

OCTOBER 2020

THE GUARDIAN

- Official Newsletter of MSU Tower Guard -

This Month in MSU History

10/6/1923 - Spartan Stadium opened

10/8/1974 - The original Zeke the Wonderdog was born

10/8/2005 - Dedication for the new Spartan Statue

10/11/1918 - Deadly influenza epidemic arrives on campus

10/19/1992 - MSU hosted the final debate of the 1992 Presidential campaign

10/21/1909 - Division of Veterinary Science established

10/23/1928 - Beaumont Tower cornerstone was laid

Birthdays

10/6 - Mandy Zuckerman

10/15 - Sabrina Timmerman

10/16 - Lyndsay Campbell

10/31 - Ava Jensen

10/31 - McKenna Adams

Welcome to Tower Guard

MICHAEL HUDSON, MSU RCPD DIRECTOR

I am excited to welcome you to a most honorable and time tested MSU tradition. Tower Guard is a pioneer advancing possibility at MSU and beyond. Aligned with MSU's land grant ideals, Tower Guard embodies purpose, community partnership, and service that creates a launchpad for personal and professional success. As Tower Guard, you will gain new insights, practice your skills as problem solvers, and meet others with diverse experiences. I recognize disabilities as natural parts of life and discovered that disabilities invite creativity and shared problem solving. Working together, we ultimately grow ambition into personal and professional success. (continued on pg. 2)



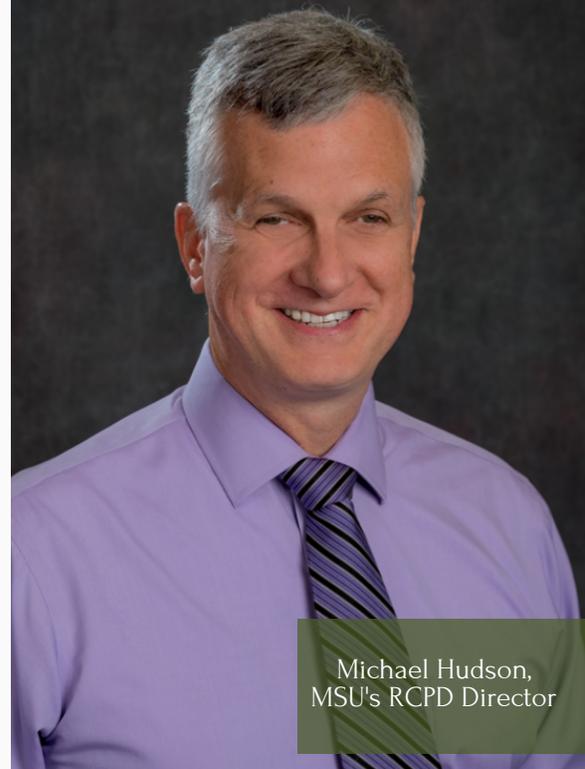
I know the value of Tower Guard efforts personally. As a child, I received a devastating diagnosis of impending blindness. Like nearly every disability diagnosis, it brought dread and an initial sense of profound limitation. In time, I realized that my life would be shaped by my disability, but my destiny was something I could affect. Meeting high achievers facing similar challenges, gaining essential skills, learning to find the possibility in tough situations, and building new friendships helped me redefine myself from victim to problem solver. Moving beyond expectations required an ability-based approach, education, and a network to realize my unique abilities. Your service through Tower Guard is deeply valued in resolving disability-centered challenges around reading, learning, and navigating campus. Your engagement accelerates successes for others while deepening your own skills and understanding.

The RCPD and Tower Guard welcome each person as uniquely equipped with talents, needs and aspirations. We work to connect students with quality academics through a vibrant community that helps each Spartan move toward extraordinary. I believe your year in Tower Guard will forever shape your awareness of what is possible as life inevitably challenges us each in novel ways. Disabilities are unexpected bumps in the road that can derail life dreams, or they can make us stronger when met with partnership, a possibility mindset, and awareness that nearly every challenge can be overcome through innovation and problem solving.

This year, Coronavirus is foremost in our minds as an unexpected hardship. Someday we will look back on this year as one that challenged us to think differently and to imagine new ways of making progress. Your MSU education is intent on helping you think divergently, gain technical skills and do so as part of a vibrant community. I cannot imagine a group more ready than Tower Guard to take on today's challenges, identify possibility, and build community that changes your outlook and our community for the future. Thank you for stepping up, growing these traditions, and building partnerships that help us come together as a community maximizing ability and opportunity.

"MSU is a place of opportunity that changes people's lives for the better. Spartans explore, discover and inspire. Here, we prepare talented students to go forth and transform our communities and our world."

PRESIDENT STANLEY
CURRENT MSU PRESIDENT



Michael Hudson,
MSU's RCPD Director