DePaul University was founded in 1898, by the Congregation of the Mission (or Vincentian) society of apostolic life, which follows the inspiration and legacy of 17th century French priest St. Vincent de Paul. As an innovative Catholic, Vincentian university anchored in the global city of Chicago, DePaul supports the integral human development of its students. The university does so through its commitment to outstanding teaching, academic excellence, real world experience, community engagement, and systemic change.