

Outreach

Technion attracts international students with classes in English.



Conferring are engineering Professor Arnon Bentur, local ATS member Harriet Cooper and Larry Jackier, chairman of the Technion International Board of Governors.

Leah Colmer

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Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa recently established its new international learning program geared toward attracting international students who come to Israel and want to study at the Technion in English.

Professor Arnon Bentur, dean of the faculty of civil and environmental engineering and the head of the Technion International School of Engineering, spoke about the English-speaking program at a recent gathering of Michigan's American Technion Society.

A four-year international English-speaking program already is in place in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, and other departments are quickly following suit in a variety of English-speaking programs, including biology, chemical engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, aerospace engineering, materials engineering and biotechnology and food engineering.

"The Technion's objective is to globalize its campus by having 1,000 international students within less than 10 years," Bentur said. "The benefits for the international students to study at a world-class

premier technological university are enormous, while the Israeli students will enjoy the added benefits of globalization, which is extremely important in the 21st century."

With accreditation by Israel's Council for Higher Education and courses identical to those of the Hebrew program, the Technion has already made strong strides globally, with international students currently representing 17 countries in the civil engineering program.

"Our experience at this stage clearly indicates that students from all over the world are interested in studying at the Technion, and having English-speaking programs will facilitate that," Bentur said.

Students who just want a brief experience in Israel can come to the Technion for a one-semester "study abroad" program. A one-year "Freshman Year of Engineering" program and a full four-year program are available and ideal for students who desire a longer education at the Technion.

Summer programs have been established as well. The first was "Engineering for Developing Communities" last summer, with half American students alongside a similar number of Israeli students.

For more information, call (248) 737-1990. □