# Ramapo College Opens Center for Data, Mathematical and Computational Sciences

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Ramapo College of New Jersey formally opened its new Center for Data, Mathematical and Computational (DMC) Sciences on Wednesday, April 27. The Center's mission focuses on promoting a modern image of the liberal arts, supporting a tech community by strengthening interdisciplinary and external partnerships, and developing both undergraduate and graduate students who are skilled to apply technical concepts to real world problems.

Dr. Amanda Beecher, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Director of the MS in Applied Mathematics Program, and Dr. Scott Frees, Professor of Computer Science and Director of both the Master's in Data Science and Computer Science, hosted the evening. They were joined by Ramapo President Cindy Jebb, Interim Provost Susan Gaulden, members of the senior administration, faculty and students. The event highlighted student work, student recognition across all three disciplines and introduced the campus community to all facets of the Center.

"The opening of a space for the DMC is a signal of the commitment of Ramapo College to underscore the value of quantitative and digital literacy skills as part of a strong foundation for a lifetime of achievement," Dr. Beecher said. "It is also a commitment of the programs, faculty, and students to create a tech community around this space to further our shared goals and objectives between these interrelated disciplines that might not be possible alone."

In addition to its comprehensive undergraduate curriculum in mathematics and computer sciences, the College is launching a Master of Science in Applied Mathematics and a Master of Computer Science in Fall 2022. While each program stands on its own academically, the shared content between these two programs and the existing [Master of Science in Data Science (MSDS)](#) has led to the development of an interdisciplinary trio of technology-related graduate programs that are collectively referred to as MDMC. Each of the above-mentioned programs will be offered through the College's [School of Theoretical and Applied Science (TAS).](#)

"Students in each graduate program enroll in common courses together, strengthening the collaboration between the disciplines even further," said Dr. Frees. "The technical core we are building at Ramapo reinforces the view that a school dedicated to the Liberal Arts is a place for students to develop the soft skills along with the technical skills needed to succeed in the modern economy."

Also in attendance were members of the DMC Advisory Board including representatives from Global Digital Analytics & Michael Kors, Silk Security, Sharp Electronics, KPMG and Verizon. One of the goals of the Center is to engage with industry partners, providing fieldwork experiences for students that help organizations solve real-world problems that are confronting the industry.

"Our collaborations with our community partners, particularly our advisory board members, have been integral for our students to understand the landscape and the challenges they will face entering the workforce. This ensures we properly prepare our students to meet those challenges," Dr. Beecher said. "Our partners have served direct roles in teaching students as adjunct faculty, speakers in our lecture series, and guest presenters in class. They have also provided experiential learning opportunities through internships, co-ops, fieldwork, and employment. We are thankful for the time and energy that our partners commit to the success of our students."

*Photo: L to R:*

*Amanda Beecher, Associate Professor of Mathematics; Stefan Becker, Professor of Environmental Science; Christopher Romano, VP of Enrollment Management and*

*Student Affairs; Paramjeet Bagga, Professor of Biology; Edward Saiff, Dean TAS; Cindy Jebb, President; Susan Gaulden, Interim Provost; James Gillespie, Professor of Mathematics; Scott Frees, Professor of Computer Science*

### ###

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, Applied Mathematics, Business Administration, Contemporary Instructional Design, Computer Science, Creative Music Technology, Data Science, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education, as well as a Doctor of Nursing Practice.