

RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Communications and Public Relations
Press Release

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German Army's Complicity in Holocaust to Be Explored at Ramapo College

(MAHWAH, NJ) –David Wildermuth, Professor of German at Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania, will discuss “‘*And from that moment, the Shoah began for us:*’ What Survivor Testimony Tells Us About the Wehrmacht and its Victims during the German Invasion of the Soviet Union” at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Thursday, April 17 from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Trustees Pavilion (PAV1).

Dr. Wildermuth will share unpublished research that reveals the behavior of front-line Wehrmacht units towards the Jewish communities around the town of Lida, in present-day Belarus. Victim testimony, corroborated by pre-invasion orders and the division's war diaries, will reveal how both the ingrained anti-Semitism and the operational latitude informed the Wehrmacht's actions towards Soviet Jews.

Dr. Wildermuth holds a B.A. from the State University of New York at Cortland, an M.A. from Bowling Green State University, Ohio and a Doctorate in Modern Languages (D.M.L.) from Middlebury College.

In the fall of 2013, Dr. Wildermuth held a four-month fellowship at the Institute of Contemporary History in Munich, Germany. His article, “*Who Killed Lida's Jewish Intelligentsia? A Case Study of Wehrmacht Involvement in the Holocaust's “First Hour,”*” appeared in the Spring 2013 issue of *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*.

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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 six 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.