## 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

## **Daniel Kahneman**

the degree of

## Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa

In recognition of research excellence that knows no bounds, that positions him among the topmost scientists in the world; on the creativity and rare academic courage that allowed him to integrate insights from research in psychology into the field of economics; on his contribution to the understanding of the human ability to act and make decisions in situations of uncertainty; and on the great honor he has brought to the State of Israel for his research activities and being awarded with the Nobel Prize in Economics.

Conferred in 1 Sivan 5776/June 7, 2016 Haifa, Israel

Ami Ayalon

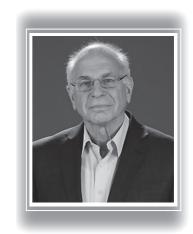
Chairman of the Executive Committee

**Amos Shapira** 

President

Prof. David Faraggi

Rector



## PROFESSOR DANIEL KAHNEMAN

Daniel Kahneman was born in 1934 in Tel Aviv when his parents, who had emigrated from Lithuania to France, visited relatives of his mother in Israel. He grew up in France where the family were forced to go into hiding to escape the long arm of the German SS during the Nazi occupation. His father died in 1944, and soon after the end of the war, he, his sister and their mother came to join her family in Israel.

Kahneman graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology and mathematics from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1954, and then served in the IDF as a psychologist. During his military service, among other things, he was involved in designing the screening tests for predicting the suitability of combat unit recruits for the officers' training program.

After achieving his PhD in psychology from the University of California, Berkeley (1961), Kahneman returned to Israel where he joined the faculty of the Psychology Department at the Hebrew University. In 1987 Kahneman moved to the University of British Columbia in Canada, and then to his alma mater – the University of California, Berkeley. As of 1993, much of his work and research has been conducted at Princeton University. Currently he is professor emeritus of psychology and public affairs at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School.

During his years at the Hebrew University, Prof. Kahneman partnered with the late Prof. Amos Tversky and the pair began to jointly investigate the processes of judgment and decision-making under conditions of uncertainty – research that formed the basis for winning the Nobel Prize. Together, Kahneman and Tversky published a series of seminal articles, including "Judgment under uncertainty: Heuristics and biases" (1974) and "The framing of decisions and the psychology of choice" (1981), which were published in the prestigious journal Science, and their groundbreaking article "Prospect theory: An analysis of decisions under risk" (1979), published in Econometrica. Their joint articles have been cited tens of thousands of times.

The work of Kahneman and Tversky demonstrated that normative models of probability and choice do not account for most human judgments and decisions, and identified the biases that guide human judgment in the face of uncertainty. This work actually revolutionized the scientific approach to decision-making – it laid the foundation for the field of behavioral economics, and had profound influence on large parts of cognitive psychology, social psychology, economics and law, and many related disciplines.

In 2002, Kahneman was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences "for having integrated insights from psychological research into economic science, especially concerning human judgment and decision-making under uncertainty."

Among his many other awards are the American Psychological Association's Lifetime Contribution Award (2007), Distinguished Fellow Award of the American Economic Association (2011), and the Presidential Medal of Freedom (2013) – the highest civilian award given in the United States.

Prof. Kahneman is a member of the American National Academy of Sciences, the American Psychological Association, the British Academy of Sciences, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and others, and he holds honorary degrees from numerous universities around the world.

Kahneman's book, Thinking, Fast and Slow won numerous awards, including the Best Book Award from the National Academy of Sciences (2013), and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize (2012), and was selected as one of the 5 Best Non-Fiction Books of 2011 by The New York Times.