



Mort Zuckerman Honored at Official Residence of the President of Israel for \$100 Million STEM Initiative

Jerusalem, January 16, 2017... The Mortimer B. Zuckerman Institute was honored by Reuven Rivlin at Beit Hanassi, the official residence of the President of the State of Israel for its \$100 million initiative to provide scholarships to the next generation of STEM leaders in the United States and Israel. **The event took place on Monday, January 16 at 10:00 am.**

The American business leader and philanthropist Mortimer Zuckerman launched the [Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program](#), to support future generations of leaders in science, technology, engineering and math in the United States and Israel and, over time, foster greater collaboration between two of the world's most advanced scientific research centers.

The Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program will give the highest-achieving American post-doctoral researchers and graduate students the ability to collaborate with leading researchers at Israel's top research institutions – the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology; Tel Aviv University; and the Weizmann Institute of Science – which are among the world's most advanced.

Mr. Zuckerman, Eric J. Gertler and James S. Gertler, Zuckerman Institute Trustees, Prof. Menahem Ben-Sasson, President of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Prof. Joseph Klafter, President, Tel Aviv University, Prof. Peretz Lavie, President, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and Prof. Daniel Zajfman, President, Weizmann Institute of Science will be in attendance along with a number of Zuckerman Scholars.

By providing American graduate students and post-doctoral researchers with exposure to Israel's renowned cutting-edge research and startup culture, the Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program will raise a generation of academic, scientific and industry leaders in the United States infused with a unique spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation.

The program will simultaneously bolster Israeli research institutions as world-leading centers for innovative research by providing Israeli institutions access to large-scale funding needed to develop top-tier research labs, projects, and programs.

The Zuckerman STEM Leadership Program will, over time, help strengthen the US-Israel partnership as Zuckerman Scholars return to the United States after building long-lasting relationships based in mutual collaboration. Israeli academic leaders returning to research institutions in Israel will similarly advance the overarching collaborative effort in science between the two nations as they continue to build bridges with their American colleagues.

The first cohort of 14 Zuckerman Scholars began with the 2016–2017 academic year. The Institute's long-term intent is to ensure that the Zuckerman Scholars and the program's related educational activities continue in perpetuity. In the next twenty years alone, the program intends to provide over \$100 million in scholarships and related educational activities that will benefit not only the participating scholars and universities, but the public as well.

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