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**RHODES SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO GRADUATE OF
BRURIAH HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS OF JEWISH
EDUCATIONAL CENTER (JEC) IN ELIZABETH, N.J.**

*MIRIAM ROSENBAUM, A PRINCETON SENIOR, IS SECOND RHODES
SCHOLAR IN JEC HISTORY*

Miriam Rosenbaum was shocked by a phone call she received following the end of *Shabbat* this week. The 22-year-old senior at Princeton University was notified that she had been awarded a Rhodes scholarship — one of 32 given to American college students this year.

Rosenbaum, of Riverdale, N.Y., graduated from [Bruriah](#) High School for Girls, a division of the [Jewish Educational Center](#) in Elizabeth, N.J., in 2007 and was salutatorian of her class.

“We at JEC are so proud to see our students strive to the highest levels of achievement,” said Rabbi Elazar Mayer Teitz, dean of the Jewish Educational Center. “We are equally proud to have been able to partner with her parents in preparing Miriam to attain this wonderful award.”

In a telephone conversation with the associate dean, Rabbi Eliyahu Teitz, who called to congratulate her, Rosenbaum expressed great appreciation for the values imbued in her during her years in high school. “At Bruriah I saw strong female role models who pursued careers that they chose for

themselves,” she said. “I hope to be a role model for Orthodox girls to pursue academic achievement at the highest levels.”

Expanding on that point, Rosenbaum told the news website VosIzNeias.com, “I think it is important for Orthodox Jews to be involved in academic institutions and for them to be out in the real world while continuing to be outwardly observant.”

Rosenbaum is currently pursuing a degree in public policy at Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School and plans on a career in health policy, specifically as an advocate for the elderly and disabled. She is no stranger to working with the disabled, having spent several summers working at the Hebrew Academy for Special Children summer program known as Camp HASC. In October she hopes to begin a one-year Masters program in bioethics at Oxford University, the second oldest university in the world; the Rhodes Trust will pay her expenses for the year.

Rosenbaum found inspiration in the story of her grandfather, a member of the Mir Yeshiva who escaped to Shanghai, China where he survived the Holocaust. His life was saved by Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat who disobeyed his superiors during World War II by issuing lifesaving visas to thousands of Jews — people who could not otherwise help themselves.

Rosenbaum is the second JEC student to be awarded a Rhodes scholarship. Rabbi Chaim Strauchler, rav of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation in Toronto, Ontario since 2008, graduated from the Rav Teitz Mesivta Academy (RTMA), the JEC’s boys high school division. He earned a master's degree in religious studies and a diploma in theology from Oxford University before returning to YU where he was ordained at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS) and earned a masters degree at the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies.

The Jewish Educational Center is a preK-12 Jewish Day School located in Elizabeth, New Jersey. It educates over 820 students from communities throughout the New Jersey/New York area. Among its graduates are two Rhodes Scholars, two United States Ambassadors and a Secretary of Homeland Security.

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