3/9/22

Dear….

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Dr. Ronit Peled-Laskov. I am a clinical criminologist and a senior lecturer at Ashkelon Academic College in Israel.

I am contacting you to inquire about the possibility of teaching as a visiting lecturer at [name of institution]. My participation would be covered through the Israel Institute: Visiting Faculty Program (see: <https://israelinstitute.org/program/visiting-faculty/?utm_source=constantcontact&utm_medium=email&utm_id=visitingfaculty-23-24&utm_term=23-24>). Hence, there will be **no cost to your department or institution**.

I am planning to apply for this program offered by the Israel Institute. If awarded, I would be expected to teach at an American-based academic institution in the 2023-2024 academic year.

The Visiting Faculty Program enables those with full-time positions at Israeli colleges and universities to teach for one academic year at top universities in the United States. This program provides financial support to Israeli academics to teach courses that expose students to various aspects of modern Israel. Specifically, visiting faculty members are required to teach at least one undergraduate course each semester. The course may be in any discipline, as long as at least sixty percent of the course topic and readings are about modern Israel. Courses must be listed at the undergraduate level, taught in person, and last an entire semester or quarter (10-week minimum duration). In addition, the Visiting Faculty must deliver one guest lecture relating to Israel-related topics at public or academic events outside the classroom each semester.

 I would like to reiterate that these awards cover most expenses, hence, the university does not have to financially compensate the visiting Israeli faculty member.

If your institution and department would be interested in hosting me, all that is needed at this stage is a letter of support. This letter should state that your institution is interested in this proposal and will assist in sponsoring my visa for that one (1) year, will provide me with office space, and will offer an undergraduate course about modern Israel, which I will teach.

The course I am offering to teach will deal with a comparative examination of correctional institutions in Israel.

**Aim of the course:** To familiarize students with basic concepts related to the various correctional systems in Israel, theoretical approaches, particularly differences between supervisory-punitive and rehabilitative-therapeutic approaches. These will be compared to American-based practices.

**Course content:** The course will focus on the organizations engaged in rehabilitating criminals, crime prevention on the community level, and rehabilitative and therapeutic frameworks available to prisoners in Israel. Students will be exposed to the nature of supervision, therapy, rehabilitation, and crime prevention in the framework of the Israeli law enforcement system. Students will be introduced to institutions in Israel, such as probation services and rehabilitation institutions for paroled prisoners from the Jewish and Arab populations. Moreover, given the cultural diversity, the course will examine rehabilitative culture-sensitive care practices.

Additionally, I am open to discussing other criminology/ comparative criminology courses that deal with ethnicity and cultural difference.

At this point, all I need from your institution is an official letter supporting my application and a tentative agreement that the university is interested in hosting me and offering my course/s to their undergraduate students. Once the grant is approved, and before it is awarded, I will require a formal invitation from your institution and department.

Enclosed, please find my CV.

Warm regards,

Dr. Ronit Peled-Laskov