October 22, 2007

IN OTHER WORDS, RAMAPO CURATORIAL PRIZE EXHIBITION, WILL BE FEATURED AT RAMAPO COLLEGE

(Mahwah) – *In Other Words*, the 2006 Ramapo Curatorial Prize winner, will open in the Pascal Gallery on the campus of Ramapo College Wednesday, November 7 and continue through December 12. An opening reception will be held Wednesday, November 7 from 5-7 p.m. A curator's talk will be given at 6:30 p.m.

The annual Ramapo Curatorial Prize is co-administered with the Center for Curatorial Studies graduate program at Bard College. The 2006 winner was Bogota, Columbia curator Mariangela Mendez for her group exhibition, *In Other Words*. This conceptual presentation deals with the ambiguities of language translation, media narratives and the temporary completeness of "reading."

As part of Mendez's master of art's thesis for *In Other Words*, she explained, "the instruments of so-called globalization and worldwide circulation of information convey the impression that these paths of transmission and translation are neutral. The task of the translator might be seen as one that sacrifices fidelity in exchange for transmissibility, so resorting to the famous Italian epigram 'Traduttore—Traditore!' the supposed neutrality of translation is called into question."

Translations are screening devices, she contends, in the same way television, the Internet or exhibition space screens information, excluding and including images for the control of meaning and signifiers.

The works translated for this exhibition are affected by the new "hosting" context, the viewers, the proximity to other works and by the curator's intentions. On exhibit are works by Francois Bucher, Antonio Caro, Adriana Duque, Artemio Narro, Lucas Ospina, Catalina Rodriguez and Miguel Angel Rojas that question the power the media has when circulating translations of events; they question the viewer's relationship to places as

informed by media, violence as filtered through the Hollywood entertainment machine and history understood as a construction of unequivocal facts.

The works require a kind of double reading -- an ability to recognize the space between languages, and the hybrid sites of meaning that form in the gaps of cultures. They invite viewers to suspect the technical capacities, practices and institutions that create reality, politics or history and to see in fiction the truth and also what is hidden.

This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State

Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment
for the Arts.

The Pascal Gallery is located in the Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts at Ramapo College. Hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Wednesday, 1 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 201.684.7147.