

Research

Research is one of the three cornerstones of the Open University, alongside course development and teaching. OUI faculty members conduct a broad range of research in a variety of fields, including the humanities, social sciences, natural and life sciences, the exact sciences, and engineering.

The Dean of Research, Prof. Tzahi Weiss, heads the field of research and is therefore in charge of the Research Authority, the OUI research institutes, and compliance with the code of ethics. As dean, he is also chairman of the board of OpMop Ltd., the OUI's technology transfer subsidiary.

The Research Authority

The role of the Research Authority (RA) is to encourage research and to make infrastructure and equipment available to OUI researchers; to provide assistance in submitting research proposals to competitive sources of funding and other grants, and especially, to publish papers in journals and books. The Research Authority is a platform for promoting research and maintaining the university's high academic level, and for the development of the faculty's individual progress.

Moreover, the RA promotes research studies by OUI researchers through direct support via an internal fund for grants, fellowships for research students, and funds for travel for presentation of research results at scientific conferences.

The RA is responsible for the financial and administrative monitoring of the research proposals submitted and which have been awarded funding, and it administers the researchers' budgets. It handles researchers' needs in all matters related to physical infrastructure (labs, computers) and human resources (students and research assistants) required for the studies and research. Likewise, the RA handles the negotiation of agreements with other academic institutions to promote collaboration between OUI researchers and colleagues from other universities.

A steering committee of four senior faculty members from different disciplines oversees the work of the RA. The Dean of Research is the head of the committee which sets the standards for evaluation of proposals submitted for funding by the internal fund and for distribution of the fund's resources.

News and developments

- The generosity of the David and Inez Myers Foundation has made possible a decision by the RA, together with the executive management of the OUI, to increase the amount of the absorption grants for senior faculty at the OUI. As of 2018-2019, the grant of ILS 20,000 will be increased to ILS 35,000 for researchers whose work is not experimental, ILS 60,000 for researchers engaged in experimental research in the social sciences and researchers employing calculative methodology, and ILS 120,000 for experimental research in natural and life sciences.
- For the first time, the Israel Innovation Authority has recognized the OUI as an independent research university and has transferred the research fund awarded last year to Prof. Ofer Reany, from the Department of Life and Natural Sciences, to OUI management.
- The Israel Science Foundation, in recognition of the academic status of the OUI, has granted approval for new researchers using calculative methodologies to apply for equipment grants. The first two OUI researchers to submit such proposals, Prof. Saleem Zaroubi and Dr. Orli Lachmy, from the Department of Life and Natural Sciences, were awarded this important grant.
- This year, The OUI joined the Forum of University Vice Presidents of Research as an observer, similar to its status in other VERA forums.
- In recent months, a high performance computer (HPC) was installed, at a cost of \$350,000, for the use of all researchers employing calculative methodologies. The new system is already in use.

- Development of a salary system for research assistants has led to a real change in work inputs from many OUI departments (including the HR salary division, accounting, planning and budgets, and of course, the research authority). The system enables the division of salary according to actual existing budgetary balances, and ensures complete transparency in reports to researchers.

Research Authority events

Scientists' Night

Scientists' Night has been held annually since 2007 in Israel and Europe, sponsored jointly by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Space, and the European Union. The purpose of the event is to introduce the general public to academic research. This year's theme was the 70th Independence Day of the State of Israel. The event, which was open to the general public, was attended by high school, college, and university students, and OUI faculty members and administrative staff, and their families. Academic lectures were given by OUI researchers and guest speakers. A selection of experiential workshops and diverse activities with scientists were offered.

Research Centers

Three research centers at the OUI provide a framework for interdisciplinary research in different fields and forge reciprocal and cross-departmental collaboration. The centers help researchers generate new scientific knowledge, participate in the mutual exchange of ideas, and foster cooperation and programming with researchers and experts in Israel and abroad.

The Institute for Policy Analysis

The Institute for Policy Analysis, headed by Dr. Izhak Berkovich, is an interdisciplinary center dedicated to the promotion of research on theoretical, empirical and applied subjects related to the correlation between policy design and implementation, and social, political, and economic processes and mechanisms. The institute was founded in 2011, and includes most of the OUI social sciences faculty.

The Institute encourages research focusing on Israel and abroad, and comparative studies and research examining

the global and international dimensions of policy formation and implementation. In order to create a vibrant and productive research environment for scholars from different fields, the institute organizes local and international seminars and conferences, publishes a series of working papers, and provides research assistance to its members.

The executive management of the institute has currently set for itself the goal of increasing its membership, expanding the activities of its research groups, conducting seminars, and establishing research groups which will result in publications in the name of the institute. To date, it has released publications on military service for the ultra-Orthodox and on militarization of the education system.

The institute's programming in the past year has included:

- A seminar on public policy in the age of big data and the "like" button.
- A seminar on the jubilee year of the program for integration in education.
- Summer workshops on methodologies for researchers and doctoral students.

Research Center for Innovation in Learning Technologies

The Research Center for Innovation in Learning Technologies, headed by Prof. Nitza Geri, explores the integration of innovative technologies in teaching and learning processes. The center encourages research by OUI faculty aimed at improving the understanding of teaching and learning processes in technology-rich environments and the integration of innovative technologies in the teaching of courses in academia in general, and at the OUI in particular. The center was established in 2010 to replace the Chais Center for the Integration of Technology in Education, which was founded in 2004. Fifty faculty members from various departments are currently carrying out research at the center, in addition to one part-time research fellow. The center works in close cooperation with the Center for Technology in Distance Education (Shoham) and is dedicated to maintaining close ties among the Israeli research community. To this end it organizes regular academic events, including research seminars, symposia, and conferences.

In 2017-2018, the center held three seminars for the general public, as well as five symposia in which members of the center, guest researchers, and post-graduate students who are members of the center presented their research.

Following is a selection of the research conducted by members of the center:

Dr. Shir Etgar, Prof. Ina Blau, and Prof. Yoram Eshet: "White Collar Crime in Academia: Trends in Digital Academic Dishonesty over Time and Their Effect on Penalty Severity."

Dr. Yael Sidi, Prof. Ina Blau, and Prof. Yoram Eshet: "Ethical Dissonance: What Affects Digital and Analog Academic Dishonesty of Israeli School Students?"

Eyal Rabin, Prof. Yoram M. Kalman, and Prof. Marco Kalz: "Predicting Learner-centered MOOC Outcomes: Satisfaction and Intention-fulfillment."

Avital Kesler, Dr. Tamar Shamir-Inbal and Prof. Ina Blau: "Who is Teaching Creative Computing? Teaching Strategies of Code and Robotics Teachers as Reflecting Instructivist and Constructivist Pedagogy."

Dr. Shir Etgar, Amir Winer, and Prof. Nitzza Geri: "The Relations between Type of Content and Device Preference during Learning."

Dr. Shir Etgar and Prof. Yair Amichai-Hamburger: "The Impact of Smartphone use in Teaching Evaluation Surveys: Can type of Device Change Lecturer's Evaluation?"

Chais Conference 2018

The 2018 Chais Conference was the 13th in the annual series of research conferences initiated by the Research Center for Innovation in Learning Technologies. The conference provides a forum in Israel for the meeting of leading researchers and professionals in the field of innovation and learning technologies to present their research. The conference contributes to the formation of an Israeli community of learning technology researchers and the positioning of the OUI as a leader in the field.

The conference was attended by 425 participants from most of the academic institutions in Israel and from organizations and commercial companies. At the conference, 25 papers were presented, as well as 25 flash

lectures and 39 posters. The conference included opening lectures by Prof. Yair Amichai-Hamburger from IDC Herzliya, "Utopia or Nightmare? Trends in Technological Development and their Impact on Psychological Wellbeing" and by Prof. Ofir Turel from Fullerton California State University and the University of Southern California, speaking about the "dark side" of the use of information technologies and its implications for learning and teaching. The first day of the conference was concluded with a lecture by Dr. Debbie Rand from Tel Aviv University, on gamification and imaginary reality as a means of neurological rehabilitation. The second day of the conference was concluded with a lecture by Adi Altschuler, founder of two important Israeli social ventures, who conducted a dialogue with the audience on social entrepreneurialism, designing a vision, and transforming it into reality.

The Center for the Study of Relations between Jews, Christians, Muslims

The Center for the Study of Relations between Jews, Christians, Muslims (JCM) is headed by Prof. Mustafa Kabha. The center has forty members who hail mostly from the OUI, but who represent other institutions as well. The center and its goals have stirred the interest of many researchers in Israel and around the world. Some have joined the research community formed around it and participate in programming, thus promoting the study of relations between the three religions. The diverse research contributes to the center's public role of enhancing understanding and interaction between the religions and presenting the research data to the general public. The center collaborates with various research entities in Israel and throughout the world, and encourages research related to its primary fields of interest.

Research groups sponsored by the center

- "Different Aspects of Early Christianity and Judeo-Christian Relations in the First Centuries of the Christian Era," emphasizing "The Question of the Parting of Ways between Judaism and Christianity." Thirteen researchers from the OUI and other academic institutions are participating.

The group held a research conference at Kinneret College on "Early Christianity in the Galilee." At the conference, the following research was presented:

"Theoretical Research and Research Methodologies in Early Christianity in Light of Material Evidence in the Galilee," by Dr. Yaki Ashkenazi, Dr. Rivka Nir, and Dr. Yuval Shahar; and "Magdala – Discussion of Evidence and Conclusions Drawn from the Evidence in Relation to the Question of the Beginning of Christianity in the Galilee," by Dr. Moti Aviam. At another session, the following talk was presented by Prof. Steven Fine, Chair of the Churgin School of Jewish History and of the Center for Israel Studies at Yeshiva University in New York: "The Menorah and the Cross: Historiographic Reflections on the 'Parting of the Ways' [in Jewish and Christian relations] in light of Archaeological Testimony from Asia Minor."

- "Defining Borders – Identity Formation in a Multi-religious and Multicultural Environment." The group is comprised of four researchers from the OUI and other academic institutions, and three research assistants. Group meetings this year addressed issues related to the scholarly book it has written, *Jesus was a Jew – Presenting Christians and Christianity in Israeli State Education*, which will be published by Lexington Press with the support of the center.
- "Time, History, Theory, Culture." A third research group made up of 17 researchers from the OUI deals with the subject; particularly with the way the three religions and cultures that the center addresses – Judaism, Christianity, and Islam – continue to contend with the question of time.

Divan Workshops: Presenting and discussing research, and meeting with established researchers

Dr. Avishai Ben Dror: "Between Egypt and the Horn of Africa: Nation, Knowledge, Memories," in memory of Dr. Hagar Hillel.

Prof. Menachem Klein: "Indigenous Jewish-Arab Identity at the End of the 19th Century and the Beginning of the 20th Century."

Mr. Danny Rubinstein, "The Battle on the Qastel: 24 Hours that Changed the Course of the 1948 War."

Dr. Mansour Nasasra: "The Arabs of the Negev (al-Naqab): 100 Years of Politics and Resistance."

Prof. Iris Shagrir: "The Parable of the Three Rings: A Paradigm for Interreligious Discourse."

Workshops and international conferences

This year, two international conferences were held at The OUI Ra'anana campus. The 7th Annual JCM Conference presented "Processes of Symbiosis and Religious Syncretism – Judaism, Christianity, and Islam," while the OUI, in collaboration with the Ben-Zvi Institute, offered "Centennial Birthday of Prof. André Chouraqui."

Research Infrastructure

OUI policy encourages collaboration with other academic institutions in order to find appropriate solutions for faculty members who require experimental research infrastructure. Currently, the OUI is establishing independent labs for two of its researchers:

- A computer lab for Dr. Reut Tsarfaty (Department of Mathematics and Computer Science) for research and language and artificial intelligence processing, is located on space leased by Beit Hatfutsot on the campus of Tel Aviv University.
- An experimental lab for Dr. Ravid Doron (Department of Education and Psychology) located in the lab building at the Biotechnology Park, Hadassah Medical Center, Ein Karem Campus.

OpMop, Ltd.

OpMop, Ltd. is a technology transfer subsidiary of the Open University. As an academic institution for the benefit of the public, the OUI has an interest in new knowledge created at the OUI which has become intellectual property, being used on behalf of society and the market, and even producing income for the university that will serve to promote its goals. OpMop works on behalf of commercialization and transfer of knowledge to industry and the marketplace.

The company was established in 2008, and in the years since, only minimal activity has taken place for the handling of a few patents by OUI faculty. In 2017, for the first time, OpMop was awarded a research grant by the Israel Innovation Authority in the framework of the Kamin Incentive Program, for the development of technologies for transfer to industry. This track serves as a bridge between

basic and applied research and focuses on the stage of conversion and actualization of basic research achievements as technologies of commercial interest. The research, which began on October 1, 2017, is based on a collaboration between Prof. Ofer Reany from the OUI's Department of Natural and Life Sciences and Prof. Gabriel Lemcoff from Ben-Gurion University, on the subject "Thermal and Photochemical Polymerization of Dicyclopentadiene (DCPD) Monomers for Innovative Applications in 3-D Printing."

Individual Research Grants From External Funds

This year, 17 research grants and fellowships were approved.

Grants from the Israel Science Foundation

Individual research grants:

Prof. Anat Barnea, Department of Natural and Life Sciences, "The Effect of Artificial Light at Night (ALAN) on Brain Plasticity in Birds and the Involvement of Melatonin."

Dr. Vadim Grinshtein, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, in collaboration with Prof. Felix Abramovich from Tel Aviv University, "Topics in High-Dimensional Classification."

Dr. Dana Kaplan, Department of Sociology, Political Science and Communication, "Class(ic) Beauty: How Social Class and Beauty Intersect in Israel."

Dr. Nurit Kirsh, Department of Natural and Life Sciences, "Health, Science and Nation-Building: Chaim Sheba and the Creation of the Israeli Biomedical Research and Health System."

Dr. Orli Lachmy, Department of Natural and Life Sciences, "The Role of Mid-altitude Latent Heating in the Maintenance of the Extratropical Atmospheric Circulation and its Response to Climate Change."

Prof. Yagil Levy, Department of Sociology, Political Science and Communication, in collaboration with Prof. Orna Sasson-Levy from Bar-Ilan University, and Prof. Edna Lomsky-Feder from the Hebrew University, "The Emerging Legitimacy of Military Violence: The Israeli Case."

Prof. Saleem Zaroubi, Department of Natural and Life Sciences, "Probing the Large Scale Structure of the Local Universe with Neutral Hydrogen Intensity Mapping."

Workshop grant

Prof. Gitit Kave, Department of Education and Psychology, together with researchers from Tel Aviv University, University of Haifa, and Bar-Ilan University, was awarded an allocation for a research workshop on the topic: "Age-related and Death-related Perceptions and their Relationship to Health."

Grants for equipment

Dr. Orli Lachmy, Department of Natural and Life Sciences, was awarded an equipment grant for a new faculty member for her research on "High Performance Computer for General Circulation Models."

Prof. Saleem Zaroubi, Department of Natural and Life Sciences, was awarded an equipment grant for a new faculty member for his research on "High Performance Computer Cluster for Numerical Simulation of the Distribution of Neutral Hydrogen in the Intergalactic Medium."

Grants from other external funds

Prof. Ronit Bogler, Department of Education and Psychology, was awarded a grant by the Fund for the Promotion of Humanities and Social Sciences to host a colleague, Prof. Stephen Jacobson from the University at Buffalo.

Prof. Tal Hassner, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, was awarded a research grant by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Space for research on "Unmasking Faces in Real World Photos."

Prof. Tali Heiman, Department of Education and Psychology, was awarded a grant by the Shalem Fund for her research on "Examining Models for Integrating Students with Developmental Intellectual Disability in Israel: Basic Characteristics and Satisfaction of the Educational Staff, the Students, and their Parents."

Prof. Gitit Kave, Department of Education and Psychology, was awarded a research grant by the Israel National Institute for Health Policy Research for "What Prevents People Needing Neuropsychological Diagnosis from Diagnosis under the Public Health Law?"

Prof. Igor Rahinov, Department of Natural and Life Sciences, was awarded a grant by the Ministry of National Infrastructures, Energy, and Water Resources to hold the 30th Conference of the Israeli Section of the International Combustion Institute.

Dr. Varda Wasserman, Department of Management and Economics, together with Prof. Ronit Kark from Bar-Ilan University, was awarded a grant by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Space for "Ladies, Attention! Stand at Ease! Planning the City of Instructional Bases in Light of Feminist Theory." Dr. Wasserman was also awarded a grant by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Space for a post-doctorate fellowship for research on the topic of "Ultra-Orthodox Female Entrepreneurs: Towards High Quality Employment."

Below are brief descriptions of two of the studies which were funded this year by competitive, external funds:

Prof. Anat Barnea, "The Effect of Artificial Light at Night (ALAN) on Brain Plasticity in Birds and the Involvement of Melatonin":

Daily cycles of light affect many biological phenomena. The introduction of artificial light at night (ALAN) due to global urbanization has many impacts on the health and behavior of animals, including humans. There is evidence that these effects are mediated by melatonin (MEL), which is secreted during the night and is suppressed during daytime, and is important for circadian and temporal organization in vertebrates. However, little is known about how ALAN affects neuronal processes and brain plasticity.

Adult neurogenesis – the production of new neurons – occurs naturally in vertebrates, including humans. In birds, new neurons migrate to various brain regions, where they replace older ones and are recruited in functional circuits. The hypothesis is that neurogenesis and the consequent neuronal survival contribute to brain plasticity and enable organisms to adjust to environmental changes. However, little is known about the effects of circadian changes

and ALAN on these processes in the brain, and almost all studies so far have been conducted on nocturnal species. Therefore, the aim of this research is to investigate this subject in diurnal birds.

Contrary to what is known about nocturnal animals, Barnea's research has recently found, for the first time in birds (zebra finches; *Taeniopygia guttata*), that ALAN increases neurogenesis while reducing MEL. Hence, the proposal focuses on the investigation of the relationship between ALAN, neuronal plasticity, and MEL in diurnal birds, in the lab, and in the wild. The research will apply a diverse approach by combining neuroanatomical, hormonal, pharmacological, immunohistochemical and behavioral methods. By using a "whole organism" approach, the research will integrate an interdisciplinary study of neuroethology, physiology and urban ecology. This project will potentially provide information on unknown aspects of regulation of neuronal proliferation and their consequent survival in diurnal vertebrates, and will add to our understanding of the differences between the circadian rhythm of nocturnal and diurnal species. The findings may prove ecologically relevant to nature conservation, with possible implications for human health.

Prof. Saleem Zaroubi, "Probing the Large Scale Structure of the Local Universe with Neutral Hydrogen Intensity Mapping":

Cosmology is the science that studies the universe as a physical entity and explores its overall properties, formation and evolution. During the very early stages of its evolution the universe went through a phase of very rapid expansion (inflationary phase), which, among other things, created the initial fluctuations in the cosmological density field. These fluctuations have grown to generate the enormous amount of complexity and diversity we currently see around us. The main focus of this research in cosmology is to study the formation and evolution of the Large Scale Structure (LSS) of the universe. This is one of the most fundamental topics in modern cosmology. In the last 15 years, Zaroubi has mostly studied ways to probe the LSS through the distribution of neutral hydrogen in the intergalactic medium, both locally and in the early universe.

According to Big-Bang cosmology, our universe went through a number of important stages during its evolution. Using low frequency radio telescopes, Zaroubi hopes to detect, for the first time, one of these important cosmic stages, known as the Epoch-of-Reionization (EoR). The EoR, which occurred about 400 million years after the Big-Bang, represents a major phase transition for hydrogen in the universe. Due to the formation of the first radiation-emitting astrophysical sources, hydrogen in this epoch transformed from neutral to ionized. The EoR could be traced in space and time using relic radio emission, emitted from neutral atomic hydrogen. This radiation is intensely targeted with modern radio telescopes, like LOFAR and SKA in which Zaroubi is heavily involved. One of the main aims of his research is to uncover the EoR and determine the nature of the first generation of galaxies that caused it.

The same neutral hydrogen radiation can also be used to map the distribution of matter in the local universe. Current radio telescopes are at the threshold of measuring this radiation. The detection of neutral hydrogen in the cosmic web will constitute a milestone in studying the large scale structure. It will have significant implications on important issues, such as the missing baryons in the cold phase at low redshift, the dynamics and topology of the cosmic web, and the interplay of gas-galaxies.

Research Grants and Fellowships from the Internal Fund

The OUI makes funding available to its researchers to leverage their research. In the past year, 119 proposals were submitted to the Research Authority for funding from the internal fund, 103 of which (87%) received funding.

Following is a brief description of one of the studies which was awarded funding from the internal fund this year:

Prof. Adia Mendelson-Maoz, "Borders, Territories, and Ethics: Hebrew Literature in the Shadow of the Intifada."

This study presents a new perspective on the multifaceted relationships between ideologies, space, and ethics manifested in contemporary Hebrew literature dealing with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the occupation. In this volume, Mendelson-Maoz analyzes Israeli prose, written between 1987 and 2007, relating mainly to the first and

second Intifadas, by authors such as Yehoshua, Grossman, Matalon, Castel-Bloom, Govrin, Kravitz, and Levy.

Mendelson-Maoz raises critical questions regarding militarism, humanism, the nature of the State of Israel as a democracy, national identity and its borders, soldiers as moral individuals, the nature of Zionist education, the acknowledgment of the Other, and the sovereignty of the subject. She discusses these issues within two frameworks. The first draws on theories of ethics in the humanist tradition and its critical extensions, specifically Levinas. The second applies theories of space, in particular deterritorialization as conceptualized by Deleuze and Guattari and their successors.

Borders, Territories, and Ethics: Hebrew Literature in the Shadow of the Intifada was published this year by Purdue University Press. An Israeli publisher has expressed interest in publishing it in Hebrew. Though academic norms encourage scholars to publish in English, so as to make their material accessible to a wide range of readership and to have international influence, scholars of Hebrew literature (as well as scholars of the history and culture of Israel) also bear responsibility for the local academic community in Israel. The research topics and the texts discussed in this book are closely linked to contemporary Israeli literature and society, hence the importance of publishing this book in the Hebrew version as well.

Honors and Awards

Dr. Leonid Barenboim, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, was presented the Best Paper award at the Symposium on Principles of Distributed Computing (PODC) 2018 for his paper by Barenboim, L., Elkin, M., Goldenberg, U. (2018). Locally-Iterative Distributed (Delta + 1)-Coloring below Szegedy-Vishwanathan Barrier, and Applications to Self-Stabilization and to Restricted-Bandwidth Models. *Proceedings of the 37th Symposium on Principles of Distributed Computing, PODC 2018*, 437-446.

Prof. Judith Gal-Ezer, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, was awarded the 2017 ACM Karl V. Karlstrom Outstanding Educator Award "For her central role in developing a groundbreaking high-school computer science curriculum, her outstanding CS education research and her extensive service to the education community."

Dr. Moran Feldman, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, received the 2018 Rothblum Prize, awarded by the Operations Research Society of Israel for the paper: Buchbinder, N. and Feldman, M. (2018). Deterministic Algorithms for Submodular Maximization Problems. *ACM Transactions on Algorithms*; 14(3), 32:1-32:20.

Dr. Nina Pinto-Abecasis, Department of Literature, Language and the Arts, was awarded the Prime Minister Levi Eshkol Creative Prize for Authors and Poets for 2018 for her literary work, *Intimate Stories*, which was also adapted for the stage; and for her research on the Haketia language, the Ladino dialect of North African Jewry, and its culture.

Prof. Ofer Reany, Department of Natural and Life Sciences, has been awarded the honor of having his research on synthetic chloride channels included among the 24 research studies which will be presented in the "Time Capsule," an initiative of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Space, in cooperation with the National Library. It will be placed in the new building of the National Library in order to immortalize items of historical importance reflecting the scientific activity of research institutes and universities in Israel.

Dr. Vered Silber-Varod, Department of Sociology, Political Science and Communication, was presented with the Prize for the Best Paper at an International Institute for Applied Knowledge Management conference: Silber-Varod, V. (2018). Is Human-human Spoken Interaction Manageable? The Emergence of the Concept "Conversation Intelligence." *Online Journal of Applied Knowledge Management (OJAKM)*, 6(1), 1-14.

The Open University of Israel Press

The Open University of Israel Press publishes original research and academic titles in all disciplines. The OUI Press is chaired by Prof. Aviva Halamish. Serving with her on the editorial board are: Prof. Anat Barnea, Prof. Amir Horowitz, Prof. Motti Regev, and Prof. Tzahi Weiss from The Open University of Israel; Prof. Tamar El Or from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Prof. Mahmoud Ganaim from Tel Aviv University; Prof. Menachem Klein from Bar-Ilan University; and Prof. Sheizaf Rafaeli from the University of Haifa.

Four titles were published in 2017-2018:

Elazar Weinryb, *What Are Historians Trying to Do?*

Jonathan Israel, *Enlightenment and Revolution* (in collaboration with the University of Haifa, History Department).

Yehoyada Amir, *Renewal of Jewish Life in Nachman Krochmal's Philosophy* (2016 recipient of the Goldberg Prize for an Outstanding Academic Manuscript).

Alon Pauker, *Kibbutz in First Years of Statehood: Rank and File members vis-a-vis the Leadership*.

The OUI Press book selection of 2017, Dror Greenblum's *From the Bravery of the Spirit to the Sanctification of Power: Power and Bravery in Religious Zionism 1948 – 1967*, was awarded the Dr. Netanel and Erica Lorch Prize by Yad Izhak Ben-Zvi.

During the course of the year, many manuscripts were submitted to the editorial board. Following a thorough academic review process, eight were approved for publication and will be published in 2019, among them, two 2017 Goldberg Foundation prize winners.

This year, the fourth round of the Goldberg Foundation Prize for Outstanding Manuscripts was announced. One category is for a manuscript by a published author, and the other is for a first manuscript. Two committees, with members from several universities, are examining the 22 manuscripts submitted. The prizewinners will be announced at the end of 2018.

Jointly Published Journals

The OUI is a partner in the publication of two academic journals:

Megamot is jointly published with the Henrietta Szold Institute.

The history quarterly, **Zmanim**, is jointly published with Tel Aviv University and the Historical Society of Israel.

List of Selected Publications

Books and Edited Publications

- Ben-Dror, A. (2018). *Emirate, Egyptian, Ethiopian: Colonial Experiences in Late Nineteenth Century Harar*. New York, Syracuse University Press.
- Benziman, G. (2018). *Thomas Hardy's Elegiac Poetry and Prose: Codes of Bereavement*. London, Palgrave Macmillan.
- Biale, D., Assaf, D., Brown, B., Gellman, U., Heilman, S., Rosman, M., Sagiv, G., & Wodziński, M. (2018). *Hasidism: A New History*. Princeton University Press.
- Charbit, D. (2018). *Retour sur Altneuland. La Traversée des Utopies Sionistes*. Paris, Editions de L'éclat.
- Constantinou, S. & Meyer, M. (eds.) (2018). *Emotions and Gender in Byzantine Culture. New Approaches to Byzantine History and Culture*. Palgrave-Macmillan.
- Kingma, S., Dale K., & Wasserman, V. (eds.) (2018). *Organizational Space and Beyond: The Significance of Henri Lefebvre for Organizational Studies*. New York, Routledge.
- Klein-Shagrir, O. (2017). *Para-interactivity and the Appeal of Television in the Digital Age*. Rowman & Littlefield.
- Landa, I. (2018) *Fascism and the Masses: The Revolt Against the Last Humans, 1848-1945*. Routledge: New York and London.
- Meir, J. & Sagiv, G. (eds.) (2018). *Habad in the Twentieth Century: Spirituality, Politics, Outreach*. The Zalman Shazar Center for the Study of the History of the Jewish People.
- Mendelson-Maoz, A. (2018). *Borders, Territories and Ethics – Contemporary Hebrew Literature in the Shadow of the Intifada*. Purdue University Press.
- Mendelson-Maoz, A. (2018). Editor of the unpublished novel and the author of an epilogue chapter, *Soap* by Yoram Kaniuk. Yediot Sfarim. (Hebrew)
- Michman, D. & Saadoun, H. (eds.) (2018). *Les Juifs d'Afrique du Nord face à l'Allemagne Nazie*, Paris, Perrin.
- Neuberger, B. (2017) *Genocide in the Land of a Thousand Hills*. Sheffield, Equinox Publishing.
- Porat, D. & Michman, D., in cooperation with Saadoun, H. (eds.) (2017). *The End of 1942: A Turning Point in the War and in the Comprehension of the Final Solution?* Jerusalem, Yad Vashem.
- Weiss, T. (2018). *Sefer Yeşirah and its Contexts: Other Jewish Voices*, Philadelphia, Penn Press – The University of Pennsylvania.

Chapters in Books

- Abu Much, H. (2018). The Establishment of Palestinian Identity in the Shadow of Zionist Hegemony in Atallah Mansour's Novel *In a New Light*. In: O. Greenberg, O. H. Hever, & Y. Ashkenazy (eds.), *Possible Solution for Silence: Arabic Literature in Hebrew*, Van-Leer, pp. 256-280. (Hebrew)
- Askénazi, L. & Chouraqui, A. (2018). *A l'Heure d'Israël*, Introduction et Notes de D. Charbit, Paris, Albin Michel.
- Ben-Yehudah, G., Hautala, J., Padeliadu, S., Antoniou, F., Petrova, Z., & Leppanen, P. (2018). Affordances and Challenges of Digital Reading for Individuals with Different Learning Profiles. In: M. Barzilai, J. Thomson, S. Schroeder, & P. van den Broek (eds.), *Learning to Read in a Digital World*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Buchbinder, N. & Feldman, M. (2018). Submodular Functions Maximization Problems – A survey. In: T. F. Gonzalez (ed.), *Handbook of Approximation Algorithms and Metaheuristics*. Chapman & Hall/CRC.
- Edenburg, C. (2016). Do the Pentateuchal Sources Extend into the Former Prophets? Joshua 1 and the Relation of the Former Prophets to the Pentateuch. In: K. Schmid et al. (eds.), *The Formation of the Pentateuch: Bridging the Academic Cultures of Europe, Israel, and North America*. *Forschungen zum Alten Testament* 111; Tübingen: Mohr/Siebeck, pp. 795-812.
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