

November 3, 2024

A message from the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and the Vice Dean for Teaching and Students at the Start of the 2024-2025 Academic Year

Dear Students,

We welcome you at the start of the 2024-2025 academic year.

393 days have passed since the outbreak of the "Iron Swords" war, whose end is still unclear. We understand that the 2024-2025 academic year, like the previous year, will be different in character from any previous academic year in the past. We have dedicated significant time and thought, in various forums and working groups, to prepare for it. We are proud that the Faculty of Engineering is leading in all aspects of planning and implementing adjustments and assistance measures, in various aspects - academic, administrative, and psychological. Information about the faculty's outline will be sent to you by email during this week and will also be available online in the University and Faculty websites.

We are aware that many of our students, more than in any other faculty, will continue to serve in the IDF and security forces, both in regular service and reserves, this year as well. Our hearts are with them; we never stop thinking about them. Just as we were committed to them in 2023-2024, in 2024-2025 we are also committed to doing everything in our power to help them to successfully complete the academic year. We are also aware of the difficulties experienced by our students from the north and south, both evacuees and non-evacuees, and we will try to accommodate them within the adjustments' outline as well.

Our main mission is to prepare you to lead knowledge-intensive industries in Israel and worldwide and to position Israel at the forefront of global engineering research. Our students, who participate in unique projects such as designing and building an autonomous boat, a racing car, a drone that pollinates agricultural crops, or a portable incubator for water sampling in remote locations worldwide, are the ones who become scientists and key figures in advanced industries in Israel and around the world.

The faculty consists of five academic units: School of Electrical Engineering, School of Mechanical Engineering, Department of Industrial Engineering, Department of Biomedical Engineering, and Department of Materials Science and Engineering, which together provide comprehensive coverage of all engineering fields. Additionally, unique programs such as "Digital Sciences for High-Tech" attract students from industry, the defense system, and other places. The faculty currently has over 4,700 students, including more than 1,300 in advanced degrees.

Teaching and research in the faculty are led by approximately 130 senior academic staff members, who lead research groups dealing with a vast array of fields, such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, smart transportation, data science, communications, optics, IoT sensors for air quality applications, health, traffic and smart cities, renewable energy, water treatment, nano-science and nano-technology, brain-machine interface technologies, micro-mechanics and micro-flow, smart materials development, 3D printing, defense system technology development, and more.

Following the faculty's growth and development in recent years, we strive for new heights. Among other things, we value increasing social involvement, diversity, and emphasizing engineering studies as a tool for social mobility and empowerment.

In recent years, we have revolutionized our scholarship policy and incentivization of outstanding students, both in the excellence program for undergraduate studies and in master's and doctoral programs. This revolution positions our faculty as the most attractive engineering faculty in Israel. You are invited to contact the unit secretariats for additional details.

The Faculty of Engineering at Tel Aviv University is one big family. It is very important for us to maintain a positive, inclusive, and respectful atmosphere. Therefore, especially during such a tense period, we call upon and ask all of you to maintain restraint, tolerance, and patience, and to respect others. By joining hands, we can successfully overcome the challenges ahead of us.

Alongside dealing with the challenges, try to also enjoy your study period at the Faculty of Engineering at Tel Aviv University. Despite the difficulties, we believe you will remember this period as one of the most beautiful and interesting times in your lives, even in such challenging times. Our door is always open to you, and we will be happy to hear and learn from each and every one of you.

Best of luck,

Professor Noam Eliaz, Dean of Engineering
Professor Arie Yeredor, Vice Dean for Teaching and Students