# **ATLA Newsletter**

### Volume 57, Number 4 • February 2010



2010 Midwinter Board Meeting Summary Louisville 2.0 Local Hosts PSIG in Louisville ATLA Consortia Deadline M. Tim Browing Dies Member News From the Diversity Committee From the Diversity Committee From the Executive Director From the President ATLA Staff News Have You Heard?



### **From the President**

**The More We Get Together** The ATLA Board of Directorsremember? you elected us - had its semi-annual meeting the other week (see the summary at left).

There is always the business at hand to engage, of course, but I find also that these gatherings offer a good chance to think about "what does it take to represent the interests of ATLA members?" - always one of the Board's primary responsibilities.

A few unscientific reflections. It's helpful to have:

- Practitioners, i.e. colleagues who have a good grasp of the challenges and satisfactions of day-to-day work in theological librarianship.
- Variety, i.e. members who represent different theological traditions, schools and libraries of varying size and context, and so on.
- Collegiality, which is certainly not the same thing as compliance; for me, the decisions we reach after divergent views have been thoughtfully expressed are the most satisfying.
- Perspective, or the capacity to keep the big-picture in view even while very particular matters are being discussed. "How does what we are doing help make ATLA better, for its customers and members?" - we can never go far wrong as long as we keep questions like that in view.

It's a pleasure and an honor to serve you.

Cheers,

David R. Stewart



E. Stanley Jones (front and center) with Salvation Army Officers in Louisville, Kentucky (ca. 1960s). Photo from the papers of E. Stanley Jones, Asbury Theological Seminary. (available on ATLA's CDRI database)

### Summary Report of the ATLA Board of Directors Midwinter Meeting



Board Members, seated, left to right: M. Patrick Graham, H. D. Sandy Ayer, Carisse Mickey Berryhill, William J. Hook, and Duane Harbin. Standing, left to right: Carrie M. Hackney, Roberta A. Schaafsma (Vice President), David R. Stewart (President), Saundra Lipton, Eileen Crawford (Secretary), and James C. Pakala. (Not present: Laura C. Wood.)

### January 14-16, 2010

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 ATLA SharePoint pages, available to all ATLA individual members.

### **New Board Member**

Bill Hook was welcomed as a new member of the Board. He was selected by the members of the Board

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### From the Executive Director



#### FY2011 BUDGET

February is the time of year we begin the process of developing our budget for the next fiscal year - FY2011 (September 1, 2010 -August 31, 2011). There are three steps to the process. The first step is to project our estimated revenue for the coming year. This is the single most important step, since an overly optimistic estimate would put us in a deficit situation by year's end. This will be the sixteenth annual budget we've prepared

during my tenure, and so far we have always matched or exceeded our revenue projections for the coming year. This is a rather tricky exercise in the current economic downturn, but all indications are, at the midpoint of the current fiscal year, that our projections are once again accurate.

The second step in the budget process is gathering the wish lists from staff department heads and member committees for their projects. We also have to factor in our proposed capital expenses, and, as we become more and more dependent upon sophisticated technology and software, this forecast is increasingly important. We must, for example, insure that our servers, our Storage Area Network (SAN), and software are current and capable of sustaining all of our programs and products.

The third step of the budget process is the reconciliation of the wish lists with the revenue projections. To achieve a balanced budget (to be presented to the membership at the annual conference) we must balance expenditures with projected revenue. That means that we cannot fund everything on the wish list.

This year, for example, we made many adjustments to our wish lists, including:

\* we agreed to leave three positions vacant - one in administration, two in index;

- \* we reduced the budget for exhibiting at conferences;
- \* we eliminated some marketing website funds;
- \* we reduced professional development funds for all staff;

\* we limited staff salary increases to \$1,000 per person, rather than any percentage increase

- \* we reduced our equipment budget
- \* we decide to produce our annual report online rather than in print

\* we asked most committees to meet just once in person and at other times by conference call. Most committees agreed to do so.

You can rest assured that we will, once again, present a balanced budget to the membership at our annual conference in Louisville. It's a lengthy and challenging task, but we will remain committed to fiscal responsibility and a balanced budget as long as I serve as the Association's Executive Director.

#### -Dennis A. Norlin

To register to receive regular Friday updates of my blog, go to <u>http://edblog.atla.com/?page\_id=62</u>.

#### Summary Report of the ATLA Board of Directors, cont. from p. 1

to complete the term of office vacated by Cheryl Adams who resigned in November of 2009.

### Personnel Direct Inspection Report

Three Board members formed a team in October to conduct a review of personnel related policies of the organization and the revised ATLA Personnel Handbook. Their report to the Board was very positive. Staff morale is high with a strong sense among the staff that ATLA is a great place to work.

# Executive Director Succession

Work was done on planning for the hiring of a new Executive Director when Dennis Norlin retires in June of 2011. Two search firms were interviewed at the meeting and others will be explored.

#### **Board Policy Manual**

The Board has been more actively engaged in understanding and applying the Carver Model of Policy Governance. The organizational ends (Carver terminology) have been revised and were approved at the meeting. The revised organizational ends have been incorporated into the Board Policy Manual and will be discussed with the membership at the annual meeting.

-Eileen Crawford, ATLA Board Secretary

### Louisville 2.0: Where New Things Happen Message from the Local Host Committee

"Home is the place where, when you have to go there/ They have to take you in." [Warren]

"I should have called it something you/ Somehow haven't to deserve." [Mary]

-from The Death of the Hired Man Robert Frost. North of Boston. 1915

In June of 1947, over fifty librarians came to Louisville for the "Louisville Conference," and during that meeting ATLA was born. New things happen in Louisville. Your local hosts for this, the sixtyfourth annual meeting of the association, are happy to "take you in" and promise that new things will happen this year, too. Those post-war years were full of opportunities and challenges for the librarians who met here in 1947. We meet in similarly challenging and exciting times. We hope that as you return to ATLA's birthplace you will experience the conference in a new way and find fresh ideas and inspiration for your work.

The rich cultural and historical heritage of Louisville, Kentucky and the Bluegrass State await you. We've shown you some of our "greatest" in our welcome video. We'll offer a range of hosted excursions that we know you'll appreciate. The conference hotel (the Louisville Marriott Downtown) is very conveniently located near Louisville's new entertainment district and Waterfront Park. There are also many cultural attractions within walking distance of the hotel (Slugger Museum, Muhammad Ali Center, Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts, etc.). There is much to do and to see in Louisville.

We hope that you'll feel at home in Louisville. So that you'll be familiar with our city, you won't want to miss our ongoing series of video and photographic introductions. Look for atla louisville 2.0 on YouTube and Facebook. You can also receive info by following us on Twitter @ atla2pt0. The Facebook event already has photos of some of Louisville's "originals" including Colonel Sanders and Lynn's Paradise Café, which is famous for its annual ugly lampshade contest and macaroni and cheese (the best in the USA according to Oprah).

T.S. Eliot, in his poem East Coker, said, "Home is where one starts from." We welcome you home to find inspiration from the past and anticipation for the future.

-Local Host Committee, 2010 ATLA Annual Conference



Left to right, above-Bruce Kiesling (The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary), Barbara Pfeifle (Lexington Theological Seminary), Ken Boyd (Asbury Theological Seminary), Dan Kolb (Saint Meinrad School of Theology), and Doug Gragg (Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary)



# The Theological Education Association of Mid-America (TEAM-A)

Asbury Theological Seminary, Lexington Theological Seminary, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Saint Meinrad School of Theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

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 (<u>scorkery@</u> <u>atla.com</u>) with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponosoring an issue of the newsletter.

# Member News

### Member News

Software Upgrade a Success Thank you for your patience as we undertook a significant upgrade to ATLA's association management software and SharePoint Communities. The upgrade was a success and you may now access the entire ATLA website. If you have any difficulties or questions regarding the upgrade, please contact memberrep@atla.com or Barbara Kemmis at 888/665-2852.

### **Travel Grants for 2010 Conference**

Generous gifts to ATLA from corporate and member donors make it possible for us to offer grants of up to \$500 each to support attendance at the conference. Just as we did last year, we have expanded the program to provide additional grants for any ATLA student and individual member who receives no financial assistance from their institutions to attend the conference.

You may apply for a travel grant until April 16, 2010. Simply contact Barbara Kemmis by email (bkemmis@atla.com) to express your interest. Grants will be awarded on a first come, first served basis and winners will be notified on or before April 23, 2010. Applicants not selected to receive a grant will be placed on a waiting list and will be contacted if a selected recipient cancels. If you are chosen to receive a grant, Barbara will contact you by email and you must be prepared to register for the conference shortly thereafter. In the interest of privacy, we will not announce the names of the recipients; however, we will announce that grants have been made.

ATLA values all our members. We hope that this support will allow those of you who might not otherwise be able to attend the conference to join your colleagues in Louisville.

### **Theology Cataloging Bulletin Published**

The latest Theology Cataloging Bulletin (TCB), Volume 18, numbers 1 and 2, is a combined issue, and includes contents for both November 2009 and February 2010.

With an eye to keeping the publication useful and relevant, TCB's editors have designed a reader's survey, and request that those who are interested in the publication take the time to answer a few simple questions. The survey, which takes approximately five minutes to complete, is available here.

### **2009 Summary of Proceedings Errata**

The link for viewing various conference PowerPoint presentations on ATLA's members only Sharepoint

Communities webistie was erroneously listed. The correct address is http://communities.atla. com. We also apologize to for the misspelling of "Pentecostal" in both the table of contents and the program listing pages.

### **Dead Sea Scroll Fragments at SBTS**

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (SBTS) announced last month that it had acquired three fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls, appearing to carry verses from the biblical books of Exodus, Leviticus and Daniel. Visit http://www.startelegram.com/804/story/1909553.html to read the Star-Telegram article about the acquisition.



### **Jack Ammerman in New Position**

Jackie AmmermanJack Ammerman of Boston University has been appointed to a newly created position as Associate University Librarian for Digital Initiatives and Open Access. His responsibilities include Systems, Electronic

Resources, Metadata and Cataloging, as well as the new Digital Common institutional repository. According to Rober Hudson, the University Librarian, "Jack has been instrumental in bringing the repository to life in his position of director of the School of Theology Library. This new structure will improve our ability to take advantage of changing technologies to improve our services and collections. I look forward to working with him in this new capacity." Please join us in wishing Jack the best as he takes on his new job duties.

### New Position Filled at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Eileen K. Saner, Library Director at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, announced that Karl Stutzman has been named to the new position of Access and Digital Services Librarian. "He will officially begin in this position July 1, 2010 at 80% time. Over the next months he will complete his work as AMBS Interim Librarian for Access Services and Acquisitions while beginning the transition into other responsibilities," Eileen says. "Brent Koehn and I are pleased that Karl has accepted this permanent position and we look forward to continuing our work together."

### **Routine Maintenance Reminder**

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, March 1st, 2010. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. (CST). Services that will be affected include ASE, ListServe and the ATLA Websites. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

# From the Special Committee of the Association for Diversity

The Special Committee of the Association for Diversity was formed in June of 2008. The current members



of the committee are Diana Brice, chair, Susan Ebertz, Cait Kokolus, Mayra Paycos-Lee, Jim Pakula (board representative), and Dennis Norlin (staff representative). Since 2008, the committee has been pleased to award five scholarships of \$1000 each to attendees of the Theological Librarianship (LIS 590TL) online two-credit course offered by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign LEEP course. Scholarships pay for tuition for the two-credit course and the required books. The committee is again offering the scholarships to be used in the Fall semester of 2010. Information on the application process is available on the ATLA website (<u>http://www.atla.com/member/</u> <u>awards grants scholarships/grants diversity.html</u>). The committee is accepting applications until July 1. If you or anyone you know is interested, please get in your application as soon as possible.

The Theological Librarianship course is invaluable for librarians new to theological librarianship and to those who are thinking about becoming a theological librarian. Students who have received the scholarship

said the course is excellent and a wonderful introduction to theological librarianship. As a former student in the course, I can attest to that. Please contact me at dbrice@jkmlibrary.org if you have any questions about the scholarship or the course. I would be happy to help you in any way I can.

Watch this column for information about the committee's activities at the 2010 ATLA Conference in Louisville. This year, the committee is sponsoring "Movie Night," a viewing and discussion of a movie with diversity themes. I hope many of you will be able to come and enjoy an evening of fun, fellowship, and popcorn.

- Diana Brice, Chair



### ATLA Calendar

February	
1	Submissions for inclusion in March ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
11-12	Publications Committee meets via teleconference
26	Special Committee of the Association for Diversity meets
27-28	Dennis Norlin, Tami Luedtke, and Margot Lyon at NFAIS Conference in Philadelphia
<b>March</b>	Submissions for inclusion in April ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
1	ATLA 2010 Annual Conference registration and housing reservation opens
1-2	Dennis Norlin, Margot Lyon, and Tami Luedtke at NFAIS Conference in Philadelphia
<b>April</b> 1 6-8	Submissions for inclusion in May ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month Barbara Kemmis at Catholic Library Association Convention in Minneapolis

# ATLASerials® FAQ

Tami Luedtke (below, right), Director of Electronic Products and Services, and Margot Lyon (below, left), Director of Business Development, have organized some frequently asked questions about *ATLASerials* (*ATLAS*®), ATLA's online collection of more than one hundred and fifty journals. This is the first article in planned series of newsletter interviews about ATLA's products.



### What is the ATLAS license and economic model? Is ATLAS available for purchase as perpetual access?

ATLASerials, ATLA's online fulltext collection of more than one hundred and fifty journals, is offered as a licensed database with a specified subscription period, and it is available through multiple information aggregators (EBSCO Publishing, OCLC, Ovid). For most academic institutions, the full ATLA Religion Database is the prerequisite for an ATLAS subscription.

ATLAS contains licensed publisher-provided content but ATLA does not own the intellectual property rights for this content. No title or ownership passes to subscribing institutions since ATLA and our aggregators only license databases for use by their customers. We also strongly believe in promoting the purchase of publisher journal subscriptions, and we view them to be complementary resources to database subscriptions. For all of these reasons, ATLAS is not available for purchase as perpetual access.

On the publisher side, the economic model for ATLAS does not directly correlate to the actual cost of purchasing the journals directly from the content provider/publisher. Although the publishers that contribute to ATLAS receive a royalty for their participation, ATLA does not encourage publishers to anticipate that the royalties they may receive from ATLAS should entirely replace direct subscription income.

### Do journals ever drop out of ATLAS?

ATLA has had a very successful rate of retaining journals in ATLAS (i.e., keeping publishers participating in ATLAS after their journal content is added initially). In fact, ATLA now includes more than one hundred and fifty journals, and to date, only one journal (Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion) has decided to stop adding new issues on ATLAS for their own business reasons. In addition, when we negotiate with publishers to join ATLAS we include a clause that gives ATLA the right to retain and continue to provide to ATLAS subscribers each journal issue once it has been posted in ATLAS.

### Can you provide some insight into the currency of ATLAS titles?

Regarding currency, ATLA strives to keep ATLAS full-text issues as current as possible. ATLA gives ATLAS journals priority indexing status for inclusion in the full ATLA Religion Database. After we receive a journal issue that is licensed for ATLAS, we must index and digitize that journal; link the indexing and digital data; put it through appropriate quality assurance procedures; and then release that data in a quarterly data update to our aggregator partners who then must load the data on their own platform. We make every effort to keep the turnaround time as short as possible; however, our experience indicates that the turn-around for an issue of a journal without any publisher requested exclusions may take between 6 to 12 months from the point of receipt

at ATLA to the point when the full-text is electronically available on an aggregator version of our databases.

### What are ATLA's plans for the long-term preservation of ATLAS content?

ATLA is indeed concerned about preserving the religion and theology content that is provided in ATLAS. To achieve this end, ATLA has established certain rights and procedures to ensure preservation of the ATLAS full text collection. For example, ATLA has itself obtained the rights to maintain a digital archive and preserve all the journal content present in ATLAS. Some of the preservation work ATLA staff members perform for ATLAS includes: maintaining original print copies of content that is present in ATLAS; creating high resolution tiff files according to accepted archival guidelines which can be migrated to other formats; and creating and ensuring the integrity of multiple redundant backups of the ATLAS digital files (including tape copies kept in underground storage at Iron Mountain). These high resolution versions, along with the print journal issues we have, are maintained (essentially in a dark archive) for long-term preservation needs.

### What else is new with ATLAS?

We recently announced a major new initiative to add significant religion and theology journals that are no longer published (ceased titles) to ATLAS, an online collection of more than one hundred and forty major religion and theology journals selected by leading religion scholars, theologians, and clergy: http://www.atla.com/news/press/ press09.html#Nov\_19\_09\_1. We've tripled the number of sites offering ATLAS for ALUM by marketing the program to administrators, alumni and development officers, and librarians. http://www.atlasalum.com.

We've also made significant investments in scanning and digitization technology to improve workflow and quality, including purchasing a Plustek Opticbook A300 book edge flatbed scanner and an Indus 5004C A2 book cradle scanner.

If you should have any further question concerning ATLAS, please feel free to contact us at <a href="mailto:support@atla.com">support@atla.com</a>.

## ATLA Consortia Deadline This Month

**Consortia Webinars Available Online** More than forty ATLA members took part in the recent webinars offered by OCLC and EBSCO Publishing to describe new platform and feature enhancements and provide detailed information about the ATLA consortia. If you were unable to participate, you'll find PowerPoint slides from both presentations available in http://community.atla.com.

Notify ATLA by February 15 If you're interested in participating in one or more of the ATLA consortia, please let <u>consortia@atla.com</u> know before February 15 so that we may include you in the first round of quotations.

For more information about the consortia: ATLA/OCLC Consortium (<u>http://www.</u> <u>atla.com/member/atla\_OCLC\_consor-</u> <u>tium.html</u>)

The ATLA Group Catalog (http://www. atla.com/member/collaborative\_ projects/group\_catalog.html) is a database that allows your library users to search for materials cataloged in OCLC WorldCat that are owned by ATLA libraries

ATLA/EBSCO Publishing Consortium (<u>http://www.atla.com/member/ATLA\_EBSCO\_consortium.html</u>)

ATLA Newsletter Contact Information: Sara Corkery, Communications Specialist scorkery@atla.com • 888.665.2852

# Have You Heard?

### Have You Heard?

Sister M. Claude Lane Award Accepting Nominations 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. Visit <u>http://www.archivists.org/governance/</u> <u>handbook/section12-lane.asp</u> for more information regarding the Lane Award Sub-committee. To nominate an archivist for the Lane Award please complete the nomination form here <u>http://www.archivists.org/recognition/Awardsform.pdf</u>. Nominations are due by February 28, 2010.

# French Study of Information Resource Policy in Religious Studies

Accessing our Shared Religious Heritage: Information Resource Policy in Religious Studies at the Bibliothèque nationale de France (<u>http://bbf.enssib.fr/consulter/bbf-</u><u>2010-01-0006-001</u>) raises the usual questions of range of coverage and universality, as well as highlighting the issue of the stance libraries should take towards religion. The study addresses such issues as how religious collections should be handled in a country that prides itself on separating Church and State, how libraries can cater to a readership that is increasingly diverse in terms of faith, and which requires more than a unilaterally critical approach, given the influence of major world religions on literature, art, and politics. It also questions which goals libraries should set for themselves in dealing with the spiritual challenges of the modern world.

### 2011 IFLA/OCLC Deadline This Month

February 28, 2010 is the deadline for submitting an application and supporting materials for the 2011 Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program. This program 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), the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), and ATLA. Applicants are not required to be ATLA members. Please forward notice of this opportunity to colleagues. Complete applications, which include a cover sheet, a resume, an essay of 1,000 words or fewer, and three letters of recommendation, must be submitted by February 28, 2010. Only complete applications will be considered. All application information is available at <a href="http://www.oclc.org/">http://www.oclc.org/</a> community/careerdevelopment/fellows/.

### **Better World Books Awards Grant**

In January, Better World Books announced the winner of its inaugural Reader's Choice Literacy Grant for \$20,000. The company reported that over 27,000 people voted in the event and the Intermountain Therapy Animals' Reading Education Assistance Dogs (R.E.A.D.) program has been declared the winner. You can read more about Better World Books and R.E.A.D. here: <u>http://www.betterworldbooks.com/custom.</u> aspx?f=readers-choice-winner-jan10

## EBSCO Offer

EBSCO Offers Free Trials to ATLA Members for Historical Monographs Collections EBSCO has partnered with ATLA to provide new collections of historical monographs and serials in digital format. ATLA Historical Monographs Collection: 19th Century, (http://www.ebscohost. com/thisTopic.php?marketID=1&topicID=1152) ATLA Historical Monographs Collection: Early 20th Century (http://www.ebscohost.com/thisTopic.php?marketID=1&topicID=1153) and ATLA Historical Serials Collection (forthcoming) consists of digital versions of rare and historical primary sources. The monograph collections contain more than 29,000 monographs covering religion and theology. The majority of the monographs date from 1850 through 1923 with the earliest monograph from 1322. The monograph collections are estimated to include 7.5 million pages of content. The historical serials collection will contain more than 1,200 serials from the early 19th Century to the early 20th Century and are estimated to include 5.4 million pages of content.

With each collection, researchers can view all of the typography, graphics, and drawings as they were originally presented. EBSCO enables libraries to purchase ownership of each collection rather than provide leased access which is required with subscription-based databases. Digital archive products are typically sold as "static" collections for a one-time purchase price with an annual maintenance fee. EBSCO provides access via its EBSCOhost® interface, one of the most-used research platforms available.

EBSCO is offering ATLA member free trial access to the ATLA Historical Monographs Collection: 19th Century and ATLA Historical Monographs Collection: Early 20th Century through June 30, 2010. If you are interested in participating in this free trial, please send an email to memberrep@atla.com with the following information before March 31, 2010: Site name Address Contact name Phone number Email address Does site want their trial set up on their "main" profile or on a separate trial profile?

For sales information, please contact your EBSCO representative directly.

### ATLA Staff News

### Preservation Assistant Ekaterina Elgayeva Leaves ATLA



ATLA will soon be bidding farewell to Preservation Assistant, Kate Elgayeva. Kate has worked with ATLA's Manager of Preservation Projects, Diane Pugh, for nearly two years on a two-year extension to the NEH-funded grant, Preservation Microfilming of Religious Periodical Literature of the Hispanic and Indigenous Peoples of the Americas. Kate has been involved in collecting and collating materials for microfilming, working with the filming vendors, quality checking bibliographic records for grant titles, quality checking film, sending film to donors, and tracking statistical information used in grant reporting. Her assistance has been invaluable in ensuring that Preservation will finish the current grant extension by its April 30th deadline.

Kate is leaving ATLA to become the archivist for the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, where she will begin work on February 8th.

# PSIG in Louisville: Our Search for the Greatest

The Public Services Interest Group plans to focus its program in "the greatest city" next June on great works of reference that are either

- unsung, but undeservedly so, or
- unwritten, but inexplicably so,

and is confident that a number of you have been chomping at the bit to nominate a work of reference that you think

• is "the greatest" but underappreciated, or

• would be "the greatest" if compiled and "published." Please note that this is a derby of sorts, and that for the winning entries there will be a purse. "Pretty great," right? Here are the guidelines:

- Make as many nominations as you like.
- Restrict them to fine works of reference that you think are too little known or underutilized, or that you think would be especially useful if written.
- Think in terms of theological reference in particular (all of the theological disciplines, plus any associated with religious studies), but also of the works of reference treasured by the advanced practitioners of any field in any way ancillary ("secular" history, just for example, or sociology). Those of you who work (or know people) in large universities may want to query your fellow but "non-theological" librarians and/or bibliographers. You may even want to query faculty.
- Be creative. There are no limits on genre (encyclopedia, dictionary, handbook, serial bibliography, non-serial bibliography, index, chart, table, chronology, etc.), and the work you name might be an undeservedly obscure part rather than the whole. (It might even be a part of a whole not usually thought of as a work of reference.)
- Throw considerations of format to the winds. For although we would love to hear of a number of great but underappreciated works of (at least potentially) theological reference in print (the sorts of things that you have to turn to the older but highly-specialized bibliographers of research institutions to learn about or be reminded of (an endangered body of knowledge, we suspect)), the sky's the limit when it comes to format, not to mention the distinction between the proprietary and the free.
- So long as the work of reference you have in mind can be figured out or at least referenced by the intelligent librarians of this Association (who are, of course, "the greatest"), don't worry too much about language either (always assuming that there isn't something in English that does the same thing just as well).

Send your submissions to members of the PSIG Steering Committee (below). Label them clearly as above ("PSIG in Louisville: 'OUR SEARCH FOR THE GREATEST"), if possible. Those that make a first cut will be presented and then "put to a vote" (with winners announced and purses awarded) at the PSIG session in June of 2010. Note that the Committee reserves the right to give preference to the first of two or more roughly identical submissions (should it deem this necessary).

### Just for fun,

David Mayo, Chair (mayod@queens.edu), Suzanne Estelle-Holmer, Vice Chair/Electronic Information Coordinator (suzanne.estelleholmer@yale.edu), Steve Perisho, Secretary (sperisho@spu.edu), Leland Deeds (Ideeds@union-psce.edu), Derek Hogan (hogand@ campbell.edu), Luba Zakharov (luba.zakharov@duke.edu)

## ATLA Member M. Tim Browning Dies

The following is reprinted from a notice on the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Website:



"Pittsburgh Theological Seminary employee M. Tim Browning died unexpectedly on Tuesday, Jan. 26 at the age of 49. He joined the Seminary's staff as head of technical services and lead cataloger in 2008.

"Tim was a dear, sweet man with a deep faith and a ready smile," said the Rev. Dr. William J. Carl III, president and professor of homiletics. Browning earned his bachelor's from Barton College, M. Div. from Lexington Theological Seminary, and M.L.S. from the University of North Carolina. Over the years he worked as head of technical services in the libraries of College of Mount St. Joseph and Lexington Seminary. He served as director of the library at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Ga. for more than 10 years and was the director of the library at Lexington Seminary.

Browning was an ordained Disciples of Christ pastor and has served several churches as pastor and at denominational offices throughout the years. He is survived by his wife Sarah, in Lexington, Ky. and their two children."

Contributions may be made to Twin Pines Christian Church, 1139 Tanbark Road, Lexington, KY 40515. Read Tim's obituary and sign his guest book in the Lexington Herald-Leader here: <u>http://www.legacy.</u> <u>com/obituaries/kentucky/</u> <u>obituary.aspx?n=m-tim-</u> <u>browning&pid=139042989</u>