

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

Irene Hatter

the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa

In recognition of her commitment to making education accessible to underprivileged young people, bettering their lives and in turn enriching Israeli society and the world; for her involvement with and support of the international ORT network and the opening of numerous schools around the world; for her enduring aid to University of Haifa students through scholarships and by establishing a student center that bears the Hatter name; for being among the first to recognize the importance of studying marine civilizations; and for her contribution to making the University of Haifa an Israeli leader in marine research today.

Conferred in Haifa, Israel
27 Iyar 5774/May 27, 2014



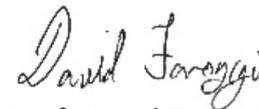
Ami Ayalon

Chairman of the Executive Committee



Amos Shapira

President



Prof. David Faraggi

Rector



LADY IRENE HATTER

Irene was named after the Greek goddess of peace since she was born in Amsterdam a few days after the creation of the State of Israel. Her Belgian mother and Dutch father saw the twin events, their Jewish daughter and the independence of our people, as auspicious for the post WW2 era. Irene's cosmopolitan background gives her fluency in five languages and has inspired in her a curiosity about the world and a love of travelling.

Coming to London in the 60s to improve her English, she met and married and has two sons and two grandchildren. Married to Maurice for 30 years, their joint families have melded and expanded with plenty to celebrate.

Education, not for an elite but for youngsters from multicultural origins who strive for a better life, has been the touchstone of Maurice and Irene's philanthropy in Israel and in the UK, which was recognised with the knighthood - Sir Maurice and Lady Hatter. This conviction in the power of education extends around the world in their support for the network of ORT schools.

Irene has also been a volunteer for nearly 10 years with Jewish Care, the major UK charity providing services to the elderly and disabled. With World Jewish Relief, Irene and Maurice contributed to the establishment of a site dedicated to Jewish resistance during the Holocaust, in commemoration of Irene's father who had fought with the French Resistance.

Irene and Maurice are one of the University's most dedicated and long-time friends, for which the University is most grateful. This rare connection was sparked by the late Prof. Avner Raban, founder of the Department for Maritime Civilizations. Through his passion for marine studies and their shared love of the sea, Irene and Maurice became dedicated - if not addicted - to maritime research.

Irene and Maurice have been contributing for many years to the Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies, home to the Hatter Laboratory for Coastal and Harbour Archaeology, and of which Irene is now a member of the Executive Committee.

The couple is also greatly involved with student activities, donating generously to various student scholarship programs. In 2010, Irene and Maurice's deep commitment to the students of the University of Haifa was epitomized in the inauguration of the architect designed Hatter Student Building.