

# External Studies

## Professional Development

This year, another term of the Principals' Training Program was completed in conjunction with the Avney Rosha Institute for School Leadership. The two-year professional development programs for senior teachers continued as part of the Ofek Hadash reform. Training of leading professionals as part of the national digitization program continued throughout the country for all population sectors (Jewish, Arab, Druze and Bedouin).

In 2015-2016 a number of new programs were launched:

- **Academia in the Classroom:** Designed for students who have reached the practicum stage in studies towards a teaching diploma, this program aims to deepen and enhance their practical experiences, promote significant learning processes in the schools, and create a partnership model for academics within the schools where this practical experience is acquired. Students of history, psychology, literature and citizenship studies participated in the program, under supervision of a pedagogical instructor.
- **Training for teaching gifted students:** The Center for Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, having won the tender, has launched a 240-hour program designed to train ultra-Orthodox female teachers in teaching gifted students.
- **Etgarim (Challenges) program:** A pilot program designed to develop school leadership and create a leading administrative framework in the school was implemented for the first time this year, in twelve Arab-sector schools.
- **Assessment of Learning Performance Training:** A training program for assessment of learning performance was opened this year in the Jewish and Bedouin sectors. The program aims to integrate all the programs currently handling individual advancement within the schools, with a view to optimizing the support offered to struggling students and students with learning disabilities. This is a 240-hour, two-year program.

## External Studies Center (Ma'aleh)

### Ascolot – School of Interdisciplinary Studies

Ascolot saw an increase in the number of enrollments, to more than 24,000. The Government and Strategy: Intelligence and National Security Forum course remained successful this year. It was given in Tel Aviv (for the eighth year in a row) by Eitan Ben-Eliahu, in Haifa by Ron Ben Yishai, and in Jerusalem by Tali Lipkin Shahak. Other courses offered again this year were the Economic Forum course, given by Sever Plotzker, and the Legal Forum course, given by Eitan Ben-Eliahu and Yuval Yoez. Courses in art continued at Beit Ayala, and additional morning courses were also offered in other venues. A new course was introduced in the field of cinema. Over 7,000 students interested in various facets of film culture have attended the Ascolot courses throughout Israel. A new literature course was offered this year in Jerusalem by author Haim Be'er, and another new course, Pre-publishing, was added to the literature program. Music programs have continued, with composer-conductor Gil Shohat hosting leading artists in six different courses. Cooperation with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra continued this year with a pre-concert course that has been offered continuously for about two decades. A new branch was opened in Rishon le-Zion and programming has also continued in Omer and Rehovot.

### Hasifa – School of Communication, Television and Multimedia

Hasifa offers a variety of study tracks, some of which grant BA credits, in partnership with the OUI's Center for Media Studies. For the first time, the school has launched a study program in videotherapy – a therapy method that uses video films – and has entered into collaboration with the Tel Aviv Cinematheque for the benefit of program graduates. During the school year, the school held a series of conferences in collaboration with the Center for Media Studies, and organized an end-of-year exhibition for the computer game section of the visual arts department. The game "Pioneers," created by two graduates of the school, won second prize in the children's games category of the Game of the Year competition of GameIS. Several films by graduates were selected for screening at the Short Film Corner of the Cannes Festival.

### **Tafnit – Continuing Education for Managers**

Tafnit continues to expand its programs, with courses in business consulting, human resource management, digital marketing, information management, and mental training gathering momentum. In addition to operating in the private sector, Tafnit this year conducted projects with leading organizations in Israel's industry, including countrywide management training workshops for business owners in conjunction with Bank Leumi, and an executive training program with the Ministry of Justice. The school hosts the OUI Forum for Young Entrepreneurs, which provides an opportunity for young businesspeople to present their work to executives and entrepreneurs throughout Israel.

### **Diploma – School of Certificate Studies**

Diploma offers professional training tracks and preparatory courses for certification exams in a range of fields, including tourism, finance, and design. The Center for Interior Design Studies, the school's largest Certificate Studies track, enables students to include short modules from outside the main track in their studies. Topics included in the program are interior design and planning, furniture design, lighting design, SketchUp, and home styling.

### **DiAlog – School of Languages**

DiAlog offers numerous courses for the general public and business organizations in Israel. This year, the school has introduced innovations into its study programs, including quality criteria, revised syllabi and study programs, unifying courses over different semesters, and teaching of the training method.

In the business sector, extensive courses were offered at a number of commercial companies and at the Ministry of Defense. As part of training programs offered to senior officials, the school operates a nationwide training system to improve English PR and media skills. Private tutorials are offered to senior employees and officers in the Israeli Police and to Foreign Ministry representatives. Courses and workshops also take place for Bank of Israel senior executives.

### **Meirav – School of Complementary Medicine**

Meirav offers professional training in a wide range of complementary medicine, as well as courses for personal enrichment and empowerment. Meirav courses are offered at HaKfar Hayarok, in Jerusalem, Modi'in, and in Beer Sheva. Cooperation has been launched with Kemah, a non-profit organization for the academic advancement of the ultra-Orthodox, which proposes financing and scholarships to those eligible to join the Meirav courses. To this end, courses adjusted to the ultra-Orthodox community have been developed. The school also sponsors organizations in the field of complementary medicine, such as Psagot Institute, Ma'ayanot College and Beit Yatziv.

### **Beit Daniel**

In 2016, as in preceding years, Beit Daniel hosted events in a wide range of topics and areas. It conducted advanced study sessions for musicians of all ages, including wind-instrument players, country singers, chamber musicians, orchestras, classical music ensembles, and more. It continued its long tradition of hosting three musical weekends under the guidance of Smadar Carmi-Giberman, which were open to the general public. This year's events were dedicated to the music of Mozart, Dvořak, Britten, and Rutter.

In 2016, numerous academic and educational institutions held seminars, conferences and meetings of lecturers and students from Israel and abroad in Beit Daniel. It was also the venue for annual conferences of various faculties and departments, as well as continuing education courses for teaching staff, and preparation of annual work plans and professional training programs in various fields. The OUI organized conferences for its academic and administrative departments, including the Text and Context workshop of the History, Philosophy and Jewish Studies Department, with the participation of researchers from all Israeli universities, and a seminar on biological thought for OUI graduate students.

During the past year, social, art, and community organizations, non-profit organizations, and public and private businesses have held workshops for executives and employees at Beit Daniel. It has been the site of professional conferences, training and advanced courses, team-building days, and poetry and creative workshops. The Zikhron Yaakov local council hosted the mayor and representatives of Zikhron Yaakov's sister town in France, Charenton-le Pont, at Beit Daniel for a week.