

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים  
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM



100 YEARS

A TRADITION OF INNOVATION



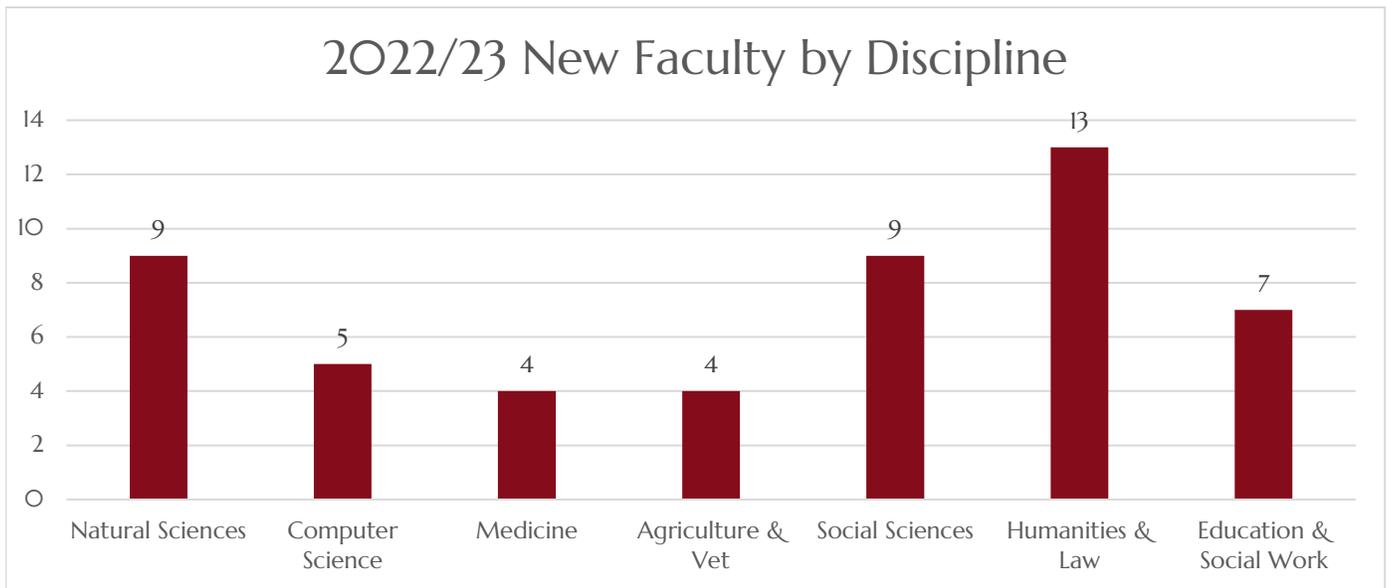
# New Faculty Recruits

2022/23

LEADERSHIP FOR TOMORROW

## Academic Leaders of Tomorrow

At the core of University-wide innovation and scholarship are the scholars who make it possible. The Hebrew University is pleased to welcome some 50-60 new researchers into its ranks each year from across the spectrum of fields in which we excel as an institution of advanced research and education (see chart). The Hebrew University also takes great pride in recruiting the most promising Israeli young minds to its ranks, seeking also to diversify perspectives by welcoming top scholars from abroad and from groups historically underrepresented in Israeli academia.



Experimental scientists require state-of-the-art labs and access to research funds, while all scholars require talented colleagues and students, and the overall research conditions that encourage innovative, multidisciplinary research. We invite you to get to know our latest faculty intake in the pages that follow, and to partner with us in investing in their future and in the future of Israeli higher education.

## The Faculty of Science



**Dr. Eran Blacher**

The Alexander Silberman  
Institute of Life Sciences

Dr. Eran Blacher specializes in gut-brain interactions in aging and neurological diseases. His lab pioneers a new approach that combines microbiome research, neurobiology, and immunology to understand these conditions. They seek to identify therapeutic targets in the gut to address brain pathologies, contributing to our understanding of aging and promoting healthier and longer lives. Eran holds a B.Sc. and a Ph.D. in life sciences and neuroimmunology, respectively. He conducted postdoctoral research at the Weizmann Institute of Science and Stanford University, where he explored the microbiome-brain interface and maladaptive metabolism in aged immune cells. Through advanced techniques and interdisciplinary collaboration, he bridges the fields of neuroscience, immunology, microbiome research, and metabolism. Eran has been recognized as an Azrieli Foundation Scholar and has received the NOSTER & Science Microbiome Grand Prize.



**Dr. Sivan Ginzburg**

The Racah Institute of Physics

Dr. Sivan Ginzburg is an astrophysicist whose research focuses on the evolution of stars, particularly in binary systems, where two stars orbit each other and interact in unique ways. With a background in mathematics and physics, Dr. Ginzburg obtained his Ph.D. from Hebrew University, investigating exoplanet formation and the role of cooling processes. He has held prestigious postdoctoral fellowships at UC Berkeley and Caltech, where he expanded his expertise in stellar evolution and theoretical astrophysics. Currently, as a Senior Lecturer, he continues to study binary stellar evolution, exploring the intricate dynamics between stars and shedding light on puzzling observations.

## The Faculty of Science



**Dr. Arbel Haim**

The Institute of Applied  
Physics

Dr. Arbel Haim is a physicist specializing in quantum computing and topological superconductivity. He received his Ph.D. in Physics from the Weizmann Institute of Science and conducted groundbreaking research in topological superconductivity. Topological materials have unique properties that open the door to a variety of real-life applications, from spin-based electronics to quantum information processing. These applications hold a promise to boost the efficiency and speed with which we store and process information. To take advantage of this potential, however, it is crucial to understand how to control and manipulated topological materials under realistic conditions, which is the focus of Dr. Haim's research. Currently involved in developing a quantum computer at the AWS Center for Quantum Computing, Dr. Haim's research has the potential to revolutionize industries and enhance modern technology.



**Dr. Lior Yanovski**

Einstein Institute of  
Mathematics

Dr. Lior Yanovski specializes in mathematics and computer science. His research focuses on homotopy theory, which studies how objects change over time. Dr. Yanovski is particularly interested in higher semiadditivity, a concept that helps us understand the structures of spectra, which are mathematical objects that encode information about the stable homotopy groups of spheres. He hopes that his research will deepen our understanding of topology and geometry. Dr. Yanovski has won several awards for his work, including the Nessyahu prize for his Ph.D. thesis in mathematics from the Hebrew University.

## The Faculty of Science



**Dr. Ronen Gottesman**

Institute of Chemistry

Dr. Ronen Gottesman is a researcher in the field of chemistry with a strong focus on sustainable energy and materials data science. He completed his B.Sc. in Biophysics, M.Sc., and Ph.D. in Chemistry from Bar-Ilan University. His research interests include sustainable energy and fuels and the science & technology of functional energy materials. Dr. Gottesman worked as a Doctoral researcher, Postdoctoral Fellow, and Head of Pulsed Laser Deposition Laboratory at the Helmholtz Center Berlin for Materials and Energy. He has also been a researcher and sub-group leader of Perovskites Solar Cells Research Team at Bar-Ilan University. Dr. Gottesman received several academic awards and distinctions, including the Azrieli Early Career Faculty Fellowship, to study a new class of semiconducting materials that offers an attractive pathway for the long-term capture and storage of solar energy by producing 'green' hydrogen.



**Dr. Assaf Hochman**

The Fredy & Nadine  
Herrmann Institute of Earth  
Sciences

Dr. Assaf Hochman's research focuses on extreme weather and climate change, aiming to understand their dynamics and predictability. Dr. Hochman combines physical observations, computer modeling, and statistical theories to reduce uncertainties in predictions. His expertise spans paleoclimate modeling, large-scale circulation, exoplanet climate dynamics, and public health adaptation to climate change. Before joining the university, he worked as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology. Dr. Hochman holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Science from Tel Aviv University, along with an MS in the same field. He also completed a BS in Physical Geography at Hebrew University. Additionally, he is a martial arts and rock climbing instructor at AKBAN Ninjutsu Academy.

## The Faculty of Science



**Dr. Ofri Telem**

The Racah Institute of Physics

Dr. Ofri Telem specializes in the study of new particles and interactions. His research focuses on addressing unanswered questions beyond the Standard Model of particle physics, particularly regarding dark matter, matter-antimatter asymmetry, and the mass hierarchy between weak force carriers and gravity. Dr. Telem previously held a postdoctoral position at the University of California, Berkeley. With a Ph.D. from Cornell University and a master's degree from the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, he combines theoretical ideas with experimental observations to explore new particles and interactions, propose theories of dark matter, and identify novel experimental signatures of new physics.



**Dr. Jonah Weissman**

The Institute of Physics

Dr. Jonah Weissman is a Brazil/USA dual citizen born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Dr. Weissman's research focuses on electronic thermal transport in low-dimensional materials and has several real-life applications. For instance, his work can help improve the efficiency of electronic devices and computer processors, as well as aid in the development of advanced materials for energy storage and conversion. He has developed a new electronic thermal transport technique using nonlocal noise thermometry of graphene, which has enabled him to measure 2D graphene, 1D nanotube, and 0D quantum dot electronic systems, as well as 2D and 3D insulators. Dr. Weissman's research has also revealed Coulomb-interaction-mediated plasmon hopping thermal transport mechanism in 1D, gate-switchable thermal transport by spin waves in bilayer graphene, and hydrodynamic electron energy transport in graphene.

# Computer Science and Engineering



**Dr. Tom Hope**

Rachel and Selim Benin  
School of Computer Science  
and Engineering

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Dr. Tom Hope is focused on developing artificial intelligence methods that can help with scientific knowledge discovery. By leveraging vast repositories of scientific knowledge, such as literature, knowledge bases, and electronic medical records, Hope aims to create systems that can revolutionize the scientific process. Dr. Hope previously served as a postdoctoral researcher at The Allen Institute for AI Israel (AI2) and the University of Washington. Prior to that, he completed a Ph.D. with Hebrew University's Dafna Shahaf and led an applied AI research team at Intel that published award-winning work on developing deep learning, NLP and computer vision solutions for healthcare, manufacturing, sales, and marketing.



**Prof. Amit Klein**

Rachel and Selim Benin  
School of Computer Science  
and Engineering

Prof. Amit Klein is a researcher and executive with over 30 years of experience in the field of information security. His research expertise spans across network/protocol security, application security, and host security (operating systems and kernels). Prof. Klein has managed security research teams for over 20 years, including serving as Chief Scientist, CTO, and VP of Security Research in his last three companies.

Prof. Klein holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Bar-Ilan University, where his dissertation focused on attacks against network protocol header field implementations. He also completed a Post Doctorate Research program at Hebrew University under the guidance of Prof. Michael Schapira. Prof. Klein earned his B.Sc. in Mathematics and Physics (double major), graduating magna cum laude from the Talpiot Program at Hebrew University.

# Computer Science and Engineering



**Dr. Oron Sabag**

Rachel and Selim Benin  
School of Computer Science  
and Engineering

Dr. Oron Sabag is a researcher and academic in the field of computer and electrical engineering. He completed his B.Sc with honors at Ben-Gurion University, before joining the Ph.D. direct track program in the same department. His research focuses on information theory, specifically the capacity of finite-state channels, which are used to model wireless communication and storage devices. Dr. Sabag's work is particularly relevant given the growing demand for efficient and reliable communication technologies in today's digital age. He is also interested in the two-way channel as a model for interactive communication between multiple users.



**Dr. Alon Eden**

Rachel and Selim Benin  
School of Computer Science  
and Engineering

Dr. Alon Eden is a researcher and educator specializing in computer science and economics. He holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Tel Aviv University and completed his postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University. His research focuses on algorithmic game theory, market design, and social networks in the digital economy. Dr. Eden combines theoretical computer science, machine learning, game theory, and mechanism design to develop systems and algorithms for navigating complex digital commerce. His work illuminates the intersection of computer science and economics, offering valuable insights for optimizing digital systems.

*I hope to give theoretical foundations that will help devise new economic mechanisms that are adapted to the new digital age.*

## The Faculty of Medicine



**Prof. Matan Hofree**

Rachel and Selim Benin  
School of Computer Science  
and Engineering &  
The Faculty of Medicine

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Matan Hofree received his B.Sc. in Computer Science and Computational Biology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He earned his Ph.D. in Computer Science from UC San Diego, where he developed approaches for improved inference, classification, and clustering, using prior biological knowledge encoded in gene interaction networks. He was a Postdoctoral Associate at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, a member of the Regev lab and the Klarman Cell Observatory. Dr. Hofree develops computational analysis techniques for studying cancer and complex genetic disease, using algorithms and ideas from machine learning and graph theory. He focuses on advancing our understanding of the interplay between genetic mutations, transcriptional changes, and cell-cell interactions and how these drive the emergence and evolution of tumors.



**Dr. Anat Arzi**

Medical Neurobiology &  
Cognitive and Brain Sciences

Dr. Anat Arzi earned an M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Neurobiology from the Weizmann Institute of Science. During her doctoral studies, Dr. Arzi harnessed the unique characteristics of olfaction to study the processing, learning, and memory of unperceived stimuli in wakefulness and sleep. Her groundbreaking research showed that humans can learn novel information during sleep, contrary to previous notions. She opened her own research lab at HU where she combines basic and clinical neuroscience to answer how we process the world under loss of consciousness during sleep and following brain injuries. Dr. Arzi has received numerous awards and grants for her groundbreaking research, including the prestigious L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Award in 2015 and the Azrieli Early Career Faculty Fellowship in 2022.

## The Faculty of Medicine



**Dr. Zvi Yaari**

School of Pharmacy

Dr. Zvi Yaari earned his B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. His doctoral research focused on developing barcoded nanotherapeutics for personalized treatment of metastatic cancer. He successfully created a novel personalized medicine tool using barcoded nanoparticles to screen anti-cancer medications inside the patient's body. As a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Dr. Yaari concentrated on developing diagnostic biosensors for early detection of ovarian cancer. He then joined the Hebrew University as a faculty member in the School of Pharmacy, heading The Laboratory for Sensing Materials and Controlled Release Technologies. Dr. Yaari's current research interests include developing new sensing tools to monitor the initiation and progression of various cancers such as breast, prostate, colorectal, and pancreatic cancers. He also aims to use nanosensors for screening new therapies for cancer and inflammatory diseases, facilitating rapid and noninvasive identification of the most effective treatments.



**Dr. Ben Aaronson**

School of Occupational  
Therapy & The Autism Center

Dr. Ben Aaronson's primary focus is the development and execution of programs that provide advanced social skills opportunities for individuals with autism spectrum and related disorders. He received training at the NYU Child Study Center, the Yale Child Study Center, and was most recently the director of the Advanced Peer Experience (APEX) Program at the University of Washington Autism Center. Dr. Aaronson has been involved in research focusing on intervention, mirror neurons, and genetics, and served as a clinician across a variety of projects. He holds a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Washington.

## The Faculty of Medicine



**Dr. Yiska Weisblum**

Department of Microbiology  
and Molecular Genetics

Dr. Yiska Weisblum is a virologist and senior lecturer at the Department of Microbiology and molecular genetics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. She obtained her B.Sc in Life Sciences from Bar-Ilan University, followed by a Ph.D. in Virology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she studied the mechanisms of HCMV transmission and pathogenesis in the maternal-fetal interface.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Weisblum worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the Rockefeller University in New York City, where she focused on developing new therapies and methods to assess the relevance of emerging variants of the virus. Her work has contributed to our understanding of virus-host interactions and has helped shape the response to the global public health crisis.



**Dr. Zevik Melamed**

The Department of Medical  
Neurobiology

Dr. Zevik Melamed is a scientist who earned his Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University. His research aims to understand how mutations in certain genes affect RNA metabolism and contribute to the development of ALS, a disease that causes the degeneration of motor neurons and ultimately leads to death. Dr. Melamed's work focuses on studying neurons that were generated from skin cells of ALS patients with mutations in RNA-binding proteins, which are known to form clumps in people with ALS. By investigating the ways in which these clumps contribute to RNA processing problems, Dr. Melamed hopes to uncover new mechanisms underlying ALS pathogenesis.

## The Edmond and Lily Safra Center for Brain Sciences (ELSC)

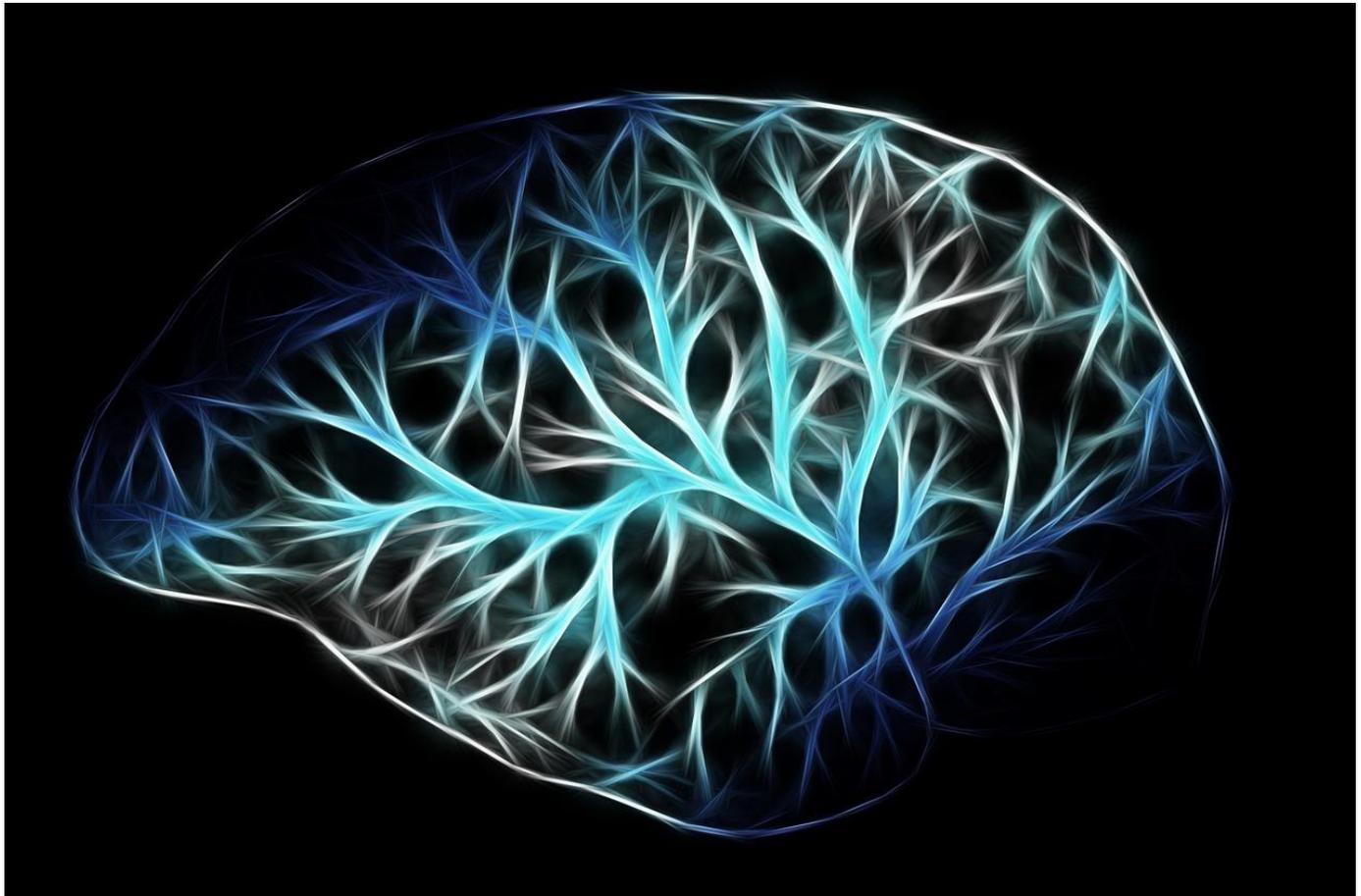


**Dr. Raunak Basu**

ELSC

Dr. Raunak Basu joined The Edmond and Lily Safra Center for Brain Sciences (ELSC) in 2023. His research interests are decision-making, spatial navigation, action planning, communication between brain regions, and analysis of high dimensional neural data. He earned his bachelor's in biotechnology and Biochemical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India, and his Ph.D. in Neurobiology and Anatomy from the University of Utah. He rounded out his training with a postdoctoral fellowship at the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, where he investigated the role of the prefrontal cortex and hippocampus in representation of goal location.

*I was excited to join the Hebrew University because the theoretical and computational neuroscience research that the faculty does perfectly complements my research. ELSC is ideal for the kind of research that I do. Having like-minded colleagues is a huge bonus and an absolute prerequisite for doing good science.*



# The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment



**Dr. Yotam Zait**

The Institute for Plant Sciences and Genetics in Agriculture

Dr. Yotam Zait is a plant physiologist interested in studying the mechanisms that control photosynthesis under abiotic environmental stresses. He grew up surrounded by avocado and banana trees and was always intrigued by how plants can continue to grow and cope in varying conditions. As such, his research focuses on understanding the mechanisms that regulate photosynthesis under drought and varying temperature. Dr. Zait was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Plant Biology at Penn State University. He completed his Ph.D. in Ecophysiology at Hebrew University's Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Prior to that, he earned a Master of Science (MSc) degree in Plant Physiology from Hebrew University as well as a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Soil Science and Agronomy.



**Dr. Hila Keidan Toporik**

The Institute for Plant Sciences and Genetics in Agriculture

Dr. Hila Keidan Toporik is a biochemist with a passion for understanding the intricate assembly processes of photosynthetic complexes. Her goal is to decipher the mechanisms of assembly factors in photosynthetic complexes and use this knowledge to design crops with increased photosynthetic efficiency, contributing to innovative solutions for the great challenges of food security. Dr. Toporik was a postdoctoral fellow at Arizona State University's Center for Applied Structural Discovery. She holds a BSc in Biology and an MSc in Biochemistry from Tel Aviv University, as well as her Ph.D.

*Designing crops with increased photosynthetic efficiency will lead to the innovative solutions needed in order to achieve the great challenges of food security.*

# The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment



**Dr. Gali (Galit) Fichman**

The Institute for Plant Sciences and Genetics in Agriculture

Dr. Gali Fichman returned to Israel in 2021 following six fruitful years at NIH doing postdoctoral research in chemical biology, where she honed her expertise in biomaterials that are based on peptides, the diminutive strings of at least two amino acids that have the potential to serve as the basis for innovative hydrogels. Indeed, her pioneering results earned her the NIH Fellows Award for Research Excellence. Gali, who joined the Institute of Biochemistry, Food Science and Nutrition at the Hebrew University's Smith Faculty in 2022, is a Zuckerman STEM Leadership Fellow for 2022-23 and she is also a member of the University-wide Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. As a principal investigator, Dr. Fichman aims to explore peptide-based gels as affordable, edible, biocompatible and biodegradable materials for the food and healthcare sectors. Her research promises to create new horizons for food technology and medical nutrition and is highly likely provide important new insights for biomedical applications such as tissue engineering and drug delivery.

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**Dr. Omer Revah**

Koret School of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Omer Revah's is focused on understanding the functional and molecular basis of neurodevelopmental disorders, such as autism spectrum disorders, epilepsy, and intellectual disability, and how these disorders manifest on the cellular and circuit levels of the developing human brain. To address these questions, Dr. Revah's lab implements molecular and physiological tools and uses Human Induced Stem Cells (iPSCs) and various rodent models. He completed his Ph.D. training in physiology and computational neuroscience in the Hebrew University before moving to Stanford, California to complete his postdoctoral training, where he pioneered human, stem cell-based methodologies in vivo to study developmental disorders of the brain.

## The Faculty of Social Sciences



**Dr. Tristan Klingelhöfer**

Department of Political  
Science

Tristan Klingelhöfer's research interests lie at the intersection of party politics, political communication, and political psychology with a focus on the post-industrial democracies of Western Europe. He has published in the *Journal of Politics*, *West European Politics*, and *Party Politics*.

Prior to joining the Hebrew University, Tristan held a Teaching and Research Fellowship at the Chair of German Politics at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. He received his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, after studying Political Science and German Language and Literature at the University of Mannheim.



**Dr. Omer Solodoch**

Department of International  
Relations

Dr. Omer Solodoch was a Postdoctoral Fellow at The Christopher H. Browne Center for International Politics at the University of Pennsylvania. His research focuses on the fields of international political economy, comparative politics, and political behavior. He is particularly interested in understanding the sources of public opposition to globalization, with a specific focus on immigration and international trade. Additionally, he studies the electoral effects of economic shocks and financial crises.

Dr. Solodoch's work has been published in several high-impact journals, including *International Organization*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Political Studies*, and *Regulation & Governance*. His research sheds light on some of the most pressing issues in international politics today, such as the causes and consequences of anti-globalization sentiment.

## The Faculty of Social Sciences



**Dr. Safi Shams**

Department of Sociology and  
Anthropology & PPE Program

Dr. Safi Shams is a social historian who is primarily interested in structural transformation and emergence in the cultural, economic and political arenas. Dr. Shams work largely consists of investigating conceptual problems in the historical sciences by relying on detailed case-studies and employing a variety of methods. His most recent work investigates structural transformations that both led to and resulted from the vertical disintegration of major corporations from the 1980s onward into network organizations (e.g., supply chains, franchising networks). Particularly, Dr. Shams work details how these organizational forms establish “rent systems” that fuel growth by monopoly instead of competitiveness and innovation, and lead to deterioration in working conditions and mobility.



**Dr. Blake Hallinan**

The Smart Family Institute of  
Communications

Dr. Blake Hallinan’s research focuses on how technologies shape cultural notions of value and worth. She studies digital platforms, user-generated content, and public controversies to understand how people navigate metrics and algorithmic governance. Her research has been published in leading communication and media journals, shedding light on the intricate relationship between technology and culture. She was a postdoctoral researcher on the ERC-funded DigitalValues project directed by Prof. Limor Shifman and received her Ph.D. from the Department of Communication at the University of Colorado Boulder.

## The Faculty of Social Sciences



**Dr. Alexey Khazanov**

Department of Economics

Dr. Alexey Khazanov received his Ph.D. in Economics from Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, after obtaining an M.A. in Economics from the same institution. Dr. Khazanov also holds an M.A. in Economics, Macroeconomics and Data Analysis from the New Economic School in Moscow, Russia, as well as a B.A. in Economics, cum laude, from Lomonosov Moscow State University in Moscow, Russia.

Dr. Khazanov's research interests include international finance and macroeconomics. He has published research in top-tier economics journals and has presented his research at numerous conferences and seminars around the world. Dr. Khazanov's work focuses on issues related to exchange rate dynamics, international capital flows, and the interactions between monetary and fiscal policies.



**Dr. Eran Politzer**

The Federmann School of  
Public Policy and Governance

Dr. Eran Politzer's research focuses on health insurance markets with regulated competition. He studies how insurers form their provider networks in such markets, examines switching costs and insurers' turnover, estimates whether such markets reduce the government's spending, and suggests ways to improve risk adjustment systems that are used to pay insurers in these markets.

Eran was an economist at the Bank of Israel's Research Department, where he conducted research and delivered policy advice to the government on health economics and public finance. He researched the financing of Israel's health care system, as well as Israel's health inequities. Eran has a Ph.D. in Health Policy (Economics Track) from Harvard University and MA in Economics and BSc in Computer Sciences from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

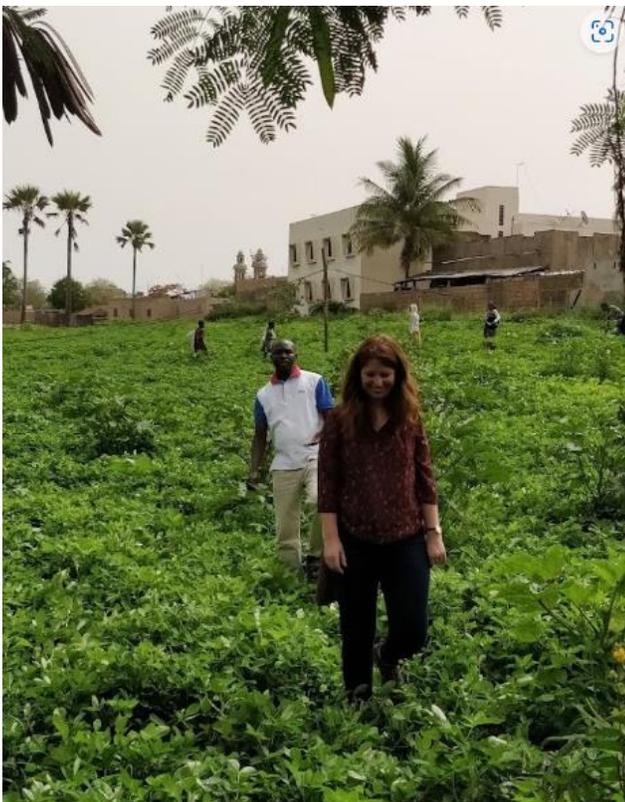
## The Faculty of Social Sciences



**Dr. Shira Bukchin-Peles**

Glocal Program for  
International Development  
and the Department of  
Geography

Dr. Shira Bukchin-Peles is a faculty member at the Department of Geography and the Glocal Program for International Development and head of the Behavioral Sustainable Development lab at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Shira conducts interdisciplinary research on sustainable development with a focus on understanding and promoting the connections between human behavior and sustainable development. Her studies typically examine how human behavior and decision-making affect the environment and contribute to sustainable development, as well as how sustainable development can improve the well-being of individuals and communities. A great part of her research deals with the developing world, and she has led a variety of field studies in countries such as Senegal, Nepal, and Ethiopia.



*My goal as a researcher is to conduct impactful, insightful interdisciplinary research in the field of sustainable development. I believe that through our work, we can help create a better future for all.*

Dr. Shira Bukchin-Peles

## The Faculty of Humanities



**Dr. Noam Siegelman**

Jack, Joseph and Morton  
Mandel School for Advanced  
Studies in the Humanities &  
the Department of Cognitive  
and Brain Sciences

Dr. Noam Siegelman's research is concerned with statistical learning, reading, and their intersection. His work focuses mainly on individual- and cross linguistic differences, examining how individuals differ in their learning abilities, how writing systems vary in their statistical properties, and how does the interaction between individuals' learning capacities and the structure of their writing system co-determine literacy skills of a given individual in a given language. Noam holds a Ph.D. in Cognitive Sciences from the Hebrew University and pursued a post-doctoral fellowship at Haskins laboratories.



**Dr. Yuval Tal**

The Department of Romance  
Studies

Dr. Yuval Tal is a historian whose research focuses on modern French history, European colonialism, French Republicanism, North African history, Sephardi and Mizrahi Jews, and gender and sexuality. He is particularly interested in bringing the history of Christians, Muslims, and Jews from across Europe and the Mediterranean into a shared analytical framework, allowing him to bridge the divide between national and imperial histories of Europe and bring into view sublimated ethnic premises and biases that haunt European liberal democracies. Dr. Tal's publications include "The 'Latin' Melting-Pot: Ethnorepublican Thinking and Immigrant Assimilation in and through Colonial Algeria" and "The Social Logic of Colonial Anti-Judaism: Revisiting the Anti-Jewish Crisis in French Algeria, 1889-1902." He teaches courses on Gender and Law in France, 1870-2022, Nationalism and Colonialism in Modern France, After Empire: Decolonization and the Remaking of Europe, and The Right to the City in Modern Paris: Race, Sexuality, and Capitalism.

## The Faculty of Humanities



**Dr. Oded Erez**

Department of Musicology

Dr. Oded Erez studies popular music and film music, drawing on methodologies from historical musicology, ethnomusicology, and cultural studies. His research often focuses on the interplay of aesthetics and politics in the music of Israel/Palestine and the Mediterranean, with an emphasis on the musical negotiation of ethnicities. His published work deals with topics such as popular music taste cultures among Salonica Jews, the Arabic language in contemporary Jewish Israeli pop, and the politics of music education in Israel's Arab schools' system during the Mapai era. He is currently completing a book manuscript under the working title Practical Mediterraneanism: Popular Music and Ethnicity in Israel/Palestine.



**Dr. Karma Ben Johanan**

Department of Comparative Religion

Karma Ben Johanan is a scholar of modern Christianity and Jewish-Christian Relations, with a Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University and experience as a postdoctoral scholar at the University of California, Berkeley and the Polonsky Academy for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute. She has held research and teaching positions at various institutions, including the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, the Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften in Bad Homburg, and the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Dr. Ben Johanan has recently made history by becoming the first Israeli woman to be awarded the prestigious Dan David Prize for her groundbreaking research on the relationships between different religious traditions.

## The Faculty of Humanities



**Dr. David Guedj**

Department of Jewish History  
and Contemporary Jewry

Dr. David Guedj is a historian specializing in the cultural and intellectual history of Jewish communities in Muslim countries, particularly the Maghreb region. He explores the interactions and connections between Jews in Muslim countries, Israel, Europe, and North America. His first book, "The Hebrew Culture in Morocco" (2022), delves into Moroccan Jewry's attitudes towards the Hebrew language and the construction of Hebrew culture during the colonial period. Currently, he is working on a monograph about the development and modernization of a Jewish polyglot book culture in 20th century Morocco. Dr. Guedj received his training at Tel Aviv University and has held post-doctoral positions at prestigious institutions such as Inalco in Paris, the Kreitman School of Advanced Studies in Ben Gurion University of the Negev, and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He has also taught courses on the cultural and intellectual history of Jews in Muslim countries at the Mandel Leadership Institute.



**Dr. Noam Gal**

Department of Art History

Dr. Noam Gal is a renowned researcher of visual culture from the advent of photography to the present day. He began his career in the Department for Visual Communication at the Bezalel Academy and later earned his doctorate from Yale University after studying Cultural Studies at the Hebrew University. He has served as the Curator of Photography at the Israel Museum since 2013, Dr. Gal also teaches courses on the History and Theory of Photography, Contemporary Art, and Museum Research in the Department of Art History. In his scholarly work, Dr. Gal examines the role of the spectator in the art world, the connections between education and photography, and the social and political influences on contemporary photography. Through his articles and lectures, Dr. Gal provides valuable insights into the constantly evolving field of visual culture.

## The Faculty of Humanities



Dr. Micha Lazarus specializes in the intellectual history and literary culture of Renaissance and Reformation Europe. He has published extensively on various topics, including the reception of classics in sixteenth-century England, the history of criticism, and book history. Micha received his education at Oxford and Berkeley, and has previously held fellowships at Trinity College, Cambridge, the Warburg Institute in London, and the Folger Shakespeare Library. He is also a trained lawyer and a member of the Bar of England & Wales.

**Dr. Micha Lazarus**

Department of English

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**Dr. Oded Na'aman**

Department Of Philosophy,

Dr. Oded Na'aman specializes in ethics, moral psychology, political philosophy, and literature. He received his BA in Philosophy from the Hebrew University and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Harvard University. After completing his studies, Dr. Naaman spent two years as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society at Stanford University, and later served as a Lecturer at the Stanford Philosophy Department. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Martin Buber Society of Fellows in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Dr. Na'aman's primary research project involves the rationality of emotions over time, focusing on grief, regret, resentment, and anger. He has demonstrated how different emotional states can be part of a single emotional response that unfolds over time. In addition to his academic pursuits, Dr. Na'aman is also a prolific writer of long-form essays and fiction.

## The Faculty of Humanities



**Dr. Stefan Schorch**

Department of Hebrew  
Literature

Dr. Stefan Schorch is a renowned scholar in the field of Bible studies and Hebrew literature. He held the distinguished Chair in Bible in the Faculty of Theology at Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Germany. Dr. Schorch received his education in theology, Jewish studies, and Semitic philology from Leipzig, Berlin, and Jerusalem, culminating in his doctorate from Leipzig University. Dr. Schorch has explored the extent, role, and context of Samaritan studies within the larger Wissenschaft des Judentums movement. His research has contributed significantly to the field of Bible studies and has been widely recognized by the academic community.



**Dr. Orit Malka**

Department of Talmud and  
Halakha, Sir Issac Wolfson  
Center for Talmudic Studies

Orit Malka is a researcher of Talmud and early Jewish law. She was a Fellow at the Kogod Research Center at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America and completed her postdoctoral fellowship at the Taube Center for Jewish Studies at Stanford University. Her research focuses on the political aspects of Talmudic Halacha and early Jewish law as a means of understanding important legal-political trends of antiquity. Orit earned her Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University, where she researched the unique rules that regulate the admissibility of testimony in early rabbinic texts, offering a new understanding of the notion of community building embedded in them. Orit continues to explore the political ideas underlying rabbinic law to understand the political legacy of the Jewish tradition up to the present day.

## The Faculty of Law



**Dr. Michael Wolfowicz**

Institute of Criminology

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Dr. Michael Wolfowicz completed a double MA degree at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, where he studied International Security Studies and Policing, Intelligence, and Counterterrorism. His master's thesis focused on examining trends in terrorism tactics from the 1960s until the present day. Currently, Dr. Wolfowicz's research interests lie in the role of the internet and social media in radicalization and recruitment processes.



**Dr. Tali Gal**

Chair in Child & Youth Rights  
at the Minerva Center for  
Human Rights

Prof. Tali Gal is an expert in child and youth rights and the incumbent of Israel's first Chair in Child and Youth Rights at the Hebrew University and the Academic Head of the newly established Child and Youth Rights Program at the Minerva Center for Human Rights. Her interdisciplinary approach to legal, criminological, and psychosocial knowledge has led to groundbreaking research in restorative justice, children's rights, victims' rights, and therapeutic jurisprudence. Before joining the Hebrew University, she was the head of the School of Criminology at the University of Haifa. She has published extensively and developed a theoretical framework for promoting child-inclusive restorative justice programs. Prof. Gal is also the founding Academic Director of the Child and Youth Rights Program, which aims to increase knowledge and sensitivity to child rights among decision-makers, practitioners, and students while forging partnerships with leading overseas experts and institutions with experience in best practices.

# The Paul Baerwald School of Social Work and Social Welfare



**Dr. Abigail Gewirtz**

Dr. Abigail Gewirtz is a clinical psychologist whose research focuses on preventive interventions for families affected by traumatic stressors. She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Columbia University and has received numerous honors and awards throughout her career, including the 2019 Fellow of the American Psychological Association. Dr. Gewirtz's work has been published in top-tier scientific journals and featured in popular media outlets. She is driving advancements in the prevention and treatment of traumatic stress in families and has the potential to positively impact countless families and communities around the world.



**Dr. Hanita Kosher**

Children and Families, At-Risk Populations, Social Services

Dr. Hanita Kosher has extensive experience as a social worker and has made significant contributions to the field. From 2007 to 2015, she served as the Director of the Training and Education Center at the National Council for the Child. Later, she was served as the Director of Knowledge and Development at the "Home for Every Child" NGO organization. Dr. Kosher is an accomplished researcher, with her teaching and research interests focused on topics related to child abuse and neglect, children's rights, and children's well-being.

## The Seymour Fox School of Education



**Dr. Adam Lefstein**

Laboratory for the Study of  
Pedagogy

Dr. Adam Lefstein's research and teaching focus on pedagogy, classroom interaction, teacher learning and educational change. He is particularly interested in the intersection between research and professional practice, and how to conduct research that is meaningful, rigorous and helpful for educators. As a faculty member at the Ben-Gurion University, he established the *Center for the Study of Pedagogy - Research-Practice Partnerships*, an interdisciplinary research center dedicated to collaborating with practitioners and policymakers to design and conduct research and development projects that expand and strengthen Israeli educators' professional knowledge infrastructures. His recent research includes a study of Israeli culture and primary pedagogy, an investigation of video-based dialogic debrief conversations, a design-based implementation study of teacher leadership and professional discourse, an experimental study of academically productive talk in primary language classrooms and an ethnographic investigation of language, class and classroom participation. Dr. Lefstein serves as head of the School.



**Dr. Lauren Erdreich**

Sociology/Anthropology of  
Education

Dr. Lauren Erdreich is a sociologist and anthropologist specializing in education, gender, and cross-cultural comparisons. Her research explores the experiences of marginalized groups in higher education, the intersection between cultural models and educational institutions, and the role of parenting in shaping children's education. She is co-author of *Mothering, Education and Culture: Russian, Palestinian and Jewish Middle-Class Mothers in Israeli Society*, and co-editor of a special issue of *British Journal of Sociology of Education*, 'Education and Parenting: Cross-Cultural Perspectives.' Her latest work focuses on the impact of digital media on parental involvement in education. Dr. Erdreich completed postdoctoral studies at Princeton University, has functioned as a qualitative research faculty mentor through the MOFET Institute for Research, Curriculum and Program and Development for Teacher Educators, and served as the Head of the Nonformal Education Track at Beit Berl College.

## The Seymour Fox School of Education



**Dr. Meir Barneron**

Psychometrics and Decision  
Research Lab

Dr. Meir Barneron is a researcher with a focus on large-scale testing, decision-making, and social and moral behaviors. He is particularly interested in exploring the validity and fairness of selection tools, such as the Psychometric Entrance Test, within the field of psychometrics and educational measurement. In addition, Dr. Barneron's research investigates the role of diversity in making accurate collective judgments (the "wisdom of crowd" effect) in group decision-making, and the psychological factors enhancing people's selfish and unethical behavior within the realm of social and moral behaviors. Dr. Barneron's lab has three main domains of interest, each contributing to a deeper understanding of human behavior and decision-making. His research has important implications for education, business, and public policy.



**Dr. Adi Sherzer**

Melton Center for Jewish  
Education

Dr. Adi Sherzer focuses on the history of Israeli education, culture, and the public sphere. His research emphasizes the multidimensional relations between Israel, the Diaspora, and the Jewish past. Dr. Sherzer is interested in studying Israeli and Jewish rituals, cultural aspects of Israel-Diaspora relations, Israeli military education, and more. He has been a fellow at various institutes, including the Azrieli Center for Israel Studies and the Max Weber Center for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies. He has also served as an academic advisor in the office of the Prime Minister for Israel's National Ceremonies and Information Center, and a curator and academic advisor at the Ben-Gurion Heritage Institute. Currently, Dr. Sherzer is researching the educational-cultural work of the Israeli Chief Rabbinate and completing ISF-supported research on Israeli republicanism and American Jewry.

## The Jerusalem School of Business Administration



**Dr. Ella Segev**

Operations Research

Dr. Ella Segev serves as the Head of M.Sc. Business Analytics and Head of the Operations Research & Operations Management Department. Dr. Segev holds a Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University and was a research scholar (postdoc) at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton for a year, then went on to serve as a lecturer at the Technion for three years before joining Ben-Gurion University. Dr. Segev's research interests are primarily focused on auction theory, contest theory, and bargaining theory, and she has made significant contributions to these areas of study. Her work has been published in top-tier journals such as Games and Economic Behavior, International Economic Review, European Economic Review, Public Choice, and many others.



**Dr. Yehezkel Resheff**

Data Science

Dr. Yehezkel Resheff is an Assistant Professor of Data Science with over a decade of experience in the tech industry, having worked at Intel, Microsoft, Facebook, Intuit AI, and Meta. He co-founded 3PLabs, a start-up focusing on AI-driven solutions for logistics and supply chain management. Dr. Resheff has a Ph.D. in Machine Learning from the Computational Neuroscience and Computer Science Department at ELSC and a Master's Degree in Computational Neuroscience from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is a co-author of "Learning TensorFlow: A Guide to Building Deep Learning Systems" and has published several scientific papers. His expertise is in deep learning, machine learning, and software development, with a research focus on wearable devices.

## The Jerusalem School of Business Administration



**Dr. Heyl-el-li Biton**

Accounting

Dr. Heyl-el-li Biton specializes in financial reporting regulation, disclosure, and international accounting. Dr. Biton's research focuses on how regulatory frictions impact investors, management decision-making, and firms' performance. She also investigates how the institutional environment influences regulators' decision-making on a global scale. Prior to joining academia, Dr. Biton worked as a controller at Sodastream Israel, where she was responsible for budgeting, internal controls, and IFRS financial statement preparation. She also worked in the audit and professional practice departments at KPMG Israel, where she gained valuable experience working on IPOs in the U.S. Dr. Biton holds a Ph.D. in Accounting from Tel Aviv University's Collier School of Management, an MS in Management from Boston University, an MBA in Financial Management from Tel Aviv University, and a BA in Accounting and Economics (Magna cum Laude) from the Hebrew University. She also holds an Israeli CPA license.



**Dr. Michael Gofman**

Finance and Banking

Dr. Michael Gofman has extensive research experience in a wide range of areas, including financial networks, intermediation, regulation, systemic risk, payment systems, creative destruction, and artificial intelligence. Dr. Gofman has served as an Assistant Professor of Finance at the University of Rochester and the University of Wisconsin. His research has been published in top journals such as the *Journal of Financial Economics* and the *Review of Financial Studies*, and he has received prestigious grants from organizations such as the OFR-NSF, the Sloan Foundation, and the INET. Dr. Gofman's research on artificial intelligence startups has been featured in major news outlets such as The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and Tencent News. He holds a Ph.D. in Finance and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, as well as an M.A. in Economics and an M.Sc. in Finance from Tel Aviv University.

# The Jerusalem School of Business Administration



**Dr. Yochanan Bigman**

Strategy and  
Entrepreneurship

Dr. Yochanan Bigman is an Assistant Professor of Business Administration. He holds a Ph.D. from Hebrew University and has published in top scientific journals such as Nature and Trends in Cognitive Sciences. His research focuses on the ethics of emerging technologies, particularly human-robot interaction. Dr. Bigman explores how people interpret the behavior of artificial agents and how it affects cooperation in the workplace and interpersonal relationships. He also investigates the factors that shape moral judgments and ethical behavior.

*I was super excited about joining the Hebrew University. As a student, I received a lot from the university, and I am happy to be able to give back. I always thought about it as my academic home and was grateful for the opportunity to come back as a faculty member. The Hebrew University's focus on excellence in research and teaching, the sense of community, and the support for early career researchers made it the ideal place for me.*

