



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications
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Virtual Event at Ramapo College Focuses on the Youth Climate Movement and Upcoming Election

MAHWAH, N.J. -- "Reaching the Turning Point: The Youth Climate Movement and the November Election" is the theme of an upcoming conference from the Environmental Studies and Sustainability Programs at Ramapo College of New Jersey. The event, sponsored by Ramapo Green, will be held virtually on October 21 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This is the second annual conference to highlight the importance of the youth climate movement.

"We truly are at a turning point. We know that we have only a short window to act on the climate crisis. And the November election has become a referendum on climate denial vs. climate action," explained Ramapo Professor Michael Edelstein, co-organizer of the event and director of Ramapo's Environmental Studies program. "Entering the fray and demanding real action are young people who can truly say that it is they who will bear the cost of inaction. Will they shape the outcome of the election? Will they win climate action? These are timely and important questions."

Associate Professor Ashwani Vasishth, Chair of the President's Committee on Campus Sustainability at Ramapo and Convener of the College Sustainability Program, will present climate change scenarios using the En-ROADS Simulation Tool, and will explain effective ways of communicating on climate change, generally speaking.

The event also will explore the different climate stances of the major candidates and input from youth climate leaders. Keynotes include Gabby Heidrich, Youth Engagement Program Coordinator of Climate Reality and Daphne Frias of Box the Ballot. Harriet Shugarman, author of *How to Talk to Your Kids about Climate Change---Turning Angst to Action*, will participate in a segment on Climate Communication entitled “How to talk to your parents about climate change.” Shugarman also will help conference goers write their own climate story.

For a full schedule and to register, attendees can visit https://turning_point-youth_climate_movement-election.eventbrite.com

For more information, contact Professor Edelstein at medelste@ramapo.edu or Professor Ashwani Vasishth at vasishth@ramapo.edu

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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, has been named one of the 50 Most Beautiful College Campuses in America by *CondéNast Traveler*, 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, data science, 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, Creative Music Technology, Data Science, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education, as well as a post-master’s Doctor of Nursing Practice.