

July 2014  
כסלו תשע"ד

The Geography Department Newsletter

Issue 7

geography  
על המפה

## Foreword

The seventh issue of "On the Map" summarizes a year of academic activity in Hebrew University's Geography Department. As is generally the case in the university, this activity takes the form of research and teaching as well as new publications across our diverse fields of study. The newsletter presents new projects and events in the department and introduces research students and award recipients.

Many thanks are due to Prof. Noam Shoval, who initiated me in the secrets of the newsletter and the position of department head. My thanks, too, to all of those who helped prepare the newsletter: to Sheli Amir for her editing help; Miri Shmida for the graphic design; Dianne Miller for photographing the department's events; Sara Fuchs for the editing; and Deena Glickman for translating and editing the English version.

With best wishes,

Prof. Efrat Morin,

Head, Geography Department

## The Geography Department's Annual Alumni Get-Together and Conference

The department's annual alumni get-together took place on November 21, 2013, continuing a new tradition established last year.

Approximately 120 alumni, students, and staff participated in the conference. The event began in the afternoon with four tours around Jerusalem focusing on the past and future of the city, both above and underground. The tours were led by the department's alumni and staff: Michal Bitton, Ofer Gridinger, Amnon Arbel, Bracha Slae, and Prof. Amos Frumkin. After the tours, everyone assembled for a festive ceremony in Senate Hall, and awards and scholarships were presented to the department's outstanding students. These included awards for outstanding teaching assistants, scholarships for trips abroad, the Cavaglion Scholarship, scholarships for exceptional students in geoinformatics, and the Prof. Dov Nir Award.

The main event, after the awards, was a panel on leading infrastructure plans – the relocation of the Sde Dov airport and the light rail to Eilat – intended to enhance development in the periphery. The panel was composed of department alumni: Nir Papai from the SPNI, Prof. Shaul Krakover from Ben-Gurion University, Prof. Eran Feitelson from the department's faculty, Deputy Cabinet Secretary Dr. Gabi Golan, and Orly Arel, Deputy City Engineer and Director of the Central Planning Department at the Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality. The panel was moderated by Dr. Galit Cohen-Blankshtain.

The conference and alumni get-together was made possible by a generous donation from Naomi Kagan.

Alumni who wish to take part in organizing the Geography Department's alumni activities and running events for the alumni association are encouraged to contact us.

The next alumni get-together and department conference will take place on December 4, 2014.





# The Inauguration of the Urban Clinic

## The University: A Good Neighbor?

Universities can play a major urban role as anchor institutes for the city – opening their campuses and facilities to neighboring areas; enriching the city's residents in education, health, and culture as well as employment. However, this issue is a complex one, especially in Israel, where universities are literally walled off and access is only possible through guarded entry points. Can the Israeli university actually help create a better city?



This question was at the center of the Urban Clinic launch event, held in January 2014. The mayors of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv and the presidents of Hebrew University and the Tel Aviv-Yaffo Academic College debated the extent to which the university should be asked to contribute to the surrounding neighborhoods, in addition to maintaining academic excellence. Knesset Member Stav Shafir, a leader of the social protest movement, called on the university to play a more innovative role in the city, including helping to open a long-term rental market. A student's perspective on the launch is available [here](#).

Graduate students pursued this topic in urban clinic courses later in the semester, delving into the connection between the university and the Mount Scopus neighborhoods, formulating interesting recommendations for stakeholders.

The Urban Clinic was established this year in the Faculty of Social Sciences in cooperation with the Geography Department and the Institute for Urban and Regional Studies, and works to strengthen creative and socially aware urban leadership in Israel, including mayors, city planners, community leaders, academics, and developers. The Urban Clinic provides state-of-the-art knowledge about what works in housing, urban regeneration, and community planning, thereby ensuring that the current and next generation of urban practitioners are equipped with effective tools and skills to make our cities truly remarkable places for all. The clinic's academic director and founder is Dr. Emily Silverman, a new faculty member in the Geography Department. In 2014, students and faculty led the Israeli delegation to the World Urban Forum in Medellin, Colombia, and produced an elegant report on social urbanism for Israel, managed a national leadership forum on legislative principles for affordable housing, and convened a peer-forum of municipal planners examining social aspects of urban regeneration, among other projects. More information on the Urban Clinic is available in English [here](http://urbanclinic.huji.ac.il/).



Dr. Emily Silverman



## Research and Publications

### Prof. Rehav (Buni) Rubin

#### "Greek Orthodox Maps of Jerusalem and the Holy Land from the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries"

The study, undertaken with the assistance of the Israel Science Foundation (ISF), analyzes a group of images drawn in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in the monasteries of the Greek Orthodox patriarchate of Jerusalem, which are in fact maps that depict Jerusalem and the Holy Land. These maps were drawn in a style typical of ecclesiastic art and are very different from the maps that we know today, which have been widespread in the West since printing began. This group of "maps-icons" has unique characteristics in terms of content, cartographic outlook, and iconography. They were drawn in Jerusalem and sold to pilgrims who took them home as souvenirs from the Holy Land; thus, they were distributed around the world.

One of the maps-icons is held in a museum in the city of Saumur in northwest France. At the top of the map, Greek letters read "The Holy City Jerusalem and Its Environs, 1704." The bottom of the map shows the Mediterranean Sea from Jaffa (at the left) to Gaza; above is the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River, and the Dead Sea. In the Jordan River, Jesus's baptism by John the Baptist is shown. On the upper left is Mount Tabor, where Jesus's transfiguration took place, and at the right is the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem and the Mar Saba monastery in the Judean desert. At the forefront is the Monastery of the Cross. Thus is created a cartographic frame that defines east as up, south as right, and north as left. Within the frame the sacred places and other religious traditions are depicted.

In the center of the icon is a picture of Jerusalem, surrounded by a wall in a zig-zag pattern, with the city's gates. In the middle of the western wall Jaffa Gate appears; next to it is the town citadel, called "David's House"; and within the walls are the city's main monasteries, the Dome of the Rock, and the Al-Aksa mosque. In the center of the city, on a large scale, a kind of cross-section of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre is visible. In the left wing, the rotunda's dome is visible; beneath it, Jesus's grave, with his figure rising above it, appears. In the foreground, the church's double entrance is seen; above



Prof. Rehav Rubin

it, Jesus's anointment on the Stone of the Anointing is found inside the entrance. Above that stands the dome of the Catholicon, the church's central vestibule, and there the Omphalos, the center of the world, can also be seen. To the right, the chapel of Gologtha is clearly visible with the image of Jesus on the cross.

Above Jerusalem's eastern wall, a number of sites that are in close proximity to Jerusalem appear (from left to right): Mary's tomb near Gethsemane; the peak of the Mount of Olives and the place of the ascent; Jesus's prayer in the garden of Gethsemane; the Tomb of Absalom and the Tomb of Zechariah (identified in Christian tradition as the burial place of Jesus's brother James); and behind and above them Bethany; the Siloan drawn as a tunnel with stairs; the al-Eizariya village, which is the place of Lazarus's home; and En Rogel, which is mentioned in Greek compositions by its Arabic name Be'er Iyov.

A detailed article presenting these maps-icons and analyzing their content was published a number of months ago in an international Internet journal that examines maps, cartography, and GIS.

Rehav Rubin, "Greek-Orthodox maps of Jerusalem from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries", *e-Perimetreon*, Vol. 8, No. 3, (2013): 106-132, <http://www.e-perimetreon.org/>



## Prof. Amos Frumkin/

### The Stone of Kings: The Discovery of Calcite-Alabaster Quarries in Israel

Cave sediment in ancient times served to create valuable objects whose partial transparency and unique stratification gave them a look of prestige. In the literature of Egyptology and archaeology, this material is usually termed "calcite alabaster," the Hebrew archaeological term being bahat.

Archaeological digs have revealed that calcite-alabaster tools first appeared in small numbers in the region that is now Israel at the end of the Chalcolithic Period and the beginning of the early Bronze Age. Their appearance peaked in the middle and late Bronze Age, waned in the Iron Age, and ended after the Roman/Byzantine period. Herod's alabaster bathtub gained attention when it was recently displayed in an exhibit at the Israel Museum.

Calcite alabaster tools found in the southern Levant have until now been attributed to import from Egypt, as a result of the lack of information on local sources of calcite alabaster. A new study conducted in the Geography Department's Cave Research Center suggests



Prof. Amos Frumkin



a solution to the question of the calcite alabaster's local source, a result of the discovery of a flowstone quarry in the Twins and Abud caves in the western slopes of Eretz Israel's central highlands.

Both caves contain a large central chamber, rich in cave sediment and relatively convenient for entry and quarrying, from which these sediments were mined in the past. The beginning of use of the quarry in the Twins Cave has been dated radiometrically to the middle of the Bronze Age. In the Abud Cave, a large pillar of calcite alabaster had been well-hewn and then left in the cave, perhaps due to a defect in it. The calcite alabaster quarries found in Eretz Israel are small relative to their counterparts in Egypt. These quarries are the first to be found in the southern Levant, and they teach us that other quarries may yet be discovered in the Mediterranean region of this area, which is rich in stalactite caves. These quarries are an important focus for the understanding of the sources, quarrying methods, production technology, and distribution of calcite-alabaster objects in our region, and they have ramifications for understanding commercial, technological, and cultural relationships between the southern Levant and its neighboring areas in ancient times. The present study opens a window to many other questions that can be answered only when more thorough research, integrating the study of the quarries and calcite-alabaster objects found in archaeological sites, is conducted.

A. Frumkin, M. Bar-Matthews, U. Davidovich, B. Langford, R. Porat, M. Ullman, B. Zissu, "In-situ Dating of Ancient Quarries and the Source of Flowstone ('Calcite-Alabaster') Artifacts in the Southern Levant," *Journal of Archaeological Science* 41 (2014): 749–758.



# Nadav Peleg and Prof. Efrat Morin/

## The Effects of Climate Change on the Flow Regime of Drainage Basins in the Ramot Menashe Region

General climate models for the coming century predict a downward trend in precipitation amounts and an upward trend in temperatures in our region. How will these changes affect rainstorms and hydrological regimes in Israel's different drainage basins? Research conducted within Nadav Peleg's doctoral dissertation examined this question in the area of Ramot Menashe. As a part of the research, a stochastic model – called a "weather generator" – was developed, and produced synthetic high-space-time-resolution (0.25 sq. km and 5 min.) rainstorm data with temporal and spatial characteristics similar to the rain data observed from a meteorological radar system.

The rainfall characteristics produced by the weather generator are forced by synoptic conditions, and these conditions and their variations in time are determined by linking to climate models. In this way, the weather generator can produce rainstorm data for present and predicted climate conditions using global models. This approach uses a process called downscaling, which transfers the data from general climate models' (GCM) scale of tens of thousands of square km and a number of hours to a much smaller scale of 1 square km and minutes. This scale is the suitable one for estimating hydrological effects in drainage basins of tens of square km typical to Israel. In the weather generator, the production of the convective element of rainfall is emphasized, as it is most commonly what prompts the creation of floods in Israeli drainage basins.

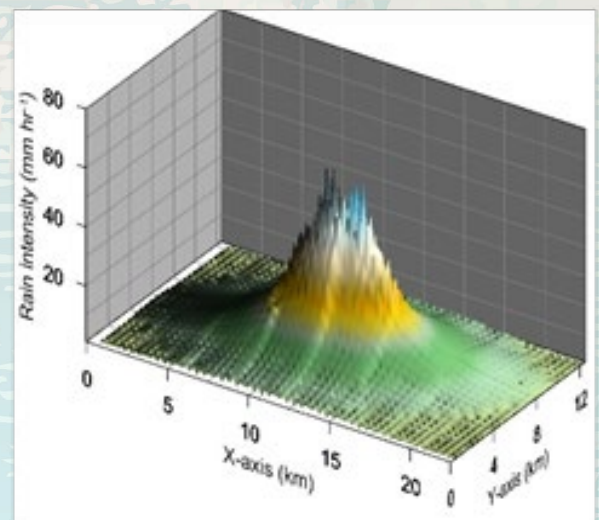
The predicted changes in occurrence frequency of synoptic systems in our region for the mid-twenty-first century were examined using the climate models that were used by the fifth IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). These data were fed to the weather generator in order to create synthetic rain maps for the present climate and for the mid-century in a variety of scenarios, and integrated into a hydrological model that simulates the flow in the Dalia and Taninim streams, in order to examine the expected change in the hydrological regime in these drainage basins. The research focused only on climate changes related to the frequency of rainy synoptic conditions and their effect on the amounts of rain and the volume of flow. The results indicate an average decrease of 15–18% in the annual precipitation in Ramot Menashe and an average decrease of 45–47% in volume of flow in the upper portion of the Dalia and Taninim drainage basins for the middle of the current century in comparison with the beginning of the century.

The research was funded by various bodies (the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, the Ministry of Environmental Protection, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Jewish National Fund, and the Water Authority), and at present the following articles have been published (others are currently being written):

Peleg N., and Morin E. (2012) "Convective Rain Cells: Radar-Derived Spatio-Temporal Characteristics and Synoptic Patterns Over the Eastern Mediterranean." *J. Geophys. Res.*, 117, D15116, doi: 10.1029/2011JD017353.

Peleg N., Ben-Asher M., and Morin E. (2013) "Radar Subpixel-Scale Rainfall Variability and Uncertainty: Lessons Learned from Observations of a Dense Rain-Gauge Network." *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.*, 17, 2195–2208, doi: 10.5194/hess-17-2195-2013.

Peleg N., and Morin E. (2014) "Stochastic Convective Rain-Field Simulation using a High-Resolution Synoptically Conditioned Weather Generator (HiReS-WG)." *Water Res.*, doi: 10.1002/2013wr014836.





# Recently Published Books

Noam Perry and Prof. Ruth Kark/

*Ethnographic Museums in Israel, Published by Ariel, Jerusalem, 2014*

Nearly every ethnic group in Israel is represented today in an ethnographic museum dedicated to its unique culture. The Jewish groups present their past before immigrating to Israel in these museums, as well as the process of their integration in Israeli society. Non-Jewish minorities use these museums to preserve their material traditional heritage, eroded following the establishment of the state of Israel; some also use the museums for economic purposes. Ethnographic museums are a growing category in Israel's museum landscape and at present number over thirty locations throughout the country. This book is a pioneering survey of all of Israel's ethnographic museums, the circumstances surrounding their establishment, the social-historical role they play, and their relationships with the communities they represent.

Noam Perry is a lecturer in human rights at San Jose State University. He holds an MA in Geography, Planning, and Environment from Hebrew University. He is currently completing his doctoral work in the Law and Public Policy program at Northeastern University in Boston on the subject of global human trafficking and modern slavery.

Ruth Kark is an emeritus full professor in the Geography Department at Hebrew University. Prof. Kark has written and edited twenty-five books and published approximately two hundred articles.

She serves on steering committees and academic committees of museums and exhibits, conceived and taught a course on museology, and curated an exhibit on America and the Holy Land at the National Library.



Noam Perry



Prof. Ruth Kark



Prof. Rehav (Buni) Rubin/

*Portraying the Land: Hebrew Maps of the Land of Israel from Rashi to the Early Twentieth Century, Published by Yad Ben-Zvi, Jerusalem, 2014*

Prof. Rubin's book presents the chronicles of Hebrew maps of the land of Israel created in Jewish contexts, analyzing the central lines in their development. The first Hebrew map of the land of Israel was sketched by Rashi (Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki, c. 1040–1105). Subsequently, many maps were drawn and printed by Jews, presenting the land of Israel and its borders, the journey of the Israelites in the desert, the territory of the different tribes, and other biblical and Talmudic subjects. These maps were included and printed in

sacred works and commentaries, in Passover haggadahs, in responsa literature, and in the compositions of various rabbis and scholars. Many mapmakers were unfamiliar with the land's geography, and thus their maps reflect their views and attitudes about the land and its boundaries, rather than a thorough landscape of its mountains and valleys. The development of the Hebrew map has taken place along two axes: The traditional axis, beginning with Rashi's map, is characterized by schematic maps, designed as simple rectangles and squares without artistic embellishments. The second axis is characterized by maps drawn following Christian cartographers. These mapmakers copied the geographical template of the land and the many artistic decorations, modifying them to accord with Jewish tradition. In the nineteenth century, with the Enlightenment, modern maps were developed, which were based on geographical and cartographical information that had been accumulated through that century's geographical research.



Prof. Rehav Rubin



# Meet the Research Students

## Azriel Yehezkel

I completed my undergraduate degree in geography in the Physical Geography Division and the Institute of Archaeology, specializing in the Iron Age and the classical age. I was born and raised in Jerusalem. In the Judean hills, my backyard during high school, there are dozens of perched springs, many of which had holes or caverns dug out over the course of history to increase supply. These perched springs were of interest to me at an early age. Within my graduate studies, I began to write my thesis last year under Prof. Amos Frumkin, examining two aspects of perched springs. The first is dating the origins of the technology for opening spring flow tunnels. In research, this phenomenon is generally dated to the Roman period. In order to study this (aside from library research), I conducted drilling of flow stones in spring flow tunnels to radiometrically date the start of water flowing in the tunnel, making the dating of the origins of spring flow tunnels earlier, placing it in the Iron Age. The second aspect of my thesis examines the effect that the change in the amount of annual precipitation has on the flow of perched springs. Most perched springs have reservoirs; the reservoir's water level at the end of the winter is the flow rate index. I built a database based on observations and pictures of reservoirs, distributed over a period of ten years (2003–2013), a period in which significant changes took place in the regional climate. When the amount of water in the reservoir over those years is compared to the annual precipitation, we learn a lot about the "behavior patterns" of different perched springs. Alongside pursuing my graduate degree, I also serve as a teaching assistant for the course "Introduction to Geomorphology and Natural Hazards"; I have worked as an archaeologist at the Israel Antiquities Authority; and I am currently studying to get my tour-guiding license.



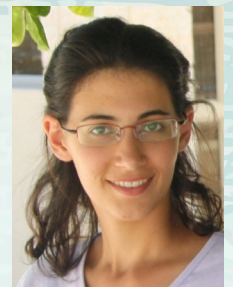
Azriel Yehezkel

## Adi Perry

I began my academic career combining two disciplines – social sciences and humanities – in the Geography Department and the Department of Jewish History. During my undergraduate degree, I was exposed to fascinating fields in urban geography, and I even expanded my studies in the Geoinformatics Division.

Towards the end of my undergraduate degree, I began to work as an intern in the Urban Planning Department of Jerusalem's municipality. I was exposed to complex matters relating to urban planning and daily life. In order to deepen my knowledge and sharpen my creative and critical thinking, I chose to continue directly to a graduate degree in the Geography Department and the Institute for Urban and Regional Studies, while at the same time continuing to work at the municipality in a student position.

My thesis, under the supervision of Prof. Noam Shoval, examines the development of tourism in historical cities in Israel from the 1960s until today, against the backdrop of repeated attempts to develop vibrant cities with a plethora of tourists and cultural and commercial activity. The research focuses on tourism development programs as a factor that can explain Israel's lack of success in tourism development relative to its expectations. The study hopes to contribute to the theoretical research on developing a rationale for tourism planning in Israel's historical cities and thus to improve tourism development policy in the future.



Adi Perry

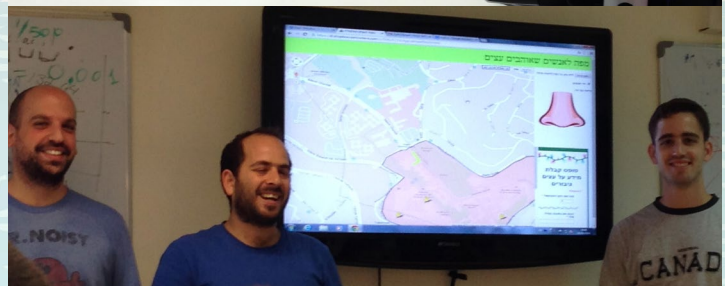
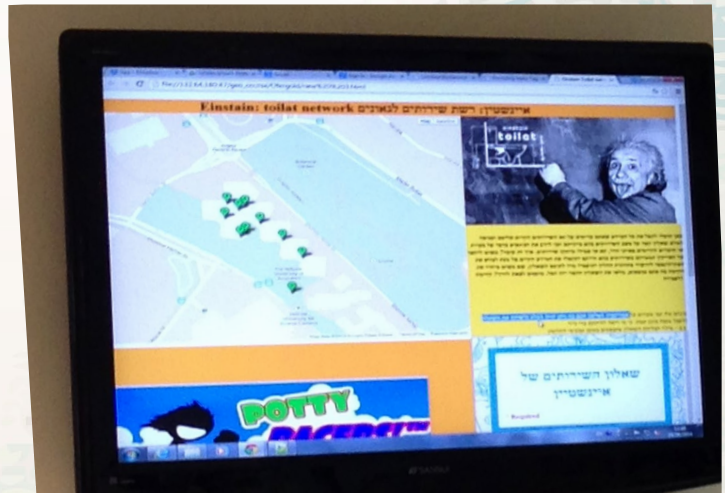


# What's New in the Geoinformatics Division

Five years ago, the Geography Department launched a division for outstanding undergraduate students in which they studied a variety of topics in geoinformatics in an enhanced and intensive fashion. These topics included GIS (geographic information systems), remote sensing, detection methods, mining data, programming in Python, spatial statistics, and more. At present, the fourth graduating class has twelve students.

This year's summary project for the division's students was the building of a website that would give a response to people's need for a mapping of different functions on the Mount Scopus campus, such as department offices, in order to make it easier to find one's way and improve the services given to students and staff. The division's students created an interactive map that made it possible to get information and contact different bodies using an online form.

In recent years, a productive partnership was formed between the Center for Computational Geography and the Survey of Israel. In this framework, two outstanding geoinformatics students (Meir Zur and Yotam Tsabari) began work this year at the Survey of Israel within the Atidim program. We hope that the coming years will see the integration of more students at the Survey of Israel in this project. "Atidim in Industry" is a social/employment program which was established in 1999 by the "Friends of Atidim" non-profit with the participation of the IDF, government offices, academia, and the industrial sector. Its support of the program includes scholarships, monthly stipends, personal mentoring and accompaniment in the subject of study, work experience, and integration in workplaces.

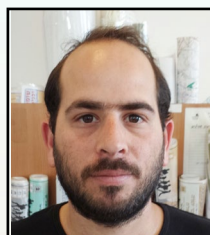


## Scholarships for Outstanding Geoinformatics Students

The Geography Department awards scholarships to outstanding students in the Geoinformatics Division. This year, one scholarship was awarded to a student who completed his or her studies in the unit and four students who had finished their first year.



Nurit Avruch



Roi Algavish



Akiva Harris



Or Gur



Harel Dan

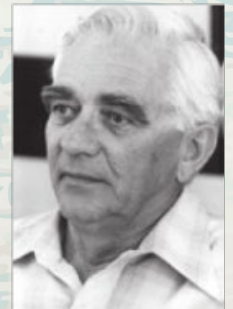


# Scholarships and Awards

## The Amiran Scholarships

Prof. David Amiran (1910–2003), the department's founder, bequeathed half of his estate to the Geography Department (the other half was given to the Institute of Archaeology). In his will, he asked that the profits of the fund be distributed each year in scholarships for advanced students in the Geography Department. This year, fellowships were given for the fifth time to two doctoral candidates and three graduate students. (The fund stands at approximately \$2 million.)

Each year, the David Amiran Scholarships are awarded to outstanding graduate students on the research track and doctoral candidates. The scholarships are given to students in all research fields in geography, including physical, human, and environmental geography. The department's scholarship committee, with representation from all fields of research, determines each year's winners. The scholarships are given out every year at a joint ceremony with the Institute of Archaeology. This year's ceremony took place in March in the Geography Department.



Prof. David Amiran  
1910 - 2003

## Yair Asher Grinberger (Recipient of the President's/Amiran Scholarship)

Yair completed his undergraduate studies in the department with honors and began his doctoral studies on the direct track under Prof. Noam Shoval last year. Yair studies space-time behaviors of individuals in urban and economic contexts, examining biases from rational behavior in various cases, based on GPS-generated location data and econometric analysis methods of decision-making processes.



Yair Grinberger

## Motti Zohar

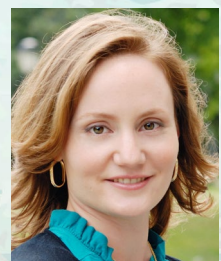
Motti is a doctoral student in the department working under Prof. Rehav (Buni) Rubin and Dr. Amos Solomon. His dissertation characterizes types of damage from earthquakes in Israel and its surroundings in time and space. Earthquakes are some of the most destructive natural disasters for man and his environment. Over the last three thousand years, much historical evidence about the occurrence of earthquakes and the damage and loss of life that ensue has been gathered from Israel and its environs. A controlled assessment of the distribution of the damage from these earthquakes, relying on a critical understanding of the historical sources, can help us to learn about the characteristics of earthquakes in the past and to project what lies in store for us. The dissertation has been underway since 2010 and it constitutes a completely interdisciplinary work, integrating history, geology, and spatial geography tools in order to examine issues such as intensity of earthquakes, distribution of damage, earthquake epicenters, areas at risk, and cycles of occurrence.



Motti Zohar

## Rachel Friedman

Rachel came to Israel from New York and is currently a second-year student in the Geography Department and the Institute for Urban and Regional Studies. In her undergraduate degree, she focused on economics and history. In recent years, she worked in politics and community, in the AJC (American Jewish Committee), in Senator Clinton's office, and in legislation. At present, she is writing her thesis under Dr. Gillad Rosen. Her paper examines the conceptual and practical dimensions of affordable housing as it exists in Israel.



Rachel Friedman

## Moti Passal

Moti Passal, 32, is married to Naama and father to Neta and lives in Alon. Motti runs the educational program for post-army participants at the Ein Prat academy. He completed his undergraduate degree with honors and received the Dean of the Social Sciences' award for social involvement.

Moti is currently pursuing a graduate degree in historical geography. His research, conducted under Prof. Rehav (Buni) Rubin's supervision, examines the network of "pillboxes," Ottoman watchtowers erected in the nineteenth century on the road between Jaffa and Jerusalem. The research involves examining old maps, field work, and analysis of data using GIS.



Moti Passal



## The Herzl (Herzi) Halevi Prize for Outstanding Seminar Paper in Undergraduate Studies was given to: Tal Ulus



This year's Herzl (Herzi) Halevi prize was awarded to Tal Ulus for her seminar paper on "The Economic Crisis (2008–2011) as a Factor that Promotes Belonging and Identity in the European Union" in the course "Economic Integration and Spatial Change," given by Prof. Daniel Felsenstein.

The judges' decision for choosing Tal Ulus's paper, written as a requirement for the course "Economic Integration and Spatial Change" under the supervision of Prof. Daniel Felsenstein: "The paper relates to a current and globally significant subject. It is well-structured, eloquent, and clearly presents the research questions. Tal chose an empirically challenging research question and she demonstrates a critical approach to research while also presenting its limits. The study includes a thorough and cautious analysis of Eurobarometer survey data. It compares four countries that experienced the crisis (Spain, Portugal, Ireland, and Greece) and a control group of similar countries that did not (Hungary, Poland, Austria, and Slovakia). Using a double comparison (before/after; with/without crisis), the paper examines intangible categories of identity, belonging, image, and sense of economic security using aggregate information and empirical analysis tools. The committee was impressed by the quality of Tal Ulus's seminar paper and chose to award her the Herzl Halevi Prize for 2013/14."



**About the prize:** Herzl (Herzi) Halevi was a student nearing the end of his undergraduate studies in the Geography Department when the Six-Day War began. Herzi enlisted in reserve duty with one of the paratrooper units and participated in the campaign to liberate Jerusalem, falling in battle. Shortly after his death his widow, Yaffa Halevi, decided, with the help of the family and friends, to commemorate his life by giving an award in his name. The prize is given each year at a ceremony that takes place around Jerusalem Day within the Geography Department's departmental seminar; it is granted to an outstanding seminar paper written within one of the undergraduate seminars.



**Tal Ulus** was raised on Kibbutz Tze'elim in the south and, after a year of civil service, army, and a trip, began her studies at the Hebrew University and moved to Jerusalem. Her undergraduate degree is in history and geography. She began her graduate studies this year in the Geography Department, with a focus on environmental management, planning, and policy. For the past year she has worked at the university as a teaching assistant to Prof. Ronnie Ellenblum in the course "Historical Geography of Jerusalem."



## The Prof. Shalom Reichman Prize

### The Prof. Shalom Reichman Prize Awarded to Dr. Christina Cook

The annual ceremony in memory of Prof. Shalom Reichman took place this year in a different format than it has for the past twenty years. The ceremony was held within a festive faculty seminar at the beginning of the academic year, on October 27, 2013, with Prof. Reichman's family, the faculty, and students in attendance.

The Prof. Shalom Reichman Prize was awarded to Dr. Christina Cook, a postdoctoral faculty member from Vancouver, Canada, working under the supervision of Prof. Eran Feitelson and Dr. Itay Fischhendler.

Dr. Cook gave a lecture on "Together and Alone: Managing Water and Land Resources in Ontario, Canada," and explained the complexity of preserving water sources in Ontario due to decentralized authorities in the different levels of government (federal, provincial, and local). At the end of Dr. Cook's lecture, Prof. Feitelson awarded her the prize in the name of the Reichman family.



Prof. Shalom Reichman 1935-1992



Dr. Christina Cook

## Changes in the Administrative Staff

A number of months ago, we said goodbye to Ora Achituv, who served as secretary of student affairs in the department, as she departed for a new position in the medical school (assistant director of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in the Institute for Medical Research). Ora has been replaced by Yael Bar-David Hasson, who came from the School of Computer Science and Engineering. We wish them both great success!

### Yael Bar-David Hasson

I began work at the university six years ago in the School of Computer Science and Engineering as a research grants administrator. There I was responsible for managing the research budgets, assisting in the submission of research proposals, helping researchers and research groups with scholarships, salary, trips abroad, organizing conferences, invitations, and more.

I am married with two children and live in Jerusalem.

I have a BA in education from David Yellin College. I worked as a homeroom teacher for first and second grades for three years.

In the IDF, I served as a youth counselor in the youth battalion base at Sde Boker.

I am happy to be joining the Geography Department, which I've heard a lot of great things about, and hope to have a good and fruitful working relationship.



Yael Bar-David Hasson

### Ora Achituv

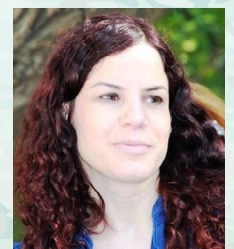
When I try to think back to my first day at work in the Geography Department, I immediately recall a huge bouquet of flowers on my desk, with a note wishing me luck in my new position. The gesture is a fantastic example of the general atmosphere in this special department.

The Geography Department was a place where I accumulated a lot of knowledge, I learned, and I grew – but it was also always a wonderful place to return to, even in difficult or busy times. Whenever I needed it, I could always find someone who would listen, give advice, or support me.

It is hard to say goodbye to the Geography Department, because over the years I became close to the academic and administrative staff – and even to those employees who have retired or moved on to other jobs but still appear on the department's lists and continue to attend department events.

For me, too, leaving the department is not easy. It was hard for me to separate from people who were part of my life for years: the academic and administrative staff, the teaching assistants, and of course the students, who I will miss very much in my new job. On the other hand, I knew that I wanted to continue to advance and grow, and after six and a half years, it was time to move on. In this case, it's safe to say, intellect overcame emotion.

In conclusion, like many others who have come and gone in the Geography Department, staff and students alike, I allow myself to leave – but not entirely, as I continue to feel that I am part of the department's family.



Ora Achituv



## Rachel Kangisser (Kleiman), Responsible for the Map Library, Retires

In the first academic year after the War of Independence, 1949–50, the Geography Department opened in Hebrew University, headed by Prof. David Amiran. David Amiran's primary academic background was in the field of physical geography – geomorphology and climatology. He was brought into the university at the recommendation of Leo Picard, professor of geology, and he helped establish the geological library.

Four subjects characterized the Geography Department at its inception:

1. Field trips. The department was known for its many trips around the country, and especially to the south – even in Sinai, when the region was under Israeli control. Amiran led these trips, and his students continued his tradition. The Negev region was fertile ground for research, and one of the department's first doctoral dissertations was that of Prof. Yehuda Kedar on ancient agriculture in the Negev. It was used often as a foundation for many important researchers in the field.

2. Maps, aerial photography, and the Cartographic Lab. The first lecturers in the department felt that the map was the most important tool for learning geography, without which geographical research would be lacking. Prof. Isaac Schattner, the second senior lecturer in the department, published his very important first book about Israel's map and its chronicles. Afterwards, Prof. Schattner began to learn and teach geomorphology. The first academic collection of aerial photography in Israel was established in the department to be used as a learning tool. With its inception, the Cartographic Lab was also founded, and it became a central pillar of the department, creating original maps for teaching, preparing research maps to help lecturers and students, and instigating and carrying out the important "Atlas of Israel and Jerusalem" project with the government's survey department.

3. Regional-geographical study. The research technique and most of the first dissertations written in the department were conducted according to methods of regional study. That is to say, a given region is studied using all geographical disciplines, the connections between them, and the regional distinction. Prof. Yehuda Karmon, the third senior lecturer in the department, conducted such a study of the Hula Valley, which was published as a book, and a detailed study of the Sharon region, which was also widely covered. Prof. Dov Nir wrote his dissertation on the Bet She'an valley, and I wrote about the central Jordan Valley. Both were published in book form.

4. The department library. Before the university's academic faculty moved from Givat Ram to Mount Scopus after 1967, in the beginning of the 1980s, the Geography Department had its own academic library, like most of the university's departments. This library was cultivated especially by the lecturers, and served as a warm home for all of the department's students and lecturers, run by the librarian.

In 1974, a charming young girl, Rachel Kleiman-Kangisser, entered the Geography Department, beginning undergraduate studies. After the war in 1967, with the new ability to go to the Old City and see its historical treasures, and after I had returned from postdoctoral work in England, the Historical Geography track opened in the department. It included many trips and the historical geographical study of Israel as a whole and Jerusalem in particular. Rachel Kangisser (Kleiman) felt connected with this track and became a central axis within it.

After completing her undergraduate degree, Rachel continued to the graduate program; upon receiving her MA, she served as a teaching assistant in the department. At the time, the unit of aerial photographs and an important collection of historical maps – most prominently from the modern period and also new and current ones – were taking shape in the department. In 1980, with the academic faculty's move to Mt. Scopus, including the Geography Department, a decision was made to unite the departmental libraries of most faculties in one central library on Mount Scopus. The Geography Department's library was one of these, but it was resolved that part of the map library would remain close to the Geography Department and would continue to be supervised by it. Rachel Kangisser (Kleiman) took on the management of the map library and for over thirty years she formed and developed the division, until it became a central asset for the university and for researchers around the country. We all extend our deepest appreciation to you with your retirement; may you be blessed for your dedication and your extensive activity.

On behalf of your many adoring friends,  
Yehoshua Ben-Arieh (professor emeritus)





## The Alumni Section / *"There's one of us everywhere"*

### Ofra Ash

#### Director of the Marketing and Communications Division, Hebrew University

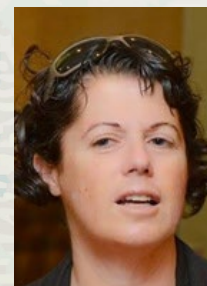
I completed a BA in geography in 1987. Why geography? I was raised to spend time in nature both at home and in the scouts; in the army I maintained my strong connection to the issue. I served as a commander and officer of education and knowledge of the land of Israel. And yes, I know Prof. Ronnie Ellenblum from then.

My choice to learn geography was a natural one. During my studies I learned that geography consists not only of nature and environment but also of urban planning. While in school, I worked as a tour guide, primarily at Yad Ben-Zvi. Those were days when we gave tours of the Old City and walked freely around all four of its quarters, alone or with groups. If only we could return to that time.

After finishing my BA in geography and international relations I debated, like many others, what to do next. It was clear to me that I wanted to pursue an MA. I had always felt connected to and interested in the corporate world; as a child I had read the economic section of *Haaretz*. And so I ended up in the MBA program.

Since completing my studies in 1990 I have worked in marketing and advertising, focusing on market research (establishing and running *Haaretz's* market research unit), working at an advertising agency, running marketing in the public and corporate sectors, and, for the past fifteen months, functioning as director of Hebrew University's Marketing and Communications Division. This is a new role in the university; I established the division, which is based in part on the existing spokesperson's division. The job is fascinating and challenging each day anew, both in the realm of marketing and in the realm of communications.

This career move gave me a strong sense that it is better to learn what you love, to follow your heart – and then see how things fall into place, because they do fall into place.



Ofra Ash

## Congratulations

### Congratulations to Our Outstanding Lecturers (Second Semester 2012/13 and First Semester 2013/14)



Prof. Amos  
Frumkin



Prof. Uri  
Dayan



Prof. Eran  
Razin



Prof. Rehav (Buni)  
Rubin



Prof. Shlomo  
Hasson



Prof. Ronnie  
Ellenblum



Amit  
Tubi



Achishalom  
Almog



Ruthie  
Harari-Kremer



Adi  
Ben-Nun



Dr. Tamir  
Grodek



Dr. Emily  
Silverman

### Congratulations to Prof. Daniel Felsenstein

On his appointment as an advisor to the OECD on the subject of local job creation within the OECD's Local Economic Employment Development (LEED) division.



Prof. Daniel  
Felsenstein

### Congratulations to Dr. Ron Drori

On the approval of his doctoral dissertation on the subject "Spatial Dispersion of Carbon Dioxide Sources from Different Sources and Its Connection to Synoptic Systems above the Mediterranean Sea Basin" under Prof. Uri Dayan and Prof. David Edwards.



Dr. Ron Drori



# Life in the Department

## The Geography Department's trip took place on May 28, 2014.

It began with a visit to the Twins Cave, where we heard Amos Frumkin speak about geoarchaeological discoveries found lately in the cave and theories about their source. The cold, dark cave, with the stir of bats' wings, served as a fitting backdrop for stories about the different fossils. Afterwards, Ilana Sirkis, an architect from the Jerusalem district's planning office, gave us a tour of the neighborhoods in Beit Shemesh. Ilana presented various issues related to the city's planning and development against the backdrop of the conflicts that have recently been in the news. The final leg of the journey dealt with the construction of the fifth water supply line to Jerusalem, led by Efraim Shlain (Environmental Planning in Israel). We heard about the history of the water supply lines to Jerusalem from Aliza Harshoshanim, a guide from the Mekorot water company, at the Hulda Diesel historical site. At the President's Forest and the Eshtaol Junction, Ephraim Shlain presented the issue of constructing infrastructure and restoration work. During the tour, we bid farewell to Rachel Kangisser (Kleiman), who retired from her job at the map library.





# Trips Abroad

## Trip to Rome

This year's fourth annual (and third consecutive) study trip to Rome was held with the participation of Alex Yakobson (expert in the history of Rome), Mario Schneider (expert in the history and politics of Italy in the modern period and under the Fascist regime), and Shirley Siegal (creative artist). Ronnie Ellenblum recalls:

"The course in Rome was one of the most thorough I'd been through in my life. It included debates that began on a specific level but led to fascinating theoretical discussions, which deepened as the course progressed. We dealt with the meaning of the place, the meaning of memory in the public sphere, the use of space for politics and propaganda, art and architecture, the meanings of civilization changes, and more.

"The discussion we had on the reliefs of the 'Altar of August Peace,' on the altar's reconstruction by Mussolini in a new place facing Augustus's grave and on the Tiber riverbank, on the objectification of original Latin and Italian texts, and the discussion on the Res Gestae text written by Augustus and inaugurated by Mussolini on the walls of the building, were for me a sign of a fascinating academic seminar; I wish there were more like it. The analysis of the Fascist plaza around the Altar of August Peace and the discussion of the postmodern reconstruction of the building were just the icing on the cake."

For a slideshow presentation of the trip on Youtube, see: <http://youtu.be/LGyz12PO7PM>

The Colosseum



The Arch of Titus



Bernini's Ecstasy of Saint Teresa



Participants and guides in discussion



The Tomb of Victor Emmanuel II



Trip participants at Trajan's Column, in front of the Church of the Most Holy Name of Mary in the Trajan Forum, and the Loreto's Basilica della Santa Casa



## Trip to Barcelona

In May, for the third consecutive year, 33 students from the Geography Department took a week-long trip to Barcelona and southern Catalonia under the guidance of Prof. Noam Shoval. The trip included a visit to the city of Tarragona (Roman Tarraco), Tortosa, Costa Dorada, and Barcelona.

Link to the movie: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0EvR4uQMV8>

