The Semi (01-22-1996)

Fuller Theological Seminary

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At the Day of Prayer in October, Bill Pannell spoke of divisions in many churches over styles of worship, especially preferences for traditional hymns versus praise choruses. The nervous laughter his remarks occasioned would have indicated to anyone who did not already know it that there is such a division at Fuller as well. My aesthetic tastes run to traditional hymnody, yet I am writing in support of the choruses.

Oxford philosopher J.L. Austin called attention to the manifold uses of language. Besides stating facts, we do countless other things with language: we make promises, we rebuke, we confess, we forgive, we thank, we tell jokes.

Each of these speech acts can either go well (Austin calls these ‘happy’ speech acts) or it can fail in any variety of ways. For example, an act of expressing thanks can fail if the person I’m supposed to be thanking never gets the message, say, if I’m speaking English to someone who speaks only Korean. An act can fail if it does not conform to proper conventions; if, for example, my grandfather responded when asked if he appreciated a meal, “Well, I ate it, didn’t I?” An act can also fail if it’s wrong about the facts. Suppose I thank you for the book you sent me on my birthday, but you were the one who sent the flowers. Finally, there is a psychological condition: it can fail if the speaker’s attitudes are not suited to the act; if, for example, I say ‘thank you’ but feel no gratitude.

An important question to ask is, what are the speech acts that are constitutive of the life of the people of God? Our Day of Prayer involved many of the most important. Reconciliation is a complex action that ordinarily involves a series of speech acts: reproach by one who has been injured; apology by the offender; an act of forgiveness; acceptance of forgiveness.

In our personal and communal relations with God we are expected to engage in a variety of speech acts. We confess our sins; we commit ourselves to follow Jesus; we ask for what we need; we thank God for blessings received; and we are commanded to praise God.

I suspect that the popularity of praise choruses is a response to a deeply-felt hunger to obey this command. I am often left hungry after a typical ‘worship’ service. In the Catholic Mass, where my expectations for public worship were formed, a significant percentage of the words spoken are spoken to God (as opposed to words addressed to the congregation). Among those prayers, much of it is praise: “Glory to God in the highest...” “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power...”
"The trouble with you, Beth, is that you've become green."

Alarm mingled with confusion in Beth's eyes as she quickly replied, "Green?! What do you mean, green? Explain." She inspected her hands and arms as she spoke, as if to discover mold or some weird foreign scum.

Our young friend had just returned from a year of short-term missionary service in Mexico. We were meeting in her parents' home to hear her excited report. She had lived with a Mexican family, helped out in a small local church and, as much as possible, entered into the life and language of another culture. It had been a good year.

Now she was home, yet finding herself not 'at home.' In the rush of language as she told us her feelings and adventures, she occasionally stopped to grope for the right word—able to say it only in Spanish. Her two worlds had not yet clearly sorted themselves out.

"Does this ever happen to you?" she had asked us. It was then that I pointed out to Beth her new color.

I went on to explain: "All your life you've grown up blue. You live in a blue neighborhood, you went to a blue school, you ate blue food—and you spoke fluent Blue. Although there are many shades of blue, you all recognized each other as being at least on the same end of the prism. Acting blue has always been second nature."

"Until last year. You went to a place where everyone spoke, ate, thought, gestured, joked, and acted in yellow. And little by little you began to see the beauty of yellow. You even began speaking Yellow. But, although you felt more and more comfortable in your new world, you never really became one of them, did you? You changed, but you never became completely yellow."

Beth shook her head and smiled wistfully.

"And now you've come home to discover that, not only are you not yellow, you're no longer blue either!"

"Oh, no! Beth exclaimed, beginning to see my point. "So who am I now, anyway?"

"You're green."

"Great. Just what I always wanted."

"Wait a minute, Beth. Being green's OK. It's what happens when blue and yellow blend."

"Ohhhh." Dawning light brought a smile. Maybe it wasn't so bad after all.

It's true. Those of us who have worked cross-culturally in God's kingdom are changed by the experience. And change isn't always comfortable. As Kermit the Frog once sang, "It isn't easy being green." I recall many times during our 18 years of service in Bolivia being wrenched by the realization that, no matter how much I loved these people, identified with them, worked alongside them, I would always be different. This wild, wonderful, wacky country I had grown to love would never really be home.

And then came the painful and surprising discovery that "home" wasn't home either. So where did we belong?

I've absorbed much of Bolivia. My goal-oriented, clock-watching self has put on more people-centered hues. I've learned to move more slowly, enjoy afternoon tea, "waste" more time just conversing. I've become more comfortable letting meetings start when people arrive and end when we're through.

Continued on page 5
Kudos to all those involved in the library updating. Now I can proudly show visiting friends our extensive campus and library resources without needing to shamefully explain why we are still using card catalogs (I’m not sure that my friends believed that we found them in the Qumran caves and that they are of great archeological significance).

Since Fall quarter, Fuller has taken two big steps forward—the trial run of FISH (Internet access), and the upgrading of the library. Hooray! However, there are at least two more big steps Fuller needs to take. The first step would be offering training for our current technology. Thankfully, the library has promised training in its new features. Hooray! However, I suspect that students and staff will learn only that which is immediately recognized as useful—such as looking up a book or article—and miss out on some of the more powerful features—such as connecting to other libraries or downloading search results.

Now, I don’t think it’s a sin, but I have been amazed at the technological illiteracy of many students and faculty. I can understand not knowing how to perform certain tasks, but many do not even know what computers can do. For example, one faculty member manually re-typed a composite writing project rather than collecting the work on disks and simply joining them together. Several hours could have been saved if this person even knew what was possible. I see no reason for our systemic ignorance. Therefore, I encourage Fuller to take another step forward and commit to educating students and staff in technology. Practical, as well as ethical, issues surround the realities of electronic research, communication, and cyberspace. Let’s not fail to offer Christian leadership in our changing world.

Secondly, Fuller needs to support a graduate-level computer lab. As ASC Lab Coordinator, I’m the first to admit our current lab is meager, and barely worth the $20/quarter fee, but until the administration offers finances and resources, there is little we can do alone. In a brief telephone survey with 6 educational institutions, Fuller is at the bottom, followed only by San Francisco Theological Seminary, which has no lab whatsoever. Azusa Pacific, Dallas Seminary, and Pasadena City College all have administratively-run and financed computer facilities with multiple computing platforms, and free (or nearly free) printing capabilities. Even the Pasadena Unified School District offers computer capabilities to its elementary, Jr. High, and Sr. High students. I know times are tough financially, but Fuller is full of well-connected and visionary leaders. All I ask is that these issues be taken seriously and a plan of action implemented. As future leaders in our world, we have a responsibility to be in the mix.

With Hope,
Dave Zovak
ASC Computer Lab Coordinator

ASC Announcements

© BLOOD IS SPILLED WHEN ACCIDENTS HAPPEN. We have all seen bloody accidents on the freeway, street, athletic field, and in the home. Injured people are in need of blood transfusions. The American Red Cross is in need of blood donors. L.A. imports over 60% of its blood for transfusions. (And seminarian blood may be more safe than blood from the rest of L.A.) The ASC is sponsoring the Fuller Winter Blood Drive on Monday, January 29 from 11:00 am until 4:15 pm in Payton 101. Please sign up to give blood on that day. You can sign up for a time slot in the ASC office with Meg O’Brien, or call, at 584-5452. You may also give blood without signing up - just drop by Payton 101 on January 29. Please take this short amount of time to save a life!

© SPORTS - Intramural volleyball and basketball teams have been picked and the season will begin on January 12 & 13. Basketball will be played on Fridays from 10:00 - 3:00, with the court being reserved for women from 12:00 - 1:00. Volleyball will be played on Saturdays from 11:30 - 2:30. Check the sports board in the northeast corner of the Garth for the teams and weekly schedule. Both sports are played at Pasadena Presbyterian Church, located just south of Fuller campus on the corner of Oakland and Union. You can still sign up by leaving a message for Jay at the ASC office. C-you on the court!
and might; heaven and earth are filled with your glory..."

A typical service in my current denomination includes a brief invocation, confession, offertory prayer, and petitioner prayers. Few of our words are addressed to God at all, and none of them is an act of praise. The hymnal has a hefty section of hymns of praise, but we do not always sing even one of them. So no wonder there is a hunger to perform the speech act of praise.

Consider how typical praise choruses fulfill the conditions for a 'happy' act of praise. First, they are generally addressed to God, so there is a speaker and hearer with a shared language. They take conventional forms of praise that we have learned from the Bible. They accurately represent the facts when they describe God's attributes and deeds. But most important, they are designed so that the psychological condition can be fulfilled. Proper praise requires that we mean what we say, and there are certain emotional or attitudinal states that must be involved for us to 'happily' praise God. Much as I love many of the complex hymns in the hymnal, it is not generally possible for me to actually mean what I am singing. The poetic license taken with word order often means that I am not sure of what I am saying until the entire verse has ended.

The poetic licenses taken with word order [in hymns] means that I am often not sure of what I am saying until the entire verse has ended...

My attention is taken up with trying to get the melody right.

Praise choruses have the advantage, both in their simplicity and in the repetition, that it is possible to know exactly what one is saying when singing them. The facial expressions and bodily postures of those with whom we worship make the attitude of praise and worship contagious. We catch the proper mood from one another. If the goal is to bring ourselves into the proper state of mind and heart for proper praise of God, it would be hard to invent a more suitable kind of song or setting for singing it.

Now, I have used speech-act theory to commend praise choruses, but it can also be used to criticize. If it is communal worship, then the pronouns used in the songs should be 'we' and 'us,' not 'I' and 'me.' We need to be sure that the features we praise accurately represent the God of Jesus Christ, the Lamb that was slain, and not some other kind of god. Finally, the greatest danger is that worship leaders, influenced too much by the entertainment industry, will forget what kind of speech act they are leading, and subtly change the worshipers into an audience, the praise into a performance.

Summary:

1. Typical service in my current denomination includes brief invocation, confession, offertory prayer, and petitioner prayers.
2. Hymnals have a hefty section of hymns of praise, but we do not always sing them.
3. Typical praise choruses fulfill the conditions for a 'happy' act of praise.
4. Proper praise requires that we mean what we say, and there are certain emotional or attitudinal states that must be involved.
5. The facial expressions and bodily postures of those with whom we worship make the attitude of praise and worship contagious.
6. Speech-act theory can be used to commend praise choruses.

FINANCIAL AID

Stop by the Financial Aid Office for application and information about the following scholarship opportunities.

- Jonathan M. Daniels Memorial Fellowship Awards: This fellowship is awarded to students who will be directly engaged in some area of social concern such as civil rights, fair housing, community organization, or environmental issues. Deadline: 2/15/96. Application is lengthy.
- Georgia Harkness Scholarship: For United Methodist women over the age of 35.
- Presbyterian Church (USA) Grants and Loans: For PC(USA) students. Applications are now available for grants and loans. Deadline (to be turned in to the Financial Aid office): 1/26/96.
- Rotary International Ambassador Scholarships: For students who want to study abroad. Deadline (to be turned in to the Financial Aid Office): 2/1/96.

Current information can also be found on the Financial Aid Board adjacent to the mail center.
But I’m still North American and proud of my heritage. I appreciate my education, love my family, and have a storehouse of warm memories of my rural upbringing. I still get chills when I sing “America the Beautiful.”

So who am I? Where is home? Is there a place I belong? Although these questions continue to surface, my husband and I have learned to cultivate a strong sense of family as home—and an inner knowing that God’s will (which for us happens to be rather mobile) and His living presence provide our belonging-place.

We’ve raised two green children who, despite the discomforts of being different, wouldn’t trade their experiences for anything. Our daughter and her husband are currently teaching in Korea, and we don’t know yet what color she’ll be when she returns—just that it will be beautiful. Our son and his wife are preparing for missionary service in Rwanda.

So yes, Beth, being green has its advantages. You now have the richness of being able to look at life through a much wider window. You’ve experienced more points of view, colors, flavors, accents, and rhythms than you ever would just staying in your blue world. You probably have a clearer perspective of what’s valuable and what’s expendable. Hopefully you’ve learned to travel lightly. That will serve you well.

We green people also have the ability to identify with a certain reality. Scripture teaches that our real situation in this world, as children of the kingdom, is as pilgrims and sojourners. “Aliens,” Peter calls us (1 Pe. 1:17, 2:11; cf. Heb. 11:13). Apparently we’re not supposed to get too attached. Green people find comfort in this—and they can certainly identify with it.

The longing for belonging won’t go away, because God put it there. It’s not a cruel joke. Someday we will belong. We will find our home and discover it to be peopled by blues and yellows and greens and purples and browns—a rainbow glory gathered around the Father of Lights, the Creator of all this color and diversity. He’s the reason we go out into the colored world today.

Meanwhile, enjoy the journey—accepting the discomforts as well as the joys of this colorful process. Being green may not be easy...but it’s good.

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CHAPEL news

All-Seminary Chapel

This Wednesday, January 24, our speaker is Daryl Fisher-Ogden, Director of the Office of Presbyterian Ministries. We gather for the Wednesday Chapel at 10 am at the First Congregational Church. There will be a brief time of fellowship following chapel.

On Thursday, January 25, Dr. Julie Gorman, Associate Professor of Christian Formation and Discipleship, will be sharing a message after a time of praise and worship led by the Chapel Worship Team. The Thursday All-Seminary Chapel meets in Travis Auditorium at 10 am.

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DENOMINATIONAL

The following denominations will be meeting on Monday mornings at 10:00 am, with exceptions where noted. This time is set aside for you for worship, for support, to network, and to connect with denominational issues.

American Baptist
Psych Bldg. 116

Assemblies of God
Psych Bldg. 311

Episcopal Church
(Thursday Lunch)
Garth

Evangelical Covenant
CFD Learning Center - 465 Ford Pl.

Friends
Stephan Hall 207

Lutherans
Library 203

Messianic Jews
Glasser Hall - Second floor

Post-Denominational
and Foursquare
Psych Bldg. 314

Presbyterian Church (USA)
Travis Auditorium

Reformed Church in Am./CRC
Psych Bldg. 120

Roman Catholic
Library 205

Seventh Day Adventist
Library 204

United Methodist Church
Psych Bldg. 130

Vineyard
Payton 302

Note: If your denomination is not meeting at this time and you are interested in starting a group and/or connecting with others of your denomination, please come by the Office of Denominational Relations, located 2nd floor of Carnell Hall (behind the Catalyst) or call 584-5387.

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“Loving Others”

Our OCC articles this quarter are focusing on “love”. As I think about love, and how hard it is to actually put into practice every day, I am compelled to share with you something that God has been showing me in this area of my life.

Fall 1994 was my first quarter here, and there were many transitions in my life. Because of this, my spiritual life was also very unstable, and my times with God were very dry and dead. Since my life has become more settled this year, I have also been able to spend more time with God, realizing how my emotions had been shut off last year. And because of my aloneness and confusion, I had been harboring a lot of anger and mistrust toward God.

As I have started “coming back to God” this past quarter, asking Him for renewal in my relationship with Him, and even telling Him that I’m not sure who He is anymore and if I even trust Him, only then have I been able to see that there is so little of God that I actually know and believe. It took these transitions in my life to show me that most of my securities before were my surroundings (friends, ministries, etc.), and that I have much more to learn about getting to know and depending on God Himself. In the Psalms it says that our God is full of compassion and abounding in love for us, but do we really believe that? Do we believe that God cheers us on as we take on new challenges in our life? Do we really know that He will provide for our every need here at Seminary?

I say all of this because I believe that the only way we can truly love others is to continue KNOWING God’s love for us. You may be confused about your relationship with God right now because of all of the different ideas you are learning in your classes. You may be angry at God right now, feeling like He doesn’t really care about your life. You may not feel anything because you are so hurt that you are numb. Before you can focus on “loving the world”, I encourage you to allow God to love you.

As I have gotten back in fellowship with other Christians and shared my hurts and struggles with them, I have been able to express these things to God also. I have continued to bring my brokenness to Him, even if it’s every time I pray. I am definitely not “fixed”, but God is renewing my relationship with Him and showing me that He is faithful. And through this honesty, I feel more able to love other people. It’s not a “mushy” kind of love, but one that relates to their brokenness and relays to them a God that is patient and kind.

I encourage you to do everything you can to go to God and renew any severed parts of your relationship with Him. There is nothing more important you can do in your time at seminary to prepare you for the work of “loving others”.

Cheryl Teeter
Program Assistant, OCC

Winter Opportunities

❖ Art Contest - We are looking for artwork to brighten up the covers of the Lenten Devotional and the OCC Overall Brochure. We invite all artists and creative minds to submit any ideas to our office - the prizes for each will be gift certificates to the Fuller Bookstore or Higher Grounds (your choice). Give us a call for more information - we’ll give you more details.

❖ Genesis Journeys - This is a program offered through the OCC which seeks to foster and develop community in the context of the outdoor environment. The idea for Genesis Journeys grew out of the need to bring Fuller’s Pre-Sem program “closer to home” and to give Fuller students an opportunity to experience community in creation. If you are interested in taking an already formed small group on a day retreat or want to become a part of a group for the day, the first opportunity will be January 25th and 26th. An experienced group leader will facilitate the time, so all you have to do is show up and be encouraged. Call the Office of Christian Community if you are interested.

Resources

❖ The Magic & Mystery of Sex is a four part video series facilitated by respected psychologist and Fuller Trustee Cliff Penner and Joyce Penner. For those of you who wanted to go the the Gift of Sex seminar but weren’t able, be sure to watch these videos. The series is available for free check out from OCC.

The Office of Christian Community may be reached at (818) 584-5322, or FTS Box 243, and is located on the second floor of the Catalyst building.
**Women’s Retreat!**

Don’t forget to turn in your registration for the Women’s Retreat! On **January 26 and 27** we will gather at St. Peter’s-by-the-Sea church for fellowship, fun, worship, and a presentation by Jill Harkema. Bring your registration to the Office of Women’s Concerns, 2nd floor above the Catalyst.

**Low-Fee Individual Therapy**

Offered by the School of Psychology, beginning February, 1996. The psychotherapy is appropriate for those experiencing anxiety, depression, relationship difficulty, life-changing adjustments and personal growth. Fifteen sessions provided for $50.00. Therapists are students enrolled in Ph.D. or Psy.D. programs in Clinical Psychology. For further information, call 584-5555.

**Disneyland for Only $22.50!**

Get into Disneyland for only $22.50! Epworth Christian Preschool is participating in Disneyland’s “School Spirit Days.” Epworth receives a $3 donation for every admission passport purchased through their school. Come by the OSS office (Kreyssler Hall, 2nd floor) today and pick up an order form. Offer good from ‘til Feb. 29.

**Artist Salon - Date Change!**

The Artist Salon, previously announced to be held on Friday, Jan. 19, has been rescheduled to **Friday, January 26, from 7-9 pm** at Higher Grounds. Guest artists will share and answer questions about their artistic and spiritual journeys. They will show their work and everyone attending is invited to bring examples of their own work. Sponsored by the Arts Concerns Committee.

**Summer Employment**

Great summer employment opportunity at Mt. Hermon. Interviews will be conducted on **January 31, between 10 am - 12 noon**. A sign-up sheet is located in the lobby of Carnell Hall. For more information, contact Eva Peters at 584-5576.

**Couples’ Enrichment**

Join our 6 week group for couples’ enrichment starting on **January 10th, from 7-8 pm**. The cost is only $35/couple/session. Call FPFS at 584-5555 to reserve your spot to improve your communication patterns, increase the level of intimacy in your relationship, and other information to enrich your marriage.

**Ministry Enrichment Seminar**

Dr. Laura Robinson, a psychologist, pastor and pastor’s spouse, will speak on **Transference and Sexuality in Ministry** on **Wed, Jan. 24, 3-4:30 pm** in Payton 101. She will explore the psycho-dynamics between minister and church members and suggest effective personal and congregational strategies. For more information, contact the Field Ed Office, 584-5377.

**GARY GREENWALD, pastor of “Eagle’s Nest,” to visit**

A fresh wind of the Spirit of God is renewing the Church. We are pleased to announce that a local pastor, whose church is experiencing this fresh touch, will be on campus **February 2 at 7 pm** in Payton 101.

Pastor Gary Greenwald is the founding pastor of the “Eagle’s Nest,” located in Irvine. He adds a humble heart, humor, and dynamic preaching to his prophetic ministry and a powerful healing anointing.

Come and be refreshed and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Sponsored by the Post-Denominational Network, 440-1317.

**Biblical Archaeology Meeting**

Hear Dr. Bill Fulco, S.J., of Loyola Marymount and USC, speak on ancient artifacts as a key to the biblical past at the next meeting of the Biblical Archaeology Society. The meeting will be held on **Feb 2, 7:30 pm**, at the Glendale Federal Bank Community Room, at 100 S. First St. in Arcadia. For more information, call 818-338-7700.

**PRAY FOR MUSLIMS!**

Don’t just study Islam... pray for Muslims! Join us Sundays at 7 pm at 47 N. Craig Ave. #4, Pasadena. For info call Gail Schlosser 683-8685.

**John Wimber Sermon Series**

There will be a special sermon series at the Anaheim Vineyard Christian Fellowship, given by John Wimber. He will be teaching on kingdom power using notes from his lectures on Signs and Wonders and Church Growth. The series will take place on Sunday evenings at 6 pm, at the Anaheim Vineyard, 5430 E. La Palma Ave. Anaheim. Call 714-777-4777 for more details.

**Now you can dictate directly into your computer!**

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Come see (and hear) for yourself, anytime between 3:30 - 5:30 pm, Monday, Jan. 29 at the Faculty Common Room

Sponsored by the Bookstore and DiVersaTek Computer Systems
This section of the SEMI is for the announcement of events or services not directly offered by a Fuller office or organization. For information about rates, contact the Office of Student Services at 584-5430. Note: Each person is responsible for checking on the quality and type of service before contracting or using it. The SEMI and Office of Student Services do not personally recommend or guarantee any of the services listed.

Auto Repair: SMOG CHECKS, tune-ups, oil change, brakes, batteries, etc. Complete service. Hrant Auto Service, 1477 E. Washington Blvd., Pasadena. 798-4064. Call for an appointment.

Monrovia Apartment Value: Extra large 2 bedroom, lots of closet space, private patio, pool, laundry room, A/C, cable, parking. $675/mth. 15 minutes to Fuller. Good area. Call Pat at 818-792-6732.

For Rent: Beautiful Psychotherapy Office in well-appointed Pasadena office building available for full-time or part-time sublease. If interested call B. Marshall 818-796-9028.


Christians need cars too! SIDCO Auto Brokers serves Christian Colleges, Missions, Staff/Students/Alumni. This is our 10th year serving the Christian community. Fuller Hotline 909-949-2778 or 1-800-429-KARS. “A good name is chosen rather than riches.” - Proverbs 22:1

For Rent: Vacation Get-Away at the Harmony House. 4 bedroom retreat center (sleeps 10-12) in beautiful Lake Arrowhead. $295/weekends, $650/week. Call Dr. Janet Harms 909-394-9990 (Fuller choir director) for brochure and reservations.

English Language Tutoring: Fuller graduate currently teaching ESL offers tutoring in English conversation reading, writing, and listening skills. Contact Deborah at 818-914-9695.

Play the Drums: Have you ever wanted to play the drums? Now is your chance. All styles are offered: rock, classical, modern jazz, swing, funk, waltz, and some Latin beats. Call Mike at 818-792-8603.

Fast Fundraiser - Raise $500 in 5 days - Greeks, groups, clubs, motivated individuals. Fast, easy - No financial obligation. 800-862-1982, ext. 33.

Mountain Retreat: Beautiful country-style cabin (2 bedrooms, sleeps 6-8), located in the Big Bear area, available to churches and the Fuller community. $125 weekends; $45 weekdays; $275 per week. Call John Hull (D. Min. office), 818-584-5312.

Telephone Service: Installation for home or business, telephone lines or systems. Call for free estimate. Carlo, 818-543-7417.

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IT'S TIME TO SPRING BACK INTO REGISTRATION!

TIME TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISOR IMMEDIATELY!

School of Theology Advisors will be seeing returning students these weeks:

A - L: January 29 - February 2
M - Z: February 5 - 9

Remember: if you don't schedule an in-person or phone-in appointment in advance, you may not be able to have your class request card signed in time for your registration priority time!

To make appointments, call 584-5425 between 8AM AND 5PM, or come to Stephen Hall