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Ramapo College Presents the Eighth Annual Sebastian J. Raciti Memorial Lecture and Reception with Author, Business Leader Cathleen Benko

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Author, global e-business leader, and Ramapo Alumni Cathleen Benko '85 will discuss Business Excellence in the Changing World of Work at the eighth annual Sebastian J. Raciti Memorial Lecture and Reception at the Ramapo College of New Jersey on Monday, November 21, 2011.

Benko is co-author of best-selling books including "[The Corporate Lattice: Achieving High Performance in the Changing World of Work](#)" (Harvard 2010), "[Mass Career Customization: Aligning the Workplace with Today's Nontraditional Workforce](#)" (Harvard 2007), and "Connecting the Dots: Aligning Projects with Objectives in Unpredictable Times" (Harvard 2003). Her books have been translated into multiple languages and her byline and insights appear regularly in such publications as The Wall Street Journal, New York Times, BusinessWeek, Time, Leadership Excellence, and the Harvard Business Review. Benko has received numerous honors for her professional achievements, including Consulting Magazine's "25 Most Influential Consultants" and the San Francisco Business Times "Forever Influential" Honor Roll for exceptional women leaders. Benko graduated from Ramapo College in 1985 and received her MBA from Harvard Business School in 1989. She currently lives in Northern California with her husband and two children.

"The traditional ladder approach to develop and retain talent and advance one's career is no longer applicable in our knowledge and service work world," said Rita Shea-Van Fossen, director of the Sabrin Center for Business Excellence. "Ms. Benko's new book shows how companies can improve productivity and innovation, and individuals can advance their own careers, in today's changing workplace. With our country's current employment challenges, Ms. Benko's work couldn't be timelier and we are thrilled that she is coming back to Ramapo to share her insights."

The Sabrin Center sponsors the Raciti Memorial lecture.

The annual event was established to honor the memory of Sebastian J. Raciti (1934-2003), who, for 31 years, served in various roles that were instrumental in the development of Ramapo College. Known as Sib, he was a member of the founding faculty and arrived in the College's second year.

Business Excellence in The Changing World of Work will be presented on Monday, November 21 in the Trustees Pavilion on campus. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. with a reception; the lecture begins at 7 p.m. followed by a book signing. The public is invited to attend the lecture and reception; there is no fee for attending the event. Reservations are required; please call 201.684.7042 or e-mail scbe@ramapo.edu no later than November 17.

Members of the media may contact Anna Farneski at 201-684-7602 or at afarnesk@ramapo.edu

Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as sixth 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.