

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Loyola University Chicago Receives over 700 Applications from Hurricane Students**

**September 8, 2005, Chicago** Loyola University Chicago has received over 700 applications for admission by students who were displaced by Hurricane Katrina to attend the university this fall.

On September 8, 2005 Loyola announced that it would be welcoming students impacted by the hurricane as non-matriculating (visiting) students and then set up a fast-track process for placing them in classes. During Labor Day weekend, over 200 of Loyola's faculty, staff and current students volunteered to help in welcoming the hurricane students to campus, admitting them, registering them for classes, securing housing and other needs were met.

"Our priority at this point is getting the students enrolled and making them feel part of Loyola and Chicago communities. It is amazing what they have been through. We will do anything we can to help comfort them and make them feel at home here at Loyola," said Terry Richards, associate vice president, Enrollment Management, Loyola University Chicago.

To date, of the applications received, Loyola has received more than 700 application and enrolled more than 300 students. The graduate and law schools have received 114 applications and of that, the law school has admitted 27 and enrolled 21 students and there are 12 students enrolled in masters programs. Loyola continues to accept and register students through September 9, 2005.

In addition, over 100 alumni, faculty, staff and community members who have offered to help with housing needs. Becks and Barnes and Noble book stores and Aramark, Loyola's food service, are also ensuring that books and meal plans are being provided for. Over the weekend Loyola hosted shopping trips for students to get school supplies and other necessities; parents and neighbors dropped off baked goods and food for workers and students; and tours of campus and the neighborhoods were conducted for the families.

Father Michael Garanzini, President of Loyola University Chicago has been extremely touched by the outpouring of gratitude by families of the students arriving.

"From the first moment we started our research, your institution stood out from all the others. From the urgency displayed by all whom we spoke to on the phone, to the generosity of accepting the New Orleans students with no questions asked regarding tuition, scholarships, transcripts, etc. and finally the reception we received upon arriving in Chicago on Saturday," wrote Felipe E. Larcada, parent of one of the New Orleans students. "We are extremely grateful

for the leadership you have personally displayed and the position you have placed Loyola University Chicago in taking care of our kids.”

Loyola University Chicago is hosting a winter clothing drive for the hurricane students who do not own winter clothing and a special fund is being set up for those who wish to donate funds\* in support of the students. In addition, on Sunday, September 11, during the Mass of the Holy Spirit, Loyola will take a special collection in support of the relief efforts of Hurricane Katrina. The mass will take place at the Gentile Center on Loyola’s Lake Shore Campus at 4 p.m.

Interesting facts about Loyola University Chicago’s hurricane students:

- \* Three sets of twins
- \* Home institutions include, Loyola University New Orleans, Tulane, Xavier University, Dillard, University of New Orleans
- \* Reside in 15 states, including IL
- \* Reside in Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, Ecuador, Bolivia, Honduras, Belgium, Belize, Dominican Republic
- \* Students brought Mardi Gras beads as gifts
- \* Mini reunions took place between students who lost touch during hurricane

### **About Loyola University Chicago**

Committed to preparing people to lead extraordinary lives, Loyola University Chicago was founded in 1870 and is among the largest of the 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States. Loyola has a total enrollment of 14,000 students, which includes 8,500 undergraduates, hailing from all 50 states, as well as 82 foreign countries. The University has four campuses, three in the greater Chicago area and one in Rome, Italy. Loyola’s nine schools and colleges include: arts and sciences, business administration, education, graduate studies, law, medicine, nursing, professional studies and social work. Loyola offers 66 undergraduate majors, 59 master’s degrees and 36 doctoral degrees. Recognizing Loyola’s excellence in education, *U.S. News and World Report* has ranked Loyola consistently among the “top national universities” and “best values” in its annual publications. For more information, please visit our web site at [www.luc.edu](http://www.luc.edu).

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