



THE MISSION STATEMENT
STRENGTHENING
ISRAEL AND THE
JEWISH PEOPLE



Reichman University was founded with the aim of nurturing future leaders. In 30 years, we have created a pioneering and innovative academic center. Our students are imbued with a commitment to excellence and original thinking.

‘The university of the future’, as we see it, has to prepare its students for a constantly changing world by being able to innovate skillfully, to dare, and to initiate.

We believe that the knowledge and tools acquired at Reichman University support personal and professional goal fulfillment and enable our graduates to tackle the challenges of our global reality.”

Prof. Uriel Reichman,

Founding President and Chairperson
of the Board of Directors, Reichman University



דניאל חוסידימן | לונגום
DANIEL JUSIDMAN
CONFERENCE CENTER

דניאל חוסידימן לונגום
DANIEL JUSIDMAN
CONFERENCE CENTER

A group of five people are gathered outdoors in a park-like setting, laughing and talking. In the center is an older man with glasses and a black sweater. To his left are a woman with curly hair and a man in a light blue t-shirt. To his right are a woman laughing heartily, a man wearing a kippah, and another woman in a light blue shirt. The background features trees and greenery.

Strengthening Israel and the Jewish People: A Call to Action

The Vision

Amid a sharp rise in academic boycotts targeting Israeli institutions, Reichman University is taking action. Rather than lamenting, we are strengthening ties between Israel and the Jewish world, expanding international education, and continuing to lead in academia and research.

Reichman University is determined to establish a premier academic center for Jewish students worldwide — a place where they can study alongside Israelis, connect to the values of excellence and Zionism, and build a shared future.

Today, the university's Raphael Recanati International School is Israel's largest English-language academic hub, with thousands of Jewish students from around the world. Our goal is to expand these efforts, increase student enrollment, and develop academic partnerships with top global institutions.

As the world's only official Zionist university, Reichman University believes in turning challenges into opportunities. Now is the time to strengthen the bond between Israel and the global Jewish community, lead in scientific and social progress, and build a future defined by excellence, leadership, and the original values of Zionism.

We invite you to join us in a vision that will strengthen the future of Israel and its ties with the Jewish people worldwide. Together, we can turn the challenges we are facing into a historic opportunity.

Attracting world-class scientists

Bringing renowned researchers who are passionate about Israel to engage in groundbreaking research.

Strengthening ties with young students from around the world

Expanding the growing community of international students, currently numbering 2,500 young people from Jewish communities worldwide who are pursuing advanced degrees in English at a leading Zionist university.

The Goals

Increasing the number of international students by an **additional 1,000**, with a focus on attracting outstanding students from the Jewish world.

Boosting **scientific research** in collaboration with leading Jewish scholars from the world's top universities.

Building **international academic collaborations** with premier institutions and engaging distinguished academics who support Israel, particularly in the United States.



The foundations of the university were laid out from the start in the declaration of its establishment. We underscored interdisciplinary training, scientific and professional excellence, and a global outlook.

These three principles, certainly in the way they are manifested at the university, were a novelty in the Israeli academic world.

The reality of life is too complex to face challenges based on one-dimensional training. Therefore, we connected between different fields of study, granted joint degrees, and fostered interdisciplinary knowledge.”

Prof. Uriel Reichman,

Graduation ceremony, June 2019



Reichman University Student Dorms

From an Abandoned Base to a Bustling Campus

Reichman University was established on the site of an abandoned Israel Air Force base. There were dilapidated barracks and an old aircraft simulator, but certainly no classrooms. Prof. Reichman's partners in establishing the university remember the place "looking like an old encampment. In the winter there was no draining system along the paths, so rivers of mud would flow between the barracks."

Prof. Reichman, however, did not see the weeds and the neglect. He took the first campus visitors on a tour throughout which he enthusiastically pointed out where the various buildings would be erected. He told his visitors that one day they would be filled with students from all over the world, and that on this abandoned military base, a revolutionary institution like no other would be established.

30 years later, the campus pays homage not only to the future of the institution, but also to its past: Next to the carefully preserved historic barracks, buildings designed by the most renowned Israeli architects have been erected. They reflect the institution's history, maintaining simple, impressive but not ostentatious motifs, because, as Prof. Reichman says, "without modesty, there is no academy." The new and old buildings continue to be shaded by eucalyptus and cypress trees, while pine trees provide a canopy for the campus sculpture garden.

The university also pays tribute to its heritage through signs posted at the entrance to each building, providing explanations about its history, and the university's website contains sections dedicated to telling the story of each structure on campus.

“30 years ago I came to this place, which was a totally depleted military base and I announced that IDC (later called Reichman University) will become the Israeli Harvard. It was considered a lunacy. I had a belief that from this university the future leaders of our nation will emerge with a new agenda and a strong commitment to the future of our people.”

Prof. Uriel Reichman,

From "The Stories Behind the Place", May 2024

Innovation and Academic Excellence

Reichman University has always been a leader and pioneer in academic and technological innovation.

A Unique Academic Model

Reichman University was founded on the model of elite universities in the United States as a non-profit institution that chose to operate without government subsidies for higher education. Its activities are funded through tuition and donations, allowing the university to maintain academic and administrative freedom, and to be committed only to the students' welfare and education.

We believe that excellent research is essential. However, a university is more than just a research institution – it nurtures the nation's human capital. Reichman University views itself as a societal institution – rooted in society and serving it – and its primary mission is to train the next generation of leaders in all areas of life.

Training Future Leaders

Reichman University was founded for its students, with the goal of cultivating the future leadership of Israeli society. The students are at the heart of academic life, and accordingly, a strong emphasis is placed on direct engagement between faculty and students and on preparing students for the challenges that await them.

Guided by the principle of "Freedom and Responsibility," the university encourages students to maximize their potential and fulfill their dreams, while embracing responsibility and contributing to the society in which they live.

Integrating Academic Excellence with Real-World Experience

Reichman University is committed to enriching academic studies with practical experience, ensuring strong connections between research and the professional world. Through partnerships with leading companies and organizations, as well as guidance from industry-experienced faculty and mentors, students gain valuable insights and hands-on training.

This interdisciplinary education, combined with real-world exposure, equips graduates with the skills and experience needed to quickly and successfully integrate into both the public and private sectors.

Israel's Most International Academic Institution

The Raphael Recanati International School, the only institution of its kind in Israel, is home to approximately 2,500 students from 90 countries. According to the Council for Higher Education, this makes Reichman University the most international academic institution in Israel. The encounter between international and Israeli students creates lifelong social and professional networks while exposing students to diverse languages, cultures, and global perspectives.

The New Interdisciplinarity

Reichman University was the first to introduce the interdisciplinary approach – integrating disciplines within the social sciences – into Israeli academia, a model later adopted by other leading institutions. In recent years, the university has advanced the concept of the “new interdisciplinarity,” merging the social sciences with technology, computer science, neuroscience, and biology.

As part of this vision, a unique innovation center, the first of its kind in Israel, was established on campus. The center is dedicated to bringing together prominent researchers from diverse fields to collaborate in a shared research and learning space.

Top-Tier Faculty from Israel and Abroad

Reichman University attracts world-class lecturers and researchers who are drawn by the opportunity to be part of an innovative institution that is both Israeli and globally connected.

Since its establishment, the university has assembled a distinguished faculty, including leading academics from Israel and esteemed scholars from the world's top universities. Committed to excellence, Reichman University's lecturers continuously refine their curricula and teaching methods, contributing to the university's reputation as a research avant-garde.

Pioneering Academic Disciplines

Reichman University has established groundbreaking academic disciplines and research institutes that have earned international recognition and brought prestige to Israeli academia and the State of Israel.

These include the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism, the Zvi Meitar Institute for Technological Innovation, Law, and Ethics, the Zell Entrepreneurship Program, the Media Innovation Lab (milab), the School of Sustainability, and Israel's first and only undergraduate program in Entrepreneurship.

Fast Facts

Over **2,500** Raphael Recanati International School students from over **90** countries make up 1/3 of the Reichman University student body



Israel's first and only **private university**



The **Adelson School of Entrepreneurship** is the first school in Israel to award a full academic degree in entrepreneurship



Reichman University: **The most international university in Israel**



Over **38,000** **graduates worldwide**



The Israeli Council for Higher Education granted Reichman University permission to confer **doctoral degrees**



Reichman University operates a **radio station** at frequency 106.2 FM, where students from all schools broadcast in both Hebrew and English
<http://1062fm.co.il/en>



Over **48** **research institutes** at Reichman University



Timeline

- 1994 Prof. Uriel Reichman establishes IDC Herzliya, later to become Reichman University
- 1994 Establishment of the Harry Radzyner Law School
- 1995 Inauguration of the Arison School of Business
- 1995 Opening of the Efi Arazi School of Computer Science
- 1996 Launch of the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism
- 2000 Opening of the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy
- 2000 First "Herzliya Conference"
- 2001 Establishment of the Raphael Recanati International School
- 2001 Launch of the Entrepreneurship Club and the Zell Entrepreneurship Program
- 2006 Inauguration of the Sammy Ofer School of Communications
- 2006 Launch of the Argov Fellows Program for Leadership and Diplomacy
- 2007 Inaugural class of the Baruch Ivcher School of Psychology
- 2010 Opening of the Tiomkin School of Economics
- 2010 Launch of the Rabin Leadership Program
- 2012 Establishment of the School of Sustainability
- 2013 Founding of the Adelson School of Entrepreneurship
- 2014 Inauguration of the Aaron Institute for Economic Policy
- 2018 Approval received to grant Ph.D.'s
- 2020 Launch of the Graziella Drahi Innovation Center
- 2021 IDC Herzliya is officially recognized as a university and renamed Reichman University
- 2022 Launch of the Google and Reichman Tech School
- 2023 Opening of the Ruth and Meir Rosental Imaging Center
- 2025 Inaugural class of the Dina Recanati School of Medicine

Reichman University's Schools

Reichman University is home to a diverse range of academic schools, each fostering innovation, excellence, and interdisciplinary collaboration:

- **Harry Radzyner Law School**
- **Arison School of Business**
- **Efi Arazi School of Computer Science**
- **Tiomkin School of Economics**
- **Baruch Ivcher School of Psychology**
- **Sammy Ofer School of Communications**
- **Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy**
- **Adelson School of Entrepreneurship**
- **Raphael Recanati International School**
- **School of Sustainability (Founded by Israel Corp., ICL & ORL)**
- **Dina Recanati School of Medicine**

Each school offers a dynamic learning environment, world-class faculty, and cutting-edge research opportunities to prepare students for leadership in their respective fields.


Cultivating Leadership and Personal Excellence

At Reichman University, the commitment to cultivating the future leadership of the country is not just a slogan. It is manifested practically in our special acceptance criteria, which is based on personal excellence and leadership - in the military or in civilian life. We value candidates who have made outstanding achievements in business, art and sports, as well as in volunteerism and contribution to the community.

Even in the institution's early years, preference for admission was given to those who led and fought in elite IDF units and demonstrated leadership and excellence. Prof. Reichman always saw great importance in providing assistance to combat soldiers, and offered significant support to students who were forced to miss classes due to reserve duty.

Our commitment to fostering leadership is expressed not only in our embracing of those who have already demonstrated leadership qualities; alongside our support for those who have made significant contributions to society.

As part of this extensive support system, for many years Reichman University has been running the "Israel at Heart" program, founded by Joey Low – the only program of its kind in Israel, which has trained several dozen students from the Ethiopian community to take on leadership positions in Israeli society. Today, the program's alumni can be found serving as diplomats, top accountants and lawyers, psychologists and social activists.



We believe that our graduates will leave here with the intention to realize their aspirations, demonstrating entrepreneurship and independence, without any expectation that the government will solve their problems for them. Yet in the same breath we tell our graduates that a life without concern for those who are less fortunate than us, and without commitment to society and the state, is a life that is banal and lacking in meaning.”

Prof. Uriel Reichman,
Graduation ceremony, 2018

Higher, Stronger

In light of Reichman University's goal of cultivating future leaders, the institution also defined special admissions criteria for candidates who are outstanding athletes, whose achievements reflect traits and values such as perseverance, determination, realization of their personal potential, and contribution to the community.

Similar to elite universities in the United States, Reichman University offers a home for Olympic athletes seeking to incorporate academic studies into their demanding pursuits in professional sports.

Some of the top Israeli Olympic medalists and world champions are students and graduates of Reichman University, including Arik Ze'evi, Yael Arad, Ori Sasson, Sagi Muki, Hanna Minenko, Shahar Tzuberi, Nili Block, Inbal Pezaro, and many more.

The university boasts 30 teams made up of hundreds of students that compete in student athletic frameworks, in sports including futsal, soccer, basketball, beach volleyball, handball, karate, judo, windsurfing, tennis, chess, track and field, squash, swimming, and more.

Commitment to the Community

Reichman University is one of the leading academic institutions in Israel with regards to social involvement and student volunteering. Education towards responsibility and social entrepreneurship begins as early as the first week of school.

Many hundreds of students actively volunteer through the Student Union, and commitment to the local community is demonstrated by more than 1,000 students who volunteer in the city of Herzliya, including by providing assistance to the needy. In addition, a community clinic operating at the Baruch Ivcher School of Psychology provides subsidized treatments to the area's residents, both adults and children.

Social involvement is also incorporated into academics: the Reichman University campus is home to the largest number of legal clinics in Israel - providing legal aid to various groups in the community, from at-risk youth to small businesses.

Reichman University's Wartime Response

With the outbreak of the Iron Swords War, Reichman University mobilized its full resources to support both combat soldiers and the home front. Hundreds of students who were not drafted, along with alumni, faculty, and the entire university community, volunteered in numerous capacities to assist those in need.

An operations center was swiftly established to coordinate equipment collection for reservists, alongside a civilian public diplomacy center, a resilience hub providing immediate mental health support, and an agricultural volunteering network. Legal clinics were set up to offer legal counseling to residents of the south, while a dedicated project documented and translated testimonies from survivors of the attacks. Additionally, a career and employment assistance center was launched to support those whose livelihoods were impacted by the war.

Approximately half of Reichman University's student body enlisted for reserve duty at the outbreak of the war, marking the highest percentage of reservist mobilization among all universities in Israel.

Entrepreneurship as a mindset

Entrepreneurial education is central to Reichman University's activities, fostering entrepreneurship as a mindset and societal concept. Students are encouraged to challenge the status quo, take risks, and lead change.

The university offers specialized programs in business and social entrepreneurship, including the **Zell Entrepreneurship Program**, launched 20 years ago in collaboration with Sam Zell. Graduates have founded over 400 ventures, created 6,000+ jobs, and produced 13 unicorns.

The Miriam and Sheldon G. Adelson School of Entrepreneurship, established in 2016, reinforces Israel's status as the "Start-up Nation." Recognized by PitchBook, Reichman University ranks among the world's top institutions for entrepreneurship, shaping future innovators.

Reichman University's entrepreneurship bug is not limited to academic programs. **The Entrepreneurship Club** - a volunteer student group that operates within the framework of the Adelson School of Entrepreneurship - has been active on campus for many years. The club aims to encourage the spirit of entrepreneurship among students on campus. Its activities are varied and suitable for all students.

The Entrepreneurship Club maintains a strong network of connections with industry, and provides students not only with useful tools for the various fields of entrepreneurship, but also with connections with other entrepreneurial students and with influential figures in the technology and business worlds.

Unicorns * that emerged from Reichman University:

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* A privately held company valued at \$1 billion or more.



Leadership and Global Impact

At Reichman University, leadership and public diplomacy are driven by student initiative and global engagement.

In 2012, during **Operation Pillar of Defense**, students took action, launching a public diplomacy situation room to combat anti-Israel propaganda online. With 1,200 multilingual volunteers, their success led to the initiative's revival in 2014 during Operation Protective Edge. What began as a grassroots effort evolved into a global movement, backed by the university and the Israeli American Council (IAC), leading to the creation of Act-11—a digital platform empowering volunteers worldwide to defend Israel's image online.

Reichman University's global vision is further reflected in the Argov Fellows Program in Leadership and Diplomacy, honoring Ambassador Shlomo Argov, z"l. This prestigious program equips outstanding students with the expertise and skills to represent Israel and the Jewish people in the international arena, preparing them to lead and influence on a global scale.



We believe in entrepreneurship and an open society - entrepreneurship as a path to personal fulfillment and entrepreneurship for the benefit of the public. There is no contradiction between the two. Along with personal freedom comes social responsibility.

The State of Israel's strength comes from the commitment of its citizens. Working citizens, taxpayers, soldiers serving in the military. People who care for those who cannot care for themselves, people who are willing to fight for the ideals of humanity and democracy, social and political justice.

You, who will continue to live here in Israel and raise your children with the values of liberty and commitment to the future of society, you are the beating heart, the hope and the promise for the future."

Prof. Uriel Reichman,

Graduation ceremony, May 2013



The Raphael Recanati International School

The adoption of an international outlook has been a central pillar of the institution's approach from day one. At the foundation of this approach is the understanding that the economic future of the State of Israel, which is limited in its ability to trade with its neighbors, is dependent on its penetration into global markets.

We did not content ourselves with teaching our students languages and about international commerce and global technological developments, but actually turned Reichman University into a university with an international dimension, with thousands of students from 90 countries around the world.

Our deep connection to the Jewish world and commitment to fostering ties between Israeli and Jewish students worldwide led to the founding of the **Raphael Recanati International School (RRIS)**.

With 2,500 students (30% of the student body) pursuing full degrees in English, RRIS is Israel's leading academic institution for international students.

Most students come from Jewish communities abroad, driven by Zionist values, with over 50% making aliyah by graduation. Many serve in the IDF, while others return home as unofficial ambassadors for Israel, strengthening its ties with the global Jewish community.

Excellence in Teaching and Research

One of the cornerstones of the university's academic approach is progress and innovation, through the creation of new academic disciplines and applied and social research.

Reichman University was the first to introduce a comprehensive interdisciplinary approach to academia in Israel, combining different disciplines within the social sciences. Several other leading institutions subsequently adopted this method.

Reichman University was the first to teach the subject of entrepreneurship and the first to establish a school of entrepreneurship. We developed the new academic discipline of counter-terrorism, and we have redefined the study of communications, which today includes technology and robotics. The school of sustainability addresses not only land, water, pollution and food challenges, but also the issue of urbanization. The law school curriculum deals with the latest technologies and designs legal and regulatory measures that are relevant to our current reality. Our business and economics schools embrace the use of big data, and the school of psychology engages with advanced brain research labs. The school of computer science deals, inter alia, with bioinformatics, computer vision, cyber, and artificial intelligence.

These pursuits, and many others, are integrated with one other in the best of our interdisciplinary tradition, and together they have led to the creation of a unique innovation center that is reshaping the social sciences.

Global Reputation

In the 30 years of its existence, the university has built itself a worldwide reputation and gained widespread recognition as a research-intensive institution. This status has also been achieved thanks to cooperation agreements and student exchange programs with more than 140 leading universities around the world, including the University of Pennsylvania, UC Berkeley, Columbia, and the National University of Singapore.

Reichman University has also gained worldwide recognition for its academic innovation and creativity, for which it is considered a top university in the social sciences. The prestigious Times of Higher Education ranking placed Reichman University between the 601-800 leading institutions in the world, and between 251-300 in the field of psychology.

According to the Shanghai Ranking, Reichman University ranks in the 101-150 category in the field of political science. The university is also an active member of important consortia such as the McDonnell International Scholars Academy (headed by Washington University in St. Louis) and the Law Schools Global League.

Dina Recanati School of Medicine

Educating the Physicians of Tomorrow

Reichman University's Dina Recanati School of Medicine was founded to address Israel's growing physician shortage and provide future doctors with an innovative, multidisciplinary, and patient-centered medical education. The school offers a four-year MD program for holders of undergraduate degrees. Its inaugural cohort began their studies in February 2025.

In collaboration with Israel's leading medical institutions — Rabin Medical Center, Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel, Sheba Medical Center, the Edmond and Lily Safra Children's Hospital, Clalit Health Services, and Maccabi Healthcare Services — the program integrates cutting-edge technologies, small-group learning, and early clinical exposure. Students gain hands-on experience from week one, with a special focus on community-based medical training and interdisciplinary collaboration.

The Dina Recanati School of Medicine is shaping the future of healthcare in Israel and beyond — training compassionate, innovative, and highly skilled physicians for the next generation.



A Unique Partnership with Students

Reichman University was established with a core belief that students are key partners in the academic journey. From day one, we have emphasized direct, meaningful contact with students, preparing them for the professional and intellectual challenges ahead. As Prof. Reichman stated, “We look at the students as partners, not subordinates or customers.” This partnership is built on honest communication, mutual respect, and supporting student initiatives that shape the institution’s future.

Our unique learning experience begins with the beautiful campus, which has been thoughtfully designed to foster both academic and social growth. The campus is undergoing rapid innovation and digitization, integrating advanced technologies into teaching methods. Reichman University remains forward-thinking, constantly searching for new opportunities and challenges.

Orientation and Support for Students

One of the highlights of Reichman University is its dedicated **Orientation Week**, which helps first-year students quickly acclimate to the academic world. Veteran students mentor new students, offering workshops on study skills and guiding them through campus resources. Orientation also includes meetings with faculty and deans, tours, social activities, and community service.

Beyond academics, Reichman University provides an array of extracurricular and social activities, professional workshops, and applied courses designed to help students thrive in their personal and professional lives. **The Lea and Naftali Ben-Yehuda Accessibility and Study Skills Center** offers services for students with physical, emotional, or cognitive disabilities, providing academic coaching, guidance, and mindfulness exercises.



Our success is, first and foremost, because the students put their trust in us. The students came to study here because they saw that we made enormous efforts to build an innovative institution, full of life, with a spirit of modern pioneering, openness and humanity.”

Prof. Uriel Reichman,

Graduation ceremony, June 2019

Career Preparation and Alumni Community

The Career Center at Reichman University is dedicated to supporting students and alumni in finding employment within their fields of study. It offers job search assistance, resume updates, interview simulations, and access to job fairs with leading companies. The center ensures students are well-prepared for the ever-evolving workforce.

Additionally, the Tools program complements the university's academic curriculum by equipping students with practical skills. This program, in collaboration with industry experts, offers enrichment courses in time management, project management, programming, financial literacy, and cyber skills. These courses prepare students for real-world challenges and the rapidly changing job market.

The Alumni Network

The relationship between Reichman University and its students extends well beyond graduation. Founded in 1998, the Alumni Association now boasts over 36,000 members. Each year, approximately 1,800 new graduates join, creating a professional and social community grounded in a sense of pride and belonging. The Alumni Association is dedicated to developing its members and strengthening their connection to the university, fostering solidarity and a deep commitment to the State of Israel.

Reichman University stands apart for its commitment to students, fostering a collaborative, innovative environment that prepares them for success both during and after their studies.





Research Influencing Policy and Decision-Making

Many Israeli lecturers and researchers who have taught at the world's top universities have been riveted by the opportunity to be part of a new and innovative Israeli institution that is also globally connected. About a third of the university's permanent faculty members completed their doctorates at the most prestigious universities in the world, including the University of Chicago, Oxford, Cambridge, UC Berkeley, Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania, and more.

Our researchers publish articles in the most prominent journals and appear at important international conferences. In recent years, hundreds of research grants have been awarded to Reichman University's faculty members, including the prestigious European Research Grants (ERC).

The research institutes operating under the university's auspices also embody the connection to the world of practice. The institutes conduct in-depth and up-to-the-minute research, which is placed on the desks of Israeli decision-makers and policymakers, assisting them in formulating national policy on various levels.

The Institute for Policy and Strategy (IPS), which convenes the Annual Herzliya Conference Series, formulates policy recommendations on issues of national importance, in particular in the areas of strategy, foreign policy and international relations, regional processes and diplomatic agreements, intelligence, government, and trends in the Jewish world. Its work is based on an integrative and comprehensive vision, centered on the understanding that the State of Israel's confrontation with the strategic and security challenges it faces requires cohesion and the consolidation of its societal and national strength.

The institute, headed by Maj. Gen. (Res.) Amos Gilead, examines the interplay of the various components that make up the mosaic of national resilience, with the aim of presenting an accurate and up-to-date picture and producing policy insights and alternatives for decision makers, opinion leaders, and other policy makers in Israel and around the world.

The International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) supported by the Jusidman Foundation, is one of the world's leading centers of excellence engaging in research and teaching on the subject of terrorism, and the only research institute specializing exclusively in this topic. Since its inception, it has worked to develop and formulate innovative policies and strategies for tackling the phenomenon of global terrorism, through applied academic research, conferences and seminars, advising decision makers, outreach and educational activities, discussion and brainstorming forums, and the building and operation of databases.

The institute has established a unique database that includes tens of thousands of data points on terrorist organizations, their activities, and counter-terrorism; it also produces regular statistical reports. The institute, founded by Prof. Boaz Ganor, serves as an international forum for academics, policy makers and security officials from around the globe.

The Aaron Institute for Economic Policy, headed by Prof. Zvi Eckstein, has set itself the goal of fostering economic growth and social resilience in Israel. The institute's economists, in collaboration with government ministries, produce policy papers aimed at identifying the weaknesses of the Israeli economy and formulating reforms that support growth and reduce poverty. The institute's research is supported by a scientific committee that approves plans for policy research and their publication. The knowledge gained from the research is used to formulate applied, long-term work plans with a broad macroeconomic impact, to be implemented by policy makers.

The G City Real Estate Institute was founded with the aim of being the chief academic platform in Israel for the study of real estate. Its extensive activities include conducting academic research, creating new indices, holding conferences, seminars, forums, and round tables, and hosting delegations. The institute collaborates with leading academic institutions and organizations dealing with the subject of real estate, both in Israel and internationally.

The Zvi Meitar Institute for Legal Implications of Emerging Technologies studies the interface between technology, science and society. It works to raise public awareness on these issues by advancing legislation and writing position papers focusing on the legal, ethical and social implications of technological innovation in general and of new and evolving technologies in particular.

The Rubinstein Center for Constitutional Challenges and **the Institute for Liberty and Responsibility**, are research and knowledge hubs addressing key challenges on the national agenda.



The Revolution in Israeli Higher Education

In 1990, Israel's academic institutions collectively had only 75,000 students pursuing degrees. Today, that number has grown into the hundreds of thousands. Before 1994, higher education was largely inaccessible to most Israeli citizens, with opportunities limited to those from the wealthiest sectors of society. The privileged could afford to study abroad in Europe or the UK, while the majority were denied social mobility and academic advancement.

The shift in higher education began in 1990, with an amendment to the Israel Bar Association Law that allowed for the establishment of "extra-budgetary" law schools to train lawyers without requiring a traditional academic degree.

This move signaled a rejection of academia's exclusivity and paved the way for the creation of independent colleges, transforming Israel's higher education system.

One of the first of these new institutions, "Ramot Mishpat," was founded by **Prof. Uriel Reichman**, the outgoing dean of Tel Aviv University Law School at the time.

In 1994, a significant turning point came in Israeli academia, seeking to address the social inequality caused by thousands of Israelis needing to study abroad to earn academic degrees. Two years earlier the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation, was passed in the Knesset.

Prof. Reichman was able to implement his vision. He founded the **Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya (later renamed Reichman University)**, which was the first academic institution established by private initiative to gain recognition as an accredited institution by the Council of Higher Education.

This opened the door for new academic institutions seeking accreditation to grant degrees.

Prof. Reichman didn't stop there. He fought for 27 years to be the first to gain recognition as a fully accredited, private university.

Prof. Uriel Reichman

Prof. Uriel Reichman is the son of Gerda and Alfred Reichman, who immigrated to Israel from Germany and were working people all their lives.

The values he learned in his parents' home, including Zionism and love of country, hard work, integrity, and humanity, were the compass for his public and educational endeavors. These values also guided him when he embarked on a journey about which he said years later he may not have had the courage to embark on had he known what challenges lay ahead.

In 1994, Prof. Reichman, then 52, found himself at a crossroads. He had behind him a tumultuous decade of public and academic activity; the campaign he led for the Movement for a Constitution in Israel, which aimed to have a constitution passed by the Knesset, was a huge public success, but his recommendations, which the Knesset adopted only partially and after enacting changes, did not bear the fruit he had hoped for. He had completed a successful term as dean of the Tel Aviv University Law School and four years as the founding president of Ramot Mishpat Law School, the first college of law in Israel.

Prof. Reichman believed that the time was ripe to establish a private university in Israel, one that was not subsidized by the government. He envisioned a university that was free to teach what it wanted to, and that would not be subject to the national academic plan as dictated by the Council for Higher Education, whose role he believed should be only to oversee the academic level of the university he had in mind.

He foresaw a university that would be allowed to pay an appropriate and fair salary to its faculty members according to their level, and not according to what Reichman called the "bird guide" of the civil service.

A university where professors knew that their salaries were paid by the students and that the university was indeed established mainly for the students. A university that would bring home the best Israeli professors who had left to work at elite universities in the United States. For such freedom, Reichman believed, it was worth taking a risk.

From its inception, Reichman University posed a challenge to other universities, and its efforts and innovations have impacted the entire academic landscape in Israel.

The cold shoulder that Prof. Reichman received for many years from the leaders of the veteran university establishment did not deter him or slow his momentum. The innovation and academic boldness that characterized his work and the institution itself left their mark on the entire system of Israeli academia.

In 2019, this was expressed officially, when the Council for Higher Education decided to grant an award to demonstrate its appreciation for Reichman University.

Recognition of Contributions to Higher Education

The Council for Higher Education (CHE) honored Prof. Uriel Reichman for his unique contributions to Israeli higher education, stating:

“ Prof. Reichman played a pivotal role in the transformation that led to the flourishing of colleges in Israel. As a pioneer who founded an independent academic institution not supported by the government, his actions enabled the academic system to grow, creating a new model of non-subsidized institutions alongside the subsidized colleges. He paved the way for the development of higher education in Israel that does not rely on public funding. Following his initiative, additional institutions were founded, but it is clear that Prof. Reichman is the mentor who influenced the entire system, and the impact of his work will continue to shape its future development.”

“ Prof. Reichman established his institution with an impressive academic vision that, over 25 years ago, introduced interdisciplinary studies — still a rarity in Israeli academia at the time. This initiative influenced academic discourse, research, and teaching across the entire higher education system in Israel.”

“ The establishment of the International School is another noteworthy aspect of Prof. Reichman’s legacy. Every year, hundreds of students from around the world come to study in English, combining academic excellence with Zionist values and strengthening the connection between Israel and the Diaspora. Today, approximately 2,000 students from 86 countries study at the International School, which has become an important center for immigration and absorption. About two-thirds of the graduates remain in Israel, many of whom enlist in the IDF. This school stands as a pioneering endeavor by Prof. Reichman and can serve as a model for other Israeli institutions of higher education.”

