The Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya pays tribute to

DIRK OLZEN

Professor Dirk Olzen is a law professor with the Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf, Germany. A member of the Friends of IDC Association in Germany, Prof. Olzen has been the driving force behind the long-term collaboration between the Radzyner Law School at IDC Herzliya and Heinrich Heine University's Faculty of Law.

Born in Wuppertal 65 years ago, Prof. Olzen entered law school in Bochum in 1967 and, after taking an 18-month break to serve in the military, graduated in 1973. That was a significant year for Prof. Olzen, who married Christa in November of that year, and together they have four children.

In 1975, Prof. Olzen received his PhD from Ruhr University Bochum, after completing his dissertation on “The meaning of ‘economic ownership’ for disturbance liability in private law.” Two years later Prof. Olzen passed the second exam of the Bar Association of the Higher Regional Court of Düsseldorf.

Prof. Olzen was named a professor with Ruhr University Bochum in 1983, after completing his habilitation on “The anticipated inheritance.” One year later he transferred to the University of Hamburg, where he taught for 10 years and where he served as the managing director of the university's Institute of Civil Law Research between 1989 and 1994.

Prof. Olzen has been a member of the Faculty of Law at Heinrich Heine University since 1994, and served as Dean of Law between 1998 and 2000. Since 1999, Prof. Olzen has been serving as director of the Heinrich Heine University's Institute of Health Law.

Prof. Olzen has penned several books, articles and monographs on private, procedural and health law. He is the co-editor of the legal journal "Juristische Rundschau," and a member of the ethics board of the North Rhine-Westphalia Medical Association. Since 1989, he has been the academic director at the School of Business Administration at VWA Wuppertal.

With the inception of the IDC Herzliya 20 years ago, Dr. Harry Radzyner, one of the IDC’s dearest friends, expressed his desire to promote academic ties between the IDC and Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf. Prof. Olzen, a member of the executive committee at the Moe Radzyner Bridge (Brückenschlag) Foundation, for the promotion of Israel-German academic collaboration, was the one to help realize the vision of a student exchange program between the two academic institutions.

As part of the collaboration between the schools, the IDC hosts an annual seminar for undergraduate students from the Radzyner Law School at IDC Herzliya and Heinrich Heine University’s Faculty of Law. Another joint venture is a summer seminar in European business law, hosted by Heinrich Heine University's Faculty of Law, for Radzyner Law School graduate students.

In recognition of his contribution to the prolific collaboration between the IDC Herzliya and Heinrich Heine University, and in appreciation of his efforts to bolster the IDC Herzliya’s position as a leading international academic institution, Professor Dirk Olzen is hereby named an Honorary Fellow of the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya.

Prof. Uriel Reichman
President and Founder
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