



We will celebrate Labor Day on Monday. Some will go to the beach, some will barbecue with family and friends. If you are like my family, we spent decades of Labor Days on soccer fields with our kids, often in 100-plus-degree heat. (If this is you, I will hope for cooler temperatures!)

In addition to time with family and friends, as a nation, we set aside this day to honor the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. This weekend, I will specifically honor you, my colleagues, at Pepperdine. You are among the most gratifying, enriching, and influencing blessings in my life. It is impossible for me to fully recognize or express the impact you all have on my family and me. My associates across the schools, including my former

professors at Seaver and the School of Law; across all of our operational departments; those with whom I work on the Emergency Operations Committee; and my co-workers in the administration - you all inspire me, teach me, make me better. The effort and care you all manifest day after day toward achieving our mission heartens me.

The work we are doing together is meaningful. I believe it is sacred, and it is a work that can only be done together. In all of life's great endeavors, there are always others present - people who lean on one another to create something together that is greater than it ever could be through individual effort. And where the very best people are gathered, there develops something good, true, and beautiful; it makes one sense he or she is a part of something truly special. That exists here at Pepperdine; I feel its presence...because of you. On this Labor Day, I thank God for you.

Phil E. Phillips

Senior Vice President for Administration and Chief Administrative Officer
