February 05, 2007

## NATIONAL PHYSICS HONOR SOCIETY AT RAMAPO COLLEGE RECEIVES CHAPTER AWARD

(Mahwah) – A proposal for a chapter project submitted by Ramapo College's chapter of Sigma Pi Sigma, The National Physics Honor Society, has been selected as a seminal recipient by an awards committee. The proposal, called "Bridges," aims to engage current physics majors with Ramapo College alumni currently in graduate schools around the country. The two groups will work together (remotely or at the nearby graduate schools) on small research projects and present their work at the annual Sigma Pi Sigma induction ceremony. Ramapo College alumni also are invited to present their work in graduate school as part of the college's induction ceremony. The project also will involve high-school students from schools where former Ramapo College physics majors teach the subject.

Dr. Daniela Buna, an associate professor of physics, along with Ramapo College students in the honor society, submitted the proposal. Three former students currently at Lehigh University and Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, and five sophomore and junior students at Ramapo College are involved in the project. In a letter announcing the award, Gary White of The National Physics Honor Society stated, "Our plan is to promote your chapter's activities to other chapters via the Sigma Pi Sigma Web site and publications. The committee was very impressed with the variety of projects proposed."

Ramapo College currently has two members in the honor society, instituted on campus in October 2006, with five more to be inducted in April 2007. The awards program is administered by the Society of Physics Students of the American Institute of Physics.

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