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From the President: My Kind of Town

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My Kind of Town



When my family and I lived in Arkansas several years ago, we often traveled up to Chicago on long weekends. I especially enjoyed the city in the fall. From fall menus in restaurants to sporting events to festivals, there is something special about Chicago this time of year. It's particularly special for my wife, Jo, and me this year, because we get to call ourselves Chicago residents. We're even prouder to be Blue Demons.

These past months, I have enjoyed getting to know the DePaul community. The summer allowed me to become better acquainted with the university's administrative units and to plan for the year ahead. In September, I had the pleasure of welcoming new students on campus and witnessed them quickly adapt to university life. I also enjoyed meeting even

more members of the DePaul family during Alumni Weekend in October. And in only a couple of weeks, our men's basketball team will tip off its first game in the brand-new Wintrust Arena at McCormick Square. DePaul will officially hold home court in Chicago once again after a more than 30-year absence. Fall is a great season all around.

As I meet alumni, students, faculty and staff, I am constantly reminded of the dedication of our university community to DePaul's mission and values. Jo and I chose to join the DePaul community because of its Catholic and Vincentian mission.

DePaul's mission to serve the marginalized, including first-generation students, immigrants and the poor, spoke to us. Having grown up in the Philippines, we

know what it is like to leave your homeland and begin a new life in another. By earning scholarships to complete our studies in the United States, we experienced firsthand the transformational quality of higher education. I feel blessed to lead a university that is committed to offering students the same opportunity that higher education provided for me, and I am honored to serve as DePaul's 12th president.

I look forward to seeing you around Chicago this fall.

Gabriel Esteban

A. Gabriel Esteban, PhD