



- Home
- Newsroom
- Media
- Administration
- NJ's Priorities
- Contact Us

- Press Releases
- Public Addresses
- Executive Orders
- Press Kit
- Reports

Home > Newsroom > Press Releases > 2015

Lt. Governor Guadagno Offers Congratulations and Advice to Raritan Valley Community College Graduates

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More Than 1,100 Graduates Honored at Commencement Ceremony

Trenton, NJ – This morning, Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno joined the faculty and staff of Raritan Valley Community College in congratulating more than 1,100 graduates during today's Class of 2015 commencement ceremony.

"Your job, as you take ownership of your achievements, is to make sure each step you take is one that changes things for the better. Own it! The good you will do will impact everyone around you. Like your teachers have done here, you will inspire others," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "When the time comes for you to stand up, you will be ready because of the degree you earned today. You will be ready to stand up for what's right, to stand up for justice, or to stand up for whatever cause you choose to change for the better."

The Lt. Governor shared advice from her own experiences with the graduates, encouraging them to always be prepared to rewrite their plans, using any change in course as a stepping stone to a new opportunity, and to never forget that they have a responsibility to help others along their path to success. During the ceremony, the Lt. Governor was presented with an honorary Associate of Arts degree.

"We are delighted to welcome Lieutenant Governor Guadagno to Raritan Valley Community College's commencement," said College President Michael J. McDonough. "At Raritan Valley, we promote the importance of serving the community and responding to its needs through our award-winning Service Learning Program. The Lieutenant Governor's many years of dedication to public service, and her role as a trailblazer in New Jersey, serve as an inspiration to all of our graduates."

Originally founded in 1965 as Somerset County College, the school welcomed its first 229 students in 1968 at a temporary location at Green Brook High School. In 1987, Hunterdon and Somerset Counties agreed to combine their efforts to create the first bi-county college in the state: Raritan Valley Community College. Today, nearly 8,000 students are pursuing their educational dreams across 90 degree and certificate programs.

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