Rutgers University Department of Emergency Services receives Outstanding Public EMS Provider Award

New Brunswick, NJ – November 14, 2011 – On November 4, 2011, the NJ Office of Emergency Medical Services hosted its annual EMS Awards Dinner in Atlantic City, New Jersey. This year, the Rutgers University Department of Emergency Services (RUES) was presented with the 2011 Outstanding Public EMS Agency Award by Assistant Commissioner Christopher R. Rinn of the NJ Dept. of Health & Senior Services. This prestigious recognition is awarded in an effort to honor currently licensed EMS services operated by a municipality, not-for-profit hospital, or a county or state agency that have assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievements in areas of patient care, public access to EMS, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training in New Jersey.

The criteria further includes maintaining a positive image in the community and showing that the Department has taken meaningful and visible steps to assure quality of patient care, professionalism of its personnel and identifying and taking steps to improve the service in areas such as response times, quality improvement programs and continuing education. Receiving this award further reinforces the Department’s commitment to providing outstanding professionalism and service to the RU community.

Additionally, the Department’s EMT Course Coordinator Phyllis Woestemeyer was the recipient of the NJ EMS Director’s Award for her work to transition the pre-hospital emergency care provider education to the next level with a new competence-based provider program. Many members of the Department were nominated for noteworthy individual and/or team accomplishments. The EMS providers who responded to a local community college student, who fell approximately 30 feet off a stairwell at the Rutgers Stadium, were nominated for a 2011 Outstanding EMS Call Award. Lieutenant Les Barta was also nominated for a 2011 Outstanding ALS Provider Award for assuming a leadership role in EMS through his achievements in the area of public education and training.