

Events

The Open University campus in Raanana is the focus of academic and cultural activities for academia and the general public. This year the campus was the venue for numerous symposia, workshops and conferences sponsored by scientific and professional associations. Several additional symposia in which we collaborated took place in other locations. Many of these were filmed and recorded and can be accessed through the OU website: <http://www.openu.ac.il/Events/>.

Academic Symposia

- **Open Knowledge – Freedom of Spirit**, celebrating the dedication of the Chais Auditorium on the Open University Raanana campus. The conference hosted, among others, President of the Supreme Court, Prof. Aharon Barak; Israel Prize laureate, Prof. Sara Yefet; and Nobel laureate, Prof. Aaron Ciechanover. A work composed by the head of the Department of Literature, Language and the Arts and ACUM Award winner, Dr. Ron Weidberg, was played.
- **Seminar for Tutsi Survivors of the Rwandan Genocide**, held in Yad VaShem
- **Muslims and Others in the Land of Israel and Africa**, in honor of the issue of *Zmanim* dedicated to the topic
- **Edvard Grieg: From National Romanticism to New Folklorism**, celebrating 100 years of the independence of Norway, in collaboration with the Embassy of Norway
- **Thoughts on Biology**
- **Ethiopia, An Encounter between Religions: Axum, Harar, Zion**, in collaboration with the Ethiopian-Israel Friends Association and with the participation of Ethiopia's Ambassador to Israel
- **The Second Temple: "In those days, at this season,"** held in Modiin in collaboration with the municipality and the Hebrew Union College
- **Judaism and Christianity – Mother and Daughter**, in collaboration with Yad Ben-Tzvi
- **Philosophy, History and What Lies Between Them**, in honor of Elazar Weinryb
- **Catharsis: Old versus New**
- **The Political Thought of Yeshayahu Leibovitz**, in collaboration with Bar Ilan University
- **On the Relevance of Sociology in Public Discourse**, in honor of Yael Enoch
- **Culture, Society and Myth**: A colloquium on Rabbi Haim Vital's *Book of Visions*, in collaboration with The Shlomo Moussaieff Center for Research in Kabbalah, Bar Ilan University
- **Language, Eros, Being: Kabbalistic Hermeneutics and Poetic Imagination**, held at Bar Ilan University.
- **Arabic Culture and Politics in the beginning of the "Revival Era" in the Middle East**, held in Umm el-Fahem, in collaboration with the municipality
- **Inter-Cultural Displacement**, Annual Meeting of the Israeli Association for Theatre Research
- **"I am also Socially Oriented": Do the 2006 Elections Offer a Social Agenda?**
- **The Value of Filial Piety in the Chinese Tradition and in Judaism**, in collaboration with the Department of East Asian Studies at Haifa University
- **Space and Memory in Palestinian Cinema**, honoring the publication of the book *Landscape in Mist*, in collaboration with the Tel Aviv Cinematheque and Am Oved
- **Yemeni Jews in Eretz Israel**, in collaboration with Yad Ben-Zvi
- **"Other" Victims**, celebrating the publication of two volumes in the OU course *Genocide*
- **Language in a Changing World**, the 5th Conference of the Israel Association for the Study of Language and Society
- **Elections 2006: The Changing Political Face of Israel?**, Israeli Political Science Association Annual Conference
- **Enforcement of Workers' Rights**, in collaboration with the Israel Society for Labour Relations Research, and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation
- **Rashi's Commentary to the Torah**, commemorating 900 years since the death of Rashi.
- **Journalism in a Changing World: Jews and Arabs in Muslim Countries**, event in memory of Hagar Hillel

International Conferences

- **The 2nd Israeli Game Theory Conference**, in honor of Prof. Yisrael Aumann, 2005 Nobel laureate in Economics
- **Transmission of Knowledge in Jewish Culture**, a conference in collaboration with the International Association of Jewish Science/Judaic studies.
- **Narrating the Nile, Cultures, Identities and Memories**, in collaboration with Tel Aviv University and the National Science Fund.
- **Learning in the Technological Era**, the First Chais Conference on Instructional Technologies Research

Symposium Marking Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day

For the first time this year, the Open University marked the Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day in a symposium that combined lectures and a special concert.

Events for the General Public

The Chais Research Center held a series of symposia open to the general public. The symposia, which drew large audiences, addressed various aspects of learning technologies and their effect on human society.

- **Gaming in the Technological Era**
- **Real Money in a Virtual World: Effects on Businesses and Individuals**

- **A Critical View of Learning and Technology**, a series of guest lectures
- **Constant Availability – Threat or Opportunity? The Use of Mobile Technologies for Learning, Communication and Leisure**
- **Gender and Technology**
- **Trust and Breach of Trust in Online Relationships: On Psychological Contracts between Seller and Buyer over the Internet**, in collaboration with the Department of Management and Economics and the Department of Education and Psychology

The Public Relations Unit, in collaboration with several academic departments, held events for the general public as a contribution to the community and as a means of strengthening relations with residents of Raanana and its environs.

- **Lost in a Minute: One Trip Too Many**, in collaboration with the Department of Education and Psychology, Raanana municipality and the Al-Sam Association
- **“Musical Notes,”** a series of concerts with commentary by Dr. Ron Weidberg, in collaboration with *Ascolot* and the Department of Literature, Language and the Arts.
- **“Tribute to the Alcove,”** a series of exhibitions of works by Israeli artists, curated by Dr. Alec Mishory of the Department of Literature, Language and the Arts.

