
2021 Presidential Search Committee Nomination Form

Thu, Nov 7, 2019 at
6:55 PM

Prefix, First Name, Last Name	Ms. Purvi Parekh
Preferred Pronouns	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
Position Title (if applicable)	Banner Advancement System Analyst
Years of Service with Ramapo College (if applicable)	16
I am interested in serving on the 2021 Presidential Search Committee as a representative of the:	Staff
Please select one:	As a representative of the RCNJ staff, I affirm that this nomination has the endorsement of the Ramapo Staff Association.
Affirmation of Understanding	I have reviewed and I accept the 2021 Presidential Search Committee Charge, Statement of Understanding for Committee Members, and Search Process Timeline.
Reason for Service. Please describe why you are interested in serving on the 2021 Presidential Search Committee and how you may add value and insight to the Committee's process and deliberations. (500 word maximum)	I was an undergraduate student under Dr. Scott's leadership, a graduate student and later an employee under Dr. Smith's leadership and an employee under Dr. Mercer's leadership. While working in Institutional Advancement, I interacted with Dr. Mercer and got to see first-hand the whole scope of leadership that a President of a College provides. Having this insight I would bring different perspective to the table, one of a minority employee, an alum and a union member. Having closely worked with alumni, in my previous position, and being an alum myself, I know as an alum, some of the qualities that the next President should have in order to make a connection with that group of constituents. As the College celebrates its 50th Anniversary and grows older, our alumni are more important than ever, especially from a fundraising perspective. Ramapo needs someone that will understand the different growing stages that it went through. It started being mainly a commuter school and evolved into a more traditional College. The next President needs to understand the two segments of alumni groups that graduated in those two environments. Our faculty are special, they genuinely care for our students and their progress not only in their class, or academically, but in their career and they help in the molding of the students as individual adults. We need a President that would recognize that and make that one of our key marketing points about receiving a comprehensive education here at Ramapo. I am still in touch with some of faculty members. As an employee, I know that the overall morale of the employees is low. They are not happy, and there are several reasons why. I can judge if a potential candidate can work with the staff members and bring them over to the other side. Give them a sense of job satisfaction and renewed motivation. I know that we as a College have concerns in reference to diversity on campus with students, faculty and staff, accessibility of the

campus that would attract and retain diverse students, I would be able to add insight in that regard. I have served on various faculty and staff search committees, as well as the Middle State Accreditation committee. Serving on the Presidential Search committee would be a wonderful opportunity for me to make a difference here at Ramapo.

Vision for the Search. Please describe your vision for the search process. (350 word maximum)

My vision for the Search would be a collaborative process in which every committee member's opinion is considered. I hope that through team effort and under the leadership of Trustee Vallerio, the committee would choose a group of capable candidates. I would consider the College's four pillars while evaluating the candidate. My final goal would be to select a candidate that would move Ramapo College in the right direction and take it to new heights. Ramapo should no longer remain a hidden gem, we should be out there and create awareness about the fantastic programs that we have and spread awareness about the wonderful faculty research that goes on here that students have an opportunity to be part of. Even though we are a State school, we have potential to be out there competing with some of the Nation's top private and public liberal art colleges. I would hope that the next President would be of a diverse background and reflect the diversity that we aim to have on this campus.

Top Five. Please describe what you believe to be the top five characteristics/capabilities needed in the next College president. (350 word maximum)

The President should have sustainable goals for both long and short term. He/she should have ideas on how to capitalize what Ramapo has and create sustainable programs that increase the College's revenue. They could include cutting-edge graduate study programs, distance learning, international engagement and private-public partnerships. This is where being a team player is essential, since he/she would be working with several individuals on and off campus in a variety of capacities to make new pathways for the College. I think the most important characteristic to have in our next College President is effective communication skills. The President should be able to communicate effectively on all levels – whether he/she is addressing students or his/her peers on the Cabinet or his colleagues at other State and private institutions. He/she should be able to share the awards and accolades the College receives as well as a crisis that might occur on campus in a manner that is attuned to the audience. The President should be truthful and maintain integrity all the time. Misrepresentation of facts can have a long-term negative effect. Embrace diversity of all kinds, race, ethnicity, gender, etc. People today identify themselves in various different ways but that doesn't affect their intellect or capabilities. The President should be able to recognize and respect others for who they are.
