

RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY Office of Institutional Advancement Press Release October 25, 2021

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Ramapo College President, Provost, and Professor Named to NJBIZ Top 50 Power Lists

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Ramapo College President Cindy R. Jebb and Professor of Music Industry and Production Benjamin Neill have been named among the 50 most impactful leaders in New Jersey education. Both were listed on the <u>2021 NJBIZ Education Power 50</u>, a who's who of leaders in education in the state. In addition, Susan Gaulden, Ramapo College Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, was named to the <u>NJBIZ Best 50 Women in Business</u> list, which recognizes women who are making significant impacts on New Jersey business and the community at large.

Dr. Jebb was named Ramapo's fifth president in July following a 39-year career in public service. She retired from the U.S. Military with the rank of Brigadier General in 2021. She served as dean of the academic board at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and assisted in establishing West Point's Combating Terrorism Center and Conflict and Human Security Studies Program. A former military intelligence officer, an active member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a well-regarded scholar and instructor, Jebb has taught courses in Comparative Politics, International Security, International Relations, Cultural Anthropology, Terrorism and Counterterrorism, and Officership. At Ramapo College, Jebb leads an institution increasingly regarded as an exceptional value by ranking organizations, including *U.S. News and World Report, Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine* and as a "Military Friendly School" by Victory Media, among others.

"It is an honor to be recognized alongside so many talented and passionate people," Jebb said. "And it is also a privilege to serve alongside colleagues like Provost Gaulden and Professor Neil. Ramapo College was recently recognized by *US News and World Report* on its list of 'Most Innovative Schools' and that is, in large part, because our community provides space for incredibly creative, compassionate, and disciplined people to serve, contribute, and thrive."

Dr. Gaulden is currently serving as the Interim Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs at Ramapo College of New Jersey. She began her tenure as Interim Provost in February 2020. As

the College's Chief Academic Officer, Gaulden oversees the five academic Schools and the George T. Potter Library. Her responsibilities and the programs and Departments she oversees include the management of curriculum development, implementation, and assessment; the general education program, international education, and the College Honors Program; faculty development and support services; academic policies, standards, and program reviews; institutional research and the Office of the Registrar; and the academic operations and budget. In addition, Gaulden serves as the College's Middle States Accreditation Liaison Officer.

"I am truly honored to be named a recipient of the NJBIZ Best 50 Women in Business Award and am humbled to be included on a list of such impressive women across the state who are committed to making positive impacts in their communities and workplaces," said Gaulden. "As chief academic officer, the most meaningful impact I can make is to help support and prepare our students to be successful leaders in a changing world. I am grateful for NJBIZ's recognition of this important work that ultimately benefits New Jersey as a whole, as our students, graduates, and alumni make their own contributions to our economic, civic, and community landscape."

Professor Neill leads Ramapo's new Master of Fine Arts in Creative Music Technology program, which provides graduate students with a uniquely bold and hands-on learning experience. Not just an educator, Neill has performed as an artist in such iconic venues such as the Whitney, the Getty and Lincoln Center. Neill was an artist-in-residence at Nokia Bell Labs Experiments in Art and Technology program from 2019-21 and also presented in the Digital Graffiti exhibition in Alys Beach, Fla. this year – which the Smithsonian Magazine named one of top five immersive art experiences in the world.

"It's an honor to be included in this group of illustrious educational leaders in New Jersey. I am extremely proud to be one of only four professors selected, and to see our new, innovative MFA in Creative Music Technology receiving wider exposure throughout the state," said Professor Neill. "I'm grateful to everyone at Ramapo who helped make the new program a reality, as well as for the support I've received from the college to continue developing my creative work and scholarship."

Peter Campbell, Dean of the Ramapo's School of Contemporary Arts, said, "Professor Neill is an internationally recognized artist and leader in music technology and pedagogy. He has led our efforts to create a unique and innovative graduate program in Creative Music Technology that will strengthen Ramapo College as a hub for music production and electronic music. His Mutantrumpet is a marvel of creativity and engineering, helping him make powerful music through a combination of analog trumpet and digital computer effects."

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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; is recognized as the state's top

college on the list of Best Disability Schools by *Great Value Colleges*; was named one of the 50 Most Beautiful College Campuses in America by *CondeNast 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.