

← עברית



Dear Azrieli Faculty Family,
The past four months have felt like an eternity, since the terrible shock on October 7 that changed our lives. Open, bleeding wounds refuse to heal as long as our soldiers are still fighting and the hostages are still held captive. Faculty members and many students and their spouses were drafted and serve on medical teams both at the front and in rear command positions. Some of us have been called upon to take positions in the home front command, while managing our "emergency routine" – even while evacuated from home.



The medical students in their clinical years overcame emotional and family related challenges, and under the guidance of the medical staff, quickly returned to the hospital floors, even to those that switched to emergency status. The research students are already deeply settled in to their laboratories and are conducting experiments in the medical sciences or are exploring issues related to the health sciences in the field – for our community in the Galilee as well as the general population. The Faculty's administration and the Student Union remain in close contact with our soldiers wherever they may be, and I would like to take this opportunity to remind our readers of the obvious: to support our returning recruits, to help reduce educational gaps, and to take care of their mental well-being. We must not leave anyone behind. Despite the excruciating pain, the inspiring struggle of our students fills me with pride and optimism.

The Faculty is rapidly growing, to expand and establish joint research centers for physicians and researchers, the lifeblood of a medical Faculty (to be elaborated upon in the future). And on another optimistic note, I would like to share with you a developing project in collaboration with my good friend Prof. Tamar Wolf-Monzon from the Department of Hebrew Literature: selection of the ten "must read" books for medical students. This list of books, to be chosen by the students and the faculty, will expand the mind, emotions, and thought, with the goal of making our students more sensitive, attentive, and empathetic doctors, sharing a humorous, positive and human-loving outlook spirit. Start thinking about your top ten. Details soon.

That's it for now. I hope you will take an active role in the future preparation of our improved newsletter edited by Dr. Alissa Burstein. Please do share with us your stories, successes, challenges – and attach photos if possible.

Yours,
Prof. Orly Avni, Dean

What's New at the Faculty



**BIU "Triumvirate" Visit
Faculty Safed Campus**
Bar-Ilan U President Prof. Arie Zaban, CEO Zohar Yiron, and Rector Prof. Amnon Albeck were guests of honor at the Faculty in December.
[Read more](#) →



The Expansion Continues!
Groundbreaking for the future home of the Faculty's education facility took place at the old "Bezeq" site in January.
[Read more](#) →



Joint Meeting of the OBGYN, Pediatrics, and Surgery Departments with the Educational Management
The Faculty's educational management headed by Prof. Lior Lowenstein met at the Faculty with the heads of affiliated hospital departments of internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics and Ob/Gyn.
[Read more](#) →



With Thanks to Our Reservists
The student union and Faculty management expressed their thanks to the students who serve in the IDF reserves, with winter gift baskets.
[Read more](#) →



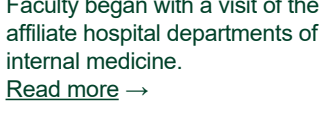
Joint Meeting of the Departments of Internal Medicine with the Educational Management
The first of a series of similar meetings to promote and improve clinical teaching at the Faculty began with a visit of the affiliate hospital departments of internal medicine.
[Read more](#) →



Academic Secretariat Delegation Visits Safed Campus
The last week of December was busy with visits to the Safed campus, this one headed by Dr. Orly Perl.
[Read more](#) →



VR Technology at the Forefront of Medical Education
Who knew that empathy can be taught with the help of virtual reality. At the Faculty we do just that.
[Read more](#) →



First Ceremony for Students in New Six-Year MD Track
An exciting ceremony was held at the Faculty for the first time – six-year track MD students, the first class, received their white coats in preparation for the start of clinical studies in the hospitals as part of a medical exposure course.
[Read more](#) →

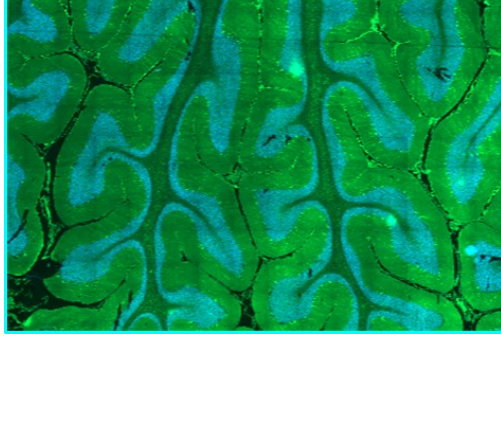


Ilanot Galil Orientation Seminar
The opening seminar of the second cohort of 39 Ilanot Galil program cadets, MD students who will be building the future generation of medicine in the North, took place in December.
[Read more](#) →

Spotlight on Research

Study of Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms of Neurological Diseases

How do proteins work to create a precise response, at the right time and in the right place in the brain? How does the response go wrong in neurological diseases? Can a response be improved? Can we fix a mechanism of action? Protein phosphorylation is one of the most important control mechanisms in all types of cells in the body. Overactivity of kinases or inhibition of their activity in the brain may lead to the development of neurological diseases such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. The specific location of protein kinase A (PKA) in different areas of the brain determines its availability to its substrates and its network of interactions with other proteins. The accumulation of kinesin and its activity in an unnatural area results in the manifestation of Parkinson's or Alzheimer's disease? **Dr. Ronit Ilouz's** laboratory researches the exact location of protein kinases in different brain areas, in specific cells and organelles with a unique function, through the use of mice and the brains of healthy people with the help of various macroscopic methods that allow reaching a very high level of resolution in the cell.



Meet Our Researchers

Dr. Yair Daon

We would like to introduce you to Dr. Yair Daon who joined our academic faculty as principal researcher just a few months ago. Specializing in computational epidemiology, Dr. Daon also has a background in biology, mathematics, and oceanography.
[Read more](#) →



Promotions and Appointments



Prof. Zaher Armary
promotion to clinical associate professor



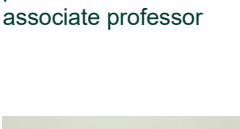
Dr. Younes Bathish
appointment as clinical lecturer



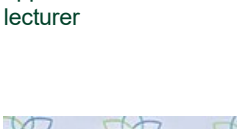
Dr. Shlomo Merchavy
appointment as clinical lecturer



Dr. Dalya Navot
appointment as clinical lecturer



Prof. Raed Salim
appointment as clinical associate professor



Dr. Elias Saad
appointment as clinical lecturer



Dr. Youssef Awni
appointment as clinical lecturer



Dr. Etty Kruzel-Davila
appointment as clinical senior lecturer



Dr. Shareef Arady
appointment as clinical lecturer



Prof. Samer Srouji
elected president of IADR Dental Research Division in Israel



Prof. Avi Peretz
appointed to Ministry of Health Management Team of Epidemics

Awards

Congratulations to Wisal Sawaed, a graduate student supervised by Dr. Ron Piran, on receipt of a scholarship from **The Russell Berrie Galilee Diabetes SPHERE** and D cure Association. She was the only one to receive this award, which was presented at the National Diabetes Conference in December. Wisal received the grant from Prof. Naim Shehadeh, Director of the Faculty's Russell Berrie Galilee Diabetes SPHERE and president of the Israeli Diabetes Association, and from Prof. Itamar Raz, head of the National Council of Diabetes.



Press Exposure

Foster home program for abandoned dogs (In Hebrew) →

Interview with Dean Prof. Orly Avni (In Hebrew) →

Prof. Evan Elliott and Prof. Omry Koren: Gut microbiome potential connection to autism revealed →

Upcoming events

28.02.24

Departmental Seminar

Brain regulated immunity

Prof. Asya Rolls, Technion

[For more information](#) →

06.03.24

Departmental Seminar

Systematic identification of new Pathways for Protein Targeting to Organelles

Prof. Maya Schuldiner, Weizmann Institute

[For more information](#) →

13.03.24

Departmental Seminar

Integrin and chemokine signals for immune cell trafficking, differentiation and effector functions

Prof. Ronen Alon, Weizmann Institute

[For more information](#) →

22.05.24

Save the date

2nd Annual SPHERE Conference In honor of Ruth Salzman - Diabetes and Obesity

[For more information](#) →

To the full Events list →

Call for Papers

2nd Annual SPHERE Conference

Researchers of all backgrounds are invited to submit abstracts in English or Hebrew on the topics of diabetes and obesity. The researcher submitting the most impressive abstract will be awarded a certificate and the opportunity to present the research at the plenary session. Deadline for submission: March 21, 2024
[To submit an abstract](#) →



Inaugural Conference of new Women's Health Research Center

The Faculty is establishing 9 research centers to integrate the research of physicians and researchers. The first conference will be held during which researchers will present their "research identity cards" in the field of women's health. Clinicians, researchers and research students who wish to present a research ID card are invited to register. Deadline for submission: February 29, 2024
[To register](#) →



Get a glimpse of the recent Azrieli faculty and researcher academic publications, updated weekly.

Mazal Tov

Congratulations to Dr. Yair Daon on the birth of a baby girl.
Congratulations to Dr. Shlomit Benoliel on the birth of a granddaughter.
Congratulations to Danit Dasa on the birth of son.

