**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

**Press Release**: **January 25, 2023**

**Contact: Brittany Williams-Goldstein, College Spokesperson**

**bwillia1@ramapo.edu, (201)684-7609**

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**Ramapo College recognized West Milford Counselor for Excellence in College Counseling**

MAHWAH, N.J. – The Office of Admissions at Ramapo College of New Jersey recently named the recipient of the Nancy Jaeger Award for Excellence in Counseling at the annual College Counselor Luncheon held on its Mahwah campus.

Dana Lambert of West Milford High School was selected from dozens of counselors who have “gone above and beyond to continually connect great students with Ramapo College and help students succeed every-day,” said Director of Admissions Anthony Dovi ‘05.

Jose Vallejo ‘02, Admissions Counselor presented the award to Ms. Lambert and stated, “Dana has fostered close relationships across the state of NJ and at Ramapo in support and advocacy of her students, school, and community.” Further, “Dana continues to expand the conversation around equity and access surrounding college admissions, especially relating to LGBTQ+ students,” Vallejo said.

During her tenure, Dana coordinated the annual instant decision day program at her school, served as member and leader of both the NJACAC and NACAC organizations, including leading the NJ National College Fair, co-chairing the NJ STEM Fair, co-chairing the government relations committee, and serving as President of NJACAC. In 2019, she was selected to be a member of the Creating On-Ramps to College Working Group, part of Governor Murphy’s Task Force for Higher Education. Most recently, she played a vital role in partnering with Ramapo College in offering high school dual enrollment courses at West Milford.

This is the eighth year Ramapo has bestowed the award, which was named for the College’s former Director of Admissions, who fostered close relationships with guidance counselors across the state over her nearly 40-year career at Ramapo College.

Ramapo is looking forward to once again hosting, and co-sponsoring the Bergen County Guidance Fair on Wednesday, March 15th for students, families, counselors and the community to learn more about Ramapo and robust college offerings available in NJ and throughout the United States. More information on the event can be found at <https://www.ramapo.edu/admissions/bergen-county-college-fair/>

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**About Ramapo College**

Ramapo College of New Jersey (RCNJ) develops responsible leaders who serve as empathetic problem solvers and ethical change agents across all sectors. The College’s unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its liberal arts core, its size (approximately 5,500 students), and its setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border provide an optimal environment for individualized, student-centered learning and leadership development. RCNJ’s designation as “New Jersey’s Public Liberal Arts College” by the State legislature is the foundation from which the College’s commitment to an accessible and transformative undergraduate and graduate education is realized.

Graduation and retention rates of RCNJ students exceed national averages and, as just one of many markers of student success, the superior rates are made possible by the College’s provision of impactful mentorship and student well-being supports, hands-on learning, and a range of opportunities for service and leadership development. In fact, Ramapo is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by *College Choice* and is recognized as the State’s top college on the list of Best Disability Schools by *Great Value Colleges*. Further commendations include designation as: a “Military Friendly College” in *Viqtory Media’s Guide to Military Friendly Schools*, and as a leading college by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger’s*, *Princeton Review,* and *Money* *Magazine*, among others.

Established in 1969, *CondeNast Traveler* named Ramapo as one of the 50 Most Beautiful College Campuses in America. The barrier-free campus occupies 300 acres and is home to 52 bachelor’s degree programs spanning the arts, business, data science, humanities, education, nursing, social work, social sciences, and the sciences. In addition, the College 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. Every degree program is designed and delivered through the collaborative and interdisciplinary efforts of student-centered faculty scholars and staff who are committed to serving the public good through the delivery of an academically rigorous, inclusive, and transformative collegiate experience.

Distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by *CollegesofDistinction.com*, every student at Ramapo is enrolled in the College’s unique and award-winning Pathways Program which equips and empowers students, across the continuum of their student career, to secure internships, pursue graduate/professional school, and/or enter/re-enter the job market. As a result, Ramapo College’s over 40,000 alumni are confident, intellectually curious, self-aware, and humble people who are highly sought after and who make a positive impact at local, national, and global levels. As community leaders, engaged citizens, and professional colleagues, Ramapo College alumni serve as the change agents necessary to innovate, problem solve, and elevate the human condition in NJ and beyond.