

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

National Wheelchair Basketball Association Intercollegiate National Championships

It is my honor as interim president to welcome you and the National Wheelchair Basketball Association Intercollegiate National Championships to The University of Texas at Arlington, home of the national champion Movin' Mavs.

We are privileged to have you on our campus and proud of fostering an environment in which athletic success, scholarly pursuits and a steadfast commitment to accessibility and inclusivity can flourish. As Mavericks, we are especially proud of our adaptive sports programs and the tremendous success that our adaptive sport student-athletes enjoy on the court, in the classrooms and in their future careers.

Accessibility is not just about the physical environment, but also about creating a culture of acceptance, belonging and awareness, while providing services and programs that include all members of our UTA community. We see it as our job to develop Mavericks to the top level of their potential, and that drive is one factor fueling our long-term success in wheelchair basketball. Our Movin' Mavs team has won nine national championships, while the Lady Movin' Mavs have won two. (And we are hoping for another banner or two to raise this year as well.)

We have a history of success in adaptive sports. At last year's Paralympics in Tokyo, Team USA's women's wheelchair basketball team was one-third Maverick, with four current or former students on the roster. All told, there were at least 14 individuals with Maverick ties competing in Tokyo in wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, and adaptive track and field.

UT Arlington is a comprehensive Carnegie R-1 research, teaching and public service institution whose mission is the advancement of knowledge and the pursuit of excellence. The outstanding teams competing this week in the Collegiate National Championships obviously know a thing or two about the pursuit of excellence. I am sure you all will fit right in here in Maverick Country.

Congratulations to all the teams in this year's tournament-and go Mavs!

Sincerely,

Jeil Chim

Teik C. Lim, Ph.D. Interim President