The Knuckleball and Ramapo College

*Knuckleball!* is a film that tells the story of "a few good men, a handful of pitchers in the entire history of baseball forced to resort to the lowest rung on the credibility ladder in their sport: throwing a ball so slow and unpredictable that no one wants anything to do with it. The film follows the Major League's only knuckleballers in 2011, Tim Wakefield and R.A. Dickey, as they pursue a mercurial art form in a world that values speed, accuracy, and numerical accountability."

Woven into the film is footage of Dickey at Ramapo College. Brought to campus through Coach Rich Martin's All Star Baseball Camp, Dickey shares a few trade secrets with Martin, the campers, and members of the Ramapo College Baseball Team.

The 2012 film is now available on DVD.

View the official trailer.

NJEFA Issues 2012 Annual Report, Highlights Ramapo College Savings

According to its 2012 report, the New Jersey Educational Facilities Authority completed 4 transactions for 4 schools totaling over $210 million. Two-thirds of the funds was for refundings, providing Ramapo, The College of New Jersey, Rider University, and William Paterson University with more than $14 million in net present value savings.

NJEFA reports, "The Authority completed an $80,670,000 revenue bond financing on behalf of Ramapo to finance new capital projects that included renovation of the G-Wing academic building, construction of the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence and HVAC replacement and renovation of the exterior of the Phase II College Park Apartments."

"The bonds (for Ramapo) also currently refunded the Authority's outstanding Series 1998 G, Series 2002 H, Series 2002 I and Series 2002 J bonds. The bonds were issued at fixed rates and carried an all-in true interest cost of 3.93%. The refunding resulted in more than $3.1 million in net present value savings for the College, or nearly 8.2% of the refunded bond."

The full report can be viewed online.
Can you name seven top public policy issues facing higher education this year? In its recent policy paper, the Association of Governing Boards notes, "It will be necessary for every board member to have an awareness of these issues not only as they affect the institution one serves, but also in the broader context of higher education's role in society."

The seven issues and some of the relevant questions for boards to consider include:

1. **Questions about the Value of Higher Education**
   "What steps could be taken at your institution to bring greater stability, consistency, and predictability to tuition setting and budget planning?"

2. **Mixed Messages from Policy Makers**
   "Do board members engage in advocacy on behalf of the institution with local, state, and federal policy makers?"

3. **Constraints in Institutional Support**
   "Depending on the extent of state government support, how has your institution dealt with state budget uncertainties and declines?"

4. **The Future of Student Aid**
   "Has a policy behind the allocation of institutional student aid been clearly articulated? Is actual practice consistent with policy?"

5. **Expectations for Student Attainment**
   "Does the board know how many students persist to graduation in a four- and six-year time frame?"

6. **Quality Assurance**
   "Is the board aware of the public policy role of accreditation and its relationship with federal and state government and how this may affect the institution or one of its programs?"

7. **Tax Policy and Income Tax Reform**
   "Has the board discussed the extent to which charitable giving benefits your institution?"

Darryl Greer, Senior Fellow at the Hughes Center for Public Policy at Richard Stockton College, co-authored the paper. This summer and fall, Greer will work with the Ramapo College Board to facilitate the evaluation process of the President and the Office of the President.

For a copy of the full policy paper, please contact Brittany Goldstein at bwillia1@ramapo.edu.

**Real Roadrunner: Steven J. Wiltbank ‘13**

Steven Wiltbank ‘13 graduated Magna Cum Laude from Ramapo College in May. He earned his undergraduate degree in Spanish Language Studies from the Salameno School of American and International Studies.

During his time at Ramapo, Steven was an active member of the Student Government Association, serving as its president from 2011-2012. In addition, Steven completed the College Honors Program and studied abroad in Spain.

This fall, Steven will begin employment with the Wall Township School District as a High School Spanish Teacher.
Save the Dates!

- Summer Concert Series: July 25 and August 1 at 8:00pm
- New Student Arching Ceremony: September 1 at 5:30pm
- Opening Convocation: September 3 at 2:00pm
- First Day of Classes: September 4
- President's State of the College Address: September 18 at Noon
- Board of Trustees Regular Meeting: September 30 at 5:30pm

Contact Details
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Have you visited the President's Post lately?