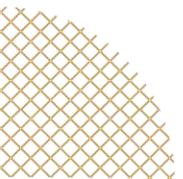


STRATEGIC POSTURE STATEMENT



June 2022

Our Story, Our Strengths, Our Context,
Our Opportunity, & Our Trajectory



ABOUT THE STRATEGIC POSTURE STATEMENT

In Academic Year 2021-2022, the College hosted *The Future Series*. These summits featured guest speakers, selected readings, and working group activities. *The Future Series* explored the futures of thought, society, learning, work, and Ramapo College.

Ramapo College's strategic posture statement has been largely informed by our community's contributions to and participation in *The Future Series* summits, survey input, and roundtable discussions. The posture statement identifies what we have learned about ourselves and where we are headed—our story, strengths, context, opportunity, and trajectory.

The posture statement serves as the foundation from which the Strategic Plan Writing Team will craft our next plan, as well as the fuel from which the Team and our eventual efforts shall move us boldly forward.

Our Story

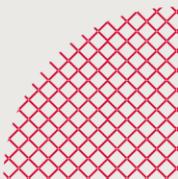
Ramapo College was founded as a state school in 1969. Early on, the College pioneered experimental pedagogies and was among the first higher education institutions in the country to be ADA friendly and welcoming to veterans. Over time, the bucolic 300+ acre campus has grown more residential, and has been home to an innovative and relatively small community that takes great pride in the accomplishments of our students and alumni.

Ramapo has long espoused the importance of intercultural and international understanding and experiential and interdisciplinary learning in the student experience; and Ramapo has long identified the lasting power of the liberal arts, which cuts across STEM, social sciences, and the humanities, and meaningful mentorship as essential to our purpose.

Our Strengths

Situated along the Ramapo Mountains, Ramapo College's essential strength is the integration of the liberal arts throughout all of our curriculum and co-curriculum. This integration, alongside mentorship, hands-on learning, and individualized attention set the conditions for our students' success.

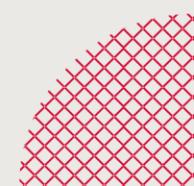
Our strengths are made possible through the collaborative efforts of talented faculty and staff who are committed to serving the public good through the delivery of a highly student-centered, academically rigorous, and inclusive collegiate experience.



Our Context

As the world has become more complex, Ramapo has launched new programs, student services, and partnerships while exploring ways to become more competitive, affordable, inclusive, connected, and equitable.

Ramapo continues to learn and change as a result of external factors including the COVID-19 pandemic, demographic shifts, and economic, social, and political trends, and as such:

- ✓ we are growing even more attuned to the lived experiences of our community members,
 - ✓ we are capitalizing on technology and multimodal collaboration, and
 - ✓ we are reaffirming the power of in-person human engagement.
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Our Opportunity

Health crises, global conflict, accelerated climate change, racial injustice, dehumanizing rhetoric, social inequality, and educational deficits put our liberal arts mission in sharp focus. The Ramapo College student experience is inclusive of programs such as nursing, data science, social work, special education, the creative arts, international and business studies, and *many* others. In addition, the student experience provides opportunities for service, team building, and leadership development. These programs and opportunities have a direct impact on addressing the many challenges of our times.

Our democratic society has reached an inflection point, and it requires ethical, empathetic, inclusive, and diverse leaders who are equipped to model civil discourse, build and lead diverse teams across all sectors, and advance sustainable communities. These leaders must be prepared to serve as the change agents necessary to innovate, problem solve, and elevate the human condition in NJ and beyond.

Ramapo College graduates are these change agents. Our alumni will be the confident, intellectually curious, self-aware, and humble people who will be highly sought after. Equipped with the benefits of a well-rounded education founded on the liberal arts, our alumni will make a positive difference at local, national, and global levels because they will be uniquely able to:

- ✓ think critically,
- ✓ ensure equity,
- ✓ serve with inclusivity and humility, and
- ✓ posit a world-view,
- ✓ thrive in a changing world,
- ✓ lead with empathy and kindness.

Our Trajectory

Uniquely bordering NY and nestled in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains with easy access to New York City, Ramapo has a geographic and mission-centric advantage to make a distinctive impact that can grow nationally and internationally.

Ramapo College of New Jersey can be the national exemplar for public liberal arts higher education, investing in the future of our democracy, our industries, and our communities one student at a time. To make this bold impact together, we must commit unapologetically to an all-hands-on-deck strategy that will:

- ✓ further academic excellence and student success
- ✓ secure long-term fiscal sustainability,
- ✓ reinvigorate a culture of interdisciplinarity,
- ✓ grow a service-oriented ethos,
- ✓ embrace accountability as a resource for growth,
- ✓ prioritize community well-being: elevate traditionally underrepresented voices, embrace diversity, foster a culture of trust and a sense of belonging, and
- ✓ raise our visibility and generate collaborations and partnerships.

As we learn, we are beginning to more fully present ourselves as a dynamic, distinctive, highly impactful, and empowering learning community, and we must ensure the transformative power of a Ramapo College education is as known as it is revered.

Additional Resources

Planning Process



More Information

For more information on the Strategic Posture Statement and the College's strategic planning process, please visit:

www.ramapo.edu/president/stratplan.