

Assembled, written and edited by Dov F. Tamir

# 60 YEARS OF TECHNOLOGICAL EXCELLENCE

1954  
Events ■ Individuals ■ Stories in Photos  
2014



*The Technological  
College of  
Be'er Sheva*







"Learn the past  
so as to plan the future"  
Confucius



The Technological College of Be'er Sheva:  
**60 years of Technological Excellence**

**1954**  
Events • Individuals • Stories in Photos  
**2014**

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Dov F.Tamir

The Technological College of Be'er-Sheva

# 60 years of Technological Excellence

Events ■ Individuals ■ Stories in Photos

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# Congratulations



## Congratulations by the President of Israel to the Technological College of Be'er Sheva on the 60th Anniversary of its Founding May 2014

Please accept my warmest congratulations on the occasion of 60 years of existence and activities by the Technological College of Be'er Sheva.

Your institution is at the forefront of vocational training and technological education in the State of Israel. Thousands of graduates of the college hold central positions in the fields of industry and commerce and contribute to the development of Israel's industry and that of the Negev in particular - a source of strength and growth for us all.

As such you are laying down one more building block in securing a future for Israel as a pioneer in the frontiers of science and technology. I am convinced that the efforts of your investment in the students will yield fruit in the form of pride to the State.

The growth of Be'er Sheva into a metropolis that can boast of an excellent system of higher education, a city which nourishes an educated generation of dedicated and broad-minded young people - that is the peak and realization of the vision of the Negev and the response to the edict which David Ben-Gurion issued in his day: "Go south!"

In this celebration of your 60th anniversary, you all deserve - instructors, students and cherished graduates - to be proud of your successes and achievements.

I give you my heartfelt support and wish you many more years of welcome activity.

Well done!

Shimon Peres





## Statement by the Mayor April 24, 2104

I would like to congratulate the Technological College of Be'er Sheva on the occasion of its celebration of sixty years of widespread and glorious functioning to realize its vision of spreading technological education to the residents of the entire Negev.

The Technological College is the first of the ground-breaking centers to have been established in the State of Israel by Mrs. Golda Meir, then the Minister of Labor; and ever since it has been augmenting its status and standing as a model of innovation, excellence and opportunity.

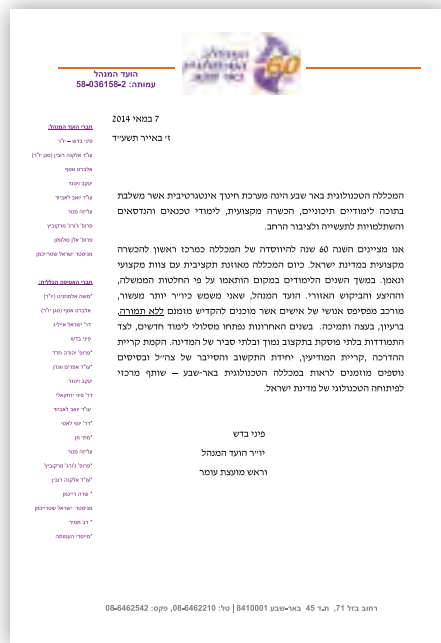
Each year, hundreds of graduates complete the various programs of study and are absorbed into Israel's industries - in high-technology, computers, agriculture, education and others. The College makes sure to prepare its students for "the day after" and grants them the practical knowledge and skills needed for integration into the workplace.

Alongside its educational accomplishments, the College contributes greatly to the residents of the surrounding neighborhoods and to the city as a whole, through its broad community involvement and its welcome social and community enterprises.

Wishing you continued activity and great success!

Yours,  
Ruvik Danilovich  
Mayor of Be'er Sheva





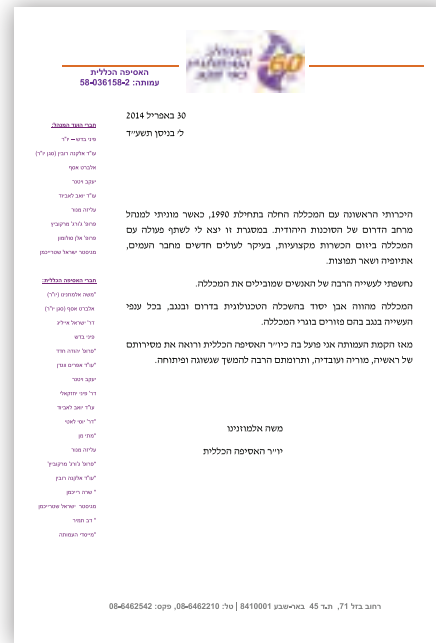
## Congratulations by Chairman of the Board of Directors and Head of the Omer Council, May 7, 2014

The Technological College of Be'er Sheva is a multi-faceted institution which unites within it secondary school education, vocational training, technical and practical engineering studies, and professional upgrade education for industry and for the public at large.

We are honoring the 60th year of the founding of the College as the first center for vocational training in the State of Israel. Today the College is in fiscal balance and has a professional and trusted staff. Over the years the curriculum here has been realigned to meet government directives and the needs of regional supply and demand. The Board of Directors, of which I have been the chairman for over a decade, is comprised of a human mosaic of individuals willing to give their time without compensation through their ideas, support and advice. In recent years new educational tracks have been launched, all while having to deal endlessly with the shrunken and unreasonable budgetary allocations of the State. The foundation of the Training Unit, the Intelligence Unit, the Communications and Cyber-tech unit of the IDF and other bases are welcome to see the Technological College of Be'er Sheva as a central partner in the technological development of the State of Israel.

Pini Badash

Chairman of the Board of Directors and Head of the Omer Council



## Congratulations by Chairman of the General Assembly, April 30 2014

I first became acquainted with the College in early 1990, when I was appointed Director of the Southern District of the Jewish Agency. In this capacity I had occasion to cooperate with the College in launching vocational upgrade programs, mainly for new immigrants from the former Soviet Union, Ethiopia and the other lands of the diaspora. I grew aware of the great industriousness of the persons leading the College.

The College functions as a cornerstone of the technology of the south and the Negev, in all the technical branches of the Negev in which the graduates of the College are dispersed.

Since the founding of the Association I have been serving as Chairman of the General Assembly and have seen firsthand the dedication of its leaders, teachers and employees, and their great contribution to the College's continued flourishing and growth.

Moshe Almozni

Chairman of the General Assembly



## Preface

60 years of activity in the State of Israel and especially the south of the country is not something that can be taken for granted! Vocational training, training of technicians and practical engineers, the building of institutions, regional branches from Ashdod to Eilat, professional-upgrade training, absorption of new immigrants, innovation and originality, traveling abroad to foster immigration, international relations, a school for tourism, for hotel services, a six-year high school, a school of engineering, the "1000-engineer program" for immigrants from the Former Soviet Union - the realization of all these can only be achieved by those who have it in their blood to be pioneers, dreamers and leaders.

For over 40 years I have been proud to be part of this group, first as a young university graduate and apprentice, later in the group that led and created, today as the administrator and mentor of a new generation.

At 71 Basel Street in 1954, a center opened for training in professions some of which no longer exist in the lexicon (lathe-work, fuselage-construction, laboratory work, hairdressing). These formed the foundations for the education of new immigrants and later for a workforce which launched the aeronautics industry and the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research, and indeed all the factories of the Negev.

Still later, as a branch of the Technion, the first technicians in the fields of construction and mechanical engineering were trained here.

The golden age was during the years when the Technological College of Be'er Sheva functioned in Be'er Sheva (under its former name the School for Practical

Engineers and Technicians) in the framework of an agreement signed between the Ministry of Labor and the University of the Negev. These were 30 years of productivity and innovation which turned the College into the showcase of the Labor Ministry - and we shall not exaggerate if we say also that of the entire State of Israel. The State's presidents, prime ministers and ministers came here and applauded.

In the year 2000, the College became a registered association and was left to wander bruised and wounded due to inadequate funding. Furthermore, the method of funding of the budgetary office, the former Ministry of Labor and Welfare, later the Ministry of Trade and Industry - and today the Ministry of the Economy - made conditions worse. That alongside the mortal wounds inflicted by the State against technological education.

Any other institution would surely have collapsed and shut its gates, but not the Technological College of Be'er Sheva, which continued to launch initiatives. It shifted to alternative programs and thus was able to stay on its feet. Nowadays the College has retaken the scepter of leadership in technical education in the Be'er Sheva metropolis and is making its contribution to the capitol of opportunity of Israel.

This is the place to thank the individuals whose support and encouragement were given in the darkest hours, among them Mr. Ruvik Danilovich, Mayor of Be'er Sheva; Mr. Pini Badash, Chairman of the Board of Directors; Mr. Moshe Almozni, Chairman of the General Assembly; and of course the instructors and administrative staff throughout the decades.

I am not an author and what follows is not a scientific work but a descriptive one, accompanied by an assemblage of photographs as mementos. Each picture is a story and a historical memory and serves as documentation that records the vast enterprise of vocational training, from Ashdod to Eilat, engaged in over 60 years of activity. Many good people have worked and still work at the Technological College of Be'er Sheva during the 60 years of its existence: administrators, coordinators, instructors, maintenance workers, security officers and janitorial staff. Thank you, all of you. In the event anyone finds him(her)self left out, it is unintentional and please accept my apologies.



Dov F. Tamir





# Pre-1954

## The Years Before

[Announcement]

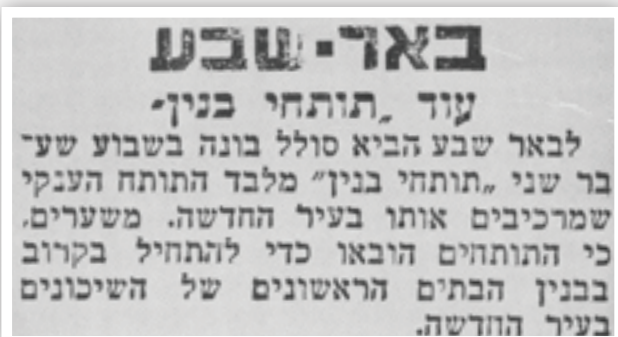
Sunday 31.12.50 15:30 (3:30PM)

In the North Neighborhood-Block of Beer Sheva

Dedication of the New Town

Participating: Minister of Labor, GOLDA MEIRSON

Residents of Be'er Sheva and the region are welcome



Be'er Sheva

More "Construction Cannons"

Solel Boneh [construction company] last week brought in two "Construction cannons" in addition to the giant one being assembled in the new town. It is our guess that the cannons have been brought in for the construction, soon to begin, of the first houses of the neighborhoods in the new town.





*"We were very impressed by the scope  
of your most welcome activity"*

02.11.2000

Arieh (Liova) Eliav, recipient of the Israel Award

From the guest book



**Beginnings of the New Town**  
Neighborhood Alef - here is where the Vocational Training Center is being built.





# 1954-1960

## Chapter 1 The First Years

School for Building Technicians, 1958

During the British Mandate period there were already activities in the field to provide vocational training. After the foundation of the State the subject was handled more thoroughly. In 1950 as part of the Labor Ministry, a unit for training and vocational-upgrade education was established, and in 1953, this unit became the Department of Vocational training (Zvi Bassey - Department of Research, Labor Department). Vocational education for adults became a regular educational tool, built on a more or less stable curriculum and on a permanent staff of instructors.

In the first years after the liberation of Be'er Sheva in October 1948, the main objective of the local leadership, which functioned while relying on the Histadrut labor federation, was to obtain for it the status of a district town. Jerusalem and Rehovot served alternately as the foci of district activities.





Be'er Sheva developed and grew populated at a rapid clip, and the need that evolved regionally was to improve the quality of service given to the residents by erecting institutions, factories and services, courthouses and so forth. This was done under the auspices of the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

In those days, among the individuals who relocated from the Jerusalem and Tel Aviv areas were such personages as Eliahu Nawi, later a judge in the court of Be'er Sheva and then Be'er Sheva's mayor; Micha Talmon, later the General Director of the Israel Lands Authority; Eli Navon, later the Southern District's appointee of the Labor Ministry (for vocational training); and Yizhak Vardimon, later the district appointee for the Interior Ministry. These men of vision and action constituted the initial infrastructure of Be'er Sheva's government administration. Beginning in 1952, the centrality of Be'er Sheva in the realm of education was advanced by the formation of educational institutions, which indeed comprised all the post-secondary liberal arts and vocational schools, including, in 1954, the Vocational Training Center, which later became the Technological College of Be'er Sheva.

The inauguration ceremony was held on December 31, 1954, in the presence of Labor Minister Golda Meirson Meir, the US Ambassador to Israel, and Deputy Mayor Zeev Zarizi. This was symbolic as the latter was to be a guest of honor at the jubilee-year celebrations for the College, and would write the following in the College's guest book: "I had the honor to participate in the laying of the foundations of the College here in Be'er Sheva and it is my honor to participate in the 50th year celebrations of this College."

The statement by Labor Minister Dr. Giora Yoseftal from 15.12.1960, cited below, marks the beginnings of the training of qualified technicians in the State of Israel. Apparently then too, just as today, there were "technicians" working in all sorts of professions, without a government certificate.

David Ben Gurion and Golda Meirson-Meir in Be'er Sheva, early 1950s.



"Much has already been done on our part to cultivate professionals, but there is still more to be done. This Channuka we shall open a school for technicians. So that not everyone who so desires may call himself a technician, this status will need to be determined by an accredited professional institution. And if the technician is that same person who translates the plans of the engineer into operational plans, if he is the draftsman, he who determines the amounts of material for a building and which materials, along with the work processes, work rates, schedules etc.– then, clearly, these are all things we need in many fields: electricity, metalwork, textiles, food processing, construction, electronics etc. This field is not developed today because we have not had the tools thus far to develop them. It will also free up a professional work force for us – engineers etc. Thus we are launching+ this year a school for technicians and within 5 years wish to generate from it, 3000 technicians, professional trainers and work managers. This school will be run in conjunction with the "ORT" institute of the Labor Ministry, the Histadrut Labor Federation and the Technion, and it is to receive \$800,000 from the United Nations. Its center will be in Tel Aviv and it will have branches in Be'er Sheva, Jerusalem and Haifa. This way, not only will we create the technicians we need, but we will also free up some of the engineers who today are

carrying out jobs that people with less education can equally accomplish."

In 1957 the Technicians' Association was formed, with Zalman Shenkman elected as its secretary. This lent a great dynamism to the field, and led to the development of the profession of the technician in Israel.

In the late 1950s, the manager of the Housing Ministry's southern district, Kalman Porath, "redireets" two shacks, from among several dozen that were en route to new-immigrant housing in the Neve Noi neighborhood of Be'er Sheva, to the land belonging to the Vocational Training Center on Basel Street. These shacks were the beginnings of the school for Construction Technicians.



## תנועת המרכז להכשרה מקצועית בבאר-שבע

עם הקמת המרכז להכשרה מקצועית בבאר-שבע בוצע חילוב הראשון כתבנית להקמת מרכזי הכשרה מקצועית ברחבי הארץ.



באז הקמת המדינה עברו בקורסים לחינוך מקצועי כ-57,000 איש מהם כ-20,000 נשכחלים. מטעל ההכשרה המקצועית תרם הרומה גיברת להשתלבותם של העולים החדשים במעגל הייצור ולביטחונם הכלכלי וכמו כן סייע לאלפי מפעלים התיקים לשפר את רמת מקצועם ולהעלות על ירי כך את טוב הייצור במדינה. אולם המחסור במקומות לימוד ובציוד מתאים הגבול את האפשרות להקיף שכבות רחבות של מפעלים תעסוקיים וממנם וממנם ללימוד ולהשתלמות מקצועית. התבנית להקמת ששה מרכזים חדשים מקצועיים היעב נועדה לשפר את המצב בטווח זה בדישלים ובימי כבר החלה הבניה של מרכזי ההכשרה ובקרום ינסו לבניה גם בצמרת. בבת ים ובחיפה.

הבנין שהקים בבאר-שבע בעזרת משלחת הפעילות של ארצות הברית כולל אילנות עבודה ודודי לימוד מרחוקים ושכלולים מודרניים ביותר. משלחת ארצות הברית צידדה אותו במכשירי עבודה שבהלםם כבר היעו ארצה. במכרז קיומות כבר נחלקות לנגרות ומלונאות ורשות והשלם מאוחר יותר ישתרו גם קורסים למקצועיים ולנחמות שיש בהם כדי לשמש את צריכות המחוזים של באר-שבע במרכז העגב.

6

במסג המתיחה התמיתית שהתקיים בה' בסנת השטי"ל 30.12.54 השתתפו שרת העבודה העב' נולדת באירופה. שגדיר ארצות-הברית: מר א. לאוסון. ראש העיר: כפועל מר ג. רייזו וקהל מוזמנים.

מר ג. קילם. המנהל הכללי של משרד העבודה מתח את הטכס באמרו כי יש מיסום סמל בעבודה שבאר-שבע. ציר העולים. הוא הראשונה המקומה בה מטעל להכשרה מקצועית. שתבניתו להנדיל את אפשרויות הכלכליות של העיר. לדעה זו הצטרף גם ראש העיר: כפועל. מר ג. רייזו. שאמר כי רבים בעיר כחוסרי העבודה. המצב הקשה ייפתר. לדעתו. עם הקמת המוסד שיביא לשיפור מצב העבודה. הוא הביע את תקוותו כי העיר תיחפך מרכז תעסוקה בעגב.

העגב עורב לידים עיבודות של מוסתים שרבים בהם יוספרו במוסד הזה. אמר מר לאוסון. שגדיר ארצות-הברית. הוא ציר. בבידוש העגב מראה ישראל לעצמה ולעולם כיצד היא יכולה לה לעמסות.

ברכת מטה הביא ד"ר חייק. ראש משלחת הפעילות של ארצות-הברית. הוא מתח את דבריו באמרו כי "בהלק זה של הארץ. גשם. מירוסה. מוריות והגשם החדר עתה ומקיש על הגב העגב אוק תתוית מוסה להקמת ביהלים. שיקנה חינוך מקצועי לעשרים רבים". הואם רואה את הכליות של ישראל "בחינוך חיר. חלב והמח". שיקדה על מטרות אלה תקנה לישראל את מעמד הכבודה באזור. שהוא שואפת אליו. את דבריו סיום ד"ר חייק בקריאת "שלום".



שגדיר ארצות-הברית. מר לאוסון העגב את המוסד.

7

Inauguration of the Vocational Training Center in Be'er Sheva by Mrs. Golda Meirson (Meir), Minister of Labor

"With the establishment of the Vocational Training Center in Be'er Sheva, the first stage has been completed in the plan to build six centers of vocational training across Israel."





Standing first at right is the trainer Shlomo Bachash. Standing first at left is the trainer Morris Mizrahi. Seated in front is the trainer Zvi Levyn.



▲  
1959. Standing at the center is the trainer Uri Sabag, later to be Secretary of the Council of Workers of Be'er Sheva, a Knesset member and a personal friend of former French President Mitterrand.  
◀



Le président **Mitterrand** et le député d'Israël **Ouri Sabag**





The cotton harvest, young women of the hairdressers' school. From the right are the trainers: Mizrahi, Polachek and Sabag.



Third from left: Ze'ev Zarizi

«I had the honor to have participated in laying the foundations of the college here in Be'er Sheva and it is my honor to participate in the College's jubilee-year celebrations. The growth of the place and the utility and productivity of all those who have engaged in this sacred project is well above what was projected. My wish for this educational project is that it continue with the same energy on behalf of the generations growing in Be'er Sheva. Your project is of great value»

Best wishes  
Zarizi

הנהגת בית הספר התיכון בבי"ר שפ"ה  
הנהגת בית הספר התיכון בבי"ר שפ"ה  
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הנהגת בית הספר התיכון בבי"ר שפ"ה  
30.6.2004





The entrance to the College between the years 1954-1969. The mailing address, 71 Basel Street is, still used today, even though all entrances to the College are from elsewhere - one from Bialik Street and the other from Usishkin Street!



The trainer Marcel and trainee Yehuda Shamgar, who would later become a trainer and instructor at the Technological College.



Inside Building E.



In the workshop.





## Laboratory Work for the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research: Then

Between 1962 and 1964, five classes of laboratory workers trained for certification. Each term of study lasted for 16 months, and 200 laboratory workers were certified. Mr. Chaim Adiri, who was the head trainer, relates that the training was done thoroughly and on a tight schedule, as the graduates were meant to be employed by the Center for Nuclear Research. Participants were selected by the Ministry of Defense which also paid for the education. The director of the program was Dr. Weider.



## Practical Engineers for the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research (Today)

A visit to the laboratory by Minister of Economics Naftali Bennett, 01.04.2014

From the guest book

*"You are an example not only of excellence,  
but indeed mainly of greatness of spirit"*

01.04.2014

MK Naftali Bennett, Minister of Economy



## Cafeteria



Trainers seated in the cafeteria. First at right is Yosef Weitzman; in the middle in white is Yizhak Madmon, operator of the cafeteria.



Yitzhak Madmon, since 1955 the operator of the first cafeteria.





# 1961-1970

## Chapter 2

# Under the Auspices of the Technion

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The years are those of the beginnings of organized studies for the certified technician. The Technion - Israel Technological Institute, in Haifa - was among the pioneers; it launches the National\* School for Technicians at the Technion campus in Haifa (1958). Likewise at the ORT Technology Institute of Givatayim, the Max Fein school in Haifa and the Vocational Training Center of Be'er Sheva, night schooling may be observed: mainly for technicians and laboratory workers. The Technion is tasked by the Labor Ministry to provide organizational and professional management.

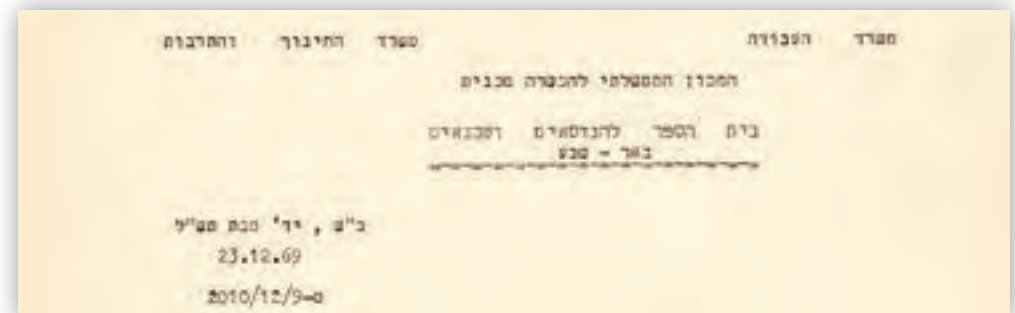
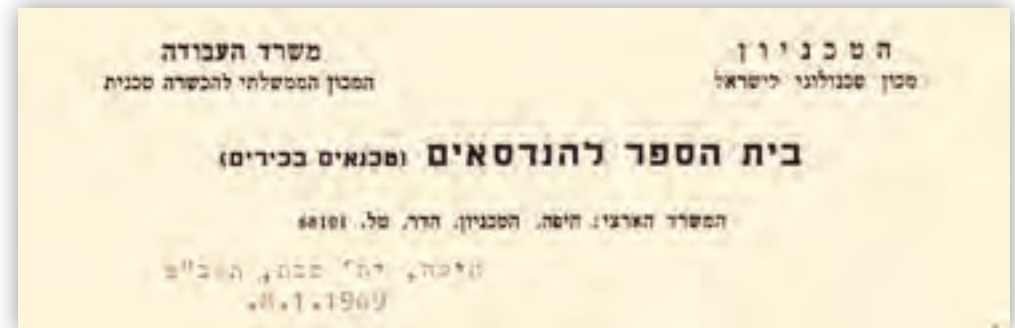
\*the term "national" (still in use today) originally meant a school founded first for technicians and later for practical engineers; all the other institutions including that of Be'er Sheva were its branches.





1963 was the year of the founding of the Joint Executive Board for Technicians, and later also for engineers. Leading the Board was its founder Meir Avigad, director of the Department of Technological Education in the Education Ministry. The Board was comprised of members of the Labor Ministry, representatives of the practical engineering schools, representatives of the Histadrut Labor Federation and representatives of institutes for higher education. The Board became a dominant entity up until the departure of Meir Avigad (in 1995). It set admissions standards, guidelines, practices. After his departure it broke apart due to “wars” between representatives of the Education Ministry and those of the Labor Ministry over who should serve as chairman and who should lead it. Nowadays a “Board of Certified Engineers and Technicians” has been formed as a result of the “Law for Engineers”. It is too soon to tell how well it has been functioning. The Chairman appointed to the current Board is Yuval Rachlevsky.

In 1965, a course of study was launched for senior technicians, who were later to be called practical engineers. The titles were invented by Gershon Harel – director of the National School for Practical Engineers at the Technion campus in Haifa. To distinguish the former from the “technician” and the “engineer”, it was decided to add a final project to the technician’s training, so as to augment his degree with the certificate of “Practical Engineer”.



The changes in the logo reflect the advancement in technical training over those years.





## Eli Navon (Former) District Appointee for Vocational Training in the South

Eli Navon, the Labor Ministry's district appointee for vocational training, a "Distinguished Citizen of Be'er Sheva", member of the directorship of the Technological College of Be'er Sheva till his retirement, assisted in the fullest sense of the word. He brought a wealth of stories from the Jerusalem-"Mizrahi-Jewish" world, was a friend of Eliyahu Nawi who was his source for some of the folk-tales; had a great influence especially with the upper political echelons in the Labor Ministry, and possessed a personal charisma which extended to everyone around him. He served as Director of the College in the years when it was a branch of the National School (Haifa), 1966-1970.

Eli Navon viewed the Technological College as a model and national project and brought Knesset members and ministers to visit and assist.

Posthumously the College awarded him the honor of "Distinguished Friend of the College" and together with the family built a 'green corner' near the cafeteria, called the "Eli Navon Garden".



Second from right is Chaim Herzog, President of Israel. At left is Dr. Yaakov Hecht, Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development.

From the guest book

*"Your contribution to the  
market and the society is  
central"*

26.05.1986

President of Israel, Chaim Herzog

At right is Labor Minister Moshe Baram; next to him is Shmuel Yosifon, Head of the Mechanical Practical Engineering department.

Second from left is Dr. Israel Katz, Minister of Labor and Welfare (1978)

Second from right is Nehemia Krakovsky, head of the Department of Electro-optics.

At right: Arie Gurel, General Director of the Labor Ministry.

The Technological College made its chemistry laboratories available to the police forensics unit. Visiting the College are Saul Rozolio, Chief Inspector of the police, and Haim Tavori, Chief of the Southern District of the Israeli police.









In 1961 the Institute for Training Trainers and Technicians (known today as MAHAT) opened in Tel Aviv. The inauguration ceremony was held in late April in Tel Aviv, with the participation of MK Dr. G. Yoseftal, Deputy General Director of the international labor organization Mr. G. L. Renas, Director of the Istanbul regional office Mr. S. K. Zhein, and representatives of many government and public agencies from across the country. The Minister of Labor noted that "the new institution is meant to meet the shortage of quality technical experts to improve the numerical proportion between the engineers and the technicians. To date, Israel has 6000 engineers and an equal number of technicians - a one-to-one ratio - whereas in developed countries there are 4 to 10 technicians for every engineer. The Institute's purpose is to prepare trainers, technicians and work managers to a high level of professionalism."



Dr. Tamar Brosh, Director of MAHAT. Beside her is Dr. Yehoyachin Gur, head and founder of the Architecture Department and a Distinguished Friend of the Technological College.

Expanded Board of Trustees, 23.11.88

Sitting at center is Dr. David Dikman, Director of MAHAT. Second from left is Eng. Monel Abraham, Chairman of the Expanded board of Trustees of the College and one of its Distinguished Friends.



Brigadier-general Shalom Ben Moshe, Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development, previously Director of MAHAT. First from left is Binyamin Siman-Tov, appointee for the Southern District, Economics Ministry.

Standing at center is Mrs. Sarah Horesh, Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development. First from left is Shimon Shabbat, Regional Director of Vocational Training.

Israel Goralnik, Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development and later General Director of the Labor Ministry.



Miss Limor Nisan, Director of MAHAT

First from left is Yuval Rechlevsky, Division Director and Distinguished Friend of the Technological College. Next to him is Dr. Nathan Friedman, Head of the Departments of Electricity and Electronics and a Distinguished Friend of the College.









conferring a degree

## Dr. Israel Perry (Piernik) (former) Director of the College

Arrived at Be'er Sheva from Tel Aviv in 1965 and served as pedagogical director of the school which was then a branch of the National School for Technicians of the Technion (Haifa). In 1970 he was appointed Director of the school. Initially a chemist by profession he later completed an MA and PhD. A man of initiative, energy and charisma, he changed the name of the institution to the "Technological College of Be'er Sheva", and led the task of drafting the College's guidelines. In his period as Director he won both esteem and criticism; without a doubt he left his mark on the College. Worked at the College till 1977, and later, after a post-doctorate in the United States, served for two years as the Director of MAHAT.



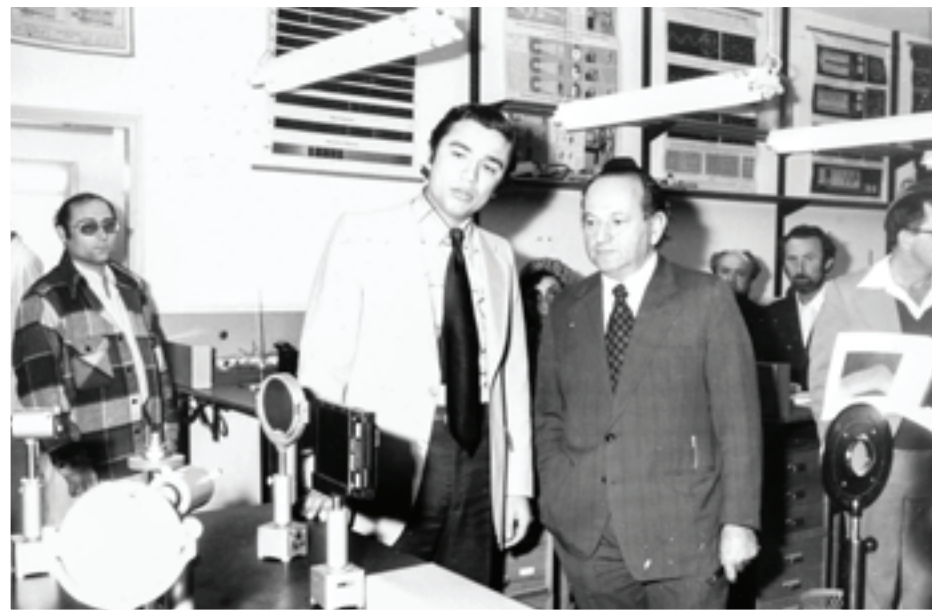
listening to  
explanations in his  
role as Director of  
MAHAT



With Nurit Volasky, a construction  
engineer, later Head of the  
Department for Construction and  
Architecture in the College.



Visit of Labor and  
Welfare Minister Dr.  
Israel Katz.



## Dr. Zvi Yaniv (former) Vice Director of the College

Graduate of Mekif Aleph High School in Be'er Sheva, and holder of a B.SC and M.SC in Mathematics and Physics from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He founded the Electro-Optics Department and the Unit for Mathematics and Physics, and completed his PhD in the United States. Once he understood that his path to directing the Technological College was blocked, he left to pursue business interests abroad. He worked in the College from 1972 to 1979.

First from right,  
Dr. Dani Milin,  
Director of MAHAT,  
and later Director  
of the Ministry of  
Labor's Division for  
Training and Human  
Development.







Second from Right Yosef Almogi Minister of Labor; next to him is Zeev Zarizi Deputy Mayor.

► Minister of Labor Yigal Alon on his visit to the College. Twenty years later the auditorium was named after him.



At right Uri Sabag, trainer for lathe-work.



Sitting second at left is Zvi Minzberg, Director of the Vocational Training Center

► New pupils. The trainer Zvi Levyne is standing at center.

►► Zvi Levyne, 20.02.1963, a well-organized teacher!









## The Student Union

Even in the first days of practical-engineering studies, the College had a student union. Its founder and legendary chairman was Yigal Peleg, an employee of the Israel Military Industries. His deputy for many years was Shlomo Biton, an employee of the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research, who also served as the National Chairman of the Union of Technicians and Practical Engineering Students. Other chairmen in random order: Rami Mashinsky, Tova Ben-Nun, David Alkaslasi, Eli Even, David Peretz, Eyal Mesika, Avi Cohen, Hezi Zarur and others. The Director of the Technological College considered it important to have a student union both for the sake of student welfare and for discipline; indeed members of the Union are to this day involved in several of the College's committees. The Student Union of the Technological College has functioned continuously since its founding. It is among the few that exists today among the practical engineering colleges.

At left, Tova Ben-Nun  
Chairman of the  
Student Union

At right, Rachel Wahl,  
founder of the Unit for  
Physical Education



At center, Yigal Peleg,  
founder of the Student  
Union and its first  
chairman.







At right Shlomo Biton, graduate of the College, (former)  
Chairman of the Student Union



Danny Kafri, Chairman of the Student Union in 2014

From the guest book

*"They've made a contribution to the Negev  
and to the entire State of Israel"*

02.03.2000

MK Professor Yuli Tamir, Minister of Immigrant Absorption



## Physical Education

In the early 1970s, Mrs. Rachel Wahl began to work at the College. Formerly she was the IDF's first female officer for physical training. She had great influence on the College: Lessons in physical education became an inseparable part of the daily routine, sports teams were assembled from among the students, the College joined the A.S.A. (Association of Academic Sports) and tournaments were won. The most significant accomplishment was that of the Fencing Club with the participation of Israel champion Elinor Artzieli. The College had a gym, and training workouts were held there. Likewise there was a chess club run by Grigori Leynov, the physics instructor; an international chess tournament was even held at which international chess master Victor Korchenoi competed. The College also hosted international tournaments with the participation of the world's chess elite including chess masters Rashevsky and Naydorf. Soccer competitions to commemorate Victor Cohen (department head), with the encouragement of the family and the Student Union, take place once a year.

The Fencing Team; third from left is Elinor Arzieli. First from left is Grigori Gross (his sons are continuing the tradition).

An international chess tournament at the College, in hall H-10







Vered, widow of Victor Cohen, grants an award in his honor.



Some of the sports achievements of the students and the College.



Student Anatoly Moshik in the European Weight-Lifting Championships (Tel Aviv, 09.04.2014)





Building A was erected after the shacks and before the World Bank project that built most of the structures in the 1970s. In the front of the picture is the main entrance that served the College from 1970 to 1977.

From the guest book

*"The more we act in the sphere of vocational training, the more we'll be able to avoid welfare problems"*

MK Eli Yishai, Minister of Labor and Welfare



Zvi Minzberg, fourth from right.



Degree-conferral ceremony for workers in the Israel Military Industries.

Second from right is Ben Zion Carmel, Director of Human Resources of the Israel Military Industries in Be'er Sheva. He would later be deputy mayor of Be'er Sheva and the person who laid the foundations for the town's cultural institutions.

First from left is Dani Dotan, a trainer in fuselage construction; second from left is Zvi Minzberg.



## **Zvi Minzberg** (former) Director of the Vocational Training Center

Zvi Minzberg had a long military career, leaving the IDF in 1956 with the rank of Major after having served for 15 years in the "Etzel" (pre-state National Military Organization) and the British Army. In the IDF he worked in various technical fields - mechanics, automotive tech, garage workshops and munitions; and after a short stint as an independent metal-machinist, he was appointed Director of the Vocational Training Center. He advanced and developed the Center and trained thousands of professionals for industry and workmanship. He was partner to the integration of the Vocational Training Center with the Technological College right up to his retirement in 1985.





# 1970-2000

## Chapter 3

# Under the Auspices of the Labor Ministry and the University of the Negev (Ben Gurion)

In 1970 an agreement was signed between the Ministry of Labor and the University of the Negev to operate and manage the School for Practical Engineers and Technicians in Be'er Sheva - later to be called the Technological College. The agreement was meant to supply the legal framework once the Technological College ceased to function under the auspices of the Technion in Haifa. The main features of the agreement were that the budgetary allocations would fall under the purview of the Labor Ministry and that employees in the College would work on the basis of the employment conditions of the University.

The agreement was renewed and lasted for 30 years, till the year 2000, when the University sought to end it due to a decision of the Executive Board and the recommendation of the university's comptroller. The reason was that the University suddenly realized that the people being accepted for work at the College would actually become, as per this agreement, employees of the University!

These 30 years were the masterpiece of the productivity of the Technological College. The founding of educational institutions like an academic college, the "Mekif Het" high

school, regional branches in Negev towns from Ashdod to Eilat, the School for Hotel Studies and more - all happened during these decades. The involvement of the University had been miniscule and its main contribution was that it "didn't interfere" with the operations of the College on the one hand while on the other its name figured within the College's logo.

These were years of flourishing, yet they were to be smashed by the submerged fiscal restructuring plan hidden under the many successes and the praises of ministers and public figures who came to view the Labor





## אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב

Ministry's showcase project in the Negev. In actuality the shrinking budgetary allocations of the Labor Ministry did not reach the levels stated in the collective agreement. Wage conditions that were standard for institutions of the Higher Education Committee in general and for the University of the Negev (Ben Gurion) in particular were more than triple that of the Technological College.

These years were also the time when the name of the institution was changed from the "School for Practical Engineers and Technicians" to the "Technological College." Thus it was that in June 1973, Israel Perry, director of the School for Engineers and Technicians in Be'er Sheva, decided to call it the "Technological College of Be'er Sheva": Wherever the word "teacher" had been used previously the directive was issued to call such a person a "lecturer". The General Director of the University of the Negev at the time, Israel Ben Amitai, cried foul; and the Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development, Israel Goralnik, likewise demurred. Ultimately in the month of October the Yom Kippur War broke out, and following the extended call-up of reserves, once life returned to normal, the issue was forgotten and the name has remained what it is to this day.

All the other practical engineering schools in Israel followed the lead of the Technological College of Be'er Sheva and likewise changed their designations from "school" to "college".



Class of 1973

From the guest book

*"Thanks to you, many people who arrived in the State of Israel were able to establish themselves and today they are giving the State back what you gave to them."*

08.01.2012  
Tali Ploskov, Mayor of Arad



## Yitzhak Rabin

(Former) Minister of Labor

Labor Minister Yitzhak Rabin visits the College in 1974. Beside him is Zvi Minzberg, Director of the Vocational Training Center, at a workshop for lathe-work.



At the laboratory for instrumental chemistry. First from left, Israel Ben-Amitai, (former) General Director of the University of the Negev.

At right, Israel Goralnik, Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development. At his left is Israel Perry, director of the College, Labor Minister Aryeh Gurel, General Director of the Labor Ministry and Uri Sabag.





*"With congratulations for cooperation  
and continued success on your project  
- our joint project"*

15.01.1992

Prof. Avishai Braverman, President of Ben Gurion University

From the guest book

In October 1973, at the Oren Cinema in Be'er Sheva, the first ceremony was held to confer diplomas on practical engineers. Present were Minister of Labor Yosef Almogi, Be'er Sheva's first mayor David Tuviah, and the mayor then presiding, Eliyahu Nawi. First from left is Gershon Harel, Director of the National School for Practical Engineers at the Technion in Haifa. The graduates, some of whom had completed their education while the school was under the Technion's auspices, were free to choose diplomas from either the Technion or the Technological College and Ben Gurion University.



A visit of Yosef Almogi, Minister of Labor. Standing first at left is Israel Perry; next to him is the journalist Yitshak Shatil, Distinguished Citizen of Be'er Sheva; to his right is Yehuda Gabai, coordinator of the department for Electronics and Electricity. Standing with the cigar is Dr. Oscar Levy.



## Prof. George Markovits ("Utzu")

(former) General Director  
of the Technological College

Holder of a PhD in chemistry from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, he began his way in 1966 as a part-time teacher and was often on the bus between Jerusalem and Be'er Sheva. "Utzu" set up the department for dissertation projects for students in the College and led it for many years.

As the director of the College from 1977 to 2006 - at which time he transferred to the Sami Shamoon College of Engineering - his years as director and later as general director were filled with productive endeavors as well as difficulties. During his leadership Utzu oversaw the construction of the College buildings and the supply of equipment as part of a project of the World Bank. Under his supervision, senior office holders were encouraged to launch new initiatives and the College reached a peak of activity: founding a new municipal high school, new branches from Ashdod to Eilat, a school for hotel studies. Utzu was also among the founders of the Sami Shamoon College of Engineering. He won for himself and the College the Be'er Sheva Municipality's Prize for Excellence as well as an award for the advancement of immigrants; and gained considerable support both from his childhood friend Prof. Oscar Levy (the two travelled the same paths for decades) and from Dov Tamir (today General Director of the College). He earned considerable esteem on behalf of every institution or body that was associated with the College. A man of scientific knowledge, wise in his handling of people and pleasant to deal with.

To this day, Utzu contributes his great experience and the knowledge he has accumulated, both as a member of the General Assembly and via the Executive Board of the Technological College. A Distinguished Friend of the Technological College, he has also aided in the preparation of this book.

With Deputy  
Prime Minister  
Ehud Olmert at  
the Jubilee-year  
celebrations for  
the College.



Receiving from  
Deputy Mayor of  
Be'er Sheva, Ruvik  
Danilovich, the  
Be'er Sheva prize  
for excellence.





# במכללה

אצלנו

גיליון מס' 1, חשוון תשמ"ו, יוני 1986

**בטאון המכללה**  
**הטכנולוגית בארש**  
 הוא לאו סטופ  
 המכללה הטכנולוגית בארש

מסד  
**מאיר אהרן**  
 מנהל המכללה  
**דוד בגלייטר, דליה בנן**  
 מנהל בתי הספר  
**צוות:** בלביז בערס, בארש  
 גלייטר, דב שוהם  
 רגיש כהן

## דבר העורך:

### האם אתם באמת צריכים עיתון?

שמחתי שנתנת בי ההזדמנות להוציא עיתון מסוג זה. העיתון משקלע שבהחלט למור המכללה ולעבודתה. היתה הישגת משמעותית אם לא הצפה של חומר שניתן למערכת הצורך בחומרים עיתון למערכת נבע מן הבקשות של מורים להתעדכן במה שקורה במכללה ושתהיה להם אכסריות להתבטא בעיתון. אך הר הבקשות הוליד עכבר - זה עתה מורים חסומים למתבטא לעיתון.

איללך, אני משוכנע שהעיתון למרות הסאטמים הרבים והסערות אביים שהושקע בו - אינו יסיר לשופי את מחשבתו ואלו מכם החוצה להאמין בו. עיתון מסוג זה מסוג חייב להיות שיוזם לעכבר לבטא את דעותיהם. נלא להיות מוכנס על ידי שכינה.

בחודשים האחרונים נפתח המכללה למיזמים בטכנולוגיה משלבים חלק מפרסומים אחרים לכל מי ש"פוסט" אותם. אני רוצה להאמין, שהעיתון המנומנע והעסוק, ויהיה מכם צדיקים שירצו להשתתף במיזמים ובמוצאות לאור.

מאיר אהרן



על פי סקר שנערך מסתבר, "בארץ לומדים בארבעה סטודנטים, טכנאים והנדסאים, על כל אלף תושבים ואילו בבאר-שבע ובנגב המספר הוא כפול. סגן המנהל דוב תמיר העלה בפני הנשיא את מערכת הקשרים של המכללה עם כל אזורי הנגב. למכללה יש שלושה מאילת עד אשדוד וקרית-גת.

נשיא המדינה חיים הרצוג אמר, כי המכללה ריחה בשבילו תגלית חיובית מאוד. כאשר למספר הנדסאים התולך וקטן, סבור הנשיא, כי זו תהיה אחת הבעיות של המדינה. כן הוסיף, כי הוא נאבק בנושא זה בחייו ובכנסת. קיום התואר הזה, מהנדס שעשי, יוריד את הרצון להיות מהנדס."

**מנהל המכללה, פרופ' מרקוביץ, בהרצאתו לפני נשיא המדינה:**

**עלות ההנדסאי 1,500 דולר לעומת 22,000 דולר למהנדס**

היום יש יותר מהנדסים מהנדסאים, התרע פרופ' מרקוביץ.

מנהל המכללה הוסיף, כי אין היום כוחות הוראה בתחום הטכנולוגי וכיוון שהכשרת הנדסאי היא זולה הרבה יותר, יש להכשיר מספר רב יותר של הנדסאים. הוא יצא נגד המגמה של הסבת הנדסאים למהנדסים. זה אינו קידום; זו הסבה סקצונית, הוא סבור.

המטרה למכללה, פרופ' אוסקר לוי, ציין את התפתחותה של המכללה. מספר הסטודנטים במכללה מגיע ל-5,000 ועוד כאלפיים איש נוספים לומדים במכללה במסגרת השתלמויות והכשרות בתאום עם המפעלים הגדולים באזור.

הכשרת מהנדס במשך 4 שנות לימודיו עולה 22,000 דולר. לעומת הכשרת הנדסאי, שעלותו מסתכמת ב-1,500 דולר בלבד. למרות הסער הזה, בישראל אין מספיק הנדסאים ומהנדסים מתקבלים לעבודה המיועדת להנדסאים. מימצאים אלו סיפר מנהל המכללה הטכנולוגית, פרופ' מרקוביץ (אוצר) מרקוביץ, לנשיא המדינה חיים הרצוג בביקורו בשבוע שעבר במכללה הטכנולוגית.

מנהל המכללה העלה בפני הנשיא את השינויים שהיו ביחס בין מספר מהנדסים להנדסאים. בשנת 1960 נקבע שעל כל מהנדס יהיו 3.6 הנדסאים. בשנות היסוד היחס הלך וירד.

Here at the College

A Newsletter of the Technological College of Be'er Sheva

Issue # 1, June 1986

Director of the College, Professor Markovits, lecturing in front of the President of Israel

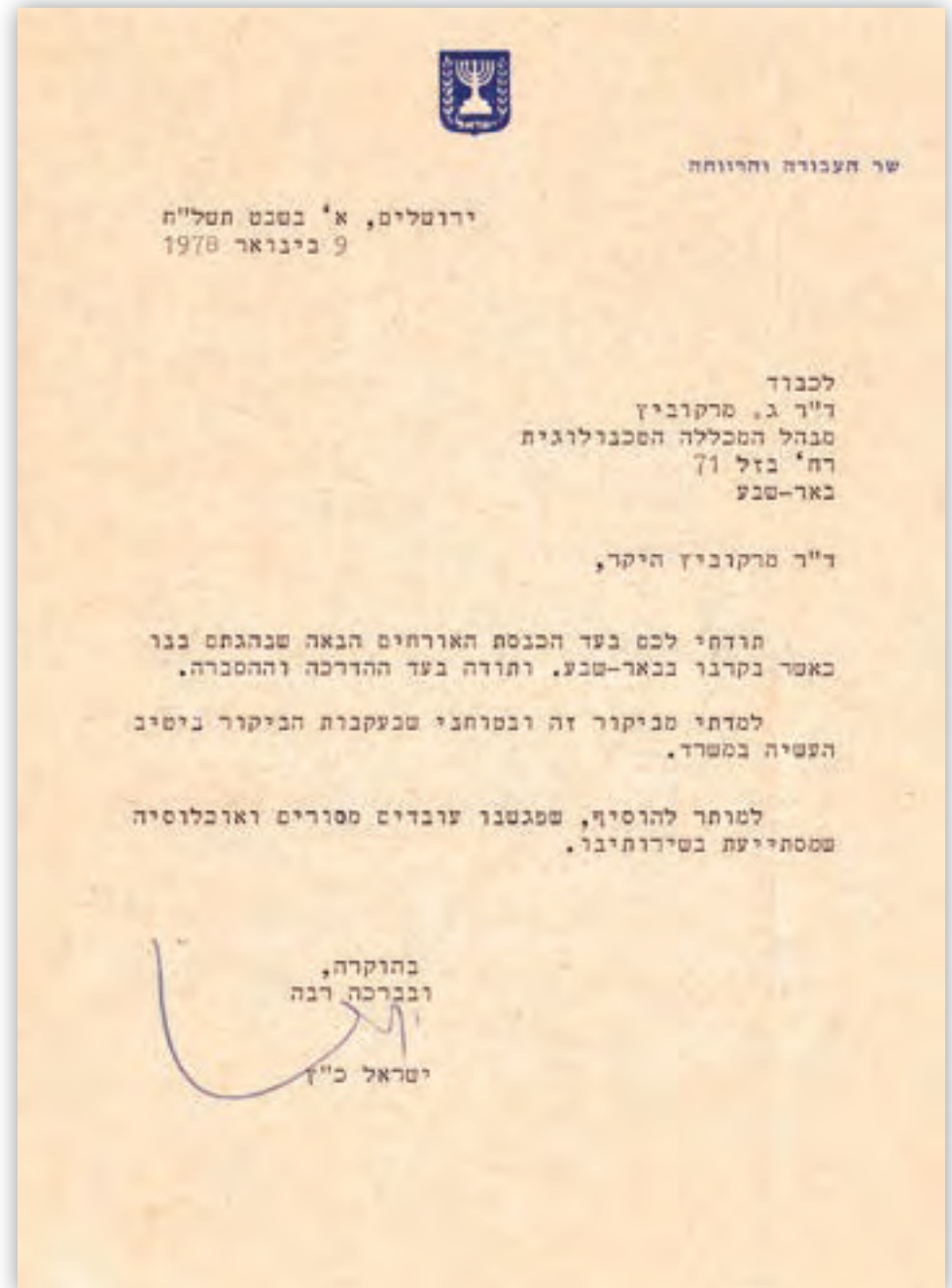
The cost of a practical engineer is \$1,500 as compared to \$22,000 for an engineer





The College has worked in coordination with the Defense Ministry over the years in the training of a staff of trainers and the establishment of institutions for technological education in the Gaza Strip. The staff of the College traveled to Gaza, sometimes under dangerous conditions and with security arrangements. Some say they wore kaffiyehs!

Dr. Israel Katz, Minister of Labor and Welfare:  
 "My thanks to you for the pleasant hospitality that you showed us during our visit to Be'er Sheva. And thank you for the guidance and explanations."





*"See you again at the centennial celebrations"*

23.05.2015

Ruvik Danilovich, Deputy Mayor of Be'er Sheva,  
at the Jubilee celebration

From the guest book



## 1000 Engineers Plan

The great immigration from the former Soviet Union brought to Israel a high-quality population of university-trained engineers and graduates in fields for whom no appropriate employment fields exist here, such as "engineers of frozen rivers", "engineers of forests" etc."

To implement a project to certify planners of new factories who would employ the professional workers, the Technological College joined forces with the Baran Company (a company for engineering consulting and supervision) and the Ministry of Finance (led by Minister of Finance Avraham "Baiga" Shochat and with the active assistance of Shalom Granit, the wages appointee in the Ministry of Finance and a Be'er Sheva resident.)

## Career re-training of University Graduates

### Beit Yatziv Branch

The training of teachers began in 1974, in cooperation with the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption and the Ministry of Education and Culture. For lack of place in the College, the activity was transferred to Beit Yatziv, where certified teachers were trained in the fields of mathematics and physics. Mrs. Miriam Dagan was the coordinator. Later in the 1990s a program was launched for the retraining of university graduates, with the objective of exploiting the knowledge, potential and the dedication of the immigrants from the Soviet Union and redirecting them to fields that were complementary to engineering.

Numerous engineers were rerouted into teaching and thus came to the rescue of education in the technological tracks and in practical fields. The Technological College of Be'er Sheva was among the institutions that absorbed immigrant engineers who had emigrated from Eastern Europe.

Before he accepted leadership of the College in 1977, Prof. Markovits ran the project and viewed it as his personal project given his support throughout the years for the fostering of immigration.

Yosef Deutsch was appointed to head the study center.





בית הספר התיכון העירוני  
הניסויי המקיף ח'

## Municipal Experimental High School "Mekif Het"

The six-year municipal high school "Mekif Het" opened in 1991, on grounds adjacent to the College, a site that previously had housed the "Dekalim" school for special education and before that the "Amal" practical high school. The staff of the College led by Dr. Oscar Levy had long complained about the quality of the secondary education in town. Those were the years of the great immigration from the former Soviet Union; the existing schools were overloaded and there was a clear need for another high school. Eli Ellaluf, a senior figure in the Jewish Agency and later in the Rashi Foundation arrives at the Technological College together with Rafi Shitrit, the Deputy Mayor in charge of education and together they propose: to set up a high school next to the College, with the College running it via an administrative council and College staff serving as its administrators and teachers; with funds from the education ministry going directly to the College.

The buildings were planned by the same team of architects who designed the College (Shevach, Sharshevsky, Kessler) so as to maintain architectural unity. The "Ye'elim" elementary school was chosen to serve as the location for the middle grades. In those days Daniela Atzmon was the director of the municipality's department of education and Dr. Itzik Tomer the District Director for the Education Ministry. Prof. Oscar Levy was appointed head of the administration of the high school and the Chairman of the Administrative Council - Prof. George Markovits and later Dov Tamir.

Yehudit Admon was appointed as the first principal; later it was run by Shuki Yaniv Elhadad, Ofra Freund and Carol Greenberg. The six-year high school had immense achievements, of a kind made by no other local high school -- such as winning the 2007 National Education Award by the State President, a National Award for Advancing Israeli Cultural Heritage, an award for an experimental school and many others.

At the end of 20 years of activity, the Be'er Sheva municipality decides unilaterally to close this high school, arguing that geographically there is a surplus in high schools between the "Mekif Aleph" and "Mekif Gimel" schools and that the "feeder" elementary schools had already been shut down as well (This book does not presume to venture an opinion on the issue).

The event was traumatic, since the school, as we said, had been showered with awards. There were demonstrations, protests in the newspapers, to no avail. Today the structures for the middle school (Ye'elim) have been turned into offices of the Be'er Sheva municipality, the basketball court has become a parking lot and the site of the senior high school now houses a municipal technological center which has all our wishes for its success.

►  
The first day of the  
Municipal High School  
"Mekif Het", 1.09.1991.  
Second from left is the  
school's first Principal,  
Yehudit Admon. First from  
right is its first secretary,  
Gila Hershkowitz.

►  
Graduation party, first  
class of students, Mekif  
Het high school.

►►  
2007 National Education  
Award

From the guest book

*"A pioneering and unusual project not only  
for the Negev but also in all of Israel"*

19.03.2009

Ran Erez, Chairman of the Administration of the Teacher's Association







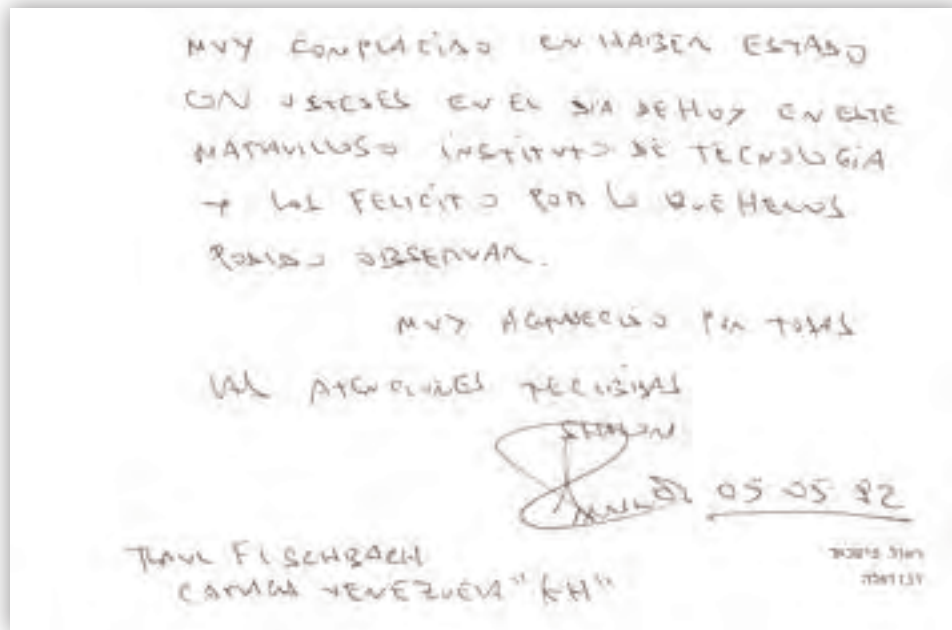


Memorial Day; Remember our soldiers!



In 1992, a brief ceremony was held for the dedication of Building H, renamed as the Willi and Else Hahn building after receiving a contribution from the United Israel Appeal to enlarge the area of the College library.

Willi and Else Hahn are Jewish philanthropists from Venezuela.



From the guest book

*"The model of a high school owned by a college enables maintaining a high level for the high school and the awards the high school has received at the national level are testimony to that fact"*

20.12.2009

Amira Chaim, Education Ministry, Director of the Southern District





## School of Engineering The Technological College of Be'er Sheva

Due to the accelerated immigration in the early 1990s, the State decided to expand the higher education system and make it more widely available throughout Israel, beyond the existing seven universities. On the basis of this decision regional and technological colleges presented proposals to set up academic tracks. The "Technological College" joined this process and in 1994 presented a proposal to authorize academic curricula in 5 departments for the degree of B.Tech with the possibility of augmenting the degree of practical engineer to an academic degree by completing two further years of study.

The man who led this move was Dr. Oscar Levy, the Deputy Director of the Technological College, who later became the General Director of the School of Engineering and later still the President of the Sami Shamoon College of Engineering (SCE). He had assistance from the General Director of the College Dr. George Markovits, College Vice Director Dov Tamir and later from Dr. Yehuda Hadad who today serves as the President of SCE. SCE also has a campus in Ashdod.

During the first years of the academic track it served mainly to train practical engineers for a B. Tech engineering degree.



The founding of the Association of the Be'er Sheva Technological College's Engineering School. At left D. Tamir, Prof. M. Hershkowitz, D. Bareket, Dr. Y. Lati, Prof. A. Levy, Prof. G. Markovits, A. Ellalouf, M. Dor, attorney E. Vogdan, S. Cohen, Y. Rechlevsky.

27.12.1996

In 1997, at the request of the Higher Education Council, the two colleges separated administratively, with the academic track being taken up by an association listed as "the School for Engineering founded by the Technological College". Later its name was changed to "The Academic College of Engineering in the Negev" (NACE) and ultimately to "the Sami Shamoon College of Engineering" (SCE).

The "Technological College" continued with its historical mission to train practical engineers and to offer vocational education.

The Academic College (SCE) later offered a B.Sc degree and today also offers an advanced degree, the M. Sc.

In 2004 an agreement was signed between the two colleges, across the street from each other, which regulated the use of buildings, administrative services and realms of cooperation.

Since then the two institutions continue with their unique activities while cooperating productively on a number of subjects.







**Negev Academic College of Engineering**  
 המכללה האקדמית להנדסה בנגב

Founded by  
 the Beersheva College  
 of Technology



- 1984 Foundation - Vocational Training
- 1987 School for Technicians and Practical Engineers
- 1993 Practical Engineering College
- 1998 Integration of High School
- 2000 Establishment of Degree Program in Engineering
- 2008 First Graduating Class of 106

Program Approved  
 Accredited Program **NACE**







## Prof. Oscar Levy

(Former) Deputy General Director of the College, founder of SCE and its first President

Holder of a doctorate in chemistry from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, he began his way as a teacher at the College while still a soldier working at the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research and drew after him his childhood friend "Utzu" (Prof. George Markovits).

Oscar never directed the Technological College of Be'er Sheva, but filled several roles by virtue of which he deserves to be ranked as a central figure in it.

He set up the department of Chemical Engineering and led it, served as deputy Director of the College, worked to establish the "Mekif Het" municipal high school and served as Chairman of its board, and drove it to excel.

He founded the School of Engineering within the Technological College and served as its director, later becoming President of the Sami Shamoon School of Engineering - at both its campuses, Be'er Sheva and Ashdod. He was a charismatic and dominant figure. Despite whatever disagreement he never forgot the Technological College. Later he was honored as a Distinguished Friend of the Technological College.

Professor Oscar Levy passed away in 2005 well before having fully realized his potential

Standing at center (in the leather jacket)



First at left. With Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.





Prof. Yehuda Hadad shakes the hand of Dr. Uri Tzedaka, formerly the Head of the departments for Construction and Architecture.

From the guest book

*"Just as you have earned the privilege to bring a Torah scroll into the synagogue, I wish for you from the depths of my heart that you will be granted the credit of enhancing Torah and bringing it glory."*

08.07.2008

Prof. Yehuda Hadad, President of Sami Shamoon College of Engineering

## Prof. Yehuda Hadad

### President of SCE

Professor Yehuda Hadad taught physics at the Technological College while he was still a B.Sc student.

Twenty years later, when newly in possession of a PhD, he was asked to join the administration of the Technological College to prepare its academic infrastructure (curricula, laboratories, library...) for the launching of the forthcoming academic project - "The School of Engineering founded by the Technological College."

In the meantime, Professor Hadad ran various academic departments and participated in the negotiations with the Histadrut trade union to draft the joint agreement which was a breakthrough for the employment contracts of the workers of the College, and remains a strong foundation of them to this day.

In later days, Prof. Hadad was appointed Vice-President of the Academic College, and on Prof. Oscar Levy's death was elected and made President of that College.

Prof. Yehuda Hadad, who was named as a Distinguished Citizen of the City of Be'er Sheva, is a member of the General Assembly and continues to give assistance to the Technological College.





## The Branch in Ashdod

In 1981, the College "was given the keys" to the new buildings for the Practical Engineering studies. Not far from there was the Vocational Training Center, which merged with it, and the site was called "The Center for Technological Training - Ashdod".

Appointed as the first director of the branch was local resident Yosef Shneur and as his deputy - Yosef Moyal. Prominent figures who were active: mayors Zvi Tzilker and Arie Azulai, as well as Chairman of the Association Yitzhak Deri. The College recently moved to a new location and in recent years it has become part of the College of Administration. Studies are actively taking place there.

When the Board of Directors met with the Mayor of Ashdod, the issue of the College's large water consumption came up, as the College had broad lawns. By the end of the meeting there was no time or patience among participants for the remaining matters on the agenda and so they were all approved.



At center is Eng. Stephan Yanku, Head of the Department for Preparatory Studies.



## The Achva College Branch

Before it turned into an academic college, there was a teacher-training facility on that site. In 1975 the Technological College of Be'er Sheva opened their Preparatory Technology (pre-Practical Engineer) program and offered courses for automotive technicians. The coordinator of the branch was Yitzhak ben Sasson, who was appointed principal of the night school on behalf of the Achva College that was run by Dr. Zohar Tal. The branch closed down, many years ago.

## The Branch in Kiryat Gat

The local club run by Mr. Valdman held, on a one time basis, a preparatory training course for technicians (pre-technician). The efforts to open a branch in Kiryat Gat were not successful, apparently due to the proximity of the Achva College and the Sapir College. The mayoral officials were also looking for academic education and were not excited by programs for practical engineering and technicians. A further proposal was submitted when the office of mayor shifted from Ze'ev Baum to Albert Erez.

This was also the reason why the first manpower training program for Intel's Fab18 was implemented in Even Shmuel, the adjacent community, rather than in Kiryat Gat. The head of the Council of Even Shmuel embraced the Technological College's proposals with open arms, and offered structures, secretaries and classrooms.

## The Branch in Ofakim

At the Ofakim Torah College for Women, under the direction of Rabbi Dr. Aryeh Cohen, in addition to religious studies there are also classes in programming practical engineering and practical engineering of visual communications (previously there had been a course for computer-programming technicians.) The coordinator of the program and the contact person is Mrs. Penina Kuppershtok. The activities began in 1987 and have lasted to this day, with the achievement-level of the graduates rising and their job-placement numbers doing likewise.

In the late 1990s, pre-engineering studies were provided for the ECI factory. The municipal club also held prep-classes, with the encouragement of the Ofakim worker's council.





## The Branch in Yeruham

In 1985, the College received a request for cooperation from the heads of the College of Ramat Hanegev in Yeruham. This request had the support of the head of the Local Council, Baruch Almakayis and later of Moti Avisrur (a graduate of the Technological College in civil engineering). Yet beyond preparatory-training courses and several professional-upgrade education programs, the activity did not expand.

Besides the above one may mention Meir Sahar - the Council's Treasurer, as well as Dr. Moshe Dror and Prof. M. Alexenberg who in addition to his activity in the field of art instruction, represented an organization called the "World Federation of Desert Sands"! The center of the courtyard had a fenced off area containing sand from all over the world. That too happened!



## The branch in Beit Hagadi

Pursuant to a request from the yeshiva of Orot Hanegev, in Moshav Beit Hagadi (near Netivot), a meeting was held with the yeshiva head, Rabbi Simha Shtetner, and it was decided to teach courses for electronics practical-engineers there. The number of pupils was 15. The instruction was partial as there was no laboratory on the premises and the program was terminated early.

From the guest book

*"I saw here the key to economic growth and the closure of wage-gaps via the integration into the workforce of the entire population, mainly in the southern region"*

11.01.2008

Yarom Ariav, General Director of the Finance Ministry





## The Branch in Even Shmuel

Representatives of the Technological College held several meetings with the municipality of Kiryat Gat in efforts to obtain an appropriate site for the office and the training. The efforts were graciously rebuffed, till Mrs. Sarah Horesh (Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development) called for a night meeting in the moshav of Even Shmuel, near Kiryat Gat (1997). Participants were Deputy Mayor of Kiryat Gat Coco Pahima, the administration of the Technological College, and the Head of the Shafir Regional Council, Amos Magidish. The Council had an office in the Shapira center near Beer Tuviah as well as in Moshav Even Shmuel, near Kiryat Gat.

A decision was reached that classrooms, an office and secretarial services would be allocated to the College provided it would, as quickly as possible, develop and register students in courses of computer engineering (programming), electronic engineers, prep-classes and professional development, in advance of the launching of operations and the opening of the Intel Fab18 factory in Kiryat Gat.

The responsibility from the point of view of the Department of Vocational Training fell on the Jerusalem-region appointee Mr. Naim Djuna.

Activities began also with the support of the Jewish Agency, by Mrs. Rachel Milner. Among others, coordinators of the branch included Yossi Shneur, Louis

Freiberg and Pini Schneiderman. From early 2000 Yaakov Dor began to coordinate the branch, adding to it his creativity and energy.

The main activity in the branch consisted of holding courses of vocational upgrades and courses to retrain university graduates, notably the "Ofek" project for Intel and the "project Machshava" for university graduates.

The "Ofek" project dealt with training workers in electronics and quality control systems for the new Intel factory. Through these courses some 200 workers were trained for Fab-18. "Project Machshava" dealt with retraining university graduates to work in the software field. This was a special project of the Office of the Prime Minister.

The present mayor of Kiryat Gat, Aviram Dahari, is a graduate of one of the professional-upgrade programs given there.

In the Even Shmuel branch studies took place in a rural environment with a pastoral setting. This branch won the financial support of the "Partnership 2000" project of the Jewish Agency, which enabled construction of the laboratories in the College branch.

This training location was honored by a visit from Eli Yishai, Minister of Labor and Welfare, and Moshe Leon, General Director of the Prime Minister's Office. Yet it suffered from an exceptional wave of night thefts, primarily of computers.

From the guest book

*"We in the municipality of Rahat appreciate your activity in technological education"*

12.12.2011

Abu Sahiban Faiz, Mayor of Rahat





## The Branch in Rahat

Rahat is a town with many residents who studied at the Technological College. These today serve as principals of high schools and public figures; recently graduate Abu Sahiban Faiz has been made mayor.

In the 1990s there was an effort to open a branch by launching a prep-course for practical engineers in the context of an Amal high school for local students. Throughout its existence the mayors of this town have encouraged the College, including Faisal Alhouzayil, the Sheikh Jum'ah Al-Katzatzi, Faiz Abu Sahiban and of course Talal Al-Karnawi.



The young men and women from Bedouin society today prefer having their educational setting be outside their communities.



At center with the Kaffieh: Rahat Mayor, Sheikh Jum'ah al-Katzatzi.

Salam Al-Karnawi, Head of the branch in Rahat's Amal school.





First from left is Albert Assaf; next to him is Mayor Gabi Lalush.

From the guest book

*"I was greatly impressed on my visit from the number of students here and the great variety of fields and the success in job-placement of graduates"*

29.11.2006

Accountant Gabi Maimon, General Director of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Employment

From the guest book

*"I view this institution as the flagship for the solution of social and economic problems"*

09.07.2009

MK Dr. Raanan Cohen, Minister of Labor and Welfare





## The Branch in Mitzpe Ramon

Following the request of Mati Mann, Southern District Appointee for Vocational Training, and that of Mrs. Sarah Horesh, Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development, the College was asked to begin a program in Mitzpe Ramon, a town that had been declared a focus of unemployment. Several vocational training courses were to be offered there: accounting, landscape gardening, kitchen services, and receptionists for the hotels.

Secretarial services were received from the local community center and the instruction took place alternately in the hangar in the industrial area and in the "Pundak Ramon" hotel in Mitzpeh Ramon. The geographic distance from Be'er Sheva and the lack of a local teaching staff presented difficulties for the College. Also commitments made by the local Council were later denied. After the first round of training, the activity was terminated and it was not renewed. The meetings on this subject were held in the office of the head of the regional council, Mr. Sammy Shushan and with his active participation.



## The Branch in Eilat

In 1978, a request was sent by the Mayor of Eilat, Mr. Gadi Katz, to the Ministry of Labor and Welfare, noting the desire to renew the programs of vocational courses that had taken place in the past under the auspices of one of the networks. The request was directed to the Technological College of Be'er Sheva which made contact with Dr. Benny Padeh, whom the municipality of Eilat had assigned "to revive the activity" and serve as the director of the College in Eilat.

Several obstacles: the geographic distance created problems of accessibility, the flights from the Sde Teiman airfield near Be'er Sheva were costly, they were made in small aircraft with seats for 4-5 people with the whole plane shaking while over-flying the Mitzpe Ramon crater. The flights were scary. The busses in those days were ancient and few of them had air conditioning. It would

## The "Sapir" College of the Negev

So as to foster and spread programs of the Technological College among the working communities of the Negev, contact was made with the Secretariat of the Sapir College of the Negev via Mrs. Ruth Gavri and Mr. Eli Berger. At the time the Negev College mainly provided professional-upgrade education; that was before the founding of the Academic College and the School for Engineers. In one of the shacks on their site a class for preparatory-classes in Practical Engineering was launched. The Technological College of Be'er Sheva is proud to have been the one that struck the first blow in getting technological studies launched there. The first director of the School for Engineers was Mr. Michael (Pedro) Newman, formerly Head of the Department of Computers at the Technological College of Be'er Sheva.

often happen that representatives of the College had to travel standing up for 4 or more hours and without air conditioning, since the busses departed from Tel Aviv and were full by the time they passed through Be'er Sheva. The population seeking technology studies was small and did not always meet eligibility criteria. Once the staff went down to Eilat to hold a reception committee for 30 candidates and found only 5 or 6 there!

Accordingly, several courses were held in the classrooms of the high school where a sign was hung on one of the offices that said "Eilat College". Courses were taught in pre-Practical Engineering, electrical technician work, machine technician work. In addition to Dr. Benny Padeh, Mr. Moshe Aroch should be mentioned for having taught a wide range of subjects. Today the College operates in Eilat as a branch of the College of Management.





Mr. Rafi Yefet, Supervisor of Chef Services



Mrs. Nehama Nahmias, Ministry of Immigrant Absorption



Conclusion of the first round of classes in chef services in Arad. Donning the chef's hat is Paul Birenbaum, the first instructor.

## The Arad Branch Including the School for Hotel Studies

In 1973, a meeting was held in the office of Avraham (Baiga) Shochat, Head of the Local Council. Present at the meeting were Menahem Kaplan, Director of the Education Department, and Moshe Regev, Director of the community center. The College was represented by Zvi Yaniv, Deputy Director of the Technological College, and Dov Tamir, the Academic Secretary. It was decided to open a branch in the community center. Over the years, the courses there have included Pre-Practical Engineering, Equipment and Quality Control and Technician Skills for Management and Industry. Among the prominent coordinators of this branch of the College was David Albert.

In 1992, in the "Yafit" absorption center on Yoshiahu Street, a "teaching kitchen" was launched in conjunction with the Jewish Agency. At the time it was one of the most sophisticated such kitchens in the entire country. Courses were taught at that site with the sponsorship of the Ministry of Labor

and Welfare in all the fields of hospitality including chef-training, hotel receptionist work, hostelry and integrated hotel service work.

The rationale here was to give new young immigrants who had reached the country via the "Halom", "Selah-technology" and "Aleah" programs a means to acquire professional skills while benefiting from the services of an absorption center during their period of studies. Once studies were completed they would be absorbed into the work-force in the hotels in the Dead Sea and Eilat regions. They would remain in the country, and later their parents too would immigrate.

Assisting in the initiation of this program were: Moshe Almozno, Director of the Southern District of the Jewish Agency; Eli Ellaluf, recipient of the Israel Prize; the Dead Sea Hyatt Hotel (then under construction); Ron Avni of the Negev Development Authority; Nehama Nahmias from the Ministry of

Absorption; and Moshe Katz, Supervisor from the Ministry of Labor. Names of those who partnered in program development and operation: Rachel Milner, Zalman Perlmutter, Arik Fialko, Monica Zelinger, Tal Tamir, Paul Birenbaum, David Kaspi, Zeev Zimmerman, Avishai Pittel, Yitzhak Haliwa, Dr. Raanan Peltz, Stephan Yanku, Liza Koretzki, Shlomo Nahmias, Doris Sharon, Rafi Yefet, Alex Suprun and others.

At the behest of the Jewish Agency, once the great wave of immigration had crested, the absorption center shut down. In 2010 the branch's equipment was transferred, by decision of Mr. Eli Cohen, Director of the Department of Immigration and Absorption of the Jewish Agency, to the Altschul absorption center in Be'er Sheva, where the training program continued for two additional years until it was halted by the Finance Ministry and the College was asked to "give back the keys".

At right is Ron Avni, Professor George Markovits, Sarah Friedman, Mati Mann.

The teaching kitchen in Arad, in 1992.

The teaching kitchen in Be'er Sheva, 2011 (after relocation from Arad).









## Aharon Uzan (Former) Minister of Labor and Welfare

Aharon Uzan, Minister of Labor and Welfare, a resident of Moshav Gilat, visited the College in 1983 and encountered a group of students who were studying on the lawn. He grasped that this reflected the shortage of classrooms and gave orders for construction of classroom space. Building D was constructed shortly after his visit. For that he has been granted the title of "Distinguished Friend of the Technological College of Be'er Sheva."



Miriam Segal  
- Secretary of  
the Vocational  
Training Center





*"The achievements of the College serve as a model and example of how to accomplish much quietly and confidently"*

Major-general (Reserves) Avraham Ben Shushan  
General Director, Ministry of Labor and Welfare

From the guest book

At right Israel Ben-Amitai, General Director of the University of the Negev; Alex Rubel, Head of the Mechanical Practical Engineering Department; Arik Nissan, Secretary of the Council of Workers of Be'er Sheva; and the Minister.

Certificate from the Technological College of Be'er Sheva, Mechanical Technician.

Trainers of the Ministry of Labor - Vocational Training, holding the sign for the new building, with the old building as background.

First from right is Danny Dotan, third is Yosef Weizman, Dr. George Markovits, Albert Abugzir, Aharon Abramovitch, Moshe Guetha and Uri Neuman.





## Synagogue

In early 1991 an announcement came from the Chief Engineer of the Ministry of Labor and Welfare, Mr. Monel Abraham, regarding a bequest from Holland meant for religious purposes. The decision was made to convert classroom number 3 in Building A (a small room with 10-15 seats) into a synagogue. The funds sufficed for the carpentry, a holy ark and for corrections to a Torah scroll. (A Torah Scroll owned by Aliyat Hanoar was being corrected by Rabbi Yosef Ginzburg, the Rabbi of Omer; it had not been paid for and was not being used.) With the knowledge of Mr. Moshe Almozino, Director of the Southern Region in the Jewish Agency, the College covered the costs of the correction and the scroll was loaned to it. The furnishing of the classroom and its retrofitting as a synagogue answered a need of the religious students, who for years had sought a quiet corner in which to pray. On 09.05.1991 the "Entry of the Torah scroll" ceremony was held in the presence of Deputy Minister of Labor and Welfare Rabbi Menahem Porush, Be'er Sheva Mayor Ijo Rager, Be'er Sheva Chief Rabbi Eliahu Katz and dignitaries.

When a scribal error was discovered in the above Torah scroll, an additional scroll was brought in on 08.07.2008 through the generosity of Rabbi Nathan Spektor, head of the Maayan Yeshiva. The ceremony was held in the presence of Be'er Sheva Chief Rabbi Yehuda Deri, the accountant Gabi Maimon General Director of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Employment, and dignitaries. Afternoon prayer services are now held there on a regular basis and on occasion morning services are held as well.

A poem penned by Be'er Sheva Chief Rabbi Eliahu Katz, for the occasion.



From the guest book

*"May you be blessed to raise students who will be the glory of the House of Israel."*

09.05.1991

MK Rabbi Menahem Porush Deputy Minister of Labor and Welfare



*"May you succeed in all your labors  
and may the Presence of God hover  
over your handiworks for all days"*

08.07.2008

Rabbi Yehuda Deri, Chief Rabbi of Be'er Sheva

From the guest book



Deputy Minister of Labor and Welfare Menahem Porush and Be'er Sheva Mayor Yitzhak ("Ijo") Rager during the ceremony for bringing in a Torah scroll.



Be'er Sheva Chief Rabbi Yehuda Deri during the ceremony for bringing in the 2nd Torah scroll. First from left is Yitzhak Maimon, Distinguished Friend of the Technological College.



## The College expresses appreciation for its workers.

*"I came and I was won over, it is simply a pleasure and delight to see a place where so much love is invested"*

25.06.1991

Shmuel Slavin, General Director of the Ministry of Labor and Welfare

From the guest book



Standing at right: Miriam Dagan, Rachel Wahl, Dalia Benjo and Miriam Tsarfati



Yossi Amar, Lecturer in Electronics, owner of the "Kolbi" magazine, member of the General Assembly of the Technological College and a Distinguished Friend of the Technological College.



Eng. Alter Basil, Head of the  
Construction Department.



Dr. Yossi Atari, lecturer in electronics (from the famous  
Atari family)

In the background in Dr. Helni Azaria, Prof. S. Freiberg,  
Moshe Mareli, Yehuda Gabai.



Zur Michael, Head of  
mathematical studies.





Mrs. Yael Gabai, senior secretary.



Mrs. Violet Steter, Head of the Information Systems department.



Mrs. Ruth Snir, Lecturer in English.



## Additional Visits

2008  
Delegation of pro-peace American  
Jews



From the guest book

*"The human edifice being built here  
is of immense value"*

29.01.1986  
Dr. David Dikman, Director of MAHAT



1978  
From right, Avraham (Buma)  
Shavit, President of the Union  
of Industrialists in Israel,  
visiting the College.



Standing is Prof. Chaim Eilata,  
Rector of the University of the  
Negev.



2008  
General Director of the  
Finance Ministry, Yarom  
Ariav, in conversation with  
ultra-orthodox women in  
a preparatory course for  
Practical Engineers.



*"The Union of Practical Engineers will be glad to cooperate with the College for the benefit of the practical engineers and the technicians"*

24.11.2009

Yitzhak Steiner, Chairman of the Union of Practical Engineers and Technicians

From the guest book



At left is Yitzhak Welber, principal of the Amal-Hanichim school and later Secretary General of the Union of Teachers in Israel; next to him is David Begleiter.



Offering congratulations at the podium is Zalman Shenkman, Secretary General of the Union of Practical Engineers in Israel.



Chairman of the Executive Council,  
Pini Badash, grants the title of  
"Distinguished Friend of the Technical  
College" to Solel Cohen.



Liberation of Be'er Sheva



## Solel Cohen

(Former) Deputy-General-Director of  
Ben-Gurion University

Among the liberators of the town of Be'er Sheva as an officer in the Palmach unit. Deputy-General Director of Ben Gurion University and one of its founders. Accompanied the College since 1970 in the administration of the College as a representative of Ben Gurion University until his retirement. In recent years served as member of the General Assembly and member of the Executive Board of the College, up to his death.

Was always first to advise, mainly on economic issues, and to give credit to others; was greatly esteemed everywhere he involved himself. In appreciation of his works on behalf of the College he was recognized as a "Distinguished Friend of the Technological College."





Helmut Reibold, a dear friend of the Technological College and of the State of Israel

## International Relations

In 1981, Dov Tamir set out on an educational tour to the universities and colleges of Germany, under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Labor and Welfare. As a result, agreements were signed with the "Fachhochschule" for technology in Nurnberg and Karlsruhe. As part of the agreements, exchanges were held by delegations of the teaching staff.

In Germany, as a condition for receiving a diploma that parallels that of Practical Engineer - the Dipl.Ing (FH) - there is a requirement for a "practicum": a practical-placement project for a semester. The colleges in Germany recognized work in the kibbutz industries in Israel as such a 'praxissemester'. Dozens of students have come to Israel, worked in the kibbutzim, and earned room, board, wages and pocket money. The program was very successful and in great demand.

Subsequently, Eli Navon linked the College with Emmendingen Technological Center in the Freiburg region, under the direction of Helmut Reibold. Once a year, for the last 20 years, with brief interruptions, exchanges of delegations of students who have excelled in their studies have taken place. For the last three years the association has been with the Gertrud Luckner Technological Center from the city of Freiburg (Luckner was honored as a "Righteous Woman Among the Nations"),



▶ Joint discussions in Germany.

▶▶ College academic staff in Germany.

Joint discussions in the College.



First from left: the Rector, W. Fischer, and his two deputies.

▶ First from left: the Rector, W. Fischer, and his two deputies..

▶▶ The first delegation of students from the College, in Germany in 1990.









At center, Prof Dennis Galon, President of the Community College of Miami, Florida, USA.



Delegation from Germany on a tour of the Negev.



A delegation from the Gertrud Luckner College of Freiburg, Germany, in 2013. At center is Liron Zino, Dean of Students.

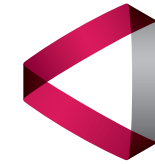


*"I was deeply impressed by the service  
you give to the student body"*

Prof. Dennis Galon,  
President of the Community College of Miami, Florida, USA

From the guest book

At right, Shlomo Nahmias accompanies Israel's President Chaim Herzog. At left is Moshe Katzav, Minister of Labor and Welfare. Department of Vocational Training and Human Development, Ministry of Economics.



**האגף להכשרה מקצועית  
ופיתוח כח אדם**  
משרד הכלכלה

## Vocational Training Special Projects

In 1985, after the retirement (as civil servant) of Zvi Minzberg as Director of the Vocational Training Center, Shlomo Nahmias, a graduate of the Technological College, is appointed to succeed him. Nahmias had served as pedagogical coordinator to the head of the center (which later would be called the Center for Training and Vocational Upgrades and would have a status similar to the departments of Practical Engineering in the College). The staff, consisting of trainers who are civil servants, gradually shifts to trainers who are College employees. The "Center for Training and Vocational Upgrades" was involved in many activities mainly in the branches of the College. There were years in which 2,000 men and women studied in its programs annually. The apex was the School for Hotel Studies in Arad. We note here only a small selection of programs from among a large number - all, however, in the past, as the Hesderim Law "throttled" any possibility of conducting normal operations.



*"In the scale of national priorities - education has first place; education for technology means economic independence"*

20.03.1990

MK Rafael Eitan (Raful)

From the guest book



Conclusion of a course in the Vocational Training Center. Fifth from left is Avi Sulemani, Chief Practical Engineer in the Department of Chemistry.

## Operator of Chemical Facilities

The Technological College, being a central and dominant source of training of engineering manpower in the South, has been giving courses for some 45 years (since 1969) for chemical facility operators for the local companies and factories in the South. Professor Oscar Levy affirmed back then that a facilities operator is a profession like all other professions. In fact, the job-title "chemical facilities operator" was invented here, in the Technological College.

From that time to this, leading companies in the south have been recruiting new candidates and training them via the Technological College. During their training program here, the employment recruits receive full subsistence scholarships including tuition stipends. At the conclusion of the program trainees are absorbed as

employees in the facilities of the various factories and companies. Some of the main companies are: the Israel Chemicals Company, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Intel, Tara, Machteshim, the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research, and others.

Curricula for training in additional fields such as: maintenance of industrial equipment systems, industrial machine instrumentation and others, were developed and implemented for the first time at the College in conjunction with the companies and factories of the south.

Soon there will be vocational upgrade-training courses for the Natural Gas industry.

## Vocational Training for Prison Inmates

The convicted prisoner upon release usually finds himself socially rejected and isolated. Conversely, prisoners who make use of vocational training have to some extent a "clean slate" and can be productive to society and to themselves.

In the course of the 1980s the Technological College responded to a request of the Prison Service to operate courses of vocational training for soon-to-be-released prisoners in the rehabilitations ward, in the fields of metal-work, machinist-work and carpentry.

This program was successful and lasted for 5 years, with dozens of prison inmates trained. The teachers from the College approached this special population with great dedication and passion and won great respect and esteem on the part of the Prison Service administration and the inmates themselves. The program was run in conjunction with Mr. Rafi Shitreet of the Department of Neighborhood Restoration, who later became Vice-Mayor of Be'er Sheva and its appointee for education.





Shaul Sherman, Chief Technician , with the Soldering girls.

## Vocational Training for MAKAM Soliders (Raful's boys)

Lieutenant-colonel Yosef Gantz, a tough yet sensitive man, manages to convince those in charge in the IDF (among them Major-general Rafael Eitan, future Chief of Staff, and Brigadier-general Amira Dotan, senior officer of "Chen" - the Womens' Corps) to recruit to the IDF youths from homes in distress, many of whom are exposed continually to conditions of stress and risk that keep them from adjusting to educational settings. The aim was to let the youngsters study a technical profession before beginning army service and then absorb them as regular soldiers in the ranks of the army, where they would continue in the same line of work. The College turned to one of its graduates, Shlomo Nahmias, who had worked in the chemical industry, and enlisted him to coordinate the program.

The Technological College of Be'er Sheva, via the Vocational Training Center, organized itself to implement the joint-IDF project beginning in 1979. In this initiative female soldiers were trained for the field of electronics-soldering for the air force and male soldiers for the field of metal machinist work for the Armaments force. This project was very successful since after their training the soldiers were integrated into the IDF frameworks.



Lieutenant-colonel Yosef Gantz and Brigadier-general Amira Dotan.



## The Immigrations from Ethiopia “Moses Campaign” (1984-1985) and “Solomon Campaign” (1991)

The great immigrations of Jews from Ethiopia (a population with distinctive customs and traditions, low educational and technological preparation, economic difficulties, language difficulties and so forth) demanded special arrangements and coordination with the government's absorption agencies: the Ministry for Absorption of Immigrants, the Jewish Agency, the Economics Ministry and others.

The Technological College initiates and builds innovative and original student evaluation and routing tools, which are applied to the immigrants at the close of the “ulpan” language studies provided by the Ministry of Education. Mrs. Dalia Benjo, pedagogical advisor, has a significant role in the project.

The curricula consequently designed was based on a slow and modular sequence of courses that promised educational advancement in accordance with the personal and economic abilities of each immigrant. These included completion of secondary education, technological preparation for vocational training, and study of a profession, preparatory courses for technicians and practical engineers and studies towards the degree of practical engineer.

Hundreds of the immigrants successfully completed their basic studies in pre-technological subjects, vocational training and studies for practical engineers yet the success was only partial. The graduates in practical engineering were mainly in the departments of chemistry, electricity and construction.

In light of the objective difficulties of transporting the immigrants to their places of study (during the large waves of immigration), the College worked up a logistical operation of transporting teachers and teaching equipment to the places of residence of the immigrants in the absorption centers of the south. Often this included full furniture for classrooms, illustration materials and other educational equipment.



Graduation ceremony



# 360 דיפלומות חולקו במכללה הטכנולוגית

מוד במכללה ובמיוחד במגמות כימיה וחשמל, המועדפות עליהם.

בשנה"ל תש"ן למדו במכללה גם כ-1000 עולים במסגרות השונות, מסגרות שיקלו על עולים אלו להקלט בעבודה ובאזור. זאת, בנוסף לכ-3,000 הסטודנטים הרגילים הפוקדים את ספסלי הלימוד במכללה.

הצוות הבכיר וסגל המכללה מאמינים, שגלי העליה לנגב ולארץ יביאו לצמיחת מפעלים חדשים באזור ובכך יתגשם החזון שכל בוגרי המכללה ימצאו מקום עבודה באזור, ולא יהיה עליהם לחפש עבודה במקומות אחרים.

■ שושן חורי



טקס חלוקת הדיפלומות

בטקס חלוקת דיפלומות לבוגרי המכללה הטכנולוגית – מחזור כ"ט – חולקו 360 דיפלומות במגמות: הנדסאי אלקטרוניקה, חשמל, מחשבים, מכשור ובקרה, אלקטרו-אופטיקה, כימיה, מכונות, אדריכלות, בניין ותעשייה וניהול.

ההנדסאים, בוגרי המכללה הפכו בשנים האחרונות לכח המניע של התעשייה וממלאים תפקידים חשובים בכל המפעלים התעשייתיים ובמוסדות המשרתים את בירת המחוז. השנה מבין 360 הבוגרים סיימו וקיבלו דיפלומות 32 עולים מאתיופיה אשר הגיעו להשגים יפים בכל מגמות הלר-





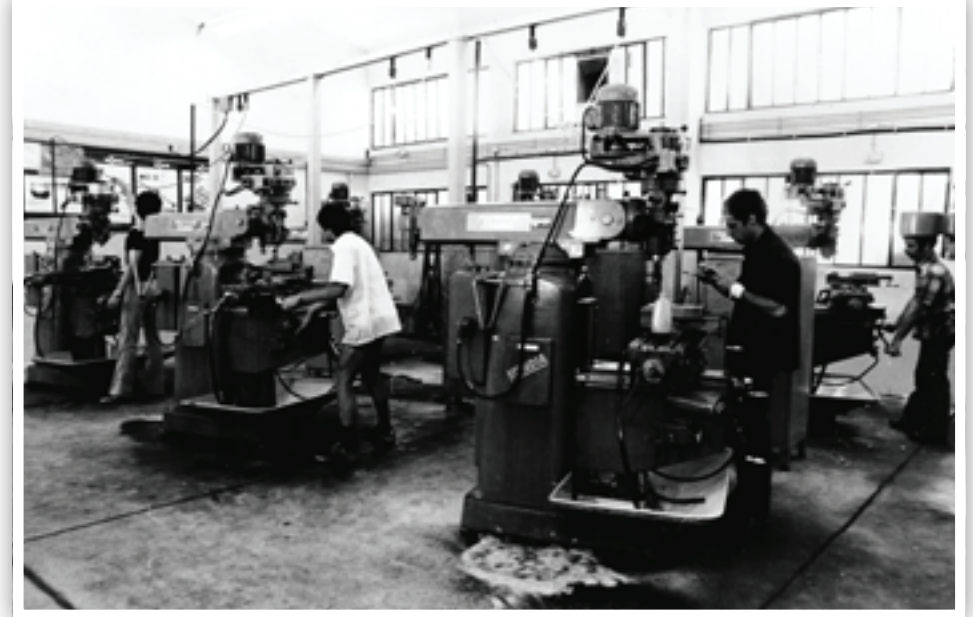
Damage done by students of the Industrial school.

## SeLaH Technology (HaLoM)

The SeLaH Plan (Studentim Lifnei Horim - Students before Parents) is a special plan for the immigration of young people from the Former Soviet Union, France and South America, which blends the acquisition of a profession, study of the Hebrew language, successful absorption into the IDF and integration into Israeli society.

The youths aged 17-19 are in a difficult situation for their age, often coming from single-parent households low socio-economic status. The identified immigrants undergo extensive evaluation examinations in their lands of origin and immigrate to Israel alone, full of the hope to change the modes of life they had known and to realize their potential to acquire a profession, serve in the IDF and be integrated into Israeli society.

The initiative was launched with great success beginning in 1997 and over 12 continuous years a wide variety of courses were taught. This project had the active collaboration and supervision of several government agencies: the Ministry for Immigrant Absorption, the Jewish Agency, the Ministry of Labor and Welfare, and the Ministries of Education, Culture and Sports.



First from right: Yaakov Glick, later head of the Mechanical Engineering Department.

## The Industrial High School for Youths

Subsequent to understandings between Mrs. Sarah Horesh, from the Ministry of Labor, and Dr. Ruth Frenkel, head of the education field in Be'er Sheva Municipality, an 'industrial high school' was launched in 2003 at the Technological College of Be'er Sheva. The school's purpose was to meet the needs of youths who were rejected by the high schools run by the Ministry of Education in Be'er Sheva. Likewise, the project was meant to financially assist the Technological College, as the budgetary allocations for these students were higher than those for studies of practical engineering! At the end of three years of activity, in 2006, the College sought to withdraw from this project. The main reasons for the failure: the high school pupils were kept isolated from the older students (the practical engineers) and confined to a narrow area without the ability to engage in sports or do practical work alongside their theoretical studies. The College lacked experience dealing with young populations with serious discipline problems and lacking the will to study. Also physical damage was caused to the College on a daily basis!





## Advancement of Youths from Peripheral Towns

The Technological College in conjunction with the "Haznek laAtid" (Leap to the Future) association, for several years has been running a special program for youths from Be'er Sheva and the peripheral towns.

This special program is meant for high school students, boys and girls from the tenth to the 12th grades. Studies take place one day a week over a three-year period.

Transportation is arranged for the students who arrive at the College accompanied by a teacher from their high school. The youths study electricity and computers in the laboratories, following study plans authorized by the Ministry of Education; they take the (partial) matriculation examinations. On their day at the College students are also given lunch.

In the course of the 11th grade, the students are placed in actual work settings and receive supervised practical instruction in addition to their day of studies at the College. Their integration into frameworks of the Technological College builds their pride, adds to their confidence and helps reduce attrition.

## Masa Project

The Masa Project began in 2005 at the initiative of the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency. In essence, the project was launched during a period of massive decline in the number of new immigrants on the one hand, and on the other, signs of assimilation among Jewish youth throughout the world and in the US in particular. The project was most innovative and its aim was well-expressed by Israel's then Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon, the sponsor of the project, who said: "Every Jewish young man or woman should live in the Land of Israel at least one year of his life, in the context of a special program that will allow him to become familiar with the country at first-hand, personally. If, after this period, the youth reaches the conclusion that he wants to build his or her future in Israel - he can change his status from Tourist to New Immigrant. Conversely, if he decides that his future is nevertheless in his land of origin - the State of Israel will have earned a loyal ambassador of this country, who has familiarized himself with it from up close, lived in it just like an Israel citizen and is capable of filling the role of 'explainer ambassador' in the community in which he lives."

The Masa project began its operations in the College in 2008 in the framework of the Unit for Special Programs, headed by Mr. Micha Paz. The first course was in "Videcom" (graphic design of websites). Later courses were added in website construction, photography, multimedia and short film (documentary) editing. There is also a course to prepare doctors for MD certification in Israel (MDL in the Negev), and a course to prepare pharmacists for certification in Israel (M.Ph.L).

The program lasts for 10 months. In addition to formal studies, the participants are given enrichment studies and courses in Judaism, tradition, and heritage studies. Throughout the period of the program participants have the visa-status of student/tourist. Each year some 10% of the entire number of participants in the Masa program in Israel do so at the Technological College of Be'er Sheva. The College is proud of the fact that 95% of the participants in its program go on to become new immigrants and that many choose to live in the Be'er Sheva metropolitan region. Since 2008 some 400 students have participated in this program, of whom 380 have become new citizens of Israel. This number includes 75 doctors, the vast majority of whom have successfully passed the certification exams and have been absorbed into the health systems in the country's South.



Foundations of  
Buildings G and H being  
laid. A project of the  
World Bank.



## Visit of President of Israel, Chaim Herzog

26.05.1986

The visit took place at the initiative of General Director of the President's Office, Mr. Nissan Limor, who in his previous position in the office of Labor and Welfare was responsible for the construction project of the World Bank which funded and equipped the buildings of the Technological College in the 1970s. At center is Eng. Zvi Zilker, General Director of the Ministry of Labor, later the mayor of the city of Ashdod.



At right is Dr.  
Emmanuel Manzurola -  
Head of the Chemistry  
Department.



## Visit of President of Israel, Chaim Herzog

In October 1984 Eli Ellaluf, then the Director of the Department of Neighborhood Rehabilitation, turned to the College with a request to improve the status of hundreds of neighborhood activists from Be'er Sheva and the development towns in an area reaching from Mitzpe Ramon to the Kiryat-Malachi-Sderot line. These activists lacked a high school degree and were placed in pre-practical engineering classes (tech prep) with some of the instruction taking place in branches of the College in Yeruham and Ofakim. The success was immense, and Eli Ellaluf's emotions - he was later a recipient of the Israel Prize - were equally expansive. We were asked to offer vocational-upgrade studies and practical engineering courses, to those same 30+ year-olds for whom this was their last chance: to soar, or remain behind. And indeed several dozen of those youngsters completed their studies and have become the young leadership in their communities.

## Single Parents - IBAM Technicians

Once the Hesderim [fiscal arrangements] law was enacted in 2003, the Bituach Leumi [social security] payments were cut, with adverse affects most especially on single-parent households. In the Ministry of Labor, a plan was prepared the aim of which was to integrate single-parents into the Israeli employment market. The Technological College rose to this national task and from 2005 through 2008 ran study programs in which 80 single mothers participated. The study program included a special prep-tech program followed by a course for IBAM technicians (computer-aided manufacturing) under government guidance (MAHAT). Students had their tuition remitted and received subsistence grants from Bituach Leumi [social security], transportation refunds and child support. These conditions allowed the women to study and complete their degrees successfully. At the end of the program they were integrated into the job market (80% placement rate). The program allowed these women to get off the State's welfare rolls. Some of them still work today at the Technological College in teaching and other positions.



The Diploma granted by the College from 1970 to 2000.



At the end of a trial period of two years, the test is launched and proves itself reliable. A further advantage is that results are instantaneous. The test is being used today in numerous academic institutions throughout Israel under the direction of Dov Golan. The company has expanded its evaluation service to abroad and has changed its name accordingly (thanks also to the College) to TIL International.

A sample test result.



*"It is my hope that you continue to impress the coming generations for the glory of the State of Israel"*

Summer, 2006  
MK Yaakov Margi, Shas party

From the guest book

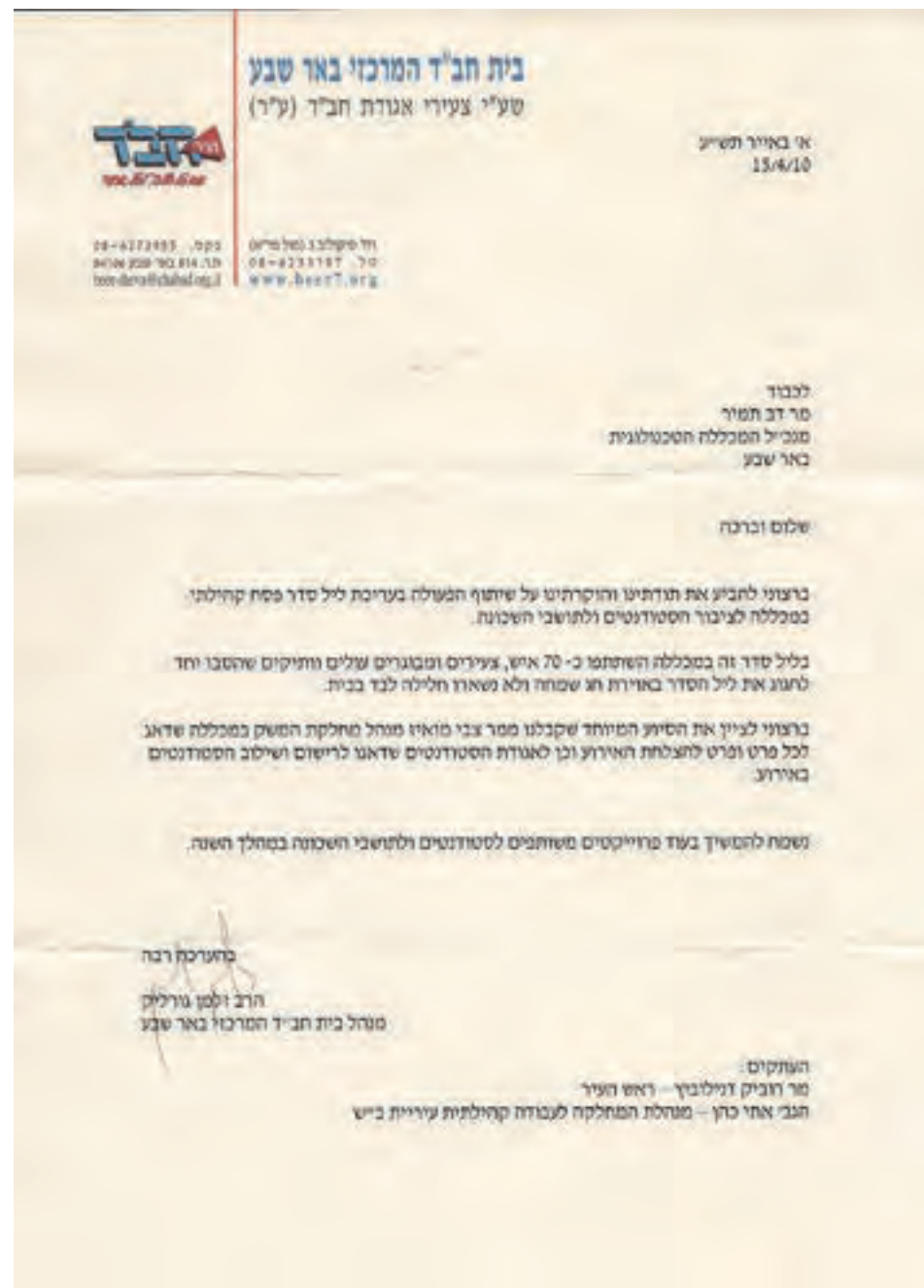


A Seder evening, for the neighborhood and community

From the guest book

*"I saw today a 'piece of history', from a small shack in the mud to a campus built to the glory of the State of Israel"*

06.07.2004  
Sarah Horesh, Director of the Ministry of Labor's Division for Training and Human Development





## Be'er Sheva Mayors and the College

Mayor Eliahu Nawi  
congratulates Ethiopian  
immigrants at the College



First from left, Be'er Sheva's  
first Mayor, David Tuviahu

Mayor Yitzhak ("Iju")  
Rager grants Prof. George  
Markovits a certificate  
of appreciation for his  
work for the absorption of  
immigrants.



►  
Mayor Turner; opposite  
him is US Ambassador  
Daniel Kurtzer in a  
photo gallery at the  
jubilee celebrations for  
the College.

►►  
Mayor David Bunfeld



►  
Mayor Ruvik  
Danilovitch grants a  
diploma. First from  
left is the accountant  
Gabi Maimon, General  
Director of the Ministry  
of Trade and Industry..

►►  
Be'er Sheva Mayor  
Moshe Zilberman.







## Assemblies of Students and Staff



From the guest book

*"Thank you for the enjoyable  
visit and for the moments of  
pleasure, keep up the success"*

23.02.1997

MK Yuli Edelstein, Minister for Immigrant  
Absorption



## *"Pure Zionism"*

09.08.2009

Major-general (Reserves) Udi Adam, General  
Director of Dimona Center for Nuclear Research  
(KaMaG)

From the guest book



From the guest book

*"Congratulations on the Jubilee  
of the College, wish you  
continued success"*

07.07.2004

Daniel Kurtzer, US Ambassador to Israel



## College Employees

Photos from the Archives



From the guest book

*"He who aims high strikes far  
and on target"*

28.06.1999  
Yaakov Turner, Mayor of Be'er Sheva









Commencement, 2010

Staff on a hike



A toast for the holiday







Meeting of the Higher Education Committee in a bomb-shelter (during the "Iron Dome" campaign)



Staff on a hike



Diploma granting ceremony, 2013



# From 2000

## Chapter 4 The Association



In the year 2000, the “Association of the Technological College of Be’er Sheva” (registered association) was formed and a collective agreement was signed with the employee’s council and the Histadrut Labor Union. Avi Armoni is appointed Chairman of the Executive Board and later – Pini Badash, Head of the Omer Council, whose mark is quite noticeable in the activity and composition of the Executive Board.

The Technological College of Be’er Sheva sets out, weak and exhausted, into a new chapter of life.

The Technological College of Be’er Sheva used its reserve funds to finance the Academic College of Engineering, and

the programs during the first years of its establishment.

The “Mekif Het” municipal high school was not given and preferential treatment by the Be’er Sheva municipality which shut down the “feeder” high schools one after the other. And nevertheless, the school wins the National Education Award (2007) and other prizes, thanks to its innovative and energetic administration.

The Technological College of Be’er Sheva wins the Be’er Sheva Prize for Excellence in Technological Education (2003). Vocational education is given a different status in the “Hesderim” [fiscal arrangements] laws. An unemployed person, who till now was granted

unemployment insurance and tuition-free vocational studies, would no longer be eligible for such.

As a result, the number of people interested in learning a profession drops and slowly disappears from the map of the College.

The Governmental Institute for Technological Training which is appointed by the Ministry of Finance as responsible for the budget for studies in practical engineering changes its method of budgeting, adversely. Other fiscal recovery plans are launched, the employees and the Histadrut labor union show understanding and trust.



◀ Main entrance in 2014 - Basel St., corner of Bialik

As stated earlier the budget of the Technological College was based on three elements:



Clearly the greater the activity in each of the three components, the better the shape the College's budget would be in. Starting in the fourth period very gradually a decline in all three components begins to appear. The fourth period is characterized by special projects. Today it may be stated with certainty that it was these special projects which saved the technological College from collapse.

The "Shiluv" project was a local initiative supported by Amram Kal'agi, head of the Abu Basma Regional Council. The idea for this collaboration came from Attorney Yoav Laviud, a former College graduate who was the Prime Minister's Office appointee in the South and later became a member of the General Assembly and Executive Board of the Technological College. Special courses were later added in conjunction with the association of the Friends of Atidim and the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research, led by Major-general (Reserves) Udi Adam, its General Director. Training programs were also arranged for the Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Israel Railways and Intel; vocational upgrade education was arranged for the Israel Chemicals company. The welcome initiative of Minister Sylvan Shalom to offer a mechanics practical engineering specialization in the field of Natural Gas is presently being launched at the Technological College of Be'er Sheva in the south and at the Tel Chai College in the North.



Be'er Sheva prize for Excellence in Technological Education, 2003

Commemorative Service Stamp for the College's Jubilee year, 2004

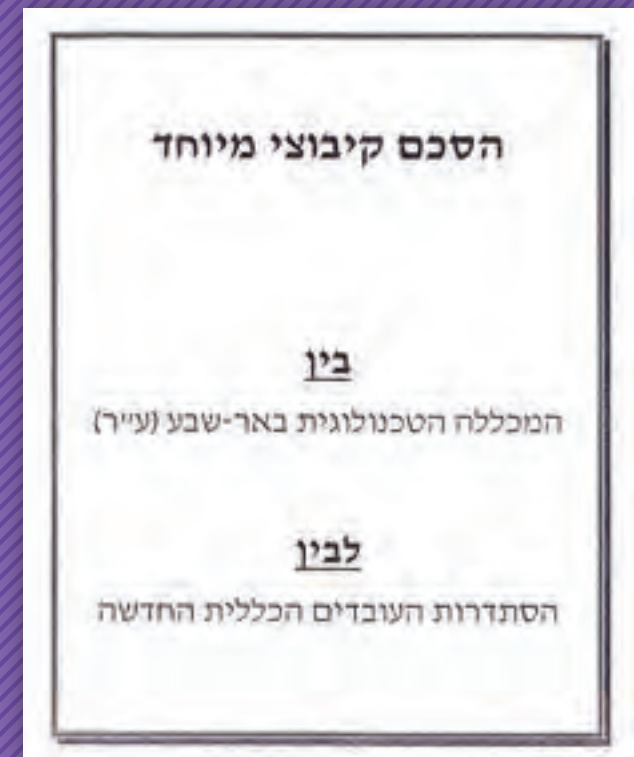






From left G. Rozenberg, Dr. Y. Lati, S. Reichman, Attorney E. Rubin, D. Tamir, Prof. G. Markovits, Attorney O. Katz (legal advisor), Prof. O. Levy, Attorney E. Wogdan, Prof. A. Solomon, Prof. Y. Hadad, S. Cohen, Z. Shulemzon (secretary)

## Founders of the Association of the Technological College of Be'er Sheva (Registered Association)





*"The College is the anchor of hope  
for thousands of young people  
across the Negev"*

18.11.2007

MK Ehud Olmert, Prime Minister

From the guest book

First from left, Avi Armoni,  
Chairman of the first Executive  
Board. Next to him is Moshe  
Almoznino, Chairman of the General  
Assembly to this day.



From the guest book

*"So may we be granted the chance  
to fill positive national tasks for  
the benefit of the people of Israel"*

Nathan Gibli, General Director of the Agency for  
Development of the Negev





## Dov F. Tamir

### General Director, the Technological College

Dov Tamir, graduate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, arrived at the college some six months before the Yom Kippur War (1973) to take on the position of Academic Secretary. He was an active partner in the drafting of the guidelines for the College's academic administration and later on also for MAHAT.

Subsequently, as part of work towards the MA in the University of Tel Aviv, he chose a subject that dealt with the management and treatment of problems that arise in organizations via entropy,



Hosting Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on the dias of the diploma-granting ceremony in the College.



Dov Tamir, at an international conference, with the participation of the heads of colleges in Germany.

a concept derived from thermodynamics. (Entropy is a measure of the degrees of freedom in complex systems. A rise in entropy signals a rise in the degrees of freedom and implies organizational creativity, as opposed to a decline entropy which implies fossilization.) These studies influenced and shaped the organizational creativity which has typified Dov Tamir.

Dov viewed the College as a key element of a metropolis which needs to serve as a bridge to its peripheral communities. Consequently he initiated and built College branches from Eilat to Ashdod, 13 in number, in coordination with the mayors and councilmen of these towns, so as to bring technological education "right to the doorstep". Some of these branches have become the leading colleges of their towns. A special branch was opened in Arad which later became the School for Hotel Studies and which aids in the absorption of immigrants.

Among Dov Tamir's other leading innovations and projects, may be noted:

Fostering international relations, mainly with colleges in Germany - the source of the idea of the "Praxissemester". A result was the decision to require students to have one semester of experience in industry as part of the academic-studies plan for the degree of B.Tech. This idea was the nucleus of the Academic College of Engineering, first founded as a school of engineering within the Technological College.

Creating psycho-technical tests, with the reasoning worked out conjointly with the TIL International company. These evaluations are highly regarded by many academic institutions today. The psycho-technical tests evaluate the mathematical, verbal, emotional (EQ) and other capacities of the candidate and considers the best match of these with possible directions of study.

The "Shiluv" project, a special project for practical engineering studies in the Bedouin sector. Over 400 women and men have undergone this program with government funding and have left the ranks of the unemployed or of "low-status" employment.



Dov Tamir climbed all the administrative ranks till in 2006 he was appointed General Director of the College, and he carried the College through the years of crisis and fiscal recovery. In 2008, he partnered with the directors of engineering colleges in Israel to create the "Forum of Technological Colleges" as a means of battling to improve the government's funding allocations for technology education. Today this battle has widened and has earned the awareness of the public.

In 2012 the Municipality of Be'er Sheva chose to name him as "Distinguished Citizen of Be'er Sheva" for his work on behalf of the community, the neighborhood and the city.

Visit of Prime Minister  
Ehud Olmert



Receiving the "Distinguished Citizen of  
Be'er Sheva" award from Be'er Sheva  
Mayor Ruvik Danilovich, 2012

At a meeting with President Shimon  
Peres who was specially interested in  
the "Shiluv" project, 2007







## Heads of Units

The Facilities and Grounds unit, headed by Zvi Moise and David Hadad, graduates of the Technological College, have done wonders on a miniscule budget and with minimal staff. Responsibility for security, equipment, cleaning, building maintenance, acquisition, ceremonies, branches, safety and other issues have been in good, trusted and efficient hands.

Worthy of every praise are all the units of the College: Financial Administration, headed by accountant Aviva Didi; Registration, headed by Mrs. Gila Buckris, Tuition and Projects headed by Mrs. Ester Akoa; Scheduling, headed by Mrs. Simcha Hanan, Computers, headed by Mr. Michael Finkelstein, Information Systems, headed by Mrs. Violet Steter; and the Department of Student Administration with each and every one of its workers individually.

Zvi Moise, (former) head of Facilities and Grounds.



First from left is Michael Finkelstein, Computer Engineer; next to him is David Hadad in charge of Facilities and Grounds.



Alex Kerpak, maintenance staff; Outstanding Employee





Higher Education Committee of the College, on a visit with Stef Wertheimmar at the Yiskar factory in Teffen Park.



At right, Noted for special excellence, Practical Engineer in Electricity, Yitzhak Azulai Tal.

## Fields of Study

As a large and leading college in Israel, for many years this institution has considered itself responsible for making every effort to engage as wide a range as possible of professions so as to allow the residents of Be'er Sheva to have studies close to home.

The College was always the first to initiate new departments and new plans of study. The fields that have been and continue to be offered in the realm of practical engineering are:

Chemistry, Nuclear engineering, Automotive Mechanics, Mechanics TIBAM-Mechatronics (specialization in Railways, specialization in microelectronics), energy mechanics (specialization in Natural Gas), HVAC, Software, Civil Engineering, Architecture and Interior Design, Visual Communications, Electricity, Electro-Optics, Industrial Management - Manufacturing and Marketing.

The studies in practical engineering are equal to or superior in their scope to BA programs in institutions of higher education. 2200 hours which are spread over two years in the daytime program and over three years in the combined (day and evening) program. Today there is no doubt among decision-makers as to the national importance of these programs, in industry, defense, business, services and education. The "tragedy" of these program was that they were viewed as inseparable from vocational training, and thus over the years were left in the hands of the Ministry of Labor and not transferred to the Ministry of Education. The Technological College has 55,000 graduates, half of them practical engineers and technicians; 85% of them are employed in the fields. im which they trained.





Delegation of Outstanding Students from the College, in Freiburg, Germany

## Fostering Excellence and Distinction

Once a year, a ceremony is held in which Certifications of Excellence in various departments are awarded to students from the 2nd year who completed their first year with distinction or to 1st -year students who completed their preparatory studies with distinction. Students with the highest grades are also given a monetary award.

A committee formed conjointly with the Student Union chooses representatives some of whom will form the delegation of students sent on a study trip to the Gertrud Luckner College in Freiburg, Germany.

Students of the College are part of a funding program for excellence called "Top Group", sponsored by the Intel Corporation.



Ceremony of students who have won awards for excellence



Mrs. Maxine Fassberg, Intel CEO, grants the TOP GROUP prizes.



For several years a ceremony has been held to single out individuals for the awards of "Distinguished Friend of the Technological College", "Outstanding Department", Outstanding Lecturer, Outstanding Administrative Employee.

Following are the individuals who received the award of "Distinguished Friend of the Technological College":

## Departmental Heads

The heads of the departments are the pedagogical authorities, and they serve as the bridge between the student and the administration. For years many fine people have served in this capacity, and this is the place to thank them. **Chemistry and Nuclear Science:** Dr. Oscar Levy, Dr. Emmanuel Manzorola, Miriam Felhandler. **Machines and HVAC:** Dr. Shmuel Yosifon, Alex Rubel, Yaakov Glick. **Electronics, Electricity, Instrumentation and Control:** Yehuda Gabbai, Moshe Mareli, Mordechai Maor, Micha Kershon, Dr. Nathan Friedman, Louis Freiberg, Victor Cohen, Dr. Yehuda Hadad, Dr. Nathan Ben Hayil, Yaakov Glick. **Software:** Gidon Amir, Dr. Nathan Friedman, Michael Neuman, Lazar Kaufman, Sarah Reichman, Igor Bergman. **Civil Engineering (construction):** Basil Alter, Dr. Yoki Gur, Victor Cohen, Dr. Uri Zedaka, Nurit Volasky, Ariel Damri. **Architecture and Interior Design:** Dr. Yoki Gur, Victor Cohen, Dr. Uri Zedaka, Nurit Volasky, Navah Bezhah, Dr. Martin Smith. **ElectroOptics:** Dr. Zvi Yaniv, Nehemia Krakovsky. **Industrial Management:** David Begleiter, Sarah Reichman, Yehezkel Ezra. **Visual Communications:** Igor Cornblatt, Levana Lederman, Eli Revzin. **Prepatory Practical-Engineering:** Zvi Goldbart, Stefan Yanku, Liron Zino. **Technical Instruction (Practical Engineering Teachers and Certified Trainers):** Mati Mann, David Begleiter. **Vocational Training:** Zvi Minzberg, Shlomo Nahmias.

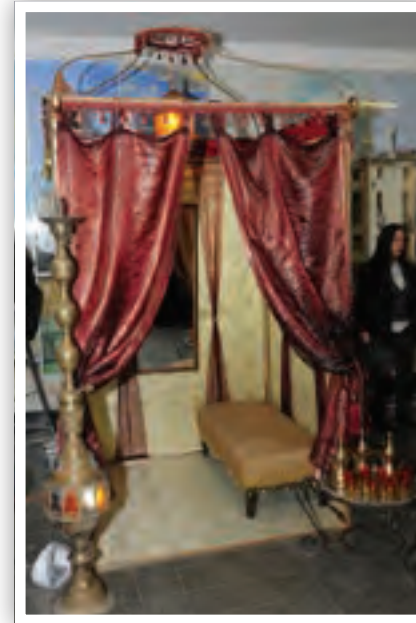
## Unit Heads

**Mathematics:** Zvi Yaniv, Michael Zur, Miriam Dagan. **Physics:** Zvi Yaniv, Nehemia Krakovsky, Bronia Wullich. **English:** Shoshana Bar Nefi, Mazal Kurzion, Sarah Levy. **Hebrew:** Tova Peri, Nitza Shaked. **Physical Education:** Rachel Wahl.





In the Department of Architecture and Interior Design and the Department for Visual Communications, there is a tradition of project competitions. Each year works are presented in graphic design, design of kitchens, models and so forth.



Dressing room, by students of Architecture and Interior Design.

A final project in the Department of Visual Communications





*“The Technological College is helping at the local and national level to raise the bar of opportunity for everyone”*

07.03.2010

Dr. Hefzi Zohar, Deputy and Alternate Mayor of Be'er Sheva,  
in Charge of Education Affairs

From the guest book

Students win Excellence Grants from factories and the College, as well as private entrepreneurs. The Moshe Avisrur and Sons company - a leading construction company in Israel-decided this year in conjunction with the College administration to direct its funding toward improvements to the library. On that basis the administration decided to name the library after Moshe Avisrur. Moshe Avisrur is a Distinguished Citizen of Be'er Sheva and Distinguished Friend of the Technological College.



Ceremony to rename the library in honor of Moshe Avisrur  
19.12.2013



## Pini Badash Chairman of the Executive Board

Chairman of the Omer Council, a former Knesset member, an active partner in great public enterprises. A pilot and a passionate Zionist. The connection with the College began in 1981, when on a volunteer basis he advised on final projects as a mechanical engineer. Member of the Executive Board and the General Assembly. From 2003 has been Chairman of the Executive Board, working on a volunteer basis. Supports and advises and even had a part in saving the Technological College during its years of crisis.

Grants a memento to Sylvan Shalom, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Development of the Negev and the Galilee.

In an event in Be'er Sheva to honor departing President Shimon Peres (a family friend), 19.05.2014



Granting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert a photo memento.



*"Anyone who speaks about building the country, about Zionism, about the melting-pot, will find that here."*

MK Binyamin Ben-Eliezer,  
Minister of Trade, Industry and Employment

From the guest book

With the "Rakia" girls and with Minister of Trade, Industry and Employment Binyamin ("Fuad") Ben Eliezer. At left is Amram Kalagi, Head of the Abu-Basma Regional Council.



## Members of the Executive Board:

Pini Badash - Chairman

Attorney Elkana Rubin (Deputy Chairman)

Albert Assaf

Yaakov Vitner

Attorney Yoav Laviud

Aliza Manor

Prof. George Markovits

Prof. Allan Solomon

Magister Israel Streichman

From the guest book

*"I had the honor to have had a part in some of the planning of the College"*

28.06.1994

Nissan Limor, Project of the World Bank



## Moshe Almozino

### Chairman of the General Assembly

Moshe Almozino, Chairman of the General Assembly from the first day the Association was formed in 2000, has accompanied the operations of the College since the 1990s when he was Director of the Southern District in the Jewish Agency. He led the founding of the School for Hotel Studies and as part of that the Workshop on Chef Services in Arad, as a branch of the Technological College. Worked vigorously on behalf of the new immigrants from the Soviet Union, from Western Europe, South America and Ethiopia. As part of his previous activity is regarded as one the leaders of local workers in Kiryat Gat and nationally.

Is honored to light a Hannuka candle in the College.



Grants the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Trade and Industry Eli Yishai a photo memento.





*"The Technological College is a foundation stone - in the formation and development of the city of Be'er Sheva"*

03.07.2012

MK Sylvan Shalom, Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister for the Development of the Negev and the Galilee  
Minister for Regional Cooperation

From the guest book

At a commencement ceremony, Deputy Prime Minister Sylvan Shalom and Be'er Sheva Mayor Ruvik Danilovitch

## Members of the General assembly:

Moshe Almozino (Chairman)\*

Albert Assaf (Deputy Chairman)

Dr. Israel Eilig

Pini Badash

Prof. Yehuda Hadad

Atty. Efraim Vogdan

Yaakov Vitner

Dr. Pini Yehezkeli

Atty. Yoav Laviud

Dr. Yossi Latti\*

Mati Mann\*

Aliza Manor

Prof. George Markovits\*

Atty Elkana Rubin\*

Sarah Reichman\*

Magister Israel Streichman

Dov Tamir\*

\*founders of the association





## "Shiluv" Project

In 2006, the practical engineer returned to center stage in the employment scene in Israel. In that period, the Intel corporation needed some 1,500 practical engineers in that period, who were not available. Since the end to support of technological education in the high schools by the Ministry of Education, and with the opening of the academic colleges, there was an unreasonable flow of youths toward a university education. And thus, bit by bit, the larger factories recognize the employment potential of the colleges for practical engineers in general and the Technological College of Be'er Sheva in particular.

On the one hand, demand was created for practical engineers, but on the other young women and men from the Bedouin sector were not studying and not employed.

In a meeting with Amram Kalagi, Head of the Abu Basma Regional Council, in his office in Be'er Sheva, one of the most original programs the College had ever advanced set out on its way: the "Shiluv" (inclusion) project (the name was given by Yaakov Dor who was in charge of public relations and later was appointed Deputy General Director of the College). The program promised free tuition, NIS 2000 a month in subsistence grants and transport to and from the College.

In the first class of students, three bus-routes were operated - to the Bedouin town of Rahat, to the Arad road and to the Dimona road. One hundred young women and men studied in this group, 50 in the department of Chemical Engineering and 50 in the department of HVAC engineering. Later there were four additional classes of students in the departments of: Software Engineering, Construction, Mechanics (Automotive), Chemistry, Electricity and Industrial Management. A follow-up study by the College found that employment patterns changed and even those who did not receive a diploma mostly shifted to a 'higher-status' form of employment.

In the 2014 academic year the Ministry of Trade and Industry decided to shift to a different program, called "AshBaL. It is too soon to report as to its effectiveness.

The "Shiluv" project without a doubt benefited all those involved in it. The Technological College of Be'er Sheva gained a non-negligible number of students in its most difficult hours. The factories gained a professional work force, and Bedouin society improved employment conditions for hundreds of its sons and daughters.

Opening ceremony



Rahat Mayor Faiz Abu Sahiban, graduate of the College.





Diplomas "with distinction".  
Second from left is Rada  
Abu Kaf, practical engineer  
in chemistry.



## Rakia Program

MAHAT, by virtue of the consistent efforts of Shimon David, appointee for special populations, held courses for female practical-engineers in a program called "Rakia" in Haifa, Tel Aviv and Be'er Sheva. Twelfth-grade graduates deemed suitable by the Ministry of Defense had their army service deferred by a year and a half so that they could pursue studies in practical engineering. At the end of four continuous semesters the graduates were drafted into the Air Force and the Armaments Force, and served out a full term of army service in the fields in which they studied. At the Technological College of Be'er Sheva courses were held for the degrees in practical engineering in electricity; tuition was covered by the Ministry of Defense. At the end of 11 terms of study in Be'er Sheva the program was terminated due to high rates of attrition along with high costs.



Chemistry Laboratories



## Association of Friends of Atidim

Brigadier-general (Reserves) Devorah Hasid, General Director of the Association of Friends of Atidim, in coordination with Major-general (Reserves) Udi Adam, Director General of the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research, sponsor the launching of courses for practical engineers. This is apparently the first time that the Friends of Atidim has sought support for the training of practical engineers for industry. Continuing the tradition is Ze'ev Hayut, the new General Director, along with Amir Yagoda. Tuition is paid by the factory, and a subsistence grant is paid by Atidim, along with a gift of a personal computer and guaranteed employment; the population aimed at is at a high level.

Young men and women continue to choose careers that offer a high professional longevity and good compensation rather than academic studies.

The Practical Engineer returns to center stage in the employment scene in the State of Israel.

Industrial companies like Teva-Tech, Israel Railways, the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research and Intel sign agreements with the Technological College of Be'er Sheva. An active partner is the Ministry for the Development of the Negev and the Galilee which works with us on the program for Israel Railways. Recently, together with the Ministry for Energy and Infrastructure, they have lead the opening of a new department for practical mechanical engineering and an energy specialization in natural gas. It is not by coincidence that Minister Sylvan Shalom is the person in charge of the two offices and who is leading a movement of national significance.



Seated at center: Brigadier-general (Reserves) Devorah Hasid and Major-general (Reserves) Udi Adam.

From the guest book

*"I will always be glad to be  
a contact for you"*

09.07.2009

MK Faina Kirchenbaum





Computer rooms, in memory of Gil Barazkin

From the guest book

*"Your activity in the field of training technicians and practical engineers contributes directly to narrowing gaps in Israeli society"*

04.09.2007

Raanan Dinur, General Director, Office of the Prime Minister



At left at a diploma conferring ceremony

## Sarah Reichman

(former) Deputy General Director of the College

Deputy Director of the College. Began her way in the College as a secretary in the Beit Yatziv branch (1978). While working there she completed her academic studies for the B.A. and M.A. Developed the Software Department to the point where in one year the number of students passed the 400 mark. Served as director of the departments of Software, Industrial Management and lead the formation of the Department of Visual Communications. Developed the Computer Rooms with the substantial assistance of Gil Barazkin and Michael Finkelstein. Made the financial office more efficient and led it; instituted a policy of cost-comparisons and savings. Took voluntary retirement in 2011. Member of the General Assembly of the College.



## The Battle of the Forum of Technological Colleges

The Knesset-proposed national legislation and economic policy for the years 2011-2012 (by which, starting in the 2011 academic year, changes would take place in the method of funding for colleges supervised by MAHAT) was a consequence of a report by the State Comptroller from 2009. That report, which criticized the functioning of MAHAT, was the trigger for bringing together the directors of the technological colleges throughout the country, who began to hold meetings the purpose of which was to promote communication between the directors and to work to correct the budgetary distortions that had accrued in the system of technological education.

After dozens of meetings, the directors of the colleges decided to organize so as to work together effectively vis a vis the government agencies. The Forum of Colleges became an official organization in an expanded meeting of the directors on 03.10.2011. In this meeting the relevant office-holders were appointed. Today Dr. Yocheved Pinhasi Adiv, director of the Center for Design and Technology in Ariel serves as the appointed chairperson of the forum and Mr. Yaakov Dor, deputy General Director of the Be'er Sheva Technological College is its coordinator.

The Forum of Technological Colleges brings together dozens of colleges spread across the country, in particular ones in strategic areas of the periphery; it has worked in recent years to regulate the budget needed for proper operation of the colleges. The Forum of Colleges has taken upon itself the task of rescuing technological education in the State of Israel and has even set aside resources to advance this issue in all the necessary plans.



The Forum warned that students for the degree of practical engineer make up 11% of the total of students in higher education in Israel yet are allocated just 1.7% of the total existing budget. The gap is only increasing, and continuation of the state of affairs without a substantial change is likely to cause irreparable damage to the economy and to productive industry.

After endless meetings, the Forum of Colleges decided to take a radical stance and to step up the battle. In October 2012 it called a two-week strike in all the Technological Colleges just as the academic year was beginning. The strike exposed the depth of the crisis to the decision makers, who until then had preferred to ignore the reasons why this branch, so important to the development of Israel's industry, was being bent to the breaking-point. The colleges were immediately given emergency funding and a governmental promise to establish an inter-ministerial commission which would prepare reforms in colleges for practical engineers, the emphasis being on finding a solution to the pedagogical and budgetary issues and making structural changes to regulate the field. The solution was temporary and following the election of a new government the technological colleges were once again ignored and not handled properly, which led to the continuing crisis in the subsequent academic year. The 2014 academic year began with a great gap of trust between the Forum of Colleges and the governmental agencies. Several discussions were held in the Knesset Committee on Labor and Welfare. Leading figures and Knesset members rose in support of the Forum of Colleges including MK Mrs. Faina Kirschenbaum, Deputy Minister of Defense; MK Chaim Katz, chairman of the Knesset Committee on Labor and Welfare; MK Yitzhak ("Buji") Herzog, chairman of the Knesset action committee for the technological colleges; and MK Amram Mitzna, chairman of the Knesset Education Committee.

At the height of the conflict, the various "players" in the public arena (including the Union of Practical Engineers and Technicians and MK Chaim Katz, sponsor of the





A meeting of the Forum of Directors of Colleges, in Be'er Sheva.

legislation) accelerated the passage of the Law of Certified Practical Engineers and Technicians, which passed in the Israeli Knesset in November 2012. This law regularizes the employment of practical engineers in their professions and equalizes the status of practical engineers to holders of academic degrees for purposes of competition for publicly listed positions and for professional advancement in public entities. In accordance with the legislation, a "Council of practical engineers and technicians" was formed to deal with the various aspects of advancement of the status of the practical engineer in the Israeli economy.

Furthermore, in the course of the crisis, professional work was carried out by Mr. Shmuel Seawym, formerly General Director of the Ministry of the Treasury and the Ministry of Labor and Welfare and a member of the Finances Committee. As part of this work, the differences in budgetary allocations between technological education and higher education were examined. The research findings clearly showed the need to increase the allocations to the technological colleges by NIS 425 million annually as part of a five-year reform program.

In October 2013, the second public battle conducted by the Forum of Colleges (which included a hunger strike of the heads of the colleges in a protest tent opposite the Knesset, as well as suspension of studies) came to an end. For the first time in many years, a set of principles has been agreed upon between Treasury officials and the Forum of Colleges and the National Student Union, led by Ori Reshtik. The agreement includes, among other things, a multi-year budgetary increase, adjustments to tuition after a freeze of many years, and grants and fellowships to students. The Forum of Technological Colleges, through its unified efforts, was able to report this genuinely welcome news affecting the technological education system and the student public. Only the first stage has been completed so far: it is part of a much larger reform and readjustment, at the conclusion of which a larger number of high-quality practical engineers will be trained for positions in Israel's industry and marketplace.



## Yaakov Dor Deputy General Director of the College

Graduate of the Technological College, graduate of the first class of students in the Sami Shamoon College of Engineering in Industrial Management, holder of an MA from Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

Began his work in the College as coordinator of the Even Shmuel branch. With the closure of the branch was given responsibility for advertising and public relations for the College, and in 2011 was appointed Deputy General Director of the College.

Serves on a volunteer basis as national coordinator of the Forum of Technological Colleges, and is a leading partner in its achievements.



## Conclusion

Reading and looking at photos, what we see is a multi-faceted institution which has changed ownership several times, but never its purpose. This institution has never turned down any sort of request: on the contrary, it always rose to the occasion, and constantly initiated, invented and led the way. Great campaigns including the specialized courses would never have taken place if it had not been for the Technological College. Our activity has always been for the community, for the masses and for the social periphery. We have never been "takers". It is the college that has always been owed money and never vice versa. To this day there are funds to which the College is entitled but which have not been received from governmental bodies.

In the pictures that tell the story of the 60 years of activity, it is hard to sense the difficulties that existed and still exist. The office-holders smile and warmly and with dignity welcome each and every event and visit.

It is customary with entities that excel, which carry out special functions and bring the State achievement, honor and results, to receive some sort of "bonus". Not only has no such thing happened but in recent years the bureaucracy has forgotten even to praise or say a kind word.

Year ago, Minister of Labor and Welfare Aharon Uzan noticed the lack of classrooms and immediately ordered the construction of a 1500 square meter building. Today in similar straits the reaction would at best be a cold shoulder and a suspicious investigation by the legal offices and two accountants! What to do - the world has changed! ( coping with today's bureaucracy is impossible) Major-general (Reserves) Udi Adam,



Chairman of the Israel Military Industries and the departing General Director of the Dimona Center for Nuclear Research, stated in the 6th Negev Conference: "The Center for Nuclear Research was built in 4 years without mixers or modern equipment. Today with the existing governmental bureaucracy construction would take 30 years despite all the new equipment."

The years of the establishment of the College built up the qualities of the laborer, the technician and later the profession of practical engineer. The later years stabilized the institution, but before the paint was dry and things could settle - came a slap in the face via the formation of the academic colleges and the inexplicable exodus of students under the hypocritical banner: "access to higher education!" The Technological College participated in the founding and the celebrations of institutions and branches and was left to go its way without external financial support, mortally wounded. The fourth period has been characterized by creative

initiative and encouragement of specialized programs for industry, alongside creation of the Forum of Directors of Technological Colleges for practical engineers, which for the first time cried out almost in unison about the crisis in technological education and its impoverished and frustrated state. Without a doubt a change for the better will be needed in the future both in the funding for the system of practical engineers and in the dignity due to the field itself. What was the case in years past will not be the case any longer - and that is encouraging!

The Technological College of Be'er Sheva is the only post-secondary institution of education in the city which bears the name of Be'er Sheva in its title. Its growth from a center for vocational training and its wide-ranging educational enterprises, have paralleled the growth of the city. There, where the milkman with his cart hitched to a donkey used to deliver milk to the town's first residents, now rises the cyber-tech center of the State of Israel!









**The Technological  
College of  
Be'er Sheva**

**60 years of Technological Excellence**

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