About Us
“Miracles do happen but you have to work hard at them”

Dr Chaim Weizmann

Who we are

The Weizmann Institute of Science
The Daniel Sieff Research Institute was founded in Rehovot in 1934 by Dr Chaim Weizmann. It was renamed the Weizmann Institute of Science in his honour in 1949, after he had become the first President of the State of Israel.

Today, the Weizmann Institute of Science is one of the world’s leading multidisciplinary research institutions. It is comprised of 250 experimental and theoretical research groups across five faculties – Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Computer Science and Physics. Insights that emerge from its laboratories help provide a fundamental understanding of the biological, chemical, and physical world, and have led to countless advances in medicine, technology and the environment.

Weizmann UK
Weizmann UK supports and raises awareness of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. Our primary role is to fundraise to support the Institute’s invaluable work and to communicate its scientific breakthroughs.

We also promote collaboration between the Institute and UK Universities and we encourage young people from the UK to take part in the Institute’s educational programmes. We host events throughout the year to fundraise for, and show-case, the extraordinary work of the Weizmann Institute.

Achievements
Weizmann Institute scientists are credited with inventing breakthrough cancer drugs, blockbuster drugs for multiple sclerosis, nano materials and compounds for industrial and medical uses, advanced computer technology, and ground breaking data-storage options to name just a few.
Campus Life in Numbers

- **372 Postdoctoral fellows**
- **729 PhD students**
- **2,400 Faculty and Staff**
- **3,000 International students**
- **5,000 Trees**
- **25,000 Visitors per year**
- **27km to Tel Aviv**
- **274 Laboratories**

Ranked 6th in the world for Innovation by the *Nature Innovation Index, 2017* – the only non-US Institution in the top 10.

25% of Israel’s PhDs in the Sciences and Maths trained at the Weizmann Institute.

Just 27km to Tel Aviv and 53km from Jerusalem.

Since 1969 over 3,000 students have participated in the Dr Bessie Lawrence International Summer Science Institute.

The beautifully landscaped campus in Rehovot is 1.1km² and has over 5,000 trees.
The Weizmann Institute’s mission is Science for the Benefit of Humanity and its talented scientists follow their curiosity to see where it will lead. These are just a few individuals who have made astonishing breakthroughs in their research.

Prof Ada Yonath became the 2009 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry for deciphering the structure and mechanisms of ribosomes. Her research has far reaching implications in the study of antibiotic resistance.

Profs Varda Rotter, Moshe Oren and David Givol unlocked the importance of p53 – the tumour suppressor gene. The protein has been found to be dysfunctional in almost all cancer types.

Prof Yosef Yarden won the 2017 Israel Prize in Life Sciences in celebration of his crucial discoveries about the biochemistry of cancer that have entered into clinical practice and are saving lives.

Prof Eran Elinav and Prof Eran Segal have made several striking discoveries involving gut microbiome data and predicting the blood sugar levels in individuals in response to particular foods.

Prof Zelig Eshhar developed an innovative immunotherapy based approach to cancer treatment involving genetically modifying T-Cells and reintroducing them into leukaemia patients.

Profs Michael Sela, Ruth Arnon and the late Dr Dvora Teitelbaum developed the blockbuster drug Copaxone® and have helped countless people with Multiple Sclerosis.

Prof Avigdor Scherz, along with the late Prof Yoram Salomon, co-created Toolad®, a radical new prostate cancer treatment using the principles of photosynthesis and laser technology to destroy tumours.

Prof Shafi Goldwasser was awarded the Turing Award in 2013 (known as the Nobel Prize of computing). Her research provided the foundations of modern cryptography and is an essential element of global telecommunications.

Prof Adi Shamir is the co-inventor of the RSA cryptography algorithm for encoding and decoding messages. His research has made online sharing and credit card transactions significantly safer. He is also a Turing Prize winner.

Prof Ido Amit has combined CRISPR gene editing technology with a second tool called single-cell RNA sequencing which enables scientists to actively manipulate genes in cells, and then see the results.
Scientific Collaboration

We promote scientific partnerships between the Weizmann Institute and UK Universities through a range of collaborative programmes.

“Bringing Israeli and British scientists together benefits us all by both advancing knowledge and also removing barriers.”

Lord Mitchell
Former Chairman of Weizmann UK

Making Connections
Our flagship programme for scientific collaboration between the Weizmann Institute and UK research Institutions is Making Connections. The aim is to help scientists establish networks that go across frontiers and beyond politics. Since 2008, thanks to the generous support of our donors, we have been providing grants to facilitate collaborative research between the Weizmann Institute and UK Universities. As well as scientific research collaborations, Weizmann UK has supported and hosted Making Connections symposia providing opportunities for intellectual exchange and networking.

Get Connected
This is our grant programme, generously funded by Lord Alliance, which has been forging collaborations between life scientists from the Weizmann Institute and the University of Manchester since 2010. These collaborative grants have led to two joint PhD programmes between the two institutions. Two students from the University of Manchester are spending two years of their PhD programme at the Weizmann Institute before returning to the UK to complete their final year.

BI RAX (the Britain Israel Research and Academic Exchange Partnership)
This is a multimillion pound initiative of the British Council, British Embassy in Israel and the UK Science and Innovation Network. The Regenerative Medicine Initiative facilitates British – Israeli scientific research collaborations. This has led to dozens of British and Israeli scientists working together on bi-lateral collaborative research projects including numerous fruitful collaborations between Weizmann researchers and scientists from institutions such as the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

“Ther e is no substitute for international collaboration between scientists, and UK-Israeli partnerships are no exception. The results benefit not only both countries, but the entire world.”

Prof. Ada Yonath
Winner of the 2009 Nobel Prize for Chemistry and founding member of the UK-Israel Science Council

Denis Raeburn
Weizmann Trustee

“Making Connections programme not only contributes to the furthering of science, but each collaboration between Weizmann scientists and academics from British Institutions counters the increasing incidence of anti-Israel boycotts.”

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Education

We work with schools to involve young people from the UK with the Weizmann Institute’s educational activities. Our two flagship educational programmes are for students in Years 12 and 13. We also arrange for visiting scientists to talk about their research in schools and have a great track record in encouraging Youth Movements to visit the Weizmann Institute during their summer tours of Israel.

“The life has been changed forever, and I could not be more grateful to the Weizmann Institute for giving us all such a wonderful opportunity.”

Adam Steinberg
ISSI 2016 Participant

The Dr Bessie Lawrence International Summer Science Institute (ISSI)

ISSI is a unique opportunity for Year 13 students to spend a month working as part of a research team alongside scientists at the Weizmann Institute. As well as conducting scientific experiments, students produce reports and present their findings to their peers before spending a week in a field school where they experience the diverse ecosystems, wildlife, and archaeology of the region. Outside of lab time, students explore Israel whilst forging lifelong friendships with over 80 like-minded participants from all over the world.

Thanks to our supporters, each year Weizmann UK offers ten scholarships for UK students to participate in the ISSI programme.

Safe Cracking Competition

Each year Weizmann UK encourages Year 12 students to put their physics knowledge to the test by entering its annual Physics Safe Cracking Competition. Teams must design a safe which can only be cracked solving two physics riddles. The UK competition is growing, with up to 30 teams competing each year. The three winning teams from the UK competition travel to Israel to participate in the International Safe Cracking Tournament at the Weizmann Institute of Science where they compete against teams from across the world.

Thanks to our supporters, Weizmann UK funds three teams each year to attend the International Safe Cracking competition.
Why support the Weizmann Institute?

The Weizmann Institute of Science has always brought visionary philanthropists together with exceptionally talented scientists, and enabled them to explore their unbounded curiosity together.

These wonderful partnerships have resulted in countless astonishing discoveries that have advanced science for the benefit of humanity. By supporting Weizmann UK you will be part of this process, helping to support scientists in their ground breaking research now and for generations to come.

“I grew up with the Weizmann Institute always being talked about a lot in the family and then I had the privilege to actually visit with my father and understand a little bit about why it was so special.”

Miel de Botton

“The University of Manchester and the Weizmann Institute are both so close to my heart. To have the opportunity to bring the very best scientists together and see where their collaboration can lead has been a wonderful opportunity.”

Lord Alliance
How you can help?

As a world leader in scientific research and science education, the Weizmann Institute hires the best and brightest young scientists, builds advanced facilities and laboratories, purchases the latest high-tech equipment and employs highly trained support staff.

It offers the best graduate education possible, and continuously develops its capacity to conduct curiosity-driven research. Not surprisingly this level of excellence requires major funding.

We rely on philanthropic support to meet the Weizmann Institute’s ambitious goals. We offer a range of funding possibilities to match our donors’ aspirations, including professorial chairs, funding for new scientists, physical facilities and equipment, interdisciplinary research centres and institutes, and student and postdoctoral scholarships and housing.

Ways to give

If you would like to support the Weizmann Institute we’d be delighted to discuss your individual preferences. Options might include a one-off gift or setting up a regular payment. You can also give in celebration or in memory of a loved one.

Get involved

We hold events in the UK throughout the year to showcase the very best of the Weizmann Institute. Join us for our annual Ambassadors Lecture or Freshly Squeezed Science breakfasts to hear the latest research from scientists visiting from the Weizmann Institute. We also hold fundraising events such as our biennial gala dinner and Women in Science lunch.

Leaving a Legacy

By leaving a gift in your will to Weizmann UK you will allow scientists at the Weizmann Institute to continue their pioneering research. A legacy could help to ensure that long into the future you will have played your part in enabling scientific discoveries yet to be made.

If you are considering making a legacy gift to Weizmann UK, we would be delighted to discuss some options with you. By making us aware of your intentions we can ensure your wishes are followed. It will also enable us to thank you and acknowledge your generosity during your lifetime.
Visit

The best way to understand what the Weizmann Institute is all about is to experience it yourself. We can help you arrange a visit to the beautiful campus in Rehovot.

• Pay a visit to the high-tech Levinson Visitor Centre for an interactive introduction to the Weizmann Institute.
• Tour Weizmann House, the striking Art Deco building that was home of Dr Chaim Weizmann, first President of the State of Israel and founder of the Weizmann Institute of Science.
• Explore the Clore Garden of Science’s unique outdoor museum of hands-on exhibits.
• If you have specific scientific interests we can help to tailor your schedule to include visits to meet with leading Weizmann scientists.

“Visiting the Weizmann Institute always dazzles me.”
David Dangoor

“Whenever I visit the Weizmann Institute, I am made so welcome that it feels like I have returned home.”
David Lopatie
Don’t just take our word for it

“When the President rang me up to offer me an Honorary Doctorate I really felt quite surprised. The Weizmann is an icon, it is a beacon of rationality in a highly irrational world and what goes on at the Weizmann is fantastically respected.”

Professor Lord Winston
Researcher, Doctor, Writer and Broadcaster

“By giving scientists the freedom to pursue their interests, we give them the freedom to follow their desire to know. And that is exactly what the Weizmann Institute does, and that is exactly why it is so successful.”

Sir Paul Nurse
Chief Executive
Francis Crick Institute

“Scientists are driven by the basic desire to know. It is a basic human trait. Just by understanding, we can change the universe, for good. The Weizmann knows this, and does it extremely well.”

Professor Marcus du Sautoy
Simonyi Professor for the Public Understanding of Science and Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest”

Benjamin Franklin