



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications
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Environmental Studies Professor Receives Prestigious Conservation Recognition

MAHWAH, N.J. – Ramapo College Professor of Environmental Studies Ashwani Vasishth recently received the prestigious 2020 William T. Hornaday Award Gold Certificate for Distinguished Service in Conservation from the Boy Scouts of America Northern New Jersey Council. The award was presented during a virtual ceremony earlier this month.

The William T. Hornaday Awards are a series of awards presented by the Boy Scouts of America for service in conservation and ecology. The Gold Certificate is a national level award presented to individuals, corporations or organizations who have provided outstanding contribution to youth conservation education for at least three years.

“On behalf of the School of Social Science and Human Services [SSHS], I want to extend my congratulations to Dr. Vasishth, the recipient of the William T. Hornaday Award Gold Certificate,” said Aaron Lorenz, dean SSHS. “For more than 40 years, he has dedicated his personal and professional life to sustainability and ecological conservation and we're ecstatic to see his recognition. The award, one of the most prestigious and exclusive in the Boy Scouts, exemplifies what an incredible career in sustainability Dr. Vasishth has had and the impact he has had on the community and our planet. We are honored to share the field with him,” adding that he appreciates Ramapo alumni Ryan Greff '20 for nominating Vasishth.

Dr. William T. Hornaday who – was then director of the New York Zoological Park and who was the founder of the National Zoo in Washington, D.C – initiated the Hornaday Awards in 1914. Dr. Hornaday was an outspoken advocate for conservation and a leader in saving the bison from extinction. He created the award, which he originally called the Wildlife Protection Medal, as a way to recognize those who made significant contributions to conservation. After Dr. Hornaday's death in 1937, the award was named in honor of Dr. Hornaday and became a Boy

Scouts of America award. The purpose of the Hornaday Awards is to encourage conservation learning and conservation action by Scouts and to increase public awareness of natural resource conservation and environmental protection.

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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, has been named one of the 50 Most Beautiful College Campuses in America by *CondéNast Traveler*, 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, data science, 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, Creative Music Technology, Data Science, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education, as well as a post-master's Doctor of Nursing Practice.