

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Anna Farneski; afarnesk@ramapo.edu / (201) 684.6844

February 1, 2012

**Enduring Legacy of Social Worker and Holocaust Survivor  
Louis Lowy to be Discussed at Ramapo College of New Jersey**

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Lorrie Greenhouse Gardella, Associate Dean, School of Graduate and Professional Studies and Professor of Social Work at St. Joseph College, Connecticut will speak at Ramapo College of New Jersey on March 5, 1-2 p.m. in the Robert A. Scott Student Center, Alumni Lounge (SC138) under the auspices of the Social Work Club, Hillel and the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies of Ramapo College.

Gardella will discuss her recent book “The Life and Thought of Louis Lowy: Social Work through the Holocaust” (Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse University Press, 2011).

Louis Lowy (1920–1991), an international social worker and gerontologist, recorded an oral narrative that explores his activities during the Holocaust as the formative experiences of his career in caring for youth in concentration camps, leading an escape from a death march, and forming the self-government of a Jewish displaced persons center.

Drawing on Lowy’s oral narrative and accounts of other Holocaust survivors who witnessed his work, Gardella offers a rich portrait of Lowy’s legacy. In chronicling his life, she also uncovers a larger story about Jewish history and the meaning of the Holocaust in the development of the social work profession.

Lorrie Greenhouse Gardella received her undergraduate training at Smith College, and received both her Masters in Social Work and a law degree at the University of Connecticut. She has served in leadership positions in national social work organizations, including President, Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Directors; Board of Directors, Council on Social Work Education; and Chair, National Association of Social Workers Legal Defense Fund.

Her first book, “A Dream and A Plan: A Woman's Path to Leadership in Human Services” (2004), follows the professional journeys of multicultural women leaders in order to encourage women to enter management positions.

The presentation is free and open to the public. For more information or to reserve a seat, please call 201.684.7409.

###

For media inquiries, contact Anna Farneski, assistant vice president, Marketing and Communications, 201.684.6844.

Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as sixth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey 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, as well as courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers six graduate programs and 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.

Undergraduate students choose to concentrate their studies in one of five schools with more than 700 course offerings and 40 academic programs. Ramapo College boasts an average student/faculty ratio of 17:1 and average class size of 23, affording students the opportunity to develop close ties to the College's exceptional faculty.