

11 June, 2020

Dear Weizmann Institute community,

The Weizmann Institute of Science is committed to equal opportunity for all, and to a proactive outlook that prioritizes equality and acceptance. We are committed supporting all underrepresented groups and encourage a diverse and inclusive culture.

Pride Month is celebrated in many countries around the world every June. For the LGBT community, Pride Month is an opportunity to highlight independence, equality, and freedom, and the struggle against discrimination and violence.

We are committed to the right of self-determination, including sexual identity. Despite the ongoing advancement and recognition of the rights of LGBT community in many countries, millions of LGBT people still face violence, discrimination, and widespread human rights violations.

Pride Month is also an opportunity for us at the Weizmann Institute of Science to recognize the diverse mosaic that characterizes the Institute's community. We welcome people of different cultures and identities, regardless of race, religion, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, physical disability, or any other identity.

We are currently working toward advancing additional measures to promote diversity and inclusion at the Institute. Among other initiatives, we recently created a new position for an Advisor on Gender and Diversity and expanded the purview of the Office of the President's Advisor for Advancing Women in Science. We are exploring ways to enhance diversity among students, faculty, and staff, and are working diligently to develop a program that ensures and maintains a safe environment that is free of bullying, discrimination, or harassment targeting difference of any kind.

Excellent science is diverse science. Indeed, the values of science correspond with the most basic human values of social responsibility, justice, and equality, all of which enable co-existence while preserving identity, academic freedom, freedom of expression, and mutual respect.

'Love your neighbor as yourself'

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Prof. Alon Chen

President

Weizmann Institute of Science