



Scenes from TLM 2010: Patrons browsing at the Graduate Theological Union Library Book Sale.

In This Issue

- From the President
- TLM - October 2011
- Member Loyalty Program
- CPLI Purchase Finalized
- New Benefits for Library Directors
- ATLAS for Alum Mini-Grants
- ATLA Social Media Opportunities
- Creating the Leaders of Tomorrow
- IFLA/OCLC Fellows Announced
- Member News
- Staff News
- Have You Heard?
- From the Executive Director

New Benefit for Library Directors

ATLA is pleased to debut a new benefit for Library Directors of ATLA member libraries. The Directors Only Community (<http://www.atla.com/rosters/DIRECTORS/default.aspx>) space on the ATLA website is designed to provide networking and education for Library Directors. The discussion list supports respectful and confidential conversations between library directors within the Community space. Whether your goals are to strategize or socialize, participate in the Directors Only discussion list and Community space.

will receive a welcome email shortly. If you have questions or wish to join or leave the list, please contact memberrep@atla.com.



From the President

Augustine and ATLA

One of my favorite passages in the *Confessions* (8.6.14) is the story of Ponticianus, who is a guest in Augustine’s home. This visitor experiences “delight and wonder” upon finding one type of book (and not another type) on Augustine’s table. This leads to Ponticianus’ recollection of his earlier encounter with Athanasius’ book, *Life of Anthony*, which is remembered as a source for meditation and transformation in the lives of Ponticianus and his friends. Augustine reveals to us that he, in turn, is amazed and changed by this story of reflective and transformative reading. Here then is a tale of a guest who transforms his host, both through his interest in the books of the house, and through meditation on information and formation. Elsewhere in the *Confessions*, Augustine describes this meditation on books as “cogitation,” which he explains etymologically as an act of “collecting together” memories of what we have read and otherwise experienced.

Perhaps, like me, you have imagined the outcomes of our work as gifts that hopefully produce delight and wonder for guests in our libraries. But are we also the guests in our institutional homes? Are we not collectors and cogitators of information that relates reciprocally to a delight and wonder over what our hosts are reading? As usual, Augustine causes me to meditate on the relation of grace (including hospitality) to my work(s). I’m grateful for your membership in ATLA - an association that cultivates delight in what others are reading, and provides space and support for meditation on our resources and the patrons who host us.

-- John B. Weaver



From the Executive Director

A New Season

Having grown up in a rural community in northwest Ohio, the start of September still marks a significant seasonal change for me. It reminds me of the county fair, the start of hunting season, and a yearning for the first frost to temper the heat of summer.

At ATLA headquarters, September marks the start of a different sort of season--the turning of the page on the fiscal calendar. The accounting books on the past year are closed as we look forward with eager anticipation to a fresh set of objectives for the coming year.

Like other organizations, ATLA is constantly challenged to improve our offerings in response to influences often beyond our control. One of ATLA's organizational ends relates to the creation of research tools to support the study of religion and theology. Increasingly, digital natives are appearing in the theological classroom or participating in it remotely, and this has significantly changed the nature of the forum and the tools needed to support it.

In August, I had the pleasure of meeting Verity Jones, Director of the New Media Project (<http://www.newmediaprojectatunion.org/pages/The-Project/default.aspx>) at Union Theological Seminary. This project is designed to help religious leaders be theologically savvy about technology--not just train them how to use it--a sure sign that technology is permeating humanities. Another sign of change is the appearance of theological school graduates like Chris Ridgeway, who swims comfortably in the technology stream and writes about the impact of an information society on Christian theology on his *theo|digital* blog (<http://www.theodigital.com/>). Yet another sign is the emergence of degree programs such as King's College London's PhD in Digital Theology

What are the implications for ATLA providing access to and capturing the record of scholarship as it shifts even farther along the spectrum from print toward digital? Historically, ATLA Religion Database has focused on journal articles, book reviews, and collections of essays. In August, our first "real" digital book was indexed (to be included in a future update to ATLA RDB). In the past, we've often covered books in an electronic format, but they were really mirror images of print materials rather than designed as digital. How do we effectively point users to thoughtful and relevant intellectual electronic snippets from blogs and co-mingle those references meaningfully with full length digital works and more traditional scholarly mediums?

This is just one of the challenges ATLA will be considering this year as the new fiscal season begins. The research we conduct on the needs of faculty, students, scholars, and others will help determine what next generation ATLA research tools look like. I hope you'll support our efforts by participating in surveys, focus groups, discussions, and other forums as we offer the opportunity.

--Brenda Bailey-Hainer

Member News

ICC Grants Available

ATLA members are invited to apply for an international collaboration grant for 2012. Grants of up to \$2,000 are available to foster collaboration between ATLA institutions and institutions abroad. More information about the grants, reports from previous recipients, and the application form can be found at <http://www.atla.com/Members/programs/awards/Pages/International-Collaboration-Grant.aspx>. The deadline for applications is October 31, 2011.

CTU Receives New Books

Catholic Theological Union (CTU) has been selected as an International Society for Science and Religion (ISSR) Library Project awardee. Only 150 institutions worldwide will receive a full set of the ISSR Library, which includes 224 volumes. According to Pranab Das, ISSR's Executive Editor and Project Manager, these books span "all areas of the interface between science and spirituality. Our Editorial Board selected these books in consultation with the membership of the International Society for Science and Religion and experts from many academic disciplines, faith traditions, and regions. The result is a truly remarkable collection that ranges from a 'core' group of books whose primary focus is directly on science and spirituality (from many perspectives, including non-religious ones) to eleven other subject areas. These range from the sciences and social sciences to history, philosophy and the environment."

ATLA congratulates Melody McMahon and her library staff at CTU on their award.

Carisse Berryhill Keynote Speaker

Carisse Berryhill, ATLA member and Special Collections Librarian at Abilene Christian University will deliver the keynote address for the Second Annual International Conference on Information & Religion.



Continued on p. 4

ATLA Rewards Your Loyalty

Program Extension Announced

Nearly three years ago, Margot Lyon, Director of Business Development, and Barbara Kemmis, Director of Member Services, discussed the economic crisis and other changes impacting ATLA members and tried to develop strategies to mitigate financial stressors. "I am continually impressed with the loyalty ATLA members show with ongoing subscriptions to ATLA databases and membership renewals. As of the fall of 2009, following a year of deep budget cuts and reorganization for most members, every single ATLA Institutional member retained its membership and subscriptions. We brainstormed creative ways to assist and thank ATLA members," says Margot Lyon.

Over the past three years, members have redeemed benefits that sent 172 attendees to the conferences in St. Louis, Louisville, and Chicago. New members numbered twenty-eight; nineteen of these have maintained their memberships. Additionally, fourteen members elected to make \$2100 in contributions to the Scholarships and Grants Annual Fund.

"We developed the Member Loyalty Program to thank our current Institutional, International Institutional, and Affiliate members for their involvement in ATLA and to welcome our new members with tangible benefits. This year we are pleased to announce the extension of the program in the fall to facilitate budget planning for conference participation and a full year of member benefits for new individual members," adds Barbara Kemmis.

During these uncertain times, we hope this program will allow you to become an Individual member again, if you haven't been for three or more years; to register a new person on your staff who hasn't been an Individual member before; or to attend the upcoming 2012 Annual Conference, if cost has been holding you back.

Loyalty benefits are based on your library's ATLA product subscription level and include:

- Individual membership
- Conference registration
- Gifts to the Scholarships and Grants Annual Fund.

We encourage you to redeem your Member Loyalty benefits this fall -- all you need do is complete the form (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N65LV52>). As always, we appreciate your feedback. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Barbara Kemmis at 888/665-2852 or bkemmis@atla.com.

Thank you for your dedication to ATLA as a member and as a subscriber. We are pleased to be able to provide you with a range of products and services.

ATLA Announces Mini-Grants to Promote *ATLAS*® for *ALUM*

New promotional materials are now available on <http://www.atlasalum.com>. ATLA is pleased to offer up to 150 grants of \$100 toward the development of *ATLAS for ALUM* promotional materials specific to your institution, or a promotional event, or both. These funds are supplied by a generous grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. They are available for participants in the Lilly grant funded program toward subscription to *ATLAS for ALUM*. More information is available in the *ATLAS for ALUM* August Update that was emailed on August 18, or contact Rick Rybak at atlasalum@atla.com.



Catholic Periodical and Literature Index Purchase Finalized

On September 1, ATLA completed the purchase of Catholic Periodical and Literature Index (CPLI) from Catholic Library Association (CLA). You can read the full press at http://www.atla.com/about/pressroom/Pages/CPLI_PressRelease.aspx. Pictured above are Brenda Bailey-Hainer, ATLA Executive Director, and Malachy R. McCarthy, CLA Board President, signing the agreement.

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

Member News, continued from p. 2

The conference, which takes place on May 18-19, 2012 at Kent State University, is themed around "Preservation and Access: Facilitating Research in Information and Religion." More information about the conference can be found at <http://www.kent.edu/cde/conferences/csir.cfm>.

Lisa Gonzalez Awarded Fellowship



Each year, Bridwell Library of the Perkins School of Theology offers six fellowships of independent study to "facilitate a one month period of intense, individual, uninterrupted study in Bridwell Library;" the award includes a

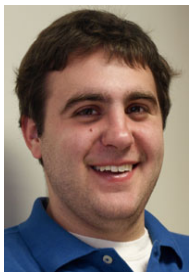
\$3000 stipend to help cover expenses. Lisa Gonzalez, Electronic Resources Librarian at Catholic Theological Union, is the happy recipient of one of the 2011 fellowships. For more information on the Bridwell's fellowship program, visit <http://www.smu.edu/bridwell/About/BridwellFellowships.aspx>.

Routine Maintenance Reminder

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, October 3, 2011. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. (CDT). We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

Staff News

New Information Services Assistant



On August 8th, Patrick Buss started at ATLA as the new part-time Information Services Assistant. Patrick attended Columbia College Chicago where he studied film and programming. For three years, he managed the I.T. systems for a start-up film company,

assisting with various aspects of the business. Over the last year Patrick has strengthened his programming skills by creating interactive children's books for the iPad/iPhone. At ATLA, Patrick will work with Director of Information Services Jim Butler to help support ATLA staff.

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) with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.

ATLA Social Media Opportunities

It is a new fiscal year at ATLA, and one of Member Services "New Year's" resolutions is to utilize social media more effectively to serve you. Whether you are a social media pro--or simply curious as to what all the commotion is about--we've got an avenue of participation for you. Nearly all of the social media opportunities listed below were created by ATLA members, and while staff may chime in from time to time, these spaces are for you:

Facebook

To join any of the ATLA groups on Facebook, or to "follow" a page, you must register for a free Facebook account, search for the group or page by name within Facebook, and click "Join" or "Like."

Theological Librarians—This group is open to all academic librarians (or librarians-to-be) with an interest in theological librarianship who would like to exchange ideas, ask questions, and/or network a little bit beyond email and listservs. Please feel free to post items in Photos, Videos, Events, Posted Items, and on the Wall. Forward any discussion topic ideas you have to Michelle Spomer (admin), and they'll eventually be posted. If your item is simply an announcement, please post it to the Wall and not to the Discussion Board.

Theological Librarianship: An Online Journal of the ATLA—An open access journal publishing essays, columns, critical reviews, bibliographic essays, and peer-reviewed articles on various aspects of theological librarianship and its contribution to theological education.

Use the "Search" Feature --Many ATLA member institutions have Facebook pages. These can provide interesting resources and ideas that might be applied to your own institution.

Twitter

ATLA locals hosts created conference accounts over the past two years and will again. Stay tuned for information on that. In the meantime, follow Barbara Kemmis (@bkemmis) and Margot Lyon (@margotlyon) for tweets about ATLA and the field.

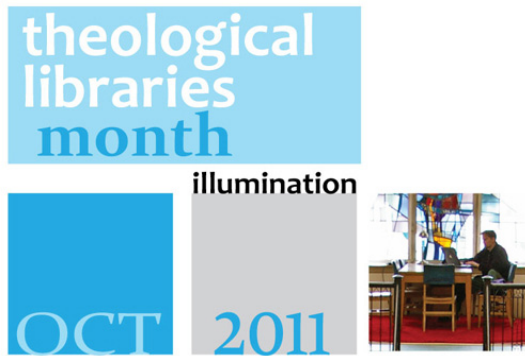
LinkedIn

The newest ATLA group was formed a couple of months ago in www.linkedin.com. To join the group, 1) create a LinkedIn profile, 2) search for "American Theological Library Association" and 3) request to join. As Barbara Kemmis is the moderator, she promises to let you in. Because the group is so new, there is little content on the page--providing a perfect opportunity for you to get more involved by signing up and adding your contribution to the discussion.

Other Ways to Connect

Do you know of other ATLA or theological library groups forming in social media spaces? If so, please share them with members via any of the media listed above.

TLM--October 2011



Theological Libraries Month (TLM) is less than a month away and we're here to help you participate in the celebration at <http://www.atla.com/MEMBERS/PROGRAMS/TLM/Pages/default.aspx>.

TLM in a Box

Launch your Theological Libraries Month activities with TLM in a Box. We've got logos, bookmarks, and posters.

Mini-Grants for TLM Advocacy Activities

Mini-grants of up to \$500 are available again this year. While the money can be used toward any worthy TLM project you propose, we encourage you to tell us how you will use the money to specifically reach out to faculty and administrators and promote the value of your library.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Conduct a reception at your library just for faculty. During the event you can distribute a handout you create using the Statement of Value messages and some statistics and testimonials, or design a PowerPoint presentation that shows how your library supports every department and is a key link to alumni.
- Invite faculty to recommend books for the library and be available for questions.
- Invite a well-known theologian or author to speak during your TLM celebration and schedule a VIP meeting with the speaker for faculty and administrators.

If you'd like to apply for a grant, visit http://www.atla.com/Members/programs/tlm/Documents/grant_app_form_11.pdf for a link to the application form.

Coming Soon: Creating the Leaders of Tomorrow Program

Applications Open August 15



The time is here for interested mid-career librarians to sign up for ATLA's new Creating the Leaders of Tomorrow Program. For details about the program, go to <http://www.atla.com/Members/development/Pages/Creating-Leaders-of-Tomorrow.aspx>.

Have You Heard?

Love Your Librarian?

The New York Times and the Carnegie Corporation are now accepting nominees nationwide for the "I Love My Librarian Award." The selected winners--up to ten of them--will receive a \$5,000 cash award and will be guests at a ceremony and reception in New York in December. For more information on how the award "recognizes the accomplishments of librarians in public, school, college, community college and university libraries for their efforts to improve the lives of people in their community," visit <http://atyourlibrary.org/ilovemylibrarian>. The deadline for submissions is September 12.

Membership Renewal Season Continues

Individual and Student members are invited to log in to www.atla.com today to instantly renew their memberships online. Simply click on the "Renewal" choice in the upper right corner of the website and pay with a VISA or MasterCard. You may also select "Bill Me" as a payment choice to receive an invoice by email. (Please remit payment to ATLA upon receipt of the email.) While visiting the new online community, be sure to take a moment to update your profile and explore the publications and groups available to you.

Institutional, International Institutional and Affiliate Member representatives will receive their institutional renewal invoices by August 1, 2011. If your member representative prefers to renew online with VISA or MasterCard, they may do so on the ATLA website.

Thank you in advance for your continued membership in ATLA.

Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellows Announced

On August 15, OCLC, along with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) announced this year's five librarians chosen to participate in the Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program for 2012:

- Mrs. Efua Ayiah, Assistant Librarian, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana
- Ms. Gladys Mungai, Assistant Librarian, KIPPRA, Nairobi, Kenya
- Mr. Md. Shafiur Rahman, Information Officer, ICDDR,B, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Miss Tanzela Shaukat, Librarian, National Disaster Management Authority, Islamabad, Pakistan
- Mrs. Ngozi Ukachi, Librarian II / Cataloguer, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria

The selection committee for the 2012 Fellowship program included Barbara Kemmis, American Theological Library Association; Hella Klauser, German Library Association; Sjoerd Koopman, IFLA; Nancy Lensenmayer, OCLC; George Needham, OCLC; Gwenda Thomas, Rhodes University, South Africa; and Ingeborg Verheul, IFLA.

A copy of the news release, photos of the 2012 Fellows, and application information for the 2013 Fellowship Program is available at <http://www.oclc.org/us/en/community/careerdevelopment/fellows/default.htm>.

ATLA Calendar

September

- 1 Submissions for October ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 5 ATLA Office closed for Labor Day holiday
- 3-7 40th General Assembly of BETH in Amsterdam - Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 18-20 Society for Scholarly Publishing "IN: Interact, Inspire, Innovate" conference in Arlington, VA - Brenda Bailey-Hainer and Margot Lyon
- 30 Deadline for session proposals for ATLA 2012 Annual Conference in Arizona

October

- 1 Official start of TLM 2011
- 1 Submissions for November ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 3 NFAIS Humanities Roundtable Meeting, New York, NY - Brenda Bailey-Hainer and Margot Lyon attending
- 9-11 Lilly Websites Consultation Meeting, Durham, NC - Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Tami Luedtke, Margot Lyon attending
- 15 Creating Leaders of Tomorrow application deadline
- 24-25 Publications Committee meets at ATLA Office
- 25-26 Theological Librarianship Editorial Board meets at ATLA Office
- 31 Professional Development Committee meets at ATLA Office
- 31 Deadline for submitting International Collaboration Committee grant applications

November

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