

Dear DePauw-Student-to-be!

Welcome to DePauw! This is David Dietz and Rachel Ardery and we will be your first-year mentors next year!

My name is David Dietz and I am from Indianapolis, Indiana and am majoring in Political Science. I am involved in many activities at DePauw including (but not limited to) Media Fellows, WGRE, College Democrats and the Greek community. I am very excited to meet you and do what I can to help make your transition to college a smooth one. If you are nervous, you can rest assured that everyone else is too! DePauw has been a fantastic place for me and I'm sure you'll find your college choice was a good one. DePauw was a very welcoming place to me and I am here to assist with that experience for you. Of course, college presents a new set of academic and social challenges. I will be available round-the-clock to help you deal with any challenges that come your way. I am very excited to meet you and I hope you are looking forward to your DePauw experience!

My name is Rachel Ardery, and I'm going to be a junior this fall. I will be spending my entire summer working at Camp Tecumseh in Brookston, Indiana with eight to ten year-olds, so I will be very ready to get back to school and meet you all! I'm an education studies major from Bloomington, Indiana. I've lived in Indiana my entire life, so DePauw isn't too far from home. I love my family. I have two younger sisters, one who is also going to be a first year student at DePauw in the fall! I love DePauw and anything involving it. I also love working with kids (hence the summer job). I am actually going to be studying abroad in London for the spring semester, so I am ready to make first semester a great one.

As your mentors, we hope you can come to us with any issue you might face throughout your first year of college. We want to be your greatest resources and someone that you can trust and talk to about any problems you are having, or just someone to hang out with. We are here to answer any questions, big or small, and want to see you succeed. Our biggest hope is that you are all able to find a balance between working hard in and outside the classroom, but you also learn to make time to build relationships with other people at DePauw. First semester of your first year of college is a huge transition, and we are here to make that transition as easy as possible.

DePauw is absolutely one of the greatest places in the world. It is such a positive atmosphere, and you will find that people are always smiling and willing to help you out with whatever you need. The social life is a blast, but we work really hard in class. You will have to study and put a lot of effort into your school work in order to do well, but the professors are always more than willing to assist you, if you ask.

Our biggest piece of advice before arriving at school in August is to come with a completely open mind. Never be afraid to try new things or to introduce yourself to someone. Remember that you are all in the same boat and that no one really knows each other, so don't hesitate to meet someone new. We are so excited for you guys. It's going to be a great year. Enjoy your summer, and we will see you in a couple months!

Rachel & David