

RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY Office of Institutional Advancement Press Release March 1, 2022

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Ramapo's Dr. Norflus-Good Receives Max Sobel Award for Leadership in Mathematics Education

MAHWAH, N.J. – Dr. Julie Norflus-Good, Director of the Master of Arts in Special Education Program at Ramapo College, received the prestigious Max Sobel Award for Outstanding Service and Leadership in Mathematics Education by the Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey (AMTNJ).

https://amtnj.org/about/

The annual award is named for Dr. Max Sobel, whose 50-year career in teaching mathematics has set an example for educators. The award is presented to an educator who has contributed to the mission of the AMTNJ by supporting the teaching of mathematics through professional development, teacher outreach and communication.

"I am very humbled to be chosen and recognized to be a recipient of this most prestigious award," said Norflus-Good. "At the heart of Sobel's teaching was the belief that all students could be motivated to learn mathematics. His quote always resonated with me: 'There is no magic key, and it won't work for everyone, but you've got to get the attention of students through motivational techniques."

Norflus-Good joined AMTNJ as the Special Education Liaison in 1995, and has remained a vital contributor for 27 years. She has written 19 newsletter articles on teaching strategies for mathematics from 2010-2021, has spoken at 26 AMTNJ conferences, and was keynote speaker at the most recent AMTNJ/Special Education Conference. She also has served on AMTNJ's Scholarship Committee and on the Board of Trustees.

"Dr. Julie Good embodies all that the prestigious Max Sobel Award for Outstanding Service and Leadership in Mathematics Education represents," said Brian Chinni, Assistant Dean of Education and Director of Ramapo's Master of Educational Leadership program. "As such, she will make very proud the many others that have received the coveted award since the inaugural Dr. Sobel in 1990 - many of whom had a significant influence on my life, and I consider them among my 'professional heroes."

Norflus-Good is currently the President of New Jersey Council for Exceptional Children (NJCEC), a member of various advisory boards of the New Jersey State Department of Education among which are the following: Special Education Stakeholders Advisory Group, Strengthening Gifted & Talented Education, NJ Collaborative Home of Interdisciplinary Leaders and NJ Task Force for Transition Planning.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice; is recognized as the state's top college on the list of Best Disability Schools by *Great Value Colleges*; was named one of the 50 Most Beautiful College Campuses in America by *CondeNast Traveler*; and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report, Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, data science, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to master's degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Creative

Music Technology, Data Science, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education, as well as a post-master's Doctor of Nursing Practice.