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BZU launches Sina Institute for Knowledge Engineering and Arabic Language Technologies

On 5 January 2011, BZU announced the establishment of the Sina Institute for Knowledge Engineering and Arabic Language Technologies, upon the approval of the BZU Board of Trustees.

The launch of the Sina Institute is the culmination of a number of projects and relevant research, supervised by a group of researchers at BZU. The Institute is in the process of completing a number of projects: most importantly, the Multilingual and Multicultural Knowledge Sharing and Search Engines (SIERA) in partnership with a number of European universities; the Google funded project WOJOOD; the E-Government Academy Project funded by the EU; Arabic Ontology; Semantic Web; and the Process Governance Project. Moreover, more than 18 refereed articles have been published by the research team over the past two years.

BZU President, Dr. Khalil Hindi, noted that the Sina Institute will serve as a core pillar of scientific research in Palestine, and will also be an incubator for scientific research groups at BZU's Faculty of Information Technology. He added: "The Institute will seek to enrich human knowledge with advanced innovative research and applications, with special attention to Arab and Palestinian-related needs, such as Arab and legal libraries, conservation of heritage and museums, knowledge bases and Arabic dictionaries."

For more information, please visit: **http://sina.birzeit.edu**

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