



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Communications and Public Relations**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Humor as a Response to the Holocaust to be Examined at Ramapo College**

MAHWAH, N.J. – Dr. Avinoam Patt, the Philip D. Feltman Professor of Modern Jewish History at the Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Hartford, will speak about “Humor in Responding to the Trauma of the Holocaust” on Wednesday, November 4 at 7 p.m. in the Alumni Lounges (SC-156-157). The event will be sponsored by The Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

At the University of Hartford since 2007, Dr. Patt teaches courses on Modern Jewish History, American Jewish History, the Holocaust, the History of Zionism and the State of Israel, Jewish film and Modern Jewish Literature, among others. He also is the director of the University’s Museum of Jewish Civilization. Previously, he worked as the Miles Lerman Applied Research Scholar for Jewish Life and Culture at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM).

Dr. Patt is the author of *Finding Home and Homeland: Jewish Youth and Zionism in the Aftermath of the Holocaust* (Wayne State University Press, May 2009); co-editor (with Michael Berkowitz) of a collected volume on Jewish Displaced Persons, titled *We are Here: New Approaches to the Study of Jewish Displaced Persons in Postwar Germany* (Wayne State University Press, 2010); and is a contributor to several projects at the USHMM including *Jewish Responses to Persecution, 1938-1940* (USHMM/Alta Mira Press, September 2011).

He also is director of the *In Our Words Interview Project* with the children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors and most recently, is co-editor of an anthology of contemporary American Jewish fiction entitled *The New Diaspora: The Changing Face of American Jewish Fiction* (Wayne State University Press, 2015).

Avinoam Patt holds a Ph.D. in history from New York University and a B.A. in history from Emory University.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Public 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 6,000 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 eight 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.