

## The Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology - 2010-2011

Dr. David Ilan, director

The last year has seen a number of impressive achievements, some of them the final product of years of work. Here are some highlights (only highlights):

### Publication

At this point our primary goal is to publish the results of excavations carried out by the School in decades past. The flagship project is the Tel Dan excavation, begun in 1966. This year *Dan III – the Late Bronze Age Levels* was published by Rachel Ben-Dov (two previous volumes came out in previous years). The director has been working on *Dan IV: the Iron Age I Levels*, completing 13 of 16 chapters so far. It will come out early next year. Another excavation executed by the NGSBA, Tel Aroer in the Negev, was published this year as well, by Yifat Thareani. We have made a significant dent in our publication commitment. The addition of a freelance editor, Zvi Gal, has made this process more efficient.

In addition to our massive final reports, D. Ilan had four articles published in scholarly journals and volumes this year and Y. Thareani two articles.

We also inaugurated our own online journal: *NGSBA Excavation Reports*, to showcase our fieldwork, particularly in the field of contract archaeology (see below). This Hebrew-English journal is now online (<http://ngsba.org/en/ngsba-excavation-reports>), though it requires further enhancement and will be supplemented by a printed version.

### Excavation

No initiated research excavations were carried out this past year, in order to make publication progress. Three small salvage excavations were completed by Y.G. Archaeology, an archaeological contractor, under our academic umbrella. In the past we were taking a consultancy fee of 5% of revenue for overhead and services provided. This will now go up to 10%. The income varies but in the past year this has brought in approximately \$20,000.

Our community excavation in Lod continued for its 4<sup>th</sup> season, under the direction of Yuval Gadot and Tawfik Deadle. This project is independently financed and carried out in partnership with Karev Educational Initiatives. In the wake of its great success among the kids of Lod, it was expanded this year to include 12 elementary schools, with 2500 students and teachers participating. A very positive article appeared in a 2010 issue of *Archaeology Magazine*.

### Honors

Yifat Thareani was awarded her Ph.D from Tel Aviv University. Due to the excellence of her work on the Tel Aroer publication and articles in scholarly journals, she has been invited to participate in a prestigious 6-month post-doctoral seminar at the Sorbonne in Paris. She will research the material culture and imperial strategies of Aram and Assyria as part of her work on the Tel Dan Iron Age II (First Temple period) publications.