

# Proposal to Address Issues of Student Preparedness

**Rationale:** There is wide-spread agreement, particularly among faculty, that students are increasingly entering Ramapo with gaps in their preparedness for both college-level academic work and college life. Foundational skills in reading/writing, critical thinking, information literacy and basic math are of particular concern. The need to address this concern is urgent.

**Proposal:** Given the multi-faceted and holistic nature of this issue, it will need to be addressed with a multi-faceted and holistic approach (student orientation/programming, support services, curriculum, etc.). One option for constructing a thoughtful, effective and coordinated response would be for Faculty Assembly to charge a task force to:

- Understand the full nature of the problem, through analysis of internal data, consultation with relevant offices, literature review and/or comparison with similar institutions.
- Develop a set of recommendations, again in consultation with relevant offices, resulting in a deliberate, coordinated effort to address the problem.

**Membership:** If FA were to charge a Task Force, we could follow the model of a relatively small, (primarily) faculty *formal* membership, coupled with an explicit list of administrative offices with which to formally consult on an *ad hoc* basis.

Ex.

1 Faculty Rep from each unit  
1 Center for Reading and Writing  
1 STEM Center

Formal Consultation:

Provost's Office  
Student Success  
EOF  
OSS  
Student Well-being  
Admissions