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ATLA NEWSLETTER

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Librarianship in Liminal Spaces

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/president-april/

April 9, 2018

Submitted by Matthew Ostercamp, ATLA President

I'm not much of a gardener but I know that weeds flourish in freshly tilled soil. This truism from the natural world comes to mind as I've been reflecting on ethnographer danah boyd's address at SXSW EDU entitled "What Hath We Wrought?" She suggests that our current attempts to educate students on media literacy have produced, at least for some young people, unwelcome results. Like a gardener whose furrows provide opportunities for both seeds and weeds, teaching students to be critical consumers of information can provide openings for some very dark ideologies.



In boyd's telling, Dylan Roof wanted to know why there was so much fuss about Trayvon Martin's death. He decided to research it online. His search engine results led him to the term "black on white crime," which in turn led to white supremacy sites and ultimately to Roof committing mass murder. An extreme example to be sure, but boyd reports that once young people are trained to be critical of the information presented to them, it is hard to predict where they will end up. Finishing an information literacy session on critically navigating today's news ecosystem, a faculty member told me how important he thought these concepts were to include in his class but then added, "Although students will also be critical of us."

There is a lot that could be unpacked here. For our present purposes, I want to suggest that we are living in a moment of uncertainty and anxiety. I believe there is a common perception that we are in a liminal space between a familiar but expiring world of practices and authorities, and something yet to be fully revealed. If this is a unique experience or a timeless part of the human condition will not be our question. Instead, I want to pause and acknowledge that we practice our profession in this context where there are questions about how even our well-intended efforts will impact the future.

For Christians the Holy Week services that lead up to Easter are an opportunity to reflect on the experience of liminal spaces. This was made especially clear to me as I looked at the religious art on display at the Art Institute of Chicago on Good Friday. More recently, I've been listening to and reading some of the stories about Martin Luther King Jr.'s death fifty years ago. Both of those experiences have been deeply moving, but defy attempts to be distilled into tidy lessons. As I think about liminal librarianship, I find myself similarly drawn in. There is mystery and challenge, it seems important and I want to be present and listen and think.

Pondering Wisdom

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/pondering-wisdom/

April 9, 2018



Submitted by Brenda Bailey-Hainer, ATLA Executive Director

ATLA's Organizational End 3.0 reads: "Students, scholars, and religious leaders skillfully use information resources to create knowledge, *grow in wisdom*, and share the results of their research."

"Grow in wisdom" is the most challenging phrase in End 3.0. Since the Organizational Ends are really aspirational goals, the Board is always interested in knowing what progress has been made toward achieving them. What is the definition of wisdom and how can its growth be measured? And in particular, how can the use of information resources be shown to have specifically caused that growth?

The first step is to define "wisdom." [Wikipedia](#) defines it as "the ability to think and act using knowledge, ability, understanding, common sense, and insight, especially in a mature or utilitarian manner."

Not surprisingly, there are many academic studies on wisdom and multiple schools of thought on exactly just what constitutes wisdom. Different approaches abound including philosophical, psychological, religious, and even neurological points of view. Also not a surprise, the perception of wisdom has changed over time and within different cultures.

Kunzmann and Baltes offer seven facets of wisdom, which were developed based on a cultural-historical analysis of many different theories. The conclusion is that "wisdom:

- addresses difficult problems regarding the meaning and conduct of life
- represents truly outstanding knowledge, judgment, and advice
- is a perfect integration of knowledge and character, mind and virtue
- coordinates and promotes individual and societal growth
- involves balance and moderation

- includes an awareness of the limits of knowledge and uncertainties of the world
- is difficult to achieve but easily recognized” (p. 112)

Kunzmann and Baltes (and others) also mention the Berlin Wisdom Paradigm, which divides five criteria into two categories: basic and meta.

- “Basic Criteria:
 - Rich factual knowledge about fundamental life problems
 - Rich procedural knowledge about fundamental life problems
- Meta Criteria
 - Lifespan contextualism
 - Value relativism/tolerance
 - Awareness/management of uncertainty” (p. 120)

Other authors have put it more simply, for example, Michael J. Chandler and Stephen Holliday, who posit that the three key elements of wisdom are exceptional understanding, judgment and communication skills, and general competence (Sternberg, *Wisdom*, p. 5).

Most recently a geriatric psychiatrist at the University of California at San Diego, Dr. Dilip Jeste, became interested in this topic and his theory takes a neurobiological perspective. As a native of India, one of his influences was the *Bhagavad Gita*. He feels there is a confluence between ancient philosophy and modern scientific theory about wisdom that contains six key qualities, as described by Lauren Schenkman:

1. general knowledge of life and good judgment in social situations
2. control over your emotions
3. pro-social behaviors like empathy, compassion, altruism and a sense of fairness
4. insight into oneself and one’s actions
5. value relativism
6. decisiveness

Jeste also believes that he has identified the parts of the brain that are used in applying wisdom and he described this in a recent [TedMed Talk](#).

The art of assessing wisdom is even harder to nail down than a definition of wisdom. In Sternberg’s edited volume, *Wisdom: Its Nature, Origins, and Development*, he mentions the work of Baltes and Smith and their “five criteria for assessing wisdom: 1) rich factual knowledge about matters of life, 2) rich procedural knowledge about life problems, 3) knowledge about the contexts of life and their relationships, 4) knowledge about differences in values and priorities, and 5) knowledge about the relative indeterminacy and unpredictability of life,” (p.5). But it’s still not clear how to assess for wisdom on a practical level.

The end result of this research is that I now know a lot more about the qualities and traits of wisdom as well as several unrelated esoteric facts (such as that the collective noun for wombats is a wisdom). But short of enticing students, scholars, and religious leaders to take a

battery of psychological tests or allow themselves to be hooked up to brain monitors, I'm still not sure how to demonstrate that as the result of ATLA's work, the wisdom of students, scholars, and religious leaders has grown.

Has this research into wisdom been a wise use of my time? I think so. At the very least, I have much to ponder.

Resources

- Baltes, Paul B. and Jacqui Smith, "Toward a Psychology of Wisdom and Its Ontogenesis," in: Sternberg, Robert J., ed., *Wisdom: Its Nature, Origins, and Development* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990), pp. 87-120.
- Chandler, Michael J. and Stephen Holliday, "Wisdom in a Postapocalyptic Age," in: Sternberg, Robert J., ed, *Wisdom: Its Nature, Origins, and Development* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990), pp. 121 – 141.
- Kunzmann, Ute, and Paul B. Baltes, "The Psychology of Wisdom: Theoretical and Empirical Challenges," in: Sternberg, Robert J., and Jennifer Jordan, eds., *A Handbook of Wisdom: Psychological Perspectives*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), pp. 110-135.
- Schenkman, Lauren. "How Wise Are You? One Scientist is Trying to Create a Test." Blog post on Ideas.Ted.com, March 27, 2018. <https://ideas.ted.com/in-search-of-a-scientific-definition-of-wisdom/> Accessed April 6, 2018.
- Sternberg, Robert J., ed. *Wisdom: Its Nature, Origins, and Development*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
- Sternberg, Robert J., and Jennifer Jordan, eds. *A Handbook of Wisdom: Psychological Perspectives*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Summary of February's ATLA Board of Directors Meeting

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/board-february/

April 6, 2018



Submitted by Stephen Sweeney, ATLA Board of Directors Secretary

The ATLA Board of Directors met February 22-24 in Chicago. During this meeting, the Board reviewed the findings of the auditors from RSM US LLC regarding the organization's accounting review and financial health. The auditors presented an unmodified opinion for the period reviewed (August 31, 2016 – August 31, 2017) and the Board voted to accept the audit. The Board discussed contracting auditing services with RSM US LLC for two years, but is seeking to change partners. This follows the best practice of periodically changing partners when using the same audit firm for an extended period of time. As charged at the previous meeting of the Board, the Finance Committee reviewed the stated purpose of funds in various investment policies from a variety of associations. The committee reviewed the ATLA Investment Policy, specifically reviewing the purpose of funds. The Finance Committee proposed language to update and revise the Policy.

On Friday, the Board heard an update from the Executive Director and discussed items important to the strategic plan, including progress on the transition to the new CRM system, ATLA's participation in a grant from the Council of Library and Information Resources (CLIR), and the success of the new *ATLASerials PLUS™* (*ATLAS PLUS™*) product.

In order to recognize the critically important and valuable work of connecting with the Moral Ownership of the Association, the Board voted to create a Board Committee of Long Standing titled Moral Ownership. This outcome is the result of much conversation at the Board on the great responsibility of communicating with the moral ownership and its recurring and time-consuming nature.

The Board engaged in a discussion with Andrew Bergen of the Governance Coach® about the effective use of Policy Governance® specifically in an ATLA setting. Some previous sessions with the Governance Coach had been more broadly focused on the use of Policy

Governance®), and it was agreed that the Board should continue to explore best practices in efficacious use of this model of governance.

On Saturday, the Board discussed upcoming agenda items and meetings, as well as discussing the cost of governance for the coming year, before adjourning.

For the full Minutes of the Board of Directors, visit the [Member's Only Community](#) section of the ATLA website.

Accessing the New Open Access Versions of Theology Cataloging Bulletin and the ATLA Summary of Proceedings

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/openaccess-plan/

April 2, 2018

As we announced last month, *Theology Cataloging Bulletin* (TCB) and the ATLA *Summary of Proceedings* will be moving to open access.

TCB – Publication Schedule Shifts, Member Notifications of New Issues

During the next several months, we will develop a site for TCB on ATLA's instance of Open Journal Systems (OJS), the same publishing platform used for *Theological Librarianship*. Beginning in January 2019, TCB will be openly available to all readers through the OJS site under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial license (CC-BY-NC). Back issues of TCB will eventually be moved from the members-only Community area on the ATLA website to the new OJS site.

Further, TCB will continue as a quarterly publication but will shift to a new publication schedule in January 2019. The August 2018 issue will be the last issue of the current volume. The next volume, volume 27, will start with the January 2019 issue and will be followed by issues in April, August, and October. This shift in publication schedule will allow TCB to more closely align with the releases from the Library of Congress, which are a vital component of TCB's content.

After TCB shifts to open access, members who have previously indicated they want to be notified when a new issue is published will receive an email alert whenever new TCB content is available with a link to the new TCB site. Members may choose to opt in or out of these notifications at any time. Readers will be free to access the new TCB site to read the current or archived issues.

Proceedings – Updated Presenter Agreement and Instructions, Print Editions

The ATLA *Summary of Proceedings* will also be published through OJS under a CC-BY-NC license beginning with the 2018 *Proceedings*. Presenters at the 2018 and future ATLA Annual Conferences will receive an updated presenter agreement, which references the CC-BY-NC license as well as the open access availability of the published *Proceedings*. Presenters will also receive updated instructions for submitting their papers and other written content utilizing the OJS system.

All members and 2018 Annual Conference registrants will receive notification of when the digital edition of the 2018 *Proceedings* is available. Print editions of the 2018 *Proceedings* will be mailed to all members who did not opt out of receiving the print edition during the

membership join or renewal process or of receiving mail from ATLA. Registrants of the 2018 Annual Conference who are not members will also receive a print edition of the 2018 *Proceedings* unless they opt out during the conference registration process.

Beginning with the 2019 *Proceedings*, Institutional and Affiliate members will continue to receive a print edition of *Proceedings* for their collections by default; however, they may choose to opt out and only access the digital edition. Individual, Student, Retired, and Emeritus members will need to indicate when joining or renewing that they wish to receive a print edition in addition to being able to access the digital edition. Members and conference registrants will continue to receive notifications when the *Proceedings* is published.

ATLA firmly believes that these changes reflect its core value of offering the widest possible access to relevant information and ideas and ensuring greater access to and discoverability of our members' knowledge and expertise. If you have any questions about these forthcoming changes, please feel free to contact ATLA Member Programs at memberrep@atla.com.

Upcoming ATLA Events: April and May 2018

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/events-april/

April 6, 2018



ATLA is around the globe this season. Check out the new [ATLA Calendar](#) for a list of events, deadlines, and meetings.

If you would like your meeting or event added to the calendar, email memberep@atla.com.

Upcoming Events

UKSG 2018

April 9 – April 11
Glasgow, UK

DrupalCon

April 9 – April 13
Nashville, TN, USA

CNI Spring 2018 Membership Meeting

April 12– April 13
San Diego, CA, USA

“What They Didn’t Teach in Library School: The Cycle of True Marketing” Webinar

April 12
[Register](#)

“Is Mentoring One Solution to Address the Shifting Library Landscape?” Webinar

April 18
[Register](#)

ATLA Travel Grants Applications Due

April 30
[Apply](#)

Developing Countries Grant Applications Due

April 30

[Apply](#)

Submit to ATLA *Newsletter*

May 1

[Submit](#)

“ATLA Products: Updates on New Content” Webinar

May 3

[Register](#)

ATLA Systems Routine Maintenance

May 7

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

ATLA Annual Conference Housing Deadline

May 10

[Book](#)

ATLA Annual Conference Early Bird Ticket Ends

May 10

[Register](#)

SEPTLA Spring Meeting

May 11

Code4Lib Chicago Chapter Meeting

May 16

[Register](#)

Register for the “ATLA Products: Updates on New Content” Webinar

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/products-webinar/

April 6, 2018



ATLA invites you to the “ATLA Products: Updates on New Content” webinar on Thursday, May 3, 2018, at 1 pm CDT. Join ATLA Director of Business Development Margot Lyon, ATLA Director of Production Maria Stanton, and ATLA Licensing Manager Gregg Taylor as they give an overview of new developments with ATLA Products and answer your questions.

[Register now](#)

Webinar Description

The ATLA Products team members will provide an overview of new developments with ATLA Products, including *ATLASerials PLUS™* (*ATLAS PLUS™*), an expanded offering of 444+ full-text journals in many diverse areas of religion and theology. In addition, ATLA staff will also discuss enhancements and additions to the *ATLA Religion Database®* (*ATLA RDB®*), including the integration of the *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index®* (*ATLA CPLI®*) content.

Are there any specific questions or topics you’d like to see addressed? Registered attendees are welcome to email memberrep@atla.com with questions or you are welcome to ask them during the session. If your question is time-sensitive please email support@atla.com or refer to the [FAQ on ATLA’s website](#).

[Register today!](#)

[Also, be sure to check out our other webinars this spring.](#)

You're Invited to the SWATLA Virtual Meeting — “What They Didn't Teach in Library School: The Cycle of True Marketing”

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/swatla-dempsey/

April 6, 2018



ATLA and Southwestern Area Theological Library Association (SWATLA) invites theological librarians in the Southwestern US and beyond to join them at their virtual meeting to hear plenary speaker Kathy Dempsey discuss “What They Didn't Teach in Library School: The Cycle of True Marketing” on April 12, 2018, at 1:00 pm CDT.

[Register now](#)

Webinar Description

Have you been tasked with marketing library events or services without ever having a course that taught you how? If so, you're an “accidental marketer,” and you're not alone! This webinar will give you a solid foundation in the tenets of library marketing, covering definitions, strategies, reasoning, and the steps in the Cycle of True Marketing.

With a dash of humor, marketing maven Kathy will answer these burning questions:

- What's the difference between marketing, public relations, promotion, and advocacy?
- Why didn't anyone come to the event that I worked so hard on?
- How can I get my message through when people are inundated with information and advertising?
- Why is library lingo evil?
- What mistakes am I making without realizing it?
- How can I make my marketing more effective?

Wonder no longer; this is the “Marketing 101” lesson that will help it all make sense!

Kathy Dempsey

In 2005, Kathy founded the consultancy, Libraries Are Essential. Her niche is library marketing, promotion, and public relations. Most of her work is in writing, training, consulting, speaking, and blogging on those topics. Kathy authored *The Accidental Library Marketer* and offers an array of resources on her website.

This event is funded by a Regional Grant to SWATLA from the ATLA Professional Development Committee.

Also, be sure to check out our other webinars this spring.

You're Invited to the DEI Webinar, "Is Mentoring One Solution to Address the Shifting Library Landscape?"

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/mentoring/

April 6, 2018



ATLA's Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) invites you to attend the webinar "Is Mentoring One Solution to Address the Shifting Library Landscape?" on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at 11:00 am CDT presented by DEI's chair Donna Wells.

Webinar Description

Librarianship today can be very challenging. Standards change, users are impatient for immediate answers. Rumors and realities of the semantic web arise daily. How are these challenges to be met? One strategy is through mentoring. This presentation will seek to determine how our collective knowledge can be leveraged through mentoring to tackle the challenges of current librarianship.

Register now

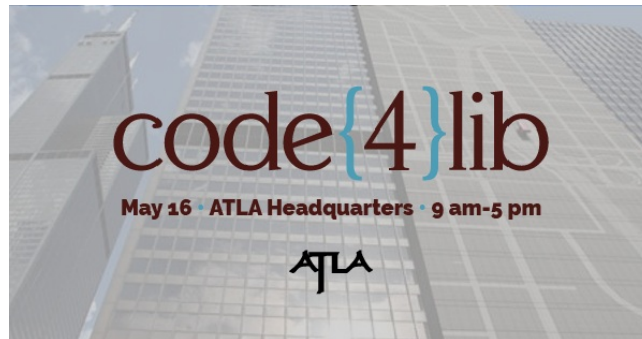
This webinar is brought to you by ATLA's Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Also, be sure to check out our other webinars this spring.

Chicago Code4Lib Meeting at ATLA Headquarters

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/chicago-code4lib/

April 6, 2018



On Wednesday, May 16, ATLA will be hosting a one-day meeting of the Chicago Code4Lib chapter. This event, to be held in the building's eighth floor conference center, brings together a range of professionals engaged with technology in libraries.

This event is free to attend. The program will involve a mix of lightning talks, panel talks, and possibly some break-outs. This is a great opportunity for two organizations to learn about each other, for ATLA to encourage our tech-minded members to get involved with other library organizations, and for Chicago-area librarians and programmers to share their latest news.

[Register today!](#)

ATLA members in the area are welcome to attend just a session or two or the whole day if they're interested. Also, we invite you to share this event with anyone you think might be interested.

Call for Presenters

If you have a technical project that you've been working on, some developmental code, a beta version of whatever, a new feature or ideal tool for a library website/catalog and would like to share it in a lightning talk, please contact [Andy Carter, ATLA Digital Projects Manager](#). He can talk to you about the idea, the presentation, or any other questions you might have.

You can read more about Code4Lib at <https://code4lib.org/about>.

Envisioning the Future of Catholic Religious Archives Conference

newsletter.atla.com/2018/catholic-religious-archives/

April 5, 2018

Boston College is pleased to announce a unique working conference, *Envisioning the Future of Catholic Religious Archives*. The meeting will take place at Boston College on July 11-13, 2018. Leaders of religious congregations, religious archivists, historians, and other scholars who use religious archives will gather to discuss issues regarding preserving and providing access to historic records of religious communities so that they may be understood and valued by scholars and society at large.



The conference will be the first of its kind, bringing stakeholders together to explore the significant problems of saving an important part of history from future obscurity. For program details, visit the conference website: <https://catholicarchives.bc.edu>.

As a working conference, formal presentations will be kept to a minimum, allowing participants to interact with one another during breakout sessions. The goal of the conference will be to identify issues surrounding the management of religious archives and take the first steps toward the development of a national plan to address them. The meeting will also provide valuable opportunities for networking and fostering collaboration.

Conference co-chairs are Christian Dupont, Burns Librarian and Associate University Librarian for Special Collections at Boston College, and Malachy McCarthy, Archivist of the Claretian Missionaries USA-Canada Province. McCarthy commented on the importance of the meeting: "Religious communities face personnel and technology challenges that keep their rich histories hidden from historians who are studying areas as varied as health care, working class history, social justice and renewal of Catholic life post-Vatican II. If the archival collections of religious communities are not preserved and made available for research, the narrative of American history will be skewed."

Religious leaders, archivists, and historians interested in participating or learning more are invited to visit the conference website or write to catholicarchives@bc.edu. There is an application process which closes on April 14, 2018.

Florida Theological Library Association (FTLA) Meets at Warner University

FTLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/ftla-warner/

April 5, 2018



Submitted by Philip M. O'Neill, Senior Reference Librarian and Instruction Librarian, Barry University, Miami Shores, FL

On Thursday, March 8, 2018, the Florida Theological Library Association (FTLA) held its annual conference at Warner University in Lake Wales, Florida. Sherill Harriger, Library Director at Warner University, graciously hosted this event. Eight persons attended.

The morning began with a welcome and Devotional Service by Dr. Michael Sanders, Dean of Faculty at Warner University. Our first presentation was by Mr. Tyler Benbow, Instructor in the Biblical Studies/Church Ministry Department of Warner University. His lecture was entitled "The Power of Neighborhood: An Exercise in Narrative Bible Study." The second presentation was by Christine Fruin, Scholarly Communication/Open Access Publishing Manager at ATLA. She spoke about "Open Access: Current Issues and Initiatives."

After this lecture, there was a delicious lunch. In the afternoon, Philip M. O'Neill, Senior Reference and Instruction Librarian, Barry University, Miami Shores, presented "Online Theological Bibliographic Instructions." The conference concluded with an ATLA update by Christine Fruin. As there was no quorum of FTLA members, a business meeting did not occur.

[Learn more about FTLA.](#)

Preservation Week: Inspires Action to Preserve Collections

ALA newsletter.atla.com/2018/preservation-week-2/

April 5, 2018

Preservation Week, this year observed April 22-28, exists to inspire action to preserve personal, family, and community collections in addition to library, museum, and archive collections. It also raises awareness of the role libraries and other cultural institutions play in providing ongoing preservation education and information. Preservation Week is an initiative of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS), a division of the American Library Association.



This year's Preservation Week theme is cooking and community archiving. Participating libraries will celebrate by offering special programs and services to connect library users with preservation tools, promote the importance of preservation, and strive to enhance knowledge of preservation issues among the general public. Institutions around the world will be using the hashtag #preswk to talk about their preservation programs and services.

2017 Honorary Chair, Michael W. Twitty

In line with the theme, food writer, speaker, and blogger Michael W. Twitty, joins ALCTS to pass on knowledge of family history and cooking during this year's Preservation Week. Author of *The Cooking Gene* (Harper Collins 2017), Twitty is a noted culinary and cultural historian and the creator of *Afroculinaria*, the first blog devoted to African American historic foodways and their legacies. As Preservation Week Honorary Chair, Twitty will appear in Preservation Week artwork and will chronicle preservation efforts through various social media channels



Photo credit: ala.org

History of Preservation Week

In 2005 a comprehensive national survey reported the condition and preservation needs of 4.8 billion items held at U.S. institutions. Among that number, libraries hold a total of 63% of the items. These collections may include manuscripts, photographs, prints and drawings, moving images, and recordings of performing arts and oral history. ALCTS formed Preservation Week to encourage the preservation of these items as well as the collections held by individuals, families, and communities.

Learn more about this week, including free resources, tools, and events, by going to the [Preservation Week site](#).

Call for Proposals: Seminar on Religion and Culture in the Americas

newsletter.atla.com/2018/seminar-on-religion/

March 15, 2018



You're invited to submit your proposal for the The Religion and Culture in the Americas Seminar, co-sponsored by Albion College, the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism at the University of Notre Dame, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Wheaton College.

The Religion and Culture in the Americas Seminar explores topics in religion and culture broadly and from interdisciplinary perspectives including social history, biography, cultural studies, visual and material culture, urban studies, and the history of ideas. The Seminar is interested in how religious belief has affected society, rather than creedal- or theological-focused studies.

The Seminar provides an opportunity for scholars to share works-in-progress, and encourage papers that use new methods, unveil archival discoveries, or need feedback in preparation for book and journal article publication. It is scheduled to meet on selected Fridays during the academic year from 3-5 pm at the Newberry Library in Chicago, Illinois.

Submit Proposal

Proposals for 2018-2019 will be accepted until **June 1, 2018**.

To submit a proposal, please visit the webform <https://www.newberry.org/seminar-proposal-form> and upload a one-page proposal, a statement explaining the relationship of the paper to your other work, and a brief CV. Applications will not be accepted via email.

For further information about Newberry seminars, please email scholarlyseminars@newberry.org

Register for the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference in Indianapolis, June 13-16

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/atla2018-register/

March 20, 2018



Registration is open for the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference. Come join a gathering of theological librarians, publishers, scholars, students, and other information providers in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 13-16 as we focus on “Connection at the Crossroads: Creative Collaboration in a Changing Landscape.”

To help you register, we have answered the six main questions about the conference. These questions and others can be found on the conference [FAQ page](#).

How can I register to attend?

If you are an ATLA Individual, Student, or Lifetime Member or are from an ATLA Institutional or Affiliate Member, [follow this link to register](#).

If you or your institution are not a member of ATLA, registration requires two processes, Creating a Profile and Registering for the Conference. For detailed instructions, download the [Non-Member Registration Instructions](#) and [follow this link to register](#).

Where can I make hotel reservations?

This year’s conference will be hosted at the [Hyatt Regency Indianapolis](#). Hotel rooms are offered at a discounted rate of \$175-\$195, plus applicable taxes. [Use this link to book your hotel before May 10 for the best rates](#). If you prefer to call, dial 844-454-7950 and use code: AM Theological Library Assn.

Where is the conference schedule?

The 2018 conference schedule can be found at <https://atla2018.sched.com>.

What are the fees to attend the conference?

Conference pricing did not increase from 2017. To view the conference pricing and our cancellation policy, please see the [FAQ page](#).

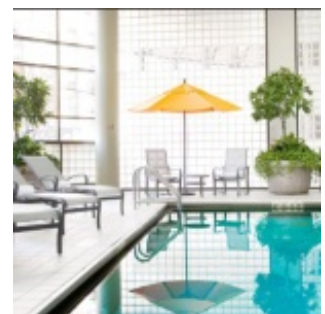
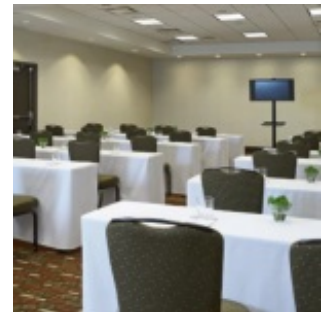
Are travel grants available?

ATLA is pleased to offer grants to support attendance at the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference. Any ATLA Student or Individual member in good standing as of **January 1, 2018**, is eligible to apply. Apply by April 30. [Learn more about this program](#).

Are there any grants available for international attendees?

Yes, we have the [Developing Country Conference Program](#), which can be combined with a [Conference Travel Grant](#).

[Go to the official 2018 ATLA Annual Conference page for more information.](#)



Experience Indianapolis at the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/indianapolis/

March 29, 2018



The 2018 Local Host Committee has prepared three excursion options during the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. Explore historic downtown Indianapolis, discover Native American contemporary art, and enjoy an evening at the baseball park during your conference stay.

For a list of the excursions, including information on ticket pricing, see the [Official Conference Schedule](#).

To register for the conference, [please click here](#). If you have already registered and would like to add one of these excursions to your conference registration, please email memberrep@atla.com.

Explore Indianapolis with the Historic Downtown Walking Tour

Join our guide from [Indiana Landmarks](#) for a historic walking tour of downtown Indianapolis Wednesday morning or afternoon. Discover the colorful heroes and heroines of Hoosier history as you walk along the streets of downtown Indianapolis. The walking tour takes you through the beautiful Capitol and gives you an up-close look at Monument Circle-the heart of the Circle City-and Circle Centre Mall. The tour is 75 minutes total, will leave from and return to the Hyatt Indianapolis, and participants will be walking or standing the entire time.

This tour is offered two different times to make it easier for attendees to plan their schedule.

Learn more: [morning tour](#) or [afternoon tour](#)



Photo by alexeatwhales (IMG_3845)

[\[CC BY 2.0\]](#)

Discover the Finest Collection of Native Contemporary Art in the World with the Special Collection Interest Group

The Special Collections Interest Group (SCIG) of ATLA has organized a special tour of the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in downtown Indianapolis on Wednesday afternoon.

Museum staff will lead a discussion on Eiteljorg's history of work with Native advisory councils, Native staffing, and related issues with reference to acquisitions and interpretation, diversity in the context of the Eiteljorg's mission, diversity policy, interpretation, and programming. Special exhibitions at the Eiteljorg have covered a variety of subjects, including LGBTQ+ exhibits and programs, Japanese internment art, and the Western experience.

[Learn more](#)

Enjoy an Evening with the Indianapolis Indians

Cheer for the Indianapolis Indians baseball team playing the Toledo Mud Hens on Thursday night. A Minor League Baseball (MiLB) team, the Indianapolis Indians are the second-oldest minor league franchise in American professional baseball. Victory Field has also been recognized as the "Best Minor League Ballpark in America."

[Learn more](#)



Photo by Mark Goebel (ib0746.JPG) [CC BY 2.0]



Photo by <http://www.milb.com>

The SCOOP: Librarians are Knowledge Creators, Not Just Knowledge Providers

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/the-scoop-librarians-are-knowledge-creators-not-just-knowledge-providers/

April 6, 2018

Submitted by Christine Fruin, ATLA Member Programs and Scholarly Communication Manager

*The SCOOP, **S**cholarly **C**ommunication and **O**pen **P**ublishing, is a monthly column published to inform ATLA members of recent developments, new resources, or interesting stories from the realm of scholarly communication and open access publishing.*



Librarians as Knowledge Creators

Historically, libraries and the persons who staff them have been perceived as the primary conduits for accessing knowledge. Librarians provide knowledge to those who seek it through classification schema, bibliographic instruction, and the purchase or license of scholarly materials. However, librarians frequently are also engaged in traditional subject-based research, innovative technological projects, and development of new processes or services at their libraries that would be great contributions, in written or other form, to the broader knowledge base.

Academic librarians typically produce scholarly content out of obligation; they work at an academic institution that grants them tenure or promotion on the basis of their publication activity. However, librarians who are without institutional requirement of scholarship should still seek out opportunities to write and publish or to participate in the publishing process. As a professional community of learned individuals, librarians have an important role to play in the creation of new knowledge, whether it be as authors, editors, or collaborators with scholars in other fields, and we should seek out opportunities to share our voices and expertise beyond just the services we provide.

Opportunities with ATLA

ATLA offers members several opportunities to engage with scholarly publishing as a knowledge creator:

ATLA Publishing Program

The ATLA Publishing Program was launched to serve professionals engaged in librarianship and scholarly communication, as well as students, scholars, and religious professionals, in the disciplines of religion and theology by publishing original content. This is accomplished through official association publications of ATLA, including our conference proceedings and member newsletter, and the [ATLA Press](#). The ATLA Press is an open access publisher producing peer reviewed and other journals to support the field of theological librarianship, as well as original open monographs on topics that highlight the intersection of librarianship and the study of theology and religion as well as support the structures for the teaching, learning, and administration of theological and religious studies programs. The ATLA Press is also currently developing a program to host journals that fall within our mission and scope and that are produced by our members and affiliates who do not currently have the internal capacity to publish and host their own scholarly journals. We recently [put out a call](#) to our members to consider sharing with us their projects or research by submitting a manuscript or proposal for consideration in one of the ATLA Press publications. Members can also engage with our publishing program through service as an editor or even a peer reviewer, which are crucial roles in the creation of knowledge.

To elevate the scholarly profile of the ATLA Publishing Program, ATLA recently joined two organizations whose services and resources will allow us to improve the discovery and access of our publications and not only develop and promote our own publishing program but also assist our members in the development of their own publishing programs. ATLA has joined [CrossRef](#) where we will deposit metadata from ATLA Publishing Program publications such as [Theological Librarianship](#) and our [open monographs](#) and in return receive assignment of DOIs that will facilitate access, discovery, and linking to published content. We have also recently become a member of the [Library Publishing Coalition](#), an organization dedicated to supporting library publishing programs and developing resources such as curriculum and professional development opportunities for persons engaged in library based publishing.

ATLA Annual Conference – Pre-conference on Scholarly Writing

The ATLA Press Coordinating Council will host a [pre-conference at this year's ATLA Annual Conference](#). "Writing for the Profession: Librarians as Scholarly Authors" will feature Dr. Maria Bonn from the University of Illinois School of Information Sciences who is a publishing expert and frequent speaker on scholarly authorship and the publishing process. If you have thought about authoring a journal article, book chapter, monograph, or other scholarly work, are confused about available publishing options, or have questions about how to choose the best fit to express your work and ideas and to reach your intended audience then you should consider attending this workshop. Dr. Bonn will share with attendees an overview of the professional publishing process and how to match form and venue to writing goals. Participants will then break out into small groups to either workshop their own ideas into a scholarly paper or monograph proposal or to engage in peer review of completed or nearly completed article or other scholarly paper manuscripts.

If you have other ideas for the ATLA Publishing Program or if you would like to develop a webinar or other resource to help promote a culture of writing among theological librarians, [we](#)

welcome your feedback.

Recommended Further Reading:

- Reflection by Emily Ford on "Becoming a Writer-Librarian" in the online journal *In the Library with a Lead Pipe*.
- The Music Library Association has put together an excellent bibliography of essays, articles, and books on librarians as scholarly authors.
- Article in College & Research Library News on the pathway of writing to publication for librarians.
- An academic librarian shares her experience in scholarly writing as part of the requirements of tenure and promotion and offers a list of creative strategies librarians can put into practice to become successful knowledge creators in the field of library and information science.

As Seen on Twitter: March 2018

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/twitter-march/

April 6, 2018

As Seen on Twitter

The ATLA Twitter feed is filled with news on ATLA events and product updates as well as stories that have relevance to the work of libraries and librarians.

Here are some highlights from last month's [@YourATLA](#) Twitter feed:

- For [#openeducationweek](#), we are covering the A, B, C's (and the R's) of [#OER](#) in this month's SCOOP column. [#openeducationalresources](#) [#openeducation](#)

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— ATLA ([@YourATLA](#)) [March 7, 2018](#)

- ATLA Board Members Elected for 2018-2021: Ellen Frost, Shaneé Yvette Murrain, Armin Siedlecki, and Matthew Thiesen

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— ATLA ([@YourATLA](#)) [March 13, 2018](#)

- The [#ATLA2018](#) Keynote Speaker, David Lewis, dean of the University Library at IUPUI, has been named 2018 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year

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— ATLA ([@YourATLA](#)) [March 14, 2018](#)

- Moving Ahead with Support for Digital Humanities – IT and library professionals need to engage as key partners to achieve coordinated, visible, and sustained support for digital humanities at an institutional level. via [@educause](#) <http://ow.ly/AfqB30iXN8i> [#dh](#) [#digitalhumanities](#)

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— ATLA (@YourATLA) [March 15, 2018](#)

- Have you been engaged in any interesting research or professional activities that you would like to report? Consider submitting your work to one of ATLA's publications!

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— ATLA (@YourATLA) [March 23, 2018](#)

ATLA Job Board Postings, April 2018

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/job-april/

April 6, 2018



Member and non-member institutions are invited to post job openings on the [ATLA Job Board](#). Here is a list of the current job openings:

[Directory of Library Services](#)

Barry University, Miami Shores, FL, posted 3/20/18

[Head of Collection Development](#)

The Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA, posted 3/20/18

[Director of the Charles C. Myers Library](#)

Charles C. Myers Library, University of Dubuque, Dubuque, IA, posted 2/28/18

[Metadata Archivist](#)

Christ Church Preservation Trust, Philadelphia, PA, posted 2/27/18

[Information Literacy Librarian](#)

The Masland Library, Cairn University, Langhorne, PA, posted 2/26/18

[Digital Collections Specialist](#)

American Baptist Historical Society, Atlanta, Georgia, posted 2/16/18

[Archives and Special Collections Assistant](#)

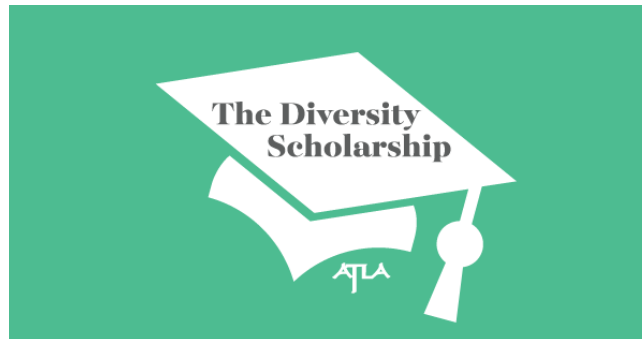
David Allan Hubbard Library, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA, posted 2/12/18

Want to post a job opening? Visit the [Submissions Guidelines page](#) for more information.

Apply for the ATLA Diversity Scholarship

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/scholarship/

April 6, 2018



Are you studying for your MLIS? Are you from an underrepresented population, either religious, racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, or gender? Are you an ATLA member? Well, we have the scholarship for you!

The Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI Committee) invites applications from students with an open willingness to explore the possibility of a vocation in information science and religious studies and/or theology for the [Diversity Scholarship](#). Completed applications must be submitted no later than June 1, 2018.

ATLA Diversity Scholarship

ATLA will provide one scholarship for \$4,000 USD to a student from an underrepresented population enrolled in an ALA-accredited master's program in library and information science. The scholarship also includes the option of a travel grant to attend and participate in the following ATLA Annual Conference. The awardee can choose to participate in the ATLA Annual Conference by presenting or creating a poster on a particular topic with the support of the members of the sponsoring ATLA DEI Committee.

Award

- \$4,000 USD
- (optional) \$750 USD travel grant to attend the following ATLA Annual Conference

Eligibility

- Applicant must be from an underrepresented population (religious, racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, etc.).
- Applicant must enroll and complete at least 6 credit hours in an ALA-accredited master's program in library and information science in the 12 months following notification.

Applicant must be an ATLA Individual or Student member at the time of acceptance

Application Process

Please visit the [ATLA Diversity Scholarships web page](#) to see more detailed information on eligibility and to apply for these scholarship opportunities.

Applications will be reviewed by [the DEI Committee](#). Applicants will be notified of the awards by July 1.

The funds to support these scholarships are supplied by generous ATLA members who donate to the Scholarships and Grants Annual Fund. For more information and to support this fund, please visit the [ATLA Scholarships and Grants Annual Fund web page](#).

Please direct questions to memberrep@atla.com.

The FY17 ATLA Annual Report Available to Download

 newsletter.atla.com/2018/annual-report/

April 5, 2018

The American Theological Library Association's (ATLA) Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report is [now available](#).

The report highlights the many accomplishments of the Association, including the work of Association's committees, and improvements to ATLA's databases.

A report from the independent auditing firm RSM US LLP is also provided, offering an account of the Association's finances at the conclusion of the fiscal year 2016-2017.

[Download a PDF of the FY17 Annual Report](#).



Write About Your Research, Scholarship, and Experience

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/research/

March 20, 2018



Have you been engaged in any interesting research or professional activities that you would like to report? Consider submitting your work to one of ATLA's publications!

The ATLA Monograph Series publishes open monographs that explore the intersection of librarianship and religious studies. For more information or instructions on submitting a book proposal, see the [ATLA Press submission guidelines](#).

Theological Librarianship is an open access journal publishing essays, critical reviews, and peer-reviewed articles on various aspects of theological librarianship and its contribution to theological education. For more information, see the [Theological Librarianship submission guidelines](#).

Theology Cataloging Bulletin (TCB) includes a column from a first-person perspective on activities or information related to technical services in addition to reporting on new and changed subject headings and LC classification. For more information, contact memberrep@atla.com.

The ATLA Newsletter may be the primary source of information about ATLA activities and membership news, but it also publishes articles that feature information and experiences related to theological librarianship and religious studies. For more information, [see the ATLA Newsletter guidelines](#).

Build your scholarly portfolio and promote the profession of theological librarianship by publishing with ATLA.

Learn more about the [ATLA Publishing Program](#).

ATLA Adds New Content and Completes Integration of ATLA CPLI® into ATLA RDB®

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/integration-cpli/

April 6, 2018

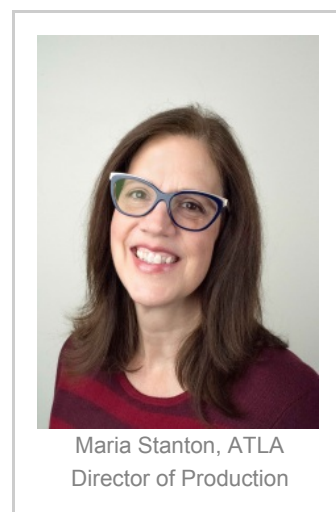
We have completed the successful completion of the integration of the *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index® (ATLA CPLI®)* into the *ATLA Religion Database® (ATLA RDB®)*.

Once a stand-alone product specific to Catholicism, *ATLA CPLI* content now enhances all versions of *ATLA RDB* with the inclusion of more than 500,000 additional records. As previously announced to customers in [November 2017](#), ATLA and EBSCO have been working together to help libraries successfully transition to the enhanced version of *ATLA RDB*.



“I’m happy to see this integration completed,” commented Maria Stanton, ATLA’s Director of Production. “The unified index has been warmly received, with many librarians welcoming the news that their scholars can now search in one collection to find relevant material across many religions and faith traditions.”

In addition, ATLA continues to add full-text content to *ATLASerials PLUS™ (ATLAS PLUS™)*, an expanded offering of full-text journals in many diverse areas of religion and theology. Since the product launch five months ago, ATLA has added nineteen additional full-text titles, growing the collection to include 444 titles. *ATLAS PLUS* now offers content in sixteen languages from thirty-three countries.



Maria Stanton, ATLA
Director of Production

More information about ATLA’s products including title lists can be found on our [Products page](#).

[Read the full press release.](#)

ATLA Products Blog: New Catholic Content from the Heart of Rome in ATLASerials PLUS™

ATLA newsletter.atla.com/2018/catholic/

April 3, 2018



The ATLA Products Blog is sharing the stories behind our product offerings, and this month's posting highlights new full-text titles from *ATLASerials PLUS™* (*ATLAS PLUS™*).

Here's an excerpt from the [ATLA Products Blog](#).

New Catholic Content from the Heart of Rome in *ATLASerials PLUS™*

There is an incredible concentration of Roman Catholic publishing in and around the city. While there are commercial publishers like Gregorian and Biblical Press (GBP) in the area, there are many more scholarly journals published by papal colleges and societies that ATLA has not yet worked with. In the past year, ATLA has licensed a cross-section of these journals, covering both a range of institutions and subject areas within Catholicism and including them in *ATLASerials PLUS™* (*ATLAS PLUS™*).

Four New Catholic Journals from Gregorian and Biblical Press (GBP) Added

The largest number of new journals in this area came from an expansion of our relationship with GBP. Having included their journals *Biblica* and *Orientalia* in *ATLASerials®* (*ATLAS®*) for some time, ATLA licensing staff traveled to Italy and met with additional GBP sponsoring institutions and received support to license four new journals for *ATLAS PLUS*: *Archivum Historicum Pontificum*, *Gregorianum*, *Periodica de re canonica*, and *Studia Missionalia*.

La Civiltà Cattolica, Italian Version Available in Full Text

Many users of *ATLAS PLUS* will also be excited to find the important *La Civiltà Cattolica* available. Newsworthy in its own right under current editor Antonio Spadaro for launching digest versions in four different languages, *ATLAS PLUS* now includes the primary Italian version. Published by the Jesuits in Rome since 1850, *La Civiltà Cattolica* recently

released its 4,000th issue, an incredible run for any journal. With an aim of active participation in the current cultural debate, this journal provides content that complements journals such as *Christian Century* and *Christianity Today*.

[Read the whole story on the ATLA Products Blog.](#)

ATLA offers a prestigious product line of electronic resources to support the scholarly study of religion and theology and we want to share with you the stories behind the journals that have been carefully curated for our users. So, we have created the [ATLA Products Blog](#) to give an insider's perspective and spotlight just some of the journals found in our databases.