

18/12/2018

Winter 2018 newsletter.

Greetings to all our friends and supporters from around the world

We are already past the halfway mark of the fall semester of 2018-2019 academic year and I would like to summarize some of the diverse activities that have kept us busy during the past few months.

This year we have expanded our international reach and have three new international Post-Doctoral Fellows who won the distinguished Zuckerman Post-Doctoral Fellowship enabling them to come and research at CSMS - Andrea Price, Mark Winter and Daniel Kilm.

The MSc program in the Department of Marine Technologies began this semester after its approval by the Council for Higher Education and the University of Haifa. Several new students have registered for this exciting new program, the only one of its kind in Israel, which focuses on using state-of-the-art technologies to further discoveries in the marine realm.

The school is constantly on the go and physical changes are continuing to facilitate and expand our research capacity. The new laboratory of Dr. Yoav Lehahn, from the Department of Marine Geosciences has been completed and Yoav is busy staffing and equipping it. Also moving into his new laboratory these past days is Dr. Emmanuel Nantet from the Department of Maritime Civilization.

In November, we inaugurated the second building of the ceremony attended by Mr. Morris Kahn, the President, Rector and other top University of Haifa administration. We are looking forward to have it buzzing with new Marine Biology faculty, staff, and students.



Newly recruited this fall is Dr. Nimrod Merom, who joins the Department of Maritime Civilizations and the Department of Archeology (shared tenure-track position). Nimrod recently won the distinguished Young ERC Fellowship. Welcome Nimrod. We wish you great success and hope that this new grant will provide fertile grounds for research and discoveries and an auspicious start to your scientific career at CSMS.

Speaking of new faculty – a call is out for two new faculty positions: one in the Department of Marine Technologies and the other for the Department of Marine Biology. These positions are planned to be filled by October 2019. We welcome the application of excellent candidates to these positions.

This semester brings with it the retirement of Prof. Mike Krom (Marine Biology) and Prof. Boris Katzenelson (Marine Geosciences). Fortunately, they are both staying with us and continue to develop new research projects and to supervise graduate students.

Congratulations are also in order to our academic faculty that have been promoted in the past six months: Dr. Tali Mass, Dr. Beverly Goodman-Tchernov, Prof. Danny Tchernov, Prof. Sarel Shalev, and Dr. Nicolas Waldmann.

Grants are an important foundation for exciting research and I would like to congratulate all researchers and students who have won grants these past few months and wish you success and good publications. Some of the recipients include: Prof. Asaf Yasur-Landau, Prof. Sarel Shalev, Prof. Morel Groper, Prof. Dan Tchernov, Dr. Itzik Makovsky, Dr. Roe Diamant, Dr. Tali Treibitz, Dr. Laura Steindler, Dr. Dror Angel, Dr. Nimrod Merom, and Dr. Tamar Lotan.

Two exciting conferences organized by CSMS faculty and staff took place these past two months. The first, organized by Drs. Regina Katzman and Itzik Makovsky and the dedicated CSMS staff led by project manager Bracha Zimmerman, brought internationally recognized scientists to the 14th international conference on "Gas in Marine Sediments" (GIMS 14). This was the first time this meeting was held in Israel and the scientific and social success of this conference inspired many compliments to the organizers by the 79 scientists and students who participated at the conference (34 from Israel) including well known international experts - some of whom have also expressed interest in coming to do research here.

The 6th Haifa Conference on the topic of “Tectonics in the Oceans” was held in November as a tribute to Prof. Zvi Ben Avraham the founding Head of the CSMS – who has retired from this position. Zvi will continue to lead the unique consortium of the Mediterranean Research Center of Israel to further developing partnerships and research on the Mediterranean and especially eastern Mediterranean. The meeting brought together an amazing crowd of distinguished scientists from around the world and ex-students and post-docs who came to honor Zvi. The two days were a huge success and kudos go to Dr. Uri Schattner, Bracha Zimmerman and the entire CSMS staff. As was commented by Itzik Makovsky – “It is hard to find such an event that brings together so many of the top names in the field - maybe only at a Noble Prize reception.”



This week the Department of Marine Technologies together with the Italian Embassy and the Israel Antiquities Authority held an extremely stimulating workshop entitled “*From Marine Archeology to Internet of Underwater Things*” highlighted some of the latest developments in underwater technologies from Italian and Israeli research groups – prompting discussions and potential collaborations.

And to all, I wish you happy winter holidays spent enjoying the break from routine and a Happy and Healthy New Year for 2019 to come.

Best Wishes.

Ilana