

INTRODUCTION

No catalog can do more than hint at the reality that it seeks to portray. Between the lines of this catalog, you will find not only a unique university, rooted in the twin traditions of the liberal arts and the Christian faith, but also a people led by a common hope and vision for the future.

In the more than 120 years since the founding of North Park, a world-class city has grown up around our academic village. Today we seek students eager to become leaders in an increasingly global and urban society. The city of Chicago, with its immense commercial, service, and cultural endowments, has been our address for over a century; today it is our laboratory.

Because we cherish our central identity as a residential, liberal arts university, we attempt only what we can do well. Excellence is what we ask of ourselves and what we seek in all of our varied academic and cocurricular programs.

Yet, at North Park excellence implies not only a deep tradition in the liberal arts and the Christian faith, but also a spirit of innovation, reaching out to serve and to learn from the dynamic community around us. Centers of cultural studies enrich the life of the campus and connect us to the diverse people of Chicago, whose roots extend around the globe. Graduate and special undergraduate programs bring adult, working professionals to the campus on evenings and weekends, enhancing the University's resources in the liberal arts, as well as specialized areas such as business, the health sciences, and education.

We are a Christian university, committed to relating faith in Jesus Christ to the aims of higher education. Ours is not a conformist environment; acceptance of diversity and ecumenicity is the spirit of our campus. Our door is open to students who recognize that education always implies values. In North Park's classrooms, you will find a full-time faculty of accomplished Christian teachers and scholars and, on our campus, a community of faith.

We invite your consideration of North Park—a special place with a history extending back over 120 years and a future expanding to meet the challenges of tomorrow. We are looking for men and women who long to grow in knowledge and faith, and who seek a sense of vocation through leadership and servanthood in a global society.