

Dear First-Year Students,

Hey guys, I'm Brad Hilbrich, and I'll be your mentor for your first year here at DePauw. Consider yourselves lucky, because of all the cool, awesome people in the mentor program, you've been partnered with the coolest and most awesome guy in the group. Really, though, I'm not that conceited (and probably not that cool). But I'm so excited for you to begin your four years at DePauw. I know it will be a memorable experience and that soon you will be able to call this place home. The transition isn't easy by any means, but hopefully I'll be able to make the process as painless as possible. Hopefully, you can gather advice from me while I can supply you with the inside tips to thriving at DePauw. But the fact of the matter is that it's a two way street; I will no doubt learn more from you guys than you will from me.

Enough with the sentimentality, here's a little bit about me.

I'm from La Grange, Illinois, about 20 miles from Chicago. I played baseball here as a first year until I messed up my elbow, effectively ending my mediocre pitching career at DePauw. So I've found other interests, and being a mentor has certainly topped my list. For me, this summer is about as boring as it can get. I work as a camp counselor. At a rec center. Not exciting. So needless to say, I want to go back as soon as possible. At school, I'm a history major feverishly searching for a 2nd major to add to my list. Maybe anthropology, maybe sociology, maybe I should just get over myself and stick to one major. Other than that, there really isn't much else to me. You'll find out early on that I'm very sarcastic, but don't worry, I'm very easy to get along with.

Enjoy your summer and above all else, get excited. I know it's difficult to let go of living at home and high school friends, but trust me, you'll form friendships and bonds with people here that will last your entire life. So really, get excited. I'm enclosing contact info on the bottom of the page. Feel free to get in contact with me anytime (and I really mean it). If you have questions about moving, need advice on registration, or are in the Chicagoland area and want to hang out with somebody who's just as bored as you are, I'll be around and would love to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Brad Hilbrich, 2010

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