The Board Bulletin is a semi-monthly publication for the Board of Trustees that highlights Ramapo College of New Jersey news and achievements.

November/December 2013

**Kiplinger's Says Ramapo is Top-notch**

Kiplinger’s Personal Finance’s list of 100 best values in public colleges for 2014 ranked Ramapo at #66 for in-state tuition, up a slot from 2013’s list.

The ranking cites four-year schools that combine outstanding education with economic value, and Ramapo is one of only three New Jersey institutions of higher education on the list.

This year marks the ninth in a row that Kiplinger’s has found Ramapo College to be noteworthy for its value and strong academic programs.

Kiplinger’s assesses quality according to a number of measurable standards, including the admission rate, the percentage of students who return for sophomore year, the student-faculty ratio and the four-year graduation rate. Cost criteria include low sticker prices, abundant financial aid and low average debt at graduation.

[Read more about the rankings here.](#)

**College Welcomes 150 to Campus to Learn About the Ramapough Nation**

In light of recent backlash against a film that negatively portrays the Ramapough Lenape Indian Nation, the College welcomed more than 150 guests to campus for a conference on the history of the Ramapough Mountain Indians.

Ramapough leaders, faculty, staff, students, and concerned area residents discussed the tribe’s history and depiction in “Out of the Furnace,” a film released earlier this month.

[Read more about the Ramapough Lenape Indian Nation.](#)
[Read more about the film "Out of The Furnace."](#)

Pictured on the right: Judith Joan Sullivan, Dr. Peter Mercer, Mayor William Laforet of Mahwah, and Chief Dwaine Perry of the tribe.

**Ramapo's Legacy of Service and Campus Compact**
Campus Compact recently released the results of its 2012 Annual Member Survey noting that 44% of students have participated in some form of community engagement while in College. These community engagement activities contributed to an estimated $9.7 billion in service to their communities.

The Compact asserts that colleges and universities can be catalysts for community and economic development through democratic partnerships with local government, nonprofit and private sector leaders through strategic alignment of civic engagement and economic development efforts.

Ramapo’s Community and Civic Engagement Center aligns with Compact’s vision. It provides students with countless opportunities to participate in the community. Activities range from volunteering at the food pantry to spending a week on a farm with Heifer International learning about sustainability and providing resources for under-served/under-developed communities.

Such efforts will only grow in the coming years, the College’s Strategic Plan 2014-18 calls for a 50% increase in the number of Ramapo students who participate in civic and/or community service.

Read more about Campus Compact.

Save the Dates for Special Events at Ramapo College!

January 11, 2014: Ramapo Roadrunners take on Rowan University (Men's and Women's Basketball Games back to back at home)

January 20, 2014: New Transfer Student Assembly and Arching Ceremony

February 5, 2014: Diversity Action Committee's Convocation featuring Shane L. Windmeyer from Campus Pride

February 12, 2014: President Mercer's State of the College Address

Happy Holidays from the Office of the President

All of us in the Office of the President wish you and yours a happy holiday season and a healthy new year!

Pictured on the right (L to R): Brittany Goldstein, Linda Madernini, Kersaint SaintFleur, Melissa Van Der Wall, Pat Kozakiewicz, Jennifer Tunnicliffe, President Peter P. Mercer, Omar Villa, Ocean Kaspi, and John Woods. Not pictured: Anna Farneski

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Have you visited the President’s Post lately?