



**ALUMOT FELLOWS**  
 COHORT 2020-2021



### Dr. Avihai Kelerman

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Dr. Kelerman is the head of the School of Education and vice rector at Herzog Academic College. He holds a doctorate in education from Tel Aviv University, on the teaching perceptions of Talmud teachers, supervised by Professor Naama Tsabar Ben-Yehoshua. His research interests are the history of education of the National Religious Education stream and the philosophy of education. Dr. Kelerman has been teaching Jewish Thought for many years and is on the National Religious curriculum committee for this subject. He leads teacher educational in-service training programs, with a focus on teacher and student empowerment.

### Dr. Adam Haisraeli

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Dr. Haisraeli is a faculty member on the faculty of education in Kibbutzim College, lectures at the School of Education at Tel Aviv University and is a Mandel School for Educational Leadership graduate. He heads the social involvement unit as well as the College's "Israeli Hope in Academia" program. His research interest is the sociology of education, focusing on: inequality and social gaps, the family-school relationship, informal education and learning in the 21st century. As part of his post-doctorate studies at the MOFET Institute, Dr. Haisraeli researched parental involvement on school change processes. He is married with three daughters and is a member of Kibbutz Givat Haim Ichud.

### Dr. Ayal Shaul

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Dr. Shaul heads the Keshet Center for Professional and Continuing Education at Beit Berl Academic College. In his previous position as head of Professional development at the Avnei Rosh Institute, he laid the foundations for professional development of school supervisors. He has also served as general supervisor of high school education in Tel Aviv-Yafo on behalf of the Ministry of Education and oversaw the city's educational administration policies. Previously, Ayal was the principal of the ORT Yad Singalovsky school in Tel Aviv and the Givat Gonen high school in Jerusalem. Dr. Shaul holds a doctorate in business management from the Sorbonne, Paris. He is a graduate of Mandel School for Educational Leadership 14th cohort and of the Maoz program.



## Dr. Ayelet Dunsky

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Dr. Dunsky heads the School of Human Movement and Sport Sciences, as well as the department for physical activity and health in the elderly and a senior lecturer at the Academic College at Wingate. Her area of research is improving the quality of life of the elderly through physical exercise, and so she focuses on the components of physical health and their influence of various markers in elderly people's lives. In addition, her research papers include studies on how exercise training routines based on balance and coordination influence physical and cognitive functioning among elderly and young people. In the coming years, Ayelet plans to examine ways of integrating theoretical and practical knowledge to strengthen inter-generational relationships through physical exercise. In the first stage, she will foster a relationship between students planning to be physical education teachers and senior citizens and in a later stage, between elementary aged school children and adults to be mediated by physical education teachers.

## Dr. Itamar Brenner

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Dr. Brenner coordinates MA studies at Herzog College and heads the masters' programs in the department of Jewish education and Instruction of Jewish Thought and Philosophy. He edits Hagut: Studies in Jewish Educational Thought. Dr. Brenner holds a doctorate from Bar Ilan University and his research areas of interest are rabbinic thought, Jewish theology in the 21st century and the interface between these fields and education. Dr. Brenner previously lectured in various academic and non-academic institutions, edited the Segula history journal, and was on the editorial board of Maariv and Mekor Rishon newspapers, and the chief editor of Reuven Mass publishing house.

## Dr. Eli Vinokur

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Dr. Vinokur is the VP of Strategy & Academic Development at Gordon Academic College of Education (GACE). Eli is a graduate of Mandel School for Educational Leadership in Jerusalem. He earned his PhD from Haifa University' his thesis focused on the tension between cosmopolitan education and education for citizenship in local settings, in light of contemporary challenges. During his post-doctoral studies as an ISEF international scholar, Dr. Vinokur has been a visiting scholar at Teachers College at Columbia University, New York and at Oxford University, England. In recent years, Eli has initiated several academic and field oriented programs at Haifa University, including the program for social leadership and the program for tackling contemporary anti-Semitism. At GACE Dr. Vinokur directed a teacher preparation program for academics from the FSU, and established the department for informal (social and community) education at GACE. Vinokur also co-established the Migdalor professional development center for informal education practitioners. In addition to his work in academia, Dr. Vinokur has consulted to the ministry of education and currently consults to the ministry of higher and complementary education regarding the development of informal education in Israel. He also leads intervention processes in municipalities and schools to implement future-oriented social educational approaches. His research focuses on informal and social education, educational thought, and innovative teaching, facilitation and advocacy methods.



## Dr. Afnan Masarwah Srour

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Dr. Srour heads the department for early childhood education in Arab society at the David Yellin Academic College in Jerusalem. She is a lecturer and pedagogic advisor in this field, as well as a freelance evaluator of educational intervention programs in early childhood education.

Afnan received her PhD from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Her research interests focus on the intersection of knowledge, gender and religion, educational and interventions programs in early childhood education, family and raising children.

She has authored two books: *Children, Motherhood and Occupation: Ha'etgar: home instruction for parents of preschool youngsters' program in East Jerusalem* (2007) and *Women of the mosque: subversive learning of religious knowledge* (2017). She also edited *Childhood in Arab society in Israel* (2015).

## Dr. Hadas Brody Schroder

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Dr. Hadas Brodie-Schroeder heads the Regev Program for excellence in teaching at the Oranim Academic College of Education, a lecturer for Sociological Education at Oranim Academic College of Education and is a special advisor for the Tel Aviv-Yafo department of education on behalf of the Branco Weiss Institute.

Brodie-Schroeder is an expert in multi-faceted pedagogy and alternative assessment. Her chief areas of interest are excellence in education, overcoming socio-economic gaps in the periphery via specialized educational programs and changing processes in education.

## Dr. Dolly Eliyahu-Levi

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Dr. Eliyahu-Levi is the head of the Hebrew language high school department and head of the Hebrew department – language and literacy at the primary school in the Levinsky College of Education.

She is a cooperating teacher and researcher of the Hebrew language, education and immigration in Israel and throughout the world, and implementation of findings in the field. Her research focuses on multiculturalism and multi-linguistic issues, on developing Intercultural competence and on designing learning-teaching processes based on the principles of emotional-social learning. Dolly teaches courses on discourse analysis, rhetoric discourse practice, cultural-social resilience of minority communities and teaching a second language in formal and informal educational



## Dr. Vardit Makler-Pick

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Dr. Makler-Pick is the head of Regev Excellence program for outstanding students with an educational vision who aim to influence the future of education, the country and society. She has a BSc in computer science, a MSc in biochemistry and a PhD in civil and environmental engineering from the Technion. Dr. Makler-Pick lectures at Oranim Academic College of Education on quantitative research, digital learning and environmental philosophy. Her scientific research focuses on integrating computers and ecology to develop computerized models of aquatic ecosystems to examine environmental influences on these systems.

## Yulie Khromchenco

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Yulie lives in Jerusalem and is the mother of three children and a Co-Director of the "Educational Pioneer" program for promoting a cadre of young teacher leaders which was jointly founded with the "Democratic Institute" and the Ministry of Education. The program mentors novice teachers in their first years of practice and guides them to mid-level leadership positions and creating a pool of future managerial position holders. In her work, she mentored teachers and principals as part of municipal change processes for teaching, learning and evaluation adapted to the 21st century. Yulie was previously a journalist for social issues in various media outlets, was the education correspondent in Ha'aretz newspaper and a deputy editor of the Hed HaChinuch educational journal.

## Yony Choona

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Founder and CEO for the past 16 years of the "Matzmichim" Center for the reduction of violence in schools which operates in 230 schools every year. He is a graduate of the MA program in public policy for outstanding students at the Hebrew University. He runs workshops for students and teenagers, teachers, parents and educators and is a professional advisor to various forums and in the media for policy planning for managing and reducing violence. He lectures on this subject in academic institutes in Israel and Germany. In 2018 he wrote a book on reducing violence in schools.



## Yaara Shilo

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Yaara Shilo is founder and director of the undergraduate training program for daycare directors at Efrata College of Education in Jerusalem, where she serves as full-time faculty member in the Early Childhood Department at the college. Her doctoral studies at Bar Ilan University in the Department of Education and Educational Policy focus on preschool education policy in Israel in the last decade. Her social activism covers a variety of interests. She is a founder of the Social Coalition for Education from Birth, an advocacy initiative whose purpose is to influence government policy decisions related to infant and toddler care. She serves as a member on two parliamentary committees: The Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Education Committee. In addition, she is on the list of the Hitorerut Party which won seats on the Jerusalem Community Council. Yaara will serve on the council beginning in May, 2021. Yaara lives in Jerusalem with her husband and four children.

## Dr. Yitzhak (Itzik) Amar

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Dr. Amar was born in the south of the country and still lives there. He holds a B.Ed from Lifshitz College and a MA and PhD in bible studies from Bar Ilan University. He was the Hebrew studies principal at the Hebrew Academy of Montreal, and then principal at a religious high school in Ashdod. He is currently the head of the Extramural studies unit at Hemdat Hadarom Academic College, and lectures at Bar Ilan University.

## Dr. Merav Asaf

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Dr. Asaf is a senior lecturer at the Kaye Academic College in Be'er Sheva and heads the M.Ed program "Education in the Era of Information and Communications Technologies". She previously headed the college's Center for Educational Technology Initiatives and the MOFET Institute's national forum for ICT heads at teacher education colleges. Dr. Asaf lectures on ICT in learning and teaching, literacy and information studies and research methods for B.Ed and M.Ed students.

Her research interests are teacher education, ICT in learning and education, implementation of ICT and the interface between literacy and ICT.

Her academic degrees are from Tel Aviv University and Ben Gurion University.



## Dr. Marwa Sarsour

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Dr. Sarsour's professional journey began as a teacher for special education and for children with hearing impairments. She also worked as a homeroom teacher, as well as a coordinator for mainstreaming children with impaired hearing, and national guide in special education and education of children and pupils with hearing impairments. She was a member of the leading management team at the school she worked in. In 2008, she began working in academy as a pedagogical guide for early childhood education and as a lecturer at the Arab Academic Institute for education at Bet Berl college. She headed the track and department of early childhood education, the special education track and currently serves as deputy head of the Arab Academic Institute for education and lecturer in the departments of early childhood education and special education. In addition, she is a member in a number of committees, forums and key staff at the institute and college such as, including the guidance forum, committee management of the Arab Academic Institute, and Faculty of Education's management team.

## Maria Levinson-Or

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Head of Evaluation and Quality Enhancement in the Quality Assurance (QA) Division at the Council for Higher Education (CHE), since 2019. Maria holds a BA in international relations and political science and an MA in international relations, both from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She joined the CHE in 2013. In her previous position at the council, Maria was a senior coordinator at the QA division and oversaw various international evaluation committees in diverse fields such as the international committee for the evaluation of Education and Science Education study programs in universities, and the international committee for the evaluation of English Teacher Training in academic colleges of education. In her present position, she is in charge of all quality assurance processes conducted by the CHE, is part of the policy-making team and leads various projects of the CHE and the Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC) with higher education institutions and different government ministries.

## Moshe Yeshayau

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Moshe heads the program for Ethiopian students at the Kibbutzim College of Education and as a direct outcome of his position, he also works at the Merchavim Institute where he heads the unit for placement of Ethiopian-Israeli teachers in the educational system in the northern district of Israel.

Moshe came to Israel from Ethiopia with his family in 1983, making their way here on foot. He overcame the difficulties of integrating into Israeli society and reducing the gaps. After completing high school, he joined a teacher education college in Jerusalem and enlisted in the IDF to teach immigrant soldiers from various countries. He then taught in a boarding school in the north and continued with his studies, graduating from the University of Haifa with a MA in public administration.

Moshe worked with the Menifa organization to empower at-risk youth in Ramle and he developed a working model for communities. For ten years, he headed PACT (Parents & Children Together) in Afula, a program funded by Joint Israel and the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.

The challenges facing the Ethiopian immigrants who came to Israel as part of Operation Solomon were complex and numerous. Moshe considers it to be a national challenge to help in this field.



## Nofar Peiser

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Nofar is in charge of planning for teacher manpower in education in the Division of Teachers in the Ministry of Education and is responsible for promoting an organizational climate of evidence-based decision making for planning. She develops comprehensive planning processes and decision-supporting analytical tools based on reliable information concerning teacher training and their integration into the educational system. Such data-based planning will enable the system to become more efficient and to promote evidence-based policy. One of the key tasks in her work is to determine training goals at the level of subject, education stage, sector and geographical area so that the number of teachers trained meets the system's future needs.

Prior to this position, Nofar held two significant positions unconnected to the field of education. She was a senior consultant at Tefen, a management and strategic consulting firm (2013 – 2016) and the head of a Clinical Analysis team at Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., a global pharmaceutical company (2016-2019).

## Dr. Nasreen Haj Yahia

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Nasreen is a senior lecturer and heads the MA program in educational counseling at the Sakhnin College for Teacher Education. She has previously held several managerial positions in the college, including head of the early childhood education program, head of education studies and head of the Excellent Student Program. Nasreen Haj Yahia has a PhD in social work. She received her BA and MA with distinction from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and her PhD from the University of Haifa. She has received several prestigious grants thanks to her excellence in her studies and became part of the teaching faculty at the Hebrew University at the age of 24. She researches the Arab family and the emotional resilience of its members. In addition to her academic work, Nasreen is also a licensed family therapist and psychotherapist and has her private clinic.

## Dr. Adi Sharabi

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Dr. Sharabi heads of the M.Teach program and chairs the college senior promotion committee and until recently, she was the head of the special education department at the Kibbutzim College. Prior to that, she was the coordinator of the field of learning disabilities in the Division of educational and Welfare Services in the Ministry of Education. Dr. Sharabi's received her PhD thesis from Tel Aviv University. Her thesis was about internet friendships and emotional and social aspects of adolescents with learning disabilities in various educational environments. She researches and lectures about the emotional and social adaptations of adolescents with disabilities and of their families, and their integration in society and in the educational system.





## Dr. Rania Hussein- Farraj

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Dr. Hussein-Farraj is a lecturer, pedagogic advisor and faculty member at the Oranim Academic College of Education. She holds management positions in the school of education and heads a team of lecturers and pedagogic advisors in their work. Rania received her three academic degrees from the department of education in science and technology at the Technion, Haifa. Her PhD thesis was on distance learning among science and engineering students. She was an academic advisor for students studying for their BSc in teaching chemistry and a teaching assistant for science teaching courses at the Technion. In recent years, she lectured on science education at various education colleges as well as being a lecturer in the Teach First Israel program for retraining academics. Rania volunteered to be a member of the advisory committee to the Weitzman Institute for the promotion of excellence in the sciences in the Arab sector. She is a member of Al-Maram – a non-profit organization for promoting excellence in the sciences in the Arab sector. Rania has presented at local and international conferences and published articles in Israeli and international journals. As part of her post-doctorate studies, Rania is a member of a research group of the faculty of education and technology at Haifa University where she is currently completing her study about civil science as part of the Taking Citizen Science to School (TCSS) project.

## Dr. Ruti Segal

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Dr. Segal received her BSc degree in mathematics and computer sciences from Haifa University, her MSc in science education, specializing in mathematics from the Hebrew University, and her PhD in science and technological education from the Technion.

She was a high school math teacher for more than twenty years, especially 5-point (level A) math in junior high schools. In addition, she held management and advisory positions including national supervisor of high school math teachers. Dr. Segal is currently a senior lecturer and head of the department of mathematics education (B.Ed.) and is the head of the Master's degree (M.Ed) program in mathematics and science teaching in elementary schools at the Oranim College.

## Dr. Tikva Ovadiya

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Dr. Ovadiya is a lecturer in math teaching in the B.Ed and M.Ed programs at the Oranim Academic College of Education and at the Michlalah Jerusalem College. Dr. Ovadiya researches solution finding processes, self-study of students and teachers, learning interventions in academia or school, teaching practices of math teachers and teacher educators, reflective diaries of teachers and novice teachers and the connection with awareness and memory. She is also interested in the learning environments and study tasks of students in programs for mathematics education worldwide. Tikva has a PhD in mathematics education from the faculty of science teaching at the Technion. She authored a study on promoting mathematical teaching among students with difficulties in learning math and received a prize from the Technion for this. Her thesis from Haifa University describes a model for specifying stages of the professional development of facilitators of math teachers. She has held pedagogic managerial positions in high school education as well as advisory positions to teachers and principals. She is a volunteer member of steering committees for seminars and ultra-Orthodox schools to promote optimal teaching of STEM subjects.



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**Dr. Yaacov Kurtzweil • manager of the Alumot program**

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Dr. Kurtzweil is the manager of the Alumot program. He believes in developing constructivist programs for the professional development of educators, in order to improve their educational practices in the fields of formal and informal education. He was a member of the R&D team at Avnei Rosh- the Israel Institute for School Leadership, as well as a member of the academic management team at Hemdat Hadarom Academic College of Education. Yaacov earned a master's and doctorate degree in Jewish Thought from Ben Gurion University. He is a graduate of the 24th cohort of the Mandel School for Educational Leadership and of the Avney Rosh- Institute program for aspiring school principals.

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**Dr. Silvia Stieglitz • facilitator of the Alumot program**

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Dr. Stieglitz is a facilitator of the Alumot program. For ten years she headed the training program for teachers of children with complex disabilities at the David Yellin Academic College of Education. She is a member of the institute for sustainability education at David Yellin and is the academic accessibility coordinator and teaches inclusive courses about social change in the field of disabilities in which students with disabilities learn with regular students. She is the head of the division of courses and workshops at the MOFET Institute and head of the specialization track in academic management. Dr. Stieglitz is a member of the board of trustees of the Bizchut organization for people with disabilities.

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**Haya Segev • Coordinator of the Alumot program**

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Coordinator of the Alumot program. She holds an MBA in business management. Her previous positions include working at the Dean of Students office in the Kibbutzim College and team leader in the commercial section of Bank Leumi. Haya is married to Gil and mother of Libby and Shiri.