



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Communications and Public Relations

Press Release

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**WRITER, ACTIVIST EXAMINES PARALLELS OF MODERN BLACK
BRITAIN TO CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE**

*Lola Adesioye also discusses media and dissemination of news with students at
Ramapo College*

MAHWAH, NJ -- Lola Adesioye, a prominent British writer, commentator and activist, examined the experience of people of African descent in the United Kingdom with the African-American experience in the United States when she spoke at Ramapo College on February 3.

In her talk entitled, "Modern Black Britain and its Parallels with the Contemporary Obama-Era African-American Experience," Adesioye discussed notions of race, the shifting socio-political landscape and interactions with law enforcement and the justice system. She also engaged in a lively discussion with students about the media, its perspectives, interpretation and dissemination of news in the U.K. and the U.S. during a session earlier in the day.

"The way the news is covered in America, for the most part, is very different than in other parts of the world," said Adesioye, who has worked for several news organizations in England and in the United States. "Lack of diversity, for instance, in who gets to decide what is important as news can often lead to slanted views. There is a lot of sensationalism in American news whereas it's much less so in other places."

Adesioye earned a bachelor's and master's degree in social and political science from Cambridge University and has always had an interest in African-American culture. The daughter of Nigerian immigrants, she grew up in London and currently resides in New York City.

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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 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.