

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

October 4, 2012

Ramapo College Breaks Ground on New Adler Center for Nursing Excellence
Facility will house highly-acclaimed nursing program

(MAHWAH, NJ) - As friends, nursing students, faculty members and administrators looked on, Myron and Elaine Adler broke ground today for Ramapo College of New Jersey's new Adler Center for Nursing Excellence.

In November 2010, the Adlers made a \$2 million gift to name the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence. The Adler Center will be the new home of Ramapo College's highly-acclaimed and expanding Nursing programs, as well as state-of-the-art labs to enhance the education of Ramapo College students in the sciences. Ramapo's undergraduate Nursing program has had significant increases in enrollment since its inception in 1993, and a Master of Science in Nursing Education was added in 2002. More than 460 students are enrolled in both Nursing programs and will use the facilities of the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence.

"Nurses are on the forefront of healthcare," says Kathleen Burke, R.N., Ph.D., the director of the Ramapo College Nursing programs. "The Adlers' gift, and the subsequent Center for Nursing Excellence, increases our ability to prepare future generations of nursing professionals for the challenges they will face in their careers."

The new Adler Center for Nursing Excellence features three simulation rooms where students will learn to address emergencies involving their computer-simulated patients. Nursing faculty located in a control room recreate medical scenarios that play out each day in hospitals, making each patient encounter unique. Students are videotaped and, in a debriefing room, they receive invaluable feedback from their instructors on how to improve their skills and reaction times.

A Nursing Skills Lab will teach students the necessary basics of nursing, including physical assessment of a patient and the many procedures that make up skilled nursing. The Adler Center also features an Anatomy and Physiology Lab, computer labs, as well as general purpose classrooms. A conference room, a café with gallery space and an assistant dean's suite are incorporated into the plans. The 36,000 square foot Adler Center will be connected by an overhead walkway to the science building that is currently undergoing a complete renovation.

The Adlers have been consistent supporters of Ramapo College for more than 25 years. Mrs. Adler is a member of the Ramapo College Board of Governors and the couple has provided numerous gifts to support the College's Annual Fund, student scholarships, the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, the Distinguished Citizens Dinner, the Golf

Outing. They have also provided a capital gift for the Adler Theatre in the Berrie Center for the Performing and Visual Arts.

"Ramapo College is extremely fortunate to have earned the friendship and generosity of Mike and Elaine Adler," says Dr. Peter P. Mercer, president of the College. "Their focus on, and commitment to, health care issues, and now our ability to graduate students from our Nursing program who will have the benefit of state-of-the art training facilities, has a tremendous impact on the health care field."

The Adlers founded The Adler Aphasia Center in Maywood, NJ in 2003 and have been honored nationally for their work in helping individuals with the disorder redevelop their communication skills. Mr. Adler is a member of the board of the National Aphasia Association and has served on the board of Hackensack University Medical Center and the United Jewish Community of Bergen County. Mrs. Adler is a trustee of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation for Humanism in Medicine, the Center for Interreligious Understanding and a founding board member of Gilda's Club of Northern New Jersey. She also serves on the board of the Community Resource Council and the USA Toy Library Association and is vice president of the Jewish Home and Rehabilitation Center in Rockleigh, NJ.

#

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