



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Communications and Public Relations**  
**Press Release**  
**November 1, 2016**

*Contact: Angela Daidone*  
*201-684-7477*  
*adaidon1@ramapo.edu*

## **New Transfer Center & Veterans Lounge to Open at Ramapo College**

MAHWAH, N.J. – Ramapo College of New Jersey will open its new Transfer Center & Veterans Lounge on Wednesday, November 9. Formal remarks will take place at noon at the Arch on campus with a ribbon cutting and reception to follow in the Lounge, located in the E-Wing.

The space is designed to be a hub of resources for transfer students, who make up approximately 40 percent of Ramapo’s undergraduate student population. Additionally, nearly all of the College’s veteran students are transfer students.

“Each year, we continue to focus on how to best serve students and facilitate their success,” said Christopher Romano, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at Ramapo College. “After looking at our data as well as interviewing students, we decided that the two most heavily utilized offices by those students are Academic Advising and Financial Aid. So, we are excited to officially open the Transfer Center and Veterans Lounge, which sits between both offices. We believe this will support Ramapo to continue to deliver on our promise of providing individualized attention to increase student success.”

Furnished with couches, a coffee bar, computers, a charging station and cable TV, and a meeting table, the space will be open to all students during the day, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and after hours to students who are part of the Veteran Student Organization. The College’s Transfer Advisor and Transfer Connection Student Coordinator will staff the space.

Nationally, research on transfer students shows that they face two major challenges when they arrive at their next institution, namely establishing connections and academic planning. Ramapo College has been designated a Military Friendly School and is ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of “America’s Best Colleges.”

“We can attribute these accolades, in part, to the contributions of our transfer and veteran students,” said Ramapo College president Peter P. Mercer. “These students often bring with them to campus

distinctive perspectives and experiences that enrich both classroom discussions and campus programming. Dedicating a space on campus for them is a point of pride for all of us at the College.”

###

Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top in the Best Regional Public Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes viewed as a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,000 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 eight graduate programs as well as articulated programs with Rutgers, The State University 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.