

DECEMBER 2021

# The Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine

Founded by the Alpha Omega International Fraternity

## Newsletter



The Maurice and Gabriela  
Goldschleger School  
of Dental Medicine  
Sackler Faculty of Medicine  
Tel Aviv University



Founded by Alpha  
Omega International  
Dental Fraternity

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# MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



Prof. Shlomo Matalon

As the whole world goes through the fourth wave of COVID 19 and a new storm with the new variant Omicron is at our doorstep, we at the TAUSDM have adopted the new modalities to educate dentists as well as specialists to serve the Israeli population. Dental service never stopped during these troubled times and was provided to our patients by staff members as well as students, including those with special needs. It is not an easy task, but we strive to fulfill our missions.

We continued to refurbish the students' clinics and have 75 out of 100 new dental units installed. The simulation lab, which is 35-years-old, must be replaced, and we are looking for support for this project.

Besides the daily work, we were amazed, especially in these times, by the support of AO fraters for which we are incredibly grateful. The new Path Lab project is about to start in a few months with the help of our Canadian friends headed by Michael Tenenbaum. A new initiative of a student exchange program is planned for the coming summer with our French AO friends and Andre' Amiach is the engine behind it.

There is a lot to be done and our missions have not been fulfilled yet. With your support we will overcome the obstacles this era has brought to us and reach new heights.

I hope the new year will bring good news and I hope to welcome you soon in person here at Tel Aviv School of Dental Medicine.

## Schools in South Tel Aviv

In recent years the Pediatric Dentistry Department at the School of Dental Medicine headed by Dr. Sigalit Blumer carries out a community oral health service project allowing students at schools in south Tel Aviv (Bialik, Rogozin and Keshet) and the Kadima youth homes of the leSova association to receive dental treatment in the framework of the dental clinics of the students of the clinical division under the guidance of the department's staff.

This project is the continuation of similar projects that took place over the years in the illustrious tradition of free treatment for the underprivileged population. In the framework of these important projects the students undergo a comprehensive dental examination, full dental treatment and guidance on the subject of oral health and teeth.

This year, in the 2021 study year, the project was made possible thanks to the huge support by the Head of the School of Dental Medicine, Prof. Shlomo Matalon, and it was fully financed by the School of Dental Medicine, including transportation of the students and those accompanying them from the schools to the university. In the past year over 100 children completed dental treatment, in spite of the problems that arose following the Corona epidemic.

The fruitful cooperation between the course coordinators of the fifth and sixth year students, Dr. Tal Ratzon and Dr. Nurith Dagon-Levy, and the school directors, social workers and association managers, allowed the students to treat children in various age groups and receive high quality and comprehensive studies in addition to the additional value to the community in which they live. This

year, in spite of Corona, the community activity even went beyond the walls of the clinic and the students of the senior division held a community activity day at the Kadima-Jaffo youth home, which included guidance of tooth brushing and dental health, proper nutrition and tooth examination for the students. There is no doubt that the informal meeting in the students' familiar surrounding strengthened the bond between them and the students who treat them during the year and deepened their knowledge on the subject.

The students, parents, directors and teachers expressed their joy at their participation in this welcome enterprise and they are waiting for the continuation of the activity in the next study year as well.



# OPENING TO THE COMMUNITY



## Kadima Project in Haifa

The Pediatric Dentistry Department at the Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine organized a one-day activity at the youth house “Chetz- Kadima” in Jaffa.

Twenty students of the senior year took part in various activities with the aim of maintaining the close connection with the community, enlarging the knowledge about oral health, carrying out a check-up of children in order to enable treatment at our student’s clinics, while granting the future dentists an opportunity to experience and extend their know-how outside the clinic.

The happening at the courtyard emphasized 3 main activities: 1. Nutrition guidance, including Food Pyramid, correct nutrition in regard to dental health. 2. Oral hygiene guidance, including practical experience on models, tooth brushes, pastes and dental floss. 3. Dental screening in order to diagnose the necessity of follow-up treatments.

The children received a present that included tooth brushes and pastes – a donation from the “Colgate” company.

This special activity was praised by the youth house staff and was warmly welcomed by the children.

The Pediatric Dentistry Department has an ongoing fruitful cooperation with the “Kadima” organization and the youth house in Jaffa. During the year many children from various Kadima youth houses visit our clinics regularly and get free treatments from our students. It is a win-win activity both for the students and their patients and it is also an important contribution to the community.

The one-day activity was guided by Dr. Nurit Dagon Levy, 6th grade course coordinator at the Pediatric Dentistry Department, with the assistance of two senior residents of the Department- Dr. Shiran Aharonian and Dr. Lia Aron.

Special thanks goes to Dr. Sigalit Blumer, Head of the Pediatric Dentistry Department, and Dr. Tal Ratson, the department coordinator, for their encouragement and assistance in organizing this activity.



## MSc in Dental Medicine Sciences

### About

- A unique program for certified dentists aiming to expand their knowledge of dental science and research.
- The program is offered by the Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine. The MSc degree is conferred by the Faculty of Medicine.
- The program includes a range of courses and seminars from all departments of the School of Dental Medicine.
- A research project (thesis) is required.

### The Program's goals

The Program aims to provide dentists with in-depth research-based knowledge, beyond the knowledge acquired in studies for the DMD degree. The program's graduates will understand the importance of research and its implementation, and be able to utilize new research-based knowledge, as required of every practicing dentist throughout his/her career. In addition, if they decide to join the School's staff, they will be better teachers to their students.

Research projects conducted by dentists with clinical experience will pose a

challenge to both teachers and students. Relevant research in basic dental science as well as academic clinical science, will be beneficial to all clinicians.

The innovative technologies of both present and future dentistry require extensive basic research, which can be performed by experienced researchers and students educated in dental medicine.

## The Dental Clinical Club

“The Dental Clinical Club” – a studential group which aims to introduce the dental world in all of it's aspects to the students of the Tel-Aviv University School of Dentistry - from visiting operating rooms and head & neck units in hospitals, courses and lectures

on dental implants factories, fairs, conventions, enrichment lectures and much more...

In the picture – Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Dental Clinical Club ,Or Lakes and Yonathan Farhi, thanking Head of School Prof. Shlomo Matalon for his aid and support to the clinical club in the current academics year.



## Lab-engineered bone reconstruction, not science fiction!

By Yuval Ben Moshe

The majority of bone cancer patients will need a combination of several different treatments such as surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation. Surgery for the removal of the tumor from the bone is a very important part of the treatment, but in its wake there is a significant shortage of bone that is incapable of recovering independently because of an immediate large gap between the missing edges. Consequently, an implant is required to help bridge the sides of the bone and encourage the creation of the bone tissue.

At present various kinds of implants are used, the favorite being the autologous implant taken from another area of the patient's body. The advantage of this implant is the low probability of rejection by the immune system. Sometimes it is impossible to take a sufficient amount of bone from the patient, and therefore an alternative system is the use of bone from a foreign or animal donor, which may increase the risk of rejection of the implant. Another option is the use of artificial bone made of titanium, which poses a challenge to the fusion of the implant with the bone.

In recent years a new approach has developed which supports the use of a synthetic implant (bone) produced at the lab, which enables perfect adaptation both from the physical proportions to the missing section and the immune system.

In the course of the past decade there has been significant progress in the line of tissue engineering in Israel, and the world. In this field various disciplines are combined in order to streamline accepted practices (for example animal implant). Tissue engineering makes it possible to create live cell tissue outside of the body via cell cultures which in the future will make it possible to replace sick or injured organs with healthy ones without the need for organ donation. Tissues are 3-D structures made of various kinds of cells that operate together in an orderly fashion. The process of creating these structures is very complicated and therefore one of the greatest challenges of tissue engineering is the creation of tissues with complicated complex functionality, so that it will be possible to transfer these tissues to clinical implants. At the laboratory of Dr. Lihi Adler-Abramovitz, the lab for nature inspired materials and nanotechnology at the School of Dentistry at the Faculty of Medicine of Tel Aviv University, the group of Dr. Adler-Abramovitz, together with her research colleagues Dr. Michal Halperin-Sternfeld and Dr. Zifra Rodnick-Glick, in cooperation with Prof. Itzhak Binderman have developed hydrogels that combine within them hyaluronic acid combined with protein segments, similar in structure to the intercellular material existing in the bone. These hydrogels form a 3-D matrix that enables bone tissue regeneration. In the course of the

research it was possible to see that the hydrogels constitute scaffolding for the creation of bone not only in the marginal areas, close to the original bone, but also in the development of bone islands created in the central part of the defect which in the end resulted in the healing of the bone.

Dr. Abramovitz works in cooperation with Dr. Shlomo Dadia, Senior Vice Head of the National Department of Orthopedics and Head of Surgical Innovation at Ichilov, in a project supported by the Israel Cancer Association. The aim of the research is to combine titanium implants used in onco-orthopedic treatments with hydrogels, in order to improve and encourage the creation of healthy bone tissue after resection of cancerous tumors in bones. The National Oncological Orthopedics Department has vast experience in bone implants, customized 3-D printed titanium implants. One of the problems in this system is the lack of full regeneration (tissue renewal) of the bone after insertion of the implant. The aspiration therefore is to try to combine biological materials with the implant that are necessary for the building of the bone and thus obtain bone.

## Israeli development: anti-bacterial material that may be combined with fillings

Researchers at Tel Aviv University developed anti-bacterial nano structures that may be combined with materials for the restoration of teeth and may reduce or prevent infection and caries. The combined material that may be used in fillings and reduce or even prevent recurring infection and caries requiring root canal treatment and extraction of teeth raises interest among dental specialists.

The article on the subject was published by the researchers in June 2019 in the ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, a leading journal in the line of chemistry and materials engineering.

Researchers from Tel Aviv University, guided by Dr. Lihi Adler-Abramovich of the School of Dentistry and the Nanotechnology Center, together with Lee Schneider and Prof. Ehud Gazit of the Molecular Microbiology and Biotechnology Department, developed a material that may significantly improve the quality of the fillings.

Additional partners in the research are Prof. Rafi Pilo, Prof. Tami Brosch and Dr. Rachel Sarig.

May reduce and even prevent repeat infection and caries -nano structure materials

“Many of us remember or even carry in our mouth the amalgam – the silver mixture dentists used to fill and restore teeth after drilling and removing the affected parts” says Schneider.

Today is its more common to use so-called “white fillings”, made of composite material that is more aesthetic but also has a significant disadvantage: the amalgam inter alia contained silver,

which is an anti-bacterial material, while the materials commonly used today do not have this attribute.

“The implication is that caries causing bacteria may once again relatively easily settle on the tooth and cause the need for repeat treatments that may even deteriorate into root canal treatment or extraction of the tooth. We wish to improve the new materials by adding anti-bacterial nano structures.”

For this purpose the researchers developed nano structures composed of relatively simple building stones that unite in a basic process of independent self assembly. Each of the building stones is made of a single amino acid , to which two parts are added – a part that encourages self assembly and a part that includes fluoride, an anti-bacterial material inter alia found in toothpaste.

The nano structures that were created were flexible and strong, and an experiment at the lab showed that they are also effective against bacteria, especially against streptococcus mutants, which is the main caries generator in human teeth.

“In the next phase we moved on to materials engineering technology, and we combined the material we had developed with the common composite material used for restoration of teeth in many clinics “says Dr. Adler-Abramovich. “The combining process was effective and relatively simple because of the flexibility of the nano structures, and finally a new composite material was



Model of a tooth that underwent restoration with the original composite (top) and the improved composite that contains the anti-bacterial nano structures (bottom).

obtained that meets the requirements of the dentists: a strong material, white in color and aesthetic, that combines high-quality mechanical and optic characteristics with the most important ability to destroy bacteria.”

“Our research combined many different fields of science – biotechnology, nanotechnology, biophysics, microbiology and materials engineering” concludes Ms. Scheider. “In addition, it is an example of how characteristics in the nanometric dimensions may affect materials engineering in larger dimensions.

The anti-bacterial material we developed to restore teeth aroused vast interest both amongst scientists and dentists, and we believe that our system has significant potential of additional applications as well. At present we are working on combining anti-bacterial nano structure in fabrics, in order to create anti-bacterial fabrics to be used in hospitals and dressings. Subsequently such nano structures may also be combined in implants inserted into the body, in order to prevent infection in the implant environment .”





Commuters look at their smartphones as they walk through a subway station in Beijing, Thursday, Oct. 29, 2020. (AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein)

## Cellphone obsessives are grinding their teeth, losing sleep — Israeli study

**S**aying symptoms are related to FOMO, researchers find those with smartphone dependency are physically hurting themselves

The fear of missing out, or FOMO, can lead to actual physical pain, Israeli researchers are claiming.

They focused specifically on FOMO as manifested by cellphone fixation for fear of missing messages, posts or notifications. The researchers found a direct correlation between device dependency and two markers of stress and anxiety: teeth grinding and jaw pain. People who are less attached to their phones also sleep better, with less interrupted shut-eye.



### THE TIMES OF ISRAEL

“We believe these symptoms are related to FOMO, fear of missing out,” said Dr. Pessia Friedman-Rubin, of Tel Aviv University’s dental school. “People are constantly using their phones because they are worried they will miss something, and check WhatsApp, Facebook and other apps.

“This creates a cycle of growing dependency on cellphones, which leads to feelings of stress and anxiety, and the feeling that someone might write something on social media and I’ll miss it and not be in the loop. In short, phones are actually causing many people stress, and we’re seeing physical manifestations of this.”

Friedman-Rubin and her team took advantage of a uniquely Israeli characteristic of electronics usage, in the study that integrated the Ph.D. thesis of her student Dr. Yitzhak Hochhäuser, a member of Israel’s Haredi community.

Many ultra-Orthodox people shun regular smartphones and have so-called kosher

# RESEARCH



Dr. Pessia Friedman-Rubin

phones instead — devices stripped of social media and most other apps, at the advice of rabbis.

Among regular smartphone users, 45 percent have a moderate-to-high need to constantly have their phones available and some 50% feel their phone causes them a moderate-to-high level of stress. Among kosher phone users, only 22% feel the need to be available and only 20% think their device causes them stress.

Writing in a peer-reviewed academic article soon to be published in the journal *Quintessence International*, the researchers reported a far higher incidence of anxious habits among regular smartphone users, and suggested it is due to their phone habits. The study involved 600 people, aged 18 to 35.

Some 24% of regular smartphone users reported teeth grinding during the day, and 21% at night, while for kosher phone users the figures were 6% and 7.5%, respectively. Some 29% of people who have regular devices suffered pain in their jaw muscles, but only 14% of the kosher phone users experience this pain.

At night, 54% of regular smartphone users find themselves waking up when they want to be asleep, contrasted to 20% of kosher phone users.

Friedman-Rubin said that her team wanted to probe the possibility that factors other than cellphone use, such as general cultural gaps between secular and religious Israelis, impacted results,



A woman suffering from jaw pain (fizkes via iStock by Getty Images)



A teacher holding up his cellular phone certifying that it is a 'kosher' one, at the entrance to an Ultra-Orthodox school in Jerusalem on May 6, 2020. (Nati Shohat/Flash90)

so they delved closer into patterns of device use among study participants.

“We didn’t just find differences between the groups, but also clear patterns showing that the more you use your smartphone the more likely you are to hurt from jaw pain, grind your teeth, and wake in the night,” she said. “We did very complex statistical work and saw if you separate out other factors, cellphone use is most likely to account for the patterns of behavior we saw.”



Illustrative image: smartphone addiction concept. (myella via iStock by Getty Images)

Asked whether it’s possible that smartphones aren’t causing stress, but rather an outlet for stress, which may explain the correlation, Friedman-Rubin said this hypothesis doesn’t match comments provided by participants on questionnaires. Many presented smartphones as a source of stress, she commented.

Friedman-Rubin said that the research isn’t intended to denigrate smartphone technology, but does suggest that people should set limits.

“We are of course in favor of technological progress, but as with everything in life, the excessive use of smartphones can lead to negative symptoms,” Friedman-Rubin said. “It is important that the public is aware of the consequences it has on the body and mind.”

## Dramatic discovery in Israeli excavation: A new type of *Homo* unknown to science



The bones of an early human, unknown to science, who lived in the Levant at least until 130,000 years ago, were discovered in excavations at the Neshet Ramla site, near the city of Ramla. According to common practice, the new *Homo* fossil was named after the site where it was discovered – the Neshet Ramla *Homo* type. Recognizing similarity to other archaic *Homo* specimens from 400,000 years ago, found in Israel and Eurasia, the researchers reached the conclusion that the Neshet Ramla fossils represent a unique Middle Pleistocene population, now identified for the first time.

The discovery of a new *Homo* group in this region, which resembles Pre-Neanderthal populations in Europe, challenges the prevailing hypothesis that Neanderthals

originated from Europe, suggesting that at least some of the Neanderthals' ancestors actually came from the Levant.

The new finding suggests that two types of *Homo* groups lived side by side in the Levant for more than 100,000 years (200-100,000 years ago), sharing knowledge and tool technologies: The Neshet Ramla people who lived in the region from around 400,000 years ago, and the *Homo sapiens* who arrived later, some 200,000 years ago.

Two teams of researchers took part in the dramatic discovery, published in the prestigious *Science* journal: an anthropological team headed by Prof. Israel Hershkovitz, Dr. Hila May from the Sackler Faculty of Medicine and Dr. Rachel

Sarig from the Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine, the Sackler Faculty of Medicine, all are also affiliated to the Dan David Center for Human Evolution and Biohistory Research and the Shmunis Family Anthropology Institute, situated in the Steinhardt Museum at Tel Aviv University; and an archaeological team headed by Dr. Yossi Zaidner from the Institute of Archaeology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Ariel Pokhojaev, a fourth year student at the Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine took an active part in the research of the Neshet-Ramla *Homo*. Ariel took part in conducting the 3D analysis of the parietal bone, mandible and teeth and was one of the authors in the *Science* publication.

## Notable achievements by students

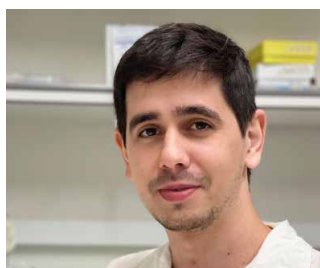
Congratulations to **Nathan Schiffmann**, who was awarded the prestigious Colgate Oral Disease Prevention Research Award on behalf of IADR.

Nathan is a third year student at the Goldschlager School of Dental Medicine, studying enzyme responsive peptide nanoparticles for therapeutic application under the supervision of Prof. Lihi Adler-Abramovich (Department of Oral Biology), Dr. Eyal Rosen (Department of Endodontics) and Prof. Carlos Nemcovsky (Department of Periodontology and Dental Implants).

Nathan studies the nanoparticles and their application in developing a new strategy for the launch of drugs aimed at curing oral diseases. The results of the study were presented at the bi-annual international conference of the IADR Organization for Dental Research, in the framework of which he was awarded a virtual prize.



Congratulations to **Yoav Dan** and **Dana Cohen-Gerassi** from the Adler-Abramovich Laboratory of Bioinspired Materials and Nanotechnology at the School of Dental Medicine, Sackler Faculty of Medicine for winning the Excellency Award for PhD students from the Marian Gertner Institute for Nano-Medical Devices.



Congratulations to **Dr. Priyadarshi Chakraborty**, a postdoc from the Adler-Abramovich Laboratory of Bioinspired Materials and Nanotechnology at the School of Dental Medicine, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, on receiving a scholarship for outstanding students engaged in scientific activities dealing with current and future epidemics from the Tel Aviv University Epidemic Center

## Collaborations

**Dana Cohen-Gerassi** is a joint PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Adler-Abramovich (School of Dental Medicine) and Prof. Yosi Shacham-Diamand (School of Electrical Engineering). Dana recently published her study on phase transition of a supramolecular system in the prestigious journal Chemistry of Material, which also appeared on the front cover of the Journal.

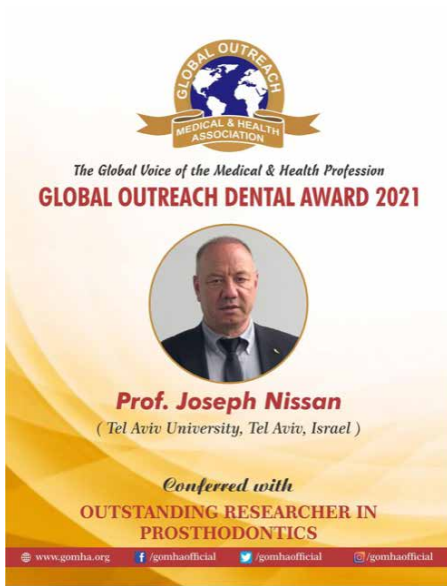


Congratulations to **Mr. Itzhak Grinberg** for receiving the best Poster Presentation Award at the NANO.IL.2021 international nanotechnology conference, held in Jerusalem on October 4-6 in. Itzhak is a PhD candidate at Prof. Lihi Adler-Abramovich's Laboratory for Bio-Inspired Materials & Nanotechnology in the Goldschlager School for Dental Medicine. Itzhak's poster titled "Protection of Oxygen-Sensitive Enzymes by Peptide Hydrogel" is based on a paper recently published in ACS Nano. The study was done in collaboration with the Iftach Yacoby research team from the faculty of Life-Sciences.



## Global Outreach Dental Award 2021

Conferred with Outstanding Researcher in Prosthodontics to Prof. Joseph Nissan by the Global Outreach Medical & Health Association.



Osnat Peretz won the third place in the doughnut competition that took place on the holiday of Hanuka



from left to right: Gad Frank, director –general, Osnat Peretz and Dana Aharon

## Outstanding Workers

This year we distributed certificates to three workers for their admirable job.

The selected employees for this year are:



Ariel Pokhojaev



Baruch Ksantini



Alina Pruslin

## Outstanding Teachers



**Prof Ilana Kaplan** from the Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine Department and **Dr. Noa Sadan** from the Orthodontic Department received Dean's Excellence in teaching, the year 2019-2020.



**Dr. Alona Emodi** and **Dr. Alina Beker** from the Oral Rehabilitation received Dean's Excellence in teaching, the year 2020-2021.



**DR. Haia Meir** from the Periodontics Department received outstanding Rector in teaching, the year 201-2020.

## Academic Promotion

**Dr. Shlomo Elbahary** was promoted to the rank of Lecturer in Endodontology



**Prof. Lihi Adler- Abramovich** was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in Oral Biology



**Dr. Michael Saminsky** was promoted to the rank of Lecturer in Periodontology



**Prof. JOSEPH Nissan** was promoted to the rank of Full Professor in Oral Rehabilitation



**Dr. Ayelet Zlotogorski** was promoted to the rank of Lecturer in Oral Medicine

**Dr. Uziel Jeffet** was promoted to the rank of Lecturer in Oral Rehabilitation

**DR. Abboud Waeem** was promoted to the rank of Lecturer of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

## Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine

The World Health Organization (WHO) is the highest authority that sets the standard in all fields of medicine, including pathology. Authors invited by the WHO are world leaders in their fields of specialty. Prof. Marilena Vered and Prof. Ilana Kaplan, from the Department of Oral Pathology, Oral Medicine and Maxillofacial Imaging have been invited by the publishers of the WHO to participate in writing 8 chapters for the next edition of the Head and Neck Classification of Head and Neck Tumors (5<sup>th</sup> Ed). This prestigious invitation is a proof of the international recognition of their contribution to the field of Oral Pathology. As each chapter is written in collaboration with colleagues from around the world, it is a platform to share knowledge and experience, and create international relationships for future collaboration.

Another leading organization in the field is the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology (IAOP). In the latest IAOP conference which was in an on-line format with close to 1,500 participants around the world, Prof. Marilena Vered was invited to lead an open debate on a controversial issue in Oral Pathology, yet another indication of the important role our Department has in the international scientific community.

Both Profs. Kaplan and Vered have completed their oral pathology training in the Department of Oral Pathology at our school, the facilities of which have not been updated during the last four decades. With the generosity of the Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University (CFTAU), we are now in a phase where the long-time awaited plan for the renovation

has been completed, and will soon begin to enter an operational phase.

The Oral Medicine clinics have expanded their scope last year in spite of the difficulties associated with the pandemic situation, and introduced a clinic offering bio-photomodulation treatment (“soft LASER”) for different conditions of the oral mucosa, including oral side effects of cancer therapy.



Frequently reported symptoms of Covid-19 infection are loss of smell and taste. Although these symptoms are self-limiting, and in most cases resolve spontaneously within several weeks, some patients have persistent symptoms. To address this recently discovered problem, a study was initiated at our Department testing several parameters of taste and smell with scientific tools. In addition, as part of the clinic for taste

and smell disturbances, testing and consultation are offered.

During October and November 2020, a course on Dry-Needling of the Head-Neck-Face and Jaws Area was organized in our dental school by The Israeli Society of Oral Medicine (ISOM). Dr. Osnat Grinstein-Koren from our Department, who was then the treasurer of ISOM, greatly contributed to the meeting organization, especially under the COVID-19 pandemic limitations.

The course was conducted in small groups and included lectures as well as hands-on practice. This combination of theoretical and clinical training equipped the participants with an additional therapeutic tool for the treatment of a variety of head and neck pain syndromes, especially myofascial pain and temporomandibular joint disorders.

Dr. Osnat Grinstein-Koren, the current chairperson of the ISOM, and Dr. Ayelet Zlotogorski-Hurvitz, the treasurer of the ISOM, both from our Department, have organized the upcoming annual ISOM meeting, due to take place on October 7-8, 2021. Organization of any meeting nowadays poses challenging issues within the limitations dictated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and this year's

meeting was no exception. The meeting is going to focus on oral and maxillofacial radiology, and will include among others, the integration of artificial intelligence, the use of CBCT imaging in oral medicine and general dentistry and different imaging techniques of salivary glands and the temporomandibular joints.

# SPOT ON THE DEPARTMENT

## Maxillofacial Imaging

Following a long period of renovation and investment, the Unit of Oral and Maxillofacial Imaging has been successfully opened, with Dr. Lazar Katz

from our Department serving as the Head of this unit. State of the art imaging facility is put at the service of students and their patients, researchers and

dental professionals in the community. Courses and consultation services in interpretation of CBCT imaging are part of the mission of the Department.





## Excursion of the Department of Orthodontics

As with each class, the present international residency class, PG11, and the department of orthodontics went on a departmental excursion. Together with the school's management team, this time



the trip was to the south. We started at Kadesh Barnea, where we were hosted by a former resident of the department and we received an explanation (and tasting as well) about the growing of cherry tomatoes. We went on to sand surfing and a short excursion at Hamukei Nitzana -a jewel in the heart of the desert. We finished with a lantern tour at the Shivta archeological site and returned home very happy, tired and most of all – even more united!!



## Pediatric Dentistry End of Study year Celebration

The Pediatric Dentistry Department at Tel Aviv University celebrated the end of the 2020-2021 study year in a festive and exciting event.

After a year and a half in which it was impossible to meet following Corona restrictions, the specialists, interns, assistants and their partners gathered on Friday afternoon, 16.7.21, at the home of the Head of the Department, Dr. Sigalit Blumer. The Head of the School, Prof. Shlomo Matalon attended the event and he warmly welcomed the members of the Department.

Dr. Sigalit congratulated all the attendants, thanked the members of the Department for their cooperation,

devotion and dedication in the training of the students and internees.

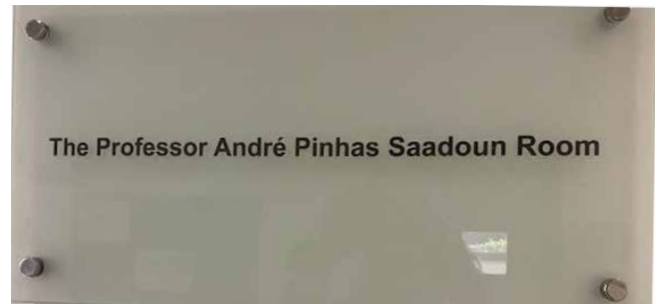
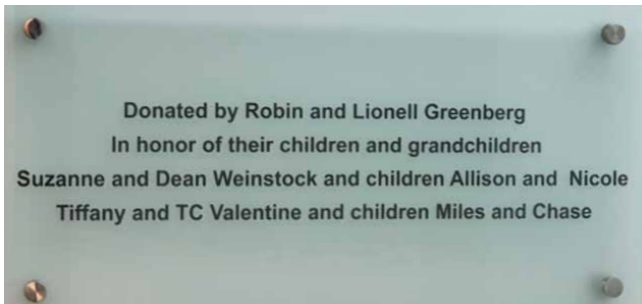
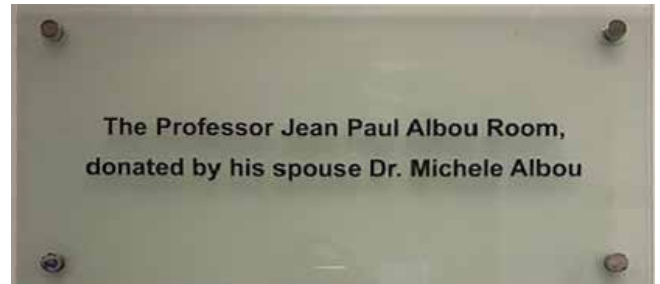
She particularly thanked them for their loyal and not so simple work in the period of Corona which required hard work in the preparation of lectures, looking after the health of the children being treated and social sensitivity towards the students as well.

The social gathering was enjoyable and important for the formation of the Department's staff and

we hope we will be able to continue to celebrate at the end of next year as well in good health.



# THANK YOU FRIENDS



# SCHOLARSHIPS



The Strauss company grants a subsistence scholarship of 10,000 new Israeli shekel, to students of dentistry, in memory of **Dr. Efraim Kfir**.

The widow of the late **Dr. Michael Kolreiter** donated \$3000 for a scholarship in his memory to the School of Dental Medicine.

# RETIREES

Recently several faculty members and members of the School's administrative staff, have retired after years of productive and fruitful work.

We all thank you for your devotion and contribution to our School and wish you many more years of health and happiness



Yehezkel Balas



Shaala Cohen



Dr. Ronit Greenstein-Bar Ness

# REMEMBERING

## In memory of Prof. Colin Gorfil

Dear friends, after a long and protracted illness, Colin Gorfil has left us for a better place. Colin was here from the outset when our School was still in its infancy. He was a unique personality and outstanding educator during his tenure.

Colin was an ardent Zionist even while teaching his skills in the School of Dental Medicine in South Africa. Upon his immigration to Israel, together with a handful of fellow Olim and reservist academicians he was recruited to teach and update the dento-medical skills of other immigrants from the former Soviet Union and East Europe – which turned out to be the initial spark that became the Dental School at Tel Aviv University. The story goes that the only common language in which they could communicate with their first students was Yiddish. In fact, they had to learn the medical terms in Yiddish to be able to transfer their knowledge.

Colin was a central pillar of the new Department of Restorative Dentistry together with Prof. Herbert Judes, of blessed memory, and Dr. Lseli Sarvro, may he be blessed with health and longevity, all of whom came to us from South Africa. They went on to recruit Dr. Steve Imber from England, Dr. Gus Sadovitch from Rhodesia, Dr. Trevor Segal from South Africa, Dr. Brian Brody (blessed be his memory) from South Africa. They gathered several young local graduates around them: Prof. Zvi Metzger, Prof. Ariel Ben-Amar, Prof. Ervin Weiss, Prof. Ilana Eli, Prof. Reuven Lieberman,

Dr. Danny Nordenberg, (blessed be his memory), Dr. Haim Renart, Dr. Moshe Gordon, Dr. Nissim Levy, Dr. Seli Gieger and other talented individuals who formed a department in their image, from which sprouted specialists, researchers, academicians, and the next generation of professors and associate professors. In addition, his former students, now alumni, were fortunate to have studied under his tutelage, including the current Head of School.

Colin was an exceptional Associate Professor and went on to become the Department co-ordinator with the retirement of Dr. Sarvro and then Department Chairman during Prof. Judes's tenure as Head of School.

The School of Dental Medicine at the University of Tel Aviv was part of Colin's body and soul. He dedicated himself to maintain its functionality even when there loomed a threat of its closure. Together with the "Friends of the Dental School", allies in the University Board of Governors, and especially Ralf Rothstien (blessed be his memory) and Dr. Ben Wiliamovsky (blessed be his memory) as well as with others from Canada, the USA and France managed to stave off this threat.

Colin was a member of the ICD, and a very active member in Alpha Omega both globally and in its Tel Aviv chapter. In 1998, he served as the Marshal at Arms during the International Alpha Omega conference held in Jerusalem. This was

to be one of the most successful as well as memorable conferences ever convened by this fraternity.

Dr. Colin Gorfil was an extremely dedicated father and grandfather. A warm-hearted man who navigated his ship skillfully, as well as an adept amateur carpenter of no minor talent.

On the tragic passing of Ella Gorfil, his beloved wife and mother of his children, who succumbed to illness, Colin perpetuated her memory by endowing a scholarship fund in her name in our School. This was a source of comfort to him, together with the inclusion of Hadas into the wider family.

Colin was also dedicated to his patients who sought his expert care in his clinic in Natanya where he partnered with Dr. Sadovitch. His scores of patients were aware that they were receiving the best of care from the most professional of doctors.

Above all else Colin Gorfil was a "MENSCH". He stood out head and shoulders above everyone else. He loved and respected his fellow man, he was an incredibly intelligent individual who exuded warmth and humility to students, colleagues and patients alike, and he made the dental sciences better.

For all those who were fortunate enough to have known Colin, closely or otherwise, his passing has significance. He will be sorely missed.

## In memory of Prof. Zvi Kardash

The late Prof. Zvi Kardash was a member of the Oral Rehabilitation Department for over thirty years, teaching generations of dentists and oral rehabilitation specialists, as well as dozens of patients, especially in the implant rehabilitation unit.

Together with his clinical work, Prof. Kardash was a sworn researcher and published over 70 articles in the critical scientific press. His research areas were very diverse and mainly included various issues of oral rehabilitation. His research activity also included assistance and guidance of the younger generation in research (writing and planning) and thanks to him, his support and guidance, many doctors obtained an academic nomination. Tens of graduates he guided

in their work successfully finished their studies. His professional path and legacy in the field of complete dentures are still being used by the department's faculty in teaching students and form part of the department's theory in oral rehabilitation.

Prof. Kardash was a great doctor and devoted to treating his patients, who greatly appreciated him and saw him as the address for consultation on all medical issues, even those that were very complicated, and often on personal issue. Together with his sensitivity towards man and society, he was smart and wise.

Along with his professionalism, Prof. Kardash was a man endowed with modesty and humility, peace of mind, a personality devoid of mannerism. He

was always ready to answer any question, never said no to any request.

As a friend of all the department's staff members it was always pleasant to meet him, see the smile on his face. Together with the serenity he radiated he had professionalism, intelligence and wisdom combined with humanity and looked one straight into the eye.

His character will continue to stay with us.

There are no words to express the immense loss. Our condolences go out to his wife and his entire family, may they be spared any more grief.

The Department of Oral Rehabilitation.





The Maurice and Gabriela  
Goldschleger School  
of Dental Medicine  
Sackler Faculty of Medicine  
Tel Aviv University



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