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**Anthony and Theresa Padovano Lecture Series Begins with Guest Speaker Imam  
Hendi**

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Ramapo College of New Jersey will host the Anthony and Theresa Padovano Lecture Series on Tuesday, October 18 at 4 p.m. in the H-Wing Auditorium. Guest speaker Imam Hendi will present *Islam and the West: Confrontation or Cooperation*.

Hendi is also scheduled to speak at the Ramapo College Foundation's Legacy Society event later in the evening. The Society acknowledges donors who have created an endowment or have provided for the College through their estate plans.

“[Hendi] is a skilled individual who has done work in not only Islam, but also graduate work in Christianity and has had a regular dialogue with the Jewish community,” said Distinguished Professor of Literature and Philosophy Anthony Padovano.

Hendi is the Muslim chaplain at Georgetown University and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. He is also a Public Policy Conflict Resolution Fellow of the Center for Dispute Resolution of the University of Maryland School of Law as well as the Maryland Judiciary's Meditation and Conflict Resolution Office.

The Padovanos established a lecture series endowment last year that addresses issues of peace and interreligious dialogue. The first lecture was held in October 2010 during the dedication of the Salemeno Spiritual Center and the Padovano Peace Pavilion. Theologian and religious historian Martin Marty of the University of Chicago was the guest speaker. Distinguished Professor Padovano is also an internationally recognized scholar and theologian.

The lecture series was created during the planning of the Salemeno Spiritual Center as a vehicle to address issues of spirituality and religion of interest to the student body.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Seating is limited.

For more information about the event or future Anthony and Theresa Padovano Lecture Series events, please contact Professor Padovano via email at [apadovan@ramapo.edu](mailto:apadovan@ramapo.edu) or by telephone at 201.684.7430.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers five graduate programs as well as articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.