

Draft (Jordan)

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPE REMARKS FOR DEDICATION OF
BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL
MAY 1996

Thank you for including me as you ~~join to~~ celebrate the dedication of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev's [phon?] Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School. ~~Although~~ I am sorry I can't be with you today, ^{but} I very much appreciate the opportunity to speak to you about an institution that is ~~so~~ vitally important to Israel and to the diverse community it serves ~~with such~~ dedication. for.

*Quality
nurses*
A nation is only as strong as its children are healthy, and Ben-Gurion University Medical School has had a profound impact on the lives of countless families throughout Israel. Every year, 10,000 women come to your training hospital in Beer-Sheva to give birth ~~to their babies~~. The pre-natal care unit ~~has helped to~~ reduce infant mortality and disease. ^{and} The University's outreach programs ~~tend to~~ ^{enhance} the well-being of the entire community.

In the 22 years since its founding, Ben-Gurion University Medical School has become a model for countries around the world who turn to you for inspiration and guidance. By teaching your physicians to consider ~~their~~ patients in the context of their families, their communities and their cultures, you've done more than transform health care in the Negev region. You have set a new standard for community health care and integrated medical training throughout the world.

By working in partnership with other countries in the Middle East to develop health care programs, Ben Gurion University Medical School has helped to build the bonds that lead to lasting peace. The work you are doing now is an irreplaceable part of that process.

Through your dedication and the generosity of the Goldman family, Ben-Gurion University's Medical School will finally have the home it deserves. The Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School will continue to show the world what community health care can achieve in the lives of ~~the~~ people who need it ~~so badly most~~.

~~I am honored to have been a part of this very special occasion, and I thank all of you for inviting me.~~

###

Thank you for ~~the~~ work you do everyday, and that you will continue to do in the months & years

ahead >



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May 6, 1996

TO: Sabrina Corlett (hope that's right)

FROM: Carla Schein

This was the suggestion from Dr. Braverman:

President, Dr. Braverman,

Chairman of the Board, Lord Widenfeld of Chelsea

Honorary Chairman of the Board, Kreitman

and members of the Goldman and Sonnenfeldt families.

TO: Sabrina Corlette SIXTEEN PAGES INCLUDING THIS
FROM: Myra Cohen, Public Relations,
American Associates Ben Gurion University of the Negev
DATE: 3/8/96
RE: Video Taping for Ben Gurion Medical School

Attached is information about the Ben Gurion University Medical School and the university itself. We will not have final clearance on the name of the school until later today. I will fax you that info as soon as I have it, either today or Monday morning.

Here are some suggested talking points:

- * The generous gift of the Goldman family to the Ben Gurion University of the Negev Medical School will become an endowment to support the ongoing academic and physical development of the Medical School and will be used to construct the new campus. Their gift will help the school continue its vital work which services not just the area, but communities around the world.
- * The BGU Medical School is unique in Israel, focusing on community medicine with a special emphasis on human values. It is no ivory tower institution but plays a vital role in planning and providing health care for residents of the Negev, and it is involved in health-care projects around the region and the Middle East which raise the standard of health care and build bridges of peace.
- * In its 22 years of existence, Ben Gurion University's Medical School has transformed health care in the Negev Desert, serving the distinct needs of its varied communities - immigrants from North Africa, Ethiopia, India, Europe, North and South America and the Republics of the former Soviet Union as well as Bedouin Arabs and native Israeli Jews.
- * The reputation and achievements of the BGU Medical School have impacted countries all over the globe. The school has developed creative models for other institutions both in Israel and abroad, including Harvard University.
- * In the 21st century, Ben Gurion University Medical School will play an even greater role in the world of nations. Its work has been, and will continue to be, a benefit of peace, an incentive for achieving harmony in the Middle East.

We are very proud that the First Lady has agreed to be a part of the dedication of the University's new medical complex. Her video taped message will have great meaning for the staff, faculty and American Associates of the University as well as for the Goldman family whose generosity we want to acknowledge.

If you need any further information, please call me. Can we look at the script before taping? I look forward to hearing from you.

48

OFFICE OF SCHEDULING FOR THE FIRST LADY

DATE 2/5

ORGANIZATION/ EVENT	ISRAEL'S Ben-GURION University
DATE	Last week in March
LOCATION	Israel
EVENT DESCRIPTION	
STATUS	ACCEPT _____ REGRET _____ PENDING _____ VIDEO _____ LETTER _____
CONTACT	Ken Ben Ari 212-687-7721
NOTES	- Funding - Nat'l American Assoc. for Ben Gurion Univ. 6-8008 ✓ OK - <u>Bill to:</u> AABGU 342 Madison Ave Ste 1224 NY NY 10143 212-687-7721 - <u>SEND TO:</u> Same



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342 Madison Avenue, Suite 1224, New York, NY 10173

Contact:
~~Ken Ben-Ari~~
212-687-7721

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FAX: #202/ 456-2461

December 5, 1995

Ms. Holly Nichlas
WHITE HOUSE SCHEDULING OFFICE
Washington, DC

Dear Ms. Nichlas:

I have been asked by the President of Israel's Ben-Gurion University to initiate, through your good offices, a request to schedule a video taping session for the First Lady. I understand that this invitation has already been presented to Mrs. Clinton by BGU President Braverman and Mrs. Esther Coopersmith, and that she has graciously accepted.

On the occasion of our dedication of the University's new Medical School complex -- before our International Board of Governors -- Mrs. Clinton's 3-4 minute message would speak to these paramount issues:

- "BGU's Innovations in Community-Based Medicine" and
- "Building Bridges of Peace to the World"

I am standing by to proceed with whatever logistical or other assistance I can offer to place this on your calendar. I look forward to speaking with you and to facilitating any arrangements you might suggest.

Sincerely,

Ken Ben-Ari
Director of Public Information

Most innovative
letter from
Melanne to UMW.

Jan or February

FOHRC
FOVP

Florida
into the
american
leader

world
peace
in
may
Israel

AM Associates
for

Goldman
family

PAL format
NTS
Beta

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev was founded by the government of Israel in 1969 -- mandated to promote development of the region, and inspired by the vision of Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, who believed that the country's future lay to the South.

Today, entering its second quarter century, BGU is a major academic and research center with campuses in Beersheva and Sde Boker, moving toward a student enrollment of 12,000 by the end of this decade. Its four faculties: Engineering Sciences, Health Sciences, Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences. It also incorporates the Institutes for Applied Research, the Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research and the Ben-Gurion Research Center.

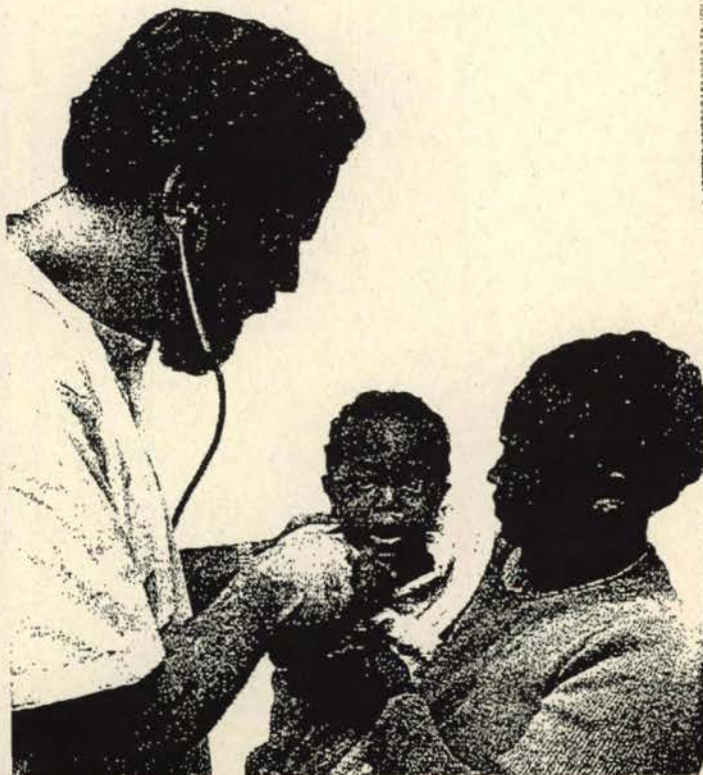
In keeping with its mandate, Ben-Gurion University has been a catalyst for economic growth, as well as a provider of healthcare, social outreach and education throughout the Negev. BGU is a world leader in desert agriculture while, through partnerships with Israel's neighbors, it helps to build a new Middle East.

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The Faculty of Health Sciences, founded in 1974, is located in the Soroka Medical Center complex, close to the University. Its establishment transformed health care in the Negev. Its innovative medical education program integrates academic theory with clinical care, from the first year of study. The School is strongly focused on community medicine, with a special emphasis on human values. Students train and work in Beersheva and in development towns, kibbutzim and Bedouin encampments across the Negev.

There are three Divisions of the Faculty: Health in the Community, Basic Medical Services, and Clinical Medicine. The Faculty offers graduate degrees in Medical Science. The Recanati School for Community Health Professions is also part of the Faculty.

Faculty researchers are involved in health-care projects around the region and in the Middle East.



STUDENTS

Approximately 50% of BCU's students originate from the southern part of the country. New immigrant students, at all levels, are being absorbed in BCU departments -- with a number of retraining programs offered to immigrant scientists and physicians.

Dormitory facilities are offered at two sites adjacent to the main campus. The Reitman Sports Center, with sports facilities, serves the University and the community.



COMMUNITY ACTION

As the acknowledged leader in this field among Israeli universities, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev sponsors a host of innovative programs as part of its outreach service. All students who receive financial aid from BCU commit themselves to participating in one of the University's wide range of social action programs, which include the "Perach" One-to-One Tutorial Program, the Open Apartments Project, in which BCU students live in underprivileged neighborhoods and serve as part-time community workers; the "Kidma" (Progress) Program, which promotes the advancement of new immigrants from Ethiopia; the Newstart Program, a high-school equivalency program for young adults; the Leadership Training Program; a special program of Assistance to the Elderly, the Matriculation Examination Program for the Bedouin Sector, and other diverse activities among the Negev community.

17TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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Business Wire

January 25, 1990, Thursday

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LENGTH: 353 words

HEADLINE: Dean of innovative medical school in Israel to speak at UCSF

DATELINE: SAN FRANCISCO

BODY:

Shimon M. Glick, MD, who heads a medical school in Israel that has gained international attention for its unique approach to training doctors, will discuss the program on Tuesday, Jan. 30, noon, at UC San Francisco, Room 301 of the Health Sciences West Building (enter at 513 Parnassus Ave.).

Glick is dean of the School of Medicine, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva. The title of his talk is "The Beer Sheva Experiment: A Novel Approach to Medicine."

The Ben-Gurion University medical program is small, relatively new and considered one of the most innovative in the world. Its emphasis is training doctors in community medicine and involving them early on in their studies with the patients and communities they serve. The school provides health care throughout the Negev, which is half of Israel's land, although sparsely populated.

* Health care experts and doctors from around the world, particularly lesser-developed countries, visit Ben-Gurion University to learn how to apply the unique community approach to their own countries' needs.

At UCSF on Jan. 30, the Beer Sheva program will be examined in the context of health care expenditures per capita, which are about one-fourth of those in the United States, and a semi-socialized system of physician reimbursement.

Glick, 57, was born and educated in the United States. He received his medical degree in 1955 from State University of New York - Downstate Medical Department, where he later served on the clinical faculty. He also served as chief of medical services at Coney Island Hospital, 1967 to 1974.

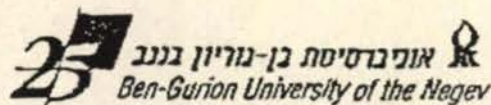
He joined the faculty of Ben-Gurion University in 1974 and served as chairman of the division of medicine from 1974 to 1983. He became dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at Ben-Gurion in 1986.

Glick's talk is sponsored at UCSF by the Office of Student and Curricular Affairs, Office of Medical Education, the Division of General Internal Medicine, and the Institute for Health Policy Studies.

Business Wire, January 25, 1990

CONTACT: University of California San Francisco
Carol Fox, 415/476-2557

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH



The School of Medicine

Introduction

The Negev Desert comprises over 60% of the land of Israel. Its residents (numbering over 400,000) comprise one of the most unusual ethnic mixtures in the world. Who are the people of the Negev? They are immigrants from North Africa, Ethiopia, India, Europe, North and South America and the Republics of the former Soviet Union; they are Bedouin Arabs and Jews born in Israel.

In a small corner of this desert, the Medical School of Ben-Gurion University has become a beacon to countries throughout the world. The establishment of the Medical School in 1974, located "temporarily" in Beer-Sheva's Soroka Hospital (which services the entire population of the Negev), brought major changes to the world of medical education and substantially improved health care in the Negev.



The orientation of this school ... provides the rest of the world with an extraordinary model for research, education and service. [It] brings a realism into the health and education system that we sorely lack in the United States.

Philip R. Lee M.D.
U.S. Asst. Secretary for
Health, 1994



Executive Summary

An "experiment" in medical education was launched in Beer-Sheva some 21 years ago, with the establishment of Ben-Gurion University's new Medical School. The Medical School sought to attain a balance between medical education, medical science and medical care by emphasizing the human perspective. It pioneered a new kind of medical education designed to train a physician who is sensitive to personal and community needs while, at the same time, scientifically enlightened.

The experiment has been an overwhelming success; Israel's youngest medical school is also its most distinctive in terms of medical education and community health. In its short history, BGU's Medical School has become a model for medical education throughout the world.

- Its special emphasis on human values has engendered a group of medical care professionals who are well-trained in medicine while displaying empathy, compassion and a holistic attitude to their patients.
- The expertise in medical education developed at BGU's Medical School has gained a world-wide reputation. Medical educators and organizations from Australia, Russia, Sweden, Ecuador, the United States and a host of other countries have turned to BGU's Medical School for assistance in establishing new programs.
- An integral part of the medical education program is the emphasis on research. Clinical and basic biomedical research programs have been developed in collaboration with other departments of the University and most physicians perform clinical or basic research, in addition to normal patient care.
- Medical students are taught to assume responsibility for the health care of the population. The emphasis on primary care and community medicine – along with the initiation of educational and intervention programs – have had a pronounced effect on raising the standards and quality of medical care in the Negev.
- The Medical School pioneered a variety of educational programs tailored for specific purposes. These include courses for doctors from the former Soviet Union and continuing medical education for medical professionals from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. Medical students from dozens of countries from the developing and the developed world have come to Beer-Sheva to study at the Medical School of Ben-Gurion University. The University, in addition, conducts numerous courses overseas.

The achievements of the Medical School might well be called miraculous. Although it is one of the youngest, smallest and least-funded medical schools in the Western world, it

has made a considerable impact upon the medical professions. It has never had a home of its own; throughout its 21 years it has been located in "temporary" quarters in the Soroka Hospital and in other buildings scattered about the vicinity of the University and the Hospital.

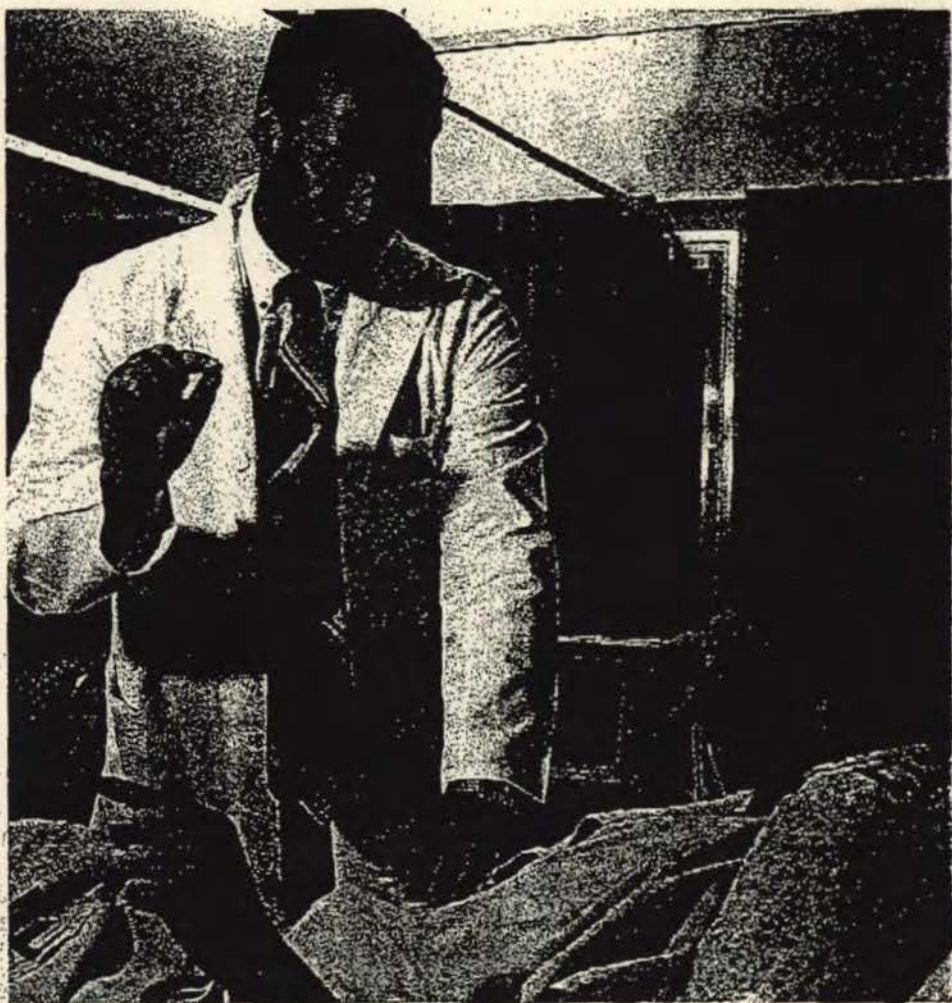
BGU's Medical School looks forward to meeting the 21st century in a new campus and with far-reaching plans for further contributions and innovations. It also has a heightened responsibility; the head of the Harvard University Medical School's New Pathway Program stated after a recent visit: "*The name 'Beer-Sheva Experiment' is wrong. You are the Beer-Sheva Model!*"

B a b y B u s i n e s s

The Soroka Medical Center in Beer-Sheva has the busiest labor room in Israel. The reason for this is that it serves an enormous area from Kiryat Gat to Eilat, with a large Bedouin population which accounts for about forty percent of the births. More than 10,000 women give birth here every year, which is more than double any other major center in Israel. A dynamic perinatal care unit has been developed at Soroka, which specializes in high risk pregnancies. Despite the enormous pressures, they have been successful in reducing morbidity and mortality in the region. One of the most important diseases associated with high risk pregnancy is diabetes and Soroka has a special diabetes outpatient clinic headed by Dr. Arnon Wiznitzer.

Dr. Wiznitzer is an alumnus of Ben-Gurion University's Faculty of Health Sciences. He received his M.D. in its third graduating class and continued there, specializing in Obstetrics and Gynecology. After completing his studies, he traveled to the U.S. and for a year and a half worked under E. Albert Reece at Temple University Medical School in Philadelphia. It was there that he began his research on pregnancy and diabetes. Upon returning to Israel he took a position at BGU's Medical School and Soroka, where he established the outpatient clinic for diabetes and pregnancy.

Several types of diabetes are associated with pregnancy. The most well known is gestational diabetes, in which a normally healthy mother becomes diabetic during pregnancy. This is believed to be caused by hormones produced during pregnancy. Today, with close medical supervision during pregnancy, these women have normal babies. The two other types of diabetes involve diabetic women who become pregnant. These women must be extremely careful that their glucose level is balanced around the time they plan to conceive a child. If not, they have a 4-6 times greater chance of giving birth



Dr. Arnon Wiznitzer

to a baby with congenital malformations. One of the roles of Dr. Wiznitzer's clinic is to provide preconceptional counseling to these diabetic women, three months before a planned pregnancy, to discuss ways to carefully balance their glucose levels.

Dr. Arnon Wiznitzer's research group is attempting to discover the cause of these congenital malformations, a research project which he began in Philadelphia with Reece. He says, "The cause could be a high glucose level or some other metabolites whose levels change during pregnancy." His research points strongly to the latter explanation, because his group has shown experimentally

that a lack of unsaturated fatty acids is a major cause of malformations. The question they asked was whether, by adding unsaturated fatty acids to the diet of diabetic rats, they could prevent congenital malformations. Their experiments showed that by supplementing their diet with fish oil, which contains arachidonic acid, neural tube defects could be dramatically reduced.

However, adding fatty acids to the diet of the rats doesn't completely bring the number of defects down to the background level. This suggests that something else is probably involved. His research team is currently examining the possibility that free oxygen

The Beer-Sheva Experiment

This extraordinary development in Israel is without parallel. It is most unlikely that the events which have taken place there could occur in any other country. ... It is the history of Israel, the culture of the Jewish people, with its emphasis on health and admiration for the medical profession, and the nature of Israeli society that have created the Beer-Sheva experience. No two countries are the same but no country has any greater claim to uniqueness than Israel has.

Willoughby Lathem, Editor
"The Future of Academic Community Medicine in
Developing Countries"
Rockefeller Foundation, New York. 1974

Ben-Gurion University set out in 1974 to create a unique medical institution - a Medical School which was to be the major component of the new Faculty of Health Sciences. Created under extremely adverse economic and psychological conditions, the Medical School accepted its first students immediately after the Yom Kippur War.

Its program marked a dramatic departure from conventional institutions for medical education. In order to counter the trend toward training specialists who tend to focus on only the "sick" part of the patient, and whose services are rendered in large central hospitals, the new medical school presented a so-called experimental program. Its goals were:

- To train its students to be aware not only of their patients' medical problems, but of their psychological and social backgrounds as well. The patient is regarded as a human being - part of a family, a community and a culture - factors which must be taken into account when treating the illness.
- To assume responsibility for the health care of the population of the Negev by delivering medical services of the highest standards both in the hospital and in the community.
- To hire and train first-rate clinicians and health-care professionals and to support continuing medical education programs for practicing physicians and other health professionals.

- To conduct clinical and basic biomedical research of the highest standards as well as to establish programs for health economics and policy, health promotion and disease prevention.

The result of this effort has become a model of medical education and the Medical School of Ben-Gurion University is now a world leader in the field of community medicine. The "experiment" in medical education is, in reality, a radical return to its roots wherein the physician cares for the patient as well as the illness.

It is clear at this still early stage of the experiment that your reforms have had a significant impact on your own student body at Ben-Gurion as well as on the three other medical schools in Israel. Moreover, your reforms have provided an important model for a number of third-world nations. You have had marked success in selecting and educating medical students who are interested more in treating individuals than diseases.

Eli Ginzburg
A. Barton Professor Emeritus of
Economics, and Director,
Conservation for Human
Resources
Columbia University, NY



The Academic World and the Community

I had a number of discussions with your young graduates and was most impressed. ... You have instilled two significant ambitions into them. ... On the one hand you have succeeded in giving them a sense of the needs of their communities and their responsibilities to help meet these needs. I felt that you have achieved this more effectively than anywhere else I have encountered. ...

But on the other hand you have also instilled into them an ambition to practice medicine at the highest level of quality of which they are capable.

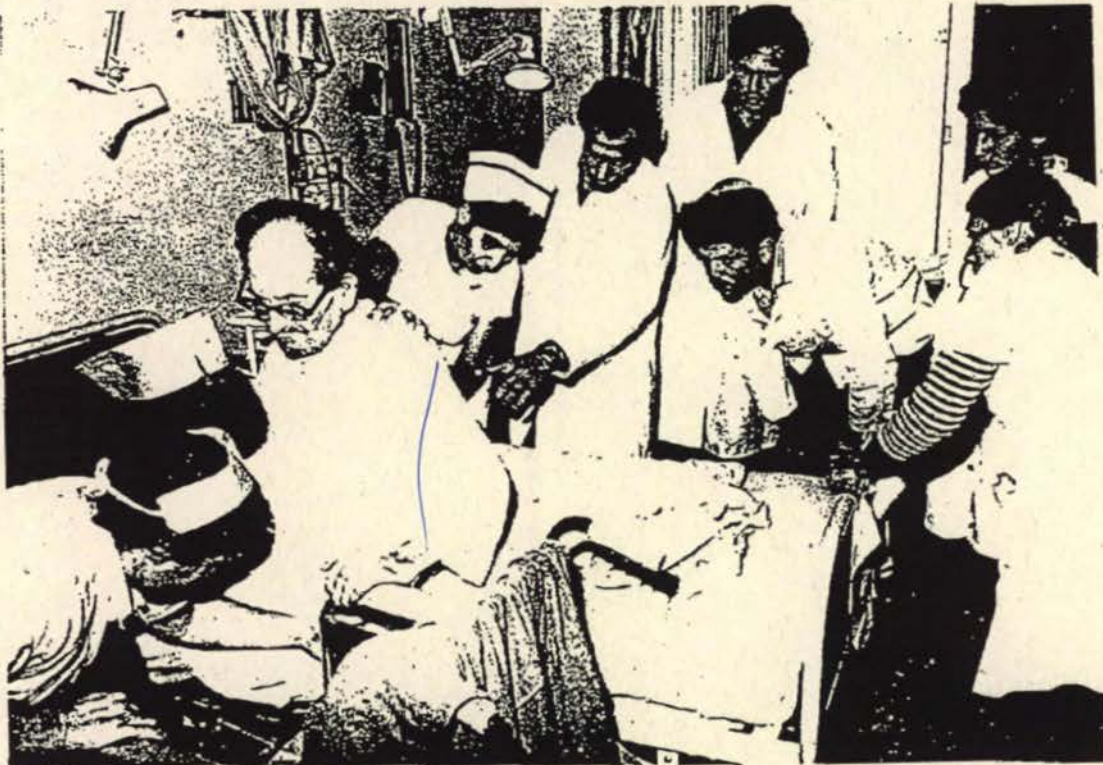
Sir John Brotherstone
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK
Excerpts from his letter, June 1, 1982

The close cooperation between scientists and physicians at BGU and the regional responsibility for 400,000 people are factors which give unusual options for special investigations at the Medical School. Following are brief descriptions of some research projects designed to bring better health to the residents of the Negev.

- Among the immigrants who came to Israel from the former Soviet Union, there are several hundred who were victims of irradiation from the nuclear accident at Chernobyl. Many of them have settled in the Negev. BGU instituted a unique program to study the effects of the accident and to treat the psychological as well as the physical illnesses of these victims. It is the first thorough investigation of the radiation-exposed population outside of the CIS.
- The heterogeneous population of the Negev and the high number of births at Soroka Hospital have resulted in several singular programs. Research into genetic diseases, many of which are peculiar to specific ethnic groups, is an area of considerable importance and has expanded into pre-screening and counseling services. In another program, all pregnant women are routinely tested for gestational diabetes, which means students, scientists and physicians conduct unusually broad-based investigations into the cause and prevention of diabetes in various ethnic groups.

- (A) • Other community related research projects, to mention a few, include the evaluation of new immunization programs; the study and treatment of infant diarrheal disease and malnutrition among different populations; the investigation of the quality of maternal/child care in the region; and the effect of Dead Sea baths on arthritic conditions.

The research facilities of the University contribute significantly to the success of the Medical School. Working together with physicians and scientists, medical students are part of a dynamic integrated program which combines education with medical care and research to order to bring better health to the community.



The students are key change agents in the organization of health services in the Negev. ... That, to me, illustrates why the investment in the students is so extremely important.

John R. Evans, Chairman
Allelix, Inc. Mississauga, Ontario, Canada
Moshe Prywes Distinguished Lecturer, 1985

Achieving The Goals

This school ... is looked to as one of the boldest and most imaginative innovations in medical education in a very long time. The combining of service and educational activities in a truly integrated way, and the inclusion of services other than those that are hospital based are important efforts that are significant to all parts of the world.

Frederick C. Robbins, Former President
Institute of Medicine,
National Academy of Sciences,
Washington D.C. 1982

The Medical School of Ben-Gurion University has grown from fragile infancy to thriving maturity in its 21 years, exceeding the vision of its founders while fulfilling its basic principles:

- *Community Medicine:* The orientation in this regard is represented by a strong Department of Family Practice as well as by Units for Sociology of Community Health, Health Administration and Management, Epidemiology and Health Care Evaluation, and Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. Some of these units are unique in Israel.
- *Improving Health Care in the Negev:* Close ties with Kupat Holim, main health care provider in the Negev, the Soroka Hospital and community clinics has had a pronounced effect on raising the standards of medical care in the Negev.
- *A 'New Breed' of Doctors:* A recent survey found that 80% of hospital department heads outside Beer-Sheva specifically cited BGU graduates as outstanding in doctor-patient relationships and as good or better than graduates of other Israeli schools in 14 other categories.
- *Research:* Research programs in neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, immunology, microbiology, and molecular biology are excellent. The Epidemiology research program is the best in the country and one of the best in the world. Three major research centers were recently established

- the Zlotowski Center for Neuroscience, the Daniel Abraham Center for International Health and Nutrition and the Center for Cancer Research.

Researchers attract impressive amounts of competitive research funding per scientist, while most physicians perform clinical or basic research, in addition to normal patient care.

- Education: The Medical School is the focus for the development and growth in Israel of academic family medicine and in medical education research in Israel. It pioneered a number of programs for immigrant doctors from the former Soviet Union. Courses in continuing medical education have been conducted for medical professionals from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. A new degree program in Health Care Management is the first of its kind in the country.

Thanks to the establishment of the Medical School, several hundred highly qualified physicians and health-care professionals have settled in the Negev. They are based in Beer-Sheva at the Soroka Medical Center and in the various community clinics throughout the desert, serving all its residents. For them teaching, research and service go hand in hand.

It seems to me that we did not discover America. What we did in essence was to shift the emphasis from exclusively hospital-based clinical education to primary care ... Consequently, population needs in health gain in value, and human and comprehensive medicine becomes a pattern of medical practice in health and diseases. The introduction of change in our own sound medical tradition created a new tradition for the medicine of tomorrow.

Moshe Prywes
Israeli Journal of Medical Science 1987



From
Experiment
to
Example

If one were to ask whether this model program is replicable elsewhere, I would have to answer affirmatively. ...Other institutions may well build on this experience in launching new programs.

John Beck
UCLA School of Medicine,
University of California, Los Angeles
Israel Journal of Medical Science 1987

"The Beer-Sheva Experiment" has made a bold imprint upon modern medical education with a reputation for excellence that has traveled from the Negev to all of Israel, to the third world, ~~the developed world~~ - and to the White House. The office of first lady Hillary Clinton requested information on BGU's program as a model for integrated Medical education and health care.

The World Health Organization (WHO) designated BGU as a Collaborating Center for Integrated Health Services and Manpower Development. Reports of the Center's diverse activities are disseminated by WHO throughout the world. The introduction of medical school curricula modeled after BGU's is helping to improve health standards in the developing world and to train qualified physicians. BGU helped to establish medical schools or health care programs throughout the developing world and has given several international courses in epidemiology, health care systems, pediatrics and perinatal medicine.

In highly developed countries there is growing interest in the Medical School, which was in the very vanguard of the trend toward increased emphasis on the individual patient's needs. Harvard, John's Hopkins and Columbia University have implemented features pioneered by BGU. The British Medical Council's recent recommendations for medical reform echo the principles of BGU's Medical School. Students from many parts of the world are eager to spend time in Beer-Sheva visiting the young Medical School to study the way in which it functions as part of the community and the region.

The Medical School is presently facing a number of exciting challenges. Israel's role in world affairs has grown significantly in the last two years (since the start of the Madrid Peace Talks, the number of nations that have inaugurated

diplomatic relations with Israel has increased by 50%) and so has the role of Ben-Gurion University.

- The Government of Holland and the Foreign Ministry of Israel asked the Medical School to prepare a continuing medical education program for physicians from newly independent republics of the former Soviet Union. The courses were taught by Russian immigrant physicians and scientists at BGU. The program was so successful that the Medical School has considerably increased its activity in the CIS and members of the staff have assisted several new Independent States in the building and design of health care and medical education programs.
- After designing strategies for reorganizing the health services of Rumania and the Czechoslovakian Republic, the Medical School's Unit of Health Policy and Management was asked by the World Bank to advise the Russian Ministry of Health on the formulation of health system reform. The success of these projects is proven by the fact that the Russian government has asked for assistance in designing a community health care system for that country. The Hungarian government, as well, has requested assistance from BGU in developing a new community health care system.
- BGU was recently invited to conduct workshops in Thailand on Evaluation and Student Performance in Medical and Health Professional Education. The medical curriculum developed at BGU serves as a model and has been adapted to specific local conditions by schools in the U.S., Sweden, Spain and Egypt.
- As the reputation for excellence and expertise of BGU's Medical School spreads around the world, requests for assistance multiply. After playing an important role in establishing a new medical school in Kenya, recent requests for similar assistance have come from Costa Rica, Ecuador and Johannesburg.

Israeli medical education represents a highly sophisticated and well differentiated national effort which has achieved considerable successes but which is faced with significant challenges. ... In particular, the Ben-Gurion University program has become an acknowledged model for international reform in medical education.

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