Maximizing Ability and Opportunity
Mission

To lead Michigan State University in **maximizing ability and opportunity** for full participation by persons with disabilities.
“The mark of a successful life is not what happens to a person, but what he chooses to do with the circumstances that have been set before him.”

-Cecile, Samaritan Scholar
Philosophy

Disabilities need not preclude the achievement of goals and dreams.

Rather, they mandate a greater level of creativity and commitment and a repertoire of compensatory techniques.
Beverly Stehlik
Budget/Personnel & Assistant to the Director
Anna Osborn
Receptionist/
Alternative Testing Facilitator
Shani Feyen
Chronic Health Specialist
Elaine High
Learning Disabilities Specialist
Study Skills Tutor
Virginia Rutan
Cognitive Disabilities & Brain Injury Specialist
Student Athlete Liaison
Renée Craig
Building Opportunities for Network and Discovery (BOND) Program Facilitator
John Pedraza
Psychiatric Disability Specialist
Disability Resource Coordinator for Employees
Ginger Martz
Blindness/Visual Impairment, Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing, and Mobility Disabilities Specialist
Stephen Blosser
Assistive Technology Specialist
Al Puzzuoli
Information Technologist
Tom Hwang
Media Access Specialist
Denise Hartman
Real-Time Captioner
Karen Calhoun
Real-Time Captioner
Shelly Martinez
Real-Time Captioner
Donna Leahy
Sign Language Interpreter
Keep up with RCPD

Follow us on Twitter
• @MSU_RCPD

Like us on Facebook
• MSU Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities
• http://www.facebook.com/msu.rcpd
Did you know...?

That the 28th president of the United States and founder of what eventually became the United Nations, Woodrow Wilson, had a learning disability?
1930s: The Tower Guard Honor Society began reading textbooks and classroom materials to students with visual disabilities.
Tower Guard

- MSU’s oldest active student organization
- Members selected from top 5% of freshman class
- Volunteer 120 service hours each
- Coordinate the annual Shamrock Run/Walk/Roll
- Campus orientation

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Tower Guard at 2012 Reception
with TG Alumni & Staff
Shamrock Run/Walk/Roll
1972: Judy Taylor Gentile served as founding director of the Office of Programs for Handicapper Students for over twenty years. The office was created as part of MSU’s campaign for equal access to a university education.
1998: The mission of the department broadened to include services for MSU employees with disabilities
1999: The name of the office changed to the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, reflecting the expanding mission and new “person-first” language.
2001: The Empowerment Fund was created to further educational, employment, and extra-curricular opportunities through financial contributions for persons with disabilities.
“I found there were two paths for me to choose, one of self pity and one of self determination to succeed. I chose the latter.”

-David
2008 Samaritan Scholar
Auxiliary Aids and Services

- Assistive listening devices
- Real-time captioning
- Braille, large-print, and electronic documents
- Note takers, readers, and scribes
- American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting
- Assistive technology
- Transportation
Trouble Reading, Writing, Typing, or Traveling? Assistive Technology is here to help!

• MSU leads by maximizing independence through the use of technology
• Comprehensive assistive technology centers are in:
  – Bessey Hall
  – Main library
  – Other campus locations
• Many technologies are integrated throughout campus via microlabs
• Need something new? We can design it!
Visit the Assistive Technology Center

• The RCPD Assistive Technology Center is a multifunctional computer lab offering:
  – Voice and Braille output
  – Text enlargement
  – Voice input
  – Reading equipment
  – Talking tactile map
  – Guidance GPS
  – Note-taking solutions

• Technologies available for a variety of disabilities

• Open Monday-Friday, 8 am-5 pm
Study Abroad

In today's global society, it is imperative that students acquire international skills. Study Abroad affords an opportunity to develop these skills and makes you more competitive for employment. The RCPD offers its own Study Abroad program: Disability in a Diverse Society.

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What is Disability in a Diverse Society?

• Four week program in Dublin, Ireland
• Helps increase awareness, sensitivity and understanding of various aspects of disability in the U.S. and abroad
• Students with and without disabilities have a variety of opportunities to explore their own attitudes and beliefs
Study Abroad!
Disability in a Diverse Society Program

Ireland 2011
Study Abroad!
Disability in a Diverse Society Program

Ireland 2010
Study Abroad!
Disability in a Diverse Society Program

Ireland 2009
“With courage, will and persistence we conquer the toughest challenges.”

-Anonymous Donor
Stern Tutoring and Alternative Techniques for Education (STATE) Program

• Funded by Mickey and Debbie Stern
• Provides innovative assistance for learning disabilities
• Since 2004, has helped hundreds of students
• Includes disability-specific instructional, tutorial, and peer-mentoring components

Ask us how you can become a mentor!
Building Opportunities for Networking and Discovery (BOND) Program

- Offers social and communication development to students with autism spectrum disorders through:
  - Social outings
  - Peer mentoring
  - Skill development workshops
  - Individualized curriculum programming
Harold F. and Phyllis N. Wochholz Endowment for Persons with Disabilities

- Endowed program to promote opportunities and education initiated in 2006
- Hal, a 1958 and 1959 engineering graduate, provided leadership in a major aerospace corporation despite a disability
- Demonstrated the success level we strive to foster
Carlson Accessible Media Program (CAMP)

- Established in 2008 by Richard and Kathleen Carlson in gratitude for the services available to their daughter, an MSU graduate
- Increases availability of accessible educational materials
- Accelerating MSU advancement in:
  - Electronic textbooks
  - Braille (scientific and mathematic)
  - Large-print emerging forms of online media
Michael J. Hudson Emerging Opportunities Endowment

• Initiated by Dr. Thomas and Ellen Maleck in 2009
• Provides funding in support of Team RCPD as they address needs of individuals and families affected by disability
• Recognizes the special needs of their daughter developed as a result of army service, and honors the leadership of Director Hudson
• **First focus:** Veterans with Disabilities
Veterans with Disabilities (DVAP)

- The Disabled Veterans’ Assistance Program began in fall 2009
- Promises new levels of financial assistance to U.S. veterans with service-related disabilities
- The RCPD has a history of helping veterans reach academic and professional goals

Thank you for your service!
RCPD Students by Degree Status

- 14.9% Freshmen
- 17.0% Sophomores
- 23.2% Juniors
- 27.4% Seniors
- 5.2% Masters
- 4.3% Doctoral
- 6.9% Other
- 1.1% Lifelong

*Data based on students enrolled during Fall semester 2010*
A total of 1,147 students were registered during the 2010-2011 academic year.

*Data based on students enrolled during Fall semester 2010
RCPD Students by Area of Study

*Data based on students enrolled during Fall semester 2010
RCPD Student Disability Trends
Trend of Growth Continues

Use in our services is increasing, and is supported by:

- Increasing realizations that disabilities are best overcome with education
- Reduced stigma, as people demonstrate outcomes despite disability
- Increasing adaptations allowing greater independence
Did you know...?

That renowned theoretical physicist and Nobel Prize winner Albert Einstein was dyslexic?
You can do anything you set your mind to!
Need financial assistance?

The RCPD offers scholarships for achievement-oriented students with disabilities.

Start your application today!

Applications are available online and generally accepted between December and February.

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Awards and Appreciation Reception

Annually, RCPD celebrates the accomplishments of students and the efforts of MSU faculty and staff.

In 2012, over $68,000 in scholarships and fellowships were awarded at the event.

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Samaritan Scholar Award
Maximizing Potential-Advancing Excellence

Eligibility: Sophomores, juniors, or seniors who are U.S. citizens and demonstrate financial need

Five $3,500 awards

This award enhances opportunities for students who demonstrate the capacity to achieve educational goals and strive toward a productive career.
2012 Samaritan Scholars
Decker/Muns Memorial Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Graduate students who can demonstrate leadership ability and financial need

*$5,000 awards for two or more students*

In memory of two Ford Motor Company executives and friends who died together in a small airplane crash in June 1990.
2012 Robert L. Decker and Benjamin Muns Friendship Memorial Scholars with MaryBeth Decker- Trunk, Dr. Margaret Muns & Staff
Anita Giampalmi Cystic Fibrosis Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Students with cystic fibrosis who demonstrate academic achievement, educational and life goals, and leadership.

**One Award up to $2,000**

In memory of Anita Giampalmi, a 1993 elementary education graduate.
2012 Anita Giampalmi Scholars with Jack Giampalmi, Jr. & Staff
Katrina Tagget Memorial Fellowship
A legacy of scholarship and service excellence

**Eligibility:** Sophomores, juniors, or seniors with learning disabilities who are academically and service-oriented.

**At least $2,500 per fellow**

In memory of Katrina Tagget, a 2008 senior majoring in Public Administration and Public Policy with a specialization in Political Economics.
2012 Katrina Tagget Memorial Fellows with the Tagget Family & Staff
Study Abroad Quality Funds Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Applicants to a study abroad program who demonstrate financial need.

$3,000 each

Recognizes a need to increase study abroad experiences among students with disabilities.

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2012 Study Abroad Quality Funds Scholars with Cindy Chalou & Staff
Athletes with Disabilities Network Scholarship

Eligibility: Undergraduate or Graduate student with physical or sensory disability engaged in competitive athletics or those pursing degrees in with emphasis on increasing athletic capabilities of people with physical or sensory disabilities

$1,875 for four students

To honor the exemplary achievements of persons with disabilities who overcome obstacles on the court, field, or water while displaying enthusiasm and perseverance.
“I owe so much to the RCPD for helping me understand my disabilities, learn to work with them, discover my strengths, and minimize my weaknesses.”

- Matthew Carbary, 2009 Decker-Muns Friendship Memorial Scholarship Recipient
  State of Michigan Student Employee of the Year

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Did you know...?

MSU was honored with a daVinci Award in 2001 for our innovative accessible pedestrian intersections.
Awards

Recognize those who have made a difference in accommodating or facilitating your MSU education. Nominate faculty, staff, alumni, or students from December through February on the RCPD website.

rcpd.msu.edu
We love Tom Izzo!

2007 Awards and Appreciation Reception keynote
Did you know…?

The first Sudoku puzzle was created by a blind Swiss physicist named Leonard Euler.
Hal Wochholz

- 2004 Arizona Rotarian of the Year for his work in the “End Polio Now” campaign
- Built a successful career as an aerospace and electrical engineer in major corporations
- MSU benefactor, establishing engineering scholarships and an RCPD endowment
- 1990 College of Engineering Claud R. Erickson Distinguished Alumni
- 2007 RCPD Outstanding Alumnus
Aaron Scheidies

- Former RCPD volunteer and MSU Triathlon Club president
- MSU Young Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient 2011
- Broke a world record in 2007 by becoming the only disabled athlete to break two hours in an international distance triathlon
- A four-time triathlon World Champion and five-time National Champion
- Aaron has 10% of the vision of a fully-sighted person
- 2004 Judy Gentile Award Recipient
- 2003 Samaritan Scholar
Brenda Flanagan

- Seeks to assist deaf students in obtaining education
- Returned to MSU at 50 (with the help of ASL interpreters) to complete a second Bachelor’s, now in Deaf Education
- Teaches at the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing
- 2010 RCPD Outstanding Alumna
Scott Durren

• Established a distinguished career as:
  – Program Coordinator for the Americans with Disabilities Act at various organizations
  – Wisconsin Representative to the National Organization on Disability

• Passed away in 2010 as a determined advocate for disability rights

• 1993 RCPD Outstanding Alumnus
Brian Black

- Applied his education and influence from the OPHS to produce a career of accessibility code work
- 2007 book on access codes is dedicated to the OPHS/RCPD
- 1998 RCPD Outstanding Alumnus
Jordan Levin

- 2011 RCPD Outstanding Alumnus
- Jordan Levin has overcome many obstacles in his life to become a:
  - fitness coach
  - motivational speaker
  - champion for overcoming our nation’s childhood obesity epidemic
- He is a certified physical trainer, owner of CrossFit Bloomfield
- President of the Jordan Levin Childhood Obesity Foundation
• 6% of registered RCPD students are members of the Honors College.

• 54% of RCPD students have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

• 27% of RCPD students have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher.

• 13% of RCPD students have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher.

*Data based on students enrolled during Fall semester 2012
[Your name here]

What will we say about you?
Make a difference.

rcpd.msu.edu
Adaptive sports

- Wheelchair tennis
- Wheelchair basketball
- SCUBA diving
- Beep baseball
- Demmer Center:
  - Shooting sports
  - Education
  - Training

Ask your specialist for more information.

rcpd.msu.edu
RCPD students participate in a full range of campus activities, clubs, and organizations.

Many registered RCPD students participate in athletic activities with nearly 5% of them representing MSU in varsity athletics.

*Data based on students enrolled during Fall semester 2012*
What's your story?

Over the years, individuals have shared with us the many ways that the RCPD has impacted their lives or that of someone they know.

Your words help us become even better as we strive to serve the MSU community. So tell us, what's your story?

Fill out our in-office form or visit rcpd.msu.edu.
CSD is a community of peers that support each other by promoting self-advocacy and social awareness through programs and social activities.

Join us for our weekly meetings on Tuesdays from 7-8 p.m. in 113 Bessey Hall.