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. 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 and is yet another example of the Technion's growing global influence.

GTIIT's Vision

The university is modeled after the Technion, adhering to its rigorous academic

standards and commitment to multidisciplinary research and innovation. Its goal is to become a leading technological institute in China within the next 10 years. GTIIT's 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 postdoc students who see their future in China. This is a win-win for all.

Fast Facts: The Technion...

- Stanford University named eight GTIIT professors to its 2022 list of the World's Top 2% Scientists
- GTIIT researchers have published more than 500 papers in five years
- GTIIT undergraduate students earn Technion engineering degrees as well as a Chinese Ministry of Education approved degree certificate from GTIIT
- GTIIT currently offers bachelor's degrees in six academic programs, taught in English: Materials Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering and Robotics, Biotechnology and Food Engineering, and Chemistry
- GTIIT offers master's and Ph.D. programs in the disciplines listed above as well as environmental sciences, physics, and engineering research groups in collaboration with the Technion
- GTIIT enrolled some 216 undergraduate students in 2017-2018, its first academic year and now has more than 1,000 undergraduates.

- In July 2022, GTIIT graduated its second cohort of 212 undergraduates — 40% more than last year, including 37% women. At the time of graduation, more than 130 graduates were already accepted into graduate programs at prestigious universities including Stanford University, Columbia University, Cornell University, UCLA, and Johns Hopkins University

Campus

GTIIT has two campuses, both of which are open for the Guangdong-Technion community. The North Campus has 17 large teaching laboratories and 55 research labs. The South Campus is divided into four construction phases and will be the main campus when completed. In addition to student dorms, a library, and canteen, the campus has two indoor swimming pools, a climbing wall, and areas for other activities. Their outdoor sports facilities include an athletic track, football field, and tennis courts.

GTIIT plans to launch more undergraduate programs in the future, and to grow its student body to 5,000. An industrial park is also planned for the GTIIT campus, which will serve as a foothold for Israeli companies to crack key markets in the U.S. and China.

At the Helm

The GTIIT has attracted highly regarded educational leaders including:

- Professor Gong Xingao was appointed Chancellor in April 2021, the equivalent of a U.S. or Israeli university president. He also holds the titles of Xie Xide Distinguished Professor of Fudan University, principal scientist of the Major Scientific Research Programs of the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology, Fellow of the American Physical Society, and Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. An eminent computational physicist, he twice won first prize for the Provincial Award for Natural Science and was the second prize winner for the National Award for Natural Science.
- Technion Professor David Gershoni serves as Vice Chancellor. He focuses his research on the optical and electronic properties of low-dimensional semiconductor systems, such as quantum dots and Nitrogen-Vacancy centers in diamonds. Prof. Gershoni received all three degrees at the Technion, then worked at AT&T Bell Laboratories in New Jersey. He joined the Technion faculty in 1991 while remaining a consultant for AT&T.
- Professor Lin Danming serves as Pro-Vice Chancellor of GTIIT and was one of the universities founders. He is a graduate of the Sun Yat-Sen University and the University of Hong Kong. Prof. Lin started his career teaching business administration at Sun Yat-Sen University. As Vice President for International Affairs at Shantou University he helped create GTIIT.

- Nobel Laureate and Technion Distinguished Professor Aaron Ciechanover serves as Special Envoy of the Technion President to GTIIT. Prof. Ciechanover received the 2004 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of the ubiquitin-mediated process.

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 then 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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