



55<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GEORGE A. KATZ  
**TORCH of  
LEARNING AWARD  
LUNCHEON**

**HONORING**  
**EUGENIE C. GAVENCHAK**  
SVP AND DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL  
NEWS CORP

**ELIZABETH STOTLAND WEISWASSER**  
PARTNER & CO-CHAIR, LITIGATION DEPARTMENT  
PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP

**THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025 | 12:00–2:00PM**  
CIPRIANI 42ND STREET, NEW YORK CITY

55<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GEORGE A. KATZ  
TORCH *of* LEARNING AWARD  
LUNCHEON

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*\*Includes gifts received as of April 28, 2025*

### **Special acknowledgment to our extraordinary friends of Hebrew University's Faculty of Law and Clinics:**

The David Berg Foundation  
The Gal Foundation  
The George A. and Frances R. Katz Foundation  
The Knapp Family Foundation

# GEORGE A. KATZ TORCH of LEARNING AWARD

The George A. Katz Torch of Learning Award is presented annually to distinguished members of the legal community in recognition of outstanding leadership, professional achievement, and commitment to civic and social causes in dedication to the betterment of humanity. The award is conferred upon exemplary individuals who uphold the high ideals and philanthropic commitment embodied by the late George A. Katz (ז"ל). A co-founder of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, George was a renowned philanthropic leader and longstanding supporter of the Hebrew University, along with his wife, Frances R. Katz, a member of AFHU's National Board of Directors. 🇮🇱

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## EVENT PROGRAM

### WELCOME

**Pamela Nadler Emmerich**

*National President, National Board of Directors, AFHU*

### MOTZI

**Ira Lee Sorkin**

*Honorary President, National Board of Directors, AFHU*

### INTRODUCTION

**Frances R. Katz**

*National Board of Directors, AFHU*

### GREETINGS

**Professor Tomer Broude**

*Dean, Faculty of Law, Hebrew University*

### CAMPUS VISIT

**Hebrew University Faculty of Law Video**

### LUNCH

***B'tayavon and Bon Appétit***

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Congratulatory Video**

### AWARD PRESENTATION

**David B. Pitofsky**

*2017 Torch of Learning Award Laureate, Event Co-Chair*

### AWARD ACCEPTANCE

**Eugenie C. Gavenchak**

*Torch of Learning Award Honoree*

### AWARD PRESENTATION

**Brad S. Karp**

*2005 Torch of Learning Award Laureate  
Northeast Region Board Member, AFHU  
Event Co-Chair*

### AWARD ACCEPTANCE

**Elizabeth Stotland Weiswasser**

*Torch of Learning Award Honoree*

### PRESENTATION

**Uria Beeri**

*Student, Faculty of Law, Hebrew University*

### CLOSING REMARKS

**Meredith E. Kotler**

*2015 Torch of Learning Award Laureate  
Northeast Region Board Member, AFHU  
Event Advisor*

# HONOREES



**EUGENIE C. GAVENCHAK** is Senior Vice President, Deputy General Counsel of News Corp, a global media and entertainment company. Genie began working at News Corp in May 1995, where she oversees litigation and other disputes domestically and abroad, assists in identifying and avoiding risk and advises on matters of Corporate and Information Governance. Genie also serves on News Corp's Information Governance Steering Committee and as Senior Vice President of a number of subsidiaries and affiliates of News Corp. Genie's areas of expertise include libel, privacy, copyright, antitrust, unfair competition and shareholder litigation.

Prior to joining News Corp, Genie was a partner at Squadron, Ellenoff, Plesent, Sheinfeld & Sorkin, which she joined in 1979, after clerking for Chief Justice Edward F. Hennessey of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. At Squadron, Ellenoff, Genie's clients included News Corp, the *New York Post*, *New York Magazine*, *Star*, *The Village Voice*, HarperCollins, 20th Century Fox, Studio 54, the Actors Studio and Games Management Services, the company that brought Lotto to the United States and managed the game for the New York State Lottery.

Genie is a graduate of Wesleyan University, where she graduated with Honors, and Boston University School of Law, where she was an Editor on the Boston University Law Review. 📖



**ELIZABETH STOTLAND WEISSWASSER** is one of the nation's preeminent life sciences litigators. Co-chair of the Paul, Weiss Litigation Department, Elizabeth specializes in high-stakes patent litigation and strategic counseling for leading pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device companies, combining deep scientific expertise with sophisticated patent law knowledge. She has extensive experience in federal courts and before the U.S. Patent Office in inter partes and post-grant review proceedings. Elizabeth's practice spans the full range of biopharma technologies, including biologics, small molecules, formulation, drug delivery and methods of treatment. She also leads teams in related antitrust and commercial litigation matters in the life sciences sector.

Prior to her legal career, Elizabeth earned a B.A. in biochemistry and molecular biology from Northwestern University and conducted graduate studies in molecular biology at Princeton University. Following law school at The University of Chicago, she clerked for Judge Alan D. Lourie of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Elizabeth has received numerous accolades, including being named "IP Litigator of the Year" by *Benchmark Litigation*, "New York Litigator of the Year" by *Managing Intellectual Property*, and "Life Sciences Litigator of the Year" by *Euromoney*. She has been recognized as one of the 10 "Most Innovative Legal Practitioners" in North America by the *Financial Times* and is consistently ranked in *Chambers USA* and *Chambers Global* for intellectual property, patent and life sciences. Elizabeth taught biotechnology and life sciences patent law for seven years as an adjunct professor at New York University School of Law. She is actively involved in pro bono work, and has been honored by the Legal Aid Society and Westchester Residential Opportunities, where her team received the Harriett Goldberg Fair Housing Award. She has served on the Dean's Visiting Committee of the University of Chicago Law School and on the boards of Montclair Kimberley Academy and the Epilepsy Foundation. 📖



## AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

### A Century of Partnership, Perseverance, and Solidarity 1925-2025

08 May 2025

Dear Genie,

**Pamela Nadler Emmerich**  
National President

**Joshua W. Rednik**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Clive Kabatznik**  
National Chair of the Board

**Joshua M. Olshin**  
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**George A. Schieren**  
**Daniel I. Schlessinger**  
**Ira Lee Sorkin**  
Honorary Presidents  
and Chairs of the Board

On behalf of American Friends of the Hebrew University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, please accept our warmest congratulations on receiving the George A. Katz Torch of Learning Award. Named for the distinguished attorney George A. Katz (z"l), this prestigious award honors exceptional lawyers whose contributions have elevated both the legal profession and the broader community.

Your remarkable career reflects the very values that this award embodies. As Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel at News Corp, your leadership, deep legal expertise, and dedication to upholding the highest standards have left an indelible mark on the media and entertainment industries. From overseeing complex litigation around the world to guiding matters of corporate and information governance, your work exemplifies excellence and vision.

Beyond your role at News Corp, your legacy includes significant contributions as a partner at Squadron, Ellenoff, Plesent, Sheinfeld & Sorkin and as a trusted advisor to iconic institutions such as the New York Post, HarperCollins, and 20th Century Fox. Your accomplishments in libel, privacy, copyright, and shareholder litigation are a testament to your integrity and influence.

We are honored to recognize your achievements with this award and to celebrate alongside your family, friends, and colleagues. Your commitment to justice, scholarship, and service is truly inspiring, and your support of the Hebrew University and Israel means so much to our community.

Once again, congratulations on this well-deserved honor. We are grateful for all that you do and proud to stand with you in recognizing your extraordinary career.

With deepest appreciation and warmest regards,

Pamela Nadler Emmerich  
National President

Joshua W. Rednik  
Chief Executive Officer



## AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

### A Century of Partnership, Perseverance, and Solidarity 1925-2025

08 May 2025

Dear Elizabeth,

**Pamela Nadler Emmerich**  
National President

**Joshua W. Rednik**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Clive Kabatznik**  
National Chair of the Board

**Joshua M. Olshin**  
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Honorary Presidents  
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On behalf of American Friends of the Hebrew University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, please accept our warmest congratulations on receiving the George A. Katz Torch of Learning Award. Named in honor of distinguished attorney George A. Katz (z"l), this prestigious award recognizes outstanding lawyers whose extraordinary accomplishments and commitment to the greater good reflect the highest values of the legal profession.

Your career exemplifies those values in every respect. As Co-Chair of the Paul, Weiss Litigation Department, you are widely recognized as one of the nation's preeminent life sciences litigators. Your ability to merge deep scientific expertise with sophisticated legal insight has made you an invaluable partner to leading pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies facing high-stakes litigation and strategic challenges.

From federal courts to the U.S. Patent Office, your leadership across complex patent, antitrust, and commercial matters has helped shape the legal landscape in life sciences. The breadth of your practice—which includes biologics and small molecules, drug delivery systems and methods of treatment—is a testament to your intellect, versatility, and vision.

Your accolades speak for themselves: "IP Litigator of the Year," "New York Litigator of the Year," "Life Sciences Litigator of the Year," and recognition by the Financial Times as one of the 10 "Most Innovative Legal Practitioners" in North America. And yet, what stands out most is your dedication—to your clients, your students, your pro bono work, and the broader community.

We are proud to honor your extraordinary career and contributions with the George A. Katz Torch of Learning Award. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with your family, friends, and colleagues, and we are grateful for your support of the Hebrew University and its mission to advance knowledge, justice, and innovation.

With deepest appreciation and warmest regards,

Pamela Nadler Emmerich  
National President

Joshua W. Rednik  
Chief Executive Officer

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**PROFESSOR TOMER BROUDE** is currently the Dean of the Faculty of Law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He has served as Academic Director of the Minerva Center for Human Rights at HU and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Law. He is the author and editor of several books and numerous articles that have appeared in leading academic journals such as *International Organization*, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, *European Journal of International Law*, and *Journal of International Economic Law*. He is one of the founders of the Society of International Economic Law and a

former member of its Executive Council. He has taught at numerous law schools around the world, including the University of Toronto, the University of Virginia, the University of California-Los Angeles, Fordham Law School, Hong Kong University, McGill University, Melbourne Law School, the University of British Columbia, and Gujarat National Law University. 🇮🇱

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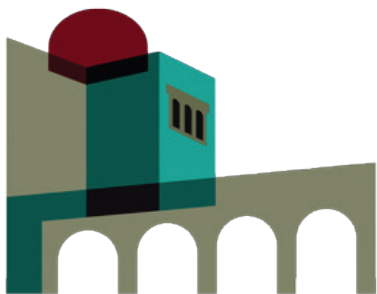
**URIA BEERI** is a Ph.D. student in Law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he studies property theory and trade secret law. In 2024, Uria served in the IDF reserves for over 250 days in Lebanon as a deputy company commander in a paratrooper battalion while pursuing his studies. Married and the father of two daughters, his younger daughter was only five months old when the war started. Like many others, the war took a personal and familial emotional toll on him. Throughout the hardship, the University's scholarship and academic flexibility were lifelines. The financial

support that the Hebrew University provided allowed Uria to focus on his doctoral studies, all the while being ready to join on a possible reserve tour in September. As a reservist, he is deeply thankful for the generous support that helps him to balance his family and scholarly life. 🇮🇱



# FACULTY OF LAW

## THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM



Hebrew University's Faculty of Law is Israel's world-renowned flagship of legal education and research. From questions of religion and state, constitutional law and intellectual property, to the educational philosophy of Jean-Jacques Rousseau and the plight of asylum seekers, the discussions held at Hebrew University's Faculty of Law are wide-ranging.

Hebrew University's Faculty of Law is the nation's most dynamic. 'Classic' legal research is conducted along with trailblazing programs in international law, multi-disciplinary studies, and human rights research. Alumni include the majority of Israel's former Supreme Court justices (many now faculty members), legislators, attorneys-general, social activists, and heads of NGOs.

One trend which sets Hebrew University and the Law Faculty apart is its strong emphasis on international, comparative and Jewish law. The Faculty's goal is to train students to perform in a global economy and a global political environment. The Faculty hosts twenty visiting professors and legal scholars annually and encourages students to spend a semester abroad so they may contextualize and see what is happening elsewhere. In conjunction with nine other law schools, the Law Faculty operates a Center for Transnational Legal Studies in London.

Broadening horizons—creating not simply good lawyers, but also well-rounded individuals—finds expression in Hebrew University's emphasis on interdisciplinary studies. More than half the students are enrolled in dual degree programs. The Faculty's philosophy is that students cannot be law students without knowing anything about the substantive context in which they operate. Whether graduates eventually enter the public or private sector, their legal expertise is nurtured, as is their sense of social responsibility and leadership. 🍀

# HEBREW UNIVERSITY: A CENTURY OF PROGRESS

*Celebrating 100 years of academic achievement  
and global contributions*

On the 1st of April 1925, in a ceremony attended by dignitaries from across the world, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem officially opened its academic doors.

In 1925, the University's official opening marked the start of a new era, setting the stage for the institution to become an internationally-renowned incubator of discovery and innovation.


The accomplishments reached within its many halls and campuses over the past century have been instrumental in charting the forward progress of the State of Israel, a nation blessed with tremendous success even in the face of ongoing challenges and threats to its very existence.

Alongside the founding of the University itself, committees around the world were created to support its development. As such, American Friends of the Hebrew University is also celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, marking one hundred years of partnership.

Yishai Fraenkel is the Vice President and Director General of Hebrew University, responsible for advancing a vision that he anticipates will firmly establish the University as one of the top centers of higher learning in the world.

As CEO of American Friends of the Hebrew University, Joshua Rednik oversees an ambitious and continuously expanding development effort manifested by what he describes as the "inextricable bond" between the American community and the University.

Joshua believes that it would be shortsighted to view the success of the University as solely an Israeli, or even Jewish, enterprise. "The vision of the Hebrew University really is about creating a better world for all people. Whether it's through developing better medicines, a healthier and more sustainable environment or any of the countless areas with which the University is involved, it is no exaggeration to say that the daily pursuit is about creating a better future for all people to be able to live and thrive together."



That pursuit to better society is what has helped forge relationships between the University and the international community, driving philanthropic investment in its forward development. “My experience has been that people view support of the Hebrew University as a fundamental way to achieve two meaningful ends: fulfill their commitments to Zionist ideals and improve the world around us,” Joshua says.

Yishai adds, “Our motivating vision is to see Israel as a light unto the nations in areas of science and forward-thinking. This manifests itself in essential research in areas including climate science and sustainability but no less so in educating the community on how minority populations can live together or how to advance social justice and greater inclusion.”

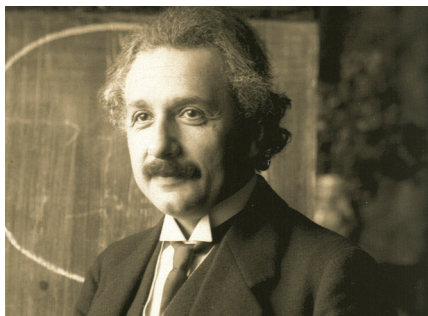
Currently, Israel finds itself amidst a deeply tragic and increasingly costly war. Yishai shares, “Our mission has been to remain resilient and utilize all the means at our disposal to grow and support a diverse and inclusive Hebrew University community, one that reflects the democratic and multi-cultural values of Israeli society.”

That sense of dedication is something which both Yishai and Joshua say is the ultimate mark of achievement, and what they believe will carry the University forward over the next century.

“While the miracle of the modern State of Israel might have happened even without Hebrew University, we take incredible pride in the fact that we supported it and were at the heart of making Israel the economic powerhouse and international success that it is today,” says Yishai. “

For Joshua, the next century is about harnessing what he believes firmly is the University’s greatest resource—its people. “Without the right people teaching, researching, and leading an institution, nothing else matters. Everywhere you turn in Israel, you will see leaders and achievers who trace their paths directly back to the University. I am very confident that if we continue to focus on our people and maximizing their potential, in 100 years’ time, humanity will look back at this moment and be able to state with certainty that the Hebrew University was instrumental in creating a better world.”

## LEAVE A LEGACY



AFHU's Einstein Visionaries Society recognizes those who have made a legacy gift to support Hebrew University's strong future. A legacy gift can take many forms. You can name AFHU as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance, IRA, or retirement plan. You can also establish a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust, which provides payments for life as well as tax savings.

Albert Einstein, who was one of the founders of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, bequeathed his vast intellectual legacy to the University. Through a planned gift, you can help to build an immense legacy of good for future generations. When you notify us that you have made a planned gift to AFHU, you automatically become a member of the Einstein Visionaries Society. Please contact us to discuss creating your own personal legacy and the promise of a bright future for generations to come. 🇮🇱

## JOIN US IN ISRAEL



Join AFHU for an unforgettable and historic international gathering during the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's annual Board of Governors meeting in Israel. This year's BOG provides a welcome opportunity to reflect on the Hebrew University's crucial role as a key national institution and a major contributor to Israel's standing on the global stage. Join us as the University marks 100 years of excellence, commemorates its historic impact upon Israeli society, and looks forward to the future. 🇮🇱

# PAST AWARD LAUREATES

*(from inception 1970)*

JOSEPH M. PROSKAUER  
ROBERT B. MCKAY  
HON. ROBERT M. MORGENTHAU  
PROF. PAUL A. FREUND  
HON. JOHN V. LINDSAY  
RITA E. HAUSER  
GEORGE A. KATZ  
HON. STANLEY H. FULD  
MILTON S. GOULD  
BORIS KOSTELANETZ  
HON. LOUIS J. LEFKOWITZ  
ALBERT PARKER  
HERBERT KRONISH  
BARRY H. GARFINKEL  
CHARLES A. STILLMAN  
BERNARD W. NUSSBAUM  
HON. ABRAHAM D. SOFAER  
DONALD J. COHN  
DEAN NORMAN REDLICH  
STEPHEN E. KAUFMAN  
STEPHEN L. HAMMERMAN  
SHEILA L. BIRNBAUM  
ELKAN ABRAMOWITZ  
JULES RITHOLZ  
KENNETH J. BIALKIN  
ALAN LEVINE  
IRA LEE SORKIN  
ROBERT J. JOSSEN  
RICHARD D. WEINBERG  
JODI J. SCHWARTZ  
MICHAEL A. CARDOZO  
GEORGE A. SCHIEREN  
DANIEL J. BELLER  
FLOYD ABRAMS

ROBERT J. KATZ  
BRAD S. KARP  
BARRY F. SCHWARTZ  
ADAM O. EMMERICH  
GARY P. NAFTALIS  
MARY JO WHITE  
JAY B. KASNER  
ANDREW J. LEVANDER  
MICHAEL S. FELDBERG  
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H. RODGIN COHEN  
ERIC S. GOLDSTEIN  
STEPHEN D. SUSMAN  
SUSAN E. BRUNE  
EDWARD G. TURAN  
JENNIFER M. DANIELS  
MEREDITH E. KOTLER  
MEYER G. KOPLOW  
THEODORE N. MIRVIS  
DAVID B. PITOFKY  
LAWRENCE J. ZWEIFACH  
JOHN S. SIFFERT  
MARK A. KIRSCH  
MARTIN LIPTON  
STACEY R. FRIEDMAN  
STEPHEN M. CUTLER  
ROBERT B. FISKE, JR.  
STEPHANIE GOLDSTEIN  
ROBERTA A. KAPLAN  
AUDREY STRAUSS  
SCOTT A. EDELMAN  
ANN M. KAPPLER

# THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM



Since its founding in 1918 and opening in 1925, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's mission has been to develop cutting-edge research, to educate leaders, and to nurture future generations of outstanding scientists and scholars in all fields of learning. A globally recognized research powerhouse, HU embodies excellence across the spectrum of academic disciplines: from the humanities, social sciences, and law, to natural sciences, agriculture, engineering, and medicine.

## FAST FACTS

6

CAMPUSES

7

FACULTIES

14

SCHOOLS

23,000+

STUDENTS

1,422

RESEARCHERS

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## RESEARCH & RANKINGS

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- >100 Research centers
- 6 Affiliated medical institutes
- 4,200+ Research projects
- 43% of Israel's biotech research

# THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

## In Numbers

### AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

1 ABEL PRIZE	1 FIELDS MEDAL	1 SHAW PRIZE
2 TURING AWARDS	9 <b>NOBEL PRIZES</b>	16 WOLF PRIZES
76 EMET PRIZES	111 ROTHSCHILD PRIZES	342 ISRAEL PRIZES

### TECH TRANSFER

11,780+  
PATENTS

3,050+  
INVENTIONS

1,160+  
LICENSED  
TECHS

260+  
SPIN-OFF  
COMPANIES

60  
YEARS OF  
TRANSFERS

### THE YISSUM PROCESS

IDEATION



VALUE CREATION

INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY OPTIONS



COMMERCIALIZATION

Yissum is the technology transfer company of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Founded in 1964, it is the third company of its kind ever created, and has a rich tradition of innovation and commercialization. From HU scientific breakthroughs, Yissum advances commercial solutions to the most pressing global challenges facing humanity.

Some of the best known spin-off companies include Mobileye, Orcam, Collplant, Qlight, and Briefcam.

## ABOUT THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

This year marks 100 years of excellence in research, education, and innovation at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel's premier institution of higher learning and research. The University is dedicated to advancing knowledge, fostering leadership, and promoting diversity, serving over 23,000 students from over 80 countries. As home to founder Albert Einstein's archives, the University produces nearly 40% of Israel's civilian scientific research and has received over 11,000 patents. Faculty and alumni of the Hebrew University have won nine Nobel Prizes and a Fields Medal, and continue to shape the future. For more information about Hebrew University's academic programs, research, and achievements, please visit <http://new.huji.ac.il/en>.

## ABOUT AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

American Friends of the Hebrew University (AFHU) is a national, not-for-profit organization based in the United States. AFHU is headquartered in New York and has seven regional offices working in close partnership with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. AFHU provides supporters, Hebrew University alumni, and the public with stimulating programs and events, and organizes missions to Israel. For the past century, the organization's activities have supported scholarly and scientific achievement at HU, created scholarships, funded new facilities, and assisted the University's efforts to recruit outstanding new faculty. For more information, please visit <http://www.afhu.org>.

### THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

**Daniel I. Schlessinger**, *Chair, Board of Governors*

**Professor Asher Cohen**, *President*

**Professor Menahem Ben-Sasson**, *Chancellor*

**Professor Tamir Sheafer**, *Rector*

**Yishai Fraenkel**, *Vice President and Director-General*

**Ambassador Yossi Gal**, *Vice President for  
Advancement and External Relations*

**Professor Mona Khoury**, *Vice President of  
Strategy and Diversity*

**Professor Aaron Palmon**, *Vice President for  
Research and Development*

**Professor Oron Shagrir**, *Vice President for  
International Affairs*

### AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

**Pamela Nadler Emmerich**, *National President*

**Clive Kabatznik**, *National Chair of the Board*

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Operations Officer*

**Alison Freed**, *Chief Development Officer*

**Glennys Huhn**, *Chief Human Resources Officer*

**Eileen Hume**, *Chief Strategy Officer*

**Monica Loeb**, *National Director  
of Development*

### AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY NORTHEAST REGION

**Jeffrey T. Kuvin**, *President*

**Maura Milles**, *Executive Director*

**Robin Milich**, *Senior Philanthropy Officer*

**Rachel Sigman**, *Philadelphia Director*

**Wilhelmina Waldman**, *Philanthropy Officer*



GET IN  
TOUCH



AMERICAN FRIENDS  
OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

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[www.afhu.org](http://www.afhu.org)