



Technion-Israel Institute of Technology: The Engine Driving Israel's High-Tech-Based Economy

"The Technion is the premier start-up university"
Saul Singer, co-author of *Start-Up Nation*

Israel's stunning rise in the high-tech arena can be largely credited to the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, supplier of the innovative scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs and creative technologies.

The Technion has earned a global reputation for its pioneering work in nanotechnology, life sciences, stem-cell technology, water management, sustainable energy, information technology, biotechnology, materials engineering and aerospace. It is one of just 10 universities in the world that has built and launched a satellite. It is also one of only five similar institutes worldwide that include a medical school, encouraging rapid progress in biotechnology, drug development, and stem-cell technology.

Companies including Google, Microsoft, IBM, Qualcomm, Yahoo!, Hewlett-Packard and others established their operation near or even on campus, where they can take advantage of the Technion's research power and outstanding graduates. The Technion is ranked as the top Israeli university (#59 overall) on Reuters' 2016 list of "The World's 100 Most Innovative Universities." In an August 2013 report by Bloomberg Rankings, the Technion was named one of the "Top 10 Colleges for Tech CEOs." The Technion (tied for #7) is the only university outside of the U.S. on the list.

To focus interdisciplinary effort on research in priority subjects, the Technion — with funding from the American Technion Society — has established a growing network of research centers in such fields as nanotechnology, energy, water, life sciences, autonomous systems, aerospace, software and neuroscience.

The Technion's 553 faculty members include renowned experts from universities around the world; in turn, its faculty members serve as visiting scientists in major universities and research centers worldwide.

Its more than 10,000 undergraduate and more than 4,200 graduate students include a growing number of students from around the world. They study in the Technion's 18 faculties and 60 research centers and institutes. A growing number

of foreign students are attracted to the Technion's reputation and its special international programs in civil engineering and medicine.

Founded in 1912, the Technion is Israel's oldest institution of higher learning. As such, it has been closely linked with the country's development, providing the education and expertise that built its infrastructure, created its military might and turned the desert into orange groves. Today, it is Israel's primary source for the scientists, engineers and applied research that drive its technology-based economy and secures its citizens against terrorism.

The Technion Research and Development Foundation (TRDF) manages university research programs and performs testing and research services for industry and government. T³, the technology transfer arm of TRDF, takes the Technion's groundbreaking scientific ideas and matches them with investors and entrepreneurs. T³ aims to foster commercial investment through the licensing of intellectual property and the establishment of start up companies. A stream of novel products and processes with export potential is constantly emerging from the Technion.

The Technion's influence is known the world over, and a growing number of universities, municipalities and businesses are eager to partner with it. One that speaks volumes about the Technion's reputation is its partnership with Cornell University to create a new applied science educational institution in New York City. At the very heart of this initiative is the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute (Jacobs Institute), which offers a dual master's degree from both universities, and which is expected to help create tens of thousands of jobs and businesses. Already operating in space in the Google Building in Chelsea, the Jacobs Institute (and Cornell Tech) will move later in 2017 to the campus currently under construction on New York City's Roosevelt Island.

Another prime example of the Technion's burgeoning global influence is its joint venture with Shantou University to build a new academic facility in China called the Guangdong Technion-Israel Institute of Technology (GTIIT). This partnership is viewed by many as part of the broader movement of globalization now sweeping the academic world. Courses will begin in September 2017, and the GTIIT campus is scheduled to open in June 2018.

As Israel's center for high-technology education and research, the Technion is central to the nation's economic progress. As the premier institute of its kind in the region, Technion breakthroughs can benefit all the nations of the Middle East. And as a world-class research university, the Technion helps advance the frontiers of science and technology to benefit people around the world.

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