

Susan Hangen Named Interim Dean of SSHGS

Susan Hangen has been named Interim Dean of the Salameño School of Humanities and Global Studies as of July 1, 2017.

Hangen, who joined Ramapo College in 2002, holds a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has served as a Professor of Anthropology and International Studies and has held several administrative roles at the College, most recently as Director of the College Honors Program (2016-2017). Previously, she was Coordinator of Honor Societies (2012-2015) and Co-Convener of the International Studies major (2007-2014). She has worked extensively on expanding international education at the College, serving on the Study Abroad Committee, the core faculty of the India Study Abroad Program, and the International Risk Assessment Committee.

“I am fully committed to finding new ways to connect the Humanities with the current needs of the students,” said Hangen. Among her goals is to deliver an expanded language curriculum. Hangen also is working on expanding the public policy curriculum, and hopes that a Philosophy major will be launched soon. “The humanities and social sciences can be a meaningful contribution to students’ future careers,” said Hangen. “Interdisciplinary programs, like American Studies and International Studies, for instance, offer advantages for students. They show potential employers that they are flexible. College, after all, is a time for growth and exploration and the humanities allows a student to explore the world.”

Hangen, who is fluent in Nepali, has written two books, a co-edited volume, and a dozen articles or book chapters, focusing on the areas of nationalism and ethnicity in Nepal, and identity politics among Nepali immigrants in the USA.

She has more than 15 years of experience in fundraising for non-profit organizations focusing on social justice and education. She was a Member and Chair of the Board of Directors of Adhikaar for Human Rights and Social Justice and a Member of the Board of Directors of Educate the Children.