

Kaye Academic College of Education **Internationalization News** 

Issue no. 4

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# The College's International Website

In 2016, Kaye College's international website was launched – a dynamic and current website that includes extensive information about the College and its internationalization activities. It even features a virtual tour of the College (link). The website's address is: http://www.kaye-college.org/.



The purpose of this newsletter is to provide the members of the academic and administrative faculty, as well as the students at Kaye College, information about the various internationalization projects taking place at the college in the fields of education and research.

To view all issues of the newsletter, <u>click here</u>.

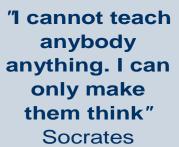
For inquiries and suggestions, please contact Liron Ohayon-Shokty by email: <u>lirons@kaye.ac.il</u> Enjoy!

# Comprehensive Brochure about the College

As part of their writing proficiency course, English department students, under the guidance of Dr. Inna Smirnov, produced a brochure containing information about Kaye College, the educational system in Israel, the city of Be'er Sheva, and interesting destinations and shopping options in the region. The project was part of a PBL assignment, to address an authentic need to provide information to visitors and guests at the College. This following the department's experience with the exchange students arrangement last year.

The brochure was a successful production and appears in both printed and online versions. It can be viewed here:

http://www.kaye-college.org/be-ersheva-and-the-negev



## Links:

Link to Kaye College's International Website

Link to the College's brochure

Link to Prezi slideshow about the College in English

Link to PPT slideshow about the College (downloadable)

Link to annual magazines in English:

<u>Academic Innovation in</u> <u>Education</u>





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## **The PROTEACH Program**

By: Dr. Haya Kaplan and Rachel Zafrir

The PROTEACH (Promoting Teachers' Success in their Induction Period) program focuses on the initial experience of recent graduates and new teachers. The program is the result of collaboration between 11 academic institutions in Israel and Europe, and The Division for Internship and Entering into the Teaching Profession, Ministry of Education. The program members representing Kaye College in 2017 includes Dr. Chaya Kaplan, Rachel Zafrir, Dafna Guvrin, Vardit Israel and Dr. Shulamit Fischer. The program is being carried out with the additional involvement of the Research Authority and Dr. Mark Appelbaum. At Kaye College, the project takes place as part of the experimental program of Kaye's Novice Teachers Induction Unit, partnered with The Division for Internship and Entering into the Teaching Profession, Ministry of Education.

#### The partners in Israel are:

The Division for Internship and Entering into the Teaching Profession, Ministry of Education, Mofet Institute, the school of research, curriculum and program development for education and teaching professionals at the colleges; Kaye Academic College of Education; Sakhnin College, an academic college for training teaching professionals; Gordon College of Education; Beit Berl Academic College; Kibbutzim College; Talpiyot Academic College.

#### The European partners are:

University of Bucharest (UB), Romania; University of Exeter, England; Tallinn University, Estonia; The University of Salzburg, ["Paris-Lodron Universität Salzburg"] (PLUS), Austria.

The program was created in order to address a need to improve the induction process that recent graduates and new teachers undergo, and to increase the rate of teachers who remain in the teaching profession during the first five years of their career. The early years of teaching have a decisive influence on shaping the teacher's professional identity and on his or her motivation to persevere in teaching. The program's objectives include: improvement of the quality of teacher training at the academic institutes in Israel by forging partnerships with schools and policy shapers connected to the teacher induction process; listening to the concerns of new teachers and empowering them as active partners characterized by initiative and proactivity; increasing the number of new teachers that remain in education, advancing their integration into schools and their contribution to the educational system.

As part of its part in the program, Kaye College is leading the development of the pedagogic program (preparation of content, methods and activities), as well as formulating and accompanying activities to disseminate and preserve the results in the future (dissemination and exploitation). During the three years that the program has been running, the model and plans of action that are derived will be processed and improved. Groups of new teachers will be formulated from 12 schools throughout Israel, composed of 180 new teachers and 450 total participants. Expected results: 1) Establishment of internal, inter-institutional frameworks for mutual study; 2) Empowerment of the new teachers as the central players in their own induction process at the schools; 3) Raising the rate of teachers who remain at the schools included in the program; 4) Incorporation of the principles of this model in teacher training programs at academic institutions, provision of accreditation to these programs and adoption of the model and its principles by the key policy makers.



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

## **Project IN2IT**

At the beginning of the 2015-2016 academic year, the College joined the consortium of a three-year international project called IN2IT. The project aims to develop and apply an innovative technological infrastructure that will be used to advance internationalization efforts at institutions of higher education. The IN2IT project is the continuation of the Tempus IRIS internationalization project at the institutions of higher education, in which the College is participating for its third year. The new project will also be a three-year program, during which the practical tools for internationalization will be expanded at Israeli institutions of higher education, educational, teaching, research and training capabilities will be strengthened, and the quality and status of governmentfunded Israeli academic colleges of higher education will be improved. The development of this technological platform will enable the achievement of three primary goals that will facilitate the advancement of international academic connections: joint development of multidisciplinary international study programs; development and application of joint knowledge centers that will be online, interactive and international, and the development of international collaboration between academia and industry.

As part of the project, funded by the European Union under Erasmus Plus, four new international courses will be opened:

- 1. Essential Skills (soft skills)
- 2. English for Internationalization Purposes (led by Kaye College)
- 3. Embracing Diversity
- 4. Global Entrepreneurship

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## **Collaboration Agreement with University of Texas at San Antonio**

Professor Rosalind Horowitz is a member of the academic faculty of the Department of Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching and of the faculty of the Department of Educational Psychology at University of Texas at San Antonio, in the United States. She visited Be'er Sheva in December and met lecturers, students and the President of the College. During this visit, a creative partnership was forged between Kaye College and UTSA, and lecturers from Kaye's English Department plan to collaborate with Prof. Horowitz on the subject of literacy with a focus on borders and their ramifications.

As part of their collaboration, led jointly by Dr. Doron Narkis from the English Department and Prof. Rosalind Horowitz from UTSA, teaching students from the Negev and from Southern Texas will research their history and its ramifications on the development of their personal and professional identities, the development of a dual-national identity and the aspiration of teaching English as a second language.

This partnership, anchored by a bilateral agreement signed recently between the two institutions, will be developed over the next few years. It will serve as a means of researching and acquiring information that will accompany and enrich the pedagogy dealing with borders and the training for teachers who will eventually be teaching diverse, developing bilingual populations living in border areas.



Dr. Horowitz, Dr. Doron Narkis and students from the "Post-Colonial English" Course

## Visits to Schools Overseas

The School for Advanced Studies is currently organizing trips for the students and lecturers to visit University of Bristol in England and University of Tampere in Finland. The purpose of these visits is to become familiar with the educational system (by visiting the university, schools and study centers) and to speak with the faculty members and education students pursuing a Master's degree.

## **Fulbright Program**

The US government's Fulbright program is one of the most famous and prestigious programs in the world for student and lecturer exchanges. The program is considered the flagship of the American government and its graduates have left their mark on the academic world. Among the Fulbright graduates in Israel, two have won Nobel Prizes.

The Fulbright program in Israel offers a series of core programs and unique programs. The core programs are not limited to specific topics or disciplines and are meant for excellent scholars from all of the areas of knowledge at the forefront of the research world today. Out of a commitment to social responsibility, the various programs are asked to advance populations and areas that are not adequately represented in academia.

For information about the different programs, visit the Fulbright website: <u>http://fulbright.org.il/he/awards/3</u>

# Joint Online Project with York St. John University, England

By: Regina Benchetrit and Dr. Merav Asaf

For the past three years, we have enjoyed academic collaboration between the students of the English Department at Kaye College and the Department of Theology at York St. John University (YSJU) in England.

At first, the collaborative efforts involved Jewish students at Kaye College corresponding with students at YSJU in a course on the topic of Judaism. Last year, the project was expanded and included both Arab and Jewish students discussing various topics related to their customs in Judaism and Islam.

Most of the correspondence was done via a forum on the module platform, in addition to a few Skype conversations during which the students could "meet" each other.

The objective of this collaboration is to facilitate an authentic environment for communicating in English and to present a model of how technology can be used for learning. Most of the students expressed their satisfaction regarding their participation in the project and felt that their involvement contributed to them both personally and professionally.



Online communication between the English Department students and students from YSJU





University of Tampere, Finland last year

## Visit to University of Opole, Poland

### By: Dr. Inna Smirnov and Regina Benchetrit

Two faculty members from the English Department at Kaye College, Dr. Inna Smirnov and Ms. Regina Benchetrit, visited University of Opole for the second time this past December as part of a mobility agreement signed between the two institutions.

During the visit, two workshops were held for English Studies students during which Kaye College, the English Department and facts about Israel and Be'er Sheva were presented. One of the workshops focused on the topic of equal opportunities in education, teamwork and creative thinking, while the second workshop dealt with raising awareness among the students of the perceptions of pupils with unique scholastic needs and their emotional characteristics.

In addition, several meetings were held with Dr. Elżbieta Szymańska-Czaplak, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the Faculty of Philology at University of Opole; Dr. Magdalena Shiska, University of Opole; Mr. Michael Vanka from the Institute of Sociology, University of Opole. The following collaborative opportunities were discussed:

- Collaboration on the topic of multiculturalism between students at Kaye College and students at the Institute of Sociology, University of Opole.
- Student exchanges (2-4 students on each side) for a short period of time.
- Two Skype meetings between the Israeli and Polish students, focusing on the similarities and differences between the educational systems in Poland and Israel, as well as methodologies related to teaching English as a second language.
- The Polish colleagues will visit Kaye College in May 2017. The visit will include meeting with students at Kaye College, visiting schools and a workshop on methodology issues.
- In March 2017, representatives from Kaye College will visit University of Opole for the third time to follow up their previous visit.
- A joint research project between the faculties of the two intuitions was raised.

To conclude, the second visit to University of Opole was a success. We hope to continue to broaden the collaboration between the two institutions.



Dr. Smirnov and Ms. Benchetrit during their visit to University of Opole

## Colleagues Come to Visit from John Abbott College, Canada

In January, colleagues from John Abbott College in Quebec, Canada visited the College. As part of their visit to Israel, the institution's representatives met with various organizations involved in humanitarian efforts, and visited Kaye as an institute that champions inclusion and multiculturalism.

The delegation included faculty members from the Canadian institution and two German colleagues. The delegation met with members of the internationalization staff at the College and practical issues related to inclusion, coexistence and multiculturalism at the College were addressed.

The visitors were very impressed with the diverse activity at Kaye College and by our rich, sustainable experience in multicultural learning and coexistence.

We are currently discussing various options for international collaboration.



## UK Task Force Visits Kaye Academic College of Education in Be'er Sheva

By: Merav Raz

In February, the UK Task Force delegation landed in Israel for a visit and closer look at coexistence in the Negev. Kaye Academic College of Education was one of the places the task force chose to visit, in order to witness the cooperation between Jewish and Bedouin students firsthand.

The UK Task Force on issues relating to Arab citizens of Israel is umbrella coalition of an organizations that are dedicated to the welfare of Israel and its security. objectives include raising Its among the Jewish awareness community in the UK of issues related to Arab citizens of Israel and to assist in establishing partnerships that promote equal opportunities for the Arab minority in Israel.

The coalition was established in 2010 March bv several organizations that constitute its Executive Committee, including: The Board of Deputies of British Jews, New Israel Fund UK, Pears Foundation. The UK Friends of the Abraham Fund Initiatives and the United Jewish Israel Appeal. The UK Task Force is modeled after the North American Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues (IATF).

In February 2017, a delegation of the UK Task Force arrived for a visit in Israel to learn and research issues related to the Bedouin community in the Negev. The delegation included representatives of Jewish community leaders in Britain, rabbis, youth workers, representatives of charities, business people and philanthropists. As part of their

study tour of the Negev, the group visited Kaye Academic College of Education in Be'er Sheva, which maintains a unique educational model to advance coexistence between Jewish and Bedouin students. The delegation was welcomed by students who learn in the various tracks who took them on a tour of the campus. The tour included explanations of the different fields of study and specializations, as well as descriptions of the special atmosphere at the college and the unique projects that bring Jews and Bedouins to study and enjoy interactive activities together.

Later on, the delegation was addressed by Prof. Lea Kozminsky, President of the college, who presented the college's vision of coexistence and its academic achievements over its 63 years of operation.

The members of the delegation were moved by the personal account of Dr. Amal Abu-Saad, who recounted her experience as a student at Kaye College who later returned to the college as a lecturer and became the head of the Kindergarten Education Training Program for the Bedouin sector. They also heard the story of Ibrahim Izberga, a student in the English department who, in the face of personal challenges, decided to

drop out of the college, and was supported by the college and the Dean of Students, who refused to "give up on him."

Lior, a student in the Regev Excellence Program, spoke of his personal experience encountering students from a different culture, his friendship with them and the idea of interacting with those who are different than yourself.

Luvna Jarjawy, a graduate of Kaye College, described her successful and empowering experience studying at Kaye College. Ms. Toni Rickenback, Director of the UK Task Force, thanked Prof. Kozminsky on behalf of the entire delegation for the warm welcome and stated that they had been deeply moved by Kaye College and its breakthrough approach that combines academic excellence with social and community action.



#### What's Coming Up in the Next Issue?

- ✓ Development of a new international collaborative course on teaching English for internationalization purposes.
- ✓ International collaboration between Kaye's English Department and University of Texas.
- Expansion of teaching and research connections with European institutions in Poland and Austria.
- ✓ New collaboration with John Abbott University in Canada.
- ✓ New collaboration with HAN University in Holland.



"Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony"

Mahatma Gandhi