

## Student Exchange

**Date:** Sep., 18-19, 2012

**Location:** Palestinian Authority, Nablus and surrounding area

**Summary:**

Through the Bio-Xplore project activities, four students from Hadassah college who are involved in the project visited BERC. The visit lasted for two days, through which the two groups (the students from Hadassah) and the group from BERC including Prof. Mohammed Ali-Shtayeh, Dr. Rana Jamous, Salam Abu-Zeitoun, and other 3 students went to visit Bio-Xploration site in the Palestinian Authority were involved in joint activities, including plant collection, screening the activity of plant extracts, and discussions.

In the first day, the students from Hadassah were introduced to BERC activities, and had a tour at BERC's labs and facilities. Later, the two groups visited one of BERC bioexploration sites located about 3 km south west of Nablus (BERC-Til Botanic Gardens and Iraq Borin). Participants collected some plant specimens and came back to the Bio-Xploration Center at BERC to start the screening process on these plants. The two groups also exchanged information and had fruitful discussions on how best can they carry out the tests.

In the second day the group visited another Bio-Xploration site in the PA (Wad Qana) which is a nature reserve and rich in plant Biodiversity. Some plants were collected from this area and were transported immediately to the Bio-Xploration Center at BERC for processing.

The two groups from Hadassah and BERC had fruitful discussions, and enjoyed working together in a friendly environment.

