**RAH! RAH! RAH!**

The National Federation of the Blind of Michigan is presenting the College Prep Pep Rally.

When: November 8, 2019

Time: 1:00pm-4:00pm

Where: Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids Airport, 5700 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Phone: (616) 957-1770

The Prep Pep Rally will be a part of our National Federation of the Blind of Michigan 50th annual state convention. If you haven’t already registered or reserved a room, go to [www.nfbmi.org/convention](http://www.nfbmi.org/convention) .

Whether you would like to “Hail to the Victors” or “Crash Right Through that Line of Blue” or become a Bronco, Eagle or a Chip, you will need to get accepted to your college or university of choice as a student. If you are wondering what this process is like or how to compose that ever-important essay or wonder about your test scores, we have just the right Pep Rally for you!

We have arranged a power-packed list of world-class people who are uniquely able to provide you information about succeeding in college and the career of your choice.

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Among the interesting, informative and fun program items will be:

A motivating and rousing presentation from worldwide motivational speaker and accessibility consultant Buna Dahal. Buna is an entrepreneur who works with multi-national corporations, rehabilitation agencies and blind consumers.

*From her web page:*

Buna Dahal <https://www.espeakers.com/marketplace/profile/25018/bookmenow> is recognized as a global leader. She is a subject matter expert in employment and leadership. Working across cultural and economic boundaries Buna delivers competitive placement strategies which ensure success.. . this female inspirational speaker has instilled methods for consistent execution in organizations around the world. For the past 20 years these strategies have assured upward mobility for 95% of her clients.

As the newly appointed ambassador to the West Asia Region of the International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment,

Buna is a blind motivational speaker, Corporate consultant and philanthropist who promotes vision leadership combining personal leadership through community outreach.

**James Gashel**

<https://www.nfb.org/about-us/leadership/board-directors/james-gashel>

In his professional career of almost thirty-four years with the Federation, he held the positions of chief of the Washington office, director of governmental affairs, and executive director for strategic initiatives. Jim's Federation work has led to significant changes in virtually every law directly affecting blind Americans: the Social Security Act, the Rehabilitation Act, the Randolph-Sheppard Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Copyright Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the Help America Vote Act. In addition to championing these causes, Jim has won the love and respect of the thousands of blind men and women across America who have directly benefited from his informed and effective personal advocacy.

**Michael Hudson**

Michael Hudson serves as Director of the Michigan State University Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD). Michael is passionate about MSU's status as a global leader in higher education and maximizing opportunity for persons with disabilities. His intensive focus on ability, skill development, and organizational efficiency aids his quest for excellence despite his own blindness. Hudson exclaims,

"Disabilities need not limit achievement they merely mandate a greater level of creativity, commitment and a repertoire of compensatory techniques."

He leads an energized team of 20 professionals, countless volunteers and numerous project staff on a mission of maximizing ability and opportunity for over 2,700 students and employees with disabilities. Collaboration with campus and community partners solidifies his belief that, given the proper team, nearly any challenge can be overcome once identified and understood. In 2010 he was named MSU Outstanding Supervisor of the Year via staff nomination.

Members of the NFB of Michigan and the Bureau of services for blind persons will be on hand to help with details of accessing services to assist with your college experience. We feel confident that there will not be a more powerful and informed opportunity for you and your parents to learn the strategies and steps to the future.

You will think of your attendance of this event as a TOUCHDOWN! in your drive for the end zone and a victory to get into college and find that dream career.

COLLEGE PREP PEP RALLY

AGENDA

Friday November 8, 2019

 Pre-Game Poetry: Thoughts on The Future – Delacy Tart-Morgan

Career Kickoff – Mike Hudson, [Michael J. Hudson, Director](https://www.rcpd.msu.edu/about-rcpd/team-rcpd/michael-hudson)

[Michigan State University](http://www.msu.edu/) - [Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities](https://www.rcpd.msu.edu/)

, Angela Sebald Blind and Visually Impaired specialist)

From the Rose Bowl to the Super Bowl: Becoming a Superstar -- Buna Dahal [https://www.espeakers.com/marketplace/profile/25018/bookmenowCEO Dynamic Buna.com](https://www.espeakers.com/marketplace/profile/25018/bookmenowCEO%20Dynamic%20Buna.com)

Offense or Defense: How to Make the Big Plays – Jim Gashel, Secretary, National Federation of the Blind

Half Time – Half Time show – Tony Gebhart

Creating your Game Plan – Sit with some experienced coaches who will help you write your own playbook for a successful college experience leading to a championship career

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