

International Academic Initiatives

The OUI engages in extensive international cooperation with other institutions. Faculty members maintain contact with their peers from around the world, and the OUI regularly hosts delegations from universities and other organizations worldwide. The OUI's Unit for International Academic Initiatives aims to further extend and enhance these initiatives, which serve to connect the OUI to academic projects worldwide, benefitting both faculty and students.

Our initiatives in 2016 included meetings with a delegation from Liberia in order to examine the possibility of academic cooperation. We also met with representatives from the French embassy in order to explore the feasibility of collaboration between French and Israeli academic institutions. Meetings were held with faculty members from the Ural State University in Russia, faculty members from the Institut National des Arts et Métiers (CNAM), and representatives of the Universidad Nacional Abierta y a Distancia (UNAD) in Colombia, together with representatives of Intelitek RoboGroup.

Dr. Yoram Kalman gave a lecture at a conference on online learning in Paraguay – Evento E-learning 2015, where he represented the OUI.

The Open University is planning to launch the Open Israel and Jewish Studies Program, which will include eight courses to be taught in academic institutions abroad. At present, a pilot course, Israeli Society as Perceived in the World of Arts, is being developed.

The OUI signed a memorandum of understanding for the development of a certificate study program as part of the Short Learning Programs (SLPs) for the European Association for Distance Teaching Universities (EADTU). The memorandum was signed in Brussels, at a meeting attended by the OUI Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Prof. Aviad Heifetz, and by Prof. Tamar Hermann.

Faculty members of various OUI academic departments and representatives of the Erasmus+ offices in Israel attended an Erasmus+ information conference on promoting higher education in EU's neighboring countries. In conjunction with the Erasmus+ program, the OUI will shortly launch a cooperative effort between Dr. Ofer Levi of the Mathematics and Computer Sciences department and a colleague from a Greek university. The program includes mutual visits of faculty members to formulate a joint work plan.

Collaboration with publishers abroad

Translation of books:

Wiley, Pearson, and Cambridge University Press: Three units of *Introduction to the Art of Greece and Rome*; Pearson: *Abnormal Psychology*; *Physiology of Behavior*; Cengage Learning Inc.: *Cognitive Psychology*.

Books published this year in cooperation with other publishing houses:

Oxford University Press: *The French Revolution*; Cengage Learning Inc.: *Biology, the Unity and Diversity of Life*, (vol. 2); McGraw-Hill: *The World of Chemistry*; and W. H. Freeman: *Biochemistry I*.

Cooperative agreements with other publishing houses:

Rowman and Littlefield: *The Genocide Contagion: How We Commit and Confront Holocaust and Genocide*; Sussex Academic Press: *The Destruction of the Indigenous Peoples of Hispano-America: A Genocidal Encounter*; University of Irbil, Kurdistan/Iraq: *Genocide* (units 1–3, 5–10, 12,) [Arabic].