



# THE VIEW FROM YU

**MAR  
2024**





Moshe Lion, Mayor of Jerusalem, and Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman, President, Yeshiva University

## YU Stands Together with Israel

### Mayor of Jerusalem Visits YU

**Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman**, President of Yeshiva University, had the honor of hosting **Moshe Lion**, the Mayor of Jerusalem, on the Wilf Campus on March 6. Following a campus tour and meetings with YU administrators and rebbeim, Mayor Lion addressed students at the Glueck Beit Midrash, expressing his support for YU in Israel. This recently launched four-year undergraduate program, developed in collaboration with leading Israeli universities, was praised by Mayor Lion, who deemed the initiative “essential for both the future of Jerusalem and Israel.” [VIEW RECAP](#)

### Former MIT Professor Joins YU

**Dr. Mauricio Karchmer**, who resigned from his position as a computer science professor at MIT in December due to concerns over



antisemitism, has joined Yeshiva University. Since Feb. 20, Dr. Karchmer has been teaching Portfolio Management and Mathematics for Computer Science at the Sy Syms School of Business.

In an event welcoming Dr. Karchmer to the University, Dr. Berman highlighted the significance of the former MIT professor's new position at YU in light of recent events. “There are moments in time when history invites us to participate in its very unfolding,” President Berman remarked. “This is such a moment.” [READ MORE](#)

## New and Notable

### YU-Affiliated Einstein College of Medicine Receives Transformative Gift

The YU-affiliated Albert Einstein College of Medicine has received a landmark \$1 billion gift from philanthropist **Dr. Ruth L. Gottesman**, Chair of the Einstein Board of Trustees, a Montefiore Health System board member and professor emerita of pediatrics at Einstein. The gift ensures free tuition for all students. President Berman hailed this as a pivotal moment, praising the Gottesman family's visionary contribution to Einstein's mission of making a top-tier medical education accessible to all students. [READ MORE](#)

### Dual Degree MBA Programs

The Sy Syms School of Business is launching dual degree programs with Cardozo School of Law (JD+MBA) and the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (*Semikha+* MBA). The former, launching in fall 2024, will develop business-fluent legal talent; the latter, open since 2023, hones the organizational skills of future rabbinic leaders and executives in nonprofit sectors.



# New and Notable

## Dor L'Dor Programs for Men and Women

On Feb. 19, for the second year in a row, YU's Undergraduate Torah Studies (UTS) hosted the Dor L'Dor event at the Glueck Beit Midrash on the Wilf Campus, bringing together more than 200 fathers, sons—and even grandfathers—for a day of intergenerational learning across all four UTS programs. Alongside the undergraduate Dor L'Dor program, Day of Learning events were also held for YU and RIETS alumni.

On Feb. 25, the Stern College Office of Torah and Spiritual Life and YU's Office of Alumni Affairs offered its first Dor L'Dor Yom Iyun event, "Come Learn at Stern," for women on Beren Campus, attracting over 150 participants, including alumnae of YU, and current Stern College students and their female relatives. The enthusiastic response to both events underscores the Dor L'Dor programs' success in nurturing a deep, intergenerational connection to Torah study within the YU community.



Dr. Dara Horn (second from left) with Stern College honors students.

## Acclaimed Author Dr. Dara Horn Speaks at Stern College

On Feb. 5, the Straus Center, along with Stern College's S. Daniel Abraham Honors Program, hosted distinguished author **Dr. Dara Horn** for the annual Hillel Rogoff Memorial Lecture. Addressing a packed audience of over 150, Dr. Horn delivered a compelling lecture on "The Final Solution to the Jewish Question: Becoming Prosemitic in a Haunted World." She eloquently concluded her talk by emphasizing the necessity of reintegrating Jewish history into mainstream textbooks,

noting that a true understanding of Western civilization is incomplete without a deep appreciation of Judaism. [READ MORE](#)

## Taking Torah to the Skies

Passengers of EL AL, the Israeli national airline, can now listen to audio recordings of YUTorah, which debuted as an online platform of Torah study more than 20 years ago. Passengers have in-flight access to shiurim [classes] from YUTorah's personalities, rabbis and scholars. [READ MORE](#)

## Sy Syms Year in Review

On Feb. 12, **Dean Noam Wasserman** presented the "State of Sy Syms 2024" webinar, offering an in-depth look at the school's achievements since 2021. The online event covered key milestones from the 2023 Double-Chai Anniversary, recent enrollment trends, major fields of study, job placement rates and innovative programs like the JD+MBA with Cardozo and the *Semikha*+MBA with RIETS. [VIEW WEBINAR](#)

## New and Notable



### Stomp Out the Stigma

An uplifting message of unity and compassion was central to the “Stomp Out the Stigma” event held at Lamport Auditorium on the Wilf Campus on Feb. 27. Co-organized by Active Minds and YU’s Counseling Center, the Office of Student Life and the University’s student councils, the annual program featured guest speaker **Jeffrey Schottenstein**, founder and CEO of TACKMA and son of Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein, longtime supporters and members of the Yeshiva University family. Schottenstein delivered the program’s opening remarks which touched upon his own struggles with anxiety and depression during his college years. His retelling of his journey was followed by three student speakers, who bravely navigated mental health challenges of their own and who lit up the room with their strength, courage and humor—earning applause from their peers. Addressing an audience of over 700, their message was clear: with the right

support, we can all achieve a brighter future. To inspire further, Schottenstein gifted Stomp Out the Stigma sweatshirts and copies of *The Art of Being You* to all students attending.



Kwanza Jones, guest of honor, addresses audience at the 14th annual BALLSA celebration.

### Annual BALLSA Awards

On Feb. 28, the 14th Annual BALLSA Dinner celebrated **Kwanza Jones** '99C, founder and CEO of the Kwanza Jones and Jose E. Feliciano Initiative. The event, organized by the Black, Asian and Latino Law Students Association (BALLSA) Alumni Group, included the presentation of the BALLSA Scholarship awards to four students: **3L Rachel Barkley**, **3L Tatiana Sterling**, **2L Samantha Sánchez** and **3L Lizzy (Adesimisola) Tijani**. The Morrison Cohen law firm presented its inaugural Morrison Cohen Summer Award, created to support a third-year law student in preparing for the bar exam, to **Sydney Clarke**. [READ MORE](#)

# Students, Faculty & Alumni

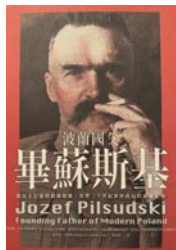
## Katz School Chair Awarded \$600K NIH Grant



The National Institutes of Health has awarded a \$600,000 grant to **Dr. Honggang Wang**, chair of the Katz School's Department of Computer Science and Engineering, to develop an

artificial intelligence platform capable of identifying patterns in longitudinal dietary data. The platform, named the Innovative Pattern Analysis Tool, would use a novel machine-learning algorithm to enable comparisons between individual and population-level dietary patterns that, in turn, would generate evidence for dietary guidelines. [READ MORE](#)

## YU Author Reaches New Readership



**Dr. Joshua Zimmerman**, the Eli and Diana Zborowski Professorial Chair in Holocaust Studies and East European Jewish History, recently celebrated the Mandarin Chinese translation of his book,

*Józef Pilsudski: Founding Father of Modern Poland*. This definitive biography, now accessible to readers in Taiwan, chronicles the life of the military leader and statesman pivotal to Poland's 1918 independence and a proponent of Ukrainian statehood. In addition to his acclaimed biography of Pilsudski, Dr. Zimmerman is the author of several books, including *The Polish Underground and the Jews, 1939–1945*, and has written for *Politico* and *The Times of Israel*.

## YU Library Award Now Open to Honors Theses

Applications for the Student Library Research Award are now being accepted, with an important update for this year's



program. For the first time, honors students from the Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein Honors Program at Yeshiva College and the S. Daniel

Abraham Honors Program at Stern College for Women can submit their theses and senior projects for consideration.

Applications for general undergraduates must be submitted by April 18. [READ MORE](#) Honors students have until July 1.

[READ MORE](#)



## Young Diplomats Tackle Global Issues

From Feb. 11 -13, YU hosted the 34th National Model United Nations (YUNMUN) event in Stamford, CT, attracting more than 320 high school delegates from 42 schools across the U.S., Canada and Brazil. Through simulated U.N. committee debates on diverse topics such as cyber warfare and climate change, the three-day immersive conference gave students a rich opportunity to hone their debating skills and deepen their understanding about the complex world of international diplomacy.



# Upcoming Events

Visit [yu.edu/events/all](https://yu.edu/events/all) to learn more about the programs listed here.

## Cybersecurity with Amir Zilberstein

Wednesday, March 20  
5 – 8:30 p.m.  
Yagoda Commons  
Beren Campus

## Red Sarachek Basketball Tournament

Thursday, March 28 –  
Monday, April 1  
Max Stern Athletic Center  
Wilf Campus

## Suicide Prevention and Resiliency: An Evening for Practitioners

Thursday, April 4 / 6 – 8 p.m.  
Weissberg Commons  
Wilf Campus

## Women on Wall Street Panel

Monday, April 8 / 7 – 8 p.m.  
Gottesman Board Room  
Beren Campus

## The Dream Dinner

Tuesday, April 9 / 6 p.m.  
Shevet Glaubach Center  
Furst Hall, Room 501  
Wilf Campus

## Yeshiva College Dramatics Society Hound of the Baskervilles

Sunday, April 14 –  
Thursday, April 18  
Performances begin at 7 p.m.;  
Sunday, April 14 at 5 p.m.  
Schottenstein Center Theater

## Stern College Spring Musicale

Monday, April 15  
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Koch Auditorium  
Beren Campus



## Together with Israel

For the latest news and information on University initiatives, resources and events in support of Israel, please visit [yu.edu/togetherwithisrael](https://yu.edu/togetherwithisrael).

## Students Win Big at UC Berkeley Hackathon



Two Katz School AI students took first prize at the 2023 UC Berkeley AI Summit Generative AI Hackathon for solving a complex business problem using the latest in generative AI in under two hours.

### Niranjan Kumar Kishore

and **Tharun Prabhakar** competed against more than 100 students and working professionals from companies such as Broadcom, Ciena, Cisco, Electronic Arts, Johnson & Johnson, Meta, Optum and Wipro as well as representatives from Arizona State University, Babson College, University of California Davis and University of California Berkeley. The duo won in the “College Student, Data Scientists or Comp Sci” category, with each receiving \$1,000. [READ MORE](#)



## Financial Planning in Your 20s

Described by some attendees as an “eye-opening” event, the recent financial management workshop for young alumni drew an enthusiastic crowd ready to better navigate their personal finances and the specific financial realities of living an Orthodox life. Seasoned professionals shared insights and offered candid advice across a range of money matters from deciphering mortgage rates to keeping a personal profit and loss statement. The event was co-sponsored by the Office of Alumni Affairs, the Sy Syms School of Business and the Young Alumni Council.

[READ MORE](#)



Yeshiva University

