

Hadassah Academic College

From the Inside Out

Spring 2018



Forbes ranks HAC at the top

In an article entitled “The map of colleges in Israel”, the January 2018 issue of Forbes-Israel magazine ranked HAC as the number one college in Jerusalem.

HAC is among 30 academic colleges in Israel that offer undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Forbes’ rating is based on an independent national poll of over 10,000 students. Ranking elements include academic level; use of new technologies in instruction; quality of teaching; value of the academic degree toward entering the workforce; rate of student growth; and the advancement of minorities and women.



Record high for new immigrant students

HAC welcomed a record number of new immigrant students from around the world in both the College’s pre-academic preparatory program and undergraduate studies. The College’s 5 month preparatory program for new immigrant students focuses on intensive Hebrew studies as well as College-level English and elective courses in mathematics, statistics, or social science. The program’s goal is to ease new immigrants’ entry into the world of Israeli academia, while providing a welcoming social circle and support system.



Strengthening Jerusalem's social fabric

This academic year, HAC students are providing over 100,000 hours of community service in collaboration with a variety of non-profit organizations and institutions throughout Jerusalem.

Year-round activities include mentoring at-risk high school youth; assisting the elderly and Holocaust survivors; working with individuals who are visually impaired, autistic, or disabled; and working with inner-city Jerusalem residents to beautify neighborhoods. Students also initiate one-time activities such as celebrating holidays with patients at Jerusalem's hospitals and senior residences; assisting the home-bound; and working with children living in battered women's shelters.

In February 2018, 1,000 students participated in "Social Responsibility Week" which included guest lectures by community activists; presentations by non-profit associations; and special outreach activities such as renovating neighborhood gardens in Jerusalem's poorest districts. 19 students were awarded special certificates by the Dean of Students in recognition of their outstanding community service.



HAC faculty & students hosted in UK & Ireland

19 senior students from the Dept. of Photographic Communication were hosted at England's Brighton University in the first semester as part of the EU's CLEVER initiative. This 15 nation project aims to promote Israel's creative sector through education and leadership development.

Drs. Liat Gantz and Einat Shneor of the Dept. of Optometry visited London's City University in January 2018 to present their research findings in Keratoconus. Their UK colleagues will reciprocate by lecturing at HAC later this year. Also in January, Optometry Chair Prof. Ariela Gordon-Shaag guest lectured before colleagues at University College in Cork, Ireland.



EU Oculus & ASSET initiatives

Department of Optometry & Vision Sciences faculty are participating in a three-year EU project in cooperation with optometry schools in Norway, Britain, Spain, Holland, and India. "Oculus" aims to create a harmonized optometry teaching curriculum that would allow HAC graduates to participate in optometry programs throughout the EU. In addition, five faculty members from different disciplines are participating in the EU's six-nation "ASSET" program, aimed to enhance graduates' lifelong learning skills.

Career placement

A comprehensive survey of over 500 alumni who completed undergraduate studies in 2015 revealed that no less than 91% of this graduating class found employment in their chosen field of studies upon completion of their degree. Conducted by the MASHAV applied research firm, the survey confirmed HAC's success in educating students toward in-demand professions.

8th International Conference in Communication Disorders

HAC hosted a two day conference on the subject "Communication Disorders in Multilingual and Multicultural Population Groups" in January 2018. Participants included scholars from Israel and abroad who addressed subjects such as "bilingualism and language deficiencies," "Aphasia amongst bilingual adults," and "Language diagnoses adapted to bilingual children".

The conference attracted 200 speech and language therapists from throughout Israel.



Guest lecturer Prof. Loraine Obler, Graduate Center, Speech Language Hearing Sciences, CUNY –City University of New York.

CHW hosts HAC President

College President Prof. Bertold Fridlender addressed the annual general meeting of Canadian Hadassah-Wizo (CHW) held in Toronto in November 2017. The meeting was attended by CHW leadership from across Canada. Prof. Fridlender reported on the current and planned activities of the recently established CHW Center for Clinical Training & Community Care in the Department of Communication Disorders.



New Low Vision Clinic



Dr. Henry Greene of Durham, North Carolina, USA, an optometrist and retired clinical professor of ophthalmology at the University of North Carolina's School of Medicine and co-founder of Ocutech, is an NIH-funded developer of vision aids for the visually impaired. Dr. Greene is widely published in peer-reviewed journals and texts and presents lectures and courses internationally on managing the

needs of the visually impaired. Dr. Greene visited HAC's Dept. of Optometry in October 2017 and delivered a talk on the subject "Enhancing Distance Vision for the Visually Impaired". After learning of the needs and future plans of the Department, Dr. Greene and his wife Dr. Marilyn Telen generously established a Low Vision Clinic at the Department. Prof. Telen, a hematologist, is the Wellcome Professor of Medicine and Director of the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

ISCAR upgrades Inclusive Industrial Design

ISCAR Cutting Tools of Israel donated a CNC (computer numerical control) machine to the College for the benefit of students of Inclusive Industrial Design. Much of modern-day machining is carried out by CNC in which computers are used to control the movement and operation of mills, lathes, and other cutting machines. ISCAR is a producer of unique and innovative cutting tools for metalworking. Its headquarters are located in Israel, with fully-owned subsidiaries and other representatives in more than 50 countries around the globe.

