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About the Guangdong Technion Israel Institute of Technology

The **Guangdong Technion Israel Institute of Technology (GTIIT)** is an historic partnership between the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and Shantou University (STU) to promote joint undergraduate and graduate-level research and innovation. Located in China's Guangdong Province, GTIIT is the first Israeli university in China and the Technion's second presence on a campus outside Israel—yet another example of the Technion's growing global influence. Made possible by a \$130 million grant from the Li Ka Shing Foundation (LKSF), the venture represents unprecedented cooperation between the People's Government of Guangdong Province and the Shantou Municipal Government, Technion, and STU. Inaugurated in December 2017, GTIIT is ushering in a new era of cooperative research between Israel and China.

GTIIT's Vision: The university is modeled after the Technion, adhering to its rigorous academic standards with the goal of becoming a world-class international science and technology university. Its cutting-edge research is expected to boost entrepreneurship and technology transfer, and foster a high-tech industrial ecosystem in Shantou and Guangdong Province. With a focus on the three interconnected areas of environmental sciences, energy resources and human health, GTIIT aims to train scientists and engineers who will create pioneering research for China and the world.

GTIIT hopes to import Israel's innovative and entrepreneurial spirit. In turn, the Technion gains access to China's vast resources and boosts its ability to attract doctoral and post-doc students who see their future in China. A win-win for all.

Campus Opens its Doors: GTIIT's 2017-2018 academic year opened in the fall with:

- some 216 undergraduate students enrolled in three programs: chemical engineering, biotech and food engineering, and materials engineering
- a campus that housed 13 buildings, including dozens of laboratories, classrooms and six dormitories
- GTIIT undergraduate students will earn Technion engineering degrees as well as a Chinese Ministry of Education approved degree certificate from GTIIT

Future: The cast and curriculum for GTIIT's 10-year plan envisions:

- Approximately 3,000 students including 300 graduate students and 70 faculty
- Graduate-level programs in Chemical Engineering, Materials Engineering, Food Engineering, environmental Engineering, Mathematics, Physics Chemistry and Biology
- An industrial park planned for the GTIIT campus will serve as a foothold for Israeli companies to crack key markets in the U.S. and China

The GTIIT will grow in terms of its area and the number of students and faculty, but in order to maintain the high level of instruction this growth will be accomplished gradually. By 2036:

- GTIIT's student population is expected to be around 5,000, including around 1,000 graduate and doctoral students
- The area of GTIIT will also grow accordingly, from its current area of 100,000 square meters to 400,000 square meters

At the Helm: The GTIIT has attracted highly regarded educational leaders including:

- Nobel Laureate and **Technion Distinguished Professor Aaron Ciechanover***, GTIIT Vice Chancellor. Prof. Ciechanover heads up the university's academic curriculum, assisted by Prof. Eliezer Shalev (former Dean of the Rappaport Faculty of Medicine), who serves as Executive Pro-Vice Chancellor, and Yigal Cohen, who serves as Pro-Vice Chancellor and Director General. Mr. Cohen held a range of administrative positions at the Technion.

(Distinguished Prof. Ciechanover jointly received the 2004 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of the ubiquitin-mediated process that cells use to degrade and recycle proteins. He is also co-director of the Technion Integrated Cancer Center.)*

- **Prof. Li Jiange**, presides as Chancellor, the equivalent of a U.S. or Israeli university president. A notable economist, Mr. Li currently serves as Vice Chairman of Central Huijin Investment Company, one of the most influential financial institutions in China. He also supervises graduate students at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Tsinghua PBCSF and the School of Finance of Renmin University of China. Mr. Li has served as Director of the China Securities Regulatory Commission and held important posts in the state Research Office and the Department of Policies, Laws and Regulations.

History:

In April 2011, the Technion received a call from billionaire Li Ka-shing's foundation requesting a visit to the Technion with representatives of Shantou University. A month later, a delegation representing Mr. Li arrived at the Technion. And in September of that year, when Technion President Prof. Peretz Lavie was delivering a lecture at Shantou University, he received an invitation to lunch with Mr. Li. At the end of that lunch, it became clear that Mr. Li, who had long been investing in Israel and was a patron of Shantou University, wanted to bring a bit of the Technion to Shantou.

In September 2013, the Li Ka-shing Foundation granted the Technion \$130 million, the largest ever gift to the Technion, and one of the most generous in the history of Israeli higher education. Part was allocated to the Technion's home campus in Haifa, and the remainder enabled the Technion to help build GTIIT. Construction of the GTIIT campus began with a groundbreaking ceremony on December 16, 2015. And just two years later, the GTIIT campus was **officially inaugurated on December 18, 2017**.

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