



A view of the Pyramids and Sphinx. Photo courtesy Bruce Eldevik (see Bruce's item in Member News below).

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**CPLI Survey**

As part of an outreach program toward the improvement and enhancement of the *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index™* (ATLA CPLI™), ATLA has created a questionnaire in three languages: English, French, and German. All ATLA members, customers, and colleagues are encouraged to contribute to the development of this valuable resource by completing the questionnaire at <http://www.atla.com/products/catalog/Pages/ATLACPLISurvey.aspx>.

**From the President**

**ATLA and the Future of the Academy**



*In Planned Obsolescence: Publishing, Technology, and the Future of the Academy* (New York University, 2011), Kathleen Fitzpatrick repeatedly observes that the future of the academy depends not only upon the online technologies that are disrupting traditional

models of higher education and scholarly communications, but also upon the ability of colleges and universities to develop new relationships both among faculty, especially in their peer-to-peer review of scholarly publications, and also among academic departments, especially among libraries, university presses, and information technology centers. Fitzpatrick shows that the values and expertise of librarians have a central role in creating the relationships that will transform the academy. For example, the librarians model a professional "helpfulness" that must further characterize faculty peer-review. The librarian models a "curatorial" approach to scholarly work that will increasingly characterize faculty "shepherding" of their online publications and reader feedback. The library also models a dual focus on the individual institution and the broader network of institutions that will become the needed perspective in the scholarly publishing program of the future.

In these and other ways, part of the value of theological librarians is provided through the professional dispositions, practices, and relationships that we exhibit and maintain as servants and examples to our faculty and students. My own experience of the transformative ethos of theological librarianship came through attendance at the 2003 Annual Conference in Portland, where I first realized the power of collaboration within ATLA and how important it is that "ATLA and its members sustain collegial relationships with librarians, libraries, and appropriate organizations locally, regionally, and throughout the world." (ATLA Organizational Ends 1.2 -- <http://www.atla.com/about/who/Pages/MissionStatement.aspx>).

-- John B. Weaver



## From the Executive Director

### Navigating Open Access Waters

Lately, I've heard a lot of chatter over various channels about open access. ACRL recently became a signatory to the Berlin Declaration (<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/ala/acrl-signs-berlin-declaration-open-access>), the Amsterdam University Press gave a presentation on their open access publishing model at the 2011 BETH conference ([http://theo.kuleuven.be/beth/assets/file/20110905\\_AUP\\_Lite\).ppt](http://theo.kuleuven.be/beth/assets/file/20110905_AUP_Lite).ppt)), and IFLA established an Open Access Taskforce (<http://www.ifla.org/en/news/ifla-open-access-taskforce-established>). And finally, ATLA members have begun a debate about whether ATLA should expand its open access publishing activities beyond *Theological Librarianship*.

The first litmus test of any proposed new program, project or service is whether it fits within ATLA's organizational ends. Conceivably, open access publishing in the area of religion and theology might fall under these two organizational ends:

- 2.1 Excellent research tools supporting the study of religion and theology are created to meet the needs of libraries, librarians, scholars, students, clergy, and laypeople.
- 2.2 Theological and religious studies librarians collaborate to develop solutions to information-related problems common to their libraries and collections.

The second test is financial sustainability. Open access comes in several different flavors, but all flavors require a funding stream that adequately supports staffing, hosting, marketing, and other costs. This funding stream might flow from fees paid by authors or their institutions, grants, or other sources.

Mary Waltham's report, *Future of Scholarly Journals Publishing among Social Science and Humanities Associations* (<http://www.nhalliance.org/bm~doc/hssreport.pdf>), examined eight leading U.S.-based associations' publishing activities and analyzed the cost. The American Academy of Religion was one of them. Acknowledging that the sample was relatively small and more research is needed, she concluded that "...a shift to an entirely new funding model in the pure form of Open Access (author/producer pays) in which the costs of publishing research articles in journals are paid for by authors or a funding agency, and readers have access free online, is not currently a sustainable option for any of this group of journals based on the costs provided. The sources of external funding required for such a model are also not clear and may not be available even as broadly as in STM disciplines." (page 2)

One of the other barriers to open access publishing is tenure-granting institutions themselves. At the NFAIS Humanities Roundtable 2011 meeting, *Digital Humanities Content: Embracing the Future While Coping with the Present*, Kathleen Fitzpatrick (Director, Office of Scholarly Communication, MLA) talked about the need to reform peer review in the digital age. She recounted her experience in writing a digital book interactively with reviewers (*Planned Obsolescence: Publishing, Technology, and the Future of the Academy* [<http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/mcpress/plannedobsolescence/>]) and lamented the fact that there is not enough capacity in the current scholarly press community to publish enough print monographs to support the future tenure requirements of all graduating PhDs in the humanities. She advocates not just for open access, but for taking advantage of digital publishing and embracing open reviewing and collaboration as well. More and more universities are advocating for open access, but there must be a critical mass that accepts digital and open access publications as evidence of serious scholarship in order to support a larger open access community.

Any venture into open access publishing must be based on a clear understanding of the current scholarly publishing business model, tempered with a pragmatic, honest look at where funding for such ventures can be obtained. ATLA has dipped its toe into the open access water by publishing *Theological Librarianship*. Fiscal responsibility dictates that before we strive to cross a larger body of open water, we must make sure we know how to swim -- and are wearing life jackets, too.

Now that I've made some cautionary statements, I will observe that ATLA is open to new ideas, technology and business models. I'm interested to hear from ATLA members directly about their thoughts on open access and ATLA's potential role. The upcoming conference in June 2012 offers an opportunity for creating a more structured discussion on this topic. In the meantime, my email box is open and I'd love to hear from you.

--Brenda Bailey-Hainer

## 2012 Annual Conference Updates

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### Poster Session Proposal Deadline Extended

The deadline for submitting poster session proposals has been extended to Tuesday, January 31, 2012. You can submit your proposal at <http://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/CallforSessionProposals.aspx>.

With the aim of adding another avenue for hearing about some of the interesting, creative projects ATLA members are doing--or considering--the American Theological Library Association is continuing to invite proposals for poster sessions at the 2012 Annual Conference, June 27-30 in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Scheduled in a 30-minute time slot, poster sessions are informal. The presenter(s) develops a poster and handouts which deliver useful information to the theological library community, describes the poster, and answers questions.

Posters may address a potentially wide range of topics of interest to theological librarians, such as:

- outreach initiatives
- building digital collections
- assessment
- information literacy
- new library services
- creative marketing
- new collaborative models
- cooperative collection development
- redesigned library space
- professional development
- the library in society
- or . . .

This is an opportunity to try out new ideas and receive instant feedback from your ATLA colleagues. We sincerely hope you will consider submitting a poster proposal by the Tuesday, January 31, 2012 due date.

### Conference Meal Plan

While the Hyatt Regency Gainey Ranch in Scottsdale will offer a relaxing backdrop for the hard work of learning, networking, and rededicating



yourself to the profession of theological librarianship, it will also create some challenges. Because it is nestled in a residential community, there are no nearby restaurants. Your colleagues on the conference planning committees want to insure that mealtimes are convenient for you. To that end, they've created a 2012 Conference Registration/Meal Plan. This non-optional plan will be fully included in your registration fee.

The 2012 Conference Registration/Meal Plan includes:

- Opening Reception
- 3 Breakfasts
- 3 Lunches
- 5 Breaks
- Closing Fiesta

In this way, you will be able to attend all the sessions, meetings, and get-togethers without having to leave the conference property. Even with all of these generous extras, conference registration for Institutional Member Representatives and Individual members will be only \$375--a real value in today's tough economy.

Conference registration opens Thursday, March 1, 2012.

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## ATLA Exhibits at Scholarly Research Symposium

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ATLA recently exhibited at the Advancing Catholic Scholarly Research: Symposium, November 9-10, 2011 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (<http://www.catholicresearch.net/>). Deborah Winarski, Manager for ATLA CPLI, attended the conference, which was sponsored by Duquesne University and Catholic Research Resources Alliance (CRRRA). Deborah enjoyed meeting with ATLA members, customers, and friends while exhibiting ATLA's products and services.

## Have You Heard?

### An Appeal for Help

The New Media Project (<http://blog.newmediaprojectatunion.org/>) at Union Theological Seminary is currently gathering data about how clergy use social media in their ministries and in their personal lives.

Would you be willing to help spread the word to your alumni groups? They will be asked to take a short multiple-choice survey to help this endeavor. The survey will help us understand how clergy are using social media so that we might better serve those clergy and their communities through theological reflection on the changing landscape of new media today. All of the results will be shared publicly and linked in an upcoming newsletter in early 2012. Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ClergySocialMediaUse> for the survey. It will close on December 23, 2011.

Supported by funding from Lilly Endowment, the New Media Project is designed to interpret theologically the massive changes in communication and technology occurring today, and to create a constructive framework to help pastors and religious leaders employ new digital media in ways that strengthen their faith communities. We think that sustained theological reflection on and interpretation of new technology will assist religious leaders--in particular, younger clergy and young adult leaders who use the technologies more than others--as they create compelling accounts of the Christian gospel to enrich lives and enhance the vitality of congregations. A constructive framework will also help leaders navigate through these waters of change.

Six research fellows have written case studies and are now working on the second writing phase. Read more about the case studies and our research by visiting the website. Thank you in advance for your help.

### SAA Award Nominations Due in February

The Society of American Archivists' Awards Committee is now taking nominations for the Sister M. Claude Lane Award. This award was created in 1974 and recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to the field of religious archives. For more information, go to <http://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-lane>. To nominate an archivist for the Lane Award please complete the nomination form at <http://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/AwardsformLane.pdf>. Nominations are due by February 28, 2012. You can email Kristy Sorenson, [ksorensen@austinseminary.edu](mailto:ksorensen@austinseminary.edu), with any questions.

## Member News

### International Collaboration Committee Meets in Chicago

Members of the Special Committee of the Association for International Collaboration met at ATLA headquarters on Thursday and Friday, November 10-11.



Pictured above, left to right: Christopher Anderson, Mariel DeLuca Voth, Chair, and Cindy Lu; Not pictured: Terry Robertson.

### Membership Renewal Season Drawing to a Close

Thank you to all of the ATLA members who have already renewed their membership for the September 2011 through August 2012 year. If you have not renewed yet, it is not too late! Please do so only at [www.atla.com](http://www.atla.com) or call or email to request an invoice ([memberrep@atla.com](mailto:memberrep@atla.com)).

### Publication Grants Deadline Approaching

The Publications Committee will award up to \$4,000 in grants to support the development of works with a bibliographic focus or scholarly works that advance some aspect of theological librarianship. The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2012. Visit <http://www.atla.com/Members/programs/awards/Pages/Publication-Grant.aspx> for more information. ATLA reserves the first right of refusal of publication for all projects receiving grants.

### New Partnership Announced

Emory University's Candler School of Theology in Atlanta (<http://www.candler.emory.edu/>) and The General Theological Seminary (GTS) in New York (<http://www.gts.edu/>) are entering an innovative partnership that includes the sharing of library resources, collaborative educational programs and the exchange of both students and faculty members.

The library sharing between the two schools began this fall, while the student exchange program is

slated to start in the 2012-2013 academic year. Details of the faculty exchange and educational program collaboration components are still in development.

GTS's Keller Library will transfer 80,000-90,000 volumes to Pitts Theology Library at Candler, substantially strengthening Pitts' holdings in biblical studies, English history and parish life, and church music. In turn, Pitts will extend certain library privileges to GTS, including the loan of books, use of study carrels and access to special collections.

Students who participate in the exchange program will remain enrolled at their home institution and pay its tuition and fees while studying at the host institution, either for a full academic year or a single semester.

### **Concordia Construction Update**

The Board of Regents, faculty, staff and student body of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, celebrated another milestone in the building of the Walther Library expansion project by taking occupancy of the first phase of the expansion. [Go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zt\\_jUnN8Xck&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zt_jUnN8Xck&feature=youtu.be) to watch the rite of blessing and see what the nearly finished wing looks like.

### **Bruce Eldevik Teaches in Cairo**

Bruce Eldevik, Reference Librarian at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, spent three weeks in Egypt in the fall at the invitation of the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo. His stay included teaching nine sessions of Research Principles and Methods, a required course for all M.A.T.S. students. While there he also made a presentation at their Scholar's Seminar, a bi-weekly gathering where faculty and graduate students present aspects of their current research, and met with the staff of the library.



Pictured above, Bruce (third from left) with the students in his Research Principles and Methods course.

The seminary was founded by Presbyterian missionaries and serves the Synod of the Nile. Since its first graduating class in 1863, ETSC has been engaged in preparing Christian leaders for Egypt and the Arab world.

### **Beth Bidlack Relocates to Dartmouth**

As of December 1, Beth Bidlack is serving as the Collections Assessment and Analysis Librarian at Dartmouth College Library. Prior to this position, she served as the Bibliographer for Religion and Philosophy at the University of Chicago Library.

### **Job Postings Online**

Are you in the market for a new position? Be sure to check the ATLA web listings (<http://www.atla.com/Members/development/jobs/Pages/default.aspx>) to see who is hiring now.

### **Routine Maintenance Reminder**

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, January 9, 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, ListServe and the ATLA Websites. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

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## **RSS Feeds:**

### **We've Got 'Em**



ATLA now provides a number of communications through RSS feeds, including press releases and title lists for ATLA's products and partner products. Using these feeds, subscribers can automatically receive up-to-date

news and product information in a versatile format that can be viewed in any of the many free RSS feed readers available.

To subscribe, go to the ATLA Press Room (<http://www.atla.com/about/pressroom/Pages/default.aspx> for the press release feed) or to the Title and Product Update Lists (<http://www.atla.com/products/titles/Pages/default.aspx> for title list feeds), and click on the orange RSS icon for the item of interest. You may then copy the URL for the feed into your RSS feed reader, or follow the subscription process initiated by your web browser. If you need any assistance, please contact ATLA Product Support at [support@atla.com](mailto:support@atla.com).

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ATLA Newsletter Contact Information:  
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## ATLA Attends AAR & SBL Annual Meetings In San Francisco

The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) was represented by six staff members at the AAR & SBL Annual Meetings in San Francisco, November 19 - 22, 2011. Representatives included Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Margot Lyon, Steven Holloway, Gregg Taylor, Lavonne Cohen and Rick Rybak.



Over 500 individuals visited the ATLA exhibit booth (above), many in response to tweets announcing the booth staffing schedule and occasional gift card giveaways. The exhibit included a slide show of the 200 journals currently available in *ATLASerials*®, as well as a video camera to capture user testimonials. There was also a drawing to win an iPad, generously donated by CDW (Computer Discount Warehouse). Keeping with tradition, this year's ATLA swag was popular as ever. We gave away nearly 1000 lens cloths, custom printed with our logo.

Social media, QR codes, online surveys, and printed materials were utilized to promote ATLA products, membership, and the 2012 Annual Conference in Scottsdale, as well participation in an AAR Special Topics Forum and two receptions hosted by ATLA.

The forum was entitled *Retooling for a New Job Market*, and Gregg Taylor contributed to the initial panel discussion. He was joined by Rick Rybak as they led a roundtable discussion, *Religion & Theology Job Skills for Non-Professorial Jobs*.

The ATLA-hosted receptions were well attended by over seventy members, customers, publishers, and colleagues. Saturday afternoon was seasoned with cheeses, crudités, and conversation, while Monday morning featured fruit, Danish, and discussion.



Above, left to right: ATLA staff members Gregg Taylor and Lavonne Cohen with Rev. Deacon Gregory Hatrak, SVS Press Marketing Manager.



Above, left to right: Manabu Watanabe, Paul Swanson, and David White of Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture.

The four-day event was a marked success for ATLA. We acknowledge contributions from our entire staff and thank all attendees who provided fellowship, support and suggestions.

### Future AAR & SBL Annual Meetings

- Chicago, IL November 17-20, 2012
- Baltimore, MD November 23-26, 2013
- San Diego, CA November 22-25, 2014
- Atlanta, GA November 21-24, 2015
- San Antonio, TX November 19-22, 2016
- Boston, MA November 18-21, 2017
- Denver, CO November 17-20, 2018
- San Diego, CA November 23-26, 2019
- Boston, MA November 21-24, 2020
- San Antonio, TX November 20-23, 2021

## TLM 2011 Cartoon Contest Winners Announced

### The Votes Are In



Cartoon #1--Winning Caption: "Who's the real Illuminati now, Dan Brown?" Submitted by Dean Chia.



Cartoon #2--Winning Caption: "Billy was shocked to find that the waiting period for an inter-library loan was down to three minutes after the Superfriends started volunteering." Submitted by Carlton Wynn.

Dean and Carlton will each receive \$100 for their winning entries. Congratulations!

## ATLA Website Update

### Product Center Significantly Enhanced

The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) is proud to announce enhancements to the Product Center (<http://www.atla.com/products/Pages/default.aspx>) of the ATLA website. New additions include:

- Videos introducing ATLA's products -- What is ATLAS®? (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yG4fMSYAVA4&feature=youtu.be>)
- Tutorials on Searching Scripture Citations Using the Scriptures Tool, Searching Scripture Citations Using the Scripture Citation Index, and Searching Subject Headings for Sacred Texts of World Religions. -- Tutorials on ATLA Databases (<http://www.atla.com/products/support/Pages/ProductTutorials.aspx>)
- Improved set of Frequently Asked Questions -- FAQs (<http://www.atla.com/products/support/Product-Support-FAQs/Pages/default.aspx>)
- Listing of Events and Appearances for ATLA Staff -- Events and Appearances (<http://www.atla.com/products/Pages/UpcomingEvents.aspx>)

"In our ongoing efforts to provide excellent service and support to our valued customers worldwide, we are delighted with the new enhancements," commented Rick Rybak, Senior Business Development Representative.

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 Sara Corkery ([scorkery@atla.com](mailto:scorkery@atla.com)) with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.

## Staff in the News



ATLA's Database Manager for CPLI, Deborah Wisnarski, served as staff photographer for "Living the Gospel of Love," the 2011 Call to Action National Conference in Milwaukee, WI. She took more than 2,000 photos during the event. Three were published in the National Catholic Reporter (<http://ncronline.org/>), including her photo showing Sister Margaret McBride receiving the Call to Action Leadership Award (above).

## ATLA Calendar

### November

- 1 Submissions for December ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 2-6 Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC - Margot Lyon attending
- 10-11 International Collaboration Committee meets at ATLA Office
- 14 Brenda Bailey-Hainer meets with Pacific Northwest theological librarians in Seattle, WA
- 18-22 AAR and SBL Annual Meetings, San Francisco, CA - Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Margot Lyon, Lavonne Cohen, Rick Rybak, Gregg Taylor attending
- 24-25 ATLA Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

### December

- 1 Submissions for January ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 23 ATLA Office closed for Christmas Holiday
- 26 ATLA Office closed for Christmas Holiday

### January

- 1 Submissions for inclusion in February ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 2 ATLA Office closed for New Year Holiday
- 12-14 ATLA Board of Directors Meeting at ATLA Office in Chicago
- 16 ATLA Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday