



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Marketing and Communications**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Ramapo College Board of Trustees Extends President Mercer's Term to 2021**

MAHWAH, N.J. – In a special meeting held on January 19, the Ramapo College Board of Trustees approved an amendment to President Peter P. Mercer's Employment Agreement. The amendment extended President Mercer's term through June 30, 2021.

"I am pleased to share that the Board of Trustees unanimously voted to extend President Mercer's employment agreement through to 2021. We look forward to Dr. Mercer's continued leadership as Ramapo approaches its 50th Anniversary," said William F. Dator, Chair of the Ramapo College Board of Trustees.

The College will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> year in 2019.

"With the support of the Board of Trustees over the last five years, the College has maintained the lowest average tuition increase of all senior public colleges in New Jersey. Doing so has fostered Ramapo's ability to attract and retain an increasingly diverse student body and to continuously develop our campus and our talented faculty to ensure we provide a liberal arts education that exceeds expectations," said President Mercer, adding "I am very proud of all that the College and our students have achieved over the past decade and I am embracing the next three years as a providential opportunity to continue that important work."

President Mercer became Ramapo College's fourth president on July 1, 2005. During his tenure at Ramapo, the College has been increasingly regarded as a great value and a superior institution. Ramapo College has been ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* as among the "Best Regional Universities in the North," and by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine* as one of the "100 Best Values in Public Colleges" and was recently rated among the top 10 colleges nationwide in low student debt by *Kiplinger's*. In addition, in 2017, *College Choice* ranked Ramapo College as the number one public college in New Jersey.

President Mercer has been committed to working toward increasing diversity on campus, recognized now in nearly 42 percent of the student population; and has been instrumental in expanding the College's academic offerings and graduate programs which has seen an increase in recent years of more than 60 percent in advanced degrees conferred.

Over the past several years, President Mercer has led Ramapo College through an ambitious and transformative campus-wide building program that has resulted in the completion of the Anisfield School of Business, the Bill Bradley Sports and Recreation Center, the Overlook and Laurel residence halls, the Sharp Sustainability Education Center, the Salameno Spiritual Center and the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence.

The College has recently completed renovation to its academic complex that houses state-of-the-art science and research laboratories and other instructional and social space, in addition to ongoing projects across campus such as the new Padovano College Commons. Ramapo is currently embarking on a \$40 million project to renovate the library and create a transformative Learning Commons. "Having the right kind of place to study and reflect, to connect and collaborate, can inspire people to do their very best work. For the students of Ramapo College, our new Learning Commons will be that place," said President Mercer.

<https://www.ramapo.edu/president/>

<https://www.ramapo.edu/about/>

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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.

