



May 27, 2020

To: students, administrative and academic staff members and visitors of the Technion

Re: Gradual return to routine operations following the spread of the Corona virus

Dear all,

Following the "flattening of the curve" in the spread of the COVID-19 virus in Israel, the government has eased some of the emergency regulations and we have started a gradual process of returning to "routine" operations. Since May 3rd we operate the campus according to the "Purple Badge" standards – we have opened teaching labs, libraries, self-learning spaces, the synagogue, several of the sport facilities, etc. – all according to strict health regulations. On Sunday we will re-open the swimming pool complex and release additional sport facilities. Please follow the updates on the Technion Corona Emergency webpage for more details. We are also preparing for gradual return of academic visitors and post-doctoral students – these visitors will need to stay in quarantine for 14 days after arriving to Israel and we will enable their stay at the Forscheimer Guest House on campus for this duration. Unless something dramatic happens in the next two weeks, the Technion and all other universities will be permitted to return to full-scale activity on June 14th.

While we are happy to be moving towards routine operations it should be emphasized that it's too early to celebrate victory over Corona. The threat is still here and apparently is here to stay for quite some time. Hence, the new routine will include strict adherence to the Purple Badge regulations – social distancing, wearing face masks, washing hands, partitions between workers in closed quarters, etc. It's important to keep in mind that violating the Purple Badge regulations may cause the closure of the Technion or one of its units and the responsibility to avoid such unfortunate situation is shared by all of us.

I am using this opportunity to thank everyone who was involved in facing the challenges that the Technion encountered since the outbreak of the pandemic – students, administrative and technical staff, senior and junior academic staff. I will not try to list all that deserve our gratitude for fear that I will accidentally omit someone. Suffice to say that there were numerous cases in which we have witnessed how folks volunteered to go over and beyond their duties, help others in need, be flexible with their time, etc. Once again, we have seen the true meaning of the term "the Technion Family" – a source of strength and inspiration to all of us for the future.

With best wishes for the Shavuot Holiday,

Prof. Boaz Golany
Executive Vice President and Director General