



JOYCE & IRVING  
**GOLDMAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev



Dear Friend,

Twenty years ago, when I first came to visit Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, there wasn't much to see.

A few makeshift buildings...a few visionary professors...some determined students.

And desert. Lots of desert.

But from the moment I arrived at Ben-Gurion University, I knew that something very special was happening in this harsh place.

And nowhere was that more evident than at Ben-Gurion University's Medical School.

BGU has bold, innovative ideas about medical education. And at BGU, they are producing a new and different kind of doctor.

Permit me to explain.

Professor Moshe Prywes, who founded BGU's Medical School, observed that conventional medical education -- which is based primarily on the teaching hospital -- tends to produce physicians who practice highly-specialized medicine in sophisticated, metropolitan hospitals.

That's very impressive. But, in the Negev, where over half the Jewish residents are poor immigrants from Africa and Asia, there is an urgent need for doctors who are trained to work in developing communities and who take a comprehensive approach to preventing as well as treating disease.

Ben-Gurion University's Medical School, which is known to medical educators world-wide as "the Beer Sheva Experiment," was designed explicitly to produce such doctors. And that is precisely what BGU has done.

It all begins with the admissions procedure.