President J. David Armstrong Jr.



Israel Consul General Ofer Bavly

The Florida-Israel Institute Board of Directors bids farewell to outgoing BCC Interim President Willis Holcombe and Israel Consul General Dr. Yitschak Ben-Gad, and welcomes the new BCC President David Armstrong and the new Israel Consul General Ofer Bavly, both become ex-officio members of the FII Board.

Mr. **Ofer Bavly** was born November 28th 1965 in Geneva, Switzerland. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and in Middle Eastern Studies from Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Mr. Bavly rose to the rank of Captain during his service in the Israel Defense Forces from 1983-1987. He joined the Foreign Ministry of Israel in 1991 and has served at key diplomatic posts such as Madrid and Rome. In 2005, Mr. Bavly was appointed Policy Advisor to the Foreign Minister of Israel, Mr. Sylvan Shalom. In 2006, he was appointed Counselor at the Foreign Ministry's North America Division. In August 2007, Mr. Ofer Bavly was appointed Consul General of Israel in Miami, Florida. He is fluent in Hebrew, English, French, Spanish and Italian as well as speaking basic Arabic and German. He is married to Ayala and they have 3 children.

David Armstrong's first day on the job as BCC's president was 7/9/07. Formerly, he served as chancellor of Florida's Community College System for the Department of Education in Tallahassee, a position he held since 2002. He served a year as interim chancellor and for the four years before that, worked as executive director of the Florida Community College System.

Scholarship News

Current list of the Israeli students who won the Florida-Israel Institute Scholarship for the Fall 2007 semester: Sharon Barak (UF), Roy Brieman (BCC), Meytal Dvash (FGCU), Amir Edry (BCC), Orit Fisher (FSU), Elad Gabay (UNF), Sarah Gozlan (BCC), Yael Haklai (MDC), Itzhak Hayon (FIU), Doron Kima (FSU), Rimon Levy (PBCC), Michael Lombrozo (MDC), Michal Martsinkovsky (MDC), Luna Medina (BCC), Amir Melloul (FIU), Yael Orgad (FIU), Khen Shalem (FSU), Gil Sharon (UNF), Daniel Sasha Susterman (FIU), Agur Teichman (MDC), Arie Yaker (MDC), Gilad Weic (MDC) and Avishai Zonnenberg (FAU). Latecomers are encouraged to apply – there are still several unused scholarships for Fall 2007.

This month's newsletter features scholarship recipient **Michael Lombrozo (Miami Dade College)** who tells us in his own words about his life in Israel and studies in Florida:



Education to is the most important achievement one can have in life. For this and many other reasons I decided to come to study in the US. I am 25 years old and an only child. I was born in Russia. When I was 10 years old, my parents decided to immigrate to Israel. My mother was born in Crimea Russia and was educated in the Art academy of Siberia, now she is a Judaica artist in Israel. My

father was born in the city of Omsk in Russia where he became an Industrial engineer.

In Israel I was raised with the customs and traditions of the Jewish religion. Every Friday I attended the Synagogue and followed all the traditions of a Jewish holiday. I finished my high school in Tel-Aviv, from which I graduated with an average of 3.0. My highest grades were always in my English class. In the little free time I had, I practiced soccer and kickboxing. I participated in kickboxing tournaments for the Hapoel Bat-yam team in which I won a second place award.

In 1998 at the age of 18, I started to serve at the aviation army of Israel. I was trained to be an assistant mechanic for the maintenance of the Apache helicopters for three years.

At the end of 2004 I came to the US to get my higher education. Not until the fall of 2005 I had the opportunity to enroll in one of the most prestigious colleges in America, MIAMI DADE COLLEGE. Presently I am registered in the Nursing program. Being in the medical field allows one to work anywhere in the world because of the high demand for nurses. It also helps to make the difference not only to myself as a human, but also to those who need the help. The United States is one of the strongest countries in the world and has the most advanced technology in the medical field and education. This is the main reason why I wanted to study in this country, specifically in Florida because of the weather (similar to that of Israel) and the institution I am at.

For my long term plans, after I become a registered nurse in the United States I will proceed to make real one of my biggest dreams, which going back to my country Israel to work and help the patients of Ichilov, one of the largest hospitals in Tel-Aviv.

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS
September 2007

Welcome to new Florida-Israel Institute Board Members: FAU Dean of Undergraduate Studies Dr. Edward E. Pratt and Fred M. Glickman, Managing Director of Enterprise Florida International Offices



Dr. Edward E. Pratt



Fred M. Glickman

The Florida-Israel Institute Board of Directors welcomes two new members.

Ed Pratt assumed the position of Dean of Undergraduate Studies at Florida Atlantic University on July 1, 2007. He received a B.S. in Japanese from Georgetown University and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Japanese history from the University of Virginia. He is an historian of modern Japan, with a research focus on the social and economic history of the nineteenth-century countryside. He is the author of Japan's Protoindustrial Elite: The Economic Foundation of the Gōnō, published by Harvard University Press. After receiving his Ph.D., Ed taught for two years at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, then assumed a position at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. He served as Dean of Undergraduate Studies at William and Mary for four years before moving to FAU.

Fred Glickman joined Enterprise Florida in January 1997. Prior to becoming the Managing Director of International Offices, Mr. Glickman was Director, Middle East and European Recruitment. Mr. Glickman's responsibilities include managing the day-to-day operations of Enterprise Florida's 14 international representation offices around the world. Mr. Glickman has responsibility for fiscal management, contract compliance, international strategic planning, program performance, training of foreign

representatives, and business development. Mr. Glickman established new representation offices for Enterprise Florida in markets where Enterprise Florida had no previous representation including Israel, Spain, Brussels and South Africa. In addition, Mr. Glickman has represented Enterprise Florida in the negotiation of strategic alliance agreements with economic development organizations in Germany, Canada, Spain, Saudi Arabia, Israel, and South Africa. Mr. Glickman helped to establish Enterprise Florida's office in Israel in 1998. He has participated on Governor led business development missions to Israel in both 1999 and 2007. He is involved with the strategic planning of Enterprise Florida's business development activities in Israel. Enterprise Florida's Israel office has and will continue to focus primarily on the attraction of Israeli high-tech firms to establish their US and Latin American operations in Florida and to provide assistance to Florida companies that want to export their products and/or services to Israel. Prior to joining Enterprise Florida, Mr. Glickman was the Director of the Middle East and South Asia Region for The Rendon Group, a Washington, D.C. based strategic communications consulting firm. While with The Rendon Group, Mr. Glickman was assigned to manage a joint venture between The Rendon Group and Ogilvy & Mather's Middle Eastern affiliate, MEMAC, to provide strategic communication and public relation services to major corporations including American Express, IBM and Toyota. Mr. Glickman spent four years as a Foreign Service Officer with the United States Agency for International Development in Washington, DC and the Ivory Coast. While posted in the Ivory Coast, Mr. Glickman managed urban infrastructure, housing and training programs in Niger, Ivory Coast, and Senegal. He also participated in the organization of international development conferences in Senegal and Zimbabwe. Mr. Glickman has over 25 years of international experience both in government and as a business executive. Mr. Glickman has performed assignments in over 30 countries on 5 continents. Mr. Glickman has made presentations and participated in workshops and seminars overseas including Israel, Japan, France and India. He received a Masters in City and Regional Planning from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He is fluent in French. He is married and resides in Miami Beach.

BCC Provides Budget Supplement to the Florida-Israel Institute

Dr. Ken Ross (Broward Community College Vice President for Academic Affairs) has announced that BCC decided to supplement the Florida-Israel Institute's \$50,000 legislatively appropriated 2007-2008 budget by an additional amount of \$37,000. "BCC is proud to continue our support for the Florida Israel Institute", said **Dr. David Moore** (BCC Associate Vice President for International Education), "We have been partners with FAU from the start of this linkage institute and hope to continue our partnership even in years of financial difficulty and budget cuts".

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

October 2007

BCC Board of Trustees approving limited resumption of Study Abroad in Israel and FAU Provost announced forming of a Safety & Security Committee to review all study abroad program proposals



BCC President J. David Armstrong Jr. Left: Drs. Daniel Rieger, David Moore & Catherine Meschievitz
In Haifa Israel (June 2007)

BCC President David Armstrong in a message to the FII Board announced that the BCC BOT in its 10/24/2007 meeting approved a proposal submitted by Dr. David Moore (BCC, Assoc. VP for International Education) and Dr. Daniel Rieger (BCC co-Director of the Florida-Israel Institute) to allow BCC students to enroll in specific summer program at the University of Haifa. This is an important first step pilot program towards possible future resumption of more study abroad programs at Israeli universities. For several years Israel has been on the US State Department travel advisory, which caused mass suspension of study abroad programs in Israel throughout the American university system.

A plan drafted by Dr. Catherine Meschievitz (FAU, Director of Office of International Programs) to address the same issue has recently been approved by the FAU Provost. It calls for the forming of a Safety and Security Committee that shall review security arrangements at all study abroad programs, including those in countries listed by the US State Department. The Florida-Israel Institute, through FAU faculty members of its Academic Advisory Committee, plans to propose to the new committee a resumption of study abroad programs at select Israeli universities, to include the University of Haifa, the Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University and Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

Committee approvals shall be forwarded to the FAU Provost, through the offices of International Programs and Undergraduate Studies, for his final decision on each case.

This month's newsletter features scholarship recipient **Doron Kima (Florida State University)** who tells us in his own words about his life in Israel and studies in Florida:



My name is Doron Kima, a composer and pianist. I was born in 1971 in Tel-Aviv, Israel. I embarked on my musical journey at the age of fourteen. As the son of a lower class family, I had to find a job after school hours in order to pay for my music lessons. From money saved up from my job and with some help from my parents, I managed to buy a secondhand upright piano. Two years later, I was the pianist of the junior Big Band of Berkley's affiliated Rimon School of Music. After graduating high school, I was chosen to be the piano player of the Air Force Orchestra. The busy schedule, sometimes up to six concerts a week, gave me invaluable experience as a performer. After completing my military service I continued my musical studies for a bachelor's degree majoring in jazz piano at the Hilversum Conservatory (Amsterdam School of the Arts) in Holland. While in Europe, I played concerts in major festivals in Holland, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, among these the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland, and the North Sea Jazz Festival in Holland. In 1996 I returned to Israel. I received Excellent Artist Scholarship from the Absorption Ministry of Israel and worked as a music director of the Open University Orchestra. The need to share the magnificent world of music and to help young Israeli musicians with my knowledge, led me to teach music in Junior high school "Erony A", and in "Ramat-Hashron" conservatory. In addition, I recorded two cd's with my own compositions, and played in the Red Sea Jazz Festival in Israel. I continued my musical journey at Florida State University, where I earned my masters in jazz piano performance. Currently, I am pursuing additional masters in composition at FSU. During my studies at FSU I won the Promising Artists of the 21st Century Award from Centro Cultural, San Jose, Costa Rica, and Second prizewinner at the Kathleen J. and Philip B. Phillips, M.D. Jazz Piano Competition of the South East. I composed music for orchestra, wind ensemble, electro-acoustic, chamber music, instrumental solos, jazz ensembles, big band and film scoring. As a lecturer, I taught several courses at Florida State University. I conducted master classes at the University of Costa Rica San Jose, Academia de las Artes San Jose Costa Rica, and at the Junior Summer School MAT'N Tel-Aviv Israel. I appear on Mercury Records *Trip To Soul*, on Bald Wins Records *The Jo Jo Principle* Bob Color, and I am a member of the Natoinal Association of Composers USA and Society of Composers. Florida Israel Institute supported all my studies at FSU and helped me to get that far. Florida Israel Institute gave me the satisfaction of exhibiting my art as well as contributing to the community. I conducted a concert of Israeli music at Goodwood museum with special arrangements for that show. In addition, I am in contact with Rabbi Schneur Oirechman from Chabad Tallahassee and with David Markell who serves as the Chair of the Israel Committee of the reform Temple in Tallahassee, Temple Israel, for providing them with live music for their needs.

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS
November-December 2007

Florida-Israel Institute Advisory Committee Meeting on October 23, 2008



Dr. Yoram Sagher



Dr. Leonard Berry



Mauricio Lynn MD

The last FII Advisory Committee meeting on 10/23/2007 featured three invited expert speakers on projects currently pursued by the Institute. Dr. Leonard Berry (FAU, Director, Florida Environmental Center) spoke about the needs for real-time water monitoring in ocean pollution studies, energy from the ocean studies and Everglades restoration, and the potential benefits of laser water monitoring studies done by Dr. Abraham Katzir's at Tel-Aviv University. Dr. Mauricio Lynn (Jackson Memorial Hospital, Ryder Trauma Center) described current activities to standardize Florida hospitals preparedness for disasters, implementing Israeli technology. Dr. Yoram Sagher (FAU, Mathematics Department) described the condition of elementary mathematics education in Israel and the US, and current efforts to spread a modified version of the so-called Singapore Method to dramatically improve students' performance.

More Brief News Items

- The FII Academic Advisory Committee's Fall 2007 meeting on 11/9/2007 focused on assessment of the progress of the BCC-FAU Israel Studies program, discussion of Study Abroad in Israel, status of the FII Lecture and Film series and budget matters.
- FAU announced its supplement of \$40,000 to the FII 2007-2008 budget. This funding is earmarked to promote collaborative Florida-Israel medical and biomedical research. FII is grateful to **Dean Michael Friedland MD** and the FAU College of Biomedical Science for this important initiative.
- FII has been a co-sponsor to two new initiatives involving promoting Israeli Films in South Florida: a) An FAU Lifelong Learning Center course "The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness – Cinematic Perspective" was taught by **Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm** (October-December 2007) featuring eight powerful films. FII is grateful to **FAU Assistant Provost Ely Meyerson** and the Lifelong Learning Society for this initiative, b) An "Israel60 Film and Lecture Series" commenced by the Broward Jewish Federation on December 2007 will feature monthly Israeli films, with lectures by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm. FII is grateful to **Dr. Adam Bronstone** of the Broward Jewish Federation for this important project.

Florida-Israel Institute Spring 2008 Scholarship Recipients

The following is a partial list of FII scholarship winners for the coming semester. The scholarship committee is still reviewing more applications.

Sharon Barak (UF), Roy Brieman (BCC), Meytal Dvash (FGCU), Amir Edry (BCC), Orit Fisher (FSU), Elad Gabay (UNF), Sarah Gozlan (BCC), Itzhak Hayon (FIU), Keren Karni (FIU), Niv Karni (BCC), Doron Kima (FSU), Rimon Levy (FIU), Amir Lichtenberg (FIU), Michael Lombrozo (MDC), Michal Martsinkovsky (MDC), Luna Medina (FAU), Amir Melloul (FIU), Yaron Mergui (FAU), Gil Orbach (MDC), Mery Pepa (FAU), Khen Shalem (FSU), Sasha Susterman (FIU), Agur Teichman (BCC), Gilad Weic (BCC), Arie Yaker (MDC), Avishai Zonnenberg (FAU).

This month's newsletter features scholarship recipient **Sarah Gozlan (Broward Community College)** who tells us in his own words about his life in Israel and studies in Florida:



My name is Sarah Gozlan and I am a student at Broward Community College. I was born in Paris, France in 1985 and at the age of seven, my family and I moved to Israel. We moved to Eilat which is a beautiful resort town combining sea and desert located in the southern area of Israel. Even though adapting to a new culture, language and school was not very easy at the beginning, I soon

became a real Israeli and realized how fortunate I was to grow up in the extraordinary country of Israel. When I was 10 years old, I joined a special program called in Hebrew “Hachonech Ha’Tzair” which is “The Young Educator”. Part of this after school program was to help children from the lower grades with their homework especially, in Hebrew. I’ll always remember how surprised I was to be chosen amongst so many Israeli “Sabra” children at my class to help others with their Hebrew homework since I myself only lived in Israel for three years at that time. I arrived to Miami in 2004 and two months after my arrival, I was accepted to work for the Consulate General of Israel as a consular representative. The work at the consulate gave me the privilege to stay close to Israel even though I was physically so far. I feel that being a part of the consulate has given me a one of a kind experience that I would never forget. In the summer of 2005, I started attending BCC and I have been enrolled in classes since then. Recently, I have completed three wonderful years of employment at the Israeli consulate in order to mainly concentrate in my studies. Ever since I was a little girl, my dream was to become a lawyer and I am very determined to make this dream come true. Being a foreign student in America is certainly not an easy task. However, my motto in life is that it is all about believing in yourself and in your ability to reach your goals. When I first arrived to this country, I doubted my possibilities to succeed in the big country of America but, I soon realized that this country has a lot to offer, especially for those who are willing to put all their efforts into it. Despite the fact that America is considered the “land of opportunities,” I still consider it as my temporary home because Israel is my real home and always will be.

FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

January 2008

Dr. Marianne Sanua Spring 2008 Semester Jewish Studies course "Modern Israel"



A new and exciting graduate-level course **WOH 5935 Modern Israel** runs this semester at the FAU Boca campus

(Wednesday nights 7:10-10:00 PM at Arts and Humanities 105) taught by Dr. Marianne Sanua, a member of the Florida-Israel Institute Academic Advisory Committee. **Dr. Marianne Sanua**, who specializes in American Jewish history, is an 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 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. The new course also features (with the assistance of the Florida-Israel Institute) several Israeli films such as "A Green Chariot", "Alex in Love", "Campfire", "Hill 24 Doesn't Answer", "Made in Israel", "Over the Ocean", "Time of Favor", "The Summer of Aviya" and "Yossi and Jagger".

The Florida-Israel Institute 2008-2009 Legislative Budget Request



Senator Nan Rich



Representative Adam Hasner

FII legislative budget request for 2008-2009 recently filed through the offices of Senator Nan Rich and House Representative Adam Hasner features the following proposed collaborative projects :

Water Monitoring Project: (Collaboration between Dr. Abraham Katzir's Applied Physics Lab at Tel-Aviv University and the FAU Florida Environmental Center) Study shall focus on monitoring of specific phosphorus compounds in Everglades and Lake Okeechobee water samples, using Dr. Katzir's breakthrough infrared laser spectroscopy measurement technology.

Hospital Emergency Preparedness Project: Promotion of Israeli-developed protocols for hospitals readiness for Mass Casualty Incidents, currently deployed at Jackson Memorial Hospital, and under consideration in 81 other Florida hospitals. The main focus of the project is Hospitals Drills and Personnel Training.

Elementary Math Education Initiative: (Collaboration between Dr. Ron Aharoni of the Technion Mathematics Department, Dr. Yoram Sagher of the FAU Mathematics Department, the BCC Math Teacher Education program and the FAU College of Education). The goal is to promote the “Singapore Method” in Florida utilizing experience gained in Israel. Focus is on sponsoring workshops for training Math Education faculty and math teachers.

Additional projects involve collaboration in medical and biomedical, biotechnology and solar energy research.

Funds are also sought for the development of Florida’s first **Israel Studies Certificate program** which includes enhancement of Hebrew Language instruction at FAU, commissioning new courses development on modern-day Israel aspects, and facilitation of Study Abroad in Israel programs. Community outreach by means of lectures and Israeli films continues to play a central role in this FII endeavor.

Featuring a Florida-Israel Institute Spring 2008 Scholarship Recipient

This month we feature FII scholarship recipient **Meytal Dvash (Florida Gulf Coast University)** who tells us in her own words about her life in Israel and studies in Florida:



My name is **Meytal Dvash** and I will graduate in April with a Master’s Degree in Mental Health Counseling at Florida Gulf Coast University. I was born in a moshav called “Zur-Natan” in Israel in 1975. The moshav is like a kibbutz with only 35 families and is located on a beautiful mountain. Today, many of the children who grew up there decided to stay and they raise their children there. After completing two years in the army, I worked and studied full time and graduated with a B.A. in Social Science and Psychology at the Open University. At the end of my studies I got married and my husband and I

decided to visit and travel in Florida. Since I had a friend who studied here and it seemed like a great challenge for me to study in English, my husband agreed that we would stay so I would complete my Master’s.

In 2002, I began to study for my Master’s Degree in Criminal Justice at International College and graduated with a Summa Cum Laude honor in 2004. Then, I worked as an Adult Resource Coordinator at the Ruth Cooper Center, which is the mental health care provider in my county. This was the best time of my life in the working field. At this time I really got to understand what I want to do in my future, which is to help people improve their lives in our community. Therefore, I immediately registered with the Mental Health Counseling program. My plan is that when I graduate, I will move back to Israel to help my people improve their lives and cope with the trauma and stress that exists in our everyday lives.

During my time here, I gave birth to two amazing boys, Edan (4.5) and Shakked (2). I am thankful to my husband that he is taking good care of them while I am doing my 1000 internship hours and studying full time. Also, I am thankful to Florida-Israel Institute that has helped me so much to achieve my goal and have this wonderful opportunity to develop a career that can help other people. Also, I am thankful for the opportunity to do community service, which taught me a lot about the Jewish community around me and also gave me the satisfaction of helping people around.

I think that being here for the last six years made me understand the importance of Israel in my life and I am very happy and excited to plan my move back to Israel in the summer. I always felt connected to Israel where all my family and friends live. Even though I tried to stay connected to our Jewish traditions by going to the synagogue and celebrating the holidays with friends, I could always feel the difference between here and Israel. With every holiday that comes, I miss the unique feeling of the holiday that exists in Israel, which here does not seem important. I would like for my children to grow up as Israelis and appreciate the warmth of having all the family around them.



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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

February 2008

Israeli Speakers at the FAU Neuroscience Seminar Series



Dr. Emmanuel Donchin (USF) Dr. Avishai Henik (Ben-Gurion Univ.)

The Florida-Israel Institute, in collaboration with the FAU College of Biomedical Science, is bringing world renowned Israeli Neuroscience researchers to the FAU Neuroscience Seminar Series.

Dr. Donchin's February 12, 2008 lecture "The Brain as a Finger: The P300 Based Brain Computer Interface" focused on a novel technology that allows a person to use the electrical activity of the brain as a substitute for lost motor control. He and co-workers at the University of South Florida began in 2003 to test the system with ALS patients with considerable success. More recently Dr. Donchin's team adapted the system to allow a user to control a wheelchair-mounted robotic arm. **Emanuel Donchin** grew up in Tel-Aviv, studied Psychology at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1965. Between 1965 and 1968 he was a research associate at Stanford's Department of Neurology and at the Neurobiology Branch at NASA-Ames Research Center. In 1968 he joined the Department of Psychology at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign as an Associate Professor. He remained at the UIUC till 2001, serving as head of the department between 1980 and 1994. He is currently a Professor Emeritus at the UIUC and a professor and Department Chair in the University of South Florida Department of Psychology. His field of professional interest is cognitive psychophysiology.

Dr. Avishai Henik's March 11, 2008 lecture is titled "**Neurocognitive Mechanisms of Number Processing and Developmental Dyscalculia**". Avishai Henik's research

encompasses cognitive systems dealing with numerical processing, word processing, attention (spatial and selective), and synesthesia. In all of these areas he investigates the brain- behavior relationship both in normal and brain-injured populations. To this end, he uses behavioral methods as well as various neuroimaging techniques like fMRI and ERP. He also uses transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) with non-injured participants. He was born in Tel Aviv in 1945 and was a member of the first class of psychology students at what was then called the Institute for Higher Education of the Negev, later to become Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. Henik continued his studies at Hebrew University. He received his doctorate in Cognitive Psychology with a concentration in Visual Attention. Over the years he served as Chairman of the Department of Behavioral Sciences, Chairman of the Zlotowski Center for Neuroscience, and most recently as Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, all at Ben-Gurion University.

Featuring a Florida-Israel Institute Spring 2008 Scholarship Recipient

This month we feature FII scholarship recipient **Sharon Barak (University of Florida)** who tells us in her own words about her life in Israel and studies in Florida:



My name is **Sharon Barak**. I was born in Haifa, Israel. In the army, I served in commanding and instruction duties. Last role: Deputy of Females Officer Course. Discharge Rank: Lieutenant. Upon discharge from the army, I started my academic career. I have a Teaching Diploma & Bachelor of Education degree in Physical Education from the Zinman College in the Wingate Institute. Upon graduation, I moved to Florida in order to obtain a Master's in Exercise and Sports Sciences from the University of Florida. Currently, I am a

Rehabilitation Sciences (RS) Doctoral student (RSD) at the University of Florida. The RS program's goal is to prepare rehabilitation scholars to address the need for faculty in the rehabilitation disciplines. This Ph.D. program is the only one of its kind in the Southeast, and the largest in the United States. RS students prepare for an academic/research career in rehabilitation science by developing skills in teaching, research, and interdisciplinary teamwork. Students design their own specialty areas within one of three broad categories (Movement Science, Communication and Swallowing Science, and Disability Science). My specialty area is Movement Science. I expect to complete my Ph.D. degree requirements by August 2008

I worked as a research assistant for Dr. Pamela Duncan, who is recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in stroke rehabilitation outcomes research and practice. In 2005, Dr. Duncan received a National Institutes of Health grant for 13 million dollars, in order to improve stroke patients' ambulation. As her research assistant, I partook in grant efforts and learned the most up-to-date techniques known to improve ambulation post-stroke.

Inspired by my work with Dr. Duncan, my research interests include evaluation of outcomes of geriatric rehabilitation, development of health outcome measures, measurement of physical performance in the geriatric population and stroke survivors, and enhancing mobility and community ambulation of frail elderly and stroke victims through physical rehabilitation. Accordingly, my dissertation examines the potential of using accelerometry as a physical activity and community ambulation outcome measure post-stroke.



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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

March 2008

Florida-Israel Institute Hosts Singapore Math Workshops in South Florida



Dr. Ron Aharoni

Dr. Ron Aharoni, a Professor and former Dean of the Mathematics Department at the Technion Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, has visited Florida from March 26 till March 28, 2008 hosted by the Florida-Israel Institute. The purpose of the visit was to bring unique Israeli knowledge and experience to promote the Singapore Math method in Florida elementary and middle schools.

On the morning of 3/27/08 Dr. Aharoni conducted workshop at Sunland Park Elementary at Fort Lauderdale to Broward School District's math teachers conducting actual demonstration lessons with fifth grade and fourth grade students.

On 3/27/08 afternoon at the Broward Community College Central Campus Dr. Aharoni conducted a joint FAU-BCC workshop to Math Education faculty.

On Friday 3/28/08 Dr. Aharoni worked with teachers, school administrators and students at the Donna Klein Jewish Academy in Boca Raton, and in the afternoon of that day he shared his knowledge with teachers and administrators of A.D. Henderson University School at Florida Atlantic University.

Since Year 2000 Dr. Aharoni has regularly volunteered as a teacher and guided teachers in elementary schools around Israel. He became actively involved in public debates concerning issues of curricula and textbooks for elementary math education in Israel. He was instrumental in the abolition of a "new math" oriented textbook system that dominated the mathematical education in Israel during the 1990's and early 2000's. He also led a successful public struggle in Israel against an "investigation-oriented" curriculum that at that time was about to go into effect, advocating instead a more conservative knowledge-oriented curriculum.

Inspired by his experience in elementary school instruction, Dr. Aharoni wrote a guide book for parents who wish to actively help their children in their mathematical studies, "Arithmetic for Parents". The book became a best seller in Israel, and has recently been

translated into English (Sumizdat publishing house). The book expounds three basic teaching principles:

1. Learning through the concrete.
2. Systematic learning, namely constructing the layers of knowledge in their right order.
3. Verbalization: using precise formulations, and discussing their meaning with the students.

Elementary mathematics is as intricate as higher-level mathematics, its special characteristic being that its layers are often hidden and evasive. Proper math teaching is based on understanding these layers, and letting the students go through these methodically, concretely and with stress on verbalization.

Aharoni, together with colleagues, discovered that the Singapore textbooks follow precisely these principles, and thus founded the "Israeli Organization for Promotion of Mathematical Education" that advocates the use of translations of the Singapore textbooks. Currently, the organization is working in 150 schools around Israel (constituting 8% of the Hebrew speaking elementary schools in the country).

In the US a presidential National Mathematics Advisory Panel has published (in early March 2008) its long awaited report. The report sides with many of the guiding principles of Singapore Math.

Broward Community College Bids Farewell to Dr. Ken Ross



Dr. Ken Ross stepped down as Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs at Broward Community College in early March 2008 to become Vice President for Academic and Student Services at Polk Community College. The Florida-Israel Institute wishes Dr. Ross best success in his new duties and conveys its deep appreciation to Dr. Ross' support and contributions to the organization. In 2005, as Dean of Undergraduate Studies at BCC, Dr. Ross joined the FII Academic Advisory Committee. He played a central role in establishing a set of written guidelines and selection criteria for the State mandated tuition exemption scholarships to Israeli students administered by the FII. In 2006 upon becoming Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Ross became an FII Board member. Dr. Ross, a mathematician, played an important role in establishing BCC's new four-year programs in areas of big demand in the State of Florida. These include Middle School and High School Math Education, Science Education, Special Education and English as a Second Language. He initiated the idea for a FII-sponsored Singapore Math workshop for BCC and FAU Math Education faculty, to be conducted under the auspices of the Willis Holcombe Institute at BCC.

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

April 2008

Florida House of Representatives and Senate Recognize Israel's 60th
Independence Anniversary



Senator Nan Rich



Representative Dan Gelber



Representative Adam Hasner

A Florida **Senate Bill 2922** introduced by **Senator Nan Rich**, and joined by 37 bi-partisan co-introducers, was adopted on 3/27/2008. The Senate recognizes the historic significance of the 60th anniversary of the reestablishment of the sovereign and independent modern State of Israel; commends the people of Israel for their remarkable achievements in building a new state and a pluralistic democratic society in the Middle East; reaffirms the bonds of friendship and cooperation that have existed between the United States and Israel for six decades and which have been significant for both countries; recommitts to working with Israel to ensure its security in its quest for peace with its neighbors and the countries in the region; and extends the warmest congratulations and best wishes to the State of Israel and her people for a peaceful, prosperous, and successful future. The bill's resolution lies on some of the quoted statements: "...The desire of the Jewish people to establish an independent modern State of Israel is the outgrowth of the existence of the historic Kingdom of Israel established 3,000 years ago in the city of Jerusalem and in the land of Israel... In its 60 years of existence, Israel has become the most successful democracy in the Middle East, and its citizens enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the region. Born in the ashes of the Holocaust, Israel has from its inception faced the hostility, and frequently the armed aggression, of its neighbors. Since its establishment 60 years ago, the modern State of Israel has rebuilt a nation, forged a new and dynamic society, and created a unique and vital economic, political, cultural, and intellectual life despite the heavy costs of six wars, terrorism, international ostracism, and economic boycotts. Despite difficult and often dangerous circumstances, Israel has prospered, blessed with a succession of great leaders ... Israel continues to strive for peace with security and dignity for themselves and their neighbors. **The connection between the State of Florida and Israel is reflected by the support of the Florida-Israel Institute as well as other cultural and business exchanges.** Today cities throughout Florida have Sister City and Partnership 2000 relationships with cities in Israel.

Florida **House of Representatives Bill 9081**, introduced by both Majority Leader **Adam Hasner** and Minority Leader **Dan Gelber**, co-sponsored by the entire House, was adopted on 4/10/2008. The House of Representatives recognizes the numerous achievements of the people and the State of Israel and extends its best wishes to the people of Israel as they celebrate the 60th anniversary of the independence of their state. The bill's resolution lies on the following statements: Israel has provided Jews from all over the world with an opportunity to reestablish their ancient homeland and has become home to many religious sites that are sacred to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The people of Israel have established a pluralistic democracy that incorporates the freedoms cherished by the people

of the United States, including the freedom of speech, the freedom of religion, the freedom of association, and the freedom of the press. Israel continues to serve as a shining model of democratic values by holding free and fair elections, promoting the free exchange of ideas, and maintaining a democratic government that is fully representative of its citizens. The government of Israel has successfully worked with the neighboring governments of Egypt and Jordan to establish peaceful bilateral relations and, despite conflicts with other neighboring countries, continues to seek peace in the Middle East. Israel has made significant global contributions in the fields of science, medicine, and technology. The United States and Israel enjoy a strategic partnership based on shared democratic values, friendship, and respect.

Featuring a Florida-Israel Institute Summer 2008 Scholarship Recipient

This month we feature FII scholarship recipient **Roy David Samuel (Florida State University)** who tells us in his own words about his life in Israel and studies in Florida:



I was born in Ramat Hasharon, in 1979. My mother is from the Lurie and Rivlin families, nine generations in Israel. My father is from the Czech Republic, a son of holocaust survivors. I carry in me both traditions, and the values that they symbolize of Zionism, the love of Judaism and the responsibility to the Jewish people. From an early age I have been strongly affiliated with the world of sport, competing mainly in basketball and judo, but trying many other sports. I became the judo champion of Israel for the first time when I was 11, and since then I have developed a long and satisfying career in the Israeli national judo squads, serving as the captain of the youth squad. I have been titled "Champion of Israel" 8 times at various ages, and achieved competitive success also in the international arena.. A severe back injury forced me to retire from practicing competitive sports at the age of 24. My journey in sports, however, is only in its early stages. During my three year service in the IDF I was able to maintain my training regimen, while engaging in interesting and meaningful work in the Joint-Security-Committee, which was in charge of coordination and cooperation

between the IDF and the Palestinian Police. I have completed a course in spoken Arabic and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This experience has taught me the importance of developing a genuine knowledge of the political-military situation when involved in Israeli *hasbara*. I have carried this knowledge with me during my academic studies and my Israeli related activity. As an athlete I was always aware of and fascinated by the influence of psychological and mental processes. Even though my high school background was in physics and history, I knew from the age of 16 that I want to become a sport psychologist. This profession does not exist in Israel and there are no educational opportunities. Therefore, after completing, magna cum laude, my B.A. in psychology and philosophy in Tel-Aviv University, I left Israel to study in a Masters program in sport psychology, at John Moores University, Liverpool, England. In Liverpool, I became active in the local Jewish and Israeli communities, recognizing their challenges as anti-Semitism was rising in Europe. While walking to synagogue on Shabbat morning, for the first time I received calls of hatred and looks just for being a Jew. I then understood the importance of a strong Jewish community in the Diaspora, along with the need to bring more Zionist Jews to Israel. In Liverpool, I established a student judo club and won the national student judo championship. For my achievements, I was honored by the University as "man of the year in sport 2005". As part of my strong ties with the Jewish communities in England, I volunteered to serve as the sport psychology consultant for the Great Britain Squad for the 17th Maccabiah Games. I traveled with the 450 athletes' squad to Israel and worked with them closely throughout the games, in sport and non-sport related issues. This experience furthered my connection with the Diaspora Jews, and the understanding of their needs and wishes. After returning from England, I worked as a full-time sport psychology consultant for a year. I was then offered a teaching position and a scholarship for pursuing a PhD in sport psychology at Florida State University. Professor Gershon Tenenbaum, an Israeli, heads the graduate program at FSU. In August 2006, I arrived with my wife Keren in Tallahassee. Since our arrival, we have been dedicating a large part of our lives to strengthening the relationship between Israel and Florida, and between Jews and Israel. Keren is serving as the student life coordinator at Hillel FSU. She is responsible for leading programs, educating students about Judaism and Israel, and staffing the Birthright trip twice a year. I am spending many hours in Hillel, supporting the active students and the programs. In addition, as part of the sister-cities agreement between my home town, Ramat Hasharon, and Tallahassee, I am representing the Mayor of Ramat Hasharon, trying to engage individuals and organizations from both sides in cooperation and collaboration. I am also in a close relationship with the Israeli State Department, and in particular with the current Consul General in Miami, Mr. Ofer Bavly. I am operating on his behalf in Tallahassee, and host the consulate personnel in their professional visits to Tallahassee and the Florida Capital. As part of this relationship, I have organized meetings with students and lectures for the Consul General, and assisted the consulate in its diplomatic endeavors. I am also dedicating my time to lecturing to FSU students about Israel and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. For me and my wife the ability to contribute to the State of Israel and to the Israel-Florida relationship is a great privilege.

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS

May 2008

Cable Driven Robot Assists Patients with Neurological Disorders



Co-inventor Melissa Morris, an FAU engineering graduate student, as part of her MS thesis, designed and built the device shown above to aid physical therapists and their patients to retrain injured muscles. The device will assist patients with neurological disorders such as Parkinson's disease and stroke.

Florida Atlantic University has filed a provisional patent for a unique robotic device to assist with the physical rehabilitation process of patients suffering from neurological damages to their upper extremities such as those due to stroke or Parkinson's disease. Inventors, Dr. Oren Masory, chair and professor of mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, and Melissa Morris, FAU engineering graduate student, designed and built the device to aid physical therapists and their patients to retrain injured muscles.

Melissa has started her PhD studies at the Technion Israel Institute of Technology Mechanical Engineering Department, under the guidance of Prof. Moshe Shoham. Melissa's research plans evolve around robotics for biomedical applications.

Students receiving Florida-Israel Institute scholarships for SUMMER 2008

Roy Brieman (BCC); Amir Edry (BCC); Orit Fisher (FSU); Elad Gabay (UNF); Sarah Gozlan (BCC); Itzhak Hayon (FIU), Keren Karni (FIU); Niv Karni (BCC), Rimon Levy (FIU/PBCC); Michael Lombrozo (MDC); Inbal Mazar (FAU); Luna Media (BCC/FAU); Amir Melloul (FIU); Alon Orbach (MDC); Mery Pepa (FAU); Dayana Susterman (FIU); Sasha Susterman (FIU); Arie Yaker (MDC); Dean Hershkowiz (BCC) and Roy David Samuel (FSU).

Featuring a Florida-Israel Institute Summer 2008 Scholarship Recipient

This month we feature FII scholarship recipient **Mery Pepa (Florida Atlantic University)** who tells us in her own words about her life in Israel and studies in Florida:



I was born in Albania, a closed communist country of 5 millions of that only about 350 were Jewish. The Jewish people, mostly from Italy and Greece, found a safe place in Albania during WWII. After the war my family constantly requested to leave Albania, but requests were denied. It was in early 1990 that my mom was granted a special permission to go to Italy and search for her lost family members. My mom, sister, brother and I, left Albania in November 1990. Nobody waited for us in Italy. All alone we managed to get around and went on with our “real” mission, to make Aliya and get the rest of the Jewish people out of Albania. After a few weeks the Israeli embassy in Rome and the Jewish Agency came to our assistance. Our Aliya process started and even though the Gulf War was about to reach Israel, my mom insisted on making Aliya as soon as possible. In Israel, we were welcomed and greeted by members of the Jewish Agency and Aliya centers who were much excited to meet us. They helped us and were with us for months after the Aliya, especially during the War days. After a few months, the Israeli Government, led by Itzhak Shamir, contacted the Albanian Government and demanded the release of all the Jewish citizens. After months of tough negotiations the Albanian Jews were let out in two groups. Forever thankful to the kindness of the Jewish Agency and the Israeli Government, and with the strong pride in my Jewish heritage and my country, Israel, I went on to become an Officer in the IDF. I was the first female officer to serve in the Territories and work with the Palestinian Authority. After serving for three years in the Gaza Strip, I was honorably discharged as a First Lieutenant.

I came to the US in 2001 as a tourist and subsequently decided to start College at PBCC in 2002. From the first day in the US, I contacted Jewish organizations to get involved and help as much as I can. Although the Jewish community has always been my primary concern I have also volunteered in many non-Jewish organizations as well. The main organizations I have been involved with were: The Jewish Federation, Hillel, JCCs, Friends of the IDF, Florida-Israel Institute, Hadassah, The Friends of Mogen David Adom, JAFCO and the Israeli Consulate. In addition I served as the President of the Students for Israel club at PBCC/FAU, VP of Student Government in PBCC, PR officer of Phi Theta Kappa, Math Tutor for the elementary school JC Mitchell, Event Coordinator for the Leadership program in PBCC, organized and attended “Paint Your Heart Out” projects and a few more. I have always maintained a high GPA and will be graduating FAU with Honors.

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE INSTITUTE'S CO-DIRECTORS
June 2008

Farewell to Shari Saylor



The Florida-Israel Institute is bidding farewell to **Sharon (Shari) Yael Saylor**, a special individual who, more than any one in the last two years, grew to symbolize the Institute's front end and most direct connection with the local Jewish community. Sadly the recent wave of severe budget cuts in the Florida higher education system has not spared the Florida-Israel Institute. The Institute's legislative budget request could not be approved this year. Consequently Shari's Executive Secretary contract that ended on June 30, 2008, could not be renewed.

Prior FAU positions of Ms. Saylor included: Program Assistant / Immigration Paralegal at the Office of International Student & Scholar Services (2001-2003), (where in 2002 the ISSS Department where Shari worked received the Student Affairs Distinguished Service Award and Special Achievement Award) and Senior Secretary in the College of Education. She holds an AA degree in History (PBCC) and BS degree majoring in Legal Studies (Barry University).

Shari grew up in Lewisburg Ohio, made an "aliyah" to Israel in 1977. Her husband Aaron Saylor was at that time a senior US security advisor for the State Department, and he eventually participated in the Camp David Peace Accord US delegation. Shari and her family returned to the US in 1982 and chose to live in Florida.

Shari's work at the Florida-Israel Institute often involved unusual hours and dealing directly with students and people from the local community. It was truly challenging and required a lot of independent decision-making along the way. One of Shari's main responsibilities was the administration of the Florida-Israel Institute (FII) Scholarship program. The Institute provides up to 25 legislatively mandated full-time out-of-state tuition exemptions every semester to Israeli students studying in Florida. The scholarship program is very competitive. The number of applicants usually exceeds the number of award recipients. The awards selection criteria include academic excellence as depicted from the students' transcripts and letters of reference and community service described in their essays and other documented material. New coming students from Israel often need much help with the application process. Shari has done an

outstanding job giving each student a “home away from home” welcoming treatment and in interfacing with the various Florida universities and community colleges’ financial aid officers. Shari’s other job responsibilities included a large amount of travel arrangements, reimbursement requests, purchases, logistic support and coordination of Florida-Israel Institute visitors. The administration of the FII lecture and film series, coordination of events all consumed a lot of Shari’s time, including evenings and weekends. To the South Florida community she exemplified the Florida-Israel Institute, sometimes much better than the FII directors themselves. It is the combination of true professionalism and warm personality that makes her so unique.

Featuring a Florida-Israel Institute Summer 2008 Scholarship Recipient

This month we feature FII scholarship recipient **Keren Karni (Florida International University)** who tells us in her own words about her life in Israel and studies in Florida:



Have you ever thought about studying abroad, maybe in the U.S.A, not in your own language, interact with different cultures and be able to really afford it??? I thought about it, and was able to make it. I am currently a student in Florida International University and hold an A.A degree in Business Administration from Miami Dade College.

I was born on November 20, 1978 in Jerusalem as the youngest of three children; grew up in moshav “Ora” and graduated from Ein-Karem high school. Right after graduating

from high school I joined the IDF serving as a dog trainer in the Air Force for almost two years. Following my army service I started to work as a security officer in a local mall at my home town, but I knew that it was not a life time job so I decided to travel around the world to learn about new cultures and meet people from other civilizations; I managed to save enough money and bought a flight ticket to South America.

While traveling for one year in South America I came to a conclusion that meeting different people, visiting places I only dreamed about and learning other languages opened my eyes and mind to the extension that changed my life since then. And that’s when it hits me; I decided to study in America, the opportunity land, a place where everybody is equal and gets the same chance regardless of ethnicity, religion or background, and Miami was the perfect place. I saw Miami as a culturally diverse place, where people from all around the world meet.

Thanks to Florida Israel Institute that awarded me with an “out of state tuition exemption” scholarship every semester, I was able to pursue my dream. I started my new path in Miami Dade College, and then transferred to Florida International University. After few years of studying abroad I made many new friends, learned another language, and strengthened my relationship with the local Jewish community. I am saying that studying abroad is a life time experience that everyone should try at least once. After graduating from FIU, I hope to start my own business.

Appendix E

2007-2008 FII Israeli Film and Lecture Events

1. Events at the FAU Boca Raton Campus

- ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS
ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

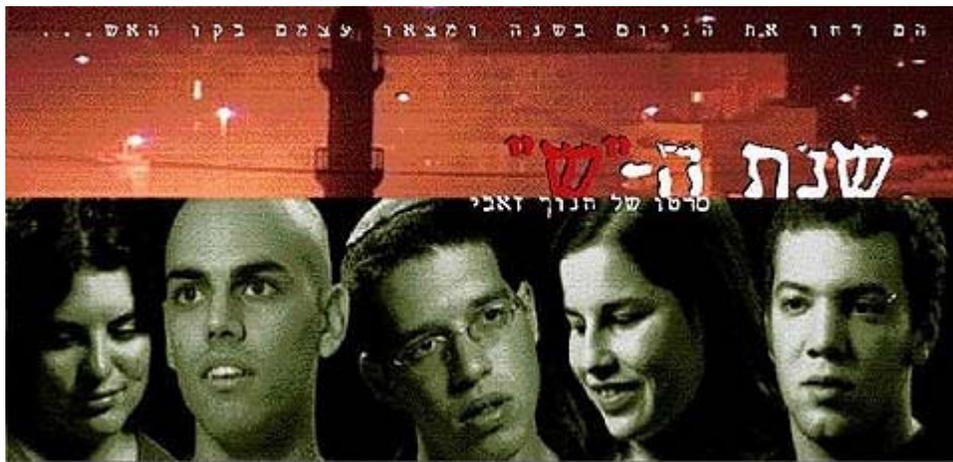
ON THE FRONT LINE

Sunday, July 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 documentary film **On the Front Line** follows the lives of a group of young Israelis who deferred their service in the Army in order to volunteer for a year's community works in a special pre-established program in Gilo, Jerusalem. Produced and directed by **Hanoch Zeevi**, 2002. (Hebrew with English subtitles, 54 min).



The young men and women both religious and secular, of a variety of political persuasions - are typical products of Israeli society trying to live together for one year during which they hope to get to know one another and to put the prejudices they have grown up with to the test of daily life. □ One month after their arrival, a new chapter in the annals of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict unfolds before their very eyes with the sudden outbreak of the Al-Aqsa Intifada. The outbreak of hostilities finds the group only a few

meters away from the firing line, close to what within days will become one of the symbols of the year - the northern border of Jerusalem, a favorite target for snipers in the nearby Arab town of Beit-Jala on the other side of the valley.

In the course of this "survival year" the main characters pour out their hearts and say what many Israelis think and feel. They provide us with a rare opportunity to observe Israeli society as it appears through the eyes of young people awaiting the start of their military service who have found themselves, one year too early, in the front line. **Lecture and post film discussion led by Nava Dushi.**

Academic Advisor: Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm Curator: Nava Dushi



ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS
ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

SOMETHING SWEET
("Mashehu Matok")

Sunday, August 12, 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. Our August Israeli feature presentation treats us to something sweet for the coming New Hebrew Year [Rosh haShana] celebrations. (Director: Dan Turgeman, **2004**, 97 minutes, Hebrew and some Moroccan Arabic with English subtitles, PG-13)
Lecture and post-film discussion led by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.



This nostalgic and charming romance connotes biblical archetypal family dramas; it tells the story of a forbidden and un-expected love between a witty, beautiful young Israeli woman, one of three daughters in a Jewish-Moroccan family, and her sister's fiancée. Set against the beautifully-shot rustic backdrop of small village Israel the way Israelis like to remember it, with the simplicity of village life and serene landscape, and the warmth of the loving family, the film represents major trends in recent Israeli culture: the centrality of the family, the nostalgia for the agricultural, naïve past and for folkloric ethnic origins, in this case - the folklore of the Sephardic-Moroccan close-knit Jewish family. The film, made in 2004, was written by its leading actor, Dan Turgeman, son of a family that came to Israel from Morocco. Writing from the vantage point and the sentimentally nostalgic view of his own ethnic experience, Turgeman adds to the new Israeli discourse of authenticity. Dan Turgeman is a leading star in the flourishing and very successful Israeli television genre “the Israeli telenovela”. Indeed, Israeli are huge fans of this popular genre since the late 1990s, when Turgeman starred in the first Israeli very successful soap titled “The Way to Happiness” [in Hebrew: Haderech la'Osher]. This film is a cinematic version of the Israeli telenovela, a genre in which Turgeman is an outstanding star. Also starring is the leading Israeli female actress, Ayelet Zorer (whom you might remember from Nina's Tragedies) who also plays a central feminine role in Spielberg's Munich. This charming romantic tale, suitable for viewing for the whole family, articulates deeper yearnings in Israeli consciousness, which will be further elaborated in the post film discussion.

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS
ISRAELI FILM / LECTURE SERIES

SCHWARTZ DYNASTY

Sunday, September 23, 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. Our September Israeli feature presentation is **Schwartz Dynasty** (Directed by Shmuel and Amir Hasfari, 2005, 100minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles, Rated R). **Lecture and post-film discussion led by Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.**



Miriam Schwartz's world falls apart following her husband's suicide. The iron-willed woman is determined to be buried by his side, in the section outside the main cemetery. Miriam meets Anna, a young immigrant to Israel from the former Soviet Union, who is determined to fulfill her father's wish to be buried in Israel. "The Schwartz Dynasty", written and directed by Shmuel and Amir Hasfari, is the tale of these two women, joined together in their struggle to fulfill the last wish of

their beloved next of kin. It is a romantic drama, in which the innocent love between Avishai, the younger member of the Schwartz dynasty of cantors, and Anna, a young immigrant from Russia, whose Jewishness is cast under doubt, bridges religious and ethnic differences. It is the story of a dynasty of Zionist religious Jews in Israel: The grandfather, mayor of the small town in the rustic north of Israel, who was buried outside of the cemetery; His son Bomba, a zealous settler who dreams of winning the elections and reviving the old Ashkenazi synagogue in his hometown; and Avishai, the promising cantor and Bar Mitzva tutor, who rebels against his father and seeks to revive his grandfather's tradition.

The rustic village where these dramatic plots take place is a microcosm of current Israeli society, in all of its vibrant diversity. It is depicted ambivalently in a tragic-comic tone, both an object of satirical criticism and a nostalgic yearning for harmony, unity and continuity. The film mercilessly negotiates inter-ethnic tensions and ideological struggles in Israel; yet, it celebrates the integrative female voice, and affirms the vitality of the Israeli future, symbolized by the younger generation: it is a future which embraces the new comer into the Israeli-Jewish community, and is connected to the eternal traditions of the Jewish past.

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS

Joint Event with

The Florida-Israel Institute Lecture Series

Sunday, October 7, 2007, lecture & film at 3:00–5:10 PM

Second screening of film only at 5:30-6:30 PM

FAU Boca Campus, Performing Arts PA 101 Auditorium

Personal Israeli Films and Collective History

Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm's Lecture, will be followed by the documentary Israeli Film "**Le Grand Akshan**" (Written and Directed by Ron Goldman, 2003, Hebrew with English subtitles, 58 min.); Post-film discussion moderated by Dr. Talmon-Bohm



Film and Lecture Synopsis: Towards the end of the film *Le Grand Akshan* the filmmaker's father tells his son: "What is the Human Soul? It is a tapestry of stories." The filmmaker, Ron Goldman, an expert film editor by profession, conveys in his personal film the essence of the cinematic art. In reply to the question: "What is Cinema?" he would probably answer: the heart and soul of Cinema is a tapestry of stories. But he also answers another major question: "What is (familial and national) history?" It, too, is a tapestry of stories. Each and every one of us is a tapestry of stories that encapsulate a nation's history, an ethnic group's story, a family history. When we sit at the Passover table and read the Passover *hagada* (*hagada* means in Hebrew: telling), we fulfill an ancient and major dictum in the Jewish tradition: to tell the next generation, to tell our children. Israeli Cinema had for years told the stories about the nation- the Israeli collective: about its enterprises, endeavors and traumas. The last decade has seen a profound change in Israeli culture, which impacted Israeli cinema. This change is no less than a revolution. It turns away from the public to the private sphere. The personal story and the authentic testimony now become the source of cinematic stories. "Le Grand Akshan", and other personal documentary films, epitomize this change. Together we'll embark on a quest to understand how personal films tell a collective story. Our tour guide is Ron Goldman, a young Israeli filmmaker, who follows the footsteps of his grandfather Grisha (Gershon) Starosta, nicknamed "Le Grand Akshan" (=the truly stubborn one), in search of a dream, and in an archetypal Jewish journey around the globe- to save his family from the horrors of war and persecution. As Goldman discovers hidden family histories, he uncovers untold chapters in the collective history; Goldman discovers that he is part of an ancient tapestry: a Jewish mythology that ties in all generations and all Diasporas unfolds.

Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm was born and educated in Israel. She is a scholar of Israeli culture, cinema, media and literature, who has lectured at Israeli universities, including The Open University of Israel, Tel-Aviv University, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Haifa University. Her Ph. D. was awarded by The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Communication and Journalism), her M.A and B.A by Tel-Aviv University. Miri has appeared as guest speaker on Israeli media, and was the editor of television series on Israeli cinema in its social context for the Open University of Israel. Her book *Israeli Graffiti: Nostalgia, Groups and Collective Identity in Israeli Cinema* was published in Israel in 2001 by Haifa University Press and The Open University Press. Since 2004 Dr. Talmon-Bohm lectures in the US, and continues her ongoing research of Israeli Cinema and Culture. She is the Academic Advisor and lecturer for the Florida-Israel Institute's Israeli Film and Lecture Series at Florida Atlantic University.

Seminar

Co-sponsored by the FAU Charles E. Schmidt College of Biomedical Sciences, the Southeast Region of the American Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and the Florida-Israel Institute

Human Monoclonal Antibodies against Infectious Diseases and Cancer

Leslie Lobel, MD-PhD

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel
Department of Virology and Developmental Biology

Thursday, October 18, 2007 at 3:00 PM

Florida-Atlantic University Boca Raton campus
Charles Schmidt College of Biomedical Sciences, Room 126



Unique cell lines were developed that are a highly efficient fusion partners for both human lymph node and peripheral blood lymphocytes (PBLs). Hybridomas produced with these cell lines have produced significant quantities of human monoclonal antibodies in the last three years. These dual marked cell lines can also effectively fuse with lymphocytes from all human sources thus far tested since the secondary marker facilitates selection against unfused lymphocytes that can eliminate the growing hybrids in mixed culture. With these cell lines human autoantibodies to breast cancer and prostate cancer from patients with these diseases have been isolated. These human monoclonal antibodies are of high specificity and sensitivity and recognize their respective malignant tissues in autologous and allogeneic specimens. The term “immunoprospecting” has been coined to describe this pursuit currently isolating human autoantibodies to ovarian cancer, prostate, melanoma and pancreatic cancer from the peripheral blood lymphocytes of patients with these respective malignancies. It is envisioned that these antibodies may be useful for immunodiagnostics and immunotherapeutics since these will likely evoke little or no humoral response. In a related series of experiments human monoclonal antibodies from healthy individuals that react against cancer have been isolated. Antibodies from healthy individuals, although likely cross-reacting, might play a role in “immune surveillance” of the body against cancer. Using a technology similar to SEREX (SERological EXpression) cloning the target antigens of a number of the human monoclonal antibodies isolated against cancer were identified.

Dr. Lobel’s Infectious Diseases research team has isolated a library of totally human monoclonal antibodies against vaccinia virus from PBLs of volunteers vaccinated against smallpox with the Lister strain of vaccinia virus. These on-going studies demonstrated the feasibility of isolating anti-viral human monoclonal IgG antibodies from PBLs. Dr. Lobel further isolated human monoclonal antibodies from PBLs of patients who were actively infected with Hepatitis C as well as from those who were

cured with interferon treatment. Thus far a series of twenty human monoclonal antibodies to the E2 and NS3 proteins of the virus isolated from the lymphocytes of patients infected with the 2A/C and 1B strains of Hepatitis C has been compiled. Research was expanded to other more deadly viruses - Ebola, Rift Valley Fever, Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever, Argentinean Hemorrhagic Fever, Avian Influenza and more.

Experiments started on the construction of "immunobiosensors". A biosensor usually couples an immobilized bio-specific recognition entity to the surface of a transducer, which "transduces" a molecular recognition event into a measurable electrical signal. Fiber optic immunosensors capable of detecting infection with West Nile virus (WNV) were constructed through the chemical conjugation of inactivated viral particles to the tip of a silica optical-fiber. These immunosensors are small, inexpensive and are easily manipulated for inclusion in point-of-care diagnostics. This provides a rapid preliminary diagnosis and facilitates therapeutic intervention while waiting for confirmation via other techniques. These optical fiber based biosensors are ultra sensitive and can detect minute quantities of specific antibodies or antigen.

Dr. Lobel's laboratory has begun experiments on the effect of nanoparticle-doped water on cell biology and molecular biology. By doping ultra-pure water with nanoparticles ranging from 10-50nm of Barium Titanate or Hydroxy Apatite under unique conditions the water develops a higher ordered structure. It was found that cells grown in media made from this nanoparticle doped water have faster generation times, secrete more, and can clone better. In addition, proteins have remarkable stability at room temperature and at elevated temperatures when stored in this material. Dr. Lobel has been utilizing this novel material to enhance the production of human monoclonal antibodies for his other research and has also been examining various aspects of cell biology and molecular biology when performed in this novel material. Finally, since proteins are quite stable in the nanoparticle doped water, Dr. Lobel has initiated a study of vaccine stability at room temperature in an attempt to eliminate the cold-chain for vaccine distribution that has limited the availability of vaccines in many third world countries.

Dr. Lobel earned his B.A. in Chemistry from Columbia College of Columbia University and M.D.-Ph.D. degrees in 1988 from Columbia University.

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS

Joint Event with

The Florida-Israel Institute Lecture Series

Sunday, November 4, 2007 at 3:00 PM

FAU Boca Campus, Performing Arts PA 101 Auditorium

3:00-4:00

Lecture by Dr. Terri Susan Fine (University of Central Florida, Political Science Department) **"U.S.- Israel Foreign Policy and Presidential Campaign Strategies"** followed by

4:00-5:00

The documentary Israeli Film “**Oriental**” (Directed by Avi Nesher, 2004, Hebrew and Arabic with English subtitles, 46 min.); Post-film discussion moderated by Dr. Fine.

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”). Auditorium has only 169 seats. **Reservations are required.** Please call Ms. Shari Saylor at 561-297-4093 or e-mail to ssaylor@fau.edu no later than Friday, November 2, 2007 by 4:00 PM. Gates open at 2:00 PM. Reserved tickets not collected before 2:45 PM shall be made available to stand-by waiting audience.



Film: “Oriental” (A. Nesher 2004)



Dr. Terri Susan Fine

Lecture Synopsis: In 2000, Florida’s razor-thin vote margin of 537 votes insured that it would be the subject of close attention in 2004. And, the nature of the Electoral College process made Florida an attractive target because it offered a full 10% of the Electoral Votes needed to win the presidential election. One key subtext in the battle over Florida’s Electoral Vote in 2004 was the battle over the Jewish vote. Florida’s Jewish population, at 500,000, is the second largest in the United States and the third largest in the world. As the difference between the winner and the loser in 2000 was so slim, targeting a high turnout population, such as Florida’s Jewish population, made good strategic sense. Such targeting played a role in how campaign issues were presented to Florida’s Jewish voters, especially the “War on Terror” and U.S.-Israel relations. While it is well understood that no presidential candidate can expect to win based on an anti-Israel platform, it is also important to discuss how Bush and Kerry approached the Jewish vote in Florida in 2004. The presentation will discuss how direct mail is particularly useful for targeting specific populations, and emphasize how it was used to target Florida’s Jewish vote in the 2004 presidential election. We will consider the imagery and text of these mailings in each candidate and major party’s effort to secure Florida’s Jewish vote.

Dr. Terri Susan Fine is Professor of Political Science at the University of Central Florida, where she has taught for over 18 years. Her key areas of research interest include political participation and political communication in the United States. She is particularly interested in how minority populations respond to their political environments, while at the same time questions how elite political organizations communicate with the public through print media. She is currently working on a long term project that considers how Jewish female state legislators navigate their majoritarian electoral and legislative environments. She has received eight teaching awards and

one university-wide award each for professional service, faculty leadership and academic advising.

Film Synopsis: In the aftermath of the collapse of the Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations at Camp David in 2000, *Oriental* follows multiple firsthand accounts and gives the audience a rare inside look into what went wrong at the high-level talks. Weaving the story of Russian-Israeli belly dancer Elina Pechersky preparing for an ambitious performance with five Arab-Israeli musicians, renowned director Avi Nesher examines the way in which different cultures communicate with one another. He weaves together the two narratives into one cinematic experiment, juxtaposing history and mythology, reality and the imagination of Palestinian and Israeli cultures. The result is a film with multiple layers of meaning and significance, offering a subversive, unique and clever look at the ongoing conflict plaguing the Middle East and the way different cultures communicate. Avi Nesher spent much of his adolescence in New York, leaving Columbia University to return to Israel, his homeland, and serve in the Special Forces branch of the Israeli army. Following his service, he returned to his true love – cinema. He made his very first movie, **The Troupe**, when he was 23 years old. It is still the highest-grossing Israeli movie ever. Another well-known film of his is **Turn Left at the End of the World**.

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS

Joint Event with the

FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES

Sunday, December 16, 2007 at 3:00 PM

FAU Boca Campus, Performing Arts PA 101 Auditorium

3:00-4:00

Lecture by Dr. Alan L. Berger (Florida Atlantic University, College of Arts and Letters, the Raddock Family Eminent Scholar Chair in Holocaust Studies, and Director of the Center for the Study of Values and Violence after Auschwitz) **“With or Without God: Jewish Faith after Auschwitz”**

followed by

4:00-5:00

The Israeli TV Drama **“Wasserman - The Rain Man”** (Directed by Idit Shechori, 2005, Hebrew with English subtitles, 56 min.); Post-film discussion moderated by Dr. Berger.

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”). Auditorium has only 169 seats. **Reservations are required.** Please call Ms. Shari Saylor at 561-297-4093 or e-mail to ssaylor@fau.edu no later than Friday, December 14, 2007 by 4:00 PM. Gates open at 2:00 PM. Reserved tickets not collected before 2:45 PM shall be made available to stand-by waiting audience on a first-come first-serve basis.



Film: "Wasserman - The Rain Man" (Shechori 2005)



Dr. Alan L. Berger

Lecture Synopsis: This lecture explores the theological response to Auschwitz of four prominent Jewish thinkers: Eliezer Berkovits, Irving Greenberg, Richard Rubenstein, and Elie Wiesel. Three of these thinkers are ordained rabbis, two of them were European born. Their responses run the theological gamut ranging from the Holocaust has to do with human evil to the notion that the traditional view of God was destroyed along with the Jewish people in the Shoah.

1. The Holocaust has nothing to do with God. Rather it deals with free will and human barbarity.
2. The Holocaust makes belief in the traditional God of Israel impossible.
3. The only covenant possible following the Shoah is the "Voluntary Covenant."
4. God, after the Shoah, is an implicated deity.

The lecture invites the audience to reflect on their own attitudes toward God and the deity's role in history. Further, it stresses that following the Holocaust, the meaning of "religion" itself requires re-evaluation.

Dr. Alan Berger founded and directed the Holocaust and Judaic Studies B.A. Program at FAU (1998-2005). Prior to this, he was a professor in the Department of Religion at Syracuse University where he founded and directed the Jewish Studies Program. Among his books are Crisis and Covenant: The Holocaust in American Jewish Fiction, Judaism in the Modern World (Editor), and Children of Job: American Second-Generation Witnesses to the Holocaust, (Foreword by Elie Wiesel), the first systematic study of films and novels of children of Holocaust survivors analyzing the psycho-social and theological legacy of the Holocaust on the second generation. This book was discussed in a *New York Times* article on the second generation. Second-Generation Voices: Reflections by Children of Holocaust Survivors and Perpetrators, which he and his wife Naomi co-edited, won the B'nai Zion National Media Award. He is also co-editor of Encyclopedia of Holocaust Literature (Spring, 2002) which received a Booklist Best Reference Book of 2002 award and the Outstanding Reference Source 2003 – Reference and User Services Association of the ALA (RUSA) The Continuing Agony: From the Carmelite Convent to the Crosses at Auschwitz (Spring 2004) nominated for the American Catholic Historical Association's John Gilmary Shea Prize, and Jewish American and Holocaust Literature: Representation in the Postmodern World.

Film Synopsis: 73 year old Abraham Wasserman, a farmer, has 24 hours to let go of the hatred that has given him the strength to go on living or risk losing everything he loves - his land and family. He turned his back on his children who became religious against his wishes and avoids them though they live in the same village. His orthodox neighbors want to help him but he refuses to bend to their request to join them in prayer to a God he doesn't believe in. "Wasserman –The Rain Man" won the Best Film award at the Girona International Film Festival, Spain 2006. garage. From the garage walk to the east, past the FAU Library. Turn left at the breezeway and immediately left into the Hillel Center.

FAU STUDENTS FOR ISRAEL: ISRAEL
AWARENESS WEEK

Joint Event with the
FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES

Monday, January 28, 2008 at 4:00 PM
FAU Boca Campus, Hillel Center

Lecture by Dr. Yitschak Ben-Gad (Former Israel Consul General to Florida and Puerto-Rico) **“Chances and Risks in the Middle East: How to Handle the Iranian Threat”**

followed by

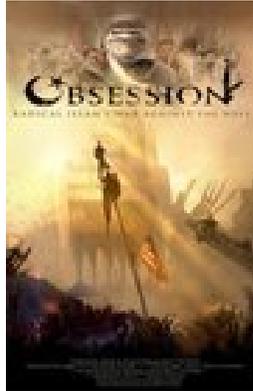
The Documentary Film **“Obsession: Radical Islam’s War against the West”** (2005, Directed by Wayne Kopping, Arabic-Parsee-English with English subtitles, 60 min.); Post-film discussion moderated by Dr. Ben-Gad.

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”). Auditorium has only 140 seats. **Reservations are required.** Please call Ms. Shari Saylor at 561-297-4093 or e-mail to ssaylor@fau.edu no later than Monday, January 14, 2007 by 4:00 PM. Gates open at 3:30 PM. Reserved tickets not collected before 3:45 PM shall be made available to stand-by waiting audience on a first-come first-serve basis.



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.



Film Synopsis: **Obsession** is a film about the threat of Radical Islam to Western civilization. Using unique footage from Arab television, it reveals an 'insider's view' of the hatred the Radicals are teaching, their incitement of global jihad, and their goal of world domination. The film also traces the parallels between the Nazi movement of World War II, the Radicals of today, and the Western world's response to both threats. Featuring interviews with Daniel Pipes, Steve Emerson, Alan Dershowitz, a former PLO terrorist, and a former Hitler Youth Commander.

FAU STUDENTS FOR ISRAEL: ISRAEL AWARENESS
WEEK

Joint Event with the
FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES &
ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS FILM / LECTURE SERIES

Sunday, February 3, 2008 at 2:00 PM

**FAU Boca Campus, Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong
Learning Center**

(Note: Lecture venue has changed)

Lecture by Dr. Adolfo Roitman (Curator of the Dead Sea Scrolls, The Shrine of the Book, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem) **“Two Models of Women in Ancient Judaism: Esther and Judith”**

followed by

The Israeli Film **“Three Mothers”** (2006, Directed by Dina Zvi-Riklis, French-Arabic-Hebrew with English subtitles, 106 min.), Pre-film introduction and post-film discussion by **Nava Dushi**.

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 no longer required.**

Note the earlier time due to the Super Bowl



Lecture Synopsis: Two models of women are depicted in ancient Jewish literature: the biblical Esther and the apocryphal Judith. When contrasted, it is evident that Judith surpasses Esther in piety and courage. However, the *Book of Esther* became canonical and Esther herself a model for a Jewish heroine, while the *Book of Judith* was cast into oblivion. Why?

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.

Israel: Cinematic Visions (Florida-Israel Institute Israeli Film and Lecture Series)

Academic Advisor: Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm **Curator: Nava Dushi**



“Three Mothers” Film Synopsis: Rose, Flora and Yasmin were born triplets sixty something years ago in Alexandria, Egypt. Their well-off parents gave them names of flowers, and King Farouk of Egypt gave them his blessing. Today, in Israel, they live together in an apartment without men and without children. Flora has just retired from her work as a midwife, Yasmin awaits a kidney transplant, and Rose, once a successful singer, is wrapped in silence since the death of her husband. One after the other, the three sisters come to "This is your life," a place where people recount their memoirs, in order to tell their life story to Rucha (Rachel), Rose's only daughter, and talk about their symbiotic relationship. They are also searching for the long lost son of one of them who was given away for adoption under mysterious circumstances. During this period their lives and that of Rucha will change dramatically. Hidden ghosts will slowly appear,

forcing the three sisters to confront the secrets and lies, and seek forgiveness. At the end of the journey into the past, after they redeem themselves, the sisters will embark on a new journey, to Alexandria, where Yasmin will undergo her kidney transplant and Rucha, who regained her own memories, will be able to start a new life.

FAU Neuroscience Lecture Series Spring 2008
**Special Guest Lecture Co-sponsored by the FAU Charles E. Schmidt College of
Biomedical Science and the Florida-Israel Institute**

The Brain as a Finger: The P300 Based Brain Computer Interface

Dr. Emanuel Donchin

Department of Psychology, University of South Florida

Tuesday, February 12, 2008 at 3:30 PM

FAU Boca Raton campus, Charles Schmidt College of Biomedical Science, Room 126



Emanuel Donchin received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1965. Between 1965 and 1968 he was a research associate at Stanford's Department of Neurology and at the Neurobiology Branch at NASA-Ames Research Center. In 1968 he joined the Department of Psychology at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign as an Associate Professor. He remained at the UIUC till 2001, serving as head of the department between 1980 and 1994. He is currently a Professor Emeritus at the UIUC and a professor and Department Chair in the University of South Florida Department of Psychology. His field of professional interest is cognitive psychophysiology.

Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCI), that allow a person to use the electrical activity of the brain as a substitute for lost motor control, exist in two flavors, one mimicking the Joystick and the other mimicking the Keyboard. The P300-BCI requires virtually no prior training of the user but it allows only, as does a keyboard, a choice among a limited set of "keys". This allows, as does the keyboard, the "typing" of arbitrary text, the choice among menu items, and as will be reported in this presentation, the control of a robotic arm. The approach utilizes the so called "Oddball Paradigm" (OP), in which a person is presented with a sequence of events, each of which can be classified in one of two categories. If the subject is assigned a task that can not be performed without properly categorizing each event, and if one of the categories appears rarely, events in the rare category elicit the P300 component of the Event Related Brain Response (ERP). The P300 BCI has been first described by Farwell and Donchin (1988) who presented subjects with a 6x6 matrix each cell of which contains a character. The subject chooses the character to be typed. The rows and the columns of the matrix are intensified for 100msec each, at the rate of 8 elements per second. This procedure creates an OP as the row and column containing the chosen character elicit a P300 as they are the rare events. The BCI system need only identify the row and the column that elicited the largest P300s to determine the character which the user wished to type, thus the Brain is used as a Finger. Following an extended period during which this BCI has been tested by able bodied users while improving the operating characteristics of the system, we began in 2003 to test the system with ALS patients with considerable success. More recently Dr. Donchin's team adapted the system to allow a user to control a wheelchair-mounted robotic arm (WMRA) developed by R. Alqasemi and R. Dubey of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at USF. In this case the user is selecting from a smaller matrix that displays directional symbols. This application will be presented in some detail.

FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES &
ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS FILM / LECTURE SERIES

Sunday, February 17, 2008 at 1:30 PM

FAU Boca Campus, Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong
Learning Center

(Note: Lecture venue has changed)

**Lecture by Ambassador Asher Naim “The Immigration
and Integration of Ethiopian Jews in Israel – a Case
Study: Assimilation vs. Integration ”**

followed by

The Israeli Film “**Caravan 841**” (2001, Directed by Zion Rubin, Hebrew
with English subtitles, 52 min.), Pre-film introduction and post-film discussion by
Asher Naim.

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”).
Auditorium has 169 seats. Reservations are no longer required.

Note the earlier time due to a conflicting event on campus.



From “Caravan 841”



Ambassador Asher Naim

Lecture Synopsis:

Ambassador Asher Naim immigrated to Israel from Tripoli, Libya, fought in the War of Independence, and is a Master of Jurisprudence from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. He is a veteran of Israel’s Diplomatic Service and left his mark everywhere he served. In Tokyo, Japan

(1956-60) he was Cultural and Press Attaché. He taught Hebrew at Tokyo University and tutored Prince Mikasa, brother of the Emperor. In Kenya and Uganda (1961-64) he laid the foundation for Israel's diplomatic relations with nascent Africa and created a basis of friendship with the leaders of these countries (Milton Obote and Jomo Kenyatta), which served Israel well in the Entebbe Raid. In Washington, D.C. (1968-73) he was assistant to Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin as Councilor of Information and Culture. He organized the nationwide celebration of Israel's 25th anniversary. As Consul General of Israel in Philadelphia (1976-81) he was responsible for N.J., Del., Pa., Ohio, Ky., and West Va. He developed important relations with the Jewish communities, African and Hispanic Americans, Christian organizations and academia. In 1984, he was sent again to Washington, D.C. to coordinate the activities of Israel's ten Consul Generals and to work closely with all national Jewish organizations. He was responsible for Israel's HASBARA throughout the USA vis-à-vis the media, campuses, and later coordinated the nationwide celebration of Ben-Gurion's Centennial. As Ambassador to Finland (1988-90) he negotiated successfully the passage of Russian Jews from Leningrad and the Baltic States by being able to use Helsinki as a transit for "Aliya" to Israel. Asher Naim was the Ambassador of Israel to Ethiopia (1990-91) at the time of Operation Solomon. He was instrumental in the negotiating process with President Mengistu and later with the winning rebels, headed by Meles Zenawi. Largely due to Ambassador Naim's efforts, during a 24 hour period 14,200 Ethiopian Jews were airlifted and flown to Israel. Asher Naim was appointed Ambassador to the UN (1991) in charge of the Third Committee to annul the infamous UN Resolution equating Zionism with racism. In 1992, Mr. Naim was appointed the first Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, and in three years he succeeded in bringing Korea and Israel closer economically and politically and initiated cooperation in defense-related industries. Trade between Israel and Korea during his service (1992-95) jumped 250% and reached \$700,000,000. After retiring from the Foreign Service in September, 1995, with the rank of Ambassador, Mr. Naim continues his activity on behalf of the Ethiopian community, its absorption and integration in Israel society, mainly through academic scholarships. He is Chairman of the Israel-Korea Friendship Association, which works for closer relations between the two countries in the field of education and promotion of economic ties. Ambassador Naim is a Fellow at the Truman Institute for Peace at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He has co-authored two books on Jewish education and a book on Jerusalem. His most recent book is "Saving the Lost Tribe: The Rescue and Redemption of the Ethiopian Jews" (Random House, 2003).

“Caravan 841” Film Synopsis: Moshe, an 11 year-old Ethiopian boy, lives in dwindling “Atidim” caravan site in the Western Galilee and is awaiting the arrival of his mother from Ethiopia. She will not arrive and he is torn between Aharon, a 60-year-old repentant Jew who teaches him Torah, and Walter – an impulsive African American saxophone player who has a jazz club at the edge of the site. Aharon gives Moshe a magic box and promises him that it will bring his mother to Israel. Walter gives Moshe the strength to believe only in himself.

FAU Neuroscience Lecture Series Spring 2008
Special Guest Lecture Co-sponsored by the FAU Charles E. Schmidt College of
Biomedical Science and the Florida-Israel Institute

**Neurocognitive Mechanisms of Number Processing and
Developmental Dyscalculia**

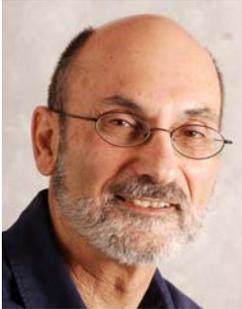
Dr. Avishai Henik

Department of Psychology and Zlotowski Center for Neuroscience

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheba, Israel

Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 3:30 PM

FAU Boca Raton campus, Charles Schmidt College of Biomedical Science, Room 126



Avishai Henik received his Ph.D. from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, in 1979. Between 1980 and 1982 he was a postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Psychology, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, and at the Cognitive Neuropsychology Laboratory, Neurological Sciences Center, Good Samaritan Hospital, Portland, Oregon. Since 1982 he has been a faculty member at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He served as Chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences twice and last year finished a term as Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at BGU. He is currently on sabbatical at the Department of Psychology, UC Berkeley. His field of interest is cognitive neuropsychology where he studies mainly attention, numerical cognition, single word processing and synesthesia.

Mathematical ability is of foremost importance in life and a deficiency in this ability can be a major impediment. In the last two decades research has made impressive strides forward in studying numerical cognition and brain mechanisms involved in arithmetic. Our research aims to study elementary operations of numerical processing, their neural underpinning, developmental trajectories, and deficiencies. A major characteristic of our work is an effort to study not only intentional processing but most importantly, non-intentional (automatic) processing. In many cases we create conflict situations (i.e., Stroop-like tasks) that enable indirect measurements of performance. We study both normal and deficient performance. One example of deficient performance is presented by people who suffer from Developmental Dyscalculia (DD). This is a congenital deficit that affects the ability to acquire arithmetical skills. Individuals with DD have problems learning standard number facts and procedures. Estimates of the prevalence rate of DD are similar to those of developmental dyslexia. Many studies have suggested that DD is due to deficiencies in higher mental functions like working memory or attention. However, recent reports and discussions suggested that it is important to examine basic numerical skills in DD. Accordingly, we used comparative judgment tasks (e.g., which number is larger, 3 or 5?), counting, and other similar tasks, in populations of college students and young children, diagnosed as having DD. Behavioral results point to deficiencies in mental operations involved in such basic numerical tasks. Neuroimaging, TMS and tests of patients with acquired dyscalculia suggest the involvement of specific brain areas like the intraparietal sulcus (IPS) in these deficiencies. We suggest that low-level deficits underlie DD. These deficits might involve the association of numerical symbols with quantities and sizes or possibly a deficiency in the perception and manipulation of magnitudes. Moreover, it seems that these deficits involve specific brain areas like the IPS.

FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES §
ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS FILM / LECTURE SERIES

Sunday, March 30, 2008 at 3:00 PM

**FAU Boca Campus, Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong
Learning Center**

Lecture by Dr. Ranen Omer-Sherman (University of Miami)
**“Reunified Jerusalem & the Fate of the Other in the
Poetry of Yehuda Amichai”**

followed by

The Israeli documentary Film “**Hats of Jerusalem**” (2005, Directed by Nati Adler, 52 min., Hebrew with English subtitles), Pre-film introduction and post-film discussion by **Dr. Omer-Sherman**.

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 needed.**



Lecture Synopsis: Approaching decade after his death, Yehuda Amichai (1924-2000) remains an intensely felt presence in modern Israeli poetics, his bold contribution to Hebrew literature more timely than ever. So many readers have learned to rely on Amichai’s indelible blend of lyrical and colloquial language, the fierce and gentle ways he tells us that love and war remain the essential condition of humanity, tragically entwined and cyclical. Many of the most indelible poems from these indispensable polarities of his art interrogate the meaning of Jerusalem, in both its temporal and heavenly dimensions. This discussion will center on an exploration of the poet’s secular humanism, the question of faith, and the challenge of living in, and imagining, Jerusalem. The focus will be largely on the late poet Amichai but poems by other figures will likely be presented by way of contrast and comparing the complex relation of modern Hebrew poetry to the question of Jerusalem and the enduring quest for coexistence.

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: A visitor to Jerusalem is immediately struck by the incredible variety of people--of different ethnicities, nationalities and religions--who throng the narrow passageways of the old city. It soon becomes clear that specific groups within this

crowd, almost all of whom sport headgear of varying shapes, sizes, textures and colors, can be distinguished by their hats. As HATS OF JERUSALEM reveals, there are reasons beyond mere protection from the weather for the varieties of distinctive headwear on display. Indeed, there is a history, a story, behind each type of hat, which filmmaker Nati Adler explores in this whimsical yet informative documentary. Our guided tour, which features a visit to the oldest hat-making shop in Jerusalem, enables the hat wearers to tell the stories of their hats, including that of the flamboyant fur *shtreimel*, which ironically traces its roots to European anti-Semitism, worn by ultra-orthodox Jews; the mysteries of the *tarbouz*, a remnant of the Ottoman Empire, worn by Moslem Kawasses; the peaked caps, symbolizing Mount Ararat, worn by Armenian monks; the stiff, cylindrical hats worn by Russian Orthodox clergy; the Islamic and Halacha strictures about covering women's hair; and the different styles of the keffiyah headscarves worn by Palestinians, including the checkered model popularized by Arafat. Blending interviews, archival footage, period graphics and an evocative musical score, the film shows us that, beyond their practical purposes, hats serve as an identity card, a way of declaring membership in a community, and a religious or political statement often reflecting centuries of tradition. HATS OF JERUSALEM is thus ultimately a film about external appearances and internal identities, about the material world and the spiritual one, about the physical and the metaphysical.

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS

MADE IN ISRAEL

Sunday, May 4, 2008 at 3:00 PM
FAU Boca Campus, Performing Arts PA 101 Auditorium



Made in Israel Ari Folman, 2001, Hebrew and Russian with English subtitles, 113 minutes

The **Florida-Israel Institute** (FII) cordially invites you to continue and explore Israeli society and the reflections pertaining to its identity through film. In honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day, this year's film selection provides an attempt to probe the profound impact that the memory of the Holocaust holds for Israeli society. The film **Made in Israel** explores this source of anguish which plays a constitutive role in the young state's *Raison D'être* and motivates the actions of its generations to come. The film tells the hypohetic futuristic story of the "last Nazi" who is handed to Israeli state authorities as part of a peace pact

with Syria. Set in the backdrop of the fragmented and whimsical landscapes of the Golan Heights, the film portrays the stories of an ensemble of characters seeking to determine the fate of the last Nazi. The road trip genre chosen for this film and the landscapes that the characters traverse mirror their search for an inner liberating journey from the Holocaust cycles of memory and distress and thus provide the viewer with an insight into the existential condition of Israel's second and third generation, and its everlasting search for an identity.

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

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS

Israel 60th Independence Day Celebrations

Double Feature:

EYE WITNESS – 60 YEARS

and

FIRST LESSON IN PEACE

Sunday, May 11, 2008 at 2:00 PM

Lynn University Campus, Amarnick Goldstein Concert Hall

Admission \$5



From left: "First Lesson in Peace", Rubinger's most famous photo, David Rubinger (from "Eye Witness – 60 Years").

Two powerful Israeli documentaries Introduced by **Nava Dushi**, who will also moderate the post-film discussions. **Free Kosher Israeli food will be served during the intermission between the two film events** (courtesy of the Florida-Israel Institute and the Kosher Konnection of Boca Raton)

Tickets are sold at the door on a first come first serve basis and may be paid by a check payable to the “FAU Foundation” and considered tax deductible donation. Auditorium has only 225 seats. Please contact Ms. Shari Saylor at 561-297-4093 or ssaylor@fau.edu if you wish to order tickets by mail.

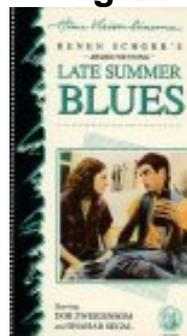
Eye Witness – 60 years (2008, Directed by Micha Shagrir, 50 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles) Israel, as envisioned through the lens of the internationally acclaimed photographer David Rubinger, the laureate of the Israeli Award for Photography. Rubinger began his career in 1947 and has since documented famous leaders and exciting characters, witnessing the dramatic events that occurred in Israel over the past 60 years. In the film, Rubinger travels back to the places and people he photographed over the years, providing viewers with a deeper knowledge of contemporary Israeli reality. Rubinger’s pictures reflect his own biography, professional views and experiences. Above all his iconographic images mark milestones of Israeli history expressing the joys, sorrows, dreams and visions of Israel.

First Lesson in Peace (2006, Directed by Yoram Henig, 56 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles) This moving documentary explores the Jewish –Arab conflict through the eyes of a six year old girl, the director's daughter. She studies in a mixed Arab-Jewish primary school – called : Neveh Shalom-meaning literally: An Oasis of Peace. This is the first film examining from within this unique “human laboratory” with a utopian vision of an Israeli-Palestinian co-existence, first of its kind in Israel, which provides Jewish and Arab children with an educational framework for learning together. The film, in the form of a letter from father Yoram to his six year old daughter Michal, follows the clashes and encounters that the child goes through during her first year in school, and provides us, through her eyes, an enlightening lesson about the reality of the Middle East.

ISRAEL: CINEMATIC VISIONS

LATE SUMMER BLUES

Sunday, June 15, 2008, at 3:00 PM
FAU Boca Campus, 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 (tax deductible if paid by a check made to the “FAU Foundation”). **Reservations are not needed.**

Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm's pre-film introduction, will be followed by the Israeli film **LATE SUMMER BLUES** (Directed by **Renen Schorr**, 1987, In Hebrew with English subtitles. 101 minutes). She will moderate the post-film discussion.

Film Synopsis: The time: June 1970. The place: Tel Aviv, where a group of teenagers are about to graduate. The War of Attrition continues at the Suez. The youths' impending draft looms above — they cannot conceive of any future beyond it. "There is a feeling," says the narrator of *Late Summer Blues*, "that this is our last summer vacation... the last summer that we're together."

Israel: Cinematic Visions is proud to present: LATE SUMMER BLUES, a film which conveys the Israeli mythology at its finest hour, a genuine "Israeli Graffiti". The rare new copy of the film with English subtitles was especially prepared for the Florida Israel Institute by the film director Renen Schorr. We have chosen to open our series for this summer with this story of four high school graduates in Tel-Aviv, Israel, in the summer of 1970. They are facing their matriculation exams about the history of Zionism, but the real tests are still ahead. The war at the banks of the Suez Canal, on the border with Egypt, demands daily tolls of young lives. Is "dying for your country" inevitable? How can one settle the dilemma tearing every Israeli individual apart between self realization and self sacrifice, private conscience and collective commitments?

One of the most outstanding, authentic cinematic documents of the Israeli existential experience, this 1987 feature film by Renen Schorr is a glorious opening for the summer 2008 session of our *Israel-Cinematic Visions*. Do not forget to bring something to wipe your tears with, and if possible bring along the next generation for a beautiful and moving encounter with the Israelis and Israeli cinema at their best.



Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm was born and educated in Israel. She is a scholar of Israeli culture, cinema, media and literature, who has lectured at Israeli universities, including The Open University of Israel, Tel-Aviv University, The Hebrew University of

Jerusalem, and Haifa University. Her Ph. D. was awarded by The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Communication and Journalism), her M.A and B.A by Tel-Aviv University. Miri has appeared as guest speaker on Israeli media, and was the editor of television series on Israeli cinema in its social context for the Open University of Israel. Her book *Israeli Graffiti: Nostalgia, Groups and Collective Identity in Israeli Cinema* was published in Israel in 2001 by Haifa University Press and The Open University Press. Since 2004 Dr. Talmon-Bohm lectures in the US, and continues her ongoing research of Israeli Cinema and Culture. She is the Academic Advisor and lecturer for the Florida-Israel Institute's Israeli Film and Lecture Series at Florida Atlantic University. **During the academic year of 2008-2009 Dr. Talmon-Bohm will serve as a visiting faculty at the University of Wisconsin Madison. She will continue to cooperate with the Florida-Israel Institute on the "Israel: Cinematic Vision" film series from far away, along with Prof. Nava Dushi (Lynn University). We wish Miri a productive teaching and research year and a happy return to Florida.**

Tentative Summer 2008 Films Schedule (all on Sundays at 3:00 at the FAU Lifelong Learning Center; Free Admission, No reservations needed)

July 13, 2008: “Sisai”. Pre-film lecture by Dr. Roth about **“Ethiopian Jews in Israel”**.
August 3, 2008: “James’ Journey to Jerusalem”. Pre-film lecture by Dr. Roth about **“Foreign Workers in Israel”**.
August 24, 2008: “Broken Wings”. Pre-film lecture by Prof. Nava Dushi about **“Israeli Family Life”**.
September 21, 2008: “Did Herzl Really Say It? Part 1 – Transparent Kippa”. Pre-film lecture by Prof. Nava Dushi about **“Jewish Identity in Israel”**.

**“Holocaust in Israeli Consciousness” Course
An Upcoming New FAU Lifelong Learning Center Course (co-sponsored by the Florida-Israel Institute)**

The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness- a Cinematic Perspective

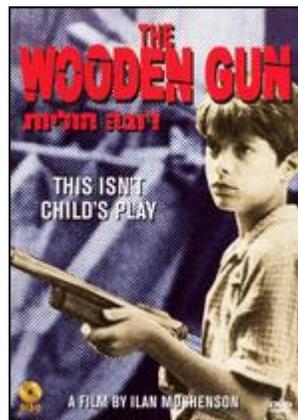
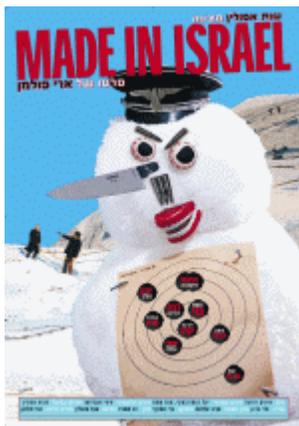
Instructor: **Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm**

Saturdays 2:00-3:45 PM at the FAU Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center

Course Description:

This course traces fundamental contradictions in Israeli-Jewish collective consciousness that are related to the trauma of the Holocaust, as articulated in Israeli films through images of potent masculine fighters and terror victims, the relationship between the Israeli native *Sabra* and the Diaspora Jew/Holocaust survivor, the Israeli attitude to Germany, and the Israeli experience of terror and war.

The course offers film screenings, accompanied by pre-screening lectures, commentary highlighting important points during screenings, and post-screening discussions.



Eight meetings, focused on the following Israeli films (films will be shown in full – Hebrew with English subtitles):

October 20, 2007 **Hill 24 Doesn't Answer** [*Giv'a 24 Eina Ona*] (Thorold Dickinson, 1955)
 October 27, 2007 **He Walked in the Fields** [*Hoo Halah BaSadot*], (Yossef Milo, 1968)
 November 3, 2007 **The Wooden Gun**, [*Rove Huliot*] (Ilan Moshenzon, 1979)
 November 17, 2007 **The Summer of Aviya** [*HaKaitz Shel Aviya*], (Eli Cohen, 1988)
 November 24, 2007 **Alex in Love** [*Alex Hole Ahava*] (Boaz Davidzon, 1985)
 December 1, 2007 **Operation Thunderbolt** [*Mivtza Yonatan*] (Menachem Golan, 1976)
 December 8, 2007 **Made in Israel** (Ari Folman, 2001)
 December 15, 2007 **Walk on Water** [*Lalekhet al HaMaim*] (Eitan Fox, 2004)

Instructor's Biographical Information:



Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm was born and educated in Israel. She is a scholar of Israeli culture, cinema, media and literature, who has lectured at Israeli universities, including The Open University of Israel, Tel-Aviv University, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Haifa University. Her Ph. D. was awarded by The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Communication and Journalism), her M.A and B.A by Tel-Aviv University. Miri has appeared as guest speaker on Israeli media, and was the editor of television series on Israeli cinema in its social context for the Open University of Israel. Her book *Israeli Graffiti: Nostalgia, Groups and Collective Identity in Israeli Cinema* was published in Israel in 2001 by Haifa University Press and The Open University Press. Since 2004 Dr. Talmon-Bohm lectures here in the US, and continues her ongoing research of Israeli Cinema and Culture. She is the Academic Advisor and lecturer for the Florida-Israel Institute's Israeli Film and Lecture Series at Florida Atlantic University.

Registration Information and Fees:

You may take all 8 lectures or choose 4 lectures in Set One or in Set Two. Set 1 includes the first four lectures and Set 2 includes the last four lectures.

COURSE NO. F701 (for the full course), F7011 (for Set 1) and F7012 (for Set 2)

F701: 8 week full course: \$55 for LLS member or \$75 for nonmember

F7011: 4 week course: 10/20, 27, 11/ 3 and 17; \$28 for member / \$38 per nonmember

F7012: 4 week course: 11/24; 12/1, 8, 15; \$28 per member / \$38 per nonmember

Those wishing to attend may call the LLS Office at 561-297-3171 and request that a Fall Course Schedule be sent to them. You may also go to www.fau.edu/lls and copy the registration form, complete it and fax it to 561-297-3481 or mail it along with a check or credit card information to FAU/LLS, 777 Glades Road, Box 3091, Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991

He Walked through the Fields (1967, Yossef Milo, Hebrew with English Subtitles, Black and white, 90 minutes)

As we were viewing the film **Hill 24 Doesn't Answer** we witnessed the transformation of Yehuda Berger, the Holocaust survivor and victimized Diaspora Jew, into a competent warrior that fights for his independence, sovereignty and takes charge of his faith. We saw the Israeli warrior David Amiram confronting the Egyptian enemy, who turns out to be an SS Nazi officer. Amiram is able to merge in his imagination with the Diaspora orthodox Jew, and proudly, potent and still humane, overcome the very nightmare of Jews for generations, of being victimized and annihilated.

He Walked in the Fields tells the story of the native Israeli, the proud, competent warrior, the "Sabra" and the "Palmachnik". ("Palmach" were the pre-state of Israel and pre-IDF volunteer warrior units, which during the last period of the British mandate in Palestine, 1946-1948, helped bring illegal immigrants, survivors of the Holocaust in Europe mostly, and fought against the local Palestinian Arabs. Palmachnik is a member of the Palmach.)

The "Palmachnik" Uri, who was the heroic hero of Moshe Shamir's novel, becomes in this 1967 film, which was produced right after the Six Day War, the predecessor and the father of the heroic paratrooper, who liberated Jerusalem in 1967. The Israeli fighters in 1946 and 1967 become links in a glorious dynasty of Israeli victorious warriors, who redeem the national and Jewish painful loss of Jerusalem in the previous 1955 film- **Hill 24 Doesn't answer**.

But this is not just a war film. It is a beautiful, and sad, love story, between Mika, a Holocaust survivor, originally from Poland, and Uri, the "Sabra Kibbutznik". Mika and the other "Teheranchicks" ("Children of Teheran", Holocaust survivors who were rescued and brought to "Kibbutzim" to become proud and invigorated Israelis) are juxtaposed in this film with Uri in a significant way, which we intend to explore.

He Walked through the Fields, like **Hill 24 Doesn't Answer**, and the American film **Exodus** tells the story of the new born Israeli out of the ashes of the Holocaust. Yet, this story of revival is linked to another story, the story of suppressing the traumatic memory of the Holocaust, and negating the experience of the victimized Holocaust/Diaspora Jew.

The love story between Uri and Mika, with its symbolic consequences, epitomizes the re-birth of the Holocaust survivor as a proud Israeli. The cinematic depiction of the encounter between Uri and the survivors of Teheran, Uri and Mika, attests to the very unique nature of this encounter, which we shall further elaborate on in our discussion of **The Wooden Gun**.

Key scenes, which are very telling for our discussion of the encounter between the "Sabra"- "Palmachnik" and the survivor- "Teheranchik":

Uri and Mika's first meeting

The vineyard scene

The dancing scene

Uri and Mika talk about their dreams in the kindergarten yard

The Ending (to be kept confidential at this point)

FAU Lifelong Learning Center Course
(co-sponsored by the Florida-Israel Institute)

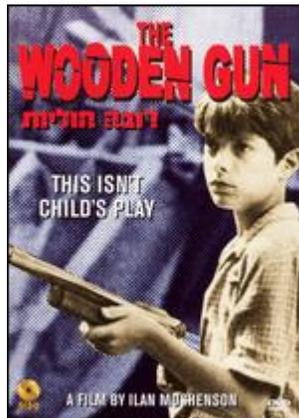
The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness- a Cinematic Perspective

Instructor: **Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm**

THE WOODEN GUN

**Saturday, November 3, 2007, 2:00-3:45 PM at the FAU Barry and Florence
Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center**

Individual tickets sold at the gate (\$10). All proceeds go to the FAU Lifelong Learning
Society



The Wooden Gun, [*Rove Huliot*] (Ilan Moshenzon, 1979, Hebrew with English subtitles, 95 min)

1951, Tel-Aviv. It is the first year Israel celebrates its independence and sovereignty as a state. The scars of the Holocaust are not yet healed. The daily encounters between those who came from “there” and the native Israelis (“Sabras”) are depicted in the film from the Sabra’s point of view: the young Israeli children are educated to be proud warriors, and never to be victims again. Their play at “war”, and their games reverberate with another war that is very fresh in the collective memory, the war for independence, or liberation, as they call it. The protagonist of the film, Yoni, is torn between the two worlds the film is about: his mother is a Holocaust survivor, his father was a warrior in the famous battle of Latrun, during the 1948 war. Who is Yoni? The fierce warrior, or the helpless victim? During his “rite of passage” through the film Yoni learns that he is actually both. Our key scenes for discussion: The preparation for the Israeli Independence Day festivities; Yoni facing his father, the warrior ; Yoni facing Palestina, the Holocaust survivor ; Photographs in black and white come to life.

The class further elaborates on the very interesting links between the Holocaust and Israelis’ attitudes to war and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

FAU Lifelong Learning Center Course
(co-sponsored by the Florida-Israel Institute)

The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness- a Cinematic Perspective

Instructor: **Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm**

THE SUMMER OF AVIYA

Saturday, November 17, 2007, 2:00-3:45 PM at the FAU Barry and Florence
Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center

Individual tickets to non-students sold at the gate (\$10). All proceeds go to the FAU
Lifelong Learning Society



The Summer of Aviya [*Ha-Kayitz Shel Aviya*] was written by the acclaimed Israeli film actress, Gila Almagor, adapted from her successful autobiographical novel. (Israel, 1988, dir. Eli Cohen, Hebrew with English subtitles, 95 min).

The 1980s brought about a new wave of Israeli Holocaust related cinema described as “second generation” films. In such films, the filmmakers focus on their own experiences, growing up with Holocaust survivor parents. This autobiographic point of departure challenges previous ideologically-informed portrayals of the immigrant- survivor in the newly established state, and imbues the films with powerful authenticity. 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, believes that the man who has just moved into their village is her missing father, and yearns to integrate into the culture of her “Sabra” peers. 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.

FAU Lifelong Learning Center Course

(co-sponsored by the Florida-Israel Institute)

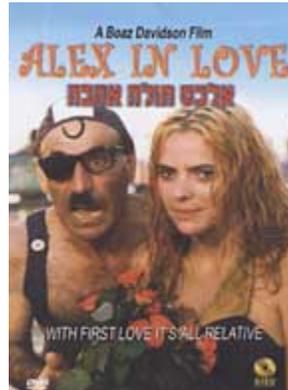
The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness- a Cinematic Perspective

Instructor: **Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm**

ALEX IN LOVE

Saturday, November 24, 2007, 2:00-3:45 PM at the FAU Barry and Florence
Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center

Individual tickets to non-students sold at the gate (\$10). All proceeds go to the FAU Lifelong Learning Society



Alex in Love (Hebrew: Alex Hole Ahava) Boaz Davidson, 1986, color, Hebrew with English subtitles, 88 minutes

Our exploration of cinematic commentary on the Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness continues with the film **Alex in Love**. This coming-of-age comic drama is set in 1950s Tel Aviv. These are Israel's formative years. The constant influx of new immigrants into the young state, refugees of World War II and the Holocaust, as well as hostile Arab states, are trying to adapt to the harsh conditions in the new country. The rapid growth in population results in economic strain, food shortage and austerity measures (Hebrew: *tzena*) exercised in 1949 by prime-minister David Ben Gurion. The in-gathering of the exiles into the young state also results in a vibrant multi-cultural melting pot, and considerable inter-ethnic tensions. Like American "Vaudeville", Israeli culture responds to this social context with ethnic humor and stereotypes that find a popular expression in this very popular 1986 comedy, which has become a cult film in Israel. But along with the inter-ethnic tensions, Alex's coming of age is cast under the shadow of the Holocaust and its traumas. Preparing for his Bar-Mitzvah, and getting ready to take upon himself the duties of adulthood, Alex falls in love for the first time. Like the Hollywood coming of Age drama, *Summer of 42*, (Robert Mulligan, 1971) in which a youth develops an innocent love for a young woman awaiting news on her soldier husband's fate in WWII, Alex develops a special relationship with Lola, a family relative who is looking for her fiancée who had disappeared during the war. In our discussions of the films **The Wooden Gun** and **The Summer of Aviya** we examined how the personal experiences of coming of age these filmic protagonists endure carry collective meanings, and how they attest to the far-reaching impact of the Holocaust on Israeli consciousness. In our discussion of **Alex in Love** we shall enjoy the nostalgia to 1950s Tel-Aviv, to the Bourgeois Ashkenazi family as delightfully depicted by Davidson, who like Neil Simon in his **Brighton Beach Memoirs** draws on his own biographical experiences. At the same time, we'll examine deeper meanings and anxieties underlying this seemingly light weight bittersweet nostalgia, and learn more about the intricate links between the Holocaust and Israeli consciousness.

FAU Lifelong Learning Center Course
(co-sponsored by the Florida-Israel Institute)

The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness- a Cinematic Perspective

Instructor: **Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm**

OPERATION THUNDERBOLT

**Saturday, December 1, 2007, 2:00-3:45 PM at the FAU Barry and Florence
Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center**

Individual tickets to non-students sold at the gate (\$10). All proceeds go to the FAU Lifelong Learning Society



Operation Thunderbolt (Hebrew: Mivtza Yonatan) Menachem Golan, 1977, Hebrew with English subtitles, 124 minutes

In July of 1976, an Air France flight from Tel Aviv to Paris via Athens was hijacked and forced to land in Entebbe, Uganda. The Jewish passengers were separated and held hostage in demand to release many terrorists that were held in Israeli prisons. After much debate, the Israeli Government sent an elite commando unit to raid the airfield and release the hostages. The film is based on the true facts and follows the events following the flight's takeoff until the hostages are freed and rescued by the Israeli warriors, headed by Yonatan (Yoni) Netanyahu, who sacrificed his life in this heroic enterprise, on July 4, 1976. The film's Hebrew title is named after the operation's commander, Yonatan Netanyahu. The film is based on the actual events of the nightmarish captivity in Uganda and the glorious rescue, yet these true events and their cinematic depiction reverberate with meanings that attest to the enormous impact of the Holocaust on Israelis' consciousness. The anxieties that violent terror acts exert on Israelis' existence, are coupled with the very persistent insistence upon a strong and uniquely competent army, which can perform such heroic and miraculous rescue missions. The fact that the leading terrorists are German, their process of selection of the Jewish hostages, their attitude to the hostages, some of the passengers' direct references to the Holocaust, and the fact that one of them carries a visible tattoo from the concentration camps on his arm—all add to the intensified links created in the film between this 1976 historical event and the Holocaust. Some of the key characters of the Israeli government who led this operation—Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Rabin and Yigal Alon, all of whom played key rolls in the decision making process of this operation—act as themselves in the film. In addition, the Israeli army actively participated in the making of the movie, thus intensifying the documentary effect. The film, one of many under discussion in this course, ties Israeli excellence in warfare, Israeli solidarity and heroism, as well as anti-terror efforts, and the anxieties that permeate Israeli existence, to the traumas of the Holocaust.

FAU Lifelong Learning Center Course
(co-sponsored by the Florida-Israel Institute)

The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness- a Cinematic Perspective

Instructor: **Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm**

MADE IN ISRAEL

**Saturday, December 8, 2007, 2:00-3:45 PM at the FAU Barry and Florence
Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center**

Individual tickets to non-students sold at the gate (\$10). All proceeds go to the FAU
Lifelong Learning Society



Made in Israel Ari Folman, 2001, Hebrew and Russian with English subtitles, 113 minutes

The last two films of our course bring us to this current decade, and tie current challenges to Israeli existence with the impact of the Holocaust on Israeli consciousness. In the futuristic surreal world this film depicts, the last Nazi criminal on earth, is handed over to Israel by Syria, as part of the peace agreement between the two states. An Israeli tycoon, the son of Holocaust survivors, offers a two million dollar reward for the Nazi. A surrealist chase after the last Nazi takes place in the contested territory of the Golan heights, blurred by fog and blinding white snow; The absurd journey brings together the Israeli police, two Russian head hunters looking like Bonnie and Clyde, two edgy Israeli agents, one trumpet player who specializes in playing at memorial services for fallen Israeli soldiers in the 1973 Yom Kippur war, and the last Nazi criminal on earth. The absurd setting and plot creates a brilliant commentary on the Israeli existence, which only a film made in Israel by the son of Holocaust survivors could produce. The film examines the linkage between two major traumas in the Israeli collective memory- the Holocaust and the 1973 *Yom Kippur* War. What is the connection between Israeli Super Heroes who have to carry the whole Israeli state on their shoulders- and the Holocaust? What is the connection between kosher laws, training dogs to be obedient, and Israeli sensibilities concerning Germany and Nazism? How is the Holocaust relevant to the constantly contested Israeli existence? We'll try to answer these questions as we take the allegorical journey in breathtaking landscapes, magnificently shot by Itzik Portal.

FAU Lifelong Learning Center Course
(co-sponsored by the Florida-Israel Institute)

The Holocaust and Israeli Consciousness- a Cinematic Perspective
Instructor: **Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm**

WALK ON WATER

Saturday, December 15, 2007, 2:00-3:45 PM at the FAU Barry and Florence Friedberg Lifelong Learning Center

Individual tickets to non-students sold at the gate (\$10). Proceeds go to the FAU Lifelong Learning Society



Walk on Water Eitan Fox, 2004, Hebrew and German with English subtitles, 103 minutes

Walk on Water is a tale of coming of age, taking responsibility, reconciliation and redemption. It represents a negotiation of Israeli anxieties, as the threats of everyday Palestinian terror bring back the horrors of the Jewish Holocaust. The constant struggling against existential threats also brings into this

negotiation Israelis' fear of becoming de-humanized in their effort to secure their survival in an environment constantly threatening to annihilate them. Eyal (Lior Ashkenazi) is an agent for the Mossad-Israel's intelligence agency. He tracks and eliminates terrorists as part of his everyday routine. His work as a trained assassin, that lives under cover and protects his fellow Israelis under dangerous circumstances is taking a personal toll: he is incapable of experiencing and expressing emotions. After enduring a personal crisis, Eyal's new assignment is to serve as a tour guide in Israel to a young German, named Axel, who is the grandson of a Nazi criminal. Eyal's superior seeks to avenge the atrocities performed by the now elderly Nazi German, Axel's grandfather, and he sends Eyal on this mission to eventually track the old Nazi criminal and execute him. In this 2004 film, which had a tremendous success in Israel, in Germany and in the US, the Israeli secret service is symbolically an archetypal arena of expressive Israeli masculinity, which is inevitably fortified against any feeling in order to be strong enough to defend itself against existential threats. Palestinian terrorism is a new chapter in a national saga of generations, characterized by recurring subjection of Jews to the horror of extermination. The film examines the ritual violent routine of Israeli males in endless chases after Palestinian terrorists in a film noir like maze. The secret agent's developing friendship with the young German gay man, opens the Israeli protagonist to new realms of masculinity and possibilities of emotions. His redemption is manifested by his inability to further exercise violence and by reviving his emotions to experience love to the German man's sister. The mentally and morally "dead" Israeli protagonist in **Walk on Water** is redeemed by his relationship with the German young man and by the latter's taking responsibility for his grandfathers' (generation) unpardonable crimes against humanity. At the same time the film examines Israelis' attitudes to present day Germany, and the second generation's attitudes both in Israel and in Germany. Thus, whereas the Jewish parents seek revenge and the German parents deny the atrocities committed by Nazi Germany- their children acknowledge the need to replace a world of murderous violence and intolerance with a mode of forgiveness, love and tolerance. In Israeli terms, it is also a nostalgic return to the original values of Zionism and the *Kibbutz*, embodied by Israeli folk dancing and the marriage of Eyal and Pia, Axel's sister, who establish a new family as hard working Israelis in a Kibbutz.

2. Events co-sponsored with Broward Jewish Federation

Israel60 Film and Lecture Series

Presented by

**Jewish Federation of Broward County
Florida Israel Institute
Broward County Jewish Film Festival at the David Posnack JCC
Broward Board of Rabbis**

Celebrating Israel 1948-2008

Please join us for The Israeli film and lecture series, by Israeli film and culture expert, Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm

ISRAELI LANDSCAPES AFTER 60 YEARS: A CINEMATIC PERSPECTIVE

Our knowledge about Israel comes mostly from the Media. The Television screen affords us a very limited scope of the Israeli experience; Israeli Cinema is an abundant resource to a multifaceted, complex and deep focus on Israel today. For Israelis cinema is a kind of mirror that reflects to them their own experience and facilitates a critical self study. For us, Israeli Cinema will provide us a window, an insightful view of the Israeli political, ideological and cultural landscapes.

The Israeli Film and Lecture Series will present recent Israeli films, accompanied by lectures that illuminate their historical and cultural context, and offer a dynamic and fascinating view of present day Israel: the changing conceptualizations of the nation and the individuals within it, the Israeli *Kibbutz*, small town and city; Israelis' experience of terror and war; immigration into Israel in different decades and changing views of ethnic diversity ("melting pot" and "multiculturalism") in Israeli history and society; changing ideologies regarding territory and place in Israeli culture; Israelis and Judaism- versions of religious Jews in Israel; and-the "new Israelis", of the Israeli

everyday- rooted in the Mediterranean, living their real, authentic life as individuals and families, coping with the complexities of their life in a very special state.

Upcoming Israeli film events:

**January 13, 2008, 'Turn Left at the End of the World', Temple Kol Ami Emanu-El,
8200 Peters Road, Plantation**

**February 9-12, 2008, Community-Wide Jewish Film Festival,
David Posnack Jewish Community Center**

**February 24, 2008, Temple Bat Yam, 5151 NE 14th Terrace, Ft. Lauderdale
*Please contact the Federation for details on this film***

**March 2, 2008, 'The Schwartz Dynasty', Temple Beth Am,
7205 Royal Palm Blvd., Margate**

**June 1, 2008, 'Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi', Kol Tikvah,
6750 University drive, Parkland**

**All Film Show times are at 2:00 pm
Admission is FREE!**

**For more information, contact Adam Bronstone, Director of Communal Planning and Research,
Jewish Federation of Broward County, at 954 252 6913 or by email at
abronstone@jewishbroward.org.**

Israel60 Film and Lecture Series

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Broward Board of Rabbis**

**Aviva My Love (Aviva Ahoovati)
Sunday, December 2, 2007 at 2:00 PM
Temple Solel, 5100 Sheridan, Hollywood
Free Admission**

Hebrew with English subtitles, 107 min. (dir. Shemi Zarhin)



Aviva is a hard working mother of three, a hotel cook who is the bread winner for her family, and wife of an unemployed mechanic. She is also a talented author, who turns the oppressing trivia of her everyday life into inspirational prose fiction. Aviva lives with her family in small town Israel, Tiberias. Tiberias is an ancient town at the shores of the sea of Galilee, with a long standing history. The director, Shemi Zarhin, who grew up in Tiberias, depicts it in all of its Mediterranean-Israeli sensuality. The film about Aviva and her family, her special relationship with her sister and her mother, the hardships and the beauty of her mundane life, is also the story of the Israelis, as Israeli cinema has learnt to brilliantly tell it: devoid of pathos pf heroism of the great national myths, yet celebrating Israeli life after 60: the “normal” life of ordinary people, which becomes poetry in director Shemi Zarhin’s well accomplished cinematic art.

The film was first screened in the summer of 2006 in a shelter in Tiberias, during the second Lebanon war, and was the most successful Israeli film of that year. Winner of six Israeli Academy (“Ophir”) Awards, including Best Film, Director, Actress (Assi Levi) and Script.

**Pre-film lecture and post-film discussion – Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.
Presented by
Jewish Federation of Broward County
Florida Israel Institute
Broward Board of Rabbis**

**Sweet Mud (Adama Meshugaat)
Saturday February 9, 2008 at 8:00 PM
David Posnack JCC, 5850 South Pine Island Road, Davie
Admission \$7**

Directed by Dror Shaul, 2006, 103 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles, R Rated



We have chosen this particularly beautiful and sensitive film, **winner of the Israeli Film Academy Award for best film**, the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival, the Glass Bear at Berlin International Film Festival, and the Audience Award at the Miami Film Festival, to represent the excellence of current Israeli Cinema, as part of our Israel60 “Cinematic Landscapes: Israeli Film and Lecture Series” in the Broward County Jewish Film Festival. The ambivalent title of the film SWEET MUD represents the bittersweet aroma of this nostalgic film, which depicts the Israeli *Kibbutz*- a unique and idealistic communal social framework, and childhood, a universal time of innocence and painful encounters with adulthood, as metaphors for Israeli society’s coming of age in the early 1970s. It is the autumn of 1974, just one year after the traumatic *Yom Kippur War*. The ideals of Israeli society and of the *Kibbutz* society as its showcase for solidarity and mutual communal commitment are put to severe tests and pressures. Dvir (Tomer Steinof), as the rest of his class, is entering his *Bar Mitzvah* year, while his older brother is ready to enlist to the IDF. This personal story of coming of age allegorically depicts the rite of passage into Israeli and the Kibbutz’s tribal demanding adulthood. Dvir lives on a Kibbutz in the beautiful *Negev*, in the South of Israel, with his mother who had lost her husband some years earlier in circumstances no one is willing to tell Dvir about. Dvir’s mother, Miri (Ronit Yudkevitz) is fragile and mentally unstable, and the cohesive Kibbutz society cruelly subjects her individualistic deviation from the collective norms and her exceptional small family to abusive harassment. The film’s title in Hebrew, meaning literally “crazy soil/land” beautifully represents the subtle collective meanings woven into the fabric of the seemingly personal story of a son’s relationship with his unusual mother. The oppression of individuals within a fanatically

ideological society are examined from a painfully authentic point of view of the film's author, Dror Shaul, who grew up in a *Kibbutz*, and re-creates the cinematic magic of the Southern *Kibbutz* childhood from first hand, subjective experience. Added to the breath-taking cinematography, the deeply moving and brilliant performances of Ronit Yudkevitz, who portrays the mother as both a tragic and dignified woman, and Tomer Steinof, playing the son in a truly impressive debut performance, make the viewing of this film a very intense experience. Don't forget to bring something to wipe some inevitable tears with.

Pre-film lecture and post-film discussion – Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.

Directions to David posnack JCC: From I-95 go west on Stirling Road (past 441 and University Dr). Right on S. Pine Island Road. JCC is on the right.

For more information, contact Dr. Adam Bronstone, Director of Communal Planning and Research, Jewish Federation of Broward County, at 954 252 6913 or by email at abronstone@jewishbroward.org.

Israel60 Film and Lecture Series

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Florida Israel Institute

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Broward Board of Rabbis

Turn Left at the End of the World (Sof Ha'Olam Smola)

Sunday, January 13, 2008 at 2:00 PM

Temple Kol Ami Emanu-El, 8200 Peters Rd, Plantation

Free Admission

2004; Hebrew, French & Moroccan with English subtitles, 108 min. (Dir. Avi Neshet)



Set in Israel in 1968, one year after the victory of the 1967 Six Day War, this film is a story about the pains of coming of age, and the agonies of immigration. A family from India arrives at a small desert town in the South of Israel, inhabited mostly by Israelis who came there from North Africa a decade earlier. The colorful and multi-lingual cultural encounter illuminates Israeli immigrant society and history, the hardships of the parent generation and the traumas underlying the melting pot utopia. The coming of age of the film's female protagonist is accompanied by other story lines that construct the magic and absurdity of the Zionist Israeli vision, and its magnificent and painful realization. The diverse ethnic heritage, traditions and folklore of the parents clash with the music, rebellion and the sexual revolution of the late sixties, producing a powerful vision of where the Israelis come from, and where their yearnings might still take them.

Breathtaking landscapes in the Israeli Southern desert, shot by David Gurfinkel. The ambiance of 1960s Israel is beautifully illustrated by the costumes and art direction that won the Israeli Academy Awards for 2004.

The film's script is based on autobiographical materials of its authors. The infusion of real life biography into recent Israeli feature films adds new dimensions of authenticity to the experience of immigration and the depiction of ethnicities. The film, directed by one of Israel's leading filmmakers, Avi Neshet, is in Hebrew,

French and Moroccan. Theme songs for the film are sung by Israeli leading young performers, Ninette Tayeb and Dudu Tassa.

*We would rate this film R for some sexual content.

Pre-film lecture and post-film discussion – Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.

Directions to Temple Kol Ami Emanu El: From I-595 take the Pine Island Rd exit, north on Pine Island Rd (for about 0.5 mile) and then east on Peters Rd.

For more information, contact Dr. Adam Bronstone, Director of Communal Planning and Research, Jewish Federation of Broward County, at 954 252 6913 or by email at abronstone@jewishbroward.org.

Israel60 Film and Lecture Series

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Broward Board of Rabbis

The Schwartz Dynasty (Shoshelet Schwartz)

Sunday March 9, 2008 at 2:00 PM

Temple B'nai Aviv, 1410 Indian Trace, Weston

Free Admission

Directed by Shmuel and Amir Hasfari, 2005, 100 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles



Miriam Schwartz's world falls apart following her husband's suicide. The iron-willed woman is determined to be buried by his side, in the section outside the main cemetery. Miriam meets Anna, a young immigrant to Israel from the former Soviet Union, who is determined to fulfill her father's wish to be buried in Israel. "The Schwartz Dynasty", written and directed by Shmuel and Amir Hasfari, is the tale of these two women, joined together in their struggle to fulfill the last wish of their beloved next of kin. It is a romantic drama, in which the innocent love between Avishai, the younger member of the Schwartz dynasty of cantors, and Anna, a young immigrant from Russia, whose Jewishness is cast under doubt, bridges religious and ethnic differences. It is the story of a dynasty of Zionist religious Jews in Israel: The grandfather, mayor of the small town in the rustic north of Israel, who was buried outside of the cemetery; His son Bomba, a zealous settler who dreams of winning the elections and reviving the old Ashkenazi synagogue in his hometown; and Avishai, the promising cantor and Bar Mitzva tutor, who rebels against his father and seeks to revive his grandfather's tradition.

The rustic village where these dramatic plots take place is a microcosm of current Israeli society, in all of its vibrant diversity. It is depicted ambivalently in a tragic-comic tone, both an object of satirical criticism and a nostalgic yearning for harmony, unity and continuity. The film mercilessly negotiates inter-ethnic tensions and ideological struggles in Israel; yet, it celebrates the integrative female voice, and affirms the vitality of the Israeli future, symbolized by the younger

generation: it is a future which embraces the new comer into the Israeli-Jewish community, and is connected to the eternal traditions of the Jewish past.

Pre-film lecture and post-film discussion – Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.

Directions to Temple B'nai Aviv: Take I-595 west to I-75 south to exit 15 (Royal Palm Blvd W). Turn right on Weston Road and then left to Indian Trace

For more information, contact Dr. Adam Bronstone, Director of Communal Planning and Research, Jewish Federation of Broward County, at 954 252 6913 or by email at abronstone@jewishbroward.org.

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Broward Board of Rabbis

BOUNJOUR MONSIEUR SHLOMI (Hakoachavim shel Shlomi)

Sunday June 1, 2008 at 2:00 PM

Temple Kol Tikvah, 6750 University drive, Parkland

Free Admission

Directed by Shemi Zarhin, 2003, 94 minutes; Hebrew with English subtitles



Sixteen years old Shlomi is a caregiver for all members of his dysfunctional family. No one in the family really sees Shlomi, except for his grandfather. 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. This Israeli version of the Good Will Hunting story, also tells the story of the Israeli family, in recent films stretching along three generations. The sit-com like exchanges among family members are accompanied by the bittersweet magic of first love: Rona, the beautiful gardener, Shlomi's neighbor with whom he falls head over heels in love, helps Shlomi discover his true self, and inspires his creative cooking with the herbs she grows. This charming film offers an opportunity to discover the real, spicy Israel we hardly notice: real families, in their typically edgy Israeli everyday, in typically Mediterranean settings- fragrant with herbs and abundant with blue and sunshine, warmth of human relationships and yearning for peace and quiet.

Pre-film lecture and post-film discussion – Dr. Miri Talmon-Bohm.

Directions to Temple Kol Tikvah: Take Sawgrass Expressway west to the University Drive exit. North on University Dr. (past Holmberg Rd.) Temple is on the right. [Alternately, from 441 take Wiles Rd. West and turn north on University Dr.]

For more information, contact Dr. Adam Bronstone, Director of Communal Planning and Research, Jewish Federation of Broward County, at 954 252 6913 or by email at abronstone@jewishbroward.org.

3. Events at the FAU Jupiter Campus

ISRAELI FILMS at the FAU J.D. MACARTHUR CAMPUS in JUPITER, June - July 2008 PROGRAM

Co-sponsored by the FAU Jupiter Campus Jewish Students Club, the Palm Beach Jewish Federation, Chabad Lubavitch of Jupiter and the Florida-Israel Institute

Sundays at 3:00 PM

**at the Elinor Bernon Rosenthal Lifelong Learning Center, the
Tamar and Milton Maltz Center for Education auditorium**

Admission is Free. Reservations are not needed – 500 seats auditorium.

All films are in Hebrew with English subtitles. Each event features a pre-film lecture and a post-film moderated discussion. **Speaker for the June - July events: Rabbi Berel Barash** (Chabad Lubavitch of Jupiter)

June 29: WASSERMAN THE RAIN MAN (Directed by Idit Shechori, 2005, Drama, 56 min)



73 year old Abraham Wasserman, a farmer, has 24 hours to let go of the hatred that has given him the strength to go on living or risk losing everything he loves - his land and family. He turned his back on his children who became religious against his wishes and avoids them though they live in the same village. His orthodox neighbors want to help him but he refuses to bend to their request to join them in prayer to a God he doesn't believe in. "Wasserman –The Rain Man" won the Best Film award at the Girona International Film Festival, Spain 2006.

July 27: ON THE FRONLINE (Directed by by **Hanoch Zeevi**, 2002. Documentary, 54 min).



The film follows the lives of a group of young Israelis who deferred their service in the Army in order to volunteer for a year's

community works. The young men and women both religious and secular, of a variety of political persuasions - are typical products of Israeli society trying to live together for one year during which they hope to get to know one another and to put the prejudices they have grown up with to the test of daily life. One month after their arrival, a new chapter in the annals of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict unfolds before their very eyes with the sudden outbreak of the Al-Aqsa Intifada. The outbreak of hostilities finds the group only a few meters away from the firing line, close to what within days will become one of the symbols of the year - Gillo at the northern border of Jerusalem, a favorite target for snipers in the nearby Arab town of Beit-Jala

Driving Directions: From I-95 take Exit 83 (Donald Ross Road) east to Parkside Drive. Turn left, going north on Parkside Drive. The parking area and main campus entrance will be on the right. Head east. The Lifelong Learning Center is on your left.

For more information: Call Dr. Zvi Roth (561-297-3471) or visit www.floridaisrael.org

Organizing Committee: Dr. Martin Sweet (FAU, Faculty Advisor for the Jewish Students Club), Shlomit Zimring (Israeli "Shlichah", Palm Beach Jewish Federation), Rabbi Berel Barash (Chabad Lubavitch of Jupiter) and Dr. Zvi Roth (FAU, Interim co-Director of the Florida-Israel Institute).

**Appendix F
FII Scholarship Program**

FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSTITUTE OUT-OF-STATE TUITION WAIVERS FALL 2007				
First Name	Last Name	University/ College	Undergraduate Credits	Graduate Credits
Sharon	Barak	UF		3
Roy	Brieman	BCC	12	
Meytal	Dvash	FGCU		9
Amir	Edry	BCC	12	
Orit	Fisher	FSU		9
Elad	Gabay	UNF	12	
Sarah	Gozlan	BCC	12	
Yael	Haklai	MDC	12	
Itzhak	Hayon	FIU/MDC	12	
Doron	Kima	FSU		9
Rimon	Levy	PBCC	11	
Amir	Lichtenberg	FIU	12	
Michael	Lombrozo	MDC	12	
Michal	Martsinkovsky	MDC	12	
Luna Levana	Medina	BCC	12	
Amir	Melloul	FIU	12	
Yael	Orgad	FIU		3
Khen	Shalem	FSU		3
Natanel	Shamayev	BCC	3	
Gil	Sharon	UNF	12	
Sasha	Susterman	FIU	12	
Agur	Teichman	BCC	12	
Gilad	Weic	BCC	12	
Arie	Yaker	MDC	12	
Avishai	Zonnenberg	FAU	12	
Total Credits			218	36
Scholarships			18.17	4
Total Number of Scholarships			22.17	

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
 UNF – University of North Florida
 UF – University of Florida
 PBCC – Palm Beach Community College

FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSITUTE OUT-OF-STATE TUITION WAIVERS SPRING 2008				
First Name	Last Name	University/ College	Undergraduate Credits	Graduate Credits
Sharon	Barak	UF		3
Roy	Brieman	BCC	12	
Meytal	Dvash	FGCU		9
Amir	Edry	BCC	12	
Orit	Fisher	FSU		9
Elad	Gabay	UNF	12	
Sarah	Gozlan	BCC	12	
Itzhak	Hayon	FIU	12	
Keren	Karni	MDC	12	
Niv	Karni	BCC	12	
Doron	Kima	FSU		9
Rimon	Levy	FIU	12	
Amir	Lichtenberg	FIU	12	
Michael	Lombrozo	MDC	12	
Michal	Martsinkovsky	MDC	12	
Luna Levana	Medina	BCC	12	
Amir	Melloul	FIU	12	
Yaron	Mergui	FAU		9
Kfir	Meser	MDC	12	
Gal	Orbach	MDC	12	
Mery	Pepa	FAU	6	
Daniel Sasha	Susterman	FIU	12	
Agur	Teichman	BCC	12	
Gilad Nahum	Weic	BCC	12	
Arie	Yaker	MDC	12	
Avishai	Zonnenberg	FAU	12	
Total Credits			246	39
Scholarships			20.5	4.33
Total Number of Scholarships				24.83

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
 UNF – University of North Florida

FLORIDA-ISRAEL INSITUTE OUT-OF-STATE TUITION WAIVERS SUMMER 2008				
First Name	Last Name	University/ College	Undergraduate Credits	Graduate Credits
Roy	Brieman	BCC	9	
Amir	Edry	BCC	13	
Elad	Gabay	UNF	6	
Sarah	Gozlan	BCC	3	
Itzhak	Hayon	FIU	13	
Dean	Hershkowiz	BCC	12	
Keren	Karni	FIU	6	
Niv	Karni	BCC	9	
Michael	Lombrozo	MDC	11	
Inbal	Mazar	FAU	1	
Luna	Medina	BCC/FAU	9	
Amir	Melloul	FIU	10	
Alon	Orbach	MDC	9	
Mery	Pepa	FAU	12	
Roy	Samuel	FSU		9
Dayana	Susterman	FIU	9	
Daniel Sasha	Susterman	FIU	12	
Arie	Yaker	MDC	12	
Total Credits			156	
Scholarships			17.33	1.5
Total Number of Scholarships			18.83	

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