

Faculty of Life Sciences – Department of Zoology, Department of Plant Sciences

Faculty of Medicine – Department of Anatomy and Anthropology

The National Collections of Natural History

Tel Aviv University

Annual Report 2003/2004

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Introduction

The present report is the second in our new series of Annual Reports of the National Collections of Natural History at Tel Aviv University. It details the research, conservation, and public activities of the faculty and staff of the Collections during the 2003/2004 academic year. It summarizes activities and outlines future plans, progress, and prospects.

The National Collections of Natural History at Tel Aviv University provide a comprehensive and up-to-date record of the biodiversity of our region and a significant research resource for scientists worldwide. The collections comprise millions of specimens spanning the animal and plant Kingdoms, from arthropods to early human fossils, from deep sea Mediterranean fishes to marine algae, from higher vertebrates to corals of the Red Sea, from Crustaceans to lichens.

In the past year we have made significant progress towards the establishment of a National Museum of Natural History at Tel Aviv University. The Planning and Grants Committee of Israel's Higher Education (Vatat) has accepted the recommendations of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities to upgrade the standing of the national collections. The Academy previously recommended that our collections be declared national collections and that the Planning and Grants Committee provide annual maintenance support as well as part academic positions so as to encourage the university to hire the next generation of curators. Also, a National Steering Committee is to be established by the Academy to oversee the collections' development and the use of public funds. This summer Tel Aviv University received the first annual maintenance support funding (at \$170,000) for the academic year 2003/2004 and the first part-time academic position and we are optimistic about the future of the national collections.

The Chairman of the Board of Governors of Tel Aviv University, Mr. Michael Steinhardt, has very generously pledged \$5 million for the development of a National Museum of Natural History at Tel Aviv University and we are currently updating and upscaling our building program and working towards raising matching funds.

Our collections are dedicated to the conservation of biological diversity through collecting, collection maintenance, research, teaching, promoting public awareness and children's education. We are part of an active research university, the largest in Israel, and our mission focuses on collection development and scientific research. However, we take pride also in our involvement in nature and environmental conservation. The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI), Israel's leading environmental NGO, was co-founded by faculty members of Tel Aviv University (Prof. Amotz Zahavi and the late Prof. Heinrich Mendelssohn), and the lobbying for conservation laws and the establishment of the Nature Reserves Authority (now INPA, the Israel Nature and Parks Authority) was also a result of the hard work of TAU faculty, in particular the influence of our founding father, Prof. Heinrich Mendelssohn. We work hard to follow in their footsteps by continuing the tradition of contributing to society based on our expertise in the study of nature.

The George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences at Tel Aviv University has a longstanding tradition of service to the Israeli school system. In fact, the core of what was to become Tel Aviv University was the Biological-Pedagogical Institute founded over 60 years ago by Joshua Margolin who deeply believed that the study of natural history is the best possible tool to reacquaint Jews from the Diaspora with the ancient homeland. To this day we continue this tradition, with Tel Aviv University's "Nature Campus", a large unit for education and community programs that takes advantage of the University's unique research infrastructure: the I. Meier Segals Zoological Garden, the botanic gardens, the teaching laboratories, and the jewel in the crown - the National Collections of

Natural History. More significantly, "Nature Campus" uses the unique knowledge and expertise of the faculty members of Tel Aviv University in the fields of zoology, ecology, biogeography, evolution, paleontology, conservation biology, behavior, and physiology for developing public and educational activities.

Ours is a multidisciplinary project, joining together members of the Faculty of Life Science (Departments of Zoology and Plant Sciences) and the Sackler Faculty of Medicine (Department of Anatomy and Anthropology); the Archeozoology and Archeobotany Laboratories of the Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities (the Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archeology) are scheduled to join us when the new collections and research building is completed. Curators are active in university level research and teaching. Many members are also very active in conservation and monitoring projects and in boards of public and environmental organizations. Here we share with you the progress made in the past academic year of 2003/2004.

International Scientific Advisory Board

Vicki Buchsbaum, Pearse Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA

Jared Diamond, Department of Physiology, University of California, Los Angeles Medical School, Los Angeles, CA, USA

Paul Ehrlich, Department of Biological Sciences, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA

Daphne G. Fautin, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Invertebrate Zoology University of Kansas, USA

Lord Robert May, Department of Zoology, Oxford University, Oxford, UK

Peter Raven, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, MO, USA

Miriam Rothschild, Ashton Wold, Peterborough, UK

Daniel Simberloff, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, USA

Edward O. Wilson, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA

Museum staff

Tamar Dayan	Department of Zoology	Director
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Curators (TAU faculty members)

Yoram Yom-Tov	Department of Zoology	Higher Vertebrates
Yehuda Benayahu	Department of Zoology	Invertebrates
Amnon Freidberg	Department of Zoology	Entomology
Yehoshua Kugler (emeritus)	Department of Zoology	Entomology
Menachem Goren	Department of Zoology	Fishes
Lev Fishelson (emeritus)	Department of Zoology	Fishes
Dan Graur	Department of Zoology	Molecular Systematics
Dorothee Huchon	Department of Zoology	Molecular Systematics
Baruch Arensburg (emeritus)	Department of Anatomy and Anthropology	Physical Anthropology
Yoel Rak	Department of Anatomy and Anthropology	Physical Anthropology
Israel Hershkowitz	Department of Anatomy and Anthropology	Physical Anthropology
Nissan Binyamini (emeritus)	Department of Plant Sciences	Fungi
Margalith Galun (emeritus)	Department of Plant Sciences	Lichens
Jacob Garty	Department of Plant Sciences	Lichens
Ya'akov Lipkin	Department of Plant Sciences	Algae

Curators (TAU faculty members; new immigrants in various absorption schemes)

Vladimir Chikatunov	Department of Zoology	Coleoptera
Vassily Kravchenko	Department of Zoology	Lepidoptera
Sergei Zonstein	Department of Zoology	Arachnidae
Andy Lerer	Department of Zoology	Diptera
Yuri Katz	Department of Zoology	Paleontology
Olga Orlov-Labkovsky	Department of Zoology	Micropaleontology

Associate curators (faculty members)

Yossi Loya	Department of Zoology	Stony corals
Micha Ilan	Department of Zoology	Sponges
Dan Gerling	Department of Zoology	Hymenoptera
Abraham Hefetz	Department of Zoology	Entomology
Bella Galil	Israel Oceanographic & Limnological Research - Haifa	Crustaceans
Danny Simon	Department of Zoology	Formicidae
Ilan Yarom	Hazeva Research & Development	Diptera
Eli Geffen	Department of Zoology	Molecular systematics
Ofer Mokady	Department of Zoology	Molecular Systematics
Elazar Kochva (emeritus)	Department of Zoology	Herpetology

Technical assistants (assistant curators, collection managers, technicians, taxidermist)

Ann Belinsky	Department of Zoology	
Revital Ben-David-Zaslow, PhD	Department of Zoology	
Vered Eshed, PhD	Department of Anatomy & Anthropology	
Tova Feller	Department of Zoology	

Leonid Friedman	Department of Zoology
Igor Gavrilov	Department of Zoology
Ermin Ionescu, PhD	Department of Zoology
Henk Mienis	Department of Zoology
Reuven Landsman	Department of Zoology
Tzilla Shariv	Department of Zoology
Alex Shlagman	Department of Zoology
Tirza Stern	Department of Zoology
Chemda Zigman	Department of Zoology

‘Nature Campus’

Yael Gavrieli, PhD	Director
Anat Feldman	Content Development
Neta Servi	Public Programs Coordinator

‘Nature Campus’ - public and educational programs

Nature Campus celebrates its fourth year of operation. It has continued in its action to promote scientific, environmental, and nature conservation education, based on the unique research and teaching infrastructure of TAU - The Natural History Collections, the I. Meier Segals Garden for Zoological Research, the Botanic Gardens and the teaching laboratories of the Faculty of Life Sciences. More important are the human academic resources - researchers, collections managers and, most significantly, graduate students.

‘Nature Campus’ – Communication of biodiversity to the public

Nature Campus promotes awareness and knowledge about the relationship between human activity and on the environment, through an understanding of global, regional, and local patterns of biodiversity. While our focus is on living systems, the biosphere is so intricately interwoven with all environmental patterns and processes that we are concerned also with all major environmental issues, such as global warming, contamination of water sources, and acid rain.

Nature Campus serves as a unique bridge facilitating a dialogue and disseminating knowledge, awareness, and scientific understanding to the public at large on all aspects of the biosphere and sustainable development issues. Nature Campus carries out teacher and in-service programs, produces teaching materials, runs training courses for guides of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (Israel’s leading environmental NGO) and for the Israel Nature and Parks Authority (INPA), thus enhancing the long tradition of cooperation between the Israeli educational system, environmental organizations, and Tel Aviv University scientists. Nature Campus also offers a wide spectrum of activities to schoolchildren.

Nature Campus activities make available to the public, and in particular to schoolchildren, the treasures of the Natural History Collections, as well as TAU's Botanic Gardens and the I. Meier Segals Garden for Zoological Research. Although we do not as yet have a purpose-built space for displaying exhibitions, we have developed successful museum-based educational programs:

Guided tours

The I. Meier Segals Garden for Zoological Research maintains a broad representation of Israeli fauna. The Garden plays host to groups of schoolchildren aged 8-18, teachers, guides, and students from other higher education institutions, and offers tours on the Biogeography of Israel, Nature Conservation in Israel, and Reproduction in Nature. TAU's Botanic Gardens comprise an ecological garden that represents the phyto-geographic zones of Israel, and greenhouses that feature special phyto-geographic zones of the world. Tours offered by the Botanic Gardens include the Phyto-geography of Israel and World Plant Diversity.

Science Days

A science day offers a four-hour program for classes, mainly for middle school and high school classes. Each day focuses on a topic aimed at enriching and strengthening science education. The themes that are covered are diverse and tailored to the specific needs of each class. The topics include, among others, Marine Biology, Nature Conservation, Biodiversity, Reproduction in Nature, Plants and their Environment, Predators and Prey, Evolution of Man, Adaptation, and Ecology of Temporary Rainpools.

Science Camp

During school vacations, the science camp - "Spaceship Earth" - offers a journey through the biosphere for children aged 10-12. For three consecutive years we had groups of Arab and Jewish children who have studied together

their common environment and learned to get to know and respect each other and the environment. Although this program for the children of Yaffo was a huge success, last summer we could not subsidize it due to lack of sponsorship, and thus were able to host only few children from Yaffo free of charge. Other groups continue to enjoy this project.

Science Fair and Special Events

Nature campus was invited for the second consecutive year to exhibit at the Weizman Institute Science Fair. Nature Campus's exhibition included specimens from the National Collections of Natural History and from the Zoological and Botanic Gardens. As it was the only pavilion to contain nature demonstrations, it drew huge and varied crowds. Most participants had never had the chance to visit a natural history museum and were fascinated by the exhibits and the scientific explanations. The popularity of the pavilion reflected the true need for such a learning environment for the public in Israel.

Educational Website – www.campusteva.tau.ac.il

This year Nature Campus upgraded our “virtual feature” – an internet educational site targeted at advancing biodiversity education and conservation. The new site has 5 sections: About us, Programs, Learning resources, Lectures & Publications, and Online adventures. To date the site is in Hebrew; an English version will be on the internet in few months.

Science education for the Yaffo community - Cooperation with the TAU Price-Brodie initiative

Nature Campus gives special emphasis to projects with Yaffo in cooperation with the Price-Brodie initiative. The Yaffo community is a heterogeneous one, with a low socioeconomic profile. It is populated by Arabs – Christian and Moslem, Jews, and recently also by immigrant workers from diverse third world countries. Tel Aviv University has a longstanding commitment to the Yaffo Community. This year we run for the third time the

successful enrichment program for high-school science students. We launched a new program, 'Backyard Nature' for 4th grade students at seven elementary schools, both Jewish and Arab. In each school a group of 20 4th graders was selected as the school environmental leadership team. They learned about Urban Ecology By exposing the children to nature close to them, we brought biodiversity back into the community and gave these inner-city children the precious opportunity to be in touch with the natural world. The success of last year lead us to expand the scope of the project, which now includes all 4th graders in the schools. For three consecutive years we had groups of Arab and Jewish children who have studied together their common environment and learned to get to know and respect each other and the environment in the summer science camp 'Spaceship Earth'. Although this program for the children of Yaffo was a huge success, last summer we could not subsidize it due to lack of sponsorship, and thus were able to host only few children from Yaffo free of charge.

Teachers' In-Service Training

'Biodiversity' was introduced to the syllabus of biology and environmental studies for high schools during the past year. However, most teachers are still not acquainted with the biodiversity crisis or with the fundamentals of environmental conservation. Nature Campus endeavors to introduce these concepts into the education system by offering lectures and seminars to teachers. During the past year about 500 teachers were exposed to these issues at various events in which Nature Campus lectured and presented its activities.

Pre-Service Training for Environmental Guides

Nature Campus offered for the third consecutive year a course in Conservation Biology for the new guides of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. The SPNI is the leading NGO in environmental education and advocacy in Israel. It operates programs all over the country for all sectors of society. Thus, its guides are a principal vector in environmental education. This

year, 60 new guides participated in the conservation biology training course at Nature Campus. In catering to the specific needs of the SPNI, Nature Campus built a special training program in which ~30 researchers participated. The course was designed to provide the guides with a basic understanding of conservation biology in order to professionalize their role as environmental educators. The third cycle is planned for in January 2005.

Educational development

Nature Campus has developed, in collaboration with Ramat Ha'Nadiv Nature Park education team, an educational workshop on Biodiversity research for high school children, to be run at Ramat Ha'Nadiv. The program comprises three activities: pre-research, post research, and the research activity. The workshop is supported by a book on biodiversity research that explains the basics of ecological biodiversity field study.

Involvement in national policy recommendations

As the Director of Nature Campus, Dr. Yael Gavrieli participates in promoting environmental education in Israel. She chairs the Committee for Biodiversity Education, responsible for developing this aspect of the National Biodiversity Action Plan. She is a member of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Israeli Committee, and is involved in various forums that advance these issues.

Collections news – A word from our collections managers

A thriving Museum of Natural History is characterized by its day-to-day activities: collecting and preserving new scientific materials, rescuing and incorporating important private and historical collections, maintaining the existing collections, and disseminating knowledge. During the past academic year, much effort has gone into advancing these goals.

Standard collection maintenance activities include preserving, labeling, identifying, and recording digitally the new specimens, as well as replenishing or changing the liquids used for preservation and transferring samples to better storage containers. This work is crucial for the preservation of scientific specimens for study by researchers in Israel and abroad and for future generations.

A new activity introduced this year consists of making the collection data available on the BIOGIS website: <http://www.biogis.huji.ac.il/>. This national database is an important tool in our understanding of the biodiversity of the fauna and flora in Israel, and is already used intensively for obtaining reliable information in the field of nature protection.

Material in the collections is regularly sent on loan to museums overseas, while extensive computerized databases are available upon request. The collections are also used frequently in university level teaching as well as in “Nature Campus” activities.

During the past year thousands of specimens representing a wide array of animal groups have been preserved for permanent storage in the facilities of the Natural History Collections. The entire reptile collection (15,000 specimens) has been digitized, and work on the amphibian collection (approximately 2,000 preserved specimens) is almost completed. Additionally,

the collection was upgraded by transferring all adult and larva specimens to new glass jars and from formaldehyde to alcohol.

Until last year most of the wet collection of mammals was not available for research, because most items were neither catalogued nor properly arranged on the shelves. This year almost 80% of the collection has been reorganized and digitized. This collection includes many specimens that were received from the Hebrew University some 30 years ago, some of which were collected by Dr. Y. Aharoni at the beginning of the 20th century.

Cataloguing the dry vertebrate collection has also been advanced this year. Work on the bird collection is completed, while work on the mammals is nearing completion. Some 600 new specimens were preserved and added. The collections maintain a good working relationship with the Israel Nature Parks Authority; carcasses collected by rangers are regularly transferred to Tel Aviv University, where they are labeled and preserved by a professional taxidermist. They are incorporated into the proper scientific collection or transferred to the teaching collection of "Nature Campus".

Collections made in Kenya and Japan by Prof. Yehuda Benayahu have been sorted, preserved and digitized for future research and identification. The material includes soft corals, sea anemones, sponges, nudibranchs and other invertebrates. Work has also been carried out on material from the Mediterranean Sea collected by Dr. Bella Galil (IOLR - Haifa). The latter includes interesting deep-sea fishes, cephalopods and various other molluscs, some of which turned out to be the first recorded specimens from the Mediterranean shore of Israel.

Reorganization of the dry collection of molluscs continued. Over 80% of the material has now been revised and digitized. A special effort was made to absorb the collection of the late Jitzchak Yaron (see the 2002/2003 Annual Report). Some 4,000 items have been catalogued so far (90% of the collection)

belonging to 1,200 species, of which more than 300 turned out to be new species for the TAU collections. Connections were established with archaeologists, who transferred shells, found during archaeological excavations, for permanent storage to the museum. Also the glass jars of one third of the mollusc collection, preserved in alcohol, were refilled and relabeled.

Digitization of the insect collection was accelerated this part year, and as a special project the Tephritidae were all identified and digitized (5600 specimens, representing 150 species). This collection contains no less than 16 holotypes and 262 paratypes.

For the first time collections made by students were immediately digitized in order to facilitate an easy transfer of specimens to the museum in the near future. Cooperation between students and staff of the collections is excellent. The latter give aid and advice on preservation, identification, labeling and cataloguing. In the past many of the student collections were not maintained for permanent preservation. A student of Prof. Tamar Dayan has transferred a very large collection of mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and arthropods caught in pitfall traps to the museum. The vertebrates among them were preserved, identified, digitized, and labeled; the invertebrates were preserved and sorted for future identification. The students of Dr. Menahem Goren are in the process of merging their collections, consisting of freshwater fish caught in various rivers in the northern part of Israel, with the National Fish Collection. This work is being carried out with the help and supervision of the collections staff.

Collecting trips and expeditions

A healthy natural history museum must have an active collecting program. Our collections have increased over the past decades, the result of private and institutional collections that were given to us as the national repository, and in large part the result of the survey and collecting work of our curators, associate curators, and technical staff.

In the past year collecting trips and projects have continued in different parts of Israel, the outcome of our university level courses that introduce students to the fauna of the country, and as part of various researcher and graduate student biodiversity studies in different habitats. Bella Galil of the Israel Oceanographic & Limnological Research Institute, our Associate Curator of Crustaceans, continued her regular monitoring of the fauna of the Mediterranean Sea around the Palmahim area (at a depth of 200 m) and added a new research site, Ashqelon, which has already yielded new records to our region.

Moreover, some of our staff traveled to carry out biodiversity studies and collecting in other parts of the world as part of their research program. Dan Gerling continued to develop the whitefly collection in the Judean Hills of Israel, but also in Kampala, Uganda, and in northern Ethiopia.

Vassily Kravchenko, our new immigrant curator, continued his biodiversity survey of moths in Israel, Yehuda Benayahu, our Curator of Invertebrates, and Menachem Goren, our Curator of Fish, have traveled to collect. Their reports follow.

Biodiversity of moths in Israel

Vassily Kravchenko

During 2004 we continued our project "Biodiversity of Moths in Israel". This work includes intensive light-trapping of night-active Lepidoptera species during one or two seasons in all biogeographical zones of Israel (from Mt. Hermon to the southern Negev). This year most of the traps were not used (although 12 new stations were established) and major attention was paid to identifying the family Noctuidae, analysing their seasonal and spatial distribution in Israel, and to preparing publications.

In addition to two previously described new species for science (*Wiltshireola praecipua* Hacker & Kravchenko, 2001, and *Eremodrina kravchenkoi* Hacker & Kravchenko, 2002) and 1 new subspecies (*Chersotis elegans hermonis* Hacker & Kravchenko, 2001), at least three more new species are going to be described together with Michael Fibiger (Zoologisk Museum Kobenhavns Universitet, Denmark). In addition to 98 Noctuidae species previously added to fauna of Israel, about another 60 new species are being recorded.

Biodiversity surveys of the Kenyan reefs

Yehuda Benayahu

Since 2000 five annual field trips have been conducted to the coral reefs of Kenya (Indian Ocean) from Watamu on the northern coast to Kitungamwe on the southern coast, near the border of Tanzania. Prof. Yehuda Benayahu led the trips accompanied by Dr. Revital Ben-David-Zaslow, Shimrit Perkol, Tali Yacobovich, Orit Barnea, Mati Halperin, and Ido Sella (all from Tel Aviv University), and Prof. Michael H. Schleyer (Oceanographic Research Institution, Durban, South Africa). All the participants are skilled marine biologists with wide experience in such biodiversity surveys. The funds for the

trips were raised by Y. Benayahu from Pharma Mar, Spain, a biotechnological company that explores marine resources for natural products with therapeutic potential.

The benthic communities of the reefs were explored in relation to species diversity of soft corals, tunicates, and sponges. Extensive collections were made using a boat, and a variety of habitats were surveyed in detail by SCUBA diving on onshore reefs, in lagoons, and on deeper reefs to 32 m depth. Dozens of dives resulted in approximately 2,000 samples being collected, comprising most of the species of these groups found on the reefs. This was the first ever survey aimed at evaluating the biodiversity of these taxonomic groups on the Kenyan reefs. The findings indicate that most of the Kenyan reefs are dominated by diverse assemblages of benthic organisms, with a remarkably high abundance of soft corals. The species are still being examined. Some of the sponges and tunicate samples were sent for identification to specialists. Identification of soft corals was conducted by Y. B. To date, 90 species of soft coral have been identified and a preliminary species list has been prepared for the studied reef-sites. The collection revealed three new genera as well as several new species of soft corals. This was also the first survey of soft corals for the Kenyan reefs. The results, although not yet finalized, reveal that this group is critically important for this reef system and deserves further surveys and careful monitoring, especially in view of global concern for the well being of reef ecosystems.

All the material is currently kept in the Zoological Museum, Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University, Israel (ZMTAU).

The biodiversity of Rosh HaNiqra-Akhziv Nature Reserve (Israel)

Menachem Goren

The unique marine habitats of Rosh HaNiqra-Akhziv Nature Reserve, one of the most diverse littoral ecosystems of the Mediterranean coast of Israel, is under threat of destruction due to urban development of the coast. The reserve, which is located at the northernmost part of this coast, is also subject to heavy recreational and fishery pressure. In order to advise on protection of the marine habitats and the unique biodiversity of the region, Drs. Goren (Tel Aviv University) and Galil (ILOR) performed an extensive study of this ecosystem and its biota. The project was initiated and coordinated by Dr. Ortal of the Israel Nature and Parks Authority under the umbrella of RAC/SPA (The Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas). Results of the study are being used by an international team in their preparation of a management program for the marine reserve.

The project included three field trips (three to five days each) and continuous laboratory work.

During the project over 200 species of animals belonging to many taxa were collected (fish, mollusks, crustaceans, echinoderms, sponges, hydroids, etc), identified and deposited in the collections. Many of the species were recorded for the first time from northern Israel, some are new to the Levant Basin, and one to three are probably new to science.

Dr. M. Goren (Tel Aviv University), Dr. B. Galil (ILOR), and Dr. Alfonso Ramos (Universidad de Alicante, Spain) led the trips accompanied by M. Kooper (from ILOR), A. Aronov, R. Ben-David-Zaslow, Y. Bar, O. Barnea, N. Levin, R. Segal, H. Rot (all from Tel Aviv University), K. Gayer, S. Martinez (from The Marine College, Rupin) and R. Ortal, and G. Cohen, (from the Nature and Parks Authority).

New collections

As National Collection of Natural History, we feel that it is our mission and duty to incorporate private and institutional collections that are bequeathed to us, and to make them available to the scientific community. The numerous collections that we received over the years, lovingly developed and curated by many knowledgeable individuals, have already contributed greatly to biodiversity research in our region. We are greatly indebted to the life work of these individuals. This past year we have received and incorporated two major collections, the Geological-Paleontological collection of Dr. Nathan Shalem and the stony coral collection of Dr. Jacob Dafni. Additionally, we have had several smaller acquisitions in the mollusc and the entomological collections.

The Geological-Paleontological Collection of Dr. Nathan Shalem (1897-1959)

Henk K. Mienis

Dr. Nathan Shalem and his life

Nathan Shalem was born in 1897 in Langadhas near Thessaloniki (=Salonica), Greece, as son of an old-established Jewish family. He received his primary education in Thessaloniki. In 1914, at the age of 16, he decided to immigrate to Palestine with a group of other young Saloniki Jews. In Jerusalem he attended the Jewish Teachers College and after finishing his studies he worked as a teacher in several villages and in Jerusalem.

Shortly after the First World War he went to Italy in order to study Geology at the University of Florence (Firenze), where he acquired a Ph.D. in 1925. During that period he published several important papers in Italian on the fauna of the Cenomanian deposits he had discovered in the Jerusalem area. He returned to Jerusalem in 1925, where he resumed his position as a high school

teacher. During this educational work he managed to affect generations of students with his own enthusiasm for natural sciences.

Not satisfied with his knowledge he left again, this time for England, where he studied geography at the University of London for several years. Back in Palestine he became teacher at the Hebrew Gymnasium in Jerusalem, but at the same time carrying out his own research in various fields, which were focused especially on the country's natural landscape and the use of it by its inhabitants. He became also extremely interested in seismology. He reconstructed not only a list of earthquakes, which had occurred since biblical times, but also established a dense network consisting of hundreds of volunteers observing seismological activities all over the country.

In the late forties Nathan Shalem quit his teaching job in order to devote his time entirely to his own studies. Due to his unorthodox way of research, in which he combined several branches in natural science with those in humanistic fields, he failed to get an appointment at the Hebrew University. Some of the decision makers were especially not satisfied in the way he popularized science: he was not only the founder of the "Society of Wanderers (Hikers)" and the "Society for Speleology" but also one of the first editors of the popular magazine "HaTeva WeHa'aretz" (Nature and Country). In this way they ignored the fact that by means of his methods he had more influence on the promotion of geology, geography and natural science among young students and interested laymen than most pure scientists. In the early fifties he joined the Governmental Geological Institute (now Geological Survey), where he served as the director of the Department of Geomorphology and Seismology since 1954.

Nathan Shalem died on 19 September 1959, only 62 years old. He may be characterized as an ardent writer in the field of geology, paleontology, archaeology, geography, seismology and natural sciences in general. His works

reflect his love for research based on fieldwork, of which the results were often compared with data in the bible, other religious scripts and historical works. He was a specialist in the fields of karst-research, earthquakes and the Quaternary of Palestine/Israel. After his death D. Benvenisti published his important work dealing with the Judean desert, while his main publications were re-issued in one volume.

Mizpeh Shalem near the Dead Sea was named after Nathan Shalem.

His Geological-Paleontological collection

During his lifetime he donated part of his scientific collections to foreign institutes. His own research collection was donated to the “Avshalom Institute” in Tel Aviv. At some time this collection was transferred to the “Ha’aretz Museum” (now Eretz Israel Museum) where it lay dormant in the cellars for many years. Shalem’s collection forms part of the National Collections of Natural History of the Tel Aviv University since 5 May 2004.

The collection was received in an extremely bad state of preservation. Most of the labels in the open boxes have disappeared or have been totally destroyed by silverfishes. The curators of the paleontological collection: Drs. Yuri Katz and Olga Orlov-Labkovsky, assisted by colleagues in the invertebrate collections, will try to reconstruct the collection with the help of the papers written by Dr. Shalem. Without doubt this will take some considerable time. However, it is an important task because the collection seems to include some of the type material of Cenomanian mollusc species described by him.

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The Stony Corals Collection of Dr. Jacob Dafni

Revital Ben-David-Zalow

Dr. Jacob Dafni is a noted marine biologist who has spent the last 40 years studying a variety of subjects pertaining to the ecology of the Red Sea. He served for many years as a warden and guide for the Nature and Parks Reserves Authority in Eilat and Sinai and the Society for the Protection of Nature, and has dedicated much effort to developing a didactic approach to field teaching and study. For many years he was the academic director of the regional college of Eilat.

In his M.Sc. and Ph.D. dissertations Dr. Dafni explored the species diversity of invertebrate communities on dead stony corals, aiming to reveal the effect of pollution on the community and the life history of the Red Sea endemic sea-urchin *Tripneustes gratilla elatensis*. He has also studied the biology of marine mollusca of the Gulf of Eilat (Aqaba) and shown how pollution in the northern part of the Gulf limits the number of living species. Dr. Dafni has followed the Gulf mollusc fauna for over thirty years, and published semi-popular reports and lists. He has recently created a website, a teaching tool database of the mollusca of the Gulf of Aqaba (Eilat Gulf): <http://www.dafni.com/mollusca/>. The site is based on a molluscan shell

collection created in the 1960s in Eilat and expanded to the entire Gulf of Eilat (Aqaba) during the 1970s.

Bringing together his knowledge and love of the Eilat area Dafni wrote a guidebook called "Routes and Trails in the Eilat Region" (Gefen Publications, Jerusalem, 1995), which describes 30 foot and car trails in the mountains region.

Dr. Dafni has been continuously involved in the ecology of the Gulf of Eilat and is a leading activist in the struggle to save Eilat's unique coral reefs. He has published numerous articles on the subject and a book dedicated to the ecological conditions of the Gulf, titled: "Gulf of Eilat, from the Red Sea to the red line..." The book offers a comprehensive account of the natural and human history of the Gulf of Eilat (Aqaba), with reference to its endangered future (Tcherikover Publ. House, Tel-Aviv). He has also established a website for this purpose: <http://www.dafni.com/gulfsave.htm>. Dr. Dafni has always believed that co-existence between the reefs and human development is possible in Eilat, a belief that is reflected in his book and on the website.

Dr. Dafni recently donated his Stony Coral Collection to the National Collection of Natural History. This collection constitutes one of the most important private collections related to the Red Sea. It contains 196 items, collected mostly from the northern part of Eilat, during the years 2002-2003 and partly in the 1980s. Each coral has its collection details and photographs taken after collection and cleaning. This collection gives us an opportunity to study the unique fauna of the disturbed coral reefs of Eilat.

The principal new acquisitions for the National Mollusc Collection

Henk K. Mienis

- Collection of land snails from the Carmel Mountains, collecting and donating by Liron Stoller-Cavari, M.Sc.-student of the Haifa Technion;

- Collection of land snails from the Carmel Mountains, Nahal Oren (“Evolution Canyon”), collecting by Veroniek Hasid, a High School student and Dr. Armin, a visiting scientist from Armenia, donating by Prof. E. Nevo (Haifa University);
- Collection of land and freshwater snail from archaeological sites in the vicinity of ‘En Gedi, collecting and donating by Gideon Hadas, a Ph.D.-student Hebrew University of Jerusalem;
- Collection of land and freshwater molluscs from the archaeological site of Caesarea, collecting and donating by Yeshu Dray, Benyamina;
- Collection of marine molluscs collected during a Spanish-Israeli biodiversity project carried out in the Akhziv-Rosh HaNiqra Nature Reserve and National Park, collecting and donating by Menachem Goren, Bella Galil, Reuven Ortal, Revital Ben-David Zaslou, Alfonso A. Ramos et al.

The principal new acquisitions for the National Entomology Collection

Amnon Freidberg

- Dr. Joseph Halperin Collection, formerly researcher at "Ilanot" Forestry Station; now retired: Various insects, primarily beetles (Scolytidae, Cerambycidae, Bostrychidae, Buprestidae, Coccinellidae, Anobiidae and Curculionidae), butterflies, bugs, and parasitic wasps. A collection of damaged plants with damage caused by insect pests and Entomological literature.
- Collection of the late Prof. Eliyahu Swirsky, who worked at the Volcani Center, Bet Dagan: Aphids, Mites, miscellaneous insects, and Entomological literature.
- Donation of taxonomic literature from the Department of Entomology, Volcani Center, Bet Dagan, including all the back issues of Israel Journal of Entomology.

Chapters in the history of the National Collections of Natural History of Tel Aviv University

In this new section, we would like to give some background information concerning various aspects of the history of the National Collections of Natural History of Tel Aviv University. This first installment is dedicated to the late Prof. Chanan Lewinsohn.

Twenty-one years ago Prof. Lewinsohn passed away suddenly after a short illness. He was not only a renowned specialist in the field of crustaceans, but he had also served as the curator of the Invertebrate Collections (excluding Insecta) of Tel Aviv University. Thanks to his scientific efforts and his organizational skills, this collection is considered the most important in the Middle East.

How many of the current generation of young marine zoologists and students can still tell us something about Chanan Lewinsohn and the role he played in the building up of our collections? Here we publish an obituary, written shortly after Chanan's death by his Dutch colleague and friend Dr. L.B. Holthuis. It is published here in a slightly adapted form. It is followed by a full list of Chanan's publications, his new taxa, and the eponyms, i.e. species names honoring him.

Chanan Lewinsohn (1926-1983)

L.B. Holthuis & H.K. Mienis

Obituary

Chanan Lewinsohn was born on 26 February 1926 in Berlin, where his father occupied a prominent position in the business world. Chanan, who at that time was called Hans, received his primary education (1933-1938) in Berlin under increasingly difficult circumstances. Finally, the threat of the Nazi regime forced the Lewinsohn family to flee Germany and in 1939 they settled in Palestine. Chanan finished his primary education



in Herzliyya (1939-1940) and from 1940 to 1944 attended the Agricultural School in Ben Shemen. Thereafter he entered the Biological Pedagogical Institute of Tel Aviv (1944-1956), the name of which in 1953 was changed to Institute of Natural Science. From 1944 to 1956 Chanan served as a laboratory assistant at the Institute and at about the same time he taught zoology at the Kibbutz Seminar in Tel Aviv (1947-1959). He even managed concurrently to fulfill his military duties in the Hagana (1942-1947) and in the Israeli Defense Forces (1948-1949).

In 1956, with the establishment of Tel Aviv University, the Institute was integrated into the University. Lewinsohn's position became that of an assistant and instructor in the Department of Zoology (1956-1968). He continued his zoology studies at the university, obtaining his B.Sc. in 1962; at that time he was thus both teacher and student at the same institute.

In 1962 he enrolled at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and obtained his M.Sc. there under the guidance of Prof. Heinz Steinitz in 1964. In 1969 he was appointed lecturer in the Department of Zoology of the Tel Aviv University, in 1973 he became a senior lecturer, and finally he obtained his professorship there in 1982.

From the beginning of his studies Chanan was profoundly interested in the marine fauna of Israel. He took part in numerous collecting trips and expeditions, of which those to Elat in the Gulf of Aqaba, Red Sea, between 1951 and 1956 deserve special mention, as at that time a visit to Elat was a hazardous and arduous expedition. Today it is difficult to realize that at that time there was no air transport nor super highway, but only dirt tracks, no stay in luxury hotels but camping under very primitive conditions. Still an enormous amount of work was accomplished. This work was mainly carried out together with his colleague Lev Fishelson. Between 1953 and 1956 a joint research group for the study of the Red Sea shore near Elat was formed with zoologists of the Hebrew University under the supervision of Dr. Heinz Steinitz.

In the winter of 1956-1957 a group of zoologists from Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, among whom were Steinitz, Lewinsohn, and Fishelson, followed close upon the heels of the Israeli army during its occupation of the Sinai Peninsula, and during this short period more data on the marine fauna of both coasts of the peninsula were brought together than at any time previously.

The thorough exploration of the northern Red Sea revealed the acute need to know more about the biology of the southern part of this sea. A renewed close cooperation of the Universities of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, together with the Sea Fisheries Research Station at Haifa, made it possible to conduct two expeditions to the Dahlak Archipelago in the Southern Red Sea off the coast of Eritrea. Dr. Steinitz led the first expedition (March-April 1962), while the Tel Aviv contingent was headed by Lewinsohn and Fishelson; the

second expedition (October-November 1965) was led by Lewinsohn and Fishelson.

The extensive material collected both in the waters of the Sinai Peninsula and the Dahlak Archipelago formed the incentive to Chanan for his monographic treatment of the Decapoda Anomura of the Red Sea. The research for this project was partly carried out in Tel Aviv and partly (in 1965, 1966 and 1969) at the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie (now Naturalis) in Leiden, the Netherlands. The quality of the monograph that resulted from this study was such that the University of Leiden accepted it readily as a Ph.D. dissertation, and on 21 May 1969 a doctoral degree was conferred upon Chanan Lewinsohn.

After 1969 Chanan continued his studies of Decapod Crustacea in the little spare time that his teaching duties left him. His continued interest in the crabs of the Red Sea is shown by his revisions of the Dromiacea and Ocypodidae of that area. But also Decapoda from other areas received his attention, like those from Somalia (coll. Dr. M. Vannini), which proved most valuable for establishing the limits of the Erythraean fauna.

Expeditions to Rhodos, Cyprus, the Mediterranean coast of Israel and the northern coast of the Sinai Peninsula, mostly executed with fishing trawlers, provided him with many interesting specimens from the Eastern Mediterranean, and his publications on those form an important contribution to our knowledge of the group.

Lewinsohn's interest in Decapoda was not of a purely taxonomic nature. His unpublished master's thesis was entitled "Biology and ecology of the Ghost Crab *Ocypode cursor* (L)". Also during his various expeditions and excursions much time was devoted to ecological observations on and experiments with his Decapoda. The increasing interest on a worldwide basis in mariculture also touched Israel, and Chanan, with some of his students, intensively studied the possibilities of shrimp culture in Israel.

Next to his teaching duties, Chanan was also in charge of the Invertebrate Collections (except Insecta) of the Department of Zoology of Tel Aviv University. Through his continuous efforts this collection has become one of the best reference collections for marine invertebrates (and especially for the Crustacea) of the Red Sea and the Eastern Mediterranean. In 1971 he visited several natural history museums in Europe (Scandinavia, the Netherlands, England, Germany, Austria and Switzerland) and some in the U.S.A. in order to obtain ideas for the improvement of the housing of the scientific collections at Tel Aviv University. In the U.S.A. he also visited commercial enterprises for mariculture.

After his promotion in 1969 Chanan became an even more frequent and much appreciated visitor of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie in Leiden, where he could quietly pursue his taxonomic studies, at the same time profiting from the good library facilities and the extensive Crustacean collections of the Museum. In 1971, 1975 and each year from 1978 to 1982 he spent a period of 5-11 weeks in Leiden, doing the research that his busy schedule at home did not allow him to accomplish. He was a most welcome guest in the Leiden Museum and was almost looked upon as a “commuting” staff member.

Chanan Lewinsohn was a highly intelligent and hard working scientist, who was meticulous in everything that he carried out and who hated sloppy work. His talent for organization made it possible for him to accomplish a multitude of things. He had a most pleasant and helpful personality with a wonderful sense of humor; he was a most reliable and steadfast friend.

On 25 May 1983 Chanan passed away after a short illness in the midst of a brilliant scientific career, leaving behind his wife Bat-Sheba, three daughters, one son and a granddaughter. Chanan Lewinsohn will always be remembered as an outstanding scientist and an excellent friend. We can be

thankful for his many valuable zoological contributions and the excellent collection of Crustaceans he left behind.

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- Barash, A. & Lewinsohn, Ch., 1950. [Practicum Zoologicum – Vermes]. 15 pp. The Biological Institute, Tel Aviv. (in Hebrew)
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- Lewinsohn, Ch., 1976. *Petrolisthes digitalis* (Heller 1862) (Decapoda Porcellanidae) ein Synonym von *Petrolisthes armatus* (Gibbes 1850). Crustaceana, 31 (1): 66-70.
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- Mediterranean fishing grounds of North Sinai. Israel Journal of Zoology, 30: 108.
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---Shlagman, A., Lewinsohn, Ch. & Tom, M., 1986. Aspects of the reproductive activity of *Penaeus semisulcatus* de Haan along the southeastern coast of the Mediterranean. Pubblicazioni della Stazione Zoologica di Napoli, Marine Ecology, 7 (1): 15-22.

---Lewinsohn, Ch. & Holthuis, L.B., 1986. The Crustacea Decapoda of Cyprus. Zoologische Verhandelingen, Leiden, 230: 3-64.

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[.....] = articles published in Hebrew.

New taxa described by Chanan Lewinsohn (in chronological order):

Trizopagurus shebae Lewinsohn, 1969
Nematopagurus diadema Lewinsohn, 1969
Cestopagurus pectinipes Lewinsohn, 1969
Cryptodromia globosa Lewinsohn, 1977
Paguritta corallicola Lewinsohn, 1978
Alpheus migrans Lewinsohn & Holthuis, 1978
Dromidia fenestrata Lewinsohn, 1979
Calcinus tropidomanus Lewinsohn, 1981
Rissoides Manning & Lewinsohn, 1982
Aniculus retipes Lewinsohn, 1982
Spiropagurus fimbriatus Lewinsohn, 1982
Trapezia richtersi Galil & Lewinsohn, 1983
Dromidiopsis plumosa Lewinsohn, 1984

Eponyms i.e. scientific names dedicated to Chanan Lewinsohn (in chronological order):

Scyllarus lewinsohni Holthuis, 1967
Quadrella lewinsohni Galil, 1986
Polypaguropsis lewinsohni McLaughlin & Haig, 1988
Hemipagurus lewinsohni Asakura, 2001

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Publications

Refereed articles

1. Barneah, O., Weis, V.M., Perez, S., and Benayahu, Y. Diversity of dinoflagellate symbionts in Red Sea soft corals: mode of symbiont acquisition matters. Marine Ecology Progress Series 275:89-95.
2. Bar-Oz, G., Dayan, T., Weinstein-Evron, M., and Kaufman, D. 2004. The Natufian economy at el-Wad Terrace with special reference to gazelle exploitation patterns. Journal of Archaeological Science 31:217-231.
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 21. Jacoby, V., Kramarsky-Winter, E., Loya, Y., and Mokady, O. The dynamics of multiple mouth formation in *Fungia granulosa*: Possible patterning mechanisms. Hydrobiologia.
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 34. Mienis, H.K. De Smurfslak ook op Marken. Voelspriet.
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 39. Mienis, H.K. Mariene mollusken uit het oostelijk deel van de Middellandse Zee 24. Leeft *Phalium saburon* voor de kust van Israël? Spirula.
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 52. Mienis, H.K. Shells from the excavation of Sumaqa, Carmel. Archaeological Reports.
 53. Mienis, H.K. Slakken op het menu van de Gestreepte watersalamander *Triturus vittatus* in Israel. Lacerta.
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71. Weissman, L., Garty, J., and Hochman, A. Rehydration of the lichen *Ramalina lacera* in production of reactive oxygen species, nitric oxide and a decrease in antioxidants. Applied and Environmental Microbiology (AEM).
72. Yokes, B., and Galil, B.S. New records of alien decapods (Crustacea) from the Mediterranean coast of Turkey, with a description of A new palaemonid species. Zoosystema.
73. Yom-Tov, Y., and Mendelsohn, H. The biology of the striped hyaena (*Hyaena hyaena*) in Israel. Prehistoire et Anthropologie Mediterraneennes.

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2. Geffen, E. 2004. Blanford's foxes. Pp. 199-206 In Macdonald, D.W., and Sillero-Zubiri, C. (eds.): Biology and conservation of wild canids. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
3. Geffen, E., and Girard, I. 2003. Behavioral and physiological adaptations to an arid environment in the Saharo-Arabian fox species. Pp. 223-229 In The Swift Fox: Ecology and Conservation of Swift Foxes in a Changing World, Sovada, M., and Carbyn, L.N. (eds.). Canadian Circumpolar Institute, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
4. Geffen, E., Hefner, R. and Wright, P. 2004. Blanford's fox (*Vulpes cana*). Pp. 194-198 In Sillero-Zubiri, C., Hoffmann, M., and Macdonald, D.W. (eds.): Canids: Foxes, Wolves, Jackals and Dogs. Status Survey and Conservation: Action Plan. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland.
5. Leshem, Y., Yom-Tov, Y., Alon, D., and Shamoun-Baranes, J. 2003. Bird migration as an interdisciplinary tool for global cooperation. In: Bethold, P., Gwinner, E., and Sonnenschein, E., (eds.) Avian migration. pp585-599.
6. Mienis, H.K., 2003. A Triton shell from the large Byzantine structure in Area XV. In Mazar, E., (Ed.): The Temple Mount Excavations in Jerusalem 1968-1978 directed by Benjamin Mazar. Final Reports Volume II. The Byzantine and Early Islamic Periods. Qedem, 43:159-160.
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 9. Wayne, R.K., Geffen, E. and Vila, C. 2004. Population Genetics. Pp. 55-84 In Macdonald, D.W., and Sillero-Zubiri, C. (eds.): Biology and conservation of wild canids. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
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 11. Kimbel, W.H., Rak, Y., and Johanson, D.C. 2004 The Skull of *Australopithecus afarensis*. Oxford University Press London.

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1. Bar-Oz, G., and Dayan, T. Zooarcheological diversity and paleoecological reconstruction of the Epipaleolithic faunal sequence in the northern coastal plain and the slopes of Mt. Carmel, Israel. In (Buitenhuis, H. Ed) Archaeozoology of the Near East VI. Groningen Institute for Archaeology. Groningen.
2. Fine, M., and Loya, Y. Coral bleaching in a temperate sea: from colony physiology to population ecology. In: Coral Reef Health and Disease; Rosenberg and Loya (Eds). Springer-Verlag; Berlin, Heidelberg, New York. p 143-156.
3. Geffen, E. and Peters, G. *Vulpes cana*. In Kingdon, J. and Butynski, T. (eds.): The Mammals of Africa, Vol. 4., Academic Press, New York.
4. Haber, A., Dayan, T., and Getzov, N. Pig exploitation in Hagoshrim: A prehistoric site in the southern Levant. In Helmer D., Peters, J., and Vigne, J.D. (Eds.) New methods and the first steps of the domestication of mammals. Oxbow Books, UK.
5. Loya, Y. The coral reefs of Eilat- past, present and future: Three decades of coral community structure studies. In: Coral Reef Health and Disease; Rosenberg and Loya (Eds). Springer-Verlag; Berlin, Heidelberg, New York. pp. 1-34.
6. Orlov-Labkovsky, O., and Hirsch, F. The Permian Fusulinids in Israel. In "Geology of the East Mediterranean Area". Eds: Krasheninikov, John Hall, Francis Hirsch and Benjamini Chaim, Chapter 18C, Jerusalem

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8. Van Woesik, R., Irikawa, A., and Loya, Y. Coral bleaching: signs of change in southern Japan. In: Coral Reef Health and Disease; Rosenberg and Loya (Eds). Springer-Verlag; Berlin, Heidelberg, New York. pp. 119-142.

Papers presented in scientific meetings

- 2003 International Coral Ecotoxicology and Health Workshop: Bermuda Biological Station for Research Invited lecture: The coral reefs of Eilat -- past, present and future: Three decades of coral community structure studies (Y. Loya).
- 2003 Zoological Society of Israel, Sede Boqer, Israel. "Reproductive rate and energy allocation during lactation in *Meriones crassus*" (M. Kam, S. Cohen-Gross, I.S. Khokhlova, A.A. Degen and E. Geffen).
- 2003 Division of labor and the head region in marine hydroids. International Workshop on Hydroids and the Evolution of Signalling Pathways (Tutzing, Germany) (Mokady, O., Jacoby-Shimony, V., Plickert, G., Huang, J-W., and Martínez, D.)
- 2003 Division of labor in marine hydroids – different ‘heads’ for different jobs. The Annual Meeting of the Zoological Society of Israel (Sede Boker, Israel) (Mokady, O., Jacoby-Shimony, V., and Martínez, D.)
- 2003 Radiation patterns of Persian fallow deer following reintroduction. Third International Wildlife Management Congress, Christchurch, New Zealand (Bar-David, S., D. Saltz, T. Dayan, A. Dolev, and A. Perelberg).
- 2003 The effect of a Src inhibitor on allorecognition in *Hydractinia echinata*. The Annual Meeting of the Zoological Society of Israel (Sede Boker, Israel) (Iasur, L., Gild, S., and Mokady, O.)
- 2003 Validation and application of plants as biomonitors for trace element atmospheric pollution – a coordinated effort in 14 countries. Proceedings of the 3rd International Workshop on Biomonitoring of Atmospheric Pollution, Bled, Slovenia. (B. Smodis, M.L. Pignata, M. Saiki, E. Cortes, N. Bangfa, B. Markert,

- B. Nyarko, J. Arunnachalam, J. Garty, M. Vitchkov, H.Th. Wolterbeek, E. Steinnes, M.C. Freitas, A. Lucaciu, and M. Frontasyeva)
- 2003 Artificial reefs in the Red Sea. NATO Science Programme: Advanced Study Institute: Strategic Mngement of Marine Ecosystems, Sophia Antipolis, France (Benayahu Y.)
- 2003 The effect of substratum stability on benthic artificial reef communities: biological and hydrodynamical aspects. The Zoological Society of Israel, Annual Conference, Beer Sheba, Israel. Abstract book. (Perkol-Finkel S., Zilman G., Miloh T., Benayahu Y.)
- 2003 The impact of the Red Sea herbivore invaders on the food web in the eastern Mediterranean. Second Mediterranean Symposium on Marine Vegetation Athens. (M. Goren and B.S. Galil).
- 2003 The Red Sea Marine Peace Park International Symposium (Integration of Marine Science and Resource Management) Aqaba, Jordan. (M. Goren)
- 2003 The Red Sea Marine Peace Park International Symposium Integration of Marine Science and Resource Management, Aqaba Jordan (Y. Loya).
- 2004 From evolution to paleopathology. American Association of Physical Anthropologists (I. Hershkovitz, Dar, and G. Sacroiliac).
- 2004 Society for Conservation Biology, New York, USA. "Genetic diversity, population structure and the current cancer epidemic in Tasmanian devils" (M. Jones, D. Paetkau, E. Geffen, and C. Moritz).
- 2004 Training and joint flexibility in dancers. Fifth research fair of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel-Aviv University (Steinberg, N., Siev-Ner, I., Peleg, S., Dar, G., Been, E., Ezra, D., Masharawi, Y., and Hershkovitz, I.).
- 2004 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of Israel, HaGoshrim (Orlov-Labkovsky, O.).
- 2004 Biodiversity. Helmholtz Dead Sea Project Kick-off Conference (invited lecture), Jordan (T. Dayan).

- 2004 Eleventh Marine Natural Products Symposium, (Italy) (M. Ilan).
- 2004 Impact of global climate change, changes in water resources, and changes in land-use patterns on biodiversity. GLOWA JR Status Conference, Potsdam, Germany (T. Dayan).
- 2004 Marine Biotechnology, (Israel) (M. Ilan).
- 2004 Parataxonomy as a conservation tool. Species diversity in afforested areas: comparison of beetles, spiders, and plants in the Judean foothills. Do analyses of open landscape quality represent biodiversity? The Judean Mountains and foothills as a case study. 33rd Annual Meeting of the Israel Society for Ecology & Environmental Quality Sciences (ISEEQS) (T. Dayan).
- 2004 Planning for landscape connectivity in Israel using a spatially-explicit model of a reintroduced Persian fallow deer. Biodiversity quantification; are vegetation structure and richness reliable indicators of species richness in Mediterranean ecosystems? 18th Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology, New York (Bar-David, S., D. Saltz, T. Dayan, and Y. Shkedy).
- 2004 The impact of environmental pollution on lichen vitality, with emphasis on trace elements. Abstracts of the 17th Convegno Annuale della Società Lichenologica Italiana (SLI), Genova, Italia, (invited lecture). (J. Garty, L. Weissman, H. Lehr, and N. Kloog).
- 2004 A Desert in the Depths of the Levantine Sea (Eastern Mediterranean). XI International Congress of European Ichthyologists. Tallinn, Estonia. (M. Goren and B.S. Galil).
- 2004 Aging of the cervical spine. Fifth research fair of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel-Aviv University (Ezra, D., Salame, K., Peleg, S., Masharawi, Y., Dar, G., Been, E., Steinberg, N., and Hershkovitz, I.)
- 2004 Dental paleopathology at the origin of agriculture in the Levant: A case of changes in dietary habit, bacteria, or differences in immunological response? (Advances in Paleopathology). Proceeding of the XVth European Meeting of the Paleopathology Association (ed. M. Schultz) (Hershkovitz, I., Latimer, B., Simpson, S., Polak, J., Arensburg, B., and M. Jellema, L.).
- 2004 Diversity of Soft corals (Octocorallia: Alcyonacea) from southern Taiwan. 10th International Coral Reef Symposium, Okinawa,

- Japan. Abstract book. (Benayahu Y., Jeng M. S., Perkol-Finkel S., Dai C.)
- 2004 Floating and fixed artificial reefs: the effect of substratum motion on benthic communities. 39th EMBS, Genoa, Italy. Abstract book. (Perkol-Finkel S., Zilman G., Miloh T., Benayahu Y.)
- 2004 Health in the Levant at the advent of agriculture. Paleopathology Association, Supplement to Paleopathology Newsletter (I. Hershkovitz, V. Eshed, and A. Gopher.).
- 2004 New data concerning the presence of Lessepsian and other Indo-Pacific migrants among the molluscs in the Mediterranean Sea with emphasize on the situation in Israel. In B. Öztürk and A. Salman (Eds.): Proceedings 1st National Malacology Congress, 1-3 September 2004, Izmir. Turkish Journal of Aquatic Life 2:117-131. 1st National Malacological Congress, Izmir, Turkey (H.K. Mienis).
- 2004 Sacroiliac joint bridging: demographical and anatomical aspects. Fifth research fair of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel-Aviv University (Dar, G., Peleg, S., Masharawi, Y., Steinberg, N., Been, E., Ezra, D., Rothschild, B.M., Hershkovitz, I.).
- 2004 Shifts from fouling organisms to tropical-reef communities on a planned artificial reef: how long does it take? 39th EMBS, Genoa, Italy. Abstract book. (Benayahu Y., Perkol-Finkel S.)
- 2004 The effect of substratum stability on benthic artificial reef communities: biological and hydrodynamical aspects. 10th International Coral Reef Symposium, Okinawa, Japan. Abstract book. (Perkol-Finkel S., Zilman G., Miloh T., Benayahu Y.)
- 2004 The elusive “sacral inclination”: Its demographic nature and association with spinal deformities. Fifth research fair of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel-Aviv University (Peleg, S., Dar, G., Been, E., Steinberg, N., Masharawi, Y., Ezra, D., Arensburg, B., and Hershkovitz, I.).
- 2004 The Impact of Invading Fish Species on Inland and Marine Ecosystems in the Eastern Mediterranean Region. Plenary lecture. XI International Congress of European Ichthyologists. Tallinn, Estonia. (M. Goren and B.S. Galil).

- 2004 The thoraco-lumbar vertebral body: shape variation and its association with gender, age and ethnic origin. Fifth research fair of the Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel-Aviv University (Masharawi, Y., Rothschild, B., Dar, G., Peleg, S., Alperovitch-Nejenson, D., and Hershkovitz I.).
- 2004 The unique annual cycle of the whitefly *Trialeurodes lauri* on the strawberry tree. 2nd European Whitefly Symposium, Cavtat, Croatia (D. Gerling, E. Ereli and M. Inbar).
- 2004 The unique annual cycle of the whitefly *Trialeurodes lauri* on the strawberry tree. 2nd European Whitefly Symposium, Cavtat, Croatia (D. Gerling, E. Ereli and M. Inbar).
- 2004 Tritrophic interactions of *Encarsia scapeata* a parasitoid of *Trialeurodes lauri*. 2nd European Whitefly Symposium, Cavtat, Croatia (D. Gerling, E. Ereli and M. Inbar).
- 2004 Tritrophic interactions of *Encarsia scapeata* a parasitoid of *Trialeurodes lauri*. 2nd European Whitefly Symposium, Cavtat, Croatia (D. Gerling, E. Ereli and M. Inbar).
- 2004 When shells begin to talk. Archaeomalacology: an important tool for the archaeologist with examples from the excavation of Mallaha, Hula Valley, Israel. In B. Öztürk and A. Salman (Eds.): Proceedings 1st National Malacology Congress, 1-3 September 2004, Izmir. Turkish Journal of Aquatic Life 2:111-116. 1st National Malacological Congress, Izmir, Turkey (H.K. Mienis).
- 2004 Where all the hands gone? Anthropological case from Biblical times. American Association of Physical Anthropologists (A. Barash, Y. Hiss, Hershkovitz I.).

Graduate students

PhD students

- 1998- 2004 Yariv Malihi (A. Freidberg and D. Gerling)
Biology and ecology of *Cryptocephalus sinaiticus moricei*.
- 1998- 2004 Lior Weissman (J. Garty and A. Hochman)
Oxidative stress in lichens and air pollution.
- 1999- Orit Barneah (Y. Benayahu)
Micoscale events during the onset of coral-algal symbiosis.
- 1999- Liora Glass (E. Geffen and T. Dayan).
The ecology of jungle cats in natural and anthropogenic habitats in Israel.
- 1999- Yael Mandelik (T. Dayan and E. Feitelson)
Assessing the ecological aspects of environmental assessment in Israel.
- 1999- Vered Shimony (O. Mokady and B. Moav)
Establishment and maintenance of the head region in colonial hydroids.
- 2000- 2004 Shai Meiri (T. Dayan and D. Simberloff)
Island rules revisited.
- 2000- D. Alterovitz (I. Hershkovitz)
Association between lower back pain and lumbar region architecture.
- 2000- Sharon Gild (O. Mokady)
Invertebrate allorecognition.
- 2000- Reuvat Nitzan (T. Dayan and A. Ar)
Population dynamics of the chukar partridge in Israel.
- 2000- S. Peleg (I. Hershkovitz)
Skeletal manifestation in kyphosis and scoliosis.
- 2001- D. Ezra (I. Hershkovitz)
Aging of the cervical spine.

- 2001- Tamar Feldstein (O. Mokady)
Molecular level markers for biomonitoring the coastal environment.
- 2001 - Eran Hadas (M. Ilan)
Sponge aquaculture.
- 2001- N. Knopp (I. HersHKovitz)
Dancer's injuries.
- 2001- Lee Koren (E. Geffen and O. Mokady)
Vocalization as an indicator of individual quality in rock hyrax.
- 2001- Shimrit Perkol (Y. Benayahu)
Spatial and temporal interactions between artificial and natural reefs.
- 2001 - Laura Steindler (M. Ilan and S. Bar)
Physiology of photosymbionts associated with marine sponges.
- 2002- Yoav Motro (Y. Yom-Tov and U. Safriel)
Mechanisms of biological control of a rodent pest by a nocturnal raptor: the use of barn owls for vole control in Israel.
- 2002- Hadass Schteinitz (Y. Yom-Tov and T. Dayan)
Species and community level investigation of the environmental factors which affect mammal distributions in Israel.
- 2003- Andrey Aaronov (M. Goren)
Ecology of fishes in Mediterranean rocky habitats.
- 2003- B. Bahaa (I. HersHKovitz)
Macro and microstructure of the annulus fibrosus.
- 2003 - Leon Novak (M. Ilan)
Engineering a bacterial expression system to produce large amounts of known and of modified naturally occurring bioactive compounds of pharmacological interest.
- 2003- Noa Shenkar (Y. Loya)
Bioactivity of Mediterranean and Red sea tunicates.
- 2003- Merav Weinstein (T. Dayan and A. Hefetz)
Invasive ants of Israel.

- 2003- Gidon Winters (Y. Loya)
Photoinhibition in corals – effects of UV, PAR and temperature.
- 2004- G. Dar (I. Herskovitz)
Spondyloarthropathy.
- 2004- Liat Gahanama (A. Freidberg)
A revision of the *Schistopterum* clade of Schistopterini.
- 2004- Constantin Grach (A. Freidberg)
Ecology and biology of costal dune insects .
- 2004- Mati Halperin (Y. Benayahu).
- 2004- Irina Zonstein (A. Freidberg)
A revision of the *Rhabdochaeta* clade of Schistopterini.

MSc students

- 1999- 2004 Hanan Ackerman (A. Freidberg)
A revision of *Dorycera* (Ulidiidae).
- 1999- 2004 Nurit Levi (M. Goren and O. Mokady)
Systematics of the genera *Acanthobrama* and *Mirogres*.
- 1999- 2004 Reuven Ugorok (M. Goren)
Systematic and ecological aspects of the Blenniidae of eastern Mediterranean.
- 2000- 2003 Limor Barak (O. Mokady)
Cellular level biomonitoring markers in coastal mollusks.
- 2000- 2004 Yaron Krotman (M. Goren)
The effect of human activity on the fish communities in Upper Galilee.
- 2000-2004 Ettie Sapir (Y. Benayahu and A. Gasith)
Ship-hull coatings: toxicological response and non-polluting, energy saving fouling control.
- 2001-2003 Assaf Zevoluni (A. Abelson and O. Mokady)
Genetic variability within and between populations of the coral *Stylophora pistillata*.

- 2001-2004 Boas Libes (M. Goren)
Ecological factors affected the reproduction of *Acanthobrya telavivensis*.
- 2001- 2004 Inbar Perez (E. Geffen and O. Mokady)
Estimation of leopard population size and composition based on DNA from feces.
- 2001- 2004 Uri Roll (T. Dayan and D. Simberloff)
Survey and biogeographic analyses of invasive species in Israel.
- 2001-2004 Noga Sokolover (M. Ilan)
Induced chemical defense in sponges.
- 2001-2004 Einav Vidan (T. Dayan and N. Kronfeld-Schor)
Foraging activity patterns of spiny mice: an experimental analysis.
- 2001- Edit Adler (Y. Benayahu)
Cross infection of juvenile corals by zooxanthellae clade C.
- 2001- N. Bachrach (I. Hershkovitz)
The last Natufian inhabitants from El-Wad Terrace: Anthropological study.
- 2001- Anat Maoz (Y. Benayahu)
Algal acquisition by zooxanthellate primary polyps.
- 2001- G. Samora (I. Hershkovitz)
Cribra orbitalia in historic populations.
- 2002-2004 Neta Ein-Gil (M. Ilan and S. Carmeli)
Chemical interactions of sponges and their associated fungi.
- 2002-2004 Eyal Erel (D. Gerling)
Aspects in the Biology of The Whitefly *Trialeurodes Lauri* (Homoptera: Aleyrodidae).
- 2002-2004 Amir Gur (M. Ilan)
Iron deposition in sponges.
- 2002-2004 Mati Halperin (Y. Benayahu and M. Goren)
Recruitment of fish to experimental floating and fixed artificial reefs.

- 2002-2004 Matan Oren (M. Ilan)
Theonella swinhoei microsymbionts.
- 2002- 2004 Ela Sela (J. Garty and A. Hochman)
The biochemical response of the lichens *Ramalina lacera* and *R. maciformis* to environmental stress.
- 2002- Ehud Columbus (T. Dayan)
Biodiversity in agricultural landscapes.
- 2002- Neta Dasa (M. Goren)
Reproductive aspect in riverine fish.
- 2002- Ornit Hall (T. Dayan and D. Wool)
Parataxonomy as a research and conservation tool in Israel.
- 2002- Tal Levanoni (T. Dayan)
Biodiversity and silviculture in KKL forests of Israel.
- 2003- Nili Angelister (Y. Yom-Tov and U. Motro)
The effect of human disturbance on rodent communities in the southern coastal plain.
- 2003- Rachel Armoza (Y. Loya)
Stress bio-indicators in scleractinian corals.
- 2003- Ilil Atad (O. Mokadi)
The establishment of the Lessepsian migrant *Cellana rota* (Gastropoda) in the Mediterranean Sea.
- 2003- Inbal Brickner (Y. Yom Tov and E. Gefen)
The impact of feral cats on Israeli wildlife.
- 2003- Shunit Gal (D. Gerling)
Variations within a species - *Bemisia tabaci* (due to parasitic bacteria)
- 2003- Inbal Ginsburg (Y. Benayahu)
Farming of soft coral for reef rehabilitation purposes.
- 2003- Ifat Guata (M. Goren)
Recolonization of fishes in damaged aquatic habitats.
- 2003- Z. Leader (Y. Yom-Tov and U. Safriel).

- The diet of the long-eared owl (*Asio otus*) and the barn owl (*Tyto alba*) in the Negev.
- 2003- Larisa Lerner (A. Freidberg)
Studies of Carpomyia (Tephritidae).
- 2003- Eran Levin, (Y. Yom-Tov and A. Barnea).
The diet of some insectivorous bats in northern Israel.
- 2003- Chagai Rot (D. Huchon and M. Ilan)
The complete mitochondrial genome of the sponge *Negombata magnifica*.
- 2003- Alon Rothschild (O. Mokady)
Molecular biomonitoring of toxic metals in the Kishon.
- 2003- Lidar Sappir (T. Dayan and G. Bar-Oz)
The paleoecology and paleoeconomy of Motza, a Pre-Pottery Neolithic B site.
- 2003- Lior Shine (J. Garty and A. Hochman)
The biochemical and physiological response of lichens to air pollution.
- 2003- Amy Shlesinger (Y. Loya and E. Zlotkin)
A model of external digestion in Cnidaria: Nematocysts' toxins of the Mediterranean sea-anemone *Aiptasia diaphana* and their role in external digestion.
- 2003- Ran Sulam (Y. Loya)
Outbreak of coral diseases at the coral reefs of Eilat.
- 2004- Yotam Bar (M. Goren)
The littoral fishes of Siqmona.
- 2004- Sara Cohen (M. Goren)
Energy flow in fish communities in Shiqmona.
- 2004- Allen Daniel (Y. Loya)
Community structure of deep (50 m) scleractinian corals in Eilat, Red Sea.
- 2004- Shani Inbar (D. Huchon)
Identification of new nuclear markers to solve sponge phylogeny.

- 2004- Ariella Gotlieb (T. Dayan)
Ecological restoration of the Ze'elim wadi bed, near the Dead Sea.
- 2004- Ronit Justo-Hanani (T. Dayan and A. Tal)
Comparative legislation of invasive species
- 2004- Roe Segal (Y. Loya)
Molecular characteristics of the bleaching phenomenon of the Mediterranean stony coral *Oculina patagonica*.
- 2003- Victoria Semyatich (J. Garty and A. Hochman)
The biochemical response of lichens to environmental stress.
- 2004- Ido Sella (Y. Benayahu)
- 2004- Jonathan Sharon (Y. Benayahu with Prof. Y. Loya)
Benthic communities associated with an invasive bivalve in the Israeli Mediterranean Sea.
- 2004- Amir Shitenberg (M. Goren)
The Anatomical, morphological and genetic variation of cichlid fishes in Israel.
- 2004- Ophir Shneor (D. Huchon and Y. Yom-Tov)
Population identification of the migrating waves of three species of songbirds using Molecular markers.
- 2004- Daniel Yashunski (M. Goren)
Recruitment of fish in artificial coral reefs.
- 2004- Efrat Yshula (M. Goren)
The impacts of invader herbivore fishes on the food web in Eastern Mediterranean.
- 2004- Yael Zaldam (Y. Benayahu)
- 2004- Dror Zurel (Y. Benayahu)

Post-docs

- 2004-2005 Noam Leader (Y. Yom-Tov)
- 2004-2005 Shai Meiri (T. Dayan)

Fellowships and grants

- 1999-2005 The Ministry of the Environment and the Israel Nature and Parks Authority: Breeding of *Acanthobrama telavivense* in captivity (M. Goren).
- 2000 -2003 The Ministry of environment and Nature Reserves Authority. The ichthyofauna of the Taninim River as a model for conservation of the fish fauna in the coastal system of Israel (M. Goren).
- 2000-2005 The Porter School of Environmental Studies, Italian collaborative research. Research Project: Artificial Marine Structures (AMS): Multifunctional Tool for Research and Environmental Management in the Mediterranean and Red Sea (MED-RED) (EURO 256,000) (Y. Benayahu).
- 2001-2004 US - Israel Binational Science Foundation, (\$105,000) (E. Geffen and M. Kam).
- 2001-2005 Joint German – Israeli Research Project (BMBF and MOS). Anthropogenic impact on fish biodiversity in the Jordan River basin (M. Goren).
- 2001-2005 Research grant from the Israel Scientific Foundation. The roles of ecological and physiological selective forces in shaping rhythm biology and community structure in a rocky desert rodent system (four year; \$50,000 per annum) (T. Dayan and N. Kronfeld-Schor).
- 2001-2005 Research grant from the Israeli Ministry of the Environment. Ecological impact assessment: Tools for evaluating the effects of development on biodiversity (three year grant at 80,000 NIS (ca. \$18,000) per annum) (T. Dayan and Y. Mandelik).
- 2001-2006 Joint German-Israeli Research Program in Environmental Research (GLOWA); as part of a proposal entitled: Impacts of global change on East-Mediterranean environs: an integrated assessment of hydrological, agricultural, ecological and socio-economic aspects (five year grant; \$45,000 per annum) (T. Dayan, M. Goren, and A. Freidberg).
- 2002-2003 The Tel Aviv University Fund. Lichens and UV-B radiation. (\$ 7,500) (J. Garty).

- 2002-2005 International Arid Lands Consortium (IALC) (\$100,000) (E. Geffen, M. Kam and G. Roemer).
- 2002-2006 BSF. Response of lichens to oxidative stress exerted by environmental adversities. 152,000 USD) (J. Garty, A. Hochman and B. Bradley).
- 2002-2006 Israel Science Foundation (ISF). Alternative feeding mechanism in corals: bacterial aggregate "gardening". (Y. Loya and A. Kushmaro).
- 2002-2007 Israel Science Foundation (ISF)-"An integrative approach of studying bacterial coral bleaching in the coral reefs of Eilat". (Y. Loya and E. Rosenberg).
- 2003 Research grant from the Jewish National Fund. The influence of different forestry regimes on biodiversity (Three year grant at 40,000 NIS (ca. \$8,500) per annum) (T. Dayan and Y. Mandelik).
- 2003 The Antiquities Authority research grant. Analysis of the faunal remains from the Neolithic of Motza (ca. \$1500) (T. Dayan).
- 2003 The Tel Aviv University Internal Fund for Research Encouragement, \$13,000 (O. Mokady).
- 2003- Pharma Mar, Spain. Research project: Collection of marine invertebrates from the coral reefs of Kenya (\$77,000, via RAMOT) (Y. Benayahu).
- 2003-2004 Grant from the Beracha Foundation. Publishing a series of Hebrew language policy papers on global environmental issues and their relevance to Israel (\$30,000) (T. Dayan & Y. Gavrieli).
- 2003-2004 Ministry of the Environment, National action plan for Biodiversity conservation (\$6,700) (T. Dayan & Y. Gavrieli).
- 2003-2004 Ramat Hanadiv, Biodiversity research projects for high school students (\$32,100) (Y. Gavrieli).
- 2003-2007 USAID-CDR, Research Project: Scientifically based framework for conserving and monitoring the Eritrean coral-reefs (US\$ 200,000) (Y. Benayahu).
- 2003-2008 The World Bank/UNESCO/IOC International Targeted Group of Experts on "indicators of coral bleaching". A group which is

composed of 15 scientists as follows: from USA (3) Hawaii (1), England (2), Australia (2), Kenya (3), Israel (1), Philippines (1), Mexico (1) and France (1). The group meets and works together 2-3 weeks every year at 4 reef sites: Heron Island (Great Barrier Reef, Australia), Puerto Morelos (Mexico), Philippines (exact location to be determined) and Zanzibar (Y. Loya Co-Chairman with Prof. O. H. Guldborg).

- 2004 ARS grant for curating the parasitic Hymenoptera collection (\$6000) (D. Gerling).
- 2004 Elsa and Leo Abramson Foundation: Tuberculosis and Cattle domestication at the Origin of Agriculture (HersHKovitz I.).
- 2004 Hillel Nathan Foundation for Anatomical and Anthropological Research: Tuberculosis and Cattle domestication at the Origin of Agriculture (HersHKovitz I.).
- 2004 Ministry of Justice, Linking science and the public (\$4,500) (Y. Gavrieli).
- 2004 Tel Aviv University Basic Research Grant (\$8,000) (E. Geffen).
- 2004 The Porter School for Environmental Studies, \$5,000 (O. Mokady).
- 2004-2005 Grant from Yad Hanadiv Foundation. Planning a natural history museum at Tel Aviv University (\$50,000) (T. Dayan).
- 2004-2005 Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative. Title of Project: Reproduction and Developmental Characteristics of an alien soft coral (*Carijoa riisei*) in Hawaii (US\$ 10,880) (Y. Benayahu).
- 2004-2006 Marie Curie European Reintegration Grant (Brussels, Belgium). (M. Ilan).
- 2004-2007 BSF - US - Israel Binational Scientific Foundation (Jerusalem, Israel). (M. Ilan).
- 2004-2007 Grant from the Israel Scientific Foundation. Exploitation and hunting patterns of Mountain Gazelle (*Gazella gazelle*) and Persian Fallow Deer (*Dama mesopotamica*) during the Late Pleistocene - Early Holocene of the Southern Levant: Testing the hypothesis of cultural control (3 year grant; ca. \$30,000 per annum (T. Dayan and G. Bar-Oz).

2004-2007 US (MD) - Israel BARD - Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund (Jerusalem, Israel). (M. Ilan).

Awards

- 1996- The Dr. Israel Cohen Chair in Environmental Zoology (Y. Yom Tov).
- 1999- Appointed incumbent of the Igor Orenstein Chair for Gerontological Research (Y. Rak)
- 1997- The Raynor Chair in Environmental Conservation Research at Tel Aviv University (Y. Loya).
- 2003- The Landau Prize (together with Prof. Eugene. Rosenberg, TAU) awarded by Mifaal Hapais in the category of Life Sciences for original outstanding research contribution to the field of Ecology and Environmental Quality (Y. Loya)

Public service

- 1953- Member of the Zoological Society of Israel (L. Fishelson).
- 1965- Member of the Zoological Society of Israel (Y. Yom Tov).
- 1969- National Representative in Scientific Committee of Oceanographic Research (SCOR) (L. Fishelson).
- 1970- Member of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (L. Fishelson).
- 1970- Member of the Israel Ecological Society (M. Goren).
- 1970- Member of the Zoological Society of Israel (M. Goren).
- 1971- Curator Mollusc Collection, Dept. Evolution, Systematics and Ecology, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (H.K. Mienis).
- 1971- Honorary Associate, Dept. of Malacology, Zoological Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands (H.K. Mienis)
- 1972- Member of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa (A. Freidberg).
- 1973- Member of the IAL (International Association for Lichenology) (J. Garty).
- 1973- Member of the Israel Zoological Society (Y. Benayahu).
- 1973- Member of the The Israel Ecological Society (J. Garty).
- 1975- Member editorial board 'Malacologia', U.S.A. (H.K. Mienis).
- 1975- Member of the Israel Ecological Society (L. Fishelson).
- 1976- Curator of the Fish collection, Zoological Museum, Tel Aviv University (M. Goren).
- 1976- Member editorial board 'Malacological Review', U.S.A. (H.K. Mienis).
- 1976- Member of the Entomological Society of Israel (A. Freidberg).
- 1977- Member of the Intecol - International Ecological Society (L. Fishelson).

- 1978- Member of the La Societe Francais d'Ichthyologie (M. Goren).
- 1979- Member of the editorial board of Marine Ecology Progress Series (Y. Loya).
- 1979- Member of the Entomological Society of Washington (A. Freidberg).
- 1980- Ministry of Agriculture, Plant Protection Department, Bet Dagan, identification of intercepted mollusca (H.K. Mienis).
- 1981- Israel Anthropological Society (Hershkovitz I.).
- 1981- Israel Society for Anatomical Sciences (Hershkovitz I.).
- 1981- Member of the Israel Society for Electron Microscopy (J. Garty).
- 1982- Member of the Advisory Board of the Israel Journal of Zoology (Y. Yom Tov).
- 1982- Member of the European Ichthyological Union (M. Goren).
- 1982- Member of the European Union of Ichthyologists (L. Fishelson).
- 1983- Curator of the Invertebrate collections, Zoological Museum, Tel Aviv University (Y. Benayahu).
- 1983- Scientific Advisor of the Israel Nature & Parks Authority (M. Goren).
- 1984- European Anthropological Association (Hershkovitz I.).
- 1984- Israel Prehistoric Society (Hershkovitz I.).
- 1985- Curator of the Entomological collections, Zoological Museum, Tel Aviv University (A. Freidberg).
- 1985- Member of the Committee for Fauna and Flora of Israel - The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities (M. Goren).
- 1985- Member of the Israel Society for Aquaculture (M. Goren).
- 1986- Member of the editorial board of Marine Biology (Y. Loya).
- 1986- Member of the International Society for Reef Studies (Y. Benayahu).
- 1986- Member of the The Botanical Society of Israel (J. Garty).

- 1986- Member of the Zoological Society of Israel (T. Dayan).
- 1987- Curator of Birds & Mammals, Zoological Museum, Tel Aviv University (Y. Yom Tov).
- 1987- Member of the Israel Society of Prehistory (T. Dayan).
- 1988- Member of the Ecological Society of America (T. Dayan).
- 1988- Member of the Fauna & Flora Committee, Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities Curator of Birds & Mammals (Y. Yom Tov).
- 1988- Member of the Israel Society for Ecology and Environmental Quality (Y. Benayahu).
- 1988- Member of the Society of Invertebrate Reproduction (Y. Benayahu).
- 1989- Member of the Zoological Society of Israel (O. Mokady).
- 1989- Paleoanthropology Society (Herskovitz I.).
- 1989- Pre-clinical Advisor for New York Program medical students (Y. Rak)
- 1989- The Willi Hennig Society (elected fellow) (A. Freidberg).
- 1990- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Tropenoekologie (A. Freidberg).
- 1990- Member of the American Society of Mammalogists (T. Dayan).
- 1990- Member of the International Council of Archaeozoology (T. Dayan).
- 1990- Member of the International Ornithological Committee (Y. Yom Tov).
- 1990- Member of the Pacific Science Association (Y. Benayahu).
- 1990- Member of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (T. Dayan).
- 1991- Smithsonian Institution Entomology, Research Associate (A. Freidberg).
- 1991- Member of the Ichthyological Society of Japan (M. Goren).

- 1992- Member of the Board of Publications, Senckenberg Institute, Germany (L. Fishelson).
- 1992- Member of the Israel Society of Ecology (T. Dayan).
- 1993- Member of the Ecology Graduate Program Committee, Faculty of Life Sciences, Tel Aviv Univ (T. Dayan).
- 1993- Member of the Israel Society for the Study of the Origin of Life (IL-SOL) (J. Garty).
- 1993- Member of the IUCN Canid Specialist Group (E. Geffen).
- 1993- Paleopathology Association (Hershkovitz I.).
- 1993- Scientific Advisor to the Yarqon River Authority (M. Goren).
- 1994- Dental Anthropology Association (Hershkovitz I.).
- 1994- Member of the American Association of Anatomists (L. Fishelson).
- 1994- Member of the Curriculum Committee (Y. Rak)
- 1994-2004 Vice President of Societas Europaea Ichthyologorum (European Ichthyological Society) (M. Goren).
- 1995- American Associations of Physical Anthropology (Hershkovitz I.).
- 1995- Human Biology Association (Hershkovitz I.).
- 1995- Member of the American Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (Y. Benayahu).
- 1995- Member of the Director of the National Collections of Natural History at Tel Aviv University (T. Dayan).
- 1995- Member of the Fisheries Society of Africa (M. Goren).
- 1995- Member of the Museum Committee in the Zoology Department (Y. Benayahu).
- 1996- Editor of the Journal of International Wildlife Law & Policy, Corresponding (M. Ilan).
- 1996- Member of the The American Microscopical Society (Y. Benayahu).

- 1997- Adopting a scientist for a Shapiro Stipend ,Prof. A. Lehrer (A. Freidberg).
- 1997- Member of the British Ornithologists' Union (Y. Yom Tov).
- 1997-2004 Member of the scientific steering committee of the Institute for Nature Conservation Research (M. Ilan).
- 1998- Israel Journal of Zoology, Editor-in-Chief (M. Ilan).
- 1998- Scientific co-convenor of DIVERSITAS (An international programme of Biodiversity Science) STAR element 9 on “Inventory and Monitoring of Inland Water Biodiversity” (M. Goren).
- 1998- Israel Journal of Entomology, Editorial board (A. Freidberg).
- 1998- Member of the American Fisheries Society (M. Goren).
- 1998- Member of the Departmental Committee, Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University (T. Dayan).
- 1998- Member of the Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL) (M. Goren).
- 1999- Co-Chair of the committee for Fauna and Flora of Israel - The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities (M. Goren).
- 1999- Member editorial board ‘Triton’, Israel. (H.K. Mienis).
- 1999- Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-university Institute (IUI), Eilat (Y. Benayahu).
- 1999- Member of the Committee for terms in ecology and environmental quality, The Academy for Hebrew Language (Y. Benayahu).
- 1999- Member of the International Society for the Study of the Origin of Life (ISSOL) (J. Garty).
- 1999- Member, National Committee for the environmental curriculum in high schools (L. Fishelson).
- 2000 - Member of the steering committee of the Department of Biology, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research, Haifa (M. Ilan).
- 2000 - Head of the Faculty Teaching committee (M. Ilan).

- 2000- Member of the Japanese Coral Reef Society (Y. Benayahu).
- 2000- Adopting a scientist for a Gil'adi program (A. Freidberg).
- 2000- Member of the Academic Planning Committee, Tel Aviv University (Y. Loya).
- 2000- Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-university Institute (IUI), Eilat (Y. Loya).
- 2000- Member of the Israel Society for Oxygen and Free Radical Research (J. Garty).
- 2000- Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the International Institute (Peoples) (T. Dayan).
- 2000- Member of the Scientific Review Board - Coral bleaching Project, Research Institute for the Subtropics (RSI), Okinawa, Japan (Y. Loya).
- 2000- Member of the Zoological Society of Israel (R. Ben-David-Zaslow).
- 2001- Member of Man & Biosphere Committee, UNESCO (Y. Gavrieli)
- 2001- Member of the executive committee of the Zoological Society of Israel (M. Goren).
- 2001- Co Chairman -International Targeted working group on coral bleaching under the auspices of the World Bank, in collaboration with IOC/UNESCO (Y. Loya).
- 2001- Member of the Advisory committee for the Minister of the Environment's award for volunteers (T. Dayan).
- 2001- Member of the Board of Directors, Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (Y. Yom Tov).
- 2001- Chair of the Israel MAB (Man and Biosphere) UNESCO Committee (T. Dayan).
- 2001- Member of the Israel IGBP (International Geosphere Biosphere Program) Committee (T. Dayan).
- 2001- Member of the Library Committee, Tel Aviv University (Y. Benayahu).

- 2001- Member of the Museum Committee (Chair), Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University (T. Dayan).
- 2001- Member of the Steering Committee for Nature Campus, Public Programs, Exhibitions & Education at the National Collections of Natural History, the I. Meier Segals Garden for Zoological Research and the Botanic Gardens (T. Dayan).
- 2001- Member of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, Israel (T. Dayan).
- 2001-2004 Member of the Board of Directors of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI), member of the steering committee of the board, member of the board's conservation committee, and member of the SPNI Council (T. Dayan).
- 2002- Member of the Società Lichenologica Italiana (Honorary member) (J. Garty).
- 2002- Educational Advising Committee, Nature Center, Ramat Hanadiv (Y.Gavrieli)
- 2002- Member of the Department Committee in the Department of Zoology (Y. Benayahu).
- 2002- Member of the editorial board of Marine Pollution Bulletin (Y. Loya).
- 2002- Member of the interdepartmental equipment committee, Faculty of Life Sciences, Tel Aviv University (ZABAM) (Y. Benayahu).
- 2002- Member of the Society for Conservation Biology (T. Dayan).
- 2002- Review Committee, Ford Motor Company Conservation and Environmental Grants (Y. Gavrieli)
- 2002-2004 Head, Institute for Nature Conservation Research, Tel Aviv University (T. Dayan).
- 2003- Member of the Israeli Society for aquatic research (M. Goren).
- 2003- Elected Council Member, Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (Y.Gavrieli)
- 2003- Head of "Education" team towards developing a national biodiversity action plan for the State of Israel (Y.Gavrieli)

- 2003 Head of "Research and Monitoring" team towards developing a national biodiversity action plan for the State of Israel (T. Dayan with R. Kadmon).
- 2003- Head of the Department of Zoology (Y. Benayahu).
- 2003- Member of the Board of Directors of the Nature and National Parks Protection Authority of Israel (INPA), and Chair of the Science Committee of the Board (T. Dayan).
- 2003- Member of the Great Rift Valley task force of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee (T. Dayan).
- 2003- Member of the Professional committee for biology teaching in the Ministry of Education, Israel (T. Dayan).
- 2003- Member of the Steering committee for "The environmental voice at the Judean Foothills", environmental community action in an area planned as a biosphere reserve (T. Dayan).
- 2003 Search committee for a Chief Scientist for the Israel Nature and Parks Authority (T. Dayan).
- 2003- 2004 Member of the executive committee of the Israeli Society for aquatic research (M. Goren).
- 2003-2004 Member of the ILANIT 2005 (tri-annual meeting of Israeli Societies for Experimental Biology) Scientific Committee (T. Dayan).
- 2003-2004 Zoology Department, Cambridge University, Britain, Visiting Professor (Y. Yom Tov).
- 2004 Aug Visiting Scholar, Peabody Museum, Harvard University (T. Dayan).
- 2004 Jul Ewha Womans University, Seoul, Korea, Visiting Professor (Y. Benayahu).
- 2004 Jul Research Scholar, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Department, University of Tennessee (T. Dayan)
- 2004 Jul University of the Ryukyus Okinawa, Japan, Visiting Professor (Y. Benayahu).
- 2004 Jun The Bahamas Research Expedition, University of North Carolina (M. Ilan).

- 2004- Board member, Hagei Siyur (Young Rangers), Jewish National Fund (Y.Gavrieli)
- 2004- Editor in Chief of Electronic Journal of Ichthyology (M. Goren).
- 2004- Identification of whiteflies for the Plant protection service. Including those found on citrus (*Aleurolobus marlatti*) (D. Gerling).
- 2004- Member of the Advisory Committee on "Man and the Environment", Yad Yizhak Ben-Zvi (T. Dayan).
- 2004- Member of the Central Nomination Committee of Tel Aviv University (Y. Loya)
- 2004- Member of the Landau Prize Committee (T. Dayan).
- 2004- Member of the National Parks and Nature Reserves Council of Israel (T. Dayan).

Visiting scientists at the National Collections

The National Collections of Natural History at Tel Aviv University are an active biodiversity research infrastructure that is open to the entire scientific community. We always welcome visiting scientists at the National Collections of Natural History. Unfortunately, due to the current goings-on in the Middle East, fewer visitors from abroad came to study our collections in the academic year 2003/2004. However, we continue to send between 100 and 150 parcels of museum specimens abroad every year, to be studied by our colleagues. With everyone else, we hope that the hostilities cease, that our region becomes attractive once again to tourists from the international community, and that we can host more visiting scientists in our National Collections of Natural History.

Date	Name	Institute	Country	Taxonomic group
2003 Dec	U. Bar-Ze'ev		Israel	Mollusca
2003 Dec	E. Shefer	IOLR - Haifa	Israel	Mollusca
2003 Dec	V. Hasid		Israel	Mollusca
2003 Dec	O. Hazofe	Israel Nature and Parks Authority	Israel	Aves
2003-2004	N. Lev-Tov	Hebrew University	Israel	Anthropology
2003-2004	Y. Nagar	Israel Antiquity Authority	Israel	Anthropology
2004	J. Legg	IITA ESARC	Uganda	Entomology
2004 Jan	D. Yashonsky	IOLR - Haifa	Israel	Mollusca
2004 Jan	L. Zarfati	Tel Aviv University	Israel	Anthropology
2004 Jan	J. Zais & BBC film crew		USA & England	Anthropology
2004 Jan-Jun	V. Russeva	Bulgarian Academy of Sciences	Bulgaria	Anthropology
2004 Feb	K. Hertz		Israel	Mollusca
2004 Feb	U. Bar-Ze'ev		Israel	Mollusca

Date	Name	Institute	Country	Taxonomic group
2004 Feb	O. Kerman		Israel	Reptilia
2004 Mar	U. Bar-Ze'ev		Israel	Mollusca
2004 Mar	N. Bashkeren	Eretz Israel Museum	Israel	Mollusca
2004 Mar	I. Arel	Hebrew University	Israel	Anthropology
2004 Mar	S. Pat	Hebrew University	Israel	Anthropology
2004 Mar	L. Horwitz	Hebrew University	Israel	Anthropology
2004 Mar	M. Kofman	Weitzman Institute	Israel	Anthropology
2004 Apr	M. Lillig		Germany	Entomology
2004 Apr	M. Rezac	Charles Universty	Czech Republic	Entomology
2004 Apr	R. Pamirez	CNRS	France	Anthropology
2004 Apr-Jul	A. Brazilai	Haifa University	Israel	Anthropology
2004 May	N. Keinan	Education Technology Center	Israel	Aves
2004 May	Z. Lider	Hebrew University	Israel	Aves & Mammalia
2004 May	M. Tores		Israel	Mammalia
2004 May	D. Gazit	Tel Aviv University	Israel	Anthropology
2004 May	K. Szpila	Institute of Ecology and Environmental Protection	Poland	Entomology
2004 May	U. Bar-Ze'ev		Israel	Mollusca
2004 May	R. Shmulik	University of Haifa	Israel	Mollusca
2004 May	T. Simuns		USA	Anthropology
2004 Jun	S. Solomon		USA	Entomology
2004 Jun	U. Bar-Ze'ev		Israel	Mollusca
2004 Jun	R. Cohen	University of Haifa	Israel	Mollusca
2004 Jul	D. Adler	University of Haifa	Israel	Mammalia
2004 Jul	U. Bar-Ze'ev		Israel	Mollusca
2004 Jul	H. Lubinevsky	University of Haifa	Israel	Mollusca
2004 Aug	U. Bar-Ze'ev		Israel	Mollusca

Date	Name	Institute	Country	Taxonomic group
2004 Aug	H. Lubinevsky	University of Haifa	Israel	Mollusca
2004 Aug	N. Mizrchi	University of Haifa	Israel	Mollusca
2004 Sep	O. Hazofe	Israel Nature and Parks Authority	Israel	Aves
2004 Sep	K. Shushani	Tel Aviv University	Israel	Anthropology
2004 Sep	A. Van Ardne	University of Michigan	USA	Anthropology
2004 Oct	N. Goren	Faculty of Agriculture	Israel	Mammalia
2004 Oct	M. Aviad	Private archeology institute	Israel	Anthropology
2004 Oct	J. Ptashkovsky		Israel	Entomology
2004 Nov	D. Bar Yosef	University of Haifa	Israel	Mollusca
2004 Nov	E. Shefer	IOLR - Haifa	Israel	Mollusca

