

# ATLA

# newsletter

American Theological Library Association



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# ATLA Newsletter

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## Mission Statement

The mission of the American Theological Library Association is to foster the study of theology and religion by enhancing the development of theological and religious libraries and librarianship.

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## AMERICAN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007–2008

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# ATLA

# Member News

*a professional association of theological libraries and librarians*

## President's Message



Dear Colleagues,

In a toasty conference room far above the frigid streets of Chicago, your ATLA Board of Directors recently held its midwinter meeting. "Policy Governance" was a main item on the agenda. It doesn't sound too exciting, I know, but discussion on this topic provided an opportunity to examine some of the core values of our association and to think about where we should be headed in the future. I would like to tell you a little about the Policy Governance model and what it might mean for ATLA and its members.

Policy Governance is a theory about how boards of directors of organizations should operate. Developed over the past few decades by John and Miriam Carver, the Policy Governance model seeks to define the relationship between the board of an organization and the Chief Executive Officer who runs the organization on a day to day basis. The board has only one employee under this model, the CEO; all other staff report to the CEO. According to the Policy Governance model, organizations have "ends" and "means." The board's job is to determine the "ends" and the CEO's job is to find the "means" for implementing the "ends." So, for example, one of ATLA's stated "Organizational Ends" is "to foster the professional growth of its members, and to enhance their ability to serve their constituencies as administrators and librarians." Our Executive Director, Dennis

Norlin, is charged with implementing programs that will help ATLA achieve this end.

The Policy Governance model is designed to discourage boards from micromanaging; the board should be focused on defining the goals and future of an organization rather than on its daily work. Once a board has decided "what good the organization is to produce, for what people, and at what cost," it also sets certain "executive limitations" to guide its CEO; these limitations are intended to delineate what would be unacceptable means of achieving the stated ends, e.g., "The executive director may neither cause nor allow any organizational practice that is imprudent or unethical." The Policy Governance model imagines all decisions as a nested set descending from an organizational end; the board determines the largest set (the end) and works "inward" to a point after which it will tolerate all reasonable interpretations by the CEO from that point on. For the sample "end" cited above, our ATLA Board would be going against the Policy Governance model if we instructed our Executive Director to implement a specific program as a means of fostering the professional growth of ATLA members.

This all sounds pretty straightforward but of course the devil is in the details. How should priorities between various stated ends be determined? How do we assess whether an end is being met? Should the ends be constantly evolving as an organization evolves? How does a board decide on the appropriate level for toleration of all "reasonable interpretations" by the CEO? How does the board effectively monitor the ongoing work of the organization? How does the board develop a cohesive understanding of its role and monitor its own performance?

The Carver Policy Governance model was implemented by ATLA back in 1991 but somewhat loosely applied. Board members

did not receive any kind of formal training about the model as the years went by. At our Board meeting in January 2007 we decided that the time had come to rectify this, so in September two Board members, David Stewart and Laura Wood, attended a workshop conducted by John and Miriam Carver in Atlanta. David and Laura presented a report to the Board at our recent meeting and made some recommendations about how we might need to revise our policies and practices in order to be more in sync with the Policy Governance model. In response to this report the Board created a new Standing Committee on Governance, which is charged with helping the Board become more adept at using the Policy Governance model and beginning a review of ATLA's organizational ends. You will hear more about this in the coming months.

According to the Policy Governance Model web site, "The model enables the board to focus on the larger issues, to delegate with clarity, to control management's job without meddling, to rigorously evaluate the accomplishment of the organization; to truly lead its organization." Our association is "owned" by you, the members, and the Board is accountable for representing you and speaking for your interests. As we go through the process of reevaluating the ends and means of our association, we hope that you will let us know what you are thinking. We can all begin by reading the current ATLA Organizational Ends again, with fresh eyes:

"The mission of the American Theological Library Association is to foster the study of theology and religion by enhancing the development of theological and religious libraries and librarianship. In pursuit of this mission, the association undertakes:

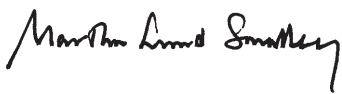
- 1) to foster the professional growth of its members, and to enhance their ability to serve their constituencies as administrators and librarians;

*continued on page 4*

*continued from page 3*

- 2) to advance the profession of theological librarianship, and to assist theological librarians in defining and interpreting the proper role and function of libraries in theological education; The Board interprets a timely element of this organizational end to be to promote the introduction and assimilation of individuals from minority communities into theological librarianship and the community of ATLA.
- 3) to promote quality library and information services in support of teaching, learning, and research in theology, religion, and related disciplines, and to create such tools and aids (including publications) as may be helpful in accomplishing this; and
- 4) to stimulate purposeful collaboration among librarians of theological libraries and religious studies collections, and to develop programmatic solutions to information-related problems common to those librarians and collections.”

Libraries and ATLA have changed a great deal since 1991 when these organizational ends were first developed. If you have thoughts about whether/how our ends should be revised, please do not hesitate to let the Board know what you are thinking.



*Martha Lund Smalley  
ATLA Board President  
Yale University Divinity School Library*



## 2008 ATLA Board Meeting Highlights



*ATLA Board of Directors, left to right: seated, M. Patrick Graham, Duane Harbin, Carisse Mickey Berryhill, James C. Pakala, Allen W. Mueller; standing, Saundra Lipton, Laura Wood, David R. Stewart (Vice-President), Roberta Schaafsma (Secretary), Martha Lund Smalley (President), Eileen Crawford, and Cait Kokolus.*

### **Summary report of the ATLA Board of Directors Midwinter Meeting, January 17-19, 2008**

The ATLA Board of Directors met at ATLA Headquarters for its semiannual Board meeting. The following summary highlights the business conducted. Full minutes will be posted on the Board’s website, available to all ATLA members, at: [www.atla.com/board/newboardhome.html](http://www.atla.com/board/newboardhome.html).

### **Association of Theological Schools Library Statistics Form**

Paul Stuehrenberg and Bill Miller were invited to talk with the Board about the ATS library statistics form. As a result of last June’s annual conference roundtable on the ATS statistical form an ATS Statistics Task Force was formed and the members are Paul Stuehrenberg, Bill Hook, Mitzi Budde, and Sara Myers. Paul shared with the Board the work of the task force to date in creating a survey to be sent to library directors for obtaining feedback on the current ATS form. Bill Miller indicated that ATS

recognizes the problems with the current form and is very interested in working with the task force on revising it.

### **On-Site Inspection of Member Services/ Dues Increases**

Three members of the Board met with the staff of the Member Services Department. The direct inspection team’s report was very positive and appreciative of the department’s leadership, adaptability to change, and new member programs. Continued commitment and work on redevelopment of the ATLA website, recruitment and retention of members, reaching out to regional groups, and addressing the professional development needs of small libraries were encouraged.

A part of the work of the Member Services direct inspection is a review of the dues structure. The Board and ATLA Headquarters staff agreed that no dues increase is necessary at this time. Also, it was determined that any future dues increases will be effective one year after the membership votes to enact the increase.

### **New Interest Group and Committees Approved**

The Board voted to approve the formation of one new interest group and three new committees.

#### ***Teaching and Learning Interest Group.***

This focus of this new interest group is related to the teaching and learning role of libraries and librarians and the research behaviors of library patrons.

***Special Committee on Diversity.*** This committee will work on diversity efforts such as reaching out to new minority members, selecting recipients of ATLA Scholarships for Minorities, and promoting annual conference programs related to diversity.

***Audit Committee*** (standing committee of the Board). The Audit Committee, comprised of three Board members, will monitor the auditing of the association's financial records and select an audit firm each year.

***Governance Committee*** (standing committee of the Board). The Governance Committee will typically include Board members who have attended a workshop on the Policy Governance model. The committee's work will include ascertaining that the Board Policy Manual follows the policy governance language and format and assisting the board in interpreting the Policy Governance model. Responsibility for new Board member orientation will now fall to this committee.

#### **Executive Director Succession Planning**

The Board engaged in several conversations about succession planning as Dennis Norlin will retire in 2011. A committee will be formed at the June Board meeting to outline plans for this search.

*Roberta A. Schaafsma,  
ATLA Board Secretary  
Bridwell Library,  
Perkins School of Theology*



**WELCOME**

**ATLA**

**NEW MEMBERS**

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

Mrs. Ene Andrilli, Huntingdon Valley, PA  
Dr. Joseph Cathey, Godley, TX  
Mr. Michael Daubenmire, Roseville, CA  
Ms. Susan Green, Davenport, IA  
Miss Mary Jean Johnson, Bluffon, OH  
Mrs. Veronica M. Lewis, Three Hills, AB, Canada  
Mr. David Mayo, Charlotte, NC  
Ms. Gillian McLeod, Vancouver, BC, Canada  
Ms. Cassandra Moon, Davenport, IA  
Ms. Elizabeth Park, Escondido, CA  
Mr. Stephen V. Sweeney, Glendale, CO  
Miss Renee C. Willkom, Esopus, NY

**STUDENT MEMBERS**

Ms. Jennifer L. Carter, Largo, FL  
Mr. Jonathan Jones, Stow, OH  
Mr. William A. Keillor, St. Paul, MN  
Ms. Mary A. McMillen, Lockport, NY  
Ms. Kristina L. Messler, Columbus, OH  
Mr. Stephen L. Pelton, Henrietta, NY  
Dr. Jane Marie Pinzino, Tampa, FL  
Ms. Chrissa E. Shamberger, Columbus, OH  
Mr. Charles Skriner, Notre Dame, IN

**INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS**

Logsdon Seminary, Abilene, TX

**AFFILIATE MEMBER LIBRARIES**

Ave Maria University, Ave Maria, FL  
Virginia Wesleyan College, Norfolk, VA

**AFFILIATE MEMBER ORGANIZATION**

Acton Institute, Grand Rapids, MI



*Local hosts André Paris (left) and François Lamoureux*

## *Important Dates*

**March 1**

Registration Opens

**May 16**

Early Bird Deadline

**May 26**

Housing Deadline:  
Conference rates at  
both hotels—the  
Westin Ottawa and  
the Novotel—expire  
after this date!

Reserve your room  
before May 26.

Since being named Canada's capital by Queen Victoria in 1857, Ottawa has grown into a city that uniquely represents the nation, showcasing the best of its French and English heritage, culture, and day-to-day living. Situated on the Ottawa River, a common border shared by the Provinces of Ontario and Québec, the city is as renowned for its parks and pathways as it is for being the country's seat of power—alive with vitality and rich in historic tradition.

Ideally located in the heart of the city, the Westin Ottawa (and the Novotel) provides guests an opportunity for exploration of the many historical and cultural elements of the city. Complementing the Westin's ambience are its indoor walkways to both the Rideau Centre Shopping Mall and Ottawa Congress Centre. You'll enjoy the ultimate vantage point for spectacular views of the Rideau Canal and Byward Market from floor-to-ceiling guest room windows.

Ottawa is able to offer world class dining with a great range in choice of menus. With more restaurants per capita than almost any other city in the country, we can probably please your palate, no matter your preferred taste in food. From traditional haute cuisine to the more contemporary and exotic ethnic foods, you'll discover a wonderful range of delicious fare: French (of course!), American-Southwest, Cajun, Italian, Polish, Spanish, Thai, just to name a few.

The City of Ottawa's heritage is one of our most cherished assets. Our stories are preserved, researched, and recounted through a wealth of local archives, museums, historical and archaeological sites, cemeteries, historical gardens, commemorations, libraries, programs and events, walking tours, public art installations, galleries, memorials, and a stunning architectural legacy.

Still got energy to burn after a full day of meetings and sightseeing? Ottawa has a very active nightlife, presenting a wide range of entertainment options. Whether you see a play at one of the local theatres, listen to a classical concert, or visit one of the many nightclubs, you can always find something to do in Ottawa.

*—Votre Comité local*

*The text above was adapted from [www.ottawakiosk.com](http://www.ottawakiosk.com) and the City of Ottawa website ([www.ottawa.ca](http://www.ottawa.ca))*



## Member News

### *A Most Rewarding Opportunity*

Despite a weak US dollar, new passport requirements (see below), and expensive airfare, there are extra incentives to attend the ATLA 2008 Annual Conference in Ottawa, Ontario.

The Annual Conference, Education and Local Host committees have worked hard to create a rich and engaging conference program that highlights the best of Ottawa, French-Canadian culture and ATLA member leadership. The schedule is still firming up, but you can see the bulk of the programming at [http://www.atla.com/member/conference/conf\\_2008/conference\\_home.html](http://www.atla.com/member/conference/conf_2008/conference_home.html)

The Westin Ottawa will be our primary conference hotel and, due to a scheduling challenge, our primary sponsor. The Westin elected to renegotiate the conference contract signed in 2004. In exchange for ATLA's flexibility in moving half of the block of sleeping rooms to the Novotel (1/2 block walk from the Westin) and holding plenary sessions and exhibits at the attached Ottawa Congress Centre (connected by walkway to the Westin's second floor), ATLA will receive a generous credit to the master bill. This should be enough to cover all audiovisual expenses and food for some breaks and provide significant underwriting of the closing banquet.

Because of this one-time occurrence, ATLA conference attendees will experience wonderful benefits with minimal disruption. When conference registration opens on March 1, expect to see reduced registration and banquet fees and, most importantly, an incredible conference program.

Come to Ottawa and experience Canadian and ATLA hospitality at its finest!

—Barbara Kemmis, ATLA Director of Member Services

### *Plenary Speakers*

**Leslie Weir • Thursday, June 26**

Leslie Weir is the University Librarian at the University of Ottawa. Before joining the University in 1992, Ms. Weir worked at the National Library of Canada where she was a senior manager in information technology. She has worked as an information professional since 1979, and holds a Masters of Library Science from McGill University.

**Dr. Gregory Gerhard Baum • Friday, June 27**

Dr. Gregory Gerhard Baum, professor emeritus of McGill University's Faculty of Religious Studies, is one of Canada's leading contemporary theologians and an important contributor to the understanding of religion and spirituality in the context of modern human experiences. He is the author of more than 20 books and numerous groundbreaking works that have focused not only on the contemplative dimension of religion, but its social and political dimensions as well.

### *Be Sure You're Passport Ready!*

Remember, As of January 23, 2007, citizens of the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Bermuda must present a passport to enter the United States when arriving by air from any part of the Western Hemisphere. More information is available on the State Department's consular web site, [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov), and on the DHS web site, [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov). U.S. citizens can find information about how to apply for a passport at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) or by calling 1-877-487-2778.



### *Excursions*

- Parliament Library
- National Library, Preservation Centre
- Gatineau Park
- Museum of Civilization and the National Gallery of Canada
- Ottawa Boat Cruise (Thursday dinner)
- Association for Baha'i Studies—North America

## Member Notes

### Professional Development Committee at ATLA Headquarters

The PDC met on November 8 and 9, 2007 in Chicago with a full agenda of items related to the continuing education of theological librarians. Top photo, left to right: **Seth Kasten**, **Kris Veldheer**, **Angela Morris**, and Chair **Eric Friede**.



### Endowment Committee in Chicago

The Endowment Committee met at ATLA Headquarters on Thursday, January 17 to discuss their future efforts. Middle photo: seated, **M. Patrick Graham** (left) and **Roger L. Loyd** (chair); standing, **Elmer O'Brien** (left) and **Mary Bischoff**



### Ottawa Meeting Planning

From October 18-20, members of the Annual Conference Committee (ACC) and the Education Committee (EC) met in Ottawa with Director of Member Services Barbara Kemmis to plan for the 2008 Annual Conference.

Bottom photo, left to right: **Bruce Keisling**, ACC; **Blake Walter**, EC; **Sandy Ayer**, EC; **Bruce Eldevik**, ACC; and **John Weaver**, ACC. (Not pictured: **André Paris** and **Eric Stancliff**, ACC; **Carrie Hackney**, **François Lamoureux**, and **Nancy Adams**, EC.)



### New Digital Collections at Princeton Seminary Library

When **Clifford Anderson**, curator of special collections at Princeton Seminary, and his colleagues were searching for a robust system to move forward with their digital collections, they spent more than a year looking at options. They finally decided on the MarkLogic Server, an XML content server from Mark Logic Corporation. "Mark Logic made it possible for us to build and deploy

applications directly in XQuery, without any additional overhead," said Anderson.

Digitizing library materials and thus making them accessible to scholars and church leaders around the world is a key part of the Seminary's strategic plan. "We recognize that the best way to compete under these constantly changing conditions is to leverage our specialized knowledge of the content," said **Stephen Crocco**, the Seminary's James Lennox Librarian.

The Seminary Library unveiled its new digital collections at a joint meeting of the New York Theological Library Association and the Southeast Pennsylvania Theological Library Association on Friday, October 26 on the Princeton Seminary Campus. The system is available at <http://digital.library.ptsem.edu>.



### ICC Grants Awarded

In December, Secretary **Maggie Tarpley** and members of the International Collaboration Committee were very pleased to announce that—with several very deserving applications to consider—the Committee awarded the 2008 ICC Grant in an equal split of \$1000.00 each to:

- **Christopher Anderson**/Drew University/Africa University—Project entitled "Building Collections on Methodism for Global Users: A Collaborative Effort between Africa University and Drew University."
- **Luba Zakharov**/ Duke University Divinity School/ Moscow Theological Seminary—Project entitled "Promoting a New Collaboration with the Commonwealth of Independent States."



### New Member Benefit

Alexander Street Press, in cooperation with the American Theological Library

## Member News

Association, is offering ATLA members substantial discounts on permanent access to *The Digital Karl Barth Library*. The program allows member libraries to make a one-time purchase to this outstanding database at discounts of up to 80%!

This offer is made possible through the generous support of Princeton Theological Seminary, our partner in the creation of *The Digital Karl Barth Library*. Consortial pricing has been extended through June 2008. To learn more and to take advantage of this benefit, visit <http://www.alexanderstreet.com/atla2007.htm>



### Members in the News

Congratulations to **Melody Layton McMahon** on her appointment as the new Director of the Paul Bechtold Library at Catholic Theological Union of Chicago. Melody joins CTU from John Carroll University in Cleveland where she served in various capacities including Reference Librarian, Cataloguing Librarian, and Leader of the Database Maintenance Unit. Melody holds a M.S. in library service from Columbia University and an M.A. in theology from St. Mary Seminary in Cleveland.

Catholic Theological Union is the largest Roman Catholic graduate school of theology in the United States. The Paul Bechtold

Library has a collection of approximately 150,000 volumes with a particular focus on Catholic materials.

**David Hagelaar**, Associate Chief Librarian of the John M. Kelly Library at the University of St. Michael's College, has agreed to act as Interim Chief Librarian effective January 7, 2008. He will be acting in the place of Jonathan Bengtson who will be leaving to take up the position of Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Resources at University of Toronto Libraries.

**Ryan Combs** has accepted a position as the religion reference librarian at Brigham Young University. He is replacing former ATLA member Gary Gillum, who recently retired from that position.

**Sara J. Myers**, Director of The John Bulow Campbell Library at Columbia Theological Seminar, Decatur, Georgia announced the appointment of Christopher Ann Paton as full-time Archivist effective November 12, 2007.

Chris came to Columbia from the Georgia Division of Archives and History where she had been a Reference Archivist and, earlier, Reference Services Manager. Prior to the Georgia Archives, she spent twenty years in the Special Collections Department at Pullen Library of Georgia State University. At Georgia State she was the Archivist for the Popular Music Collection. She was responsible for building a research collection of diverse materials based on the personal papers of the lyricist Johnny Mercer.



### Contest Winners Announced

Forty-one ATLA members sent in their votes to decide the winning captions for the TLM Cartoon Contest. Finalists for Cartoon #1 were Charles R. Baker, Michael Kern, and John Boyles; finalists for #2 were Charles R. Baker, Michael Kern, and Susan Burdick ([http://www.atla.com/member/librarians\\_tools/TLM/TLM\\_07/tlm\\_cartoons.html](http://www.atla.com/member/librarians_tools/TLM/TLM_07/tlm_cartoons.html))

Michael was the winner for his caption for cartoon #1 and Charles was the top vote-getter for cartoon #2. They each received a \$100 cash prize. Many thanks to all those entrants who submitted their captions and also to those who voted for their favorites.



### Third Edition of Badke Book

The third edition of William Badke's *Research Strategies: Finding your Way Through the Information Fog* (iUniverse.com, 2008) is due to be released in March. It is extensively revised and updated, and is about 30 percent larger than the second edition (2004). For more information, go to <http://www.acts.twu.ca/LBR/papered.htm>. For a summary of the changes between the second and third editions, go to <http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/comparison.htm>. You may also want to follow Badke's regular column in *Online Magazine*, entitled "InfoLitLand."



*continued on page 10*

## The ATLA Endowment Committee: @ Your Service

The Committee has a new goal: 100 contributors in 2008! And as an incentive, thanks to the success of its products and services, ATLA will match all annual gifts two-for-one during the year. Will you help?

Please consider the Endowment Fund when you wish to honor or memorialize someone with a gift. We will also be happy to assist you with any questions you may have regarding your planned giving.

*Roger L. Loyd, Endowment Committee Chair*



continued from page 9

**IFLA/OCLC Fellowship Application Deadline Reminder**

March 7 is the deadline for submitting an application and supporting materials for the 2009 IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program, which provides early career development and continuing education for library and information science professionals, including theological librarians, from countries with developing economies. It is jointly sponsored by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), OCLC Online Computer Library Center, and ATLA. Applicants are not required to be ATLA members. Complete applications must be submitted by Friday, March 7, 2008. Information is available at <http://www.ifla.org/III/grants/ecdf.htm>.



**Upcoming Newsletter Submissions**

The deadline for submissions for the May issue of the *ATLA Newsletter* is April 1, 2008. Please send news items, announcements, etc., to Sara Corkery, Communications Specialist, at [newsletter@atla.com](mailto:newsletter@atla.com). For submission guidelines see the newsletter home page: [www.atla.com/member/publications/newsletter.html](http://www.atla.com/member/publications/newsletter.html).



**New Course Offering on Scholarly Writing for Librarians**

ATLA members who wish to fortify their writing skills will be happy to hear of a new opportunity: the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) has added "Scholarly Writing for the LIS Profession" to its spring continuing education curriculum. UIUC also offers the Theological Librarianship course through its LEEP program.

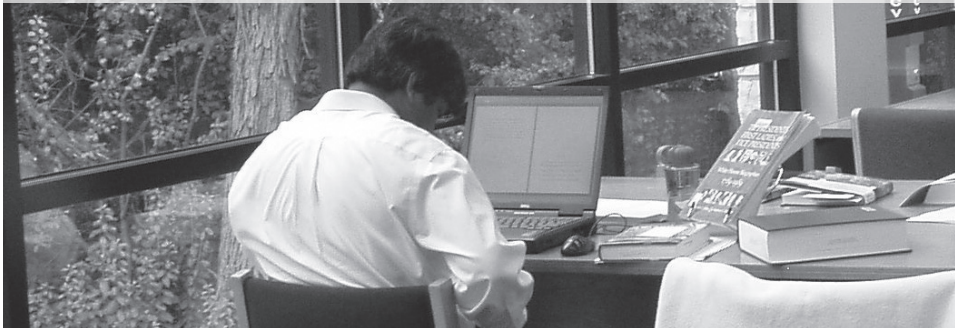
The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to the major genres of scholarly writing, primarily through actual writing and editing assignments and discussion of essential elements and approaches to scholarly writing. Topics included are general introduction to scholarly writing and editing, practice with writing abstracts, reviews, editorials, columns and other opinion pieces, reporting the results of case studies, best practices, surveys and focus group research, and writing discipline focused scholarly articles. The course will be conducted via the Moodle course management system, the same technology used by the Graduate School of Library and Information Science online education program (LEEP).

With a maximum of 12 participants, it is anticipated that the student body will be comprised exclusively of ATLA members for the inaugural class. The syllabus has been developed with input from ATLA's Publications and Professional Development Committees, so participants are sure to find the material relevant to their experience as theological librarians.

**Dates:** March 18 - May 6, 2008

**Times:** Tuesdays 2:00 - 3:00 pm central time. (please note: the first session on March 18 will be held from 2:00 - 4:00 pm.)

**Instructor:** Robert H. Burger, Ph.D., CPA, Professor Emeritus, GSLIS



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## Member News

### Recipe for Adventure: 2 Librarians + 11 Libraries + 4 Days + 451 miles

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*A selection of photos from the Theological Libraries Road Trip: left to right, Fuller Theological Seminary, Hebrew Union College, Biola University*

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The original inspiration for a “Theological Library Road Trip” was Kelly Campbell’s. Kelly is Director of Library Services at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. She discussed her idea with Barbara Kemmis, ATLA’s Director of Member Services, just before the banquet at the 2007 Annual Conference in Philadelphia. Barbara shamelessly invited herself along and planning for the trip began in earnest.

In order to develop an agenda, Kelly reached out to SCATLA members to identify which libraries to visit. The final list was:

#### **Tuesday**

- St. John’s Seminary, Camarillo
- The Master’s Seminary, Sun Valley

#### **Wednesday**

- Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena
- Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles

#### **Thursday**

- Biola University, La Mirada
- Claremont School of Theology, Claremont
- Azusa Pacific University, Azusa
- Golden Gate Baptist Seminary, Brea

#### **Friday**

- Hope International University, Fullerton
- Vanguard University, Costa Mesa
- Bethel Seminary, San Diego

The initial goal was to visit two to three libraries per day, but Kelly and Barbara quickly realized they had overachiever tendencies: they added even more schools to the list for unscheduled visits!

The libraries were all incredibly generous with staff time and resources, in some cases meeting with the traveling duo for hours. Kelly and Barbara found that although each facility boasted remarkable and unique features, they shared many similarities as well. Each was concerned about space—either repairing or building a new facility or ensuring that existing space is adequate for user needs. Each library has at least one treasure hidden in their special collections, inspiring pride among staff and awe in visitors. Each library reflects its faculty and students’ needs. While some have shifted to an emphasis on electronic books and databases delivered to students in multiple states, others have a primarily residential student body and the library serves as a

convening place where print resources are essential.

There is no substitute for in-person interaction. Kelly and Barbara can now carry a strong mental image of nine ATLA members and two new friends, and the libraries in which they work and the communities they serve. Most importantly, they’ve been privileged to observe theological librarianship in action and learned important lessons to guide ATLA’s work in service to you.

Be alert! Plans for the 2008 Library Road Trip are already underway and visitors may be adventuring to your neighborhood soon.



## Reason to Celebrate



In 2001-2002 the ATLA Professional Development Committee established a task force to study the viability of developing some kind of course or workshop devoted to theological librarianship. Chaired by David Stewart, the task force included Chad Abel-Kops, Ken Boyd, Ken O'Malley, Steven Perry, Christina Torbert, and Christine Wenderoth.

The task force determined that there was demand and a need for some kind of course and recommended a second task force charged with designing a curriculum for the proposed course. Chaired by Ivan Gaetz, that task force included Michael Paulus,

Marseille Pride, and Karen Wishart. They developed a flexible syllabus that could be adopted for a short-term or longer term course.

By 2004 we had begun negotiations with the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois to offer a full semester course on theological librarianship through their distance education LEEP program. We completed those arrangements and recruited Dr. Carisse Berryhill to teach the course. The first offering was in the fall semester, 2005.

The course was an overwhelming success. Dr. Berryhill designed it in a unique way, to include online conversations with ATLA members with various areas of expertise along with important readings and written assignments.

The course is now a permanent and important part of the UIUC LEEP program, and, in fact, was the model for an important IMLS grant that the University of Illinois and Syracuse University received last year.

In December, word came to us that Dr. Berryhill was selected to receive an important award for her teaching from Web-based Information Science Education (WISE), which uses advanced online technology to enrich education and foster relationships among students, faculty, and universities ([www.wiseeducation.org](http://www.wiseeducation.org)).

Dr. Berryhill is one of seven winners of the 2007 WISE Faculty of the Year Award for Excellence in Online Education. The award is given to faculty nominated by WISE students from institutions other than the faculty member's home institution. Students in Theological Librarianship who did NOT attend UIUC nominated her for this award. WISE awardees receive a crystal WISE globe to illustrate the global network of WISE consortium members and online students.

Dr. Berryhill was honored at a ceremony at the WISE Best Practices for Online Pedagogy Workshop at the Association for Library and Information Science Education on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 12:30 in Philadelphia. Although Dr. Berryhill was unable to attend in person, ATLA Board Member Cait Kokolus stood in for her, reading Dr. Berryhill's prepared statement for the audience.

Dr. Berryhill said she was pleased that ATLA was represented in this manner, as she feels the Association has an important stake in the award.

We celebrate this distinguished award with our colleague and we also extend our thanks to all of those who began thinking and dreaming about a course in theological librarianship six years ago!

*Dennis A. Norlin, ATLA Executive Director*



### Election Reminder

The ATLA 2008 Board of Directors Election is open. You should have already received an email or letter with voting instructions. If you have not, please contact the election vendor Survey & Ballot Systems at 952.974.2339 or [support@directvote.net](mailto:support@directvote.net). For other questions, contact Barbara Kemmis, Director of Membership, [bkemmis@atla.com](mailto:bkemmis@atla.com) or 888.665.2852.

### Perspectives on Professional Development

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#### That Peculiar Seasonal Question

In the time between Christmas and New Year's Day I find it is nearly impossible to avoid someone asking me that peculiar seasonal question: "What New Year's resolutions are you making this year?" My stock response is "None, I don't make resolutions."

I don't make resolutions not because there aren't areas of my life I could stand to improve, but because I know that I would not long keep a resolution that I had made. In years past I had made resolutions of one sort or another and they had all without exception faded away after some time.

I am sure that some of you readers are like me and will either not make resolutions out of prior experience with resolution-breaking, or do make resolutions but are less than successful in maintaining them throughout the year. It is certainly not unusual to not be able to keep a resolution made in post-Holiday introspection and reevaluation.

A quick Google news search retrieves a number of stories reporting the results of surveys about how long it takes for people to break their resolutions. Unsurprisingly they report about how a large percentage of resolutions are broken before the end of January and how an even larger percentage are broken by the end of the year.

Other of you readers are certainly not like me and make resolutions that you successfully maintain throughout the year. Before you assume that you keep resolutions because you are just more disciplined than the rest of us, you might consider that the reason may be that you make better resolutions. And by better I mean resolutions that you are able to successfully maintain throughout the following year.

So, what is it that makes a better resolution? According to a FranklinCovey report (the Covey refers to Stephen R. Covey, author of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*) the first thing that makes a better resolution is to think of the resolution as a goal.<sup>1</sup> And once you realize your resolution is really a goal

you can then find a lot of advice on how to set goals that you will successfully meet.

One common method taught in goal setting training, and one which I use myself, is the SMART system. SMART is an mnemonic for specific, measurable, attainable (or achievable), realistic and timely.

A specific goal is one that is clearly stated and not vague. Instead of setting a goal to learn about preservation, set a goal to write a disaster preparedness plan for your library. A measurable goal is one that has clear criteria to determine if the goal was met. It is also desirable if progress toward the goal can be measured. A measurable goal that could be tracked would be to read one chapter per month in a library management book.

An attainable or achievable goal is one that has a reasonable chance of being successfully completed. Setting goals that are too ambitious will result in failure. On the other hand, the goal should not be too easy to complete since that could reduce motivation. An attainable goal could be to take an evening course on non-profit management.

In a similar vein a goal should be realistic. A realistic goal is one that can be met within the constraints of resources and time. When setting a goal you should be realistic about how much time and money and other resources you can devote to meeting your goal. Setting yourself up to spend every evening for a month working on learning the ins-and-outs of digitization is setting yourself up for failure.

The final aspect of a SMART goal is timeliness. This simply indicates that a goal must have some kind of timeframe for completion of the goal. As with the specificity of the goal if there is no time set by which time the goal must be completed the goal will be too vague to be of much use.

As mentioned previously there is a lot of advice available on how to set goals. If the idea of a SMART goal strikes you as being stupid, I encourage you to find some other method to help you set goals. It seems

likely to me that such a wealth of help is available for goal setting because people are on average very poor at goal setting. If nothing else I would surmise that people are as poor at goal setting as they are at making resolutions.

In any case once you learn how to set goals that encourage you to follow-through with meeting those goals, I would encourage you to start by making professional development goals. If the ATLA Professional Development Committee can assist you in meeting your professional development goals, do not hesitate to contact me or another member of the committee.

As for resolutions, I resolve that during the week leading up to New Year's 2009 I will make a SMART goal resolution. That is a specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely resolution and so I think that it is a resolution I can keep.

*Eric Friede, Chair  
ATLA Professional Development Committee  
Yale Divinity Library, Yale Divinity School*



#### Endnote

<sup>1</sup><http://www.reuters.com/articlepress/Release/idUS132935+18-Dec2007+BW20071218>



# Product News

*providing access to the scholarly literature of religion and preserving it for future generations*

## ATLA Product Notes

### ATLAS® Update

ATLA has continued to expand upon the more than one-hundred journal titles that are currently in the *ATLASerials*® (*ATLAS*®) online collection.

Two new titles were added to *ATLAS*:

- 1) *Restoration Quarterly*, published by Restoration Quarterly Corporation
- 2) *Svensk Missions Tidskrift*, published by Swedish Institute of Mission Research

ATLA has been working closely with the aggregators to implement *ATLAS*PDFs on their platforms. Recently, EBSCOhost and OCLC First Search have both released PDFs on their versions of the *ATLAS* online collection. The *ATLAS* collection is available on EBSCOhost, OCLC First Search, and Ovid's Silver Platter platform.



Beginning in January 2008, *ATLA's Religion Database (RDB)* will include any DOI (Digital Object Identifier) data that some journals are now using. The data will be coded in the MARC 21 024 tag, subfield a, with a subfield 2 code: doi as well. This may prove helpful to users who link to full text versions. This data is expected to appear in the summer 2008 data release. There are no plans at this time to add such data retrospectively.



### Indexing Milestone

We are happy to report that on January 22, the 1,600,000th indexing record was created in the Department of Indexes for *ATLA's Religion Database*. This comes at a time when production is at an all-time high while the backlog continues to drop significantly.



### Scarecrow Press

On September 1, 2007, I took over editorial duties for the three ATLA book series as the first staff liaison to The Scarecrow Press. This gives me the chance to learn more about the inner workings of ATLA and its member relations while reinvigorating what has been a successful series of resources for theological librarianship. I have been an employee and member of ATLA for some time now, and I've been working in theological libraries since 2002.

In the time since I have taken over, we've had two books go to press: *The Holiness-Pentecostal Movement: A Comprehensive Guide* by Charles E. Jones and *Donald G. Bloesch Bibliography* by Paul E. Maher. Additionally there are two other projects (*More Than Silence: A Bibliography of Thomas Merton* by Patricia Burton and *Beyond the text: Understanding World Religions at 24-Frames per Second* by Julien Fielding) that are in their final stages of revision. Part of my goal for the series is to increase its scholarly reach to include topics that had heretofore been neglected in our publications.

One way of doing this is to reenergize the Monograph Series to include studies of "new" modes of theological discourse, such as liberation theology and womanist theology. I would also like to see our projects become more inclusive of religious traditions other than Judaism and Christianity. I believe that this would broaden the appeal of the books series while also affirming the mission of theological libraries as dedicated to the study of religion as a whole.

I am planning on hosting a roundtable discussion about the ATLA book series at this summer's meeting in Ottawa. The roundtable, *The ATLA/Scarecrow Press Book Series*, will take place on Thursday, June 26, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This roundtable will provide a forum for readers, authors, and prospective authors of books belonging to the three ATLA/Scarecrow Press book series to meet and discuss ATLA's long-running collaboration with the Scarecrow Press. We will talk about ideas for the books series, feedback from recently published titles, and the future of studies related to theological librarianship. Questions such as "What goes into writing and publishing a book?" and "What topics are appropriate for such as series?" will also be discussed. All conference attendees who have an interest in the future direction of these growing series are welcome to attend.

On the one hand, this is a chance for me to introduce myself to the ATLA constituency—but I would also like to use this opportunity to find out from members what direction they would like to see the series move in.

One thing that I've often heard from authors is that there is a viable demand for books in electronic format. Although Scarecrow does not do this as of right now, there may be possibilities for that in the future.

If you or anybody you know has ideas or drafts of bibliographies or manuscripts in religion or theological librarianship, I would be pleased to consult with you. Feel free to drop me a line at [bookeditor@atla.com](mailto:bookeditor@atla.com).

*R. Justin Harkins*  
*Indexer-Analyst, ATLA Book Series Editor*





## Preservation Products

### Religious Periodical Literature of the Hispanic and Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, 1850-1985

The following serial titles were microfilmed as part of the preservation grant, "Religious Periodical Literature of the Hispanic and Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, 1850-1985." The preservation of these serials has been funded by the office of preservation of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

#### Hispanic

##### *El aposento alto*

Spanish edition of the Upper Room, a Methodist devotional calendar. Published in Nashville, Tenn. Text in Spanish. **ATLA no.: 2006H-S020**, 13 reels (1938-2006).

##### *Revista teológica (Campinas, Brazil)*

Theological magazine of the Seminário Presbiteriano do Sul in cooperation with the Presbyterian Church of Brazil. Published in Campinas, Brazil. Text in Portuguese. **ATLA no.: 2007H-S009**, 3 reels (1953-2004).

#### Indigenous peoples

##### *Moqui mission messenger*

Baptist mission to the Hopi Indians. "Published in the interests of mission work among the Moqui Indians at Keam's Canon, Arizona." Published by Otho E. Coe; edited by Curtis P. Coe. Printed in Chicago, Ill. **ATLA no.: 2007I-S020**, 1 reel (1894-1895).

##### *Smoke signals from Bacone College*

Bacone College is a four-year liberal arts college affiliated with the American Baptist Church embracing a historic educational mission to American Indians. Published by the College in Bacone, Okla. **ATLA no.: 2007I-S022**, 1 reel (1955-2005).



### All Microform Orders to be Handled by ATLA Directly

ATLA is in the process of restructuring certain ordering operations, and therefore effective January 1, 2008, ATLA has become the sole distributor of all products currently available on microform (microfilm and microfiche).

Please contact [microform@atla.com](mailto:microform@atla.com) for pricing and other details, or visit APCAT (ATLA Preservation Catalog Online), [http://rim.atla.com/star/presonline\\_login.html](http://rim.atla.com/star/presonline_login.html), a publicly available database containing bibliographic records of religious and theological serials, monographs, and archives that have been preserved on microform (35mm microfilm or microfiche) by or for the American Theological Library Association.

During this restructuring process, you will likely experience a delay in order fulfillment, but we will make every effort to respond to your requests as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your patience.



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# ATLA Staff News

*serving ATLA members and customers*

## From the Executive Director



### Eight Years Later: The ATLAS Advisory Panel Reunion

In March 1999 I traveled from our headquarters in Evanston to Crawfordsville, Indiana to meet with Dr. Raymond Williams, Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion at Wabash College. Dr. Williams had supported our grant request to the Lilly Endowment Inc for \$4,000,000 to create a full-text version of 50 key journals that we would call *ATLASerials*®—*ATLAS*®, for short. Dr. Williams had agreed to assemble a group of distinguished scholars representing all major fields of religion who would form an Advisory Panel, recommending the most important journals in each field.

The meeting was held in July 1999 with the following advisory panel members:

- Gary Anderson, Harvard University
- Michael Battle, Duke University
- Stephen Bevans, Catholic Theological Union
- Larry D. Bouchard, University of Virginia
- Francis X. Clooney, Boston College
- Barbara DeConcini, American Academy of Religion
- James O. Duke, Texas Christian University
- Gary L. Ebersole, University of Missouri
- Edward Foley, Catholic Theological Union

- Carl R. Holladay, Emory University
- Bruce E. Nielsen, Jewish Theological Seminary
- William C. Placher, Wabash College
- Nancy Ramsay, Brite Divinity School
- Ken Harold Richards, Society of Biblical Literature
- Todd D. Whitmier, Notre Dame University

James Adair, the first project director, two other ATLA staff, and I traveled to Wabash College on July 13, 1999, bringing two copies of each of the 600 journals that we indexed. We filled a large panel van with many boxes of journals and laid them all out in a large room at the Wabash Center. Panel members spent two intense days pouring over the journals, seeking to identify the top 20 titles in each of six fields of religion.

They established the following criteria for making their decisions:

- 1) Value for teaching at both undergraduate and graduate levels;
- 2) Consistent quality and significance of articles;
- 3) Significance of the journal to the discipline;
- 4) Clarity of scope, mission statement, goals, readership;
- 5) Theological perspective or orientation;
- 6) Reputation of authors;
- 7) Reputation and history of publisher;
- 8) Currency and dependability (articles timely and publication record consistent);
- 9) Unique features or value

The goal was to choose the top 20 journals in each of seven fields of religious studies:

- Biblical Studies, Archaeology, and Antiquities
- Theology, Philosophy, and Ethics
- History of Religions
- Pastoral Ministry
- Church History, Missions, and Ecumenism

- Human Culture and Society
- General

At the end of the two-day period we had our list—140 titles, divided into a first tier (most important) and a second tier (slightly less important). It was a most exhilarating two days and there were many heated discussions as scholars sought to compare the importance of one journal to another. The Advisory Panel met again in August 2000 and August 2001

Armed with these rankings, ATLA staff began contacting journal publishers to solicit their participation in the program. We identified the top 50 choices over all and contacted them about the project. We were successful in roughly 75 percent of our contacts.

Once we had signed agreements, we had to gather all of the back journals (at our secondary site in Atlanta), collate them, ship them to the Philippines for scanning, create the application that would search the database, and develop a regular method of production.

By March 2000, we had already signed 23 contracts with publishers and had created TIF and GIF images for them. Our goal was to have at least 15 titles completed and present on the website by January 2001. We more than doubled that goal and, in January 2001, had 32 journals available:

*Biblical Archaeologist*  
*Catholic Biblical Quarterly*  
*Christian Century*  
*Church History*  
*Cross Currents*  
*Greek Orthodox Theological Review*  
*Homiletic*  
*International Bulletin of Missionary Research*  
*International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*  
*Interpretation*

## Staff News

*Journal for Preachers*  
*Journal for the Study of the New Testament*  
*Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*  
*Journal of Biblical Literature*  
*Journal of Pastoral Care*  
*Journal of Pastoral Theology*  
*Journal of Religious Ethics*  
*Journal of Ritual Studies*  
*Journal of the American Academy of Religion*  
*Journal of Theology for Southern Africa*  
*Living Pulpit*  
*Near Eastern Archaeology*  
*Novum Testamentum*  
*Numen*  
*Pneuma*  
*Religious Education*  
*Religious Studies Review*  
*Semeia*  
*St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly*  
*Theological Studies*  
*Vetus Testamentum*  
*Zygon*

Since that time there have been many changes and developments for *ATLAS*:

- There are now more than 100 titles in the collection;
- Three online vendors now offer their own versions of *ATLAS*;
- We created a Clergy Advisory Panel to help us identify key titles that would be of value to clergy, and we added ten of those titles;
- We released the searchable text (PDF) version of *ATLAS* in May 2007;
- We began offering subscriptions for alumni of participating institutions.

At the November 2007 annual meeting of AAR/SBL we invited the original advisory panel members and the first director of the program (James Adair) to join us for a reunion meeting in which we solicited again their advice and counsel and shared

with them our hopes and dreams for the future of *ATLAS*.

We discussed new features, new titles, and new possibilities for *ATLAS*. We are adding more non-English titles, working to achieve a balance of titles in the original seven fields of religious studies, and steps we can take that will make it even more valuable to theological and religious studies students and scholars.

During the just-completed fiscal year (September 2006 – August 2007), *ATLAS* revenues totaled more than \$1,000,000 for the first time, and we shared \$300,000 in royalties with participating publishers. Currently there are 106 titles in *ATLAS*:

*AFER: African Ecclesial Review*  
*American Theological Library Association Summary of Proceedings*  
*Annual of the Society of Christian Ethics*  
*ARTS: The Arts in Religious and Theological Studies*  
*Asian Folklore Studies*  
*Baptist History and Heritage*  
*Biblical Archaeologist*  
*Biblical Interpretation*  
*Bibliotheca sacra*  
*Brethren Life and Thought*  
*Bulletin of the Evangelical Theological Society*  
*Calvin Theological Journal*  
*Catholic Biblical Quarterly*  
*Christian Century*  
*Christianity Today*  
*Church History: Studies in Christianity & Culture*  
*Conference of Theological Librarians Summary of Proceedings*  
*Criswell Theological Review*  
*Cross Currents: The Journal of the Association for Religion and Intellectual Life*  
*Cuadernos de Teologia*  
*Currents in Theology and Mission*  
*Dialogue & Alliance*

*Didaskalia (Otterburne, Man.): The Journal of Providence Theological Seminary*  
*Direction: A Mennonite Brethren Forum*  
*Eastern Buddhist*  
*Ecumenical Review*  
*Encounter*  
*Ex auditu: An International Journal of Theological Interpretation of Scripture*  
*Exchange: Journal of Missiological and Ecumenical Research*  
*First Things: A Monthly Journal of Religion and Public Life*  
*Greek Orthodox Theological Review*  
*Hebrew Union College Annual*  
*Homiletic: A Review of Publications in Religious Communication*  
*Horizons: The Journal of the College Theology Society*  
*International Bulletin of Missionary Research*  
*International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*  
*International Review of Mission*  
*Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology*  
*Japanese Journal of Religious Studies*  
*Journal for Preachers*  
*Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*  
*Journal for the Study of the New Testament*  
*Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*  
*Journal of Biblical Literature*  
*Journal of Chinese Religions*  
*Journal of Ecumenical Studies*  
*Journal of Empirical Theology*  
*Journal of Family Ministry*  
*Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*  
*Journal of Pastoral Care*  
*Journal of Pastoral Care & Counseling*  
*Journal of Pastoral Theology*  
*Journal of Religious Ethics*  
*Journal of Religious Thought*  
*Journal of Ritual Studies*

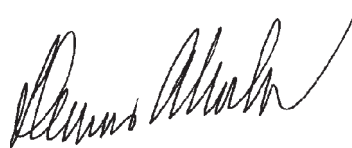
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*Journal of the American Academy of Religion*  
*Journal of the Canadian Church Historical Society*  
*Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*  
*Journal of the Interdenominational Theological Center*  
*Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*  
*Journal of Theology for Southern Africa*  
*Journal of Youth Ministry*  
*Latin American Indian Literatures*  
*Journal: A Review of American Indian Texts and Studies*  
*Living Pulpit*  
*Lutheran Quarterly*  
*Master's Seminary Journal*  
*Mennonite Quarterly Review*  
*Missiology: An International Review*  
*Mission Studies: Journal of the International Association for Mission Studies*  
*Modern Theology*  
*Muslim World*  
*Near Eastern Archaeology*  
*Nova religio*  
*Novum testamentum: An International Quarterly for New Testament and Related Studies*  
*Numen: International Review for the History of Religions*  
*Occasional Bulletin of Missionary Research*  
*Perspectives in Religious Studies*  
*Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*  
*Presbyterion: Covenant Seminary Review*  
*Reconstructionist: A Journal of Contemporary Jewish Thought & Practice*  
*Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*  
*Religion and Intellectual Life*  
*Religion East & West: Journal of the Institute for World Religions*  
*Religion in the News*  
*Religious Education*  
*Religious Studies Review*  
*Restoration Quarterly*  
*Review & Expositor*

*SA. Sociological Analysis: A Journal in the Sociology of Religion*  
*Semeia: An Experimental Journal for Biblical Criticism*  
*Society for the Study of Chinese Religions Bulletin*  
*Sociological Analysis (Worcester, Mass.) Sociology of Religion*  
*St Vladimir's Seminary Quarterly*  
*St Vladimir's Theological Quarterly*  
*Svensk missionstidskrift*  
*Taoist Resources*  
*Theological Education*  
*Theological Studies*  
*Theology Today*  
*Tradition: A Journal of Orthodox Jewish Thought*  
*Vetus testamentum*  
*Vigiliae christianae: A Review of Early Christian Life and Language*  
*Word & World: Theology for Christian Ministry*  
*Worship*  
*Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science*

We anticipate continued growth and development of this important resource, and we remain indebted to and thankful for the encouragement and counsel of our Advisory Panel of scholars.



Dennis A. Norlin  
 ATLA Executive Director

## Staff Updates



Russell Kracke, Director of Preservation, resigned his position at the end of 2007. The text of his resignation letter, which was addressed to fellow staff members, is reprinted below.

Dear esteemed colleagues:

I would like to announce to you that I will be resigning from my position as Director of the Preservation Products & Services Department at ATLA at the end of this month. My final day will be December 31.

When I began over ten years ago at ATLA, Dennis gave me tremendous opportunities for advancement and over the course of that time, I participated in four NEH grants and the On Demand program, and oversaw the preservation of over 4,000 monographs and serials. I learned preservation guidelines; grant writing (which resulted in three successful awards); the intricacies of copyright and produced ATLA's first copyright manual; and thanks especially to Judy Knop, I learned serials and monographs cataloging and achieved NACO certification and full CONSER membership. Ultimately I gained a greater understanding of digital preservation, TDR's and the digital realm.

## Staff News

While the preservation work I have accomplished at ATLA has always given me tremendous pleasure, after ten years of working two jobs, six days a week and sometimes seven, it is time for me to rejuvenate, re-evaluate, and refocus.

With that in mind, Dennis has offered me an opportunity to become a project consultant for ATLA which will allow me to see the anticipated digitization project through to its completion and to continue cataloging for the NEH HIP grant, as ATLA's final microfilm preservation project draws to a close. I will accomplish most of my work from home, but will occasionally return to ATLA during the consultation for tasks requiring my physical presence.

I am grateful to Dennis for his leadership specific to ATLA's mission and the progressive direction in which he has led the Association during his tenure as Executive Director.

As I retain great feeling for the important work of brittle books preservation, I have anticipated my departure from ATLA for some time. While I refrain from offering specifics, I am looking forward to new experiences and adventures in my life ahead. I am grateful to Dennis for offering me the opportunity to finish the digitization project during this transition.

I am also grateful for the chance to have worked with such an intelligent, competent staff. My best wishes to you all,

Sincerely,

*Russell Kracke*  
*Director of Preservation Products & Services*



After nearly six years in the Member Services Department, Timothy Smith left ATLA on January 31 to pursue new career interests and challenges. We are sad to see Tim go and will take some time after his departure to reevaluate the needs of the department before creating a new position. Please join us in wishing Tim well and celebrating his dedicated service to ATLA. Tim's farewell message appears below.

Dear ATLA Members and Constituents:

I would like to announce that I will be resigning from my position as Membership Associate/Exhibits Coordinator at ATLA at the end of January. I am leaving ATLA to pursue new career interests and opportunities.

Over the five and half-years I've spent with you at ATLA, I have been given many opportunities to grow professionally. Some of the highlights for me have included managing the exhibits at the Annual Conference and administering the ATLA/OCLC FirstSearch Consortium. For these opportunities, I am grateful.

I am also grateful for the chance to work with so many intelligent and professional members, fellow staff members, and constituents. I wish all the best for all of you.

With warmest regards,

*Timothy M. Smith*



## From the Editor

In addition to the blustery, unpredictable winter weather in Chicago, January also brought its share of benefits this year. Even as I was celebrating my second anniversary as the Communications Specialist in the Member Services Department, my colleagues and I were assembling data, analysis, text, and photos for an important document. This in-depth history of recent departmental activities was being readied in preparation for the visit of the onsite inspection team from the ATLA Board of Directors. With the final document in hand, David Stewart, Saundra Lipton, and Allen Mueller conducted individual meetings with various ATLA staff members to review the policies and procedures that relate to membership.

The process of collaborating with Barbara Kemmis and Timothy Smith to organize this material proved to be a rewarding method by which to reflect upon the work and planning that have been undertaken by the Association and its volunteers and staff over the past three years.

Judging from their feedback, the inspection team and the board are confident that the activities and projects of the membership department are well aligned with the mission and goals of the Association. They are pleased with the progress that has been made since the previous inspection in 2004, and hopeful that adequate planning has been anticipated for ATLA's future growth.

If you wish to read the report that was presented to the Board, you'll find it here: [ftp://ftp.atla.com/public/MSD\\_report\\_08.pdf](ftp://ftp.atla.com/public/MSD_report_08.pdf) (Be aware that it is a rather large pdf file, so it may take significant time to load.)

*Sara Corkery*  
*ATLA Communications Specialist*



## Calendar

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### January

- 1 New Year holiday, ATLA office closed
- 15 ATLA Election open—ballots sent to eligible members
- 16 ATLA Board of Directors on-site inspection
- 16 ATLA Endowment Committee meets in Chicago
- 17–19 ATLA Board of Directors midwinter meeting
- 18 Publication Grants deadline
- 21 Martin Luther King holiday, ATLA office closed

### February

- 18–19 ATLA Publications Committee meets in Chicago  
Editorial Board of *Theological Librarianship* meets in Chicago
- 23–26 Dennis Norlin and Tami Luedtke attend NFAIS annual conference in Philadelphia, PA
- 28–29 Professional Development Committee meets in Chicago  
Tami Luedtke attends Lilly Website Consultation Group planning meeting in Indianapolis, IN

### March

- 1 ATLA 2008 Annual Conference—registration opens
- 3 Special Committee on Diversity meets in Chicago
- 3 ATLA Election—Survey & Ballot Systems tabulates and delivers results to Nominating Committee
- 7 Deadline for submitting application for the 2009 IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program
- 28 Membership Advisory Committee meets in Chicago

### April

- 14 Barbara Kemmis attends TTLA Regional Group meeting in Tennessee

### May

- 16 ATLA 2008 Annual Conference—Early Bird Registration Deadline
- 26 Housing Deadline: Conference rates at both hotels expire after this date

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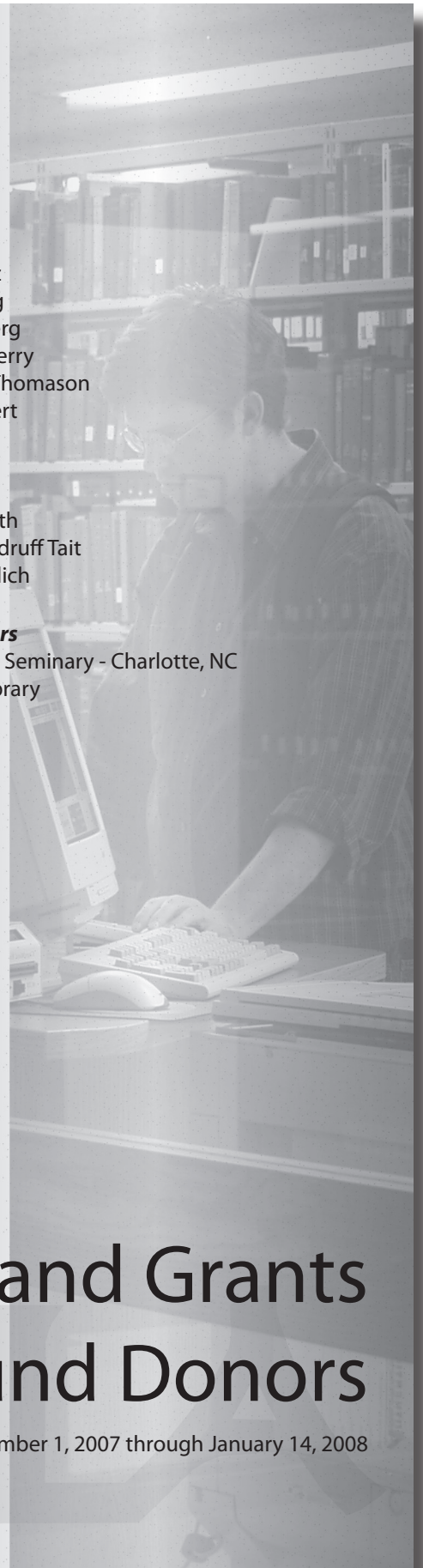
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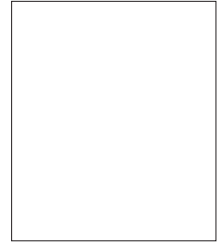
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*Cover photo of St. John's Seminary, Camarillo, California, courtesy of Barbara Kemmis, ATLA Director of Member Services*