

Avi Leftin Named as NSF Postdoctoral Fellow and Selected as Fulbright Scholar

Avigdor Leftin, a 2010 graduate of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, has just been named recipient of a **National Science Foundation** international postdoctoral fellowship to conduct research at the **Weizmann Institute** in Israel. In addition he has been selected a **Fulbright Scholar** to pursue this research.



Avi Leftin earned his Ph.D. in the laboratory of Prof. Michael Brown (2005-2010) where he developed solid-state nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) techniques and biophysical models for the characterization of biomembrane structural dynamics.

[National Science Foundation Fellowships](#) ^[1] and [Fulbright Scholar Awards](#) ^[2] are highly prestigious and very competitive awards. These national awards provide a high degree of recognition of both Avi and the Physical Chemistry Program at the University of Arizona. The support and resources available to graduate students at the University of Arizona in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry were indispensable in establishing the knowledge base that has led to this recognition.

At the [Weizmann Institute](#) ^[3], Avi will contribute to the developing field of real-time, dynamic nuclear polarization (DNP) as well as magnetic resonance spectroscopic imaging methods. He will also play a role in forging collaborations between the Israeli and American scientific communities including the University of Arizona. His research will answer questions that are currently bottlenecks in the treatment and understanding of cancer and neurodegenerative diseases, such as Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease. New magnetic resonance

methods will lead to hitherto untapped research opportunities - they will potentially define a new field of research modalities in molecular biochemistry, biophysics, and emerging bioengineering disciplines.

The entire CBC Department extends its congratulations to one of our most recent graduates and is proud of this terrific achievement!

[News](#)^[4]

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