

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bonnie Franklin: bfrankli@ramapo.edu or Rosa Diaz-Mulryan: rmulryan@ramapo.edu

November 21, 2005

**RAMAPO COLLEGE TO BREAK GROUND ON
CENTER FOR SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

Congresswoman Marge Roukema and Congressman Scott Garrett to be among those assisting

(Mahwah) – Ramapo College of New Jersey will break ground on the Center for Science, Education and Technology Wednesday, November 30 at 11:30 a.m. Former Congresswoman Marge Roukema and Congressman Scott Garrett (5th District) are expected to be among the dignitaries participating.

“This state-of-the-art facility addresses critical capacity issues, providing much-needed, dedicated space for expanding programs and emerging fields of study,” says Dr. Peter Mercer, Ramapo’s president.

The new \$31.3 million academic building will feature the Marge Roukema Center for International Education, student classrooms, computer and science labs, a four-bed ward for nursing students, the Master of Science in Educational Technology program suite, faculty offices and a greenhouse.

“We’re very grateful to former Congresswoman Roukema and Congressman Garrett for the support they have shown us,” says Cathleen Davey, vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the Ramapo College Foundation. She continues, “This is recognition of the strength of the majors in our School of Theoretical and Applied Science as well as our teacher education program. It acknowledges the excellence of our faculty, our innovative majors and our students, who are winning national awards in the sciences.”

In addition to the Roukema Center and features named above, the 86,000 gross square foot facility includes a dramatic three-story atrium, two tiered amphitheatres, an e-mail lounge, student lounge and assembly areas. It is sited adjacent to the north end of the existing G-Building and is accessible from G on four floors. The building will incorporate sustainable materials and “green design” elements.

SNS Architects and Engineers, along with their consultants, of Montvale, NJ are the building’s designers. Construction management will be administered by Cambridge Construction Management of Somerville, NJ. The new facility is expected to be ready for occupancy in fall 2007. Funding for the project includes an \$800,000 federal appropriation for the Roukema Center for International Education, private donations and state bonds.

In recent years, the College has constructed five residential complexes as well as the Bill Bradley Sports and Recreation Center and the Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts.

####