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Enactus Team Represents Ramapo College in National Competition

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Ten students representing from Ramapo College Enactus (Entrepreneurial, Action, Us) participated in the Enactus United States Regional Competition in Washington, D.C., where they were named Regional Champions for their outstanding work with local organizations and positive impact on the community. This regional championship qualified them to participate in the National competition in Kansas City, Missouri, in May where they competed with 105 colleges and universities from all over the country. Ramapo's team, under the guidance of Tammi Redd, Assistant Professor of Management in the Anisfield School of Business, offered an in-depth audiovisual presentation on the projects Enactus members undertook this academic year. The projects included:

- Oasis, a Paterson, N.J.-based safe haven for women and children. The students began a sewing
 program to teach unemployed women a new skill, with a long-term goal of helping the women
 find jobs in the textile industry. In all, 40 women completed the program. This project was
 funded through a grant from Walmart Corporation.
- New City Kids, an after school program for underserved school children in Paterson, N.J. Ramapo students created Food Science Day to help children learn about nutrition. Students gained interest in STEM and many expressed interest in attending college. This project was funded through a grant from the Ramapo College Foundation.
- Bergen County Horse Rescue, home to 22 horses in Mahwah, N.J. Ramapo worked to increase
 awareness of the rescue facility through a marketing plan and a fundraiser "Trot into Spring"
 event. The project doubled the rescue's followers on social media and generated \$7,400 in
 donations with additional moneys from fundraising initiatives.
- Young Vision Africa, founded by a Ramapo international student from Sierra Leone, works to educate and empower individuals in the African nation. Ramapo students sponsored a village with a microloan to fund the purchase of a food processor on a local farm, which is now making a profit, creating 49 jobs and providing food for the village and surrounding community.

• Ramapo Readers, an organization on the College campus, dedicated to increasing literacy through book donations to local schools and community groups. Enactus helped in collection and distribution of more than 4,000 donated books.

"I am always so impressed by the work of the students on the RCNJ Enactus Team," said Redd. "As advisor, it is very rewarding to see them use what they've learned in the classroom to solve real world problems."

Redd added that the project design and implementation is all student-led, on a volunteer basis and this year the team volunteered 794 hours. "In the past few years, our club expanded outside the business school and we now have had majors from journalism, history and biology," she said.

Students also received the opportunity to interview for internships and full-time employment with more than 250 partner companies at the national event. Ramapo students interviewed with ADP, Hallmark, Schwan Foods and KPMG.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top in the Best Regional Public Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes 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 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.