

## Be Part of the Next Big Idea | TAU Global Campaign



### UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT



#### Dear Governors, Friends and Alumni,

On the strength of TAU's being ranked **5th in the world** for entrepreneurial graduates, the Collier School of Management is launching an **online MBA** – the first in Israel. The new program is part of TAU's strategic emphases on both globalization and digital learning; I invite you to read more about the University's top priorities [here](#).

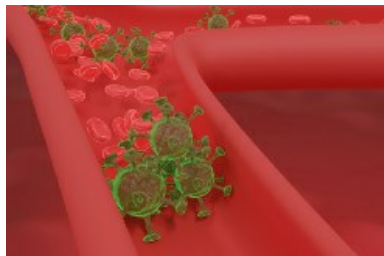
This fall we held a hybrid "live" and virtual Board of Governors meeting ([watch](#)), where we welcomed our first woman and first TAU alumnus Chair of the TAU Board of Governors, **Ms. Dafna Meitar-Nehmad**, and expressed deepest gratitude to outgoing Chair **Prof. Jacob A. Frenkel** for his outstanding leadership. [Read](#).

New and exciting projects are afoot for 2022 and we're motivated about our many plans to make Tel Aviv University's research and teaching ever more innovative, socially pertinent, and influential – all with the warm support of our friends worldwide. I wish you a healthy and happy holiday season!

Cordially, Ariel  
Prof. Ariel Porat, President

## ... BIG IDEAS

### Research: Fighting COVID Damage to Heart



A team of researchers led by **Dr. Ben Maoz** (Engineering) has identified which of the coronavirus's 29 proteins cause strokes and heart attacks among COVID-19 patients – a first step toward a drug to halt damage to blood vessels. [Read](#).

### Research: Climate Change & Artificial Intelligence

### Research: Apocalypse Then and Now



2021 **Kadar Family Award** winner **Prof. Domenico Agostini** (Humanities) delves into Zoroastrian apocalyptic texts from 7th century Persia, revealing how end-of-world sentiments can actually promote hope for a better future. [Watch](#).

### Society: Diversity & Inclusion at TAU



**Watch** the mesmerizing work of zoologist **Dr. Ofir Levy** (Life Sciences & Steinhardt Museum of Natural History). He uses AI tools to study the effects of climate change on animals and to find ways to better protect life on Earth.



**Prof. Neta Ziv** (Law) is forging new inroads for equality on campus and beyond as TAU's new Commissioner for Equality and Diversity – the first at an Israeli university. **Watch**. Read our TAU Diversity **Fact Sheet**.

## Change-Makers: Advancing STEM



The **Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program** celebrated 5 years of enhancing US-Israeli research ties. Pictured, from left: Mort Zuckerman's nephews and TAU Governors Eric Gertler and James Gertler, with Zuckerman Institute Executive Director Lina Deshilton. **Read**

## Change-Makers: Getting Personal



Committed friends **Dr. Shlomo Markel** and **Mrs. Arielle Markel** (pictured) say that the meeting room they dedicated at the Susan & Henry Samueli Engineering Building is symbolic of their warm family feelings for TAU. Dr. Markel is a TAU Governor and Honorary Doctor. **Read**

## ACTION ITEMS

- **New Center for Innovation Laboratories:** TAU will recruit industry partners to jump-start applied research. **Read**
- **Head-Start on Healthy Aging:** TAU hosted the 5th conference of the Britain-Israel Research and Academic Exchange (BIRAX) on aging studies. **Read**
- **African Virologist Wins BMI Prize:** Director of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognized for COVID-19 efforts. **Read**
- **AI Week Feb. 7-9, 2022:** Save the Date! **Read**

## GLOBAL TAU EVENTS

### Wednesday, Dec. 1, Tel Aviv: Hanukkah Screening

#### Premiere of *Simone. A Woman of the Century*

French-Speaking Friends in Israel will host a festive screening of the much-anticipated movie about Simone Veil directed by Olivier Dahan, in the presence of the First Lady of Israel, TAU alumna Michal Herzog. **Contact**

### Thursday Dec. 2, Webinar: Journey to the Knesset

#### "From Academia to Politics: Scholarly Impact and Public Policy"

American Friends will host TAU's Prof. Alon Tal, former chair of the Department of Public Policy and current member of the Knesset, for an online talk. **Contact**

### Thursday, Dec. 9, Webinar: Our Future in a Data-Driven World

#### "The 'Data-fied' Self – Health and Happiness in the Digital Age"

TAU will host Prof. Noam Shomron (Medicine) and Dr. Galit Wellner (Humanities) for a webinar moderated by Prof. Karen Avraham, Vice Dean of Medicine. **Contact**

### Feb. 6-8, Miami: Calling All Sunbirds

#### Honorary Doctorate Celebration & More!

TAU and American Friends will hold a 3-day Governors' gathering in Miami, Florida, with a Gala night, symposia and unique experiences. **Contact**



Shining Light on New Ideas.  
Happy Hanukkah from TAU!



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