



## From the News Office

### **BARUCH COLLEGE'S NEWMAN REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE AWARDED \$422,528 FEDERAL GRANT TO PROVIDE ONLINE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR BUILDING MANAGERS**

#### **Additional \$50,000 Grant from New York State Also Awarded; Newman Institute Only Grant Recipient in New York City**

**NEW YORK, NY, June 24, 2010** – The [Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute](#) of Baruch College, City University of New York, has been awarded a 2-year, \$422,528 grant by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to design and deliver an online certificate program for commercial building operators, property managers and portfolio asset managers that will equip them to plan a path toward net zero energy building operations. Baruch College is one of 18 colleges and universities selected, and the only recipient of any kind based in New York City.

The [New York State Energy Research and Development Authority](#) (NYSERDA) will contribute an additional \$50,000, for a total of \$472,528 in funding. The [CUNY Building Performance Lab](#) (BPL) is partnering with the Newman Institute on the project.

The DOE grant is one of 58, totaling over \$76 million in federal stimulus funds, [announced](#) by DOE Secretary Steven Chu on June 17. The federal grants will support advanced energy-efficient building technology projects and the development of training programs for commercial building personnel.

Baruch College's **Benchmark Green certificate program** will comprise three 15-hour courses – Energy Efficiency Management and Improvement, Introduction to Advanced Energy Technologies, and Building System Synergies and Integrations – designed to develop students' strategic problem-solving skills in tackling energy efficiency problems in actual buildings. The advanced web portal through which courses will be offered will facilitate timely instructor feedback to students and provide numerous communication tools and features.

“Baruch College is honored to be the recipient of these grants, and eager to move forward with the online program they support,” said Stan Altman, President of Baruch College. “The Newman Institute at Baruch College has long been an advocate for sustainable buildings and building management and has a wealth of knowledge and resources to apply to the launch of the Benchmark Green certificate program.”

The DOE proposal evaluation process was prolonged and rigorous; the Newman Institute submitted its application almost 10 months ago. Additionally, the grant is for the total amount of funding that was sought and the Institute is the only real estate institute among the awardees, which include Fortune 500

companies and major universities – among them, United Technologies, Siemens, Phillips, Johnson Controls, Dow, 3M, General Electric, the University of California, the University of Southern California and Purdue.

A fundamental part of Benchmark Green will be collaboration with major players in the energy field and the real estate industry. In addition to contributing \$50,000 to the project, NYSERDA endorsed the grant application and committed to providing further support for training deployment.

Other formal letters of endorsement were submitted by: [Grubb & Ellis Company](#), a firm which sees Benchmark Green as “an exciting and timely response to a need we have recognized for some time”; Mychele Lord, President and Founder of [Lord Green Real Estate Strategies](#) and lead author on ASHRAE’s *Energy Efficiency Guide for Existing Buildings: the Business Case* and the U.S. Green Building Council’s *Green Office Guide*; [Time Equities, Inc.](#), which offers Benchmark Green the “ability to test concepts internally”; and [Urban Green Council](#), New York City’s chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council. (Mr. Nyman is Vice Chair of its board.)

Termed “participating members,” these parties will help develop the Benchmark Green curriculum and promote it through their own organizations and their extensive networking.

“For commercial buildings, the energy goals of the federal, state, and local governments are aligned,” Nyman reflects. “The challenge is to advance them, broadly and swiftly. We believe we’re ideally positioned to do exactly this, and we have a sense of urgency about our mission.”

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#### **About Baruch College:**

[Baruch College](#) is a senior college in the [City University of New York](#) (CUNY) with a total enrollment of more than 16,000 students, who represent 160 countries and speak more than 100 languages. Ranked among the top 15% of U.S. colleges, Baruch College is regularly recognized as among the most ethnically diverse colleges in the country. Through its three schools—the [School of Public Affairs](#); the [Weissman School of Arts and Sciences](#); and the [Zicklin School of Business](#), the largest AACSB-accredited business school in the nation—Baruch College offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate degrees that reflect the college’s foundation in the liberal arts and its strong focus on management and public affairs. Baruch College dates back more than 160 years to the founding in 1847 of the Free Academy, the first free public college in the nation. As a public institution with a tradition of academic excellence, Baruch College offers accessibility and opportunity for students from every corner of New York City and from around the world.

#### **About the Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute:**

The [Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute](#) meets the evolving needs of the real estate industry through its professional and continuing education courses, applied research and conferences on topical issues. Since its founding in 1996, it has been the Institute’s mission to provide timely research on industry trends and, more broadly, on factors ranging from public policy, to economics and finance, to new technology, that shape development in New York City and other urban environments. Its primary focus areas are real estate finance, urban policy, land use planning, zoning, infrastructure and sustainable systems. The Institute’s research, conducted by noted scholars in a range of disciplines and by leading practitioners from private industry, is designed for a broad readership spanning many arenas, including the real estate industry, professional organizations and government agencies. Professional and continuing education programs, as well as certificate programs in real estate, sustainability, construction management and facilities management, reflect the Institute’s multidisciplinary expertise and deep industry connections.

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