

**Tender to Award an Encouragement of Mediterranean
Sea Research Scholarship to Students Holding
Advanced Degrees (Master's, Doctorate, or
Postdoctorate) in Partner Institutions in the
Mediterranean Sea Research Center for Israel – Year
A 5771**

**Tender No.: 7/2
Tender Bylaws**



Bar-Ilan University



המרכז האקדמי רופין
Ruppin Academic Center



Definitions

The Center:	The Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel.
The Partner Institutions:	The Partner Institutions in the Center as defined above and detailed below are: Bar-Ilan University, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, IDC Herzliya, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research (IOLR), Tel Aviv University, the Hebrew University, the Ruppin Academic Center, the Technion, the Weizmann Institute of Science, and the University of Haifa.
The Teaching Committee:	A committee operating within the framework of the Center, the primary activity of which is to encourage advanced degree students in the research and teaching field relating to Mediterranean Sea research, and this by providing scholarships for excellence, for research, focused and interdisciplinary workshops in Israel, enrichment courses overseas, study cruises on the Mediterranean Sea, and such like.
The Effective Date:	December 31, 2020 at 08:00 or another date to be published by the Center.
The Scholarship:	The Mediterranean Sea Research Center will award up to 10 scholarships of amounts to be determined by the Center and which will not exceed NIS 10,000 (ten thousand new Israeli shekels).

Interpretation

1. In any event of a conflict and/or discrepancy between the provisions in these Bylaws and other publications pertaining to the tender, including but not limited to publications through the media, the provisions in these Bylaws will prevail for all senses and purposes.



Introduction

2. The Center and the Partner Institutions comprising it are interested in awarding scholarships (hereinafter “the Scholarship”) to candidates holding advanced degrees who are interested in executing, during the course of the 5771 (2020–2021) academic year, research associated with the Mediterranean Sea or technological aspects of or environmental science effects on the Mediterranean Sea.



3. The Scholarship will be given by the parent institution that the student attends as a direct scholarship and will serve the purpose of furthering the student’s research (such as the purchase of materials and/or scientific equipment, and/or funding travel).



4. The purpose of these Bylaws is to determine rules to apply to the tender to receive the Scholarship.



Rules for Participation in the Tender

5. Participating in the tender is contingent upon fulfilling the following accumulative conditions:



5.1. The candidate is an active student for a Master’s/Doctorate/Postdoctorate degree at one of the Partner Institutions as defined above;

5.2. The candidate’s proposed research will be associated with the Mediterranean Sea or technological aspects of or environmental science effects on the Mediterranean Sea;

5.3. The proposed research is expected to be conducted during the course of the 5771 (2020–2021) academic year;

5.4. The candidacy was submitted by the last date to submit candidacy.

6. Receipt of the Scholarship is subject to the winning candidate being registered as an active student at one of the Partner Institutions in the Center and receipt of signed confirmation from the Institution at which the winning candidate studies in the form of Appendix B of these Bylaws.

7. Submitting a candidacy to the tender means consenting to these Bylaws unconditionally.



Submission of Candidacy

8. Candidacy will be submitted no later than the Effective Date as defined above, to the Center via email to: merci@univ.haifa.ac.il.

9. The candidacy will contain the following documents:

A. A detailed letter stating how the candidate’s research is associated with



- Mediterranean Sea research and why the Center should support the funding thereof;
- B. The candidate's curriculum vitae;
 - C. A list of the candidate's publications, if applicable;
 - D. Valid approval of studies from one of the Partner Institutions;
 - E. For first year Master's degree students, the candidate's undergraduate degree transcript; for second year Master's degree students, the candidate's undergraduate transcript and graduate degree transcript through the current semester; for Doctoral students, the candidate's Master's degree transcript and current grades, if applicable; for Postdoctoral students, a list of publications;
 - F. Letter of recommendation from candidate's direct mentor;
 - G. Confirmation of the proposed research plan by the academic institution;
 - H. A statement of the scope of the research proposal not exceeding five pages (font size 11, line spacing 1.5). The research proposal will include:
 - i. A synopsis, not to exceed 250 words;
 - ii. Background: purposes of the research and importance thereof;
 - iii. The Research Plan: the main approaches and methods designated for executing the research;
 - The research status: a one-paragraph description of the current stage of the candidate's research and what aspects of the research have been completed up to the date of the candidacy submission.
10. The candidate must submit the items above as a single document in PDF format and according to the order presented above. Attach as the first page a list of documents and mark the documents that are being submitted with a ☒ symbol.
 11. A candidate who does not attach all the requisite documents may have his proposal disqualified by the Center.
 12. Without derogating from the above, the Center retains the right to request that the candidate provide supplementary documents or clarifications with respect to the proposal or any other detail.

Selection of Winner/s

13. The Judging Committee (hereinafter "the Committee") will be comprised of four to five members of the Teaching Committee including the Committee Chair. The candidate proposals that satisfy the participation conditions will be remitted to the Committee, which will review them and select the winning candidate/s. Every member of the Committee will examine all the proposals, with the exception of proposals from the Committee member's academic institution. Every proposal will be reviewed by at least two Committee members.



14. Grading the proposals in general will be in accordance with criteria and weights as appearing in items 15.1–15.6 below. In the event and after such grading that a decision cannot be made with respect to the identity of the winning candidate/s, the Committee will hold an open discussion and the voting with respect to the winning candidates will be pursuant to a majority of votes.
15. The Committee will base its decision inter alia on the following criteria:
 - 15.1. Average grades (or list of publications for Postdoctoral students) (10%);
 - 15.2. The degree the candidate holds (insofar as the candidate's degree is more advanced and insofar as his ranking in the more advanced degree is higher, a higher score will be given) (5%);
 - 15.3. Research excellence – the scorers' assessment of the candidate and his proposal's research excellence based on the research proposal as submitted and the other documents submitted (35%);
 - 15.4. The scorers' assessment pertaining to the proposal meeting the tender requirements (25%);
 - 15.5. The scorers' opinion of the direct mentor's recommendations (10%);
 - 15.6. General assessment by the scorers (15%).
16. Notwithstanding the above, the Committee may refrain from selecting a proposal as the winner, to allow a variety of candidates from various disciplines/departments and different institutions to win.
17. The Committee may request clarifications from the candidates insofar as their research is concerned.
18. The Committee may remit, at its discretion, a certain research plan or research plans to be examined by an expert or additional experts who are not members thereof. The provisions in the external expert's opinion express his position only and will be of his sole responsibility, and will not constitute a basis to any argument against the Committee or the Center. Furthermore, it is clarified that such an opinion will not be binding on the Committee, but rather will constitute one of the considerations the Committee considers within the framework of its discretion.
19. The Committee may determine the number of winners of the tender and the Scholarship amounts in accordance with the Center's discretion and budget, provided that each Scholarship does not exceed NIS 10,000.
20. Final approval of the Committee's decision will be given in accordance with the available budget and subject to receiving the Center's executive's approval and budgetary approval and subject to the Center's procedures.
21. The Center, or an individual designated to act on its behalf, will notify the



- candidate that his research proposal has won in an email message or via telephone, pursuant to the details remitted to it at the time that the proposal was submitted. Notices will also be remitted by the Center's staff to candidates whose research proposals were not selected.
22. The Scholarship will be awarded to the winning candidate/s directly from the parent institution that he attends and in accordance with the regulations of that institution and subject to the fact that all the conditions in these Bylaws are satisfied and only after he signs the declaration in the form of **Appendix A** of these Bylaws and **Appendix B** of these Bylaws are presented to the Center signed and approved by the parent institution's authorized signatories.
 23. If a candidate who won cannot with reasonable diligence be contacted and/or if a candidate who won did not meet the funding requirements to receive a scholarship listed in these Bylaws and/or was disqualified pursuant to the Committee's decision due to a special reason, the Committee may decide on another winner.
 24. The University's legal adviser or someone on its behalf will rule at any time if a misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the Bylaws arises and will rule on any dispute between the Center and the winners or someone alleging that he won.

General

25. The Committee, as stated above, will select the winner. Every participant releases the Center and the Partner Institutions and/or their representatives and/or employees and/or the other participants in the tender of any claim or claims relating to the tender.
26. The Scholarship cannot, under any circumstances, be converted to a monetary equivalent and/or other prize.
27. The name of the winner/s and the gist of the research may be published, and the Center's public relations and/or the institution which the winner attends in the various forms of media, and the winner/s hereby waive any claim and/or demand in respect of such a broadcast and/or use of their name and/or details and/or their works and/or the gist of the works within the framework of publications in connection with this tender and/or other publications of the Center and the Partner Institutions.
28. The Center and the Partner Institutions release themselves of any liability to send submission forms and/or appendices thereto via electronic mail.
29. It is hereby clarified that the Center's records and/or the records of anyone on its behalf pertaining to receipt of the submission forms via electronic mail are conclusive proof of receipt of the submission forms.
30. The mere participation in the tender will be considered as consent, approval, and a declaration that the participant therein has read these



- Bylaws, agrees to the conditions, and is bound to act pursuant thereto, and even if the participant did not read the Bylaws, he consents to these Bylaws applying to him as if he had read them and will be bound by them for all senses and purposes. The participant is obligated to comply with the proper rules of conduct and not to act contrary to any law.
31. The Center and the Partner Institutions may at any time at their sole discretion and for any reason act as follows: to stop or cancel the tender and/or change the conditions in these Bylaws and/or change the tender participation conditions and/or change the tender period and/or the dates and/or the Scholarship amount, and each participant waives any claim and/or allegation in respect thereto.
 32. Without derogating from the provisions in these Bylaws, it is clarified that the Center and the Partner Institutions will not bear any liability in the event of an act and/or omission by a third party, including but not limited to a dispute with a third party in connection with this tender and/or these Bylaws and/or the Scholarship subject matter of the tender.
 33. The Center and the Partner Institutions will not bear any liability for any direct and/or indirect damage, including but not limited to shortening the tender period, and including but not limited to direct and/or indirect expenses incurred as a result of and/or in connection with participating in the tender and/or in connection with the Scholarship, including but not limited to damages resulting from force majeure, accidents, diseases, theft, loss of any property, mental anguish, etc., and/or any decision and/or action taken and/or to be taken by a participant in reliance upon him participating in this tender and/or winning the Scholarship.
 34. In any event, the winning participant will not have any claim and/or demand and/or allegation against those holding the tender and any other body affiliated thereto, or on behalf of any of these, in respect of any matter and purpose and anything associated directly or indirectly to this tender, including but without derogating from the generality of the above anything associated with the manner in which the tender is conducted, the manner in which the research proposals are reviewed, and the manner in which the Scholarship is received and realized.
 35. Liability to realize the Scholarship lies solely with the winner/s. The Center and the Partner Institutions will not bear any liability for the winning candidate/s not realizing the Scholarship in full or in part.
 36. It is clarified that any tax, deduction, or demand for payment of tax, of any type, will be the sole responsibility of winner/s and solely at their expense. The Center and the Partner Institutions may remit to the tax authorities, if required to do so by law, the details of the winner/s and/or deduct tax at source. The Center and the Partner Institutions will not be



- obligated to pay tax in connection with the winnings.
37. In the event it is proven that due to the negligence of the Center and the Partner Institutes or anyone on their behalf a participant was unable to participate in the tender and/or win the Scholarship and/or in the event a participant raises a claim and/or demand in connection with the tender and this is found to be justified, the maximum compensation amount that the participant will be entitled to receive will be limited to NIS 10,000 only.
 38. For further details and questions you may contact Ms. Rotem Dori at: merci@univ.haifa.ac.il For information or questions on this tender, please contact the Responsible Parties, Dr. Oded Katz, Geological Survey of Israel odedk@gsi.gov.il and Prof. Gitai Yahel, Ruppin Academic Center GitaiYahel@Gmail.com, Yahel@Ruppin.ac.il.
 39. In these Bylaws, use of the masculine form is solely for convenience purposes, and the provisions also relate to the feminine form impliedly.



Appendix A of the Bylaws – Winner's Statement

The Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel (hereinafter “the Center”), and its Partner Institutions therein, Bar-Ilan University, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, IDC Herzliya, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research (IOLR), Tel Aviv University, the Hebrew University, the Ruppin Academic Center, the Technion, the Weizmann Institute of Science, and the University of Haifa, respectfully award you a Mediterranean Sea research scholarship (hereinafter “the Scholarship”) for the 5771 (2020–2021) academic year as a result of your winning a tender allowing you to dedicate your time to the research.

As a condition precedent to receiving the Scholarship you must complete your details below and state as follows:

I, the undersigned, _____, bearer of I.D. no. _____, at institution _____, hereby declare and confirm that:

1. My winning the Scholarship was not obtained in violation of the Bylaws and/or contrary to their conditions and that in the event it is clarified to the contrary, I undertake to return the Scholarship without prejudicing any relief and rights of the Center and the Partner Institutions therein pursuant to the law;
2. I am aware that I will receive the Scholarship from the parent institution that I attend in accordance with the rules practiced thereat, and that I do not and will not have and/or anyone on my behalf does not and will not have any claim and/or allegation and/or demand against the Center and the Partner Institutions therein and/or anyone on their behalf insofar as the tender and/or the Scholarship is concerned;
3. I agree that my name and work that I submit or any summary or section thereof may be published by the Center and the Partner Institutions therein and I hereby waive any claim and/or demand in respect of such publication and/or use of my name and my work within the framework of the publications relating to this tender and/or other publications of the Center and the Partner Institutions therein;
4. I undertake that any publication deriving from my research will mention the Center's support in the following format: “Funding (or support) provided to XXX by the Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel”;
5. I am aware that Section 9(29) of the Income Tax Ordinance states that a scholarship that is awarded to a student to fund tuition fees or to live during the period he attends studies, given to him during the period of his studies at an academic and research institution is exempt from tax so long as no consideration is given by the student in return for the Scholarship. In this respect, a scholarship includes a grant, prize or exemption from payment. I am aware that a scholarship that does not meet the conditions in Section 9(29) above, such as a scholarship granted not within the period of the student's studies as defined in the section and/or with consideration given by the student for the Scholarship, will not be exempt from tax. Therefore, I am aware that I may be required to pay tax in the future, at my expense, on the Scholarship awarded to me. Payment of tax will be by way of deducting tax at source or any other manner and I hereby agree to this.



This is my name, this is my signature, and the content of this statement of mine is true.

In witness whereof I hereto set my hands:



Appendix B to the Bylaws – Confirmation by the Parent Institution

Request for an Encouragement Scholarship within the Framework of a Tender to Award an Encouragement of Mediterranean Sea Research Scholarship to Students Holding Advanced Degrees (Master's, Doctorate, or Postdoctorate) in Partner Institutions in the Mediterranean Sea Research Center for Israel, Bar-Ilan University, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, IDC Herzliya, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research (IOLR), Tel Aviv University, the Hebrew University, the Ruppin Academic Center, the Technion, the Weizmann Institute of Science, and the University of Haifa – Year A 5771 Tender No.: 7/2



Name of Candidate: _____

Name of Chief Researcher: _____

Name of Institution the Candidate Attends: _____

(hereinafter “the Institution”)

The requested Scholarship amount for the candidate within the framework of participating in the aforementioned tender is: NIS _____.

The Institution undertakes as follows:

1. The Institution undertakes to pay the candidate directly the Scholarship amount he wins, as stipulated above;
2. The Institution undertakes that the awarding of the Scholarship will be in accordance with the rules practiced by it;
3. The Institution undertakes that the foregoing candidate is engaged in Mediterranean Sea research that corresponds with the conditions in tender No. 7/2 published on behalf of the Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel and pursuant to the Center's procedures;

At the end of each academic year, the Institution undertakes to remit to the University of Haifa a financial report pertaining to exploitation of the Scholarship funds signed by the Institution's accountant, in the format required by the Planning and Budget Committee. The Institution will ensure that duplicate reports are not sent with respect to this Scholarship within the framework of the reporting to the Mediterranean Sea Research

Center of Israel. Authorized Signatories

Name: _____ Name: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

