

# **Ramapo College Student Engagement Project**

Progress Report – January 2013

## **Steering Committee members**

Beth Barnett	Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Miki Cammarata	Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Patrick Chang	Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Eric Daffron	Vice Provost for Curriculum and Assessment
Christopher Romano	Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management

## **Introduction**

Student engagement represents the time and effort students devote to activities empirically linked to the intended outcomes of college and what institutions do to both provide these activities and induce students to participate in them (Kuh, 2009).

Ramapo College has transitioned from a primarily commuter serving institution to a residential community that prides itself on the high quality curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities that it offers its students. Four pillars – experiential learning, interdisciplinary thinking, intercultural understanding, and international awareness – define the priority goals for student learning. However, no integrated, intentional, and synergistic plan for student engagement currently exists.

According to Kuh (2001) and Pascarella/Terenzini (2005), a student engagement plan details how an institution deploys its resources and organizes the curriculum, other learning opportunities, and support services in order to provide positive experiences and to produce desired outcomes such as persistence, satisfaction, learning and graduation. In order to facilitate these ends, the Committee on Student Engagement at Ramapo College (CoSEaR) is charged with leading the development of a plan for student engagement at the College

## **Charge to the Committee on Student Engagement at Ramapo College**

The Committee on Student Engagement at Ramapo College is charged with the development of an integrated, intentional, and synergistic plan for student engagement at the College. Specifically, the Committee will:

- Create a student engagement plan organized along a continuum (e.g. first year, middle years, final year) of college experiences;
- Define or characterize these stages of student engagement in college experiences and activities;
- Define desired outcomes for students as a result of their engagement;
- Produce an inventory of current student engagement activities;
- Determine how current activities link to desired outcomes and in what stage(s);
- Identify new activities that Ramapo College should consider implementing;
- Determine how the final plan will be communicated to students (intentional), how all units of the College can support the Plan (integrated), and how desired outcomes can be developed across activities and stages of the plan (synergistic).

*Progress:*

- *Goals, outcomes and achievement targets were developed for the first and second years (see below).*
- *Key points of engagement (soon to be identified as earn your wings events) were identified and/or developed and implemented for the first and second years (see maps below).*
- *The First Year Experience Board was refreshed and their charge modified to incorporate student engagement planning.*
- *The Second Year Student Engagement Board was developed to oversee student engagement efforts for second year students.*
- *Most 2011-2012 first year Key Points of Engagement (KPEs) were assessed and modified accordingly. All will be assessed at the end of this academic year.*
- *Second year KPEs will be assessed this year.*
- *A Transfer Student Engagement Task Force was formed and charged with collecting data and conducting research on best practices for engaging transfer students. A report with findings and recommendations was produced this month (January) and will be incorporated into future planning.*
- *A plan for “marketing” the student engagement project to students is underway and should be completed by June/July.*
- *A retreat is scheduled for February 15, 2013 to gather together all first year and second year board members and the transfer student engagement task force in order to report on progress and plan next steps.*
- *The Steering Committee will begin planning for third year/junior student engagement in 2013-2014.*

**For more information about the Student Engagement Project please visit:**

[http://my.ramapo.edu/cp/render.UserLayoutRootNode.uP?uP\\_tparam=utf&utf=http%3A%2F%2Fww2.ramapo.edu%2Fprovost%2F](http://my.ramapo.edu/cp/render.UserLayoutRootNode.uP?uP_tparam=utf&utf=http%3A%2F%2Fww2.ramapo.edu%2Fprovost%2F)

## **Student Engagement Goals and Outcomes First Year**

### **Goal 1:**

#### **Academic Engagement**

Interaction, participation and interest in gaining skills and increasing knowledge. Seeking ways to relate learning inside the classroom with life outside the classroom.

- Outcome 1:** Students will apply classroom knowledge to current experiences and future goals.
- Outcome 2:** Students will explore their own and/or other cultures, beliefs, and practices.
- Outcome 3:** Students will use college-level discourse in speaking and writing both individually and in groups.
- Outcome 4:** Students will conduct research and use technology responsibly and effectively.

### **Goal 2:**

#### **Social Engagement**

Interaction, participation, and interest in socializing with others within an active community. Seeking activities that facilitate positive relationships with others.

- Outcome 1:** Students will explore opportunities for involvement in campus activities.
- Outcome 2:** Students will establish connections with their peers, faculty, and staff.
- Outcome 3:** Students will embrace being a member of the Ramapo College community and celebrate college pride.

### **Goal 3:**

#### **Personal Engagement**

Interaction, participation, and interest in knowing self and self in relation to the world. Reflection on one's place on the campus, in the community, and in the world. Understanding one's strengths and weaknesses and using this knowledge to reach one's goals.

- Outcome 1:** Students will demonstrate their ability to identify and utilize campus resources when needed.
- Outcome 2:** Students will take responsibility for their personal development and construct a plan to achieve it.
- Outcome 3:** Students will become self-reflective and challenge their current view of the world and their place in it.

### **Goal 4:**

#### **Campus and Civic Engagement**

Interaction, participation and interest in the social, cultural, and leadership aspects of the College. Building the skills necessary to become active, engaged citizens who make the College, the nation and the world better places to live, learn, and work.

- Outcome 1:** Students will understand their roles, rights and responsibilities as citizens of the Ramapo campus.
- Outcome 2:** Students will understand their roles, rights and responsibilities as local, national and global citizens.

**Student Engagement  
First Year  
Map**

KPEs	Academic				Social			Personal			Campus/Civic	
	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.3	3.1	3.2	3.3	4.1	4.2
Orientation					X	X		X				
Summer Reading/Convocation	X		X			X				X		
AlcoholEdu									X		X	
Arching and First Year Assembly							X					
Maroon Madness					X	X	X	X	X			
Green Dot		X					X	X			X	
Choices and Consequences		X					X	X			X	
LollaNoBooza					X	X	X					
Club Fair					X							
FYS/Peers	X		X	X		X		X	X		X	
Advising	X							X	X			
World Expo		X					X			X		X

## **Student Engagement Goals and Outcomes Second Year**

### **Goal 1:**

#### **Academic Engagement**

Interaction, participation and interest in gaining skills and increasing knowledge. Seeking ways to relate learning inside the classroom with life outside the classroom.

- Outcome 1:** Students will apply classroom knowledge to current experiences and future goals.
- Outcome 2:** Students will explore their own and/or other cultures, beliefs, and practices.
- Outcome 3:** Students will use college-level discourse in speaking and writing both individually and in groups.
- Outcome 4:** Students will conduct research and use technology responsibly and effectively.

### **Goal 2:**

#### **Social Engagement**

Interaction, participation, and interest in socializing with others within an active community. Seeking activities that facilitate positive relationships with others.

- Outcome 1:** Students will participate in campus activities.
- Outcome 2:** Students will interact meaningfully with faculty, staff, and peers and reflect on those interactions.
- Outcome 3:** Students will actively serve or participate in the Ramapo College community.

### **Goal 3:**

#### **Personal Engagement**

Interaction, participation, and interest in knowing self and self in relation to the world. Reflection on one's place on the campus, in the community, and in the world. Understanding one's strengths and weaknesses and using this knowledge to reach one's goals.

- Outcome 1:** Students will utilize campus resources when needed.
- Outcome 2:** Students will engage in self-reflection and develop a sense of purpose.
- Outcome 3:** Students will reflect on their current view of the world and their place in it.
- Outcome 4:** Students will reflect on their academic performance, strengths, and interests in order to identify an appropriate major.
- Outcome 5:** Students will explore opportunities for career development.

### **Goal 4:**

#### **Campus and Civic Engagement**

Interaction, participation and interest in the social, cultural, and leadership aspects of the College. Building the skills necessary to become active, engaged citizens who make the College, the nation and the world better places to live, learn, and work.

- Outcome 1:** Students will engage actively as responsible citizens of the Ramapo campus.
- Outcome 2:** Students will understand their roles, rights and responsibilities as local, national and global citizens.

