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

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RAMAPO COLLEGE to CELEBRATE LARGEST COMMENCEMENT MAY 16

CBS News Anchor Chris Wragge to Speak

(MAHWAH, NJ) --- Ramapo College of New Jersey will celebrate its largest commencement ceremony on May 16 when 1,516 graduates receive their degrees at the Prudential Center in Newark, NJ.

Emmy Award winning CBS 2 News anchor Chris Wragge will speak at the College's 54th annual commencement ceremony. Wragge will deliver the keynote address to the Class of 2012 at the 10 a.m. ceremony.

A graduate of Mahwah High School and the University of New Hampshire, his professional accomplishments in the broadcasting industry have garnered him 14 Emmys, including three wins in the Best News Anchor category. In addition, he and his CBS News colleagues won an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for "CBS Reports: Children of the Recession."

Graduating Class Speaker Gregory Allen, 42, of **Ringwood, NJ**, an Environmental Studies major, will deliver remarks on behalf of the Class of 2012. Allen will be the fourth member of his family to graduate from Ramapo College. An entrepreneur, Allen has managed to secure in excess of \$20 million dollars in federal and state grants to help construct more than 250 units of affordable housing throughout Hudson and Bergen counties. After graduation, Allen will continue his work on a \$70 million dollar redevelopment project in Northern New Jersey where he is converting former landfills into commuter parking lots and large scale solar fields. He earned his degree by attending classes at nights and on the weekend while working full time and raising a family.

The Award of Merit will be presented to Aijaz "Jazz" Tobaccowalla '90. Tobaccowalla, 44, of **Upper Saddle River, NJ**, is a Senior Vice President with Pfizer. He is in charge of business technology for the company's global biopharmaceutical businesses. His work was recently featured in an article in *CIO Magazine* and he has spoken on information technology matters affecting business as a panelist at Temple University and at the University of Maryland.

Ramapo will also honor College supporters and friends, Lawrence and Theresa Salameno of **Allendale, NJ**, with Honorary Doctorate of Letters degrees.

For more information about commencement visit
<http://www.ramapo.edu/commencement/index.html>

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Universities North category for public institutions, 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.