

## RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY Office of Communications and Public Affairs Press Release February 6, 2014 Contact: Anna Farneski

Contact: Anna Farneski E-mail: afarnesk@ramapo.edu Phone: 201.684.6844

## RAMAPO COLLEGE OFFERS LECTURE ON PERMACULTURE, BIOREGIONALISM WITH ANDREW FAUST FEBRUARY 6

(MAHWAH, NJ) – The Ramapo College Masters in Sustainability Studies invites the community to the first in the 2014 series Lessons of Sustainability: the Expert Practitioners Series.

On Thursday, February 6, Andrew Faust, of the Center For Bioregional Living will speak on "Permaculture and Bioregionalism As Foundations for Ecologically-Responsible Economic Development."

The event will be held at 6 p.m. in Friends Hall.

The field of Permaculture offers an approach for successfully balancing and simultaneously achieving human needs and ecological integrity. Within bioregions, permaculture design provides a path for how to heal ourselves while we heal the land. This approach to addressing our economic and environmental problems is hardly complex or unreachable; rather it is merely ecological common sense. It entails meeting our needs for food, fuel, shelter and fiber in synergistic ways that strengthen community economies while reconnecting people with their beauty and biology. By cooperating regionally and designing ecologically, we have the potential to create and insure healthy and secure economies, landscapes and communities that will benefit and enrich for generations to come!

In his two decades in the field, Andrew Faust has become one of the major forces in permaculture practice and training in North America. He has lived rurally off grid in a permaculture inspired homestead including a 1,600-square-foot straw bale house, honed his skills in urban landscape after moving to Brooklyn and is currently developing The Center for Bioregional Living in Ellenville, NY. Faust is a principle Permaculture Certification trainer in the New York region.

Those parking on campus will require a parking permit from the guard booth at the north entrance. For additional information or an advance permit, contact Professor Michael R. Edelstein at medelste@ramapo.edu.

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 often viewed as a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,000 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 seven graduate programs as well as articulated programs with Rutgers, The State University 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.