

Contact: Darcy Maher, 732-729-9877
Email: dbmbildner@comcast.net

September 9, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**“Jews and Food: Tradition, Sustainability, and Health”
October 8 at Rutgers University**

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – The intersection of Jewish tradition and contemporary concerns about food and its relationship to local and global health and environmental issues will be explored in the program “Jews and Food: Tradition, Sustainability, and Health on October 8 at Rutgers. The panel of guest speakers includes Nigel Savage, executive director of Hazon, an organization whose mission is to create healthier and more sustainable communities in the Jewish world and beyond; Jennifer Berg, director of the graduate program in Food Studies and Food Management at New York University, and an expert on Jewish American foodways; and Jordan Rosenblum, a professor in the Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and author of the book *Food and Identity in Early Rabbinic Judaism* (Cambridge University Press, 2010) .

The program will be preceded by a memorial tribute honoring Joan L. Bildner, who, along with her husband, Allen, founded the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life in 1996. Rutgers President Emeritus Richard L. McCormick and Bildner Center Director Yael Zerubavel will speak at the tribute beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Douglass Campus Center, 100 George Street, New Brunswick. Sponsored by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life at Rutgers University, the event is free and open to the public. It is cosponsored by the Rutgers GAIA Centers' 2013-2015 Biennial Theme: *Global Health!* Advance registration is requested by contacting csjlrsvp@rci.rutgers.edu or 848-932-2033. Free parking is available. For more information, visit BildnerCenter.rutgers.edu.

The Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life connects the university with the community through public lectures, symposia, Jewish communal initiatives, cultural events, and teacher training.