The Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya pays tribute to

GERT KAISER

Prof. Dr. h.c. mult. Gert Kaiser is an internationally recognized expert in the field of medieval German literature and an ambassador in the world of academia. He was born in Germany, where he later studied German and Romance language and literature at the universities of Heidelberg and Munich. In 1964 he received his doctoral degree and acquired a postdoctoral scholarship from the German Research Foundation.

Following a term as professor of German Studies in Heidelberg, Gert Kaiser was offered a chair of Old German Studies at Düsseldorf University, where he later became rector of Düsseldorf University and ultimately the president of the University Foundation at the newly named Heinrich-Heine University.

For over 20 years Gert Kaiser served as president of the Center for Advanced Study in North Rhine-Westphalia. Among the various national and international committees, boards and foundations that Gert Kaiser headed, served as a member of and still presides upon, are the German Rectors’ Conference, the founding senate of Potsdam University, the Dr. Meyer Struckmann Foundation and the German-Italian University Center.

He established the official partnership between IDC Herzliya and the Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf, and founded, with support from the VolkswagenStiftung, the German Israel Innovation Center, a platform for scientific exchange.

Gert Kaiser has received numerous national and international awards, including an honorary doctorate from the University of Reading. He is the recipient of the Bundesverdienstkreuz of the Federal Republic of Germany, as well as medals presented by France, Italy and Japan for his promotion of intellectual and cultural relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and these countries. For his permanent public support of the Jewish Community in Germany, he has been awarded the Josef Neuberger Award of the Jewish Community of Düsseldorf.

In recognition of his outstanding commitment to international relations and education, and his staunch support of Israel, the Jewish People and the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya, Gert Kaiser is hereby named an

Honorary Fellow
of the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya

Prof. Uriel Reichman
President
June 1, 2009
Herzliya, Israel