

U.S. NEWS LISTS BU AMONG MOST INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITIES

Climbs to 36th in *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* rankings



BOSTON UNIVERSITY IN September was named one of the most innovative national universities for the first time in the 2019 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Colleges rankings.

BU tied for 28th out of the 36 schools that made the “Most Innovative” list, from among 301 schools in the *U.S. News* National Universities category.

For the *U.S. News* survey, college presidents, provosts, and admissions deans were asked to nominate colleges or universities making the most innovative improvements in terms of curriculum, faculty, students, campus life, technology, or facilities. The schools were ranked by the number of nominations they received, and a school had to receive seven or more to be listed. *U.S. News* does not reveal how many nominations each school received or any specific factors behind individual school rankings.

“There’s a general understanding that the world of higher edu-

Jeff Costello (ENG’17) (from left), Jason Yung (ENG’17), and Dong Hoon Kim (ENG’19) at the Engineering Product Innovation Center (EPIC).

cation is changing rapidly,” says Gerald Fine, a College of Engineering professor of the practice, director of the Engineering Product Innovation Center (EPIC), and executive director of Innovate@BU. “The leadership of the University has created an environment where experimentation in better ways to educate students is encouraged.”

Among the programs for undergraduates and grad students noted by Fine and others:

THE BU HUB: The first University-wide general education program, encompassing 400 classes to help students develop intellectual capacities that will sustain them throughout their lives.

CARB-X: The public-private Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator is the world’s largest preclinical and early development pipeline of antibiotics and other therapeutics, diagnostics, microbiome, vaccines, and devices.

EPIC: ENG maker space

allowing students to design and build their own ideas and gain hands-on experience in design, prototyping, and small-scale manufacturing.

INNOVATE@BU: A cross-campus program to support creative problem-solving and hands-on solutions, with a home at the new BUild Lab: IDG Capital Student Innovation Center.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON INNOVATION LUNG CANCER INNOVATION CENTER: The centerpiece of a five-year alliance with Johnson & Johnson on the Medical Campus aims to fundamentally change the way lung cancer is detected and treated.

RAJEN KILACHAND CENTER FOR INTEGRATED LIFE SCIENCES & ENGINEERING: Designed to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration across science and engineering, endowed with \$100 million to support research.

SPARK!: A project to support student-driven innovation in computer science and engineering and even launch their products into the world.

Overall, BU slipped a few places in the 2019 *U.S. News* report ranking of national universities, to 42nd, with a total score of 66, down a single point from last year. BU jumped three places, to 32nd, in high school guidance counselors’ recommendations, and the College of Engineering rose one place, to 48th.

In other annual rankings news, BU climbed four spots, to 36th, in the *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* 2019 College Rankings, also unveiled in September. Its overall ranking of 968 schools is based on 15 factors across 4 categories: resources, engagement, outcomes, and environment; 40 percent of each school’s overall score comes from student outcomes. **JB**