



PRESS RELEASE

POLITECNICO DI TORINO, UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO AND TECHNION-ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY COOPERATE WITHIN EDUCATION AND IN HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH FIELDS

Today a cooperation agreement was signed between the two universities from Turin and the prestigious Israeli technical university during the Italy-Israel bilateral summit

Rome, December 2 2013 -The Italy-Israel bilateral summit has been the prestigious occasion for signing a memorandum of understanding that formalizes the cooperation between the two universities from Turin, Politecnico and Università di Torino and Technion - Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa.

In the presence of the two Prime Ministers **Enrico Letta** and **Benjamin Netanyahu**, this afternoon the agreement was signed by the Rector of Politecnico di Torino **Marco Gilli**, by the Vice-Rector of the Università di Torino **Federico Bussolino** and by **Naor Gilon**, Ambassador of Israel in Italy, as official representative of Technion Institute, together with the Vice President of the Israeli Institute of Technology **Moshe Sidi**, with the General Director **Arnon Bentur**, with the Dean of the School of Medicine **Eliezer Shalev**.

The agreement will pave the way to a new cooperation in scientific and education fields between the three institutions, with particular reference to the health and welfare areas. Indeed, the Parties involved in the agreement represent high-level academic Bodies with different but complementary specializations. They aim to create forms of partnership in cutting-edge scientific fields of this sector, which is more and more strategic for the most developed Countries, where the cooperation between medical and technological disciplines is closer.

Besides the research partnership merely conducted in the **medical field**, the innovative aspect of this agreement is the strong focus on **engineering research topics**. These will be connected with multiple aspects of therapy, diagnosis, management of the medical structures and application of innovative research results in the health care field, which have been developed in fields which may be different from the traditional medical ones.

The first objective of this agreement is: fostering exchange of students, PhD fellows and professors between the three institutions, organizing meetings and taking part in notices of competition and in research projects jointly. The final aim consists in making international and multidisciplinary research groups grow in topics which are so important for modern societies.

The Rector of Politecnico Marco Gilli thus comments on this agreement: *“Our University is more and more involved in the field of life sciences. This has been acquiring an increasing importance, as field of implementation of technological research, also in response to the basic social needs, such as: application of more effective therapies thanks to the new technologies, planning actions for functional support for all ages life and for all types of physical conditions and finally service rationalization. This agreement surely represents a further step to gather and make researchers meet on these topics within an increasingly multidisciplinary and international context. This will be a starting point for a fruitful partnership with one of the most prestigious Israeli universities, as well as a strengthening of the important cooperation in the field of life sciences, where Politecnico and Università di Torino share a common interest”*.

The Rector of Università degli Studi Gianmaria Ajani declares: *“Università di Torino has a strong tradition in the field of life sciences, by developing international high-ranking research topics. Undoubtedly, the collaboration with other technological innovation promoters, both locally, such as Politecnico, and internationally, such as the prestigious Technion Institute, represents a great synergy opportunity. Therefore, Università di Torino looks at this agreement with great interest and trust in an increasing and fruitful cooperation”*.

Per informazioni:

Politecnico di Torino

The Politecnico di Torino (www.polito.it) has a 150 years tradition. It is one of the most important universities in Europe for engineering and architecture studies, strongly committed to collaboration with industry. 32,000 students attend the Politecnico per year, about 15% of them are international students coming from 100 different countries. The Politecnico offers excellence in technology and promotes the ability to carry out theoretical or applied research and also the capacity to achieve concrete and reliable productive processes or organise services and facilities.

The range of studies is broad and ever-widening: it spans space, environment and land, telecommunications, information, energy, mechanics, electronics, chemistry, automation, electrical engineering, industrial design, architecture and building... very different subjects requiring different study methods as well as inventiveness. At the present there are 3 successive levels of higher education: Bachelor's degree, master of science, research doctorate. To meet specific demands and respond to opportunities in the professional world, Politecnico offers post-graduate and specialisation programmes. Politecnico di Torino offers a multicultural study environment and has a close relationship to businesses, that work with us on many projects giving students the opportunity to gain work experience. In fact Politecnico is a research university always relied on close ties with both government and industry: each year it draw up about 800 contracts with industries, government funded institutions, local organizations.

www.polito.it

Università di Torino

The University of Turin is one of the most ancient and prestigious Italian Universities.

Hosting about 70.000 students, 4.000 academic, administrative and technical staff, 1800 post-graduate and post-doctoral students and with 120 buildings in different areas in Turin and in key places in Piedmont, the University of Turin can be considered as "city-within-a-city", promoting culture and producing research, innovation, training and employment.

The University of Turin is today one of the largest Italian Universities, open to international research and training. It carries out scientific research and organizes courses in all disciplines, except for Engineering and Architecture.

The University is an integral part of the community, acting for reviving urban and suburban areas, promoting cultural interaction, social integration and development, encouraging dialogue and insight into current realities.

The University of Turin virtually covers every field of knowledge; its Medical Diagnostic, Biosensoristics and Nanotechnologies research centers are amongst the best ones in Italy.

Some of the degree courses offered are unique in Italy, such as Military Strategy, Biotechnology, Sport Sciences, Restoration and Conservation (in Venaria).

The University of Turin has a remarkable research tradition in traditional subjects such as history, philosophy, law, economics and medicine but it is currently branching out into important modern sectors, such as food science, social politics, IT, performing arts and communication sciences.

There are more than 70 university libraries comprising about two millions books: 100.000 are antique volumes. The Botanic Garden and several University Museums such as "Cesare Lombroso" - Criminal Anthropology Museum and "Luigi Rolando" - Human Anatomy Museum are well known.

The University takes a close interest in the network of local museums, on subjects ranging from Egypt to contemporary Art and it runs its own media, radio, television and film production units.

The University makes an active stand on a number of social issues, such as environment, drugs, equal opportunities and rights of people with special needs. It also acts at an international level through partnership arrangements with India, China, developing countries in Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean Area and with a number of international organizations operating in the region.

www.unito.it

Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Israel's emergence as a world leader in high-tech can be largely credited to the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, a global leader in cutting-edge research, innovation and entrepreneurship. Three Technion scientists have won Nobel Prizes in the past decade, and Technion researchers have made countless contributions to science, technology and medicine. Technion's highly-trained graduates are the engine that drives Israel's "Start-up Nation" economy. Technion's powerful synergy with the tech sector in Israel has created an ecosystem of technological innovation, attracting numerous international tech giants such as Google, Apple and Microsoft, and inspiring hundreds of start-up enterprises in Israel and throughout the

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world. Together with its ranking as one of the world's best sci-tech universities, it was Technion's success in driving Israel's high-tech sector that convinced New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg to choose the Technion-Cornell partnership to establish a new, innovative applied science campus in New York, aimed as being a "game changer" for the city's tech sector. Technion's 13,000 students and researchers study in 18 academic departments and 52 research centers and institutes. As an increasingly globalized university Technion is developing a variety of international programs, and a growing number of foreign students are attracted to Technion for its outstanding reputation.

www1.technion.ac.il/en

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