

External Studies

Professional Development

The professional development unit, as its name implies, offers professional development for teachers and other professionals in the education system, and leads processes of educational and technological innovation. In 2017-2018, the unit offered the following programs:

- **Training program for school principals:** In the 2017-2018 school year, two groups completed the training program for principals offered in conjunction with the Avney Roshia Institute for School Leadership. One of the groups was made up of seasoned principals, for which a special program was designed. This year, for the third time, the OUI submission to the RFP by the Ministry of Education and Avney Roshia was chosen for running this program at academic institutions.
- **Training program for inclusion coordinators in elementary and junior high schools:** Following the ratification of the Dorner law, the RFP submission by the Unit for Professional Development was chosen for the three-year national program to train employees in the education system for the new position of inclusion coordinator. The role provides leadership in developing routines and academic skills for individuals and leading processes of differentiated instruction. Subsequent to the RFP, thirty programs were opened throughout the country.
- **Etgarim:** The OUI implemented the Etgarim program this year in Arab sector schools. The program emphasizes developing a strong school leadership. Program participants applied the principles and skills learned to spearhead pedagogical, educational, and organizational changes among staff and in the school as a whole.

Additional programs:

- A teacher training program in psychology, in anticipation of integrating the new curriculum.
- Special programs for pedagogical coordinators in secondary education.
- Training elementary school teachers to teach computer science and robotics in 4th-6th grades. The training took place throughout the country, in all sectors (Jewish, Arab, Druze, and Bedouin).
- A creative writing course, To Write a Life Story, together with a mentoring program for teachers on sabbatical who are interested in expanding their writing skills in different fields.

External Studies Center (Ma'aleh)

Ascolot – School of Interdisciplinary Studies

At Ascolot, registration increased this year by 14%, to 27,870 students. In addition to the existing Ascolot forums – The Government and Strategy Forum chaired by Maj. Gen. (res.) Eitan Ben-Eliahu, and the Legal Forum chaired by Yuval Yoaz, Adv. – this year, the Forum of Former Heads of the National Security Council was added, discussing the national strength of Israel from different perspectives. The forum was quite successful.

The Ascolot Pre-Premiere Movie Series continues to develop and serve movie lovers who come to see quality films and hear lectures about their content from leading lecturers. This year, a joint venture was created with Tzavta – The Home of Israeli Culture, for Hebrew Creative Arts, instructed by Noam Semel, combining lectures by renowned scholars, performances of songs composed by the best Israeli performers, and excerpts of poetry read by actors. A new field developing at Ascolot is brain research. This year, new courses in this field were offered at all branches, taught by Dr. Yossi Halamish and Dr. Roy Tirosh.

Hasifa – School of Communication, Television, and Multimedia

Hasifa offers several study tracks, some of which are recognized for academic credits towards bachelor's degrees. The school is a partner in the OUI Center for Media Studies. During the past year, Hasifa held two fascinating evening programs – one on the subject of e-sport, and the other, "Daring and Digital! The Net Series You Won't See on Television" – in conjunction with the Center for Media Studies.

This year, Hasifa opened two new courses: Operating Multirotor Drones and Aerial Photography, and From an Idea to a Book – Creative Writing, with the writers Nir Baram and Yossi Sucari. At the conclusion of the course, a booklet was produced with the first fruits of the work by graduates of the course.

A graduate of the Hasifa program in film directing was invited to screen her first film, produced within the framework of her studies, at the Haifa Film Festival. Another graduate showed her film at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque. Likewise, the school held two concluding exhibitions of work by graduates of the programs in computer game development, digital graphic design, and post-production editing.

Tafnit – Continuing Education for Managers

Tafnit continued to expand its programs this year. Professions such as business consulting, human resource management, group facilitation, information management and mental training are witnessing rapid growth in the number of registrants, the volume of programming, and their positioning as core professions. In addition to its programs in the private sector, Tafnit also conducted quality programs with leading entities and organizations in industry, and management workshops throughout Israel. The school hosts the OUI Enterprise Forum, through which it offers its programs to managers and businesspeople from around the country.

Diploma – Certificate Studies

Diploma offers professional training in a variety of fields, such as tourism, accounting, event management, and design. For some fields, Diploma prepares its students for the licensing exams. The Center for Interior Design Studies, the largest program, allows students to include short modules rather than taking a full program. Subjects include interior design and planning, furniture design, lighting design, and home decor.

Dialog – School of Languages

Dialog offers many courses to different sectors and business organizations around the country. In the business sector this year, it conducted a wide range of programming for a variety of companies. The school conducted training for senior management in conjunction with a national program that helps Israeli representatives improve their English communication skills for work with foreign entities and international media. The training is offered via private lessons for senior officials and officers in the Israel Police, through courses and workshops for senior civil servants in the management of the Ministry of Health, private tutoring for emissaries from the Ministry of Economy and Industry and members of their families, etc. Training courses were also held in Arabic for people holding various positions in the Israel Police, in the Israel Tax Authority, in the Ministry of Agriculture, etc. Courses in other languages (Hebrew, Russian, Spanish, and French) were successfully offered to businesses and companies.

Meirav – School Of Complementary Medicine

Meirav has developed enrichment courses and new content matter in the fields of complementary medicine, personal enrichment, and individual empowerment for the private sector. The school also offers courses in the field of complementary medicine for organizations in the business sector, in accordance with the needs of each organization.

Beit Daniel

Beit Daniel hosted a variety of one-day and multiple-day programs in 2017-2018. These included continuing education courses for musicians of all ages, in all fields of music – woodwind, country, chamber, and classical music, and orchestra. Three musical weekends were held for the general public, led by Smadar Carmi-Giberman, focusing on pieces by Bach, composers from the ancient world to the Baroque period, and the works of Schumann, Brahms, and Richard Strauss.

This year, Beit Daniel hosted academic and educational institutions, held symposia, conferences, and meetings between lecturers and students from Israel and around the world; annual conferences of academic departments and faculties; continuing education and in-service courses for teachers; annual work planning sessions; and professional training program on various topics. Beit Daniel was the site for academic departments to host researchers from other universities: The Text and Context Workshop of the History, Philosophy and Judaic Studies Department, as well as the Inter-University Workshop of the Sociology, Political Science and Communication Department. Likewise, a symposium took place for OUI master's degree students on Biological Thought, and workshops were conducted for the university's administrative departments.

During the year, social, artistic, and community organizations, non-profit organizations, public entities, and businesses held programs such as workshops for managers and employees, conferences on professional issues, training sessions and continuing education courses, activities for building team spirit, and singing and creative workshops.



Photo: Gideon Markowicz