

Stuart Shapiro, Ph.D.

Associate Dean of Faculty

Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

33 Livingston Ave., Room 536

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Dear Dr. Shapiro,

I am writing to you to express my support for Dr. Debbie Borie-Holtz who is being considered for the position of Associate Professor in Teaching at the Bloustein School of Public Policy and Planning. I have known Dr. Borie-Holtz since my first class at Rutgers Bloustein School in 2016, and have since taken another one of her classes, and remained in contact with her both through the Bloustein School and through my professional career working for the New Jersey Legislature.

As a student of Dr. Borie-Holtz, I have witnessed firsthand the incredible knowledge, passion, and experience she brings to the classroom each and every day. As a former legislative staffer turned college professor, I found her classes to be the right balance between political theory and political practice. She was able to seamlessly tie real world examples to the literature, which provided for robust and engaging classroom discussions

What I most admired about Dr. Borie-Holtz, however, was the manner in which she taught her classes. We come from opposite sides of the political spectrum, but not once did I ever feel like my opinions or views on a policy issue were any less valid than hers. In fact, by the end of the class, we found ourselves agreeing more than we disagreed. In the age of hyper-partisanship in politics, Dr. Borie-Holtz made sure everyone felt comfortable and confident in expressing their views.

I highly recommend Dr. Borie-Holtz for the position of Associate Professor at the Bloustein School. I know she will continue to be a tremendous asset to students, and the University, if given the opportunity to serve in this new role.

Sincerely,

Ted Conrad

Rutgers Bloustein, MPAP '19

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