

University of Haifa

The Senate of the University of Haifa, by virtue of the authority vested in it by the constitution of the University and in accordance with the recommendations of the President and the Executive Committee

hereby confers upon

Rafael Beyar

the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa

In tribute to his scientific leadership and excellence, always being at the forefront of research and development in the field of invasive cardiology and catheterization; for paving the way for innovative developments that have made lives better for millions around the world; for his contribution to educating scores of doctors and researchers; for his inspiring leadership of the Rambam Health Care Campus in times of war and in times of peace and leading the hospital to the forefront of Israeli technological medical innovation; for his groundbreaking vision which brought forth the Helmsley Discovery Tower, allowing for a close and fruitful synthesis between the clinical field, research and technology.

Conferred on 23 Iyyar 5779/May 28, 2019
Haifa, Israel



Nadav Shahr

Acting Chairman of the Executive Committee



Prof. Ron Robin

President



Prof. Gustavo Mesch

Rector



PROFESSOR RAFAEL BEYAR

Rafael Beyar was born in the city of Petah Tikva in 1952. He was accepted to medical school at Tel Aviv University as part of the IDF Academic Reserve (Atuda) Program and received his MD degree in 1977. Following his army service as a physician at the Golani Brigade and other field units, Prof. Beyar studied Biomedical Engineering at the Technion and in 1983 completed his DSc. In 2008, Prof. Beyar received an MPH from the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University.

In 1995, Prof. Beyar was appointed Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Medicine at the Technion and a year later, he was appointed as the Director of the Division of Invasive Cardiology at Rambam Healthcare Campus. In 1999, he was elected as the Dean of the Technion Faculty of Medicine, a position he successfully held for six years. During his tenure as Dean, the Faculty received widespread international recognition, both in research and in teaching. One of its most notable achievements is the 2004 Nobel Prize in Chemistry received by two Faculty of Medicine members, Prof. Avram Hershko and Prof. Aaron Ciechanover.

In 2006, Prof. Beyar was appointed as the Director of the Rambam Healthcare Campus. Soon after, he successfully led the hospital staff through the second Lebanon war, while the hospital was under fire, and paved the way for the construction of the Sammy Ofer Fortified Underground Emergency Hospital—the largest facility of its kind in the world. Since then, he has taken the hospital through a massive development surge with a vision that emphasizes the combination of superb medical care with education, research and innovation.

Prof. Beyar has made a significant and ground-breaking contribution to the biomedical industry both as an entrepreneur and as a researcher, holding many patents including novel designs for metal stents and the first robotic catheterization system in the world.

Prof. Beyar is at the forefront of medical research in Israel and abroad. His research, published in the leading scientific journals in the world, paves the way for meaningful new technologies in the area of cardiovascular system imaging and analysis, as well as invasive and interventional cardiology. For his inspiring achievements, Prof. Beyar has received many accolades including the Landau Prize in Research, the Neufeld Award for Cardiovascular Research, the Gutwirth Prize for the Promotion of Excellence in Research, the Henri Taub Prize for Excellence in Research, the Mirowski Award by the Israel Cardiology Society and the Society of Scholar Award from Johns Hopkins University.

Prof. Beyar is a gifted administrator who has served in many public roles in parallel to his fruitful clinical and research activities. Amongst his many roles, he is a director at BioRap Technologies, the Chairman of the Rambam Health Corporation, Chairman of the Board of K.M.R Advancement of Medical Centers Ltd., Chairman of the Public Committee for the Expansion of the Medical Health Basket Services, and the Chairman of the Public Committee for the National Transplant Center.

Prof. Beyar's extraordinary vision has brought forth an exceptional collaboration between The Rambam Health Care Campus, the Technion and the University of Haifa embodied by the Helmsley Discovery Tower, an endeavor that brings together leading academic and medical centers for the purpose of advancing applied medical research in Israel.