

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

Hereby bestows the title of

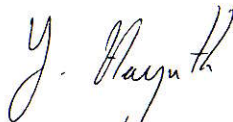
**Honorary Fellow**

upon

**Harry Sessler**

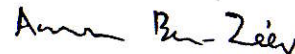
for his social involvement and long-standing activity on behalf of the community; for his continuing assistance to realizing the goals of the University of Haifa, in particular the development of the Reuben and Edith Hecht Museum; and in token of his continuing friendship toward the University of Haifa.

24 Iyyar 5763 / May 26, 2003



**Prof. Yehuda Hayuth**

President



**Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev**

Rector

## *Harry Sessler*

Born (1929) in Sofia, Bulgaria, where he went to school and worked until his immigration to Israel (1949). After serving in an Israel Defense Force combat unit, he worked for a wood and building materials importer; then in 1958, he moved to Dagon Silos Ltd. in Haifa, where he advanced from accounting clerk to joint general manager of the company (1992) until his retirement in 1994. His education in accounting, taxes, and business management was acquired at business schools and at the University of Haifa.

Mr. Sessler was a member of the board of directors of Dagon Silos (1994-2002) and a trustee of foundations that the late Dr. Reuben Hecht, the founder of Dagon, set up abroad. Since 1994, he has been chairman of the board of Moledeth Development Company, Moledeth Know How Ltd., and R.E.H. Investments.

Harry Sessler has devoted much time and effort to public activity. In 1970, he joined B'nai B'rith, and since 1992 has been deputy president of B'nai B'rith Israel. In 1996, he was appointed vice-president of B'nai B'rith International. For many years, too, he has been active on behalf of the University of Haifa, especially its Reuben and Edith Hecht Museum. He was nominated a member of the University's Board of Governors in 1994 and vice chairman of the managing board of the Museum. Mr. Sessler is also a member of the board of the University's Herzl Institute for Study and Research of Zionism and of the Chair in Zionism and History. He further serves as vice chairman of the University's Control Committee. He has been instrumental in establishing relations between this University and the University of Sofia.

Harry Sessler is very active on behalf of the Jews of Bulgaria in Israel and in strengthening the State of Israel's ties with Bulgaria. He is a member of the Israel-Bulgaria Friendship Society and serves as chairman of the board of trustees of Beth Haim Abraham, which looks after the synagogue and welfare of the Balkan congregation in Haifa. When the revolution in Bulgaria (1992) brought an end to communist rule there, he was one of the organizers of an aid mission of food and medicines to old-age homes and children in that country. With the aid of the Hecht Foundation, he helped erect in the city of Kivstendil a museum initiated by the Bulgarian Associations in Israel to perpetuate the memory of Dimitar Peshev, who lived in that city and worked to forestall the expulsion of Bulgarian Jewry to German death camps in World War II.

