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Scholar to Discuss Contrasting Holocaust Diaries from Lodz, Poland at Ramapo College

MAHWAH, N.J. – Robert Shapiro, Ph.D., professor of East European Jewish Studies, Holocaust Studies, and Yiddish at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, will speak about "A Tale of Two Diaries from the Lodz Ghetto," on Tuesday, October 30 at 1:45 p.m. at Ramapo College of New Jersey in the Trustees Pavilion, Pav. 1. The lecture will be presented under the auspices of the Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies and is free and open to the public.

Shapiro will compare and contrast the diary of a teenaged contemporary of Anne Frank with that of a cynical, well educated, middle-aged husband and father who manages to survive together with his wife and daughter from the arrival of the Germans until the arrival of Soviet troops who find barely 800 surviving Jews from a prewar Jewish community of almost a quarter million.

Born in Germany to Polish-Jewish survivors of the Holocaust, Shapiro was raised and educated in New Jersey and Maryland. He held fellowships at the Max Weinreich Center of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research and at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He has taught at Baltimore Hebrew University, Yeshiva University, the University of Maryland, the National Yiddish Book Center and the Ramaz School in New York City. He has been at Brooklyn College since 2002.

Shapiro's books include *Holocaust Chronicles* (KTAV and Yeshiva University Press, 1999), *Why Didn't the Press Shout* (KTAV and Yeshiva University Press, 2003), and *Lodz Ghetto: A History* (Indiana University Press with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2006). His latest book is *The Warsaw Ghetto Oyneg Shabes-Ringelbaum Archive: Catalog and Guide* (Indiana University Press in association with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, 2009).

For information or to request disability-related accommodations for this event, please contact holgen@ramapo.edu or call 201.684.7409.

Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college. Ranked among the top colleges in the region by College Choice and recognized by, among others, U.S. News & World Report, Princeton Review, Colleges of Distinction and, also designated by Victory Media as a "Military Friendly College," Ramapo College is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding.

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 business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.