

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EDITOR'S NOTE: ATTENTION EDUCATION, ASSIGNMENT EDITORS

NEWARK'S RISE, RECOVERY OVER THE LAST CENTURY TO BE DISCUSSED AT BLOUSTEIN MEMORIAL LECTURE AT RUTGERS, APRIL 25

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J – [Kenneth T. Jackson](#), the Jacques Barzun Professor of History at Columbia University, will present the Ruth Ellen Steinman and Edward J. Bloustein Memorial Lecture on Thursday, April 25, 2013. This year's lecture will be "Newark's Decline and Resurgence in the 20th Century as Lessons for Urban America: The Rise, Fall, and Recovery of a Great Metropolis, 1916-2016." The lecture is cosponsored by Rutgers University's [Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy](#) and [Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life](#).

The lecture will be held at the Special Events Forum, Civic Square Building, 33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ on the campus of Rutgers University, and will begin at 5:00 p.m. A reception will follow the lecture. Both are free and open to the public.

On the occasion of its 250th Anniversary celebration in 1916, Newark was one of America's most prosperous and dynamic industrial cities, with thriving ethnic neighborhoods, including a Jewish population largely concentrated in its Third Ward that would eventually become the seventh largest in the U.S., a busy central business district, and a growing middle class. A half century later, in the summer of 1967, Newark came to be synonymous with urban pathologies of every description – from poverty, violence, and commercial abandonment to political corruption and white flight. By the first decade of the twenty-first century, Newark seemed at last to have turned another corner, with a growing university campus, a vibrant performing arts center, a modern indoor sports arena, and many thousands of new housing units.

In his presentation, Jackson will seek to answer several questions, including: How do we explain Newark's twentieth century trajectory? Will the city's recovery continue? Does the Newark experience offer lessons for other industrial cities?

Jackson is the Jacques Barzun Professor of History at Columbia University and a former president of the Urban History Association, the Society of American Historians, the Organization of American Historians, and the New-York Historical Society. His many books include *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States*; *The Encyclopedia of New York City*; *Empire City: New York Through the Centuries*; and *The Ku Klux Klan in the City, 1915–1930*. In addition to the Francis Parkman and Bancroft Prizes and four honorary degrees, he is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The Ruth Ellen Steinman and Edward J. Bloustein Memorial Lecture at the [Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy](#) was established to honor the memory of these two extraordinary individuals. For nearly 19 years, the Blousteins dedicated their enormous energies to Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. The fund was created in 1988 after Ruth Ellen died following a long and heroic battle with illness. Sadly, there was cause to broaden the purpose of the fund a year later when Edward Bloustein, Rutgers' beloved president, died suddenly in December 1989. The endowment supports an annual lecture series that is intended to celebrate the values and interests Ruth Ellen and Ed cherished and cultivated throughout their lives, namely the preservation of animal species and the natural environment; the celebration of love, happiness, and laughter as tools of clinical medicine; and the exploration and promotion of humane values.

[The Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life](#) at Rutgers University is committed to academic excellence, fostering scholarly exchange, and providing educational programs for the community at large. The activities of the Herbert and Leonard Littman Families Holocaust Resource Center, a vital part of the Bildner Center, contribute to the Center's commitment to reduce prejudice and promote inter-group understanding. Working closely with the Department of Jewish Studies, it offers a wide range of programs for students and seminars for faculty. The Center connects the university with the community through its public lectures and symposia, Jewish communal initiatives, cultural events, and teacher training.

This event has been approved for 1.5 American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Certification Maintenance credits. RSVP's for this event are requested by Thursday, April 18 by e-mail to RSVP@policy.rutgers.edu or by phone to 848-932-2733.

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