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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RUTGERS' BLOUSTEIN SCHOOL NAMED ONE OF NATION'S TOP 10 GRADUATE SCHOOLS IN URBAN PLANNING

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – The Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, has been ranked No. 8 in the United States and No. 5 in the Northeast in an independent nationwide survey of professionals, educators and students asked to name the nation's top graduate schools in urban planning.

The survey was conducted during the fall by the opinion research firm Davis, Hibbits, and Midghall Inc. on behalf of Planetizen, a Los Angeles-based planning and development network. Planetizen commissioned the survey to produce its first Guide to Graduate Urban Planning Programs. The 2007 inaugural edition evaluates 94 graduate planning programs in the United States and Canada.

“The Planetizen survey reaffirms the Bloustein School's national leadership for academic excellence and our success in crafting solutions to planning and public policy issues that are both innovative and practical,” said Bloustein School Dean James W. Hughes. “Our goal is to foster research and new thinking that achieves not just scholarly recognition, but public acceptance. The Bloustein School is an asset for New Jersey and a program that is clearly on the rise in attracting the best students from across the United States and abroad.”

Planetizen covers a wide array of planning, design, and development issues, from transportation to global warming, architecture to infrastructure, housing and community development to historic preservation. It developed the guide to provide prospective students a credible comparison of graduate schools. In addition to the overall rankings, the Planetizen survey ranked graduate schools in 12 specialty areas.

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The Bloustein School ranked:

- No. 8 Overall
- No. 5 Regional (Northeast)
- No. 6 Economic Development
- No. 5 Transportation Planning
- No. 8 Zoning Administration
- No. 10 Historic Preservation
- No. 6 Housing, Social and Community Development
- No.10 Land Use Planning
- No. 6 Public Health
- No. 7 Technology

The Bloustein School ranking established Rutgers among the nation's elite universities for planning and public policy. The Planetizen Top 10 included the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of North Carolina, Harvard University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of California at Los Angeles, Cornell University, Rutgers, the University of Southern California and the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

The Bloustein School was named in honor of former Rutgers President Edward J. Bloustein and is committed to a rebirth of the public service ethic in the United States. The school provides education, research and public service, and is home to 18 research centers and institutes. A unique feature of the Bloustein School is the hands-on experience its research centers provide graduate students in crafting state and local planning and public policy.



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