



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Marketing and Communications**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Scholar to Discuss Her Work on Jewish Survivors Returning to Poland after Holocaust**

MAHWAH, N.J. – Dr. Monika Rice, Director of Holocaust and Genocide Studies Programs at Gratz College in Philadelphia, will speak on Thursday, February 28 at 12 p.m. in the H-wing Auditorium (H-129) at Ramapo College of New Jersey about her recently published book, *“What! Still Alive?!” Jewish Survivors in Poland and Israel Remember Homecoming*. The program, presented under the auspices of the Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, is free and open to the public.

In her book, Rice examines the complex memories of Jewish survivors returning to their homes in Poland after the Holocaust. Having found themselves no longer welcome by their Polish neighbors, many chose to settle in the new state of Israel and they left unparalleled testimonies of their first impressions with the Jewish historical commissions from 1944 to 1950. Through close readings of these firsthand narratives, Rice traces the ways in which the passage of time and a changing geopolitical context influenced the survivors’ memories. An intricate history emerges in which survivors’ memories from the initial account after their return to Poland and subsequent accounts become transformed.

Rice earned her Ph.D. in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University and her M.A. and B.A. in Cultural Anthropology at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poland. She teaches courses in Catholic Studies and Jewish-Christian Studies, including *Catholic-Jewish Dialogue on the Holocaust: A Catholic Perspective and Modern Women of Faith*. Currently, her larger research project is focused on investigating postwar mixed identities of Polish-Jewish doctors. She has been a recipient of several prestigious fellowships and grants, among them: the Claims Conference Fellowship in Advanced Shoah Studies, Albert Abramson Fellowship in Holocaust Studies, the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute and the Kosciuszko Foundation. She has also been a selected participant in several international scholarly workshops and seminars at the United States Holocaust

Memorial Museum, Yad Vashem, Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, and others. Rice's articles, book chapters, and reviews have been published in edited volumes and academic journals (Yad Vashem Studies, Holocaust Studies, Polin, etc.).

For information or to request disability-related accommodations for this event, please contact [holgen@ramapo.edu](mailto:holgen@ramapo.edu) or call 201-684-7409.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice, and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

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 master's degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.