

BLOUSTEIN SCHOOL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

The Bloustein School's centers and institutes maximize the school's ability to perform in-depth research and extend its activities beyond the classroom through public service and outreach.

Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center

Robert Noland, Director
Fourth Floor, Room 442
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Fax number: (732) 932-3714

Website:

<http://vtc.rutgers.edu/>

Center overview:

The **Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center** (VTC) is the nucleus of transportation training and education, policy, and research at Rutgers University. The university established the center in 1998 to continue its tradition as a leader in research and education on urban affairs and public policy at the national, state, and regional levels. VTC was created to facilitate informed public debate on critical transportation issues and to conduct research in areas not otherwise addressed by conventional sponsors. The Center specializes in identifying and exploring transportation linkages to other public policy areas, such as economic development, land use, political governance, finance and social policy.

Bloustein Center for Survey Research

Nancy Wolff, Director;
33 Livingston Avenue, Suite 201
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
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Website:

<http://www.bcsr.rutgers.edu>

Center overview:

The Bloustein Center for Survey Research (BCSR) provides high quality, non-partisan, objective research services to government, academia, and the private sector. BCSR conducts needs assessments, program evaluations, tracking studies, and outreach analysis, utilizing rigorous survey methodologies to broaden our understanding of the impact of important policy issues.

Bloustein Local Government Research Center

Raphael J. Caprio, PhD, Director
Marc H. Pfeiffer, Assistant Director
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Website:

<http://blousteinlocal.rutgers.edu/>

Center overview:

New Jersey is served by more than 1,500 distinct local government agencies: municipalities, school districts, utilities, counties, and more. Yet, even with this wealth of opportunity, precious little substantive research has been done within the local government environment to inform some of our State's most pressing policy issues. The **Bloustein Local Government Research Center** will serve as a focal point to disseminate and support, through a variety of mechanisms, research and analyses useful to New Jersey's elected and appointed officials, faculty and researchers, policy analysts and practitioners. Bloustein Local also works directly with Bloustein School faculty and center directors to advance and support education and research within the Bloustein School.

Center for Energy, Economic & Environmental Policy

Frank Felder, Director
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Phone: (848) 932-2750; Fax number: (732) 932-0934
Email: ffelder@rutgers.edu

Website:

<http://ceeep.rutgers.edu>

Center overview:

Established within the Bloustein School in January 2003, the Center for Energy, Economic & Environmental Policy (CEEPP) conducts applied research to evaluate and help develop energy policy at the state, regional, national, and international levels. The Center explores the interrelation of energy, economic, and environmental policy issues.

Center for Urban Policy Research

David Listokin, Director
Fourth Floor, Room 494
Phone: (848) 932-2375
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Email: listokin@rutgers.edu

Website:

<http://cupr.rutgers.edu>

Center overview:

For four decades, the **Center for Urban Policy Research (CUPR)** has served the nation with basic and applied research on a broad spectrum of public policy issues. CUPR is nationally and internationally recognized for its research on affordable housing, land use policy, the arts and cultural policy, development impact analysis, the costs of sprawl, transportation information systems, environmental impacts, and community and economic development. CUPR has developed a wide array of fiscal, environmental, transportation, and quality of life impact models that have been used in major public policy evaluations throughout the United States.

John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development

Carl E. Van Horn, Director
30 Livingston Avenue
Third Floor, Room 307
Phone: (848) 932-4100
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Email: hcwd@rci.rutgers.edu

Website:

<http://www.heldrich.rutgers.edu>

Center overview:

Founded in 1997, the **John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development** is a research and policy organization dedicated to applying the best research to address the core challenges of New Jersey's and the nation's workforce. The center's goals are focused on easing the skills crunch, ensuring that no one who is able to work is left behind in the 21st century economy, connecting dislocated workers to lifelong learning and job opportunities, addressing the career crisis of non college-bound youth, and ensuring that workforce and other government programs are managed for results, with cost-effectiveness and transparency to the taxpayer and customer. The center's researchers, scholars, and practitioners combine their talents to develop solutions to put people to work, ensure that workers remain competitive, and provide employers with qualified and productive workers.

HIV Prevention Community Planning Support and Development Initiative

Ann Dey, Program Development Administrator

120 Albany Street

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New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Phone: (848) 932-4189; Fax: (732) 932-2493

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Website:

<http://hiv.rutgers.edu>

Center overview:

The HIV Prevention Community Planning Support and Development Initiative (HIV Prevention CPSDI) is a joint initiative of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS), Division of HIV, STD and TB Services (DHSTS) and the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

Environmental Analysis and Communications Group

Jeanne Herb, Executive Director

Fourth Floor, Suite 400

Phone: (848) 932-2725; Fax: (732) 932-0934

Email: jherb@ejb.rutgers.edu

Website:

<http://eac.rutgers.edu>

Center overview:

EAC Group is a University-based Center of research, outreach, training and service focused on the analysis and communication of environmental issues facing communities, governments, businesses and organizations.

National Center for Neighborhood and Brownfields Redevelopment

Michael Greenberg, Director

Fourth Floor, Suite 400

Phone: (848) 932-2714; Fax number: (732) 932-0934

Email: mrg@rutgers.edu

Website:

<http://eac.rutgers.edu/brownfields/>

Center overview:

Established in 1998 at the E. J. Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy, the **National Center for Neighborhood and Brownfields Redevelopment** has been designated by the Rutgers Board of Governors as a strategic planning initiative of the University. It's mission is to establish itself as a pre-eminent university-based center for neighborhood and brownfield redevelopment focused on the three themes of service, education and research. The Center seeks to: Educate community leaders about the complex inter-relationships between brownfields and neighborhood redevelopment. Provide a national forum where public and private organizations, elected officials and neighborhood representatives can share their problems, initiatives and innovations. Conduct research into related issues such as reducing sprawl through urban redevelopment, releasing mothballed properties for redevelopment, building housing on former brownfield sites, and measuring the environmental impact of different land use scenarios.

National Transit Institute

Billy Terry, Director; Andrea Dixon, Administrative Assistant
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New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-2163
Phone: (848) 932-1700; Fax number: (732) 932-1707
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Website:

<http://www.ntionline.com>

Center overview:

A unit of the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center, the **National Transit Institute (NTI)** is a training and education resource for the transit industry nationwide. Established by Congress, NTI has been funded through a cooperative agreement with the Federal Transit Administration since 1992. NTI develops and delivers a national program of training and education for and about the transit industry.

Rutgers Center for Green Building

Jennifer Senick, Executive Director
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Phone: (848) 932-2903; Fax number: (732) 932-0934
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Website:

<http://www.greenbuildingrutgers.us/>

Center overview:

The **Rutgers Center for Green Building** promotes green building through research, advocacy and education. The Center conducts applied research utilizing planned and existing green building projects, works with industry and government to promote these concepts, and develops undergraduate, graduate and professional education programs. It seeks to establish itself as the pre-eminent interdisciplinary center for green building excellence in the Northeast, while serving as a single accessible locus for fostering collaboration among green building practitioners and policy-makers.

Rutgers Urban and Civic Informatics Lab

Piyushimita (Vonu) Thakuriah, Director, Distinguished Professor and Dean

Third Floor; Suite 300

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Website:

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Center Overview:

The Rutgers Urban and Civic Informatics Lab was established at Rutgers University's Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy in February 2020. The Lab aims to research and build capacity in leveraging technology and data analytics to address grand challenges facing global cities. Our vision is to support socially-just, environmentally resilient, and healthy cities. At the core of RUCI Lab is a multidisciplinary analytics capability that links data-driven strategies for a forward-looking approach to better urban futures, and for improved wellbeing and daily lives of urban residents. Our key focus areas are smart mobility, smart and future cities, automation and the future of work, energy and environmental analytics, mobile health and health informatics, data for development in the global south, and public policy analytics. The Lab serves as a resource for the [Master of Public Informatics \(MPI\)](#) degree program, and the [Master of City and Regional Planning/Master of Public Informatics \(MCRP/MPI\)](#), and [Master of Public Policy/Master of Public Informatics \(MPP/MPI\)](#) dual degree programs. In addition, the mission of the [Public Informatics Student Group](#), is to create exploration "within the student body by applying and using information, computing technology, and data in the contexts of public service and the urban environment."

Center for Transportation Safety, Security and Risk (CTSSR)

Michael Greenberg, Director

Jeanne Herb, Executive Director

Third Floor, Suite 300

Phone: (848) 932-2725; Fax number: (732) 932-0934

Email: mrg@rutgers.edu

Website:

<http://eac.rutgers.edu/ctssr>

Center overview:

The Center for Transportation Safety, Security and Risk combines the strengths of faculty and staff with complementary expertise in risk analysis and transportation. Organizationally, the Center is part of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy and works cooperatively with its sister organizations the National Transit Institute and the Voorhees Transportation Center. Through NTI, the Center operates as a U.S. Department of Homeland Security designated National Transportation Security Center of Excellence. The Center also works with other Rutgers faculty and staff in the School of Engineering, Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation, School of Environmental & Biological Sciences, School of Public Health and with University staff involved in disaster preparedness and emergency response. Together, these organizations provide outstanding, perhaps unmatched, expertise in risk analysis and transportation security and safety.

Ralph W. Voorhees Center for Civic Engagement

Kathe Newman, Director

Phone: (840) 932-2799; Fax number: (732) 932-6564

Email: knewman@rutgers.edu

Website:

<http://rwv.rutgers.edu>

Center overview:

The Ralph W. Voorhees Center for Civic Engagement is a collaborative effort of university faculty, students and community development actors that seeks to enhance educational opportunities, facilitate innovative research, and build community development capacity. The center builds on the strength of existing relationships between faculty and students at the Bloustein School and community development networks and organizations in New Jersey and beyond. The Center hosts the Ralph W. Voorhees Public Service fellowship program for undergraduate and graduate students who work collaboratively with community organizations on group projects each fall.

Sustainable Raritan River Initiative

Sara Malone, Facilitator

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Website:

<http://eac.rutgers.edu/srri/>

Center overview:

Rutgers University launched the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative in 2009 to bring together concerned scientists, environmentalists, engineers, businesses, community leaders and governmental entities to craft an agenda that meets the goals of the U.S. Clean Water Act to restore and preserve New Jersey's Raritan River, its tributaries and its bay. The Initiative, a joint program of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy and the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, partners with other Rutgers schools, centers and programs to ensure the best contributions from the sciences, planning and policy for a more sustainable Raritan.

New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance

Jeanne Herb, Associate Director

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Email: jherb@rutgers.edu

Website:

<http://njadapt.rutgers.edu/>

Center overview:

The **New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance** was formed in response to a diverse group of stakeholders who came together on November 29, 2011 at Rutgers University to participate in the conference "Preparing NJ for Climate Change: A Workshop for Decision-Makers."

Planning Healthy Communities Initiative (PHCI)

Jeanne Herb, Facilitator

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Website:

PHCI@ejb.rutgers.edu

Center overview:

The **Planning Healthy Communities Initiative (PHCI)** is a partnership dedicated to promoting the integration of public health impacts into planning and decision-making. The goal of the PHCI is to build partnerships that enhance opportunities to conduct Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) that inform state, regional and local decisions, so that these decisions result in healthier communities and citizens.

Rutgers Economic Advisory Service (R/ECON)

Michael Lahr, Director

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Website:

<http://recon.rutgers.edu/>

Center overview:

Rutgers Economic Advisory Service (R/ECON™) was founded in 1992 to improve the quality and accessibility of tools for economic forecasting and policy simulation. R/ECON provides private-sector and government entities with a comprehensive set of tools for analyzing the New Jersey economy. These include an econometric forecasting model and an input-output model.

New Jersey Travel Independence Program (NJTIP)

Karen Alexander, Managing Director

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Phone: (848) 932-2831; Fax: (732) 932-3714

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Website:

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Center overview:

The mission of the **New Jersey Travel Independence Program (NJTIP)** is to increase the independence and self-sufficiency of people with disabilities, older adults and others by empowering them to use the public transit system safely and independently. In 2013 NJTIP merged with the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC), a national leader in transportation research and education and the nucleus of transportation-related policy research, training and education at Rutgers University's Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. Since 2005, NJTIP has worked with a variety of government agencies, community organizations and schools to teach travel skills to more than 900 individuals.