



**Candidate Brief
British Friends of Bar Ilan University
for the recruitment of
an Executive Director**

Charity number: 314139

Chair's welcome letter

Dear Candidate,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the British Friends of Bar-Ilan University (BFBIU), I am delighted to thank you for your interest in the role of Executive Director. This is a pivotal and exciting time for our organisation, and we are looking for a dynamic and visionary leader to help shape the next chapter of BFBIU's growth and impact.

BFBIU has a proud history of supporting Bar-Ilan University—one of Israel's leading institutions of higher education and research—by building meaningful relationships with supporters, alumni, and community leaders across the UK. We help to raise awareness of the University's groundbreaking work in science, technology, law, education, Jewish studies, and beyond, while also generating vital philanthropic support for its many programmes and initiatives.

As Chair, I know the transformative potential of this role. The Executive Director is at the heart of our operations—working closely with the Board, liaising with the University in Israel, and engaging donors, foundations, and community networks throughout the UK Jewish community and beyond. We seek a strategic thinker, an outstanding communicator, and a passionate advocate for Bar-Ilan's mission—someone who brings not only proven leadership and fundraising expertise, but also integrity, creativity, and drive.

This is a wonderful opportunity for an experienced and energetic professional to make a real difference, helping to deepen the University's connections within the UK and ensure that our support continues to grow in impact and scope.

If you believe you have the experience, passion, and ambition to take BFBIU forward, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Warmest regards,

Romie Tager KC
Chair, British Friends of Bar-Ilan University



About Us

Bar-Ilan is Israel's fastest growing university with over 21,000 students, uniquely combining cutting-edge scientific research with education steeped in Jewish values and social responsibility. The university boasts nine faculties which play an active role in Israel's national science and technology initiatives.



Established in 1958, the British Friends of Bar-Ilan University (BFBIU) is a registered UK Charity, raising awareness and financial support for Bar-Ilan.

Whether it's the latest scientific breakthrough or recent progress in tackling social and health inequality, we share Bar-Ilan news through e-bulletins, conferences, events, lectures and webinars. We bring alumni together, growing our very own Bar-Ilan community here in the UK. And we raise support for, and awareness of, the social, health, scientific and technological impact Bar-Ilan is having in Israel and around the world.

Transforming dreams into realities, BFBIU supporters have funded everything from state-of-the-art facilities and research projects to community programmes and bringing world-class scientists back to Israel.

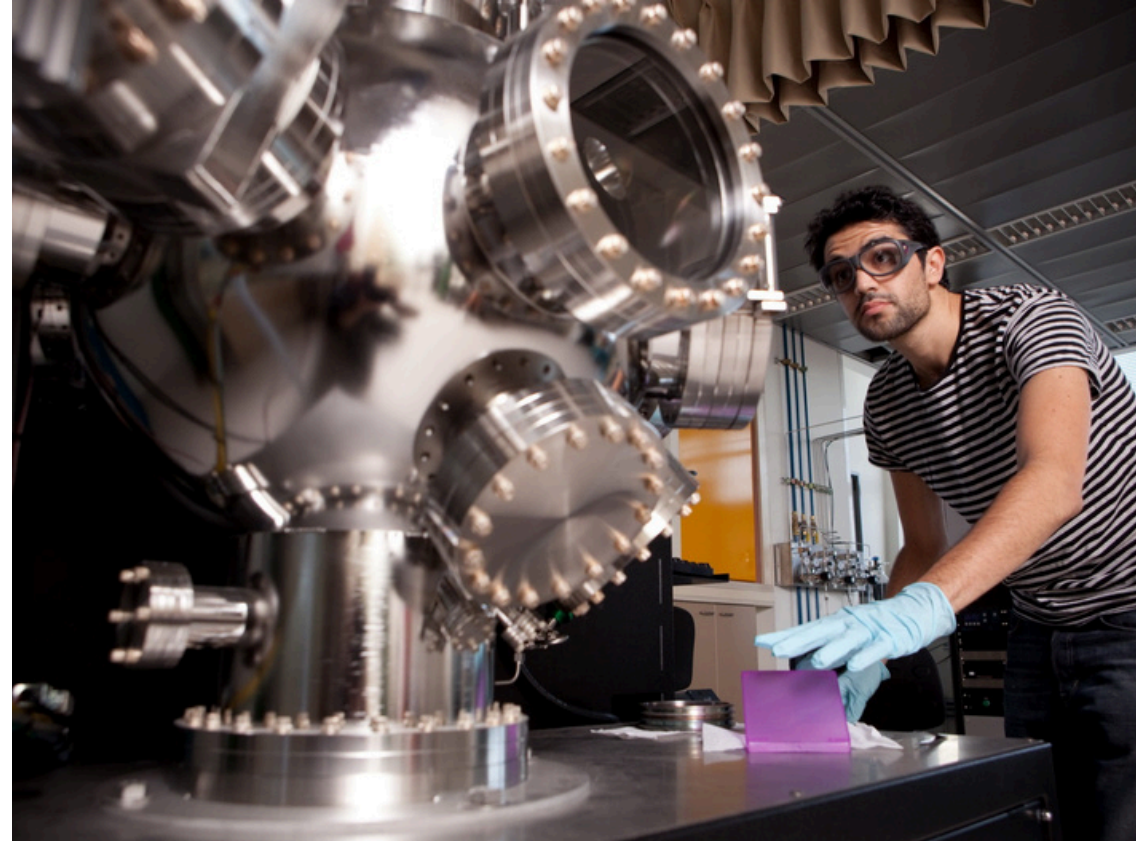
Achievements

High-Resolution Microscopy

High resolution microscopy refers to microscopy techniques that can resolve details smaller than the diffraction limit of light. The Bar-Ilan Institute of Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials (BINA) has partnered with the University of Paris CNRS research group in a study dealing with the development of fortified glass for setting the focus level in high-resolution light microscopy

An Institute of Hope - UK Campaign for The Jonathan Sacks Institute

Next year, Bar-Ilan University will open The Jonathan Sacks Institute. Reaching over 400 students a year, this groundbreaking Institute will bring together students, researchers and academics from different faiths, backgrounds and countries to learn from, and be inspired by, the remarkable work of Rabbi Sacks zt"l



On the home front Bar-Ilan's mobile optometry clinic, trauma hotline, and school for evacuees provided essential support for the victims of 7th October.

On the international front, a Bar-Ilan Faculty of Law researcher led the fight for global recognition of Hamas' sexual crimes, while researchers from all faculties used articles, interviews, and media appearances to help the world understand Israel's position. And on the academic front, with UK support, we ensured our 5,000 serving students received the emotional, financial, and learning support needed both to readjust to civilian life and resume their studies successfully. Bar-Ilan is now at an inflection point. New medical, engineering and nanotech buildings are being constructed on campuses in Ramat Gan and Safed. Work is about to start on a 'bio-convergence campus' in Ramat Gan's Health-Tech Valley, a joint endeavour with Sheba Medical Centre

Bar-Ilan University – Azrieli Faculty of Medicine (Safed branch)

Established in 2011 as part of a national strategy to address physician shortages and boost healthcare in the Galilee

Mission: Provide outstanding medical education while serving northern Israel's diverse populations, including Jewish, Arab, and Druze communities



BIRAD – Research & Development Company Ltd

Bar-Ilan University's research commercialization arm is BIRAD – Research & Development Company Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary established to transform the University's innovations into real-world applications

Mission: BIRAD operates as Bar-Ilan's gateway to industry, focusing on four key pillars: IP & patent management, licensing, venture creation (spin-offs), and sponsored research/scientific services

Role Summary

Executive Director

Salary: £80,000 - £95,000 pa

Location: Homeworking

Hours: 40 hours pw

Report: Chair of Trustees



As Executive Director, you will be the public face of BFBIU, responsible for growing philanthropic support and building relationships with individuals, trusts, foundations, businesses and community groups.

Supported by Bar-Ilan's Global Development team, you will work closely with fundraising teams in Israel, America and Canada to develop and deliver international development campaigns to support university priorities.

Reporting to our Board of Trustees, you will manage BFBIU's day-to-day operations, leading on all marketing, comms, events, financial and administrative duties.

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced fundraiser to shape a growing charity at the intersection of UK-Israel relations, higher education, and Jewish communal life.

Key Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership

- Work with BFBIU's Board to define the charity's vision, goals, and growth strategy
- Play an active role in Bar-Ilan's Global Development team, contributing to wider strategic goals across the university
- Support BFBIU's Board in identifying, recruiting and supporting new trustees

Fundraising & Relationship-Building

- Develop and implement BFBIU's fundraising strategy, focusing primarily on major gifts
- Research, cultivate and solicit gifts from private individuals, trusts, foundations and corporate partners
- Lead, prepare and facilitate gift proposals/cases for support, summarizing detailed and often complex academic programmes in a style which is accessible and inspiring for UK audiences
- Research and identify relevant trusts and foundations, managing all grant applications and reporting requirements
- Work with trustees and Bar-Ilan's Global Development team to identify, approach and cultivate new prospects to drive pipeline growth
- Manage the stewardship of existing donors to strengthen relationships and encourage future giving

Marketing & Events

- Devise and implement PR, comms and marketing strategies to grow UK supporter base
- Manage UK events programme, collaborating with partners and supporters to reach new audiences
- Grow Bar-Ilan's alumni network in the UK, keeping alumni engaged by sharing university news and staging events
- Organize and lead international trips to Bar-Ilan for donors, prospects, partners and stakeholders
- Manage BFBIU website and social media platforms (LinkedIn, Facebook)
- Produce and issue monthly e-bulletins and BFBIU Annual Review

Operational

- Manage CRM system, Raiser's Edge, ensuring data is accurate and up to date
- Manage all financial and administrative tasks, including producing quarterly management accounts, transferring funds to the university, making payments to suppliers and preparing Board papers
- Ensure adherence to UK charity law and best practices in charity governance in partnership with Board of Trustees

Person Specification

Essential

- Proven experience in developing and implementing fundraising strategies to achieve and exceed targets
- An experienced senior leader with exceptional interpersonal skills, and the ability to support, influence, motivate and inspire confidence with colleagues, stakeholders, donors and prospects
- Demonstrable experience in developing successful campaign strategy and delivery, event activation and engagement, and exceptional stewardship
- Proven experience in effective prospect research and pipeline management, resulting in income growth
- Strong understanding of budgets, financial reporting and strategies. Ability to record, analyse and present financial data in a clear and accurate format
- Confident working with Boards, Trustees, high-level donors and stakeholders
- Strategic and innovative thinker and operational doer, who thinks outside of the current norms and processes
- Interest in Israel, higher education and/or positive social impact
- Self-starter comfortable working on their own and collaborating remotely with colleagues
- Sound knowledge of, and connections to, UK's Jewish community

Desirable

- Technical proficiency with CRM systems (preferably Raiser's Edge)
- Proven experience in developing and implementing Marketing, PR & Comms strategies

How to Apply

Please do your research so as to familiarise yourself : Look at website for information,
<https://www.bfbiu.org>

Look at their recent Annual Reports via the Charity Commission website www.charity-commission.gov.uk.

Your CV: We advise that a CV should consist of no more than 2-3 sides of A4 in Word Format – this should also contain key achievements relevant to this role.

Personal Statement: We ask for a personal statement, addressing the Person Specification, to support your application. Again we suggest no more than 2 sides of A4 in Word Format

You will receive an acknowledgement, normally within 2 working days.

To apply please submit your application via sara@kytelesterappointments.co.uk

Application closing date: 29th September 2025

Initial interviews: w/c 6th October 2025

Panel interview: w/c 27th October 2025



Contact

For further information please contact:

Sara Kyte – Director:

sara@kytelesterappointments.co.uk

Tel 07941 618122

Jonathan Lester - Director:

jonathan@kytelesterappointments.co.uk

Tel: 07581 838757

Kyte Lester Appointments

<https://kytelesterappointments.co.uk>



Kyte Lester Appointments
Executive Search and Selection
Not-for-Profit Sector
www.KyteLesterAppointments.co.uk