



## THE ASPER FOUNDATION

### **The Asper Foundation and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Present Fuad Abu Hamed With Social Entrepreneurship Award**

**WINNIPEG, MB. – June 2, 2010** - The Asper Foundation and the Asper Center for Entrepreneurship at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem are pleased to announce they are recognizing Mr. Fuad Abu Hamed as the inaugural recipient of the Social Entrepreneurship Award for his mentorship and support of the East Jerusalem BizCamp, creative entrepreneurship, inspirational community work and strong commitment to foster cross-cultural awareness.

Established in 2007, the East Jerusalem Biz Camp is a collaboration between the Asper Center for Entrepreneurship at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Al-Quds Dialogue Center, a non-political organization in east Jerusalem created and chaired by Mr. Abu Hamed. The goal of the joint Jewish-Arab East Jerusalem BizCamp is to provide young Arabs including women from east Jerusalem with the opportunity to learn business skills and gain experience in the process of starting a business.

On June 8, at the Mount Zion Hotel in Jerusalem, Ms. Gail Asper, President of The Asper Foundation, will present Mr. Abu Hamed with the Social Entrepreneurship Award. Ms. Asper commented, "Fuad Abu Hamed is a perfect example of how one person's vision and community-minded spirit can make a tremendous difference in the lives of young people. Mr. Abu Hamed's ability to reach across what is sometimes a seemingly large divide between communities has been inspirational for many young east Jerusalem Arabs and others."

Dr. Harry Yuklea, Executive Director of the Asper Center for Entrepreneurship at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem remarked, "Mr. Abu Hamed has played a key role in the development of and outreach to Arab participants in the East Jerusalem BizCamp. His successful business experience, valuable community work and mentorship to Arab BizCamp students have helped provide the program with its far-reaching impact."

Through a donation of \$5 million from The Asper Foundation, the Asper Center for Entrepreneurship at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem was established in 2001. The center enhances the academic program of The Jerusalem School of Business Administration at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and is modelled on the Asper Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada (since renamed the Stu Clark Center for Entrepreneurship).

The Asper Center for Entrepreneurship at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is committed to creating an environment in which students can develop their business acumen and entrepreneurial talent to become visionaries of the future. It fosters an atmosphere that promotes research and development, creativity and evolution of new products and services. The center's activities include the development of academic courses in entrepreneurship and new venture capital in The Jerusalem School of Business as well as joint programs with other faculties. The center supports and offers scholarships, Internet courses, a summer camp program, research projects in entrepreneurship, outreach programs to start-up companies in Israel and community programs for special segments such as youth and women. The Asper Center for Entrepreneurship acts as a catalyst in the establishment of new ventures based on ideas developed at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and helps with the commercial realization of basic research. It attracts new academic entrepreneurial talent to the university and paves the way for a strong connection between the center and major high-tech ventures in Jerusalem.

The Asper Foundation was developed in Winnipeg, Canada in 1983 to build upon the philanthropic objectives of Dr. Israel Asper and the Asper family. It undertakes and develops major initiatives in the areas of culture, education, community development and human rights locally, nationally and internationally.

Opened in 1925, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is Israel's oldest university. The First Board of Governors included Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, Martin Buber and Chaim Weizmann. In the Academic Ranking of World Universities index, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is the top university in Israel and among the world's 100 top universities.

For coverage of the presentation or more information, media are asked to contact Ms. Shai Abramson, tel. 054-313-1866 or e-mail [sabramson@neve-ilan.co.il](mailto:sabramson@neve-ilan.co.il). For more information on the East Jerusalem Biz Camp or the Asper Center for Entrepreneurship at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, please contact Dr. Harry Yuklea, ACE Executive Director, tel. 054-483-4543 or e-mail [harry@mscc.huji.ac.il](mailto:harry@mscc.huji.ac.il). For information on The Asper Foundation, please visit [www.asperfoundation.com](http://www.asperfoundation.com). For information on The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, please visit [www.huji.ac.il](http://www.huji.ac.il).