

**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Communications and Public Affairs**  
**Press Release**  
**June 5, 2013**

Contact: Anna Farneski

E-mail: [afarnesk@ramapo.edu](mailto:afarnesk@ramapo.edu)

Phone: 201.684.6844

**Ramapo College Selected for Prestigious National Program: A Network for Understanding the New Europe**

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Ramapo College of New Jersey has been selected to participate as a Flagship Campus in a program offered by New York University and the European Union, *A Network for Understanding the New Europe*.

Ramapo College will become a regional partner for the program, which is designed to promote greater knowledge of Europe in the New York metro area and in other strategically chosen areas throughout the country. It is organized around three themes—immigration, politics, and economics in the European Union. Themes were selected for their immediate connection and relevance to the American public.

A proposal submitted by the Dean of the School of Social Science and Human Services (SSHS) and a team of scholars from the Salameno School of American and International Studies (SSAIS), all with extensive knowledge of global economic, political, cultural and social affairs, was accepted out of national request for submissions. Ramapo is one of 20 institutions selected from across the United States.

Faculty who will participate include Professor of Political Economy Behzad Yaghmaian, Professor of Sociology Henri Lustiger Thaler, and Professor of International Studies Hassan Nejad. Dean of SSHS Samuel Rosenberg will maintain records and report outcomes of the two-year grant. The College will receive monies to help defray the cost of hosting a conference, lectures and other events on campus, as well as sending faculty to participate at other sites.

“We are pleased that this grant will allow Ramapo College to establish itself as a regional resource and provide a service to Bergen County and the rest of New Jersey,” said Dean Samuel Rosenberg, of the College’s School of Social Science and Human Services.

A member of the Ramapo team will attend a June seminar *Understanding the New Europe: Immigration* that will be held at New York University from June 10 through 14. In conjunction with this seminar, a panel discussion will be held in collaboration with NYU’s Center for Global Affairs on the challenges of immigration to the new Europe. Network Summer seminar participants, along with the general public, will be invited to attend the event on June 12. A Winter program will be held in January in Athens, Greece. A third seminar will be held in June 2014.

The program was developed at NYU's Faculty Resource Network, which provides faculty members with an atmosphere for learning and exchanging ideas. Partner institutions were selected based on their rich history of connecting with minority communities in the United States. Among the participating institutions are 15 historically Black colleges and universities, 14 Hispanic-serving institutions, a native Hawaiian-Pacific Islander institution, a military academy, community colleges, and a tribal college.

At Ramapo College, where international education is tenet of the curriculum, a series of lectures, discussions and seminars will be open to residents and educators of the region, including development of a K-12 curriculum that will be shared with area schools:

- A major conference will include national scholars to speak on key issues.
- Café Euro will offer a series of four annual workshops to discuss topics related to the EU.
- Four seminars will be offered for future teachers via the Master's Program in Educational Leadership.
- During the 2013-15 academic years, the Master's in Sustainability Studies Program will host workshops on EU sustainability and implications for the United States.
- Ramapo scholars will present to members of the area's religious communities to discuss common concerns shared with their European counterparts.
- Cultural events and public lectures will be open to the public.
- Briefing sessions will be held for local officials and industry leaders.

For more information about upcoming programs, telephone 201-684-7624.

###

Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as sixth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers six graduate programs as well as articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

