



# The Flame

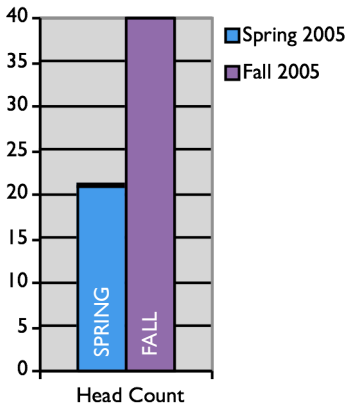
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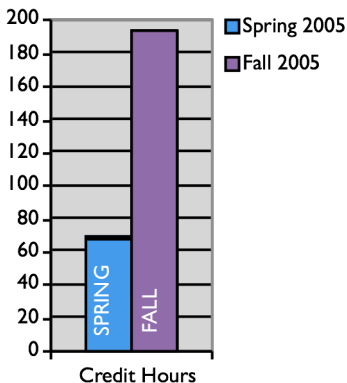
## Fall Enrollment Skyrockets

Great news! This fall semester Urbana Seminary took a giant step forward as the number of students enrolling in classes doubled. Our head count of total graduate students jumped from 21 to 40, the number of full-time graduate students jumped from 1 to 7, and as a result the number of graduate credit hours taken almost tripled, increasing from 68 to 194. There were also 22 students enrolled in 66 credit hours at the undergraduate level. Praise God! We are here to train students, so the more we can help the better. That's our purpose at the core. Certainly we see God's hand at work!

Graduate Student Head Count



Graduate Student Credit Hours



## Meet our Full Time Students

A new feature of this fall is the increase from 1 to 7 full-time students, as well as the admission of applicants to our degree programs. We'd like to feature our full-time students and introduce you to some of those with whom we are privileged to work.

- **Lindsey** moved to Illinois after finishing her college degree at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls to enroll in the Certificate program. Her eyes are set on missions.
- **Elaine** was involved with the ministry of the Navigators and then moved through the ranks of marketing with Mattel, before getting married, entering the consulting field, and pursuing graduate studies.
- **John** is our pioneer, having amassed the most credits and being the furthest along in the Master of Divinity degree, as he prepares for ministry in the Muslim world.
- **MiRyung** taught high school chemistry for a period, and then earned a Master's degree from the University in teaching English as a Second Language. She is enrolled in the Certificate program as she seeks God's leading for her future ministry.
- **Tom** graduated from the University of Illinois last spring and is now taking a full slate of classes.
- **Marcel** came to America from Switzerland and is pursuing his desire to receive training for a career serving in missions. He is slated to help create our student database.
- **James** is a retired professor from the University of Illinois who is highly engaged with his lay ministry in a local Episcopal congregation. His goal is to seek a Master of Arts in Religion.



...to build the kingdom of Christ by equipping people to love, know and serve God.

## The Firsts Keep Coming

- On August 24 the **fall semester** of training got underway. This is the first semester we have been able to offer the programs leading to the two new Master's degrees—the **Master of Divinity** (classic preparation for pastoral ministry) and the **Master of Arts in Religion** (good solid grounding in the basics along with a high level of flexibility to tailor the degree to different needs and interests).
- On September 16 Urbana Seminary held its first **Concert of Prayer** to bring the concerns and vision and praises of the school before the Lord. A Concert of Prayer describes a group of believers who meet and pray together for the same focused needs. We decided that it was important to consistently follow the Lord's example, so we invited staff, students, Board members, and Friends of Urbana Seminary to gather and pray for the school, its vision, its students, its teaching, its life, its finances, and its needs. The next one will be early in second semester.
- With the influx of new students in degree programs, we faced a new and exciting situation this fall. Around 25 students have been accepted into or are in the process of applying for one of our programs. In order to communicate with them about programs, procedures, their goals for the year, and the vision of the school, we held our first annual **New Student Orientation** on August 22.

## Year End Giving: Making Investments That Pay Off

December is just around the corner. In the final months of the calendar year I challenge you to evaluate where you will give with kingdom ends in mind. And I encourage you to make a sacrificial gift to the Annual Fund of Urbana Seminary. Like the pebble in the pond, with the ripples expanding outward, a gift to Urbana Seminary will directly affect the life of a student and beyond. A gift can create more scholarships or help the school provide the best education and services to equip. Each student touched has the potential, even the likelihood, of sharing Christ, and His Word with hundreds, even thousands of people. Our students will serve Christ in strategic ways all across America and around the globe in the future. Your gift will reach many beyond the students. Nor does the gift expire. Your investment will go on through years of their ministry in the future, and then continues in the lives of those whom our graduates will train.

“For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

Heb 4:12

## Sounds Exciting! Can We Help?

Yes, we're glad you asked that! There are two creative ways that individuals can help the school tangibly this fall.

- **Help Todd get across the ocean!** Todd and Ann Daly, with their two small children, will be leaving Scotland in December before coming to Urbana-Champaign to begin his duties teaching Theology and Ethics on January 1. We praise God both for his leading in Todd's life and for his moving on the hearts of several of our good readers who gave special gifts towards his moving expenses. Thank you each. Thus far the total is around \$620 and we need to raise around \$3,000. So **pray** for Todd and family as they make the transition to a new and challenging environment and that the additional \$2380 would come in to help them move across the ocean. Consider if God would have you be a part through **giving to the Move the Dalys Fund**.

- **Help a student with tuition!** Excellent news from our financial aid department is that the number of applications for scholarships has increased by three times this fall due to more students enrolling in classes and more full-time students. We give aid both to meet financial need and to honor potential, with a preference for those in our programs. Scholarship needs of undergraduates are generously met through the Evangelical Christian Union scholarship fund. However, the need for graduate students has increased considerably beyond what we have in our Graduate Scholarship Fund. **Pray** that God would meet these needs by supplying an additional \$9,000 beyond what we have for scholarships for fall and spring semesters. Ask the Lord if he would have you play a part in students' lives through **giving to the Graduate Scholarship Fund**.