

Is Your Organization Ready
for the **Blockchain** and
Crypto-currencies
Revolution?

Pell Center
Salve Regina University
Newport, RI

November 29, 2017

Rhode Island-Israel Collaborative
(RIIC)

RIIC, Your Anchor for Rhode Island-Israel Business,

Academia and Research

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Dear Friends,
It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to this important conference.

The blockchain revolution is upon us and we hope this informative event will help you learn how blockchain may affect your company or organization in the future.

First, we would like to take this opportunity to thank:

The team at the Pell Center at Salve Regina University for their assistance and for hosting and supporting such an amazing event, especially Francesca Spidalieri, Senior Fellow for Cyber Leadership, who spearheads the ongoing Rhode Island Corporate Cybersecurity Initiative at the Pell Center.

Our keynote speaker from Israel, Ronen Siman-Tov, CTO of IBM's Alpha Zone Accelerator, and Senior IT Architect for IBM Developer and Startup Ecosystem. Our speakers, panelists, and moderators, who you will meet today and without whom we would not have been able to host this event.

We would also like to acknowledge, with many thanks, the Israeli Economic Minister to North America from New York, Inon Elroy, who came to participate in the event.

Special thanks to Dr. Roey Tzezana, Researcher at the Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center and Research Fellow at the Yuval Ne'eman Workshop for Science, Technology & Security at Tel Aviv University, for his invaluable assistance in making this event possible and for moderating the event.

And many thanks to all of our sponsors and volunteers who helped us bring the event to fruition, and of course, to all of our participants.

Lastly, it is my hope that this conference is just the first of many to come and that it will help connect Rhode Island and Israel for the mutual benefit of commerce, academia, and research.

Please stay in touch with us and follow our information on our website, www.theriic.org.

Avi Nevel,
CEO and President of Rhode Island-
Israel Collaborative (RIIC)



The Purpose of the Rhode Island-Israel Collaborative (RIIC) is the promotion of commerce, academics, and science.

The collaborative is a non-profit organization aimed at fostering and strengthening trade, business, academic exchange, and research between the state of Rhode Island and Israel to mutually benefit their economies and communities. RIIC will do so by building and strengthening the relationships between government organizations, businesses, entrepreneurs, investors, members of academia, and the research community in Rhode Island and Israel. To learn more, please contact info@theriic.org



The Pell Center for International Relations and Public Policy at Salve Regina is a multidisciplinary research center focused at the intersection of politics, policies, and ideas. Dedicated to honoring Senator Claiborne Pell's legacy, the center promotes American engagement in the world, effective government at home and civic participation by all Americans. They accomplish this through research and publications, public events, and media programs that run throughout the year.



The IBM Alpha Zone Accelerator in Israel is a 20-week program, helping startups to build leading solutions for the enterprise market. The program focuses on post Seed & Round A funded companies with aim to create long term technology and business partnership with IBM worldwide.

Schedule

Conference: Is Your Organization Ready for the Blockchain and Crypto-currencies Revolution?

November 29, 2017

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM Registration, Coffee, Networking

Session 1 - Introduction and Keynote Speaker

8:30 AM - 8:50 AM Introductions and Greetings

- **James Ludes, Ph.D**
Vice President, Public Research & Initiatives, Salve Regina University Executive Director, Pell Center for International Relations and Public Policy
- **Avi Nevel**
President of Rhode Island-Israel Collaborative (RIIC), Event Organizer
- **Inon Elroy**
Israel Economic Minister to North America

8:50 AM - 8:55 AM Speaker Introduction

- **Roey Tzezana, Ph.D.**
Researcher, Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center, Research Fellow, Yuval Ne'eman Workshop for Science, Technology & Security at Tel Aviv University

8:55 AM - 9:45 AM Keynote Speaker

- **Ronen Siman Tov**
CTO of Alpha Zone Accelerator, Certified Thought Leader, IT Architect Israel IBM, Developers and Startups Ecosystem

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM Q & A

Session 2 - Panel Discussion

10:15 AM - 11:30 AM

Moderator:
Dr. Roey Tzezana

Panelists:

- **Mike Steinmetz**
Rhode Island State Cybersecurity Officer and Senior Advisor for Homeland Security to the Governor
"Rhode Island Government's Cyber Readiness"
- **Chris Demchak, Ph.D.**
RDML Grace M. Hopper Chair of Cyber Security Studies
Director of the Center for Cyber Conflict Studies (C3S)
U.S. Naval War College
- **Mark Regine, Ph.D.**
Chief Epidemiologist, Leading Healthcare Analytics
BetaXAnalytics
- **Brian O'Connell**
EVP Technology Services
Citizens Financial Group, Inc.

11:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Q & A

11:45 AM - 11:50 AM

- **Adi Goldstein, Esq**
Vice President of the Rhode Island Israel Collaborative (RIIC)

11:50 AM - 12:15 PM

Lunch

Session 3 - Workshop

12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Blockchain Innovation and Adoption Workshop
Find out how blockchain technologies can make an impact in your specific field, and learn how to devise a preliminary strategy for adopting the technologies in your organization.

Groups:

1. Finance Sector
2. Government
3. Healthcare
4. Homeland Security & Cybersecurity
5. Defense Sector

Workshop Moderators:

- Roey Tzezana, PhD
- Victoria McCoy, GPHR EVP, Chief of Staff, CyberScout
- Dr. Ohad Kott, The Miriam Hospital, Providence, RI

About the Speakers



James Ludes

Vice President for Public Research
And Initiatives, Executive Director,
Assistant Professor

From July 2006 to August 2011, Ludes was executive director of the American Security Project (ASP), a think-tank in Washington, D.C. ASP was founded in 2006 to educate the public on a broad range of national security issues and the value of a principled approach to security. From November 2008 to February 2009, Ludes was a member of president-elect Obama's transition team. During this time, he participated in the Agency Review Team, working inside the Department of Defense (DOD) to identify critical issues that would need to be tackled by the new administration.

In January, he took on the additional responsibility of running the confirmation team for DOD nominees selected for the roles of Deputy Secretary of Defense, under secretary of defense for policy, comptroller and general counsel.

From 2002 to 2006, Ludes was legislative assistant to Sen. John Kerry for defense and foreign policy. During that time, he also coordinated defense policy issues for Kerry's 2004 presidential campaign - assisting in the development of policies on military end-strength, force structure and improved benefits for military families and veterans.

Prior to his work in the Senate, Ludes was editor-in-chief of National Security Studies Quarterly (NSSQ), a defense and national security journal. During his tenure, Ludes transformed the NSSQ from a student-run journal into a professional publication receiving considerable attention in the media and the policy community. He is editor of, and contributor to, "Iraq Uncensored" (2009) and co-editor of two previous books: "Attacking Terrorism" (2004) and "Twenty-First Century Proliferation".



Avi Nevel

CEO and President of the Rhode
Island-Israel Collaborative (RIIC)

Mr. Avi Nevel is an entrepreneurial senior executive with more than 25 years of broad international business experience. Mr. Nevel is the President and CEO of Nevel International, a Providence-based international consulting firm, which he founded in 2006.

Prior to founding Nevel International, Mr. Nevel served as Co-owner, CEO, and President of Lawson-Hemphill, a manufacturer of precision instruments and quality control laboratory equipment for the textiles industry. His company's products were sold worldwide.

Mr. Nevel has received 12 U.S. and foreign patents, several awards for excellence in business, personal achievement, and exportation, and numerous prestigious board and committee appointments in the U.S. and abroad. Among the accolades he has received are the Presidential "E" Award in 1987, and the Presidential "E-STAR" Award in 1991 from the U.S. Department of Commerce, the "Exporter of the Year" Award from the RI Small Business Administration in 2000, and the "Honor Award" in 2010 from the Consulate General of Israel to New England, for his remarkable work in supporting stronger economic collaboration between Israel & New England.

Mr. Nevel served on the board of the Shenkar College of Design and Engineering in Israel, was Chair of the Israel Task Force Committee at the Jewish Alliance of Rhode Island and is on the Executive Board of the New England Israel Business Council (NEIBC) and Rhode Island World Trade Day Committee and was appointed member of the Connecticut/Rhode Island District Export Council in 1997. In 2012, Mr. Nevel was appointed as Vice Chair of the Rhode Island District Export Council, (RI DEC) and is an Executive Board Member of the Providence Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Nevel assists the Rhode Island International Trade Director and Rhode Island Commerce in international matters and works closely with U.S. commerce posts around the world.

In 2011, Mr Nevel co-organized the first Rhode Island economic mission to Israel which was followed by the first Rhode Island Health Care and Life Science mission to Israel in 2013.

Further, Mr. Nevel was the key organizer and coordinator of the 2013 Connecticut business mission led by Commissioner Catherine Smith.

Mr. Nevel received his bachelor degree from Shenkar College of Design and Engineering in Israel. Mr. Nevel was born in Israel and has lived in Rhode Island for almost 30 years. He and his wife, Dr. Laura Nevel, currently reside in Providence.



Inon Elroy

Israel Economic Minister to
North America

Inon Elroy was appointed Israeli Economic Minister to North America in August 2016. Mr. Elroy has more than eighteen years of experience representing the Ministry of Economy and Industry in a wide range of executive positions both in Israel and overseas.

As Vice Director General of the Israel Ministry of Economy and Industry from 20012-2016, Mr. Elroy was tasked with overseeing industrial policy (promoting domestic production and innovation), trade regulations (liberalization of imports, anti dumping, and standardization), and regional economic planning. In addition, he supervised the Ministry's digital strategy, and initiated policies to foster innovation synergies between the public and private sectors.

During his tenure at the Israeli Ministry, Mr. Elroy was also involved in several inter-ministerial task forces aimed at reducing the cost of living in Israel. Mr. Elroy served as the Economic and Commercial Counselor in France (2001-2005) and Germany (2009-2011) Earlier in his career, he was an advisor to several ministers of Economy and Trade.

For the past several years, Mr. Elroy has been a board member of the research committee of the Office of the Chief Scientist, which approves industrial R&D projects. He was also Alternate Director for the bi-national R&D funds BIRD, SIIRD, and KORIL. Additionally, he served on the boards of the Israel Wine Institute and the Israel Consumer Council.

Mr. Elroy holds an MBA from the University of Haifa and a BA degree in Political Science and Geography from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.



Roey Tzezana, Ph.D

Researcher, Blavatnik Interdisciplinary
Cyber Research Center, and Research
Fellow in the Yuval Ne'eman Workshop for
Science, Technology & Security at Tel Aviv
University

Roey Tzezana, PhD, is a public intellectual and a future studies researcher. He is a researcher in the Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center, has an affiliation with the Humanity Centered Robotics Institute at Brown University, and was the academic manager of the program for Future Studies at Lahav Executive Education in Recanati Business School at Tel Aviv University. He has been a visiting and adjunct professor in several universities and colleges worldwide.

Dr. Tzezana is the co-founder and director of the Smpolitix project for political forecasting, and is 'living the future' as co-founder of TeleBuddy – a start-up company helping people connect via telepresence robots everywhere in the world. By using avatar bodies, Dr. Tzezana is capable of teaching, lecturing, and living in three continents at the same time, and wishes to give everyone a chance to do the same. He is talking widely about the future of work, using his robots to demonstrate how automation can leverage people's skills on the one hand, while promoting inequality on the other.

Dr. Tzezana is a member of several bodies dedicated to studying the future, including the World Future Society, TechCast, and the Millennium Project. In addition, he is part of the advisory board of the Lifeboat Foundation – an organization dedicated to safeguarding humanity's future. He is also a senior scientific advisor to the World Future Society, and scientific advisor to several start-up firms especially in the blockchain field, including Hilltop Technologies, 2Key, and Off2On.

Dr. Tzezana's first book – "A Guide to the Future" – has become a best-seller and brought the Israeli public's attention to the way technologies will impact society in the future. His second book came out this year – "Rulers of the Future: Money, Power, Technology and Hope" – and focuses on the governance systems of the future and how power will be divided between governments, industries and the public. One of the most enticing ideas in the book was the creation of a new kind of blockchain-based organizations called "cloud nations", and in these days Dr. Tzezana is working on founding the Jewish Cloud Nation, that will provide services, representation, and power to Jewish people worldwide.

Keynote Speaker



Ronen Siman-Tov

CTO of IBM Alpha Zone Accelerator,
IBM Israel Blockchain Development
Advocate Leader, Certified IBM
Thought Leader IT Architect

Ronen is the CTO of IBM Alpha Zone Accelerator, his role is to identify, screen and select matured startups (around round A of funding) which are good candidates for the program and then to tailor a technological plan for each of the selected startups in order to help them become enterprise grade. From July 2016 Ronen is also the IBM Israel Blockchain development advocate leader, focusing on finance, insurance, government and supply chain solutions. Ronen's vision is to open the Alpha Zone Accelerator also for enterprises, for CTO offices of large companies, including for the inception of Blockchain initiatives.

Ronen joined IBM on 2011 as a senior IT Architect, and was recognized as IBM Thought Leader IT Architect on December 2016. From 2014 to 2016 Ronen Managed the IBM Innovation Center in Israel and on July 2014 was part of the team that launched IBM Alpha Zone Accelerator, the first (and so far the only) IBM accelerator worldwide. Prior to that, from 2009 until 2010, Ronen was the Technical Manager and Chief Architect of an exceptionally large scaled command & control project with the IDF at Ness TSG (Technologies and Systems Group). From 2006 until 2009, Ronen was the VP R&D and CTO of two startups in the fields of Commerce and Media & Entertainment.

About the Panelists



Mike Steinmetz

Rhode Island State Cybersecurity
Officer and Senior Advisor for
Homeland Security to the
Governor, "Rhode Island
Government's Cyber Readiness"

Mr. Mike Steinmetz joined the administration of Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo in April of 2017 as the state's first Cybersecurity Officer; quickly thereafter appointed as her Principal Advisor for Homeland Security.

His diverse professional background includes twenty-five years with the U.S. Navy, where he served two tours with the NATO alliance, and a senior cyber-related leadership position within the U.S. intelligence community. Mr. Steinmetz spent over twelve years in the private sector, ten plus years within the international aerospace defense arena, and over two years at National Grid working on the digital risk security challenges facing global critical infrastructure.

He is a distinguished graduate of the National Defense University, Industrial College of the Armed Forces and is a University of Oxford, Oxford Martin School, Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre Associate. He also serves as a Curricula Advisory Council member for the Boston College Masters of Cybersecurity Policy and Governance program and is an Adjunct Professor for that program. Mr. Steinmetz is also a frequent speaker and panellist for various regional and international cyber-related forums.



Chris Demchak, Ph.D.

RDML Grace M. Hopper Professor & Chair of Cyber Security and Director, Center for Cyber Conflict Studies (C3S)

With degrees in engineering, economics, and comparative complex organization theory/political science, Dr. Chris C. Demchak is the RDML Grace M. Hopper Professor & Chair of Cyber Security and Director, Center for Cyber Conflict Studies (C3S), Strategic and Operational Research Department, U.S. Naval War College.

Her research and many publications address global cyberspace as a globally shared, complex, insecure 'substrate' penetrating throughout the critical organizations of digitized societies, creating 'cybered conflict', and resulting in a rising 'Cyber Westphalia' of sovereign competitive complex socio-technical-economic systems (STESs). Demchak takes a systemic approach in focusing on emergent structures, comparative institutional evolution, adversary/defensive use of systemic cybered tools, virtual worlds/gaming for operationalized organizational learning, and designing systemic resilience against normal or adversary imposed surprises that disrupt or disable largescale systems.

A former user of the LISP programming language- as well as a former military officer, she has taught international security studies and management, comparative organization theory, enterprise information systems, and cybersecurity for international/ national security issues. Recent works include *Designing Resilience* (2010 co-edit); *Wars of Disruption and Resilience* (2011); and a manuscript in production tentatively entitled *Cyber Westphalia: Redrawing International Economics, Conflict, and Global Structures*.



Mark Regine, Ph.D.

Chief Epidemiologist, Leading Healthcare Analytics BetaXAnalytics

Dr. Mark Regine is a pharmacoepidemiologist with 15 years of experience in using research insights and data analytics to solve healthcare cost and quality issues for managed care organizations, drug manufacturers, and health providers including Pfizer, Sonofi-Aventis, Boehringer Ingelheim, Health Dialog, Cigna, and Magellan Health. He has a Ph.D. in Pharmacoconomics and Pharmacoepidemiology from the University of Rhode Island, where he now lectures at in the School of Pharmacy.

Over the past decade, Dr. Regine has conducted numerous drug safety studies for major pharmaceutical manufacturers. His clinical and business-intelligence research has maximized endpoints associated with several disease management products and services, and he has provided executive leadership to develop and refine data analytic product offerings for numerous companies.

He is the co-founder of BetaXAnalytics, a company that reveals data insights to improve clinical outcomes, improve patient wellbeing and decrease health care costs. They deliver custom analytics, contract research, and innovative tools to managed care organizations, providers, and employers to inform outcomes-based and economic decisions on their health services. As the author of extensive publications and recipient of numerous awards and grants, Dr. Regine leverages emerging technology to convey robust research insights.



Brian O'Connell

EVP Technology Services Citizens
Financial Group, Inc.

Mr. Brian O'Connell is director of Technology Services for Citizens Bank and a member of its executive committee. He is responsible for the design, development, and implementation of technology across the bank's divisions and offices.

Before joining Citizens in 2012, Mr. O'Connell was an independent consultant working with companies in such industries as private equity, software and insurance. Prior to that, he was the chief information officer at The Hartford Insurance Group, where he had responsibility for all technology. Mr. O'Connell has also held several sales positions in IT and insurance. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Boston College.

BIRD Foundation

RIIC - BIRD Foundation Representative for Rhode Island



The Rhode Island-Israel Collaborative (RIIC) is designated as the BIRD Foundation representative for Rhode Island. The RIIC will promote and provide information and assistance to companies in Rhode Island who are interested in learning more about collaboration and R&D funding opportunities up to \$1 million.

About the BIRD Foundation

BIRD is an acronym for Israel-U.S. Binational Industrial Research and Development. The BIRD Foundation's mission is to stimulate, promote and support industrial R&D of mutual benefit to the U.S. and Israel.

BIRD activities include facilitating introductions between Israeli and American companies interested in collaborative R&D. BIRD takes no equity in the joint projects it funds all services are free of charge.

The BIRD Foundation was established by the U.S. and Israeli governments in 1977 to generate mutually beneficial cooperation between the private sectors of the U.S. and Israeli high-tech industries, including start-ups and established organizations. BIRD provides both matchmaking services between U.S. and Israeli companies, as well as funding covering up to 50 percent of project development and product commercialization costs.