Welcome Roadrunners!

As the 2020-2021 school year begins, I write to all students to emphasize the importance of the Student Handbook. The Student Handbook contains the Code of Conduct, which is the conduct expected of all students. It also contains the policies and procedures for many offices on campus. In addition to policies and procedures, the Code of Conduct includes information regarding the rights and responsibilities of all students.

In order to take additional precautions against COVID 19, many safety measures, including new policies and revisions to existing polices, have been instituted to help create a safe year ahead. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with the following policies that have been revised or created to specifically to guard against the spread of COVID-19:

- Face Covering Policy for Students
- Student Code for Healthy Living and Learning
- Guest/Visitation Policy
- Social Gathering Policy

Contact Tracers will be deployed in the event of a positive case of Coronavirus. It is an expectation that students comply with the contract tracers and to be honest with their answers. Contact tracers are not looking for policy violations and will not be reporting policy violations unless they are required by law to report that information. Students who fail to comply with contract tracers may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Some of the other important policies in the Handbook include:

- Sexual Misconduct Policy Governing Students
- Alcohol, Other Drug, and Good Samaritan Policy
- Policy Prohibiting Discrimination
- Fire Safety
- Anti-Bullying

**Sexual Misconduct Policy Governing Students**
This comprehensive policy includes definitions; information regarding confidentiality; reporting options; jurisdiction and reporting timeframes; alcohol and drug amnesty; interim and protective measures; investigation and resolution procedures; sanctions; recordkeeping; non-retaliation information; and a resource directory. For the full policy click here.

**Alcohol, Other Drug, and Good Samaritan Policy**
The purpose for the Alcohol, Other Drug, and Good Samaritan Policy is to define and communicate, acceptable and unacceptable behavior with regards to alcohol and other drugs and the sanctions for policy violations. The Alcohol, Other Drug, and Good Samaritan Policy provides specific scenarios and examples for students of what they may and may not do with regards to alcohol and other drugs on campus. Students who are under the age of 21 may not be in possession of or in the presence of alcohol at any time. Persons who are present, within college housing, where alcohol is being consumed by those over or under the age of 21 will be presumed to have been drinking, in possession of, or in the presence of alcohol if Public Safety Officers, On-Call Administrators or Resident Assistants are called to the scene. Students may not be in possession of or in the presence of drugs or drug paraphernalia at any time. Persons who are present, within college housing, where drugs or drug paraphernalia are present or are being consumed will be presumed to
have been drinking, in possession of, or in the presence of drugs or drug paraphernalia if Public Safety Officers, On-Call Administrators or Resident Assistants are called to the scene. Hosting large gatherings or parties, where alcohol and/or other drugs are present, is considered a violation of the Alcohol, Other Drug, and Good Samaritan policy and will lead to disciplinary action, including Interim Suspension of hosts and attendees and suspension of residence privileges. The Alcohol, Other Drug, and Good Samaritan Policy outlines recommended sanctions for violations. For the full policy click here.

**Policy Prohibiting Discrimination**

Ramapo College of New Jersey is committed to maintaining an environment free from harassment and discrimination. This Policy Prohibiting Discrimination serves to protect all students and employees from discrimination/harassment by others at the College and it applies to both physical and verbal conduct that is discriminatory in nature and occurs at the College, including electronic communications sent or received on campus, and that occurs at any location, which can be reasonably regarded as an extension of the College (i.e., any field location, on-line course, any off-site college-related social function, or event, or any facility where College-sponsored activities are being conducted or discussed). This policy extends to employment and admission. For the full policy click here.

**Fire Safety**

Fire safety is a high priority at Ramapo College. Fire Safety Policies and Procedures promote lifestyle practices that focus on health and safety. Policies and procedures associated with fire safety are intended to inform, educate, and train students, faculty, staff and guests. Specific information regarding Fire Safety policies can be found by clicking here.

**Anti-Bullying**

The Code of Conduct covers a wide range of behaviors that are considered unacceptable including harassment, intimidation, and bullying as outlined in the New Jersey Anti-Bullying law. For the full Code of Conduct click here.

Each student is encouraged to review the Student Code of Conduct and the College Policies and Procedures as outlined in the 2020-2021 Student Handbook, which can be found by clicking here. Students are held accountable for the information contained in the Student Handbook.

The Office of Student Conduct is committed to helping students take responsibility for their actions by providing them the opportunity to realize the impact their actions have on the community. Communication with students, regarding documented behavior that allegedly violates the code of conduct, will be sent to the student’s Ramapo College email address. Students are responsible for checking their college email account on a daily basis. Failure to read college email is not a justifiable excuse for neglecting to attend a disciplinary hearing or missing a deadline related to a disciplinary sanction.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Student Conduct at 201-684-7869 or via email at studentconduct@ramapo.edu with questions or concerns about the Student Handbook.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Hallissey
Director of Student Conduct