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**Ramapo Professor Receives \$59,373 National Science Foundation Grant**  
*Collaboration with Rutgers University offers students research experience*

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Dr. Ozgur Dogru, an assistant professor of Engineering Physics, at Ramapo College of New Jersey has received a \$59,373 National Science Foundation grant in collaboration with Rutgers University to develop technology that will assist industry by standardizing and improving measurement of carbon-14, or the carbon 14 isotope.

Announcement of the grant to Dr. Dogru, and another principal investigator at Rutgers University, Professor Daniel E. Murnick, builds upon earlier research conducted by the pair in which they used carbon dioxide lasers to detect minute amounts of the element. They expect the research will yield data that will enable the development of a table-top, user-friendly instrument that can quickly and efficiently measure carbon-14 with high sensitivity. Pharmaceutical companies use carbon-14 to trace the movement of drugs in the bloodstream and environmental applications that include monitoring of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The proposed instrument will also perform carbon dating.

At Ramapo, where faculty/student opportunities are encouraged and facilitated by small class sizes, it means that Dr. Dogru will hire students to assist with the project.

“The grant presents rich opportunities for Dr. Dogru to further the advances he has already made in his research and for our students to be engaged in an innovative project on the field’s cutting edge as an incorporate part of their undergraduate science education,” said Dean Bernard Langer, of the School of Theoretical and Applied Sciences. “That experience is invaluable.”

Students will learn high-level physics and develop skills in working with lasers, electrical circuits, mathematical modeling and development of scientific software.

“I’m pleased and excited that this project is underway and it will be beneficial to our students who will receive hands-on scientific research experience that will help them in their careers,” said Dogru, who estimates the grant will allow him to hire two to three students each semester for the life of the three-year grant.

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