


International Consortium for Educational Development Network Profile

<p>Network Name URL</p>	
<p>Mission / Aim / Focus</p>	<p>The Forum is engaged in academic-professional development in the field of academic teaching in higher education in Israel. Forum members are also members of national and international organizations and groups that promote and advance teaching in higher education.</p> <p>What have we managed to create? An established discipline – specialization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established discipline – specialization. • Nuclear and extended family (Forum leaders, and professionals) • Partnerships across topics and areas of interest • Collaboration in and outside Israel – conferences and professional associations • Participate and follow developments in professional organizations around the world • Joint research projects <p>Main Goals: Promoting Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote research on teaching and learning • To promote joint and interdisciplinary research projects with other faculty • Leader Seminars <p>Collaboration: among centers, with students, with the regulator (Council of Higher Education) and with international groups and organizations to beneficially impact the quality of academic teaching in universities and colleges.</p> <p>Teaching and learning centres are the academic heroes of COVID-19* <i>Sarah Elaine Eaton is an assistant professor in the Werklund School of Education at the University of Calgary:</i></p> <p><u>During the COVID-19</u> pandemic, teaching and learning centers (TLCs), and the educational developers and instructional designers who work at them, have shown the deep value they bring to their institutions. During the crisis, they have become instructional superheroes who have not</p>

	only supported an unprecedented “pivot” to online and remote learning, they have taken the lead in ensuring universities stay open.
Brief History	<p>The Forum represents all the teaching and learning centers in academic institutions in Israel. The Forum was established in 2002 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote teaching and learning in higher education institutions in Israel • Encourage and cultivate collaborations among teaching centers in Israel • Academic-professional development of center staff through seminars on topics related to teaching, learning, and assessment • Operate a central information website on teaching and learning in higher education (in preparation) • Organize an annual conference of the forum on teaching and learning in higher education Organize seminars on teaching and learning in higher education • Publish newsletter • Publish research in educational journals (“Al Hagova” “Hora’ah Ba’akademia”) • Collaborate with national and international organization in the field • Collaborate with the Council for Higher Education
Membership types	<p>Our Job – Thoughts on Global Practices</p> <p>Our role in academia: Academic or professional?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching experience • Research experience • Administrative experience
Legal Structure	Voluntary organization on a professional basis.
Governance / Operating Structure*	<p>Executive Committee members are nominated in a process defined in the Forum’s By-Laws and serve for a term of three years. The Executive Committee initiates and operates the Forum’s activities during its term. Members of the current Executive Committee are Prof. Nitza Davidovitch (Chair, Ariel University) Prof. Aharon Palmon (MEITAL Chair, Hebrew University of Jerusalem)</p>
Funding Sources	The Commission of Higher Education provides funding for journal, annual conference and specific research projects

<p>Activities** Detail separately</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars and conferences on teaching and learning in higher education • Encourage master's theses and doctoral dissertations on academic teaching • Bi-annual professional journal
<p>Publications</p>	<p>The Forum has published a refereed journal containing original articles on teaching, learning, quality and assessment in higher education by authors in Israel and worldwide. The current Editor in Chief is Prof. Nava Ben Zvi. Representative members of the Forum will also serve as members of the journal's editorial board.</p> <p>In 2019, the format of the journal was revised. The journal will be published semi-annually in the English language and the first issue of the revised format is scheduled in October 2020. Publication will be electronic with a limited print edition.</p> <p>The journal aims to focus on findings from innovative research studies on the Forum's key interests: teaching and learning, quality and assessment. The journal will also publish articles on best practices in Israel and worldwide on specific training, theory and practice, continual improvements in platforms and domains, and belonging to professional communities.</p>
<p>Special initiatives</p>	<p>Study Tours</p> <p>Forum study tour in Ireland, 2017 Study Tour – England – March 2018 University of California – Division of Continuing Education Professional Development Seminar for the Israeli Consortium of Faculty Development Centers. January–February, 2019</p> <p>Design and development of MOOCs on teaching skills for entry-level professors in higher education.</p> <p>These MOOCs target new professors in all disciplines, doctoral candidates, teaching assistants, as well as experienced professors seeking to improve and innovate in their teaching practice.</p>
<p>Connections with other networks, agencies, etc</p>	<p>e.g. Government departments, Vice-Chancellor/Rector committees, similar T&L or disciplinary networks. Note the type of connection (eg membership of committee).</p> <p>This past year, we met with MEITAL (Inter-University Centre for E-Learning) to explore avenues of cooperation. The Forum hosted a session in the annual MEITAL conference on the challenges of hackathon-based learning.</p>

	At the Commission of Higher Education, the Forum organized an annual seminar on quality assessment and promoting teaching and learning in higher education.
Contact Details (name & email)	Chair: Prof. Nitza Davidovitch (Ariel University) ICED representative: Nitza Davidovitch: d.nitza@ariel.ac.il Administrative Office: Linor: linori@ariel.ac.il
Social media	Facebook page [in Hebrew] WhatsApp group [in Hebrew] https://www.nationalteachingforum.com/ [in Hebrew] https://www.nationalteachingforum.com/
Other relevant information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forum grew out of the field itself. Its members are the heads of teaching in Israel's universities and many of its colleges. • The Forum represents the thrust of policy and field work that takes place in Israel to promote teaching and learning in academic institutions. • The Forum is a very active academic entity that shares knowledge, initiates and participates in a broad range of activities in and outside Israel, including conferences, seminars, workshops, study tours, group meetings, newsletter, professional social network, etc. • Advanced stage of establishing an international academic journal to encourage academic research on the topic, to promote the academic abilities of the teaching centers and units, and enhance ties with international organizations. • The Forum encourages collaboration with student associations in academic institutions. • The Forum works with the telecommunication units in academic institutions, and with MEITAL in order to influence and learn from technological practices and innovations. The Forum organized a session in the previous two MEITAL conferences. <p>Developing professional practices and skills of the teaching Centre leaders and staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific training in academic teaching • Study of theory and practices as the foundation for all activities • Continuous improvement and revision <p>Working within the international community</p>
Date last updated	2/10/2023

Dear Colleagues,

The Israel Consortium of Faculty Development Centers is pleased to announce the launch of a new English language journal on teaching, learning, quality, and assessment in higher education in Israel (Hal'ah).

The work of the Israel Consortium of Faculty Development Centers focuses on the professional and academic development of the field of academic teaching in higher education in and outside Israel. Members of the Consortium represent national and international organizations devoted to the promotion of academic teaching. The Consortium promotes research on teaching and learning including joint and interdisciplinary research projects with faculty in all disciplines both in and outside Israel to beneficially impact the quality of academic teaching in universities and colleges. Partners in these collaborative projects include international groups and organizations, regulators, and students. The Consortium also organizes seminars and conferences focused on teaching and learning in higher education.

The new journal will bring to the fore new research on teaching, learning, quality, and assessment, including innovative teaching and learning technologies. The journal will reflect global expertise and professional work in the following fields:

Specialized training

Theory and practice

Continuous improvement – platforms and domains

International community

Big picture direction and open question

Editorial Staff

Editor in Chief: Prof. Nava Ben-Zvi

Executive Committee: representatives of the Israel Consortium of Faculty Development Centers (ICFDC) and the Inter-University Center for E-Learning (MEITAL).

Editorial Board: representatives of the Israel Consortium of Faculty Development Centers – in their areas of expertise.

The journal will be published twice annually. Original research papers will undergo a peer-review process. The journal will be published online.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Hal'ah publishes, after a careful peer-review process, scientific papers grounded in methodologies and theory, reflecting the full scope of areas of contemporary academic teaching and learning.

All submissions should include an abstract limited to 250 words.

All submissions should include 5-6 relevant keywords.

Manuscripts should be between 5,000 and 9,000 words, including references and footnotes.

Manuscripts should be submitted as a Word file using Times Roman 12 points.

All submitted manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with the 6th edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA; see <http://www.apastyle.org/>).

Manuscripts should be submitted by email to linori@ariel.ac.il. Please request confirmation that your manuscript has been received.

All submitted manuscripts will be sent out for external review by one or more anonymous referees.

We welcome your submissions.

Prof. Nava Ben-Zvi and Prof. Nitza Davidovitch

New research

The academic campus and external study spheres – Where do the student's study?

Nitza Davidovitch, Dekel Basel and Shraga Shoval

The COVID-19 pandemic affected almost all aspects of life around the world, including academic studies. Although some medical experts claim that the pick of the pandemic is over, its effects will probably remain for a long time. In this pioneering study, we examine the effect of the COVID-19 on off-campus learning experience of university students that is an addition to the on-campus learning experience. Off-campus learning outside the academic campus is defined as a learning experience that complements the frontal learning and includes learning from digital courses of other academic institutions, from recorded courses on YouTube, from lessons given by private/ commercial entities, from classes outside the university given by external practitioners and from reinforcement “study marathons” held off campus in preparation for exams. Many academic institutes were forced to close their campuses during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to develop alternative teaching programs. This research examines the effect of the closure of campuses on the learning experience of students in the post COVID-19 era. The study described in this paper involved 118 students from the Faculty of Engineering at a university in Israel who responded to a questionnaire. The study was conducted shortly after the return of students to the campus, following long periods of off-campus studies. The results of the study show a clear and unambiguous picture: The COVID-19 pandemic revolutionized the learning habits of the students. This revolution is very quiet, but very significant and is characterized by a significant involvement of private/commercial entities in the academic programs. Information about the trends of off-campus courses shed light not only on the learning habits of students today, but also draw lines on possible future learning trends