

News Release

Panel and conference to mark 40 years since the founding of the Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace

Tzipi Livni, George Mitchell to speak at Hebrew U. On the quest for peace in the Middle East

Jerusalem, May 27, 2008 – Israel's Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and former United States Senator and Chairman of the Sharm el-Sheikh International Fact Finding Committee George Mitchell will be among an international panel of speakers at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem on Sunday to discuss 'The Quest for Peace in the Middle East'.

The panel, which will also include first President of the European Parliament and former French Minister Simone Veil, Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee MK Tzachi Hanegbi, and a representative from the Palestinian Authority, is part of a conference marking the 40th anniversary since the founding of the Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace.

Other aspects of the conference will include an exhibition on the events behind President Truman's decision to recognize the State of Israel, shown through letters, diary entries and oral recollections, and an academic conference at the Truman Institute on Harry S. Truman, the State of Israel, and the Quest for Peace in the Middle East.

The conference launches the 71st meeting of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Board of Governors, and marks ninety years since the laying of the university's cornerstone.

Sessions at the academic conference will include presentations on the United States Army, displaced persons and the American Palestine policy; Truman's view of Judaism, Jews and Zionists; Why President Truman supported the establishment of the State of Israel; and how international developments influenced Israel's War of Independence strategy.

Speakers include former United States Ambassador to Israel William A. Brown, Director of the Truman Presidential Library and Museum Dr. Michael Devine, and academics from the United States and Israel.

For more information, or for press contact with students, faculty or spokespersons from HU, please speak in the first instance to Mikki Saperia, on +44 (0)20 7691 1479 or email mikki.saperia@bfhu.org.



About the Hebrew University

With 24,000 full-time students, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem is Israel's pre-eminent institute of higher education. Its faculty members pursue projects that are both essential to Israel's future and the benefit of humanity. It is a centre of international repute, with formal and informal ties extending to and from the worldwide scientific and academic community. Students come from all over Israel and across the Middle East to study in an atmosphere of academic and research excellence.

About the British Friends of the Hebrew University

Established in 1926, The British Friends of the Hebrew University is the oldest established Jewish charity in support of higher education. The charity works to promote and enhance the reputation of the Hebrew University, ensure that underprivileged students are given the opportunity to complete their studies, and help HU to maintain its standard of excellence and worldwide reputation for research.

BFHU acts as the UK's gateway to Hebrew University research, expertise and faculty, and provides financial and pastoral support for prospective and current students at HU, as well as supporting visiting and sabbatical Hebrew University lecturers during their time in the UK.