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**RAMAPO COLLEGE WILL HOST  
THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN SCIENCE RESEARCH CONFERENCE  
International Scholars Will Discuss Research Findings**

(Mahwah) - Ramapo College of New Jersey will host the 2008 International Human Science Research Conference beginning Wednesday, June 11 through Saturday, June 14. The International Human Science Research Conference is the premier venue for scholars seeking to establish a rigorous paradigm for conducting empirical qualitative research in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Human science research strives to develop new methods that do not discount subjective human experience, but, in fact, embraces experience as something worth studying with appropriate methodologies.

Dr. Emily Abbey and Dr. James Morley, both professors of psychology at Ramapo College, co-organized the event. "Human science is a methodology for understanding subjective experience," he said. "It relies on human expressions, language and meanings to better understand subjective personal life or 'how' people experience things."

The conference will attract an international roster of academic researchers. Paper sessions and special sessions will explore a wide diversity of human expressions including mental and physical health, culture, nursing and education.

The theme for this year's conference is "Imagination in the Human Sciences," which is interdisciplinary and inclusive of several disciplines and professions. The organizers believe imagination is an important and under-researched issue in qualitative research, both as a subject matter and methodology.

(more)

Keynote speakers are: Professor Richard Kearney, Ph.D. of Boston College who will discuss “Narrating Pain: Catharsis, Mourning and Remembering” from 4 – 5 p.m. on June 11 in Room 135 of the Anisfield School of Business; Professor Mark Freeman, Ph.D. of the College of the Holy Cross who will present “In Defense of Imagination: Narrative Inquiry as Poetic Science” from 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. on June 12 in Room 136 of the Anisfield School of Business; Professor Eva Simms, Ph.D. of Duquesne University who will discuss “Symbolism and the Imaginary in Infancy: A Merleau-Pontean Phenomenology of the Tacit Imagination” from 3 –4:30 p.m. on June 12 in Room 136 in the Anisfield School of Business; and Professor Fred Wertz, Ph.D. of Fordham University who will discuss “Intuition of Essences: The Nourishment of Knowledge through Free Fantasy” on June 14 from 3:15 – 4:45 p.m. in Room 135 of the Anisfield School of Business.

The scholarly community of human scientists has been meeting for almost 30 years and has developed into an ongoing international multi-disciplinary research community that convenes annually in Europe and North America.

Further information about the 2008 Human Science Research Conference is available by logging on to: <http://www.ramapo.edu/news/specialevents/hsr08/index.html>

Members of the media interested in covering the conference can contact Anna Farneski, assistant vice president for Marketing and Communications, 201.684.6844.

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