The University of Haifa pays tribute to Mr. Gurría’s inspiring and impressive leadership as Secretary-General of the OECD and his unwavering commitment to multicultural dialogue and mutual respect for all people. The University salutes his commendable efforts in promoting economic cooperation through minimization of trade restrictions, reducing economic inequality, combating poverty, and investing in human capital through better education and health services.

Mr. Gurría’s warm relationship with the University of Haifa is greatly valued. His strong support for the State of Israel is contributing significantly to Israeli society through bridging social gaps and improving economic conditions for citizens.

The University of Haifa is dedicated to academic excellence coupled with social responsibility. Many students are actively involved in various community development and assistance programs in the Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences. University of Haifa students are being groomed as agents of social change and for leadership roles in society.
Angel Gurría

Angel Gurría, born in 1950 in Tampico, Mexico, came to the OECD following a distinguished career in public service, including two ministerial posts.

As Mexico’s Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1994 to 1998, he made dialogue and consensus-building one of the hallmarks of his approach to global issues. From 1998 to 2000, he served as Mexico’s Minister of Finance and Public Credit, a term marked by economic stability.

As OECD Secretary-General, since 2006, he has reinforced the OECD’s role for global dialogue and debate on economic policy issues while pursuing internal modernization and reform. Under the leadership of Mr. Gurría, a key initiative of the OECD is the DAC Network on Poverty Reduction (POVNET) which promotes economic growth for poverty reduction through job creation, better access to social and productive infrastructure, and increased agricultural productivity.

The OECD has expanded its membership to include Chile, Estonia, Israel and Slovenia and strengthened links with other major emerging economies, including Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa.

Mr. Gurría chaired the International Task Force on “Financing Water for All” aimed at providing recommendations to local governments regarding financing water services and agricultural water management. He continues to be deeply involved in water issues. Mr. Gurría is a member of the International Advisory Board of Governors of the Centre for International Governance Innovation, and was the first recipient of the Globalist of the Year Award of the Canadian International Council to honour his efforts as a global citizen to promote trans-nationalism, inclusiveness, and a global consciousness.

Mr. Gurría holds a B.A. degree in Economics from UNAM (Mexico), and an M.A. degree in Economics from Leeds University (United Kingdom). He speaks Spanish, French, English, Portuguese, Italian and some German.

He is married to Dr. Lulu Quintana, a distinguished ophthalmologist, and they have three adult children.

The photo above shows Mr. Gurría with Dr. Lulu Quintana, his wife, with whom he has three adult children.

Photo: Sharona Mazlian Levy