



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Communications and Public Relations**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Legislative Candidates Participate in Forum at Ramapo College**

MAHWAH, N.J. – Ramapo College hosted a Legislative Candidates Forum on October 21 in Friends Hall. The event was organized by Pi Sigma Alpha, Student Government Association, College Republicans, College Democrats and the American Studies Club.

State Assembly candidates representing districts in Bergen County shared their campaign platforms prior to a question and answer period.

Candidates who participated in the forum were Democrats John DeRienzo and Jeff Goldsmith and Republicans Holly Schepisi and Robert Auth from District 39; and Democrats Christine Ordway and Paul Vagianos from District 40. Mahwah Mayor William Laforet spoke to the dozens of students in attendance for the event about the importance of striving for success in one's educational pursuits.

After the formal discussion, candidates answered individual questions from attendees, which included students, faculty and staff.

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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.