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They Say There's Diversity at Fuller

How One Student Suggests We Take Advantage of the Cultural and Ethnic Diversity at Fuller

by Chandra Mallampalli, SOT Student

Becoming oriented to an ethnically diverse student body may be the greatest challenge for a Fuller student. Academic life makes it so easy to deprive ourselves of the blessing of cross-cultural exposure and relationships.

Can we all agree that there is something inherently good about ethnic diversity at a theological institution? Does that agree with our Christian intuitions or does it have to be defended? I transferred to Fuller because I wanted to study the Bible with a greater number of students of non-American descent. I wanted to compare and contrast my developing convictions with those of students from other cultural circumstances. The diversity of Fuller and the LA area does afford us this opportunity, but not without a willingness to invest time, initiate dialogue, and be challenged.

Most American colleges and graduate schools want diversity; it's a hot commodity. It's interesting to see, though, what actually happens in a school, like Fuller, which has arrived at some measure of diversity. Instead of functioning as the global community which they ought to be, students slide conveniently into social groupings having race as a common denominator, and they don't step out of them.

I don't object to the fact that there are various fellowships at Fuller which are based on ethnicity (Afro-American, Caucasian, Korean, Mandarin, South Asian, etc.) or that these groups become a primary support base to members. When individuals within these groups, however, are unwilling to participate in the larger community, this is, at best, laziness. There's a time to be cultural and a time to be global. At Fuller, we can and must experience both to be Biblical.

In spite of so much talk, today, about becoming Global or World Christians, many Fuller students find it difficult to envisage themselves benefitting substantially from cross-cultural involvement. They don’t view the cross-cultural dynamic as essential to their theological education or Christian Growth. Participation in the global community remains secondary to the immediate concerns of academic life and other responsibilities. So what’s the alternative? I offer these suggestions:

- Be open to having social needs met by members of other cultures; i.e., allowing these persons to become the “regulars” with whom we eat lunch, discuss classes and derive support.
- Engage in conversations which sensitize us to the struggles, ambitions and burdens of persons from diverse backgrounds.
- Why not visit a Thai, Afro-American or Messianic Church in the L. A. area? Experiencing worship as an ethnic minority may help us sift out the cultural baggage from our relation to God.
- Do not impose your own concept of sociability on persons of diverse backgrounds. They don’t offer the Dale Carnegie course in South India. A person’s decision not to smile or greet everyone he or she passes is not a sign of arrogance. It takes time and humble persistence to gain access into someone else’s mind and life.

By not becoming involved cross-culturally, we shortchange ourselves and undermine our highest purpose. We confess the Lordship of Jesus most powerfully by affirming and participating in His diverse Body. Isn’t that why we’re at Fuller?

Chapel Services

Tuesday, October 15 COMMUNITY PRAYER. Take time to pray for our community with a fellow staff or student, faculty member, or administrator. Let’s uphold our community in prayer with other community members. There is no group prayer this week.

Wednesday, October 16 COMMUNITY WORSHIP. Presbyterian Sanctuary, 10 a.m. We plan a meaningful and involving worship service that will include a sermon by our own Edward John Carnell Professor of Preaching, Ian Pitt-Watson. By special request his message will be “The Two Revelations.” All offices are closed and all are invited.

Thursday, October 17 SWM CHAPEL. Travis Auditorium, 10 a.m. The Fuller Community is invited to share in this chapel, with Cathy Schaller as our guest speaker.
Student Focus

Neuropsychologist Finds Fuller a Laboratory For Integration
by Norman Gordon, SOT Student

Brain research is nothing new to Polly Henninger, a native of Eagle Rock and an entering student at Fuller’s School of Psychology. Having taught at the university level and worked as a Post-Doctoral Fellow with Nobel Prize winner Dr. Robert Sperry, the man credited with the discovery of the left and right sides of the brain as independent functioning units, she has been on the cutting edge of psychologists’ understanding of how the two hemispheres inside our heads relate.

What, then, brought her to Fuller as a student? “I wanted to move forward in my profession,” says Henninger, “and doing [research] strictly on a scientific level, I knew I would never get very far.”

With science alone, she didn’t do too bad for herself. With a B.A. from Pomona College and a Ph.D. in education from the University of Toronto, she has spent the last decade with Dr. Sperry exploring ways in which the verbal, analytical side of the brain interacts with the nonverbal, perceptive side.

In analyzing how the two halves, even when separated, are still aware of each other and try to dominate or cooperate with each other, Henninger has brought a mound of psychologically loaded questions to the surface of her field of study: Are both halves independently conscious or is consciousness unified? How and to what extent does the right brain of the human develop beyond that of other animals? What environmental circumstances, if any, affect the domination of the left half over the right?

It is readily apparent to anyone who talks with her that she loves her research. But she is also eager to synthesize it with her Christian faith. Herein lies her frustration. Says Henninger: “Most people who want to talk about the brain don’t want to talk about God and most people who want to talk about God don’t want to talk about the brain.” In the academic circles into which her teaching career brought her—Pitzer College in Claremont and Brock University in Ontario, Canada—introducing religion into the confines of scientific research was taboo. Not only did her interest in integration ostracize her as a scholar, but she felt it obstructed the progress of her study: “I was getting desperate for a place where the entirety of my ideas could be worked on.”

Henninger, among other ambitions, would like to make church workers more aware of the psychological implications of what they do. When we ask parishioners to pray, to meditate, or to ‘trust God’ in their daily lives, she says, we are “asking them to release the suppression of the right hemisphere, the hemisphere in which I believe the pain of early childhood memories is stored preferentially.” This can be very therapeutic, but the clergy should know psychologically as well as spiritually what they are leading people into.

While studying at Fuller, Henninger will continue as a Visiting Associate under Dr. Sperry and as Associate Director of the Neuropsychological Services at the Center For Aging Resources (CFAR). She is at once glad and apprehensive about being here: “I’m really sure that God has brought me here and I really don’t know what’s going to happen next.” What is sure to happen, at least in the field of neuropsychology, is a greater integration of theology and psychology at Fuller this year.

Bridge-to-Sobriety

“Physician, Heal Thyself!”

As successful graduate students and ministry leaders we sometimes lose our focus and forget to look inside. For others of us it just seems too painful to deal with our emotional conflicts. It’s easier to help others than to search out and change ourselves. It is hard to model and share the peace, joy and righteousness of the Lord when our own experience of it is blocked by unresolved life experiences.

Bridge-to-Sobriety offers a 12-step spirituality workbook group for Fuller students, spouses and staff who want to work through life difficulties related to having lived in a dysfunctional family. Even when there wasn’t an alcoholic or addict in the home, many Christians experienced family situations that led to fear, low self-esteem, compulsions, depression, burnout, or their own chemical addictions. This group meets on Wednesdays from 5:10 to 6:50 p.m.

Bridge-to-Sobriety also provides information or referrals for those struggling with alcohol or drug problems. We also provide notice of training and experiences that we as helpers will need to function effectively.

Please contact either of the co-coordinators Mary Ann Bowman or Jim Johnson at 584-5322 if you have questions or need help. All contacts are strictly confidential.
Abundant Life...on a budget
by Thea W. Wilshire, Psycho PhD Student

The old jazz singer Auntie Maine once said, “Life is a banquet and most damned fools are starving to death.” This column is an attempt at student starvation prevention. As Fuller’s time demands and financial strains begin to take their toll, many of us find we must cut the “periphery” activities from our lives. Unfortunately, this often translates into fun and play getting the ax.

This column will hopefully reintroduce leisure to your “To Do” list. This will be attempted by highlighting free or relatively inexpensive activities, eateries, and not-to-be-missed locations in the Pasadena area. Also, special student discounts (on plays, travel, food, books, etc.) will be noted. To be true to my roots as a fourth generation Pasadenan, I will also try to point out events or things related to Pasadena history and our rich cultural traditions (yes, oh skeptic, I said “culture”). In no way do I even pretend to have the corner on living creatively on a poverty-level budget or knowing every back alley and prime spot of the city. So, any suggestions or guest columnists are exhuberantly welcomed. My PTS box is #1305.

To whet your appetite regarding future columns, here’s an appetizer list of topics that will be explored: how to be a local, 1 mile waterfalls, the Emperor’s New Clothes, jazz clubs and free concerts, affording to buy the books that are assigned, secluded study spots, beaches within an hours drive, prime picnic locales, holidays in the City of Roses, one hour mini-vacations, and a host of other things that make Pasadena “the crown of the valley.” Watch future SEMI editions for fun excuses to not study.

Video Ideas: A 49¢ Blessing
by John Prassas, SOT Student

If your budget’s low, but your hopes are high for some edifying home entertainment, let me recommend a video entitled, Saving Grace. It’s available for rent at Music Plus for pocket change. Theatrically released in 1985, the film stars Tom Conti as a Pope who mourns the loss of his contact with everyday life, until one day when he is accidentally locked out of the Vatican. He welcomes his temporary freedom, and embarks on a dramatic and heartwarming adventure into “hands-on ministry.” Saving Grace is a refreshing change of pace for those tired of church-bashing films, and a pleasant glimpse of “common touch” Christian ministry. You don’t have to be Catholic to appreciate this film.

Dining with Dan
by Dan Payne

Grandview Palace ****

Joined by Gary Crockett from the mailroom, Jim Doherty, Gloria Griffth and Patricia Owens from Media services, we trekked off to the Grandview Palace, for my first restaurant review. Located at the corner of California and Fair Oaks Ave, the Grandview offers Chinese fare at its best, with large, inexpensive portions. Service was a bit slow at first, but, once the waiter spotted me nibbling on the tablecloth, he sensed it was time to act. (Armed with forks and chopsticks, we looked dangerous!) Once the food was ordered it came out fast and hot. Gary rated the Beef and Broccoli a 9. Patricia and I ordered Shrimp in Lobster sauce, a succulent and creamy broth that also rates high on the charts. Meanwhile, Jim and Gloria loved the Chowmein so much Gloria took some home to her exotic, meat-eating plants from Tanzania.

By the way, their Combo Lunch Special goes for less than $6.00 and includes a main entree, lots of Fried Rice, an Eggroll and Won Tons. The meal also comes with a bowl of soup and hot tea.

Bob’s Book Briefs
by Bob Willian, Bookstore Manager

Paul King Jewett’s God, Creation & Revelation: A Neo-Evangelical Theology

When one thinks of a systematic theology one wonders about readability: Who is it written for? Who’ll benefit from it? Real, readable and relevant is perhaps the best way to describe this volume. Based on nearly forty years of study and teaching, and written from an evangelical, reformed viewpoint, Jewett has offered a general, systematic introduction to the doctrines of the Christian Church.

As the sub-title suggests, Jewett’s approach is neo-evangelical. It is neo-evangelical in the sense that Jewett’s theology is in the context of the scientific and social issues that confront the Church in the contemporary world.

A unique aspect of the book is the inclusion of eight sermons by Dr. Marguerite Schuster, a former student, now Pastor at Knox Presbyterian Church in Pasadena. The presence of these sermons reflect Jewett’s conviction that theology and preaching go hand in hand. Equally unique are Jewett’s addendums dealing with such subjects as theistic proofs, preaching and the hearing of scripture, and the use of language. The reader will find Jewett’s comments in language both provocative and challenging.

Complete with indexes on subjects, names and scripture references, as well as extensive footnotes; God, Creation & Revelation is a remarkable achievement. Dedicated to Edward John Carmell, Fuller’s second president, this book is truly the fruit of Paul Jewett’s service here at the seminary. Available (discounted, of course) at the Bookstore for all those fanatics who can never take a break from studying!

...things to do when you don’t feel like studying
Want to Join the Chapel Choir?
Sing to the Lord a marvelous song! What a great privilege is mine to be the new organist-choirmaster here at Fuller this year. The Choir rehearses Tuesdays at 3pm in Travis Auditorium to sing in Wednesdays 10 am Chapel. Please join us! We are on the lookout for instrumentalists so that we may add to our worship experience.—Dr. Janet Harms

Home-Made Holiday Food Gifts
This Holiday Season, surprise a loved-one or a friend with a box of delicious cookies, ham, or cheese. At the same time, help Madison House raise the quality of its care to the children of Fuller staff, faculty and students. Or you can make a bigger contribution by helping us sell these tasty treats. Order forms are available at the Catalyst and at Madison House, or call Cherry at 793-3827. The drive ends on October 28.

We’re Moving!
Housing will be relocating to the 483 E. Walnut building on October 11, 1991. This move is Fuller’s plan to provide better customer service and to utilize space more efficiently. The 483 E. Walnut building is located between the AM/PM on Walnut, next to Barrington Plumbing.

Our phone numbers are the same, 584-5445, 584-5447 and 584-5448. Please drop by towards the end of October to see our new place.

Housing will be closed on Friday October 11 to make the move. Please take care of housing business on Thursday, October 10. We hope to be up and running by Monday, October 14th. (P.S. If you don’t have anything to do on Saturday, come help us move!)

Divorce Recovery
Even with the best effort, sometimes marriages do not work out. Divorce can be a time of great pain and also a time of personal growth. Group therapy can be an effective way to face the pain and enhance personal growth as you hear how others have resolved problems and get input about your situation under the direction of a therapist. Ongoing divorce recovery groups at convenient times and with affordable fees are sponsored by FPFS.

An Evening with Dr. Thomas Szasz,
The Pasadena Area Psychological Association will be sponsoring “An Evening with Thomas Szasz, M.D.” on November 8 at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Szasz, a controversial psychiatrist, is the author of The Myth of Mental Illness. His presentation, followed by a question and answer period, will be held in the Travis Auditorium. Fee is $15 and seating is limited. For more information, contact Lee Lipsker, PhD, at (818)584-5562.

Library WILSONDISC Training
Do you need quick access to articles in religious studies? Through the technology of CD-ROM, Wilsondisc has condensed hours of bibliographic research into minutes. You will be able to access the information contained in Religion Index One, Religion Index Two, Research in Ministry, and the Index to Book Reviews in Religion through a computer search. Attend one of the training sessions offered every day but Wed. Sign up for the training on the library bulletin board.

Jewett Systematics Series
Complete lectures of Dr. Paul King Jewett’s Systematic Theology I, II, III series are available on audio cassette at Media Services. A limited number of tapes are available at reduced rates for students who ordinarily could not invest in this substantial resource. Please contact Media Services for details (located in McAlister Library Basement 2).

Upcoming Interview
Thursday, October 17, OC Intem’l (formerly Overseas Crusade). Come meet Fuller graduate Dean Carlson in the Garth to find out information about career opportunities with OC Int’l.

Attention Presbyterian Students:
Are you interested in receiving the Presbyterian Outlook? A complimentary subscription awaits you. Sign up at the office of Presbyterian Ministries (Carnell 101) by Oct. 14. The Outlook contains useful information about current events and issues in the Presbyterian church.
Leach/Bresee Boyz Enlighten Stoic Seminarians

Classes had begun. The first chapel service had come and gone. Rent was paid. One could claim that the Fall Quarter had already begun—NOT! That’s right: not until the tri-annual tradition of clean, sober party revelry at the Bresee House had commenced Friday, September 27th, could the quarter really get moving - for the singles at least!

Following an intimate evening with Classical Guitarist Jay Leach at Travis Auditorium, the campus heartbeat travelled across the 210 freeway to 1233 Bresee Avenue where the (in)famous Bresee House has for many years housed Fuller bachelors who never quite fraternized enough in college. Each quarter, they unofficially open up their estate to the young at heart Fullerites who are privileged to get a taste of the authentic koinonia that is shared throughout the year in this house.

This time, another crowd of such singles barged onto their makeshift dance floor around 9:30 PM. Sources say well over 100 students came through the doors over the course of the evening. The speakers blared Motown/50’s hits such as “Twist & Shout” and “I Feel Good” along with classic rave-ups like “That’s What I Like About You” custom-mixed for the occasion by Bresee alum John Foley.

“There was an aura of collective euphoria at this festival of matriculation as expressed through general merriment,” said Tony Jones, 2nd year SOT Bresee Boy, one of the five.

As alternative party activities, ping-pong, videos, and snacks kept the non-dancers occupied all the way up to the standard Bresee curfew hour, midnight, the hour at which neighbors make sure the music has stopped. It certainly did not stop the community-building atmosphere, though, as guests chatted and laughed on into the morning hours.

Most incoming students were convinced: this was not an occasion to miss. They’re already waiting for the date of the Winter Quarter Bresee party.

TGU Introduces “Dean’s Dialogue”
The Theological Graduate Union invites all students to the new “Dean’s Dialogue” on Thursday, October 24th in the Catalyst from 12 - 1 p.m.. This is the first of a series of forums in which students will be given the chance to meet face-to-face with our Dean and share ideas and concerns. Students are encouraged to bring their own lunch, any pressing concerns or questions, and discuss informally with him.

“Calling All Presbyterians!”
This first dialogue will feature an open discussion with Dr. Dymess and Rev. Daryl Fisher-Ogden, newly-appointed Director of Presbyterian Ministries, concerning our connection with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Come with an open mind and heart!

Discount Tickets to Disneyland
Tickets are available NOW for $19.25/person for a special “Disneyland College Nite Party” on Friday, November 22 from 8:00 PM to the wee hours! This night is especially reserved for college students and their guests. Includes admission, free parking, bands, shows, and dancing. Come to the ASC office with check or cash and sign up. Come soon!

I Scream, You Scream, We all Scream for....
You guessed it! The School of World Mission and the Theology Graduate Union are sponsoring that highly anticipated culinary treat you have all been waiting for. Ice cream—like, lots of it—will be served for SWM, SOT students, families, faculty, and staff on Thursday, October 17th, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. in the Garth. This event is absolutely free! And to top it all off, your fellowship time with the SWM and SOT communities will include a special show from “Jellybean, The Clown”. So bring the whole family and come SWiM with the crowd.

Attention All Asian American Students
Come and enjoy fellowship and conversation with students of various Asian backgrounds. The issues we discuss include: ethnic identity, spiritual growth, mentorship and calling. Do join us! Tuesdays 3:00 - 4:30 pm. Where? Finch 116. Questions? Call Sandee at (818) 281-5789, Melanie at 576-1865, Chandra at 795-1761, Tammy at 441-7972, or Grace at 440-9249.
Let's be honest. Sometimes the critical methods and scholarly mindsets of seminary don't exactly fan the flames of faith. There are times, in fact, when even the most stable and mature student maintains only a dim, flickering faith. In order to preempt this depressing condition, let me tell you about my recent birthday.

What does my birthday have to do with building your faith? Let me explain. You see, I've discovered that by looking back over my “history of faith,” I am able to distinguish God's “fingerprints” all over the place! In retrospect, it's easy to see that God is alive and well in my life. And by actively remembering God's supernatural deeds and spiritual lessons, I can look to the future with bold confidence. So, each year on my birthday, late at night, I sit and read my journal, recounting all that God has done from the year just ended. I find that this simple act literally stokes my faith! But of course, this practice isn't my original idea.

The faith-building attitude of remembrance I am recommending dates back to Moses, if not further. Remembering has always been a key component of spiritual life and leadership. Remember the Passover feast, now observed for more than 3,000 years? Remember Joshua, and the twelve stone memorial at the Jordan river? Remember the One who said, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me?”

We must tenaciously remember what God has done in history, in Jesus, in our lives, and in others we know, lest we forget, doubt, despair, and stumble. Throughout the Bible we find that those who forget soon doubt, then become fearful, rather than faithful.

Remember the twelve spies who surveyed the promised land (Num. 13-14)? They forgot the former miracles and assurances of God. Remember how a boatload of Jesus' disciples panicked one night in a storm (Mark 4:35-40)? They forgot the miracles they had seen, as soon as the waves started crashing down on them. After Jesus calmed the sea, He asked the men, “Why are you so timid? How is it you have no faith?”

To look forward in faith, we must look back in remembrance - to the cross and empty tomb, and to the events of our own lives. Like our ancient ancestors of faith, we must aggressively cling to what God has done. I urge you, therefore, to cultivate your own history of faith. Journal the things God is doing. (This can make you more sensitive to divine guidance and revelation, also.) Create memorials to God's deeds. Celebrate your salvation. Look back, dwell and reflect upon the miraculous things God has done in your life. Build your faith the old-fashioned way. Remember to remember!

Renovare: An Opportunity for Personal Spiritual Renewal

by David Packer
new MDiv student and Continuing Ed Staff Member

As a new student, excited to embark on a new journey in life, it is difficult to understand the burn-out and fatigue that I observe in returning students. Sure, they have experienced writing papers the length of War and Peace, have read more books than the average library could contain, and experienced finals that would give the Pillsbury Dough Boy indigestion. When I have asked about this extreme lack of motivation, the response is always, "Just wait, you'll see". Well, I think this syndrome may be a slight exaggeration, the likes of the story our parents all told us about walking miles to school each way, with both directions all uphill. Then again, maybe I'm just a bit on the naive side (ask me in a year or two).

The point is, there is an opportunity for these weary returning students (staff & faculty, too) to seek renewal, helping to refocus on our Lord, Jesus Christ, and for us new comers to start our seminary experience right. What could possibly meet such a diverse need? Another opportunity to learn, grow, commit and renew? Renovare, of course.

Renovare is a spiritual renewal conference which emphasizes five key areas: prayer, holiness, social justice, evangelism and empowerment by the Holy Spirit. The conference will take place from October 23 at the Lake Avenue Congregational Church. (That's about 6 blocks away for you really new students.)

Many noteworthy speakers will be presenting, including Jack Hayford, Lloyd Ogilvie, Richard Foster, and Fuller President, David Hubbard.

Fullerites of all varieties (students, staff, faculty, family, etc......sorry no pets) are highly encouraged to attend. To sweeten the deal, Fullerites can attend any morning, afternoon, or evening session for only $10, without the hassle of pre-registration. Scholarships will be available for volunteer van drivers.

So, I'll see you at Renovare...or I'll watch you walking uphill to school...either way have a good year. And smile.

For brochures and more information, contact Dave at the Continuing Education Office, 584-5338.
Financial Aid Updates...

BLACK NORTH AMERICAN & HISPANIC AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIPS: The Fund for Theological Education offers competitive scholarships for part-time or full time Hispanic or Black MDiv students with U.S. or Canadian who are ordained or official candidates for ordination. Interested students must have a 3.0 cum GPA. Nominations are due by November 10.

URBAN MINISTRY INTERNSHIPS 1992-93 FTE offers stipend support for year-long supervised internships in urban ministry located in the U.S. or Canada. To be eligible, students must be U.S. or Canadian citizens currently enrolled in the MDiv program and have completed at least two years of their program, but have not yet entered their final year of study. Following the year of internship, FTE will provide scholarship support for the student’s final year of study at Fuller. A 3.0 cum GPA is required and nominations are due by October 25.

WINTER LOANS PENDING If you are expecting a second loan check for the Winter Quarter, you will automatically be on the loans pending list. New loan applications must be submitted (and complete!) by October 15th to be included.

NEWCOMBE DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS These competitive fellowships support PhD Theology students whose dissertations focus on religious or ethical values. Applicants must have all pre-dissertation coursework completed by November 29, 1991. Forty awards of $12,000 will be made. Contact Financial Aid now for information.

IMPORTANT BORROWER INFORMATION Federal regulations specify that: 1) you must contact your lender within 10 days if you change your enrollment status, name, or address; 2) you may owe a refund to your Lender if you drop below half-time in a Quarter which is part of your loan period (so check with Fin. Aid before you drop classes); 3) Fuller must assess financial aid, including designated grants from outside sources, when loan checks arrive. If total aid received exceeds anticipated aid, any over-award must be returned to the Lender; 4) Fuller must return any unsigned loan check after 30 days.

Editorial:
The Dead Sea Scrolls In Captivity
by John D'Ella, CATS Student

The Dead Sea Scrolls are in the news. After almost 40 years of limited access, the Huntington Library here in Pasadena is making copies of the original texts available for any scholar with the proper credentials. Until now, only a select group of people were permitted to read and publish on the Scrolls, and the lifting of the restrictions has caused quite a stir. The Israeli Antiquities Authority, which seeks to control the use of artifacts belonging to Israel, has threatened the Huntington with legal action if they reverse their long-held policy. There is something unsettling about the whole mess.

A little background: The accepted story is that in 1947, Bedouin shepherds found the manuscripts accidentally after throwing rocks into a deserted cave in what is now the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Originally, the Jordanian government granted exclusive research rights to seven Western scholars. Israel took control of the documents after the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, and continued the existing arrangement. Only 30 to 40 scholars were ever included in the research agreement, and to date only 1/3 of the scrolls have made available in translation. The decision by the Huntington is in response to 40 years of complaints by scholars not included in the "Dead Sea Scrolls Cartel." Enough history.

Two things about this story make me uneasy. First, there is a part of me that is angry about the exclusivity of the research agreement. As a product of a society where relatively little is ever kept secret for long, and where freedom of thought is held to be an inalienable right, I’m shocked that respected scholars would censor such important religious writings. How did they ever manage to keep the Scrolls exclusive for 40 years? The United States couldn’t even do that with the Atomic Bomb. This makes it tempting to react as if this were a simple case of First Amendment rights; a breach of religious and intellectual freedom. But beyond the anger over this violation of my “right” to know, there is a nagging question. Why did these scholars work so hard to keep the Scrolls away from the rest of the world for so long? Was it academic arrogance—certainly not an unheard of motivation—or was it something else, something more troubling?

This second issue is harder—and more discomforting—to explain. What if the scholars found something that they’re afraid to let the world know? What if something we believe has been dramatically altered by these secret documents? Now before you call me crazy, know that I’m not trying to say that this is what’s happening with the Scrolls. But on the other hand, I will admit to a twinge of fear—the fear that comes from not knowing. As a product of American Evangelicalism I place a very high value on the truth of God’s revelation in Scripture, and when a small group of scholar-types withhold information which may have some bearing on that Scripture, I will admit to feeling a little fear.

Strangely, it is Scripture which often gives me comfort. And to tell you the truth, it’s not even always the content of Scripture that relieves my anxiety. Sometimes it’s just the fact that the Bible exists. Sometimes it’s just knowing that this whole faith isn’t locked in the invisible interior chambers of our hearts, but that there’s a part of it that is tangible and common and historical. We get to read it and argue over it and just carry it. We also have a responsibility to maintain it and update it. It was this responsibility that led courageous scholars to show us that Mark’s Gospel ended at 16:8, that the woman caught in adultery really wasn’t, and that Moses didn’t have horns after all. I need that assurance that we are free to do as much as we can in the way of sharpening and perfecting our Word of God, written. That’s where my uneasiness over the Dead Sea Scrolls comes from. I believe that their content will only strengthen our understanding of our faith in Christ, but I’ll rest easier when I know for sure.

When the decision is finally made to go ahead with making the Scrolls available, it will be based on the constitutional question or, slightly better, on some Western tradition of intellectual freedom and impartial inquiry. But that’s not the central issue. We must be able to read and interpret what is in the Scrolls, not because it is our constitutional right, but because as “people of the Book” we need to know what the Book said, before we can rest our lives on it and proclaim what it says.

ACCIDENTS! PASADENA COLLISION CENTER: One of the most advanced collision repair shops in Southern California specializes in unibody construction and professional color matching and painting. See us for free estimates and consultation for your insurance claims. We offer free loan cars and discounts for the Fuller community. Owned and operated by a Fuller graduate. 1560 E. Walnut Street, Pasadena 91106. (818)792-7605.

QUALITY DAYCARE in Christian home: Reasonable rates, part time or full time, enclosed play-yard, daily program, sensitive to the developmental and personal needs of the child, within walking distance of Fuller campus. For more information, call Lisa at (818)577-9482.

VACATION OPPORTUNITIES: Coupon good for 3 days/2nights lodging, including airfare for two, in LAS VEGAS- $75.00. Coupon for 4 days/ nights lodging in MAUI- $50.00. Call Cathy 791-3811.

QUALITY CLEAN AIR: Tired of the unhealthy effects of smog? Enjoy the freshness of air after the rain in your home. For information call Chuck Lehman at (818) 440-9618.

RESEARCH SUBJECTS NEEDED: Looking for individuals to participate in two hours of research. We will pay $20.00. Need individuals 40 or older. Call: Day (818)584-5510, Evenings (818)247-2826.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Would you like to make $20.00 an hour? Be a tutor. Contact Jonathan for more information at (213) 377-5734 or 381-6420.

This isn't an ad...I just had to try and fit it in somewhere, and this was the best place, so while it says "Advertising Page" it isn't REALLY the whole page...but actually, it doesn't matter, does it? - Editor.

SWM Internships Available

Interesting SWM Internship: Why not pray about the possibility of doing your internship in Mexico? Intercultural Theological Institute for Pastoral Studies in Mexico (ITIPS) offers a 3-12 month course of study in contextual and experiential theology for seminary students preparing for church ministries. Through a combination of formal and non-formal educational experiences, students are prepared for ministry. Designed to complement regular seminary studies and to obtain credit therein, ITIPS offers the opportunity to reflect theologically from outside one's own cultural setting, specifically from the culture of poverty in the two-thirds world. For more information, talk to Paul Pierson, School of World Mission (x5264), or pick up a brochure at his office or in field education.

Overseas Opportunities: Global Mission Unit of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is recruiting applicants for faculty missionary positions and one Director of Theological Education by Extension (TEE) position in various parts of the world (Guatemala, Korea, Philippines, Taiwan). See Career Services or Nancy in the School for World Mission office for more information. Appointments begin June 1st, 1992.—Paul E. Pierson.