



Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (formerly Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary) Library in Elkhart, Indiana.

From the President

Started in 2009 to support a bachelor's degree in health sciences, the University of Minnesota at Rochester campus occupies the 3rd floor of a downtown shopping mall. Formerly the location of a Chinese restaurant, the library now houses a few tables holding 12 computers, a printer, four large bean-bag chairs, a number of comfy seating options, a few puzzles, a large window overlooking downtown, Nooks and Kindles available for checkout, and 55 physical books. Yes, 55 books!



The lack of physical volumes on-site is primarily mediated by digital collections of the University of Minnesota. Further, they have easy 48 hour delivery access to over 7 million volumes in the University of Minnesota system and millions more available throughout the state network of libraries. However, the librarian confesses that she receives "relatively few" requests for books to be delivered.

Such examples of nearly bookless libraries might give us pause, especially in our field where "the book" is so central. Yet, the stunning thing about my visit was that it still seemed like a library. Users are connected to information, scholarship is consumed and produced, and a librarian is serving users in the middle of it all. These things are, after all, the "ends" - representing the difference that libraries make in the world. By contrast, the technology, the space, the seating, the digital objects, and the 55 books are the "means" by which the library accomplishes their "ends." As I look around the libraries and librarians that make up ATLA, we have varied sets of means - resources, space, staffing, and books. But I think we all would experience a sense of recognition when entering another theological library and encountering another theological librarian. And that sense of recognition comes from sharing a similar set of ends. The genius of ATLA is to capitalize on this similar set of ends in order to accomplish even greater things together.

--Andrew Keck

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We welcome your submission of news, photos, and other items of interest for the *ATLA Newsletter*. All submissions are due on the first business day of the month preceding publication. Contact newsletter@atla.com with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.

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ATLA Welcomes Annual Meetings of AAR and SBL to the Windy City, November 17-20

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meetings of AAR and SBL: ATLA will be in the exhibit hall (booth # 346), which will be open Saturday through Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. ATLA will also host a reception for members and friends on Saturday, November 17, at a downtown Chicago location from 4:00-7:00 p.m. See the *ATLA Newsletter* in October and November for further details and plans for additional gatherings.

Routine Maintenance Reminder

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, October 1, 2012. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. (CDT). Services that will be affected include ASE, listservs, the ATLA website and member community sections. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

ATLA CPLI® - Registered Trademark

It's official - ATLA has received a U.S. Patent Certificate for the *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index®* (ATLA CPLI®). To celebrate, staff members recently convened for the unveiling of a commemorative plaque, while enjoying symbolically trademarked cupcakes.



2012 NFAIS Humanities Roundtable XI: Focus on the Library! October 1, 2012

The National Federation of Advanced Information Services (NFAIS - www.nfaiss.org) will hold the Eleventh Annual NFAIS Humanities Roundtable, *Focus on the Library!*, October 1, 2012.

Beth Bidlack, ATLA Board Vice President and Collection Assessment and Analysis Librarian, Dartmouth University, will be a presenter. Also, Margot Lyon, ATLA Director of Business Development, is a member of the planning committee.

Additional information at: <http://www.nfaiss.org/page/370-2012-nfaiss-humanities-roundtable>.

[Read the full press release.](#)

October 1 Application Deadline for 2013 Wabash Colloquy

Theological librarians in the twenty-first century play an essential role in theological education. Institutional standards developed by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) highlight the centrality of the library for theological scholarship and education. Librarians serve at a nexus of faculty, student, and institutional instructional needs. This colloquy will explore the vocation of theological librarianship and promote the development of strategies and skills for increasing the effectiveness of librarians in the teaching and learning process in their institutional and professional contexts. **The application deadline for this event is October 1, 2012.** For more information, visit www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu.

Staff News

Rachel Scott Departs ATLA

Rachel Scott, one of ATLA's Bibliographic and Authority Assistants, has accepted a librarian position. She has been a tremendous asset to the acquisitions team and we are very sorry to see her go. Rachel's last day will be Friday, Sept. 14.

ATLA Member Renewals

Renewal of institutional and individual memberships in the American Theological Library Association is now underway. The ATLA membership year runs from September 1 through August 31.

A renewal reminder from ATLA Board President Andrew Keck was e-mailed to members on Thursday, August 23. If you did not receive a renewal notice, please contact memberrep@atla.com.

As Keck stated in his message, ATLA membership provides numerous benefits, including discounted conference registration, publications (*ATLA Newsletter*, *Theological Librarianship*, *Theology Cataloging Bulletin*, and the annual *ATLA Summary of Proceedings*), access to networking, professional development opportunities, discounts on products, and more.

Thanks to those members who have already renewed their memberships online. If you have questions or concerns regarding your 2012-2013 ATLA membership renewal, please e-mail memberrep@atla.com.

2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color

The American Theological Library Association will exhibit at the 2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC), September 19-23 in Kansas City, MO. JCLC is sponsored by the five member associations of ethnic librarians—the American Indian Library Association (AILA), the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), and REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking. JCLC brings together a diverse group of librarians, library staff, library supporters, and community partners to explore issues of diversity in libraries and how they affect the ethnic communities who use libraries.



In addition to promoting the American Theological Library Association at booth #108 in the JCLC Exhibit Hall, Miguel Figueroa, ATLA Director of Member Programs, will present "Diversity Counts 2012" on Friday September 21, sharing findings from the forthcoming update to the American Library Association's Diversity Counts report, a study of gender, race and ethnicity, and age in the library profession based on data from the 2009 and 2010 American Community Surveys.

2013 Call for Proposals

The Annual Conference and Education Committees cordially invite members and friends of the American Theological Library Association to submit proposals for:

- Pre-conference Workshops
- In-conference Workshops
- Papers
- Panel Presentations
- Listen & Learn Sessions
- Interest Group Presentations
- Conversation Groups
- Posters or Other Special Sessions

The conference will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, June 19-22, 2013. The Committees will consider proposals addressing theological librarianship, the academic disciplines of theology, and/or general librarianship.

For more information, instructions, and to submit a proposal, please visit the [2013 Proposal Guidelines](#) page. All submissions are due by Sunday, September 30.



ATLA Presents Joint Digitization Session at ALA

In June, at the American Library Association's Annual Conference, ATLA joined forces with ALA's Association of Specialized & Cooperative Library Agencies Division (ASCLA), the Association of Jewish Libraries, the Catholic Library Association, and the ALA Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table Jewish Information Committee for a special joint session to discuss cooperative digitization projects. Digitization of collections of interdisciplinary and historical records related to a particular denomination or faith help researchers delve into contemporary questions of church and state boundaries, as well as a history of the development of local communities, regions, and nations. This program featured several projects related to Methodism, Judaism, and Catholicism that are currently underway and discussed how cooperative digitization and digital library projects bring together these kinds of materials from different types of institutions that are geographically dispersed, particular problems that they pose, and resulting unresolved copyright ownership issues. The moderator, Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Executive Director of the American Theological Library Association, led a panel that included Dr. Rebecca Jefferson, Andrew Keck, and Jennifer Younger.



Member News

Job Openings

Are you in the market for a new position? Be sure to check the [ATLA web listings](#) to see who is hiring now.

Several positions have been posted this month:

The **Virginia Theological Seminary**, Alexandria, VA, is seeking an [Electronic Services and Serials Librarian](#).

The **American Theological Library Association**, Chicago, IL, is seeking a [Communications Specialist](#).

The **American Theological Library Association**, Chicago, IL, is seeking a [Production Manager](#).

The **American Theological Library Association**, Chicago, IL, is seeking a [Business Strategy Analyst](#).

The **Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary**, Louisville, KY, is seeking a [Library Director](#).

Member Update

On July 2, 2012, **Robert A. McInnes** became Head Librarian at New Life Theological Seminary (Charlotte, NC), an affiliate member of the ATLA.

Graziano Krätli has been appointed Digital Projects and Technology Librarian at the Yale Divinity Library. Previously, Graziano held positions at Yale's Sterling Memorial Library as International Program Support Librarian and International Digital Projects Librarian. He earned his B.A. from the Accademia Albertina di Belle Arti (Torino, Italy) and his M.L.I.S from Dominican University (River Forest, Ill.). He has published extensively and is the editor of *The Trans-Saharan Book Trade* (Brill, 2010) and the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Manuscript Cultures in Asia and Africa* (De Gruyter).

Cindy Suchin Lu has been appointed the Librarian for Asian Christianity, the first to hold this new position, at the Yale Divinity School Library. Previously, Cindy served as the Librarian for Reference and Access Services at New Brunswick Theological Seminary, the Director of Library and Information Services at Singapore Bible College, and the Director of Library and Information Services at Somerset Christian College, New Jersey. She received a B.A. in English from the



National Kaohsiung Normal University in Taiwan, her M.Div. from Singapore Bible College, a Th.M. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and a M.L.I.S. from Rutgers University in New Jersey. She is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. program at the School of Communication and Information at Rutgers University. Her research interest is focused on applying social epistemology and social network theory to analyze the information-seeking behavior of theologians.

If you have personal updates or announcements that you would like shared in the ATLA Newsletter, please send them to newsletter@atla.com.

ATLA Endowment Committee Announces Donation Matching Opportunity for 2012-2013

UPDATE: The Endowment has raised \$1200 to date for this matching period. Donations made to the ATLA Endowment Fund this year will be matched with ATLA product revenue up to a total of \$7,500. Now, more than ever, donations to the ATLA Endowment will truly have an impact.

The Endowment Fund's purpose is to secure the future of ATLA as a membership association. The fund received its first major gift in 1993 when Mrs. Jean Kelly Morris gave stock shares valued at \$11,600 in memory of her late husband, Dr. Raymond P. Morris. This lead gift, in conjunction with charitable contributions of many individual members and friends, matching gift contributions by ATLA and sound investment strategies, have increased the value of the Endowment Fund to more than \$270,000.

In addition to cash gifts, the Endowment Fund is also able to receive gifts of land, stock, life insurance policies, and other financial instruments. All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent provided by law. Contributions are invested in an investment portfolio where the principal remains untouched.

To find ways to support the Endowment Fund or to make a contribution, please visit <https://www.atla.com/Members/programs/endowment/Pages/default.aspx>

Member News

Theological Libraries Month October 2012

Theological Libraries Month (TLM) is scheduled annually in October for the purpose of advancing the importance and value of theological libraries and library services to targeted faculty, administrators, staff, and students. TLM materials and a planning guide to help make your Theological Library Month activities a success are available on the [ATLA website](#). In addition, [mini-grants](#) of up to \$500 are available to help fund activities for TLM at your institution. Applications for mini-grants are due by September 15.



Did You Know?

Theological Librarianship

The Editorial Board of *Theological Librarianship* is pleased to announce the publication of its latest issue, including 2 columns, 5 essays, 1 peer-reviewed article, 2 bibliographic essays, and 11 critical reviews. We are encouraged at the steady intake of proposals and submissions, and (as always) welcome your constructive comments and suggestions. Policy and submission information can be found by clicking [here](#). Please see the latest issue of *Theological Librarianship*, as well as archived issues, at www.theolib.org.

Technology Cataloging Bulletin

The August 2012 issue of the *Theology Cataloging Bulletin*, a benefit of membership, is now available. Please [click here](#) to access this issue in the members only section of the ATLA website. While you are there, be sure to take advantage of opportunities to network with your fellow ATLA members through announcements, calendars, interest groups, denominational groups, and shared member publications.

ATLA Calendar

September

- 8-12: Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie (BETH) 41st General Assembly, Belfast, Northern Ireland - Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 19-23: Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC), Kansas City, MO - Miguel A. Figueroa attending

October

- 1: NFAIS Humanities Round Table, New York City - Margot Lyon and Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 7-9: Lilly Websites Consultation Meeting, Durham, NC - Brenda Bailey-Hainer and Rick Rybak attending
- 18-20: ATLA Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago, IL

November

- 7-11: Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC - Margot Lyon attending
- 17-20: Annual Meetings of AAR and SBL, Chicago, IL - ATLA Staff Attending

ATLA Birding Passion Group 2012

In stark contrast to last year's near rain-out in Chicago, the 2012 ATLA Birding Passion Group outing in Scottsdale, AZ began with clear skies and a temperature of around 80 F. It also promised and delivered on a variety of desert birds, including a few surprises.

Our hosts Kathe Anderson and her friend Lois, whom I'd contacted via the Arizona birding listserv, met Lynn Berg, Carisse Berryhill, Eric Friede, Karla Grafton, and me at 5:00 a.m. on Thursday 28 June and drove us out into the Sonoran Desert to a dam on the Salt River near Mesa.

Two days earlier, Eric and I had finished a week-long birding trip to the canyons of southeastern Arizona, during which we saw 122 different species (not a particularly remarkable total) including such beauties as Violet-crowned Hummingbird, Elegant Trogon, Hepatic Tanager, and Grace's Warbler; and such rarities as Spotted Owl (our chief quarry) and Flame-colored Tanager. With this in mind, I told Eric on Wednesday evening that the ATLA group would be lucky to see more than one or two species that he and I hadn't seen in the southeast.



"That mountain in the distance is the Four Peaks; I think it might be the one pictured on the Arizona license plate," said Kathe on the drive to our first stop, a park just east of the dam.

Kathe started calling out bird names as soon as we emerged from the cars: "White-winged Dove on the ground under the mesquite straight ahead of us. And there's a Gila Woodpecker; they carve out nests in the saguaros—look at all the holes in that one across the road!"

"I hear a Ladder-backed Woodpecker—there it is at three o'clock on that bare branch on the tree right in front of us. Down on the ground, right on the path, see those big sparrow-like birds with the black faces? Abert's Towhees. "

We made our way to the river bank. The Salt was about 100 meters wide here. A few kilometers to the north rose a low layer-cake mountain, its strata up-thrust at an oblique angle by primeval forces. "That's Red Mountain; it's sacred to the Tohono O'odham," Kathe observed. Just then, a flock of small white herons flew low over the river. "Snowy Egrets, look at their yellow feet!"

"Osprey!" I called, scaring the bird off before everyone could get a look at it. Definitely bad form, though no one said so.

"That's a good bird for around here," said Kathe. "So's that: Gilded Flicker—too bad: it's flown across the river."

"There's another one right above us on a dead branch!" Carisse shouted, and we all got a chance to admire the large grey-faced woodpecker, with its red moustachial stripe, brown crown, black-spotted belly, and yellow tail feathers.

A couple of nondescript grey birds were flitting about in the crown of a dead tree. "I can't tell whether they're Lucy's Warblers or Verdins," said Kathe. She opened her *Sibley Guide to the Birds of North America* to a page that showed paintings of half-a-dozen easily-confused "little grey jobs" of the southwestern desert. The birds continued foraging, and we kept trying to glimpse one of the field marks that would settle the id.

"I think I see rufous on the upper-tail," I said.

"Lucy's then."

"What's that hummingbird that's flying around up there?" asked Carisse.

"From the sound of it and the amount of green on it, I'd say Anna's," replied Kathe, as Lois set up her telescope so that we could scan the reservoir.

"Is that a Black Vulture among the Turkeys over there on that dead tree? Hard to tell it from a juvenile Turkey at this distance. See what you can see on the water."

Eric was the first to try: "There's a grebe out there—no it's just ducklings." (Eric would later spot the only grebe of the trip, a Pied-billed).

Kathe moved the scope to the left. "Pintails, in eclipse plumage, swimming left. They shouldn't be anywhere near here at this time of year!" Lynn and Karla rushed over to get a look while the ducks were still in the field of view. They carried themselves with such elegance. "They're sort of the 007's of the bird world—'Shaken, not stirred,'" said Kathe.

A large, bulky, white water bird foraging on the far shore caught my eye. "Not an egret, it's huge; looks almost like a pelican."

"It is," said Kathe, "American White Pelican, another uncommon bird for this time of year." She found a couple of cormorants that were flying with their mouths open to cool off. "Neotropic," and then a lone Double-crested; "look at the yellow on the throat, and the crest," she called.

Kathe then drove us to a reedy backwater to see just one species: Common Gallinule—a coot-like bird with a brilliant red facial shield. It was a life bird for Eric.

Our third stop was supposed to be the confluence of the Verde and the Salt Rivers, but the Verde had failed to show up. "It's supposed to flow in where those tire tracks are over there in the sand," Kathe explained as she pointed across the Salt. "There's been so much controversy over the water in that river." In the parking lot we noticed a man whose pickup had become high-centered on a mound of gravel. Kathe hooked her car up to the man's towing chain and stuck it in reverse, while the rest of us tried to push, but the pickup was stuck fast. We left the man with a bottle of water, and made our way down to the river, passing some roosting Turkey Vultures that were sunning themselves, each an avian *memento mori*.

A chunky gray and red robin-size bird flew out of the brush. "At least I know a female cardinal when I see one," said Carla.

"Well, you never know around here," Kathe replied, "you can't rule out Pyrrhuloxia, it looks a lot like the female Northern Cardinal." And out flew a brilliant red male cardinal to seal the id.

At our final stop Kathe found us the most striking bird of the trip: brilliant red it was, except for its black mask—Vermilion Flycatcher. We saw several. They like to perch on exposed twigs, sally after insects, and then return to the same perch. The female was colorful in her own right: streaked black on gray below, with a salmon belly. Kathe then led us past a group of rock climbers and along a narrow path below a cliff and then had us look up. Seven or eight meters above our heads was a series of honeycombs that were black with bees. On our way back to the parking lot she pointed to the far bank of the river: a Green Heron, smallish metallic green back and rusty underparts was stalking prey in the grassy shallows.

Kathe then led us to a picnic table, where she unpacked a cooler containing a jug of ice water and some tubs of trail mix and dried fruit. As we were eating, she distributed checklists and had us tick off the 45 species we'd seen. Then it was time for "bird of the day," but each person had to choose a different species. Lynn, I think, got the Vermilion Flycatcher, and the rest of us had to settle for lesser lights, like American White Pelican, Gilded Flicker, and Common Gallinule.

"You always see one more species on the way home," said Kathe as we left the parking lot. It was about 9:45 and the temperature had already risen to 100 degrees F. She asked Carisse and me to tell the story of how we became librarians, and we asked her to reciprocate with her lawyer testimony. Part way through her story she looked up at the wires over the freeway: "Eurasian Collared Dove," she exclaimed, "we haven't seen that yet, have we?"

Later in the day I compared lists and found that I'd seen 15 species on the Salt that I hadn't seen in southeastern Arizona.

From the Executive Director

IFLA 2012: Libraries Now!



The [International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#) (IFLA) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users, and serves as the global voice of the library and information profession. The theme of the 2012 IFLA conference, held in August in Helsinki, Finland, was *Libraries Now! – Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering*.

IFLA attracts attendees from all types of libraries. National, public, and academic libraries were particularly well-represented, in both the regular programs and the numerous poster sessions. I was particularly impressed with a session sponsored by the Open Access Taskforce: *The dual mode*

of scholarly communication, challenges and opportunities for librarians, libraries and the profession. Rick Luce, Associate Vice-President for Research and Dean, University Libraries, at the University of Oklahoma, Norman campus, challenged libraries to be proactive instead of reactive about pushing scholarly publishing into open access. He advocated for hiring librarians with the skills needed for future roles in open access, including marketing and legal and intellectual property competency. Lars Bjørnshauge, Director of European Library Relations for SPARC, provided an overview on the current state of open access initiatives. One of the significant challenges is the regime of Journal Impact Factor, which he stated is a major obstacle for open access publishing and has devastating effects on research in developing countries and countries in transition.



ATLA does not send representatives to IFLA on a regular basis, but this year was somewhat unusual. RELINDIAL, a new IFLA Special Interest Group which is devoted to libraries serving interfaith dialogue, held its inaugural meeting. It was attended by 36 librarians from 5 continents and 16 countries. René-Vincent du Grandlaunay, Head Librarian from the [Dominican Institute for Oriental Studies](#) (IDEO) in Cairo, Egypt, gave a presentation on the library and its collection. IDEO is a research institute mainly dedicated to the sources of Arab and Muslim civilization, and to help make Islam better known and appreciated in its religious and spiritual dimensions. Amélie Vallotton was also on the program and provided an overview of [GlobeTheoLib](#). Odile Dupont, BETH President, convened the meeting and solicited volunteers for projects related to the work of the SIG.



Among the projects that have come out of Odile's energy and dedication to this topic, is an agreement with the IFLA Publications Series to publish a book about libraries serving interfaith dialogue. If you are interested in submitting a paper on the topic, please get in touch with Odile, who will serve as editor, via email at o.dupont@icp.fr.

It's exciting to see interest in interfaith dialogue growing. As Dan Aleshire noted in his article, "The Future Has Arrived" in a recent issue of *Theological Education* (v. 46, n. 2(2011): 69-8.), "North America is increasingly experiencing the influence, interaction and presence of religions of the world." Increasingly, the curriculum at the schools that ATLA members

serve will be evolving to give graduates the skills they need to work in a multi-faith environment. Simply creating a nonthreatening environment that supports dialogue is a step in the right direction.

--Brenda Bailey-Hainer