Foundation annual report
Mount Scopus Memorial College

2010

Gandel Besen House
BEHIND THE DESIGN ARE THE VALUES AND IDEALS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORGANISATION’S PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME...
A picture, they say, is worth a thousand words so please enjoy the photos of our brand new primary school at Gandel Besen House throughout this Annual Report. We believe the images of busy children engaged in learning say it all.

Our newest facility has already been widely acclaimed. We congratulate all involved in the development of this innovative, world-class school – from the vision and planning through to completion. Furthermore, the new upper primary school at the Gandel Campus is well on its way for completion in January and we are sure will be equally inspiring.

You may remember that these two projects, previously on hold due to the Global Financial Crisis, were beneficiaries of government stimulus funding, for which we are grateful. Notwithstanding, the bulk of their cost – 75% – must be raised by the Foundation.

After taking into account both Government and College funding together with our reserves, we need to raise $10 million. We sincerely appreciate all the donors who have already made a gift to our ‘Ready to Roar’ Campaign. Your generosity and encouragement have been heart-warming.

We recognise the involvement and assistance of our Executive in this process and our gratitude goes to Vice-Presidents Sam Alter and Stewart Baron together with Paul Bassat, Joey Borensztajn, Russell Casper, Jack Hansky, Michael Sionim, Roy Tashi and Executive Director, Marilyn Simon.

If you have not yet made your commitment, these two brand new schools are providing wonderful dedication opportunities and we invite you to consider your involvement. Opening celebrations are scheduled for early next year.

Please allow us to once again recognise our major benefactors who have contributed to a parallel campaign which especially targets tuition fee relief. This has provided the ability to minimise rises in school fees and to offer additional assistance by way of bursaries.

After what has been an exceptional year of all-round achievements and progress at the school we take this opportunity to formally congratulate Principal, Rabbi James Kennard, and all his staff for their efforts.

Similarly, we thank College President, Lisa Kennett, the Executive and Council for providing the leadership and support that promotes such positive outcomes.

In this Report you will also find profiles of some of our members and we thank them for agreeing to share their stories. Perhaps they will encourage you to become more involved in the very bright future of Mount Scopus College, where impressive programs and an excellent Jewish education inspire a growing number of students.

Be assured that your support will not only affect their environment but also the number of children who can enjoy the Scopus experience – the vital ingredient for the continuity of our community.

Together, we can provide the “Strength and Courage to Build our Foundation for the Future”.

SOLOMON LEW
CHAIRMAN
HENRY LANZER
PRESIDENT
HONOURING THE HANSKY FAMILY

AGM INVITATION

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE MOUNT SCOUPS COLLEGE FOUNDATION

AGM

TUESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2010
8.00 PM

We look forward to welcoming you at this casual evening at the home of Rosie and Solomon Lew.

This year we formally welcome new members:

MEMBER
LISA AND ANDREW BRECKLER FAMILY
ANDY AND SHANE GILD
CARMIT AND BEN ORBACH
LYNNE AND MARK WOOLFSON

BENEFACTOR
IN MEMORY OF SARAH AND PETER KOMESAROFF
MAX AND ZOSIA SZTARKMAN
in memory of Steven Sztarkman

and recognise those who by new commitments have raised their membership to a higher level:

TO FELLOW
MICHELE AND GRAHAM LASKY
SANDRA AND JAN RAIZON
ROSE PARTNERS
SUZANNE AND KEVIN SLOMOI
SANDRA AND ELLIOT VERBLUN

TO BENEFACTOR
BENKEL, HOPPE FAMILY
SONIA AND DON MAREJN
in memory of the Marejn and Szmukler Families
HELEN AND ALAN SYNMAN FAMILY

TO FOUNDER
BASSAT FAMILY

IF YOU HAVE NOT ADVISED YOUR ATTENDANCE PLEASE RESPOND ASAP TO HEIDI ON 9834 0122 OR BY EMAIL TO hmeyerson@scopus.vic.edu.au

At last year’s AGM we proudly recognised the Hansky and Frenkiel Family at Trustee level of the Mount Scopus College Foundation. Besides being an acknowledgment of significant and longstanding financial support, this presentation honoured a family who have also given their time and their expertise.

Paula and Jack Hansky have always been involved in various communal affairs at all levels. Jack became involved with the Foundation almost from its beginning and served as a Vice-President for most of its existence. The Foundation has benefited from his wisdom and achievements for over twenty years.

In addition, Esther and David Frenkiel, together with Jo and Mark Hansky, have committed themselves to various major fundraising roles and immersed themselves fully in the life of the College.

As Chairman, Solomon Lew, said at the presentation “At Scopus we consider ourselves truly blessed to be the ongoing beneficiary of the Hansky family’s passion, involvement and generous financial support.”

Yasher Koach, Mazal Tov and thank you.
The last twelve months at Scopus have seen great achievements and enormous progress. More than ever it is a privilege to be involved, evidenced by the increasing number of people contributing to school activities or by offering support in various ways. Fortunately, I am privy to the hive of activities, programs and events on a daily basis and enjoy the ‘buzz’ that surrounds us.

It’s not always about achievements – participation is the key – but this year I thought I’d mention a few ‘stand outs’ because of their long-reaching effects on the lives of our students and our future.

After a five year development and accreditation process, the College received authorisation to provide the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme. We are now the only Jewish Day School in Australia offering this style of teaching from Kindergarten to Year 10. Speak to our students, teachers and parents to hear how they are embracing the difference.

Parents opened their homes for ‘Ready to Roar’ evenings at which Rabbi Kennard addressed current and prospective families, detailing educational initiatives and the plans for our two new primary school buildings.

Our students have moved into the inspirational new Gandel Besen House and the upper primary school building at the Gandel Campus (for years 4 – 6) will be ready for 2011. It’s all about “creating spaces enabling us to teach in the way that children learn”.

This year saw the official opening of the Kitchen Garden Project. Years 4 and 5 are growing vegetables, fruits and herbs and preparing and serving healthy meals. We thank our visionaries, supporters and volunteers who have helped bring this to life.

It would be my honour to show you around Scopus and introduce you to any of these developments and more. If you are considering your involvement, please call me on 9834 0124.

I wish to express my appreciation to Solomon Lew, Henry Lanzer, Sam Alter, Stewart Baron, Paul Bassat, Joey Borensztajn, Russell Casper, Jack Hansky, Michael S lam and Roy Tashi for giving much of their time and energy to achieve the ambitions of the College.

I also value the leadership of College President, Lisa Kennett, Principal, Rabbi James Kennard and their respective teams together with the cooperation and efforts of all my colleagues.

I conclude by sincerely thanking all Foundation members for their support which allows the school to provide an inspiring – and always evolving – educational experience within a positive and meaningful Jewish framework.

MARILYN SIMON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
“L’Dor V’Dor” — FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

WE THANK THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATION MEMBERS FOR SHARING THE MOTIVATION FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT

MELISSA AND GAVIN DAVIS FAMILY

On their own initiative, Melissa and Gavin Davis, OC ’84, asked how they could get involved. “Other than ourselves, Scopus is the primary force in our children’s lives, helping to mould and create their future. We feel it’s important to give back to the school after all they have given to us,” says Melissa. They both acknowledge the importance of building vibrant campuses but say for them, the appeal of the Foundation is to help other children experience the benefits of a Jewish education.

Their children have followed their example by nominating Scopus to receive donations in lieu of gifts on the occasions of their bat/bar mitzvah. “The fact is they’re very lucky,” explains Melissa, “they have everything they need and are learning to be caring people who can have a positive impact on the lives of others.”

SYLVIA GELMAN AM MBE

The name of Sylvia Gelman is synonymous with Scopus. As one of its earliest and most respected teachers, Sylvia is known to thousands of graduates and their parents, many of whom are still in contact. She is also remembered for initiating the Baron Snider Public Speaking Competition.

Sylvia has continued her involvement by endowing awards that honour teachers and providing special opportunities for students. Her keen interest in educational innovation has led to support for the implementation of the International Baccalaureate Programmes.

It is always a pleasure to show Sylvia what’s happening and our staff are encouraged by her interest. Sylvia recently told us “I am in awe at what is happening at Scopus.” She is also Patron of our Founders and Friends and attends countless reunions.

JUDY AND MARK GANDUR FAMILY

Judy (nee Lipkies) and Mark are both Old Collegians, graduating in 1984 and 1975 respectively. They became Foundation members in 1999. Not content to be just financial supporters, Judy and Mark have both individual and collective roles by rolling up their sleeves to convene a Gala Auction and Corporate Breakfasts.

Judy says “we have immense respect for the Scopus leadership and the decisions they make. We know that our gift is being directed to the most appropriate area and will benefit the entire student population”. Mark continued “it was a privilege to attend Mount Scopus. Through our children’s experiences we have seen how the school has developed and the numerous opportunities. Scopus provides far more than an excellent education and lifelong friendships. It has created an intergenerational link that ensures a strong Melbourne Jewish Community well into the future.”

GEORGE SZALMUK FAMILY

George and the late Mira Szalmuk (of blessed memory) were no strangers to community. They became Foundation members in 1999. After the birth of their grandson, Jay, their significant gift allowed the school to take the proposed enlargement and refurbishment of the kindergartens from the wish list to the priority list.

At the dedication of the Szalmuk Family Early Learning Centre, George remarked “It gives me great joy to know that generations of children will pass through these doors. I thank G-d that he has allowed my family and I to give something back to the community, and I hope and pray that the community will benefit.” The community certainly has – the Szalmuk Centre provides a home for our ‘at capacity’ kindergartens, our Gan Gani toddler program and the weekly student Shabbat minyan.

RECHELLE ROUSSO AND ARON STEG FAMILY

Appreciating their young family’s experiences at Fink Karp Ivany, Aron asked how he and Rechelle could make a difference. After consideration, especially in regard to providing tuition fee relief, they became Foundation members.

At the time Aron remarked “As I get older I realise there is no more immediately valuable a proposition to support than one that educates our kids to do things better than we do”. Despite a growing family, they have both thrown themselves into all aspects of the school by being involved with Parents’ Associations in senior roles, and Aron, as an Annual Giving Chair in 2009. It is Aron’s efforts and expertise in technology that significantly added to the capabilities of our annual giving call centre.
FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1987
Mount Scopus College Foundation launched by Prime Minister, Bob Hawke.

1988 — 1993
New science and art facilities, dedicated by the Alter, Hansky and Lubansky families.
5 modular classrooms added to Smorgon Family Primary School.
$3,769,000 disbursed to College for tuition fee assistance.

1994 — 1996
The Gandel Family gift provided for extensive and widespread refurbishment, new biology and primary computer laboratories and upgrading of all technology. In appreciation, the Burwood Campus was dedicated as the Gandel Campus.

1997
Launch of the ‘5 year – $8,000,000’ Capital Campaign by the Hon. Peter Costello, Federal Treasurer.

1999
Foundation Jubilee Dinner with guest of honour, Prime Minister, John Howard.

2000
BESEN FAMILY PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
Alter Family Auditorium
Baron and Tashi Foyer and Plaza
Yvonne and Leon Fink Amphitheatre
Eva and Marc Besen School of Music
Susie and Eric Stock School of Drama
Sylvia Gelman Dressing Room
Paul and Jack Hansky Box Office
Dina and Mark Munzer Lounge
Pomoray Family Bars
Ramler Central Box
Rothschild Family Space
Sheezel and Tashi Sponsors Lounge
Sculpture by Andrew Rogers

2003 — 2004
SZALMUK FAMILY EARLY LEARNING CENTRE
Kindergarten classrooms dedicated by Myra and Godfrey Cohen, Judy and Sally Joss, Musia and Arthur Shafir and in memory of David Klamberg and Max Pascoe.

2005
SLEZAK MULTIMEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE
Birch Family School of Media Studies
Edit suite dedicated by Gary Berman family
Lauren and Bruce Fink School of Information Technology
Resource centre dedicated by Julie and Joey Borenstajn
Classrooms dedicated by Linda and David Goldberg, Edith and Sol Greiman, Paula and Jack Hansky, Baba and Andor Schwartz, Debbie and Stephen Szent István
Gersh Family Merkaz
Susie & Norman Rockman Library
Sophie and Norman Kave Lounge
Seminar rooms dedicated by Gregory Rosshandler, Marien and Leon Carp & Helen and Bernard Carp
Screen and Image dedicated by Karen Stock-Schnall

2008 — 2009
Interactive Smartboards enter all classrooms supported by the George and Gita Smorgon family.

2010
LAUNCH OF THE ‘READY TO ROAR’ CAMPAIGN raising funds for Gandel Besen House primary school building
New upper primary school building at Gandel Campus, Burwood
New furniture, refurbishment and air-conditioning in key areas of Secondary School
Integrated landscaping, new recreational and sporting areas

OCCUPATION OF NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AT GANDEL BESEN HOUSE
CONSTRUCTION OF NEW UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL AT GANDEL CAMPUS
LEAVING THEIR LEGACY

HELEN SYNMAN

It was with great sadness that the community heard of the passing of Helen Synman, OC ’62 and Scopus stalwart, earlier this year.

Helen was an inspirational leader, admired and respected by staff and volunteers alike. Her many years of involvement with various activities have had far-reaching effects. When co-coordinating jubilee commemorations, Helen recognised the need for the preservation of our history. Her persistence and drive brought this project to fruition. Scopus now boasts the foundation of an organised archive of its memorabilia, records and documents.

The College proudly dedicated the ‘Helen Synman Archive Project’, believing that it is the preservation of our memorabilia into a professionally organised archive that will forever be her legacy for this community.

With the generosity of her family, an archivist has been employed to take this project to the next level. We thank Alan, Nikki, Lora and their families for their support and vision and also the wonderful team of volunteers continuing Helen’s work.

ROMAN AND HERTA SCHERER

After his wife passed away last year Roman Scherer sought a way of supporting Jewish education and preserving his family’s name and we were honoured to be invited to assist with the preparation of his Will. After his recent death, the Foundation learnt of his significant bequest which will now provide Herta and Roman O. Scherer Bursaries.

By all accounts, Roman was a very private person and we are still learning about his family. Emigrating from Germany, Roman settled in Adelaide where he and Herta founded a well-known stamp dealership. Even after retirement in Ararat, Roman obviously found great pleasure in his pursuit and collection of stamps. Sadly, we did not know Roman personally but he was assured that his legacy will continue by the awarding of the Herta and Roman O. Scherer Bursaries. We appreciate this most valuable gift, which will be an inspiration and a blessing, and will be inscribing their names on our Bequest Honour Board.

HOW TO LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

WILL YOUR BEQUEST MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Most definitely. Every Bequest, large or small, will make a unique contribution to our students, the school, and ultimately, to our community.

HOW DO YOU MAKE A BEQUEST TO SCOPUS?

After considering the needs of your family, we encourage you to provide for our future by making Scopus a beneficiary of your Will. Adding a codicil to an existing Will may be an inexpensive option. We suggest you consult your solicitor or financial advisor or ask us for assistance.

WHAT FORM MAY YOUR BEQUEST TAKE?

– a specific sum of money
– a percentage of your Estate or the residue of your Estate
– a specific asset, such as property or shares
– articles of value, such as art work

HOW WILL YOUR BEQUEST BE USED?

Unless you direct otherwise, your Bequest will be managed by the Mount Scopus College Foundation which provides for:
– subsidised tuition fees for students who would otherwise be excluded
– scholarships
– additional programs
– development of facilities

SHOULD YOU TELL SCOPUS YOU ARE MAKING A BEQUEST?

By informing us, we can show our appreciation during your lifetime. However, this is personal choice.

We express our heartfelt appreciation to the people from whose Estate the College has benefited and to those who have recently included Mount Scopus College as a beneficiary in their Will.

A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL IS ONE OF THE SIMPLEST WAYS TO LEAVE YOUR LEGACY AND PERHAPS AT A LEVEL NOT POSSIBLE DURING YOUR LIFETIME

If you are considering making Mount Scopus College a beneficiary of your Estate in any way, please call Marilyn Simon, Foundation Executive Director, who will welcome your enquiry and can provide the correct wording for insertion in your Will or perhaps suggest a solicitor.

PHONE 03 9834 0124

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE A BLESSING

This year we note with sadness the passing of Foundation members:

NEHAMA PATKIN OAM
IRVIN ROCKMAN CBE
HELEN SYNMAN

ROMAN AND HERTA SCHERER

After his wife passed away last year Roman Scherer sought a way of supporting Jewish education and preserving his family’s name and we were honoured to be invited to assist with the preparation of his Will. After his recent death, the Foundation learnt of his significant bequest which will now provide Herta and Roman O. Scherer Bursaries.
We gratefully acknowledge our corporate members

We congratulate the following who have received this award in recognition of their support at Founder level.

Anonymous
Lyndi and Rodney Adler
Helen and Maurice Alter Family
ANZ
Baron Family
Bassat Family
Eva and Marc Besen Family
Birch Family
Lauren and Bruce Fink
Fink Karp (van) Family
Gandel Family
Goldman Sachs JBWere
Sterna and Joseph Gutnick
Paula and Jack Hansky Family
Suzanne and Michael Karp
Dinah and Henry Krongold Family
Janette and Henry Lanzier
Rosie and Solomon Lew Family
HeLEN and Bori Liberman Family
Liberman Family
Lustig and Moar Family
Dina and Mark Munzer
Pomeroy Family
Pratt Family
Gita and George Szalun Family
Loti and Victor Smorgon
Smorgon Family
Susie and Eric Stock Family
Mira and George Szalun Family
The Slezk Trusts
Sylvia and Roy Tashi
Werdiger Family

Leon Fink Memorial Award for Commitment to Jewish Education

As at 3 November 2010

Pledge Income
Total of all Campaign Pledges since 2000 (including bequests, specific projects/appeals and endowments) $19,637,674
Total collected since 2000: (final payments will be received up to 2015) $16,173,127
Total Pledges since 1987 $35,863,361

Cash and Invested Funds
Foundation Endowment Fund $1,162,308
Foundation (General) $369,747

Distributions and Commitments since 2000
Bezen Family Performing Arts Centre Project (including new entry, bus and car Park, soccer oval and interest) $7,078,000
Szalun Family Early Learning Centre $890,000
Slezk Multimedia and Technology Centre $4,000,000
Interactive Smartboards $275,000
Mount Scopus College $1,800,000
Current Redevelopment Expenditure $4,165,656
Various Programs and Projects $545,000
Tuition Fee Assistance and Bursary/Scholarship Funding $1,616,333
WHY WAS THE MOUNT SCOPUS COLLEGE FOUNDATION ESTABLISHED?

Created in 1987, it was to be responsible for major fundraising to advance the College. Through the generosity of its members, it has raised pledges in excess of $35,000,000. Bequests are also warmly welcomed.

Funds have been applied to capital works, an endowment fund, tuition fee relief, debt reduction and various programs. Without Foundation support the College would be unable to provide new facilities.

HOW IS IT MANAGED?

The goals of the Foundation are pursued by an Executive Committee in consultation with the Principal, College President and their Executive.

The Chairman of the Foundation, since inception, is Solomon Lew and the current President, Henry Lanzer, was appointed in 1996 at which time Marilyn Simon assumed the role of Executive Director.

WHO CAN BE MEMBERS?

Members include corporations, individuals and families from every sector of the community. Classifications of membership are dependent on gift level. Entry level requires a pledge of $20,000 which may be paid over a term. There are always opportunities to match a donor’s area of interest with the school’s needs.

DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

We will be celebrating the completion of our two brand new primary schools in early 2011. Now is the time to consider the many attractive dedication opportunities to honour your family. Please call Marilyn Simon as soon as possible on 9834 0124.

IS YOUR DONATION TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

The Mount Scopus College Foundation, the Mount Scopus College Scholarship Fund and the Mount Scopus College School Building Fund are all tax deductible entities.

Residents of the United States may donate and receive an IRS deduction by giving through the British Schools and Universities Foundation, Inc (BSUF).

MOUNT SCOPUS MEMORIAL COLLEGE IS UNDERGOING ITS BIGGEST PHYSICAL TRANSFORMATION SINCE ITS MOVE TO BURWOOD IN 1952.

The new Gandel Besen House is already occupied. The new upper primary school at the Gandel Campus will be ready for 2011.

The secondary school will feature new furniture, refurbishment and air-conditioning in key areas for 2011.

The Foundation needs to raise $10 million to fund these developments.

To become a Foundation member or to discuss making any gift, bequest or scholarship endowment, please contact Marilyn Simon, Foundation Executive Director.

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