

About the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Technion–Cornell Institute

- **The Joan and Irwin Jacobs Technion–Cornell Institute (Jacobs Institute)** is a key component of Cornell Tech, the campus that Cornell University is responsible for building on Roosevelt Island. Fusing academic excellence with real-world applications through its unique two-year dual master’s degree program in Information Systems, the Jacobs Institute is expected to contribute to the transformation of New York City’s economy and create tens of thousands of jobs and new businesses.
- **The Jacobs Institute** is just one element of the overall Cornell Tech campus, which will also house other Cornell initiatives. Because Cornell’s activity extends beyond the partnership between the Technion and Cornell, the project is referred to as Cornell Tech. Cornell is responsible for the full legal and financial burden of designing and funding what has been estimated to be a \$2 billion project.
- **Mission statement:** The Joan and Irwin Jacobs Technion–Cornell Institute plays a key role within Cornell Tech, by offering interdisciplinary dual degree programs in the applied information-based sciences, and by bringing a global perspective to research and education with an emphasis on technology transfer, commercialization and entrepreneurship.
- **The Jacobs Institute** a home for experimentation at Cornell Tech. It’s a sandbox-like environment focused on solving problems based on societal needs and making an impact on the New York City economy. Unlike traditional graduate programs, The Jacobs Institute, which embodies the academic partnership on the Cornell Tech campus, is organized around interdisciplinary hubs that are relevant to New York City’s key industries. There are already Master’s level classes in hubs for Connective Media (focused on mobile and interactive media) and Health Tech (focused on creating solutions for better health care outcomes).
- **The Jacobs Institute is fully accredited** by the State of New York, and offers a novel two-year Technion–Cornell dual Master of Science in Information Systems degree. The Jacobs Institute’s masters degree programs—in Health Tech and Connective Media—focus on the need for innovation in industries where New York City has historically excelled, like healthcare and media, while always remaining anchored in technology. The educational program

includes theoretical and practical training in entrepreneurship and innovation. Graduates of the program receive two degrees, one from each parent institution. Jacobs Institute faculty members include accomplished scientists, engineers and technologists with proven entrepreneurial skills who can effectively engage with industry.

- **The Jacobs Institute's first graduating class** of 12 students graduated in May 2016. The graduates received the MS in Information Systems with a concentration in Connective Media. As dual-degree recipients, the graduates received diplomas from Cornell University and the Technion. The granting of the MS in Information Science degrees from the Technion represented the first time an accredited international university granted a degree in the United States.
- Based at the Jacobs Institute, **The Runway Startup Postdoc Program** supports recent PhDs who are likewise able to draw on the resources New York City has to offer as they build on their research to develop tech companies on campus. The program is part business school, part research institution, and part startup incubator, and ushers recent PhDs in digital technology fields through a paradigm shift — from an academic mindset to an entrepreneurial outlook.
- The Runway Program is led by **Technion Professor Uzi de Haan**, a global leader in tech entrepreneurship. Cornell and Technion professors serve as mentors for the postdocs, but the aspiring entrepreneurs also meet with those who can share their expertise in areas from law to venture capital. They are working on startups in mobile healthcare, e-commerce for small businesses, and the built environment, among other areas. Runway alumni include Assaf Glaser, whose product, Nanit, analyzes infants' sleep patterns with machine learning algorithms and advanced computer vision technology.
- **Dr. Ron Brachman** became the director of the Jacobs Institute on July 1, 2016. He was formerly Yahoo!'s Chief Scientists and Head of Yahoo! Labs, an internationally recognized authority on artificial intelligence, and a member of the Computer Science faculty at Cornell University. He succeeded Professor Adam Shwartz, who returned to the Technion as Senior Executive Vice President. Prof. Shwartz remains involved with the Jacobs Institute, as Chair of the Jacobs Institute Board of Directors.
- **The Jacobs Institute is currently located** in the Cornell Tech space in Google's New York City headquarters in Chelsea. The entire Cornell Tech campus is slated to move to Roosevelt Island in 2017. Construction is underway, with the tech incubator "The Bridge" slated to open later in 2017, along with the Bloomberg Center. When fully complete in 2037, the campus will include more than two million square feet of academic, residential, and

corporate R&D space and will be home to over 2,000 graduate students and hundreds of faculty and staff.

- In April 2016, the Jacobs Institute and AOL announced a technology called “immersive recommendations technology,” which would let users opt in to use their personal digital information from one platform to better inform content recommendations for them on another platform. It was **the first technology to emerge from the Connected Experiences Lab** partnership between the two entities.
- On April 22, 2013, Dr. Irwin Mark Jacobs, Founding Chairman and CEO Emeritus of Qualcomm, and his wife Joan Klein Jacobs, announced a \$133-million naming gift to Cornell University and the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology to create the **Joan and Irwin Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute**.
- **Joan and Irwin Jacobs** have a long history of supporting both Cornell University and the Technion. Both are Cornell alumni. The Jacobs’ visionary support of the Technion includes the Irwin and Joan Jacobs Graduate School and the Irwin and Joan Jacobs Center for Communications and Information Technologies (CCIT). The Graduate School gift provided for more – and larger – fellowships for retaining and teaching graduate students, and established unique, multi-disciplinary research programs that educate Israel’s future technology leaders. The gift for the CCIT significantly expanded the interdisciplinary center’s contributions to the rapid growth of communication technology worldwide and helped staff the center with leading scientists from around the world.

In 1993 Dr. Jacobs directed Qualcomm to establish an R&D center (the company’s first outside of San Diego) near the Technion campus in Haifa, to take better advantage of its talented graduates.

A member of the Technion International Board of Governors, Dr. Jacobs is a Life Trustee of the American Technion Society (ATS) National Board of Regents, and a member of the ATS San Diego Chapter.