



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Marketing and Communications**  
**Press Release**  
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## Northern Valley Regional H.S. Counselor Receives Award for Excellence by Ramapo College

MAHWAH, N.J. – The Office of Admissions at Ramapo College of New Jersey recently named the recipient of the Nancy Jaeger Award for Excellence in Counseling at the annual College Counselor Luncheon held in Friends Hall.

Colleen Spafford, a counselor at Northern Valley Regional High School in Demarest, was chosen for the 2017 award. She was selected from dozens of counselors who have “gone above and beyond to continually connect great students with Ramapo College,” said Director of Admissions Peter Rice.

“We are delighted and proud to honor a wonderful counselor like Colleen. She is wonderful representative of the partnerships that Ramapo College has with school counselors throughout New Jersey and surrounding states,” Rice said.

Ramapo Senior Admissions Counselor Joseph Niclas is the College’s assigned representative to Northern Valley Regional High School in Demarest who visited the school earlier this year to meet with interested students.

“Whether it is during my regular visit to Northern Valley Demarest, the annual college fair, or Immediate decision day, Colleen is always professional, friendly and a joy to have as a colleague,” said Niclas. “In a time when we do so much of our jobs electronically, it’s great to know that we can still build professional relationships with high school counselors. This ultimately benefits the students we serve, and does not go unnoticed with Colleen.”

This is the fourth year Ramapo has bestowed the award, which was named for the College’s former Director of Admissions, who fostered close

relationships with guidance counselors across the state over her nearly 40-year career at Ramapo College.

More than 90 counselors from high schools in New Jersey, New York and surrounding states joined Ramapo College students and staff from student-based offices for the luncheon.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college. Ranked among the top colleges in the region by College Choice and recognized by, among others, U.S. News & World Report, Princeton Review, Colleges of Distinction and, also designated by Victory Media as a "Military Friendly College," Ramapo College is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding.

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 business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.