

HISTORY

The Center was established in 1979 and at a Ramapo College Board meeting was assigned, a physical location on campus and certain on site privileges. It is located in the George Potter Library. The Center facilities, available to the College and its students consist of: approximately 1,000 volumes devoted to Holocaust and Genocide as well as a collection of films and video tapes.

The mission of the Center is to bring the message of Holocaust and Genocide to our community through its various programs directed to educational institutions in Bergen County and its surrounding communities.

Since its inception on Campus, Ramapo College now has a Judaic Minor, funded by the College and the Center has funded "The Armenian History" course on a biannual basis, through a grant from the Armenian Community. "Holocaust and the Media", and the "Holocaust in Historical Perspective" courses were funded by the Center when enrollment did not meet the college requirements.

We annually conduct 'Teacher's Workshops' for secondary schools. This year we introduced a Workshop for Elementary Teacher's and had an enrollment of 81 teachers from 20 school districts. On alternating years we sponsor a one week 45 hour intensive course on Holocaust which allows Ramapo students to receive 3 credits, while Graduate teachers get three credits from Kean College.

The Center brings speakers to the Campus for such programs as, "The Kurds"; "The David Duke Phenomena"; "Historical Revisionism: Slavery and the Holocaust". In October of this year we are bringing Professor Julius Lester, who will speak on "Reflections on Race in America Today".

The Center sponsors programs at Ramapo for high school students bringing from 50 to 200 hundred students on campus each year. Our last such program, in conjunction with Ramsey High, was "Hate in the Extreme: Warsaw Ghetto 1940-1943". Twenty students from 9 high schools participated as Dr. Hubert Locke, Professor, Graduate School of Public Affairs, University of Washington and author of such books as "The Care and Feeding of the White Liberals, The German Church Struggle and the Holocaust, etc. and 8 Holocaust survivors, shared their experience and feelings about Holocaust and prejudice. These programs open to teachers and students, give local students an exposure to Ramapo College and the programs available locally.

The Center conducts an Oral History Program in conjunction with Yale University Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies. Over eighty oral history interviews have been completed at this time. Ramapo students, under the direction of May Ryan, a Ramapo Graduate, do the technical work and are paid by the Center. Copies of these tapes are available in our Archives.

Working with the Ramapo ITV Center we have brought a 92 year old Armenian survivor of the Turkish Genocide; 3 Bosnian high school students and a Holocaust survivor into 5 Bergen County High schools. This gave the students an opportunity to meet with real people who could, not only tell their own stories, but answer questions that young people have about living with prejudice and hatred.

We have sponsored Art Exhibits, Lecture and Film series. Hold an annual Breakfast for Clergy. Recognize a leading member of New Jersey with our "Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian Leadership Award. Arraigned for Ramapo College students to visit the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. this October. All programs we sponsor signify our relationship with Ramapo College, again letting students and their families know that Ramapo College is one that faces many diverse issues.

RESOURCE CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES ON THE CAMPUS
OF RAMAPO COLLEGE, MAHWAH, NEW JERSEY 07430

The Resource Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies was founded by the United Jewish Community out of the conviction that the Holocaust is a pivotal event of our times in terms of theology, philosophy and politics. Today, more than 35 years after the end of World War II, we are beginning to come to grips with it, not just as a fact of history, but as a tragedy that has shaken our world. Its implications are universal, though the immediate and unique victim was the European Jewish community. President Carter, in designating April 28 and 29, 1979 as "Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust," noted:

"We must never forget these crimes against humanity. We must study and understand the record of the Holocaust. From this we must learn to remain eternally vigilant against all tyranny and oppression. We must rededicate ourselves to the principles of equality and justice for all peoples, remembering the terrible fruits of bigotry and hatred."

In recent years this has become an accepted educational objective.

The Holocaust is a subject of study at leading universities and colleges. It has also been introduced in countless American secondary school systems, in some compulsory, in others voluntary.

The Resource Center was established to supplement and reinforce the teaching of the Holocaust by establishing a central repository of primary and secondary source materials which will include books and pamphlets as well as audio-visual materials.

ON-GOING SERVICES

A. Educational Projects - Serving both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities of Bergen County by supplying requests for information, educational materials, audio-visual aids, speakers and programs.

1. Assisting teachers in the private and public schools who are either teaching courses or units on the Holocaust.
2. Assisting clergymen, youth group leaders, community leaders, professionals and lay people in programming Holocaust related events and lectures.
3. Developing a Holocaust curriculum for use in a variety of formal and informal educational settings.

B. Community Resource Center - The Holocaust Center's library and multi-media resources are open to the public. Agencies affiliated with the United Jewish Community of Bergen County may borrow materials free of charge. For those agencies or individuals who are not affiliated with the UJC there is a nominal service charge. The resource center will house:

1. A library. Some of the most up-to-date curricular materials on the Holocaust, out-of-print books and monographs, recently published books and magazines in the field of Holocaust Studies and Contemporary History, Literature and Thought.
2. A multi-media resource center containing dozens of feature-length films, video-tapes, slide shows, film strips, oversize photographs, maps, charts, games, cassette recordings, and phonograph recordings on the Holocaust and related themes.

RESOURCE CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES
C. Community Out-Reach - The Holocaust Center works closely with religious and lay leaders to aid in meeting the specific needs of the various constituencies. Specifically by:

1. Informing the Jewish community about Holocaust related events and programs through articles and news releases appearing in the Center's Newsletter and through advance notice by bulk mailings.

2. Assisting local newspapers, radio and television stations with their research and programming of Holocaust related topics and presentations.

3. Providing schools, universities, synagogues, churches, public libraries, and community groups with speakers who are either experts on the subject of the Holocaust, or are themselves survivors of the Holocaust.

D. College Level Courses - a 4 credit, junior level course, THE HOLOCAUST IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE, will be offered for the Fall, 1981 semester at Ramapo college. The course is scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays at 2:00 P.M. Students may register from May 6 to May 13. This course is also open to adult education. The course number is 1075. This course will examine the historical and intellectual roots of the Holocaust. It will analyse the Holocaust from the point of view of its history, its impact upon the victims, the world response and its meanings and implications.

The hours of the Resource Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies are:

Monday	-	1:00 - 3:00
Tuesday	-	4:00 - 5:00
Wednesday		2:30 - 4:00
Thursday		1:00 - 4:00

The members of our staff are:

Dr. Joseph Rudavsky, Director
Dr. Ernest Simon, Educational Director
Elaine E. Prosnitz, Administrative Assistant

The Center is sponsored by the United Jewish Community of Bergen County and Ramapo College of New Jersey, with an independent Board of Directors, Dr. Robert Webber, President, Pro Tem.

Telephones: (201) 825 0550
(201) 825 2800 Ext. 564

7/7/86

CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES

Who are we

I Statement of Purposes

- ① To encourage and support the teaching of Holocaust and Genocide in Public, Private and Parochial educational institutions from Elementary schools through Universities in our area broadly defined.
- ② To create an awareness of Holocaust and Genocide in both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities in our areas broadly defined.
- 3- To coordinate the activities of communal institutions and organizations both secular and religious, Jewish and non-Jewish as they plan Holocaust and Genocide related events.
- ④ To establish a resource center which would include a library, a media center, a repository of oral histories, and a museum.
- 5- Networking New Jersey Holocaust Centers.
- 6- Networking New Jersey teachers of Holocaust and Genocide.
- 7- To serve as a liason for New Jersey with the United States Holocaust Memorial Council.
- 8- To serve as a liason with the Simon Weissenthal Center and the ADL International Holocaust Center.

~~④ We offer...~~

what would

II Functions

- ① Development of seminars for School Superintendents, Principals, Social Science teachers, Clegy and Librarians with the objective of teaching Holocaust and Genocide in our various school systems as well as sensitizing the general public.
- ② Periodic teacher training in-service workshops.
- ③ Courses at Ramapo College. *In Coop with State Dept of Edu; Ramapo College*
- ④ Annual series of Holocaust and Genocide events held in different locations in the area open to the general public.
- 5- Annual Art and/or Literary competition on Holocaust and Genocide themes open to the various levels in the school population.

⑤ *Developed by...*

- 6- Creation of a Museum with a permanent exhibit as well as facilities for special exhibits. In addition it should include a screening and video viewing room.
- ⑦- Developing a library with primary and secondary source materials, a media center, oral testimonies and computerized materials.
- 8- Offering annual **Yad Vashem** and Lohamai Hageta-ot Teacher Training Scholarships.
- 9- Creating a network of New Jersey Centers and teaching personnel.
- 10- Joint programming with other centers.
- 11- Developing a Newsletter and/or other means of newspaper coverage.
- 12- Conduct all Holocaust and Genocide activities for the Community Relations Council which now serves the UJC and the North Jersey Federation.
- 13- Create materials for religious and secular communal organizations for use at Holocaust and Genocide commemorative EVENTS.
- ⑭- Work with public librarians and school librarians on all levels to develop a basic selection of Holocaust and Genocide related materials.
- 15- Coordinate with Second Generation groups in New Jersey.
- ⑮- Develop an Oral Testimony program in coordination with other such projects such as the Yale University Oral History Center.
- ⑰- Development of ^{materials} materials for use by Clergy of all Faiths.

III Administration

A- Staffing

- 1- Full time director.
- 2- Assistant director to develop outreach and coordination phases of the program.
- 3- Full time secretary.

B- Development of a survivors committee.

C- Development of an Armenian committee.

D- Funding

- 1- An endowment fund.
- 2- Individual and group memberships.
- 3- Federation grants.

- 4- Solicitation of big gifts.
- 5- Grants from Humanities Foundation.

IV Gate House Intercultural Center

- A- Define Puposos.
- B- Develop Intercultural Museum.
- C- Develop Intercultural Library.
- D- Develop Intercultural Sudies program and activities.
- E- Administration
 - 1- Staffing
 - 2- Funding- Alolocation from State.