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**DR. PETER PHILIP MERCER APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF
RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

(Mahwah) – The Board of Trustees of Ramapo College of New Jersey today announced they selected Dr. Peter Philip Mercer as the College's fourth president. Mercer has served as both dean of the law school and vice president for administration and general counsel at the University of Western Ontario. His appointment as president of Ramapo College is effective July 1, 2005.

"As a board, we were impressed by Dr. Mercer's record of leadership, his scholarship, his vision and his ability to communicate. We are confident that these qualities, together with his business, finance and legal expertise, are the right combination to lead Ramapo College to higher levels of excellence," said Gail Brady, chair of the Ramapo College Board of Trustees. She added, "We look forward to working with Dr. Mercer on strategic initiatives including enhancing our academic programs, maintaining our fiscal strength in the face of state budget shortfalls, advancing our international mission and serving the local and regional communities."

"I look forward with great enthusiasm to joining Ramapo College as its fourth President," stated Mercer. "During my interviews, I was continually impressed by the commitment and dedication of all those involved with the College and I will be drawing heavily on their support as we work together in the months and years ahead."

Mercer also has served as acting vice president for external affairs at Western Ontario and acting director of development. A former visiting research scholar at the University of Michigan, he has been a faculty member at the University of Calgary, the

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University of Detroit, and the University of Windsor. Dr. Mercer received a Law Faculty Teacher of the Year Award at the University of Western Ontario and a Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Association of University Business Officers.

He is the editor of *Products Liability in Canada* (Oceana, 1988); and co-author of *An Introduction to Business Associations in Canada* (Carswell, 1984). In addition, he has authored numerous articles, book chapters and reviews. His recent publications have focused on the legal profession and legal ethics.

Mercer earned his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge, earned an L.L.M. at the University of Cambridge and an L.L.B. at the University of Western Ontario, where he was awarded honors in English and Philosophy. He is currently on a partial study leave serving as principal consultant to the Ontario Ministry of Finance on integrated supply chain management in the Ontario public sector.

Mercer was chosen from among more than 90 candidates for the position following an extensive search.

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