



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Marketing and Communications**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Ramapo College Foundation to Honor Four Individuals at Distinguished Citizens Dinner on March 2**

MAHWAH, N.J. --The Ramapo College Foundation will honor four individuals for their professional achievement, commitment and community service at its 37th Annual Distinguished Citizens Award Dinner. The honorees will be recognized at a gala on March 2 at the Rockleigh Country Club in Rockleigh, N.J.

The annual benefit dinner raises funds for student scholarships, faculty and student undergraduate research and campus projects.

“The College is truly grateful for the dedication and service shown by these wonderful honorees,” said Ramapo College President Peter P. Mercer. “We thank them for their support of our students.”

**MARLENE CARIDE** is Commissioner of Banking and Insurance for the state of New Jersey. She oversees New Jersey’s insurance, banking and real estate industries. Previously, Ms. Caride served three terms in the General Assembly, representing the 36<sup>th</sup> Legislative District where she served on the Assembly Financial institutions and Insurance Committee, the Assembly Appropriations Committee and the New Jersey Legislative Select Committee on Investigation. She is a member of the Bar on the Supreme Court of the United States, the New Jersey State Bar Association, the Hudson County Bar Association and the Hispanic Bar association of New Jersey.

**MICHAEL HETTESHEIMER '99** IS President of Spartech Solutions, LLC, an independent supplier of information technology hardware, software and support services. He also owns Sheimer’s Deli and Catering in Denville, N.J., Sign-A-Rama in Fairfield, N.J., and Sparc Management, which purchases rental properties throughout New Jersey. Mr. Hettesheimer was a member of the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity while at Ramapo and held various leadership positions. He graduated Ramapo College in 1999 with a B.A. in Communication.

**IRA J. KALTMAN** is a member-in-charge of the Tax department at Beattie Padovano, LLC, focusing on taxation and estate planning. His practice includes mergers and acquisitions, the formation of charities, charitable trusts and asset protection. Mr. Kaltman serves as tax counsel to Hackensack University medical Center Foundation and has served on the boards of numerous charitable institutions. He currently serves on the Board of Governors of the Ramapo College Foundation.

**LEE MAAS** is Director, Business Protection and Facility Operations for Jaguar Land Rover North America. He is responsible for design, development and construction of its new North American headquarters in Mahwah, N.J. Previously, he served as the company's Vice President of Network development in which he led national franchise strategy, location and construction for dealership facilities, retail performance management and retail reward and recognition programs.

The cocktail reception and silent auction begin at 6 p.m. The dinner program honoring the Distinguished Citizens begins at 8 p.m. Dinner and dancing will follow. Dinner committee chairs are Peter Seminara '00 and Roy Putrino. Event Sponsor is Stryker Corporation; Dinner Sponsor is Inserra ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc.

Sponsorship and participation information can be found at [www.ramapo.edu/dcd](http://www.ramapo.edu/dcd) or by contacting Liz Kloak at [lkloak@ramapo.edu](mailto:lkloak@ramapo.edu) or [201-684-6834](tel:201-684-6834).

All media wishing to attend should contact Angela Daidone, Public Relations Specialist at Ramapo College of New Jersey, at [adaidon1@ramapo.edu](mailto:adaidon1@ramapo.edu) or 201-684-7477.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice, and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

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 master's degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.

