

(Updated to 2007)

PROF. ILAN CHET

Prof. Chet was born in Haifa in 1939. He completed his doctoral work in microbiology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Faculty of Agriculture in Rehovot.

Prof. Chet's research deals with the biological control of plant disease, focusing on the use of environment friendly microorganisms to decrease the need for pesticides. He has published more than 360 articles in international scientific journals, edited three books in his field, and holds 32 patents. He has trained more than 30 Ph.D. and 55 M.Sc. students.

Prof. Chet served as the Founding Director of the Otto Warburg Minerva Center for Agricultural Biotechnology (1983 – 1986), as Dean of Hebrew University's Faculty of Agriculture in Rehovot (1986 – 1989) and as Vice President for Research and Development of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (1991 – 2001). In the years 2001-2006 Prof. Chet served as the President of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot and was nominated Institute Professor at the Weizmann Institute in 2005. After he finished his term he returned to the Hebrew University as a professor

He was a visiting professor at Harvard, Colorado State, Cornell, and Rutgers Universities in the United States and at the University of Goettingen and Lund University in Europe. Chet also served as senior scientist at DuPont, Delaware, USA and as a member of the scientific advisory committees of both the European Union and NATO.

Prof. Chet's national and international renown is exemplified by his rich list of academic appointments, prizes, and awards. These include the Rothschild Prize in Agriculture (1990), the Max-Planck Award for Distinguished Research (1994), the Israel Prize (1996), the Japanese Arima Prize for Applied Microbiology (1996), the Wolf Prize (1998), and the EMET Prize (2004). He also received the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (2001). Awarded an honorary doctorate from Sweden's Lund University (1991), from the University of Haifa (2006) and from Naples University (2007). Chairman of the Health & Environment Fund (2007).

He has been a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities since 1998 and the European Academy of Sciences since 2004.

Ilan and Ruthie have five children: Gal, Guy, Dana, Tal and Tom.