



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Development
Press Release
September 22, 2022

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Ramapo College’s Dedication to Student Success Enhanced by Participation on National Innovation Council

MAHWAH, N.J. – Joseph Connell, Assistant Vice President of Student Success at Ramapo College, has been selected to serve on the Education Advisory Board (EAB) Student Success Innovation Council (SSIC) for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Connell is one of 25 new SSIC members who will serve a one-year term on the council to engage with EAB Technology leadership, network with likeminded leaders at other institutions and work collaboratively to design the most effective student success recruitment and retention roadmap using Navigate and Starfish technologies. Those technologies link administrators, faculty, staff, advisors and students in a coordinated network to support students from enrollment to graduation and beyond.

Connell shared, “Participation in the Innovation Council will continue to keep Ramapo on the leading edge of student success initiatives, which provide our students access to our personal mentoring on-demand through our integrated Student Success Network in EAB’s Starfish technology.”

Ramapo has partnered with Starfish since 2013 to deliver a technology-enabled team-based approach to student success. During this time, the College has increased its transfer student persistence rates and reduced equity gaps in student achievement.

Christopher Romano, Vice President of Strategic Enrollment, Outreach and Engagement and Connell’s supervisor added, “Joe’s appointment to this council recognizes his leadership in the area of student success and our continued efforts to deliver on our promise. It’s not enough to focus on enrolling students, at Ramapo, and under Joe’s leadership, our focus is making sure they have the tools to succeed.”

The Innovation Council, entering its tenth year, invites a small group of progressive individuals who represent institutions to help shape technology and product vision that drive student success strategies. EAB works with more than 1,000 institutions of higher

education partners to drive change through data-driven solutions and attain results in key areas, including marketing and enrollment; student success; diversity, equity and inclusion; and data and analytics.

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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 *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, 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.