

Oct. 18, 2012

To: The Israeli Council of Higher Education.

From: Professor Aron Shai, Rector TAU

Re: Report by Prof. Gila Sher on Tel Aviv University's Implementation of the Recommendations made by the External Evaluation Team of Philosophy Departments in Israel, November 2009

In her report, Prof. Sher pointed out that TAU "should make a special effort to enlarge the senior faculty (faculty min ha-minyan) of the philosophy department in accordance with the external team's recommendation (II. 1 above). This is especially important in view of the upcoming retirements and given the unparalleled number of philosophy students that the department has to educate."

We are well aware of this problem. In spite of the improved budgetary conditions, TAU is still quite hindered by financial considerations. Nonetheless, in order to remedy the situation I have recently taken two corrective measures:

1. I have given the department an additional position and approved the decision of a search committee to recruit a new faculty member in philosophy.
2. I have put special focus on this department in a program submitted as a proposal to the Yad Hanadiv foundation. This program is intended to promote humanistic studies. If approved, it will allow us to allocate additional positions in philosophy in the near future.