ATLA

American Theological Library Association

Newsletter

Contents

Contact the Editor:

Margret Tacke Collins
mcollins@atla.com

Statement of Purpose

The American Theological Library Association is a professional, non-profit association of librarians who specialize in theology and religious studies or who have an interest in the bibliography and literature of religion. In producing the *ATLA Newsletter,* the American Theological Library Association seeks to be a source of information to ATLA members about membership activities and job openings, as well as a forum for discussion on various issues of interest to members.

Subscription Information

Submission Information / Advertising Information

All submissions are subject to review and have the following due dates: October 1 for the November issue; January 1 for the February issue; April 1 for the May issue; and July 1 for the August issue. Send submissions to: Margret Tacke Collins, Editor of Member Publications, at the address above, or e-mail: mcollins@atla.com. Advertising rates are available upon request from the Editor.

AMERICAN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1999–2000

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President's Message

President's Message

In the last newsletter, I indicated to you that the ATLA Board was considering revising the association's current organizational goals after consultation with you, the membership. At its midwinter meeting on January 14 and 15, the Board decided that the current mission statement with its organizational ends (that appeared in the last newsletter) should not be significantly revised because they state, in broad terms, the long range aims of the association. The Board agreed that the breadth of our current ends provides the necessary latitude to respond flexibly to the changing needs of the membership, the shifting situation of our libraries, and the expanding capabilities of information technology.

The Board did feel, however, that a discussion of the association's core values might be helpful ; because it is those values that should, ideally, provide identity and unity in our number and provide direction as to what means are most appropriate for the association and its staff to take in pursuing our declared ends. Between now and ATLA's June conference in Berkeley, the Board will be developing a method by which the membership can reflect together on this subject. It is likely that we will have a discussion on this matter during one of our town meetings at the June conference.

In anticipation of those deliberations, it might be of interest to you to look at the draft of a core values statement recently produced by the American Library Association's Core Values Task Force. The full statement, along with additional background information, is available on the Web at http://www.wwa.com/~dsager/core.htm. The eight values articulated in the statement are:

- The connection of people to ideas
- Unfettered access to ideas
- Learning in all of its contexts
- Freedom for all people to form, to hold, and to express their own beliefs
- Respect for the individual person
- Preservation of the human record
- Interdependence among information professionals and agencies
- Professionalism in service to these values

Following the listing of these values, the ALA draft goes on to provide brief explications of the content to each value. These elaborations read as follows:

- *The connection of people to ideas.* All others flow from that. We guide the seeker in defining and refining the search; we foster intellectual inquiry; we nurture communication in its myriad forms and formats.
- *Unfettered access to ideas.* We recognize access to ideas across time and across cultures as fundamental to society and to civilization.
- *Learning in all its contexts.* We select and make accessible materials that support the scholar, allow democracy to flourish, nourish creativity, permit people to learn in and outside of formal education throughout their lives, and encourage the pursuit of joy.
- *Freedom for all people to form, to hold, and to express their own beliefs.* Each person has the right to seek, to know, and to find within the context of their own lives.
- *Respect for the individual person.* We honor each request without bias and we meet it with the fullness of tools at our command. We respect the individual's need for privacy and for confidentiality in their search or their study.
- *Preservation of the human record.* The cultural memory of humankind and its many families, its stories, its expertise, its history, and its wisdom must be preserved from the past so it illuminates the present and makes the future possible.
- *Interdependence among information professionals and agencies.* Librarianship is collaborative by nature, and collections and services evolve through that collaboration.
- *Professionalism in service to these values.* Our commitment requires integrity, competence, effective stewardship, and service to our discipline as well as to our public.

I quote so much of the ALA statement here not to endorse it as an appropriate statement for ATLA. The ALA statement is but one model for articulating key principles for a very broad spectrum of librarians, rather than for a community of librar-

ians and libraries like ourselves whose focus is theological literature and education. Nevertheless, I offer this material as food for your individual and our collective reflection on what core values have driven us in the past and motivate us still as an association as well as how we might best articulate those central commitments.

The Board has discussed the creation of a member handbook that would contain pertinent, current information about the organization and practices of the association, its various offices, committees and interest groups as well as its cooperative relationships with other library and educational agencies domestically and abroad. Much of this information is scattered through various ATLA *Proceedings* or picked up through oral tradition as one participates in ATLA conferences or committee assignments. But a handbook, either in print or available on the ATLA Web site, might provide members, new and old, with the necessary information to get involved more quickly and extensively in ATLA's work.

Certainly, a declaration of ATLA's core values at the beginning of such a handbook could introduce prospective or new members and remind current members of the central commitments that bind us together as a community of theological librarians and libraries.

Between now and June, I encourage you to share any thoughts that you might have on this subject with participants on the listserv atlantis (atlantis@rosetta.atla-certr.org) and with one or more of ATLA's Board members.

Milton J(Joe) Coalter
President, ATLA Board of Directors

News of ATLA Members & Member Libraries

Kathryn Luther Henderson, faculty advisor for Alpha Chapter and one of the founders of Beta Phi Mu, was nominated by the Alpha Chapter as one of the Golden Anniversary Distinguished Members. These awards were presented at the national meeting of Beta Phi Mu in June 1999. Ms. Henderson is also the previous recipient of the Beta Phi Mu award for excellence in teaching and is a Professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 📖

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The **Pitts Theology Library** of **Emory University** is pleased to announce the publication of Fred A. Grater (compiler) and Wm. Bradford Smith (editor), *The Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection: An Annotated Bibliography* (Emory Texts and Studies in Ecclesial Life; Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1999). This four-volume, large format work treats the first 1,400 pieces in the library's Reformation collection, which focuses on the German Reformation down to 1570. One page is devoted to each item in the bibliography and includes a reproduction of the title-page of the work, basic bibliographic information, and a brief annotation about the piece. **Channing R. Jeschke,** formerly director of the Pitts Library, initiated the project and supervised its production. Two hundred copies of the bibliography have been printed, and the Pitts Theology Library offers them to ATLA member libraries for $150 (s/h included; list price, $195). Orders may be addressed to: Ms. Marianna Anderson, Pitts Theology Library, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322. 📖

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Consultation on Teaching and Learning for Theological Librarians

On July 22–26, 2000, fifteen ATLA librarians will join Raymond B. Williams (Director of the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion) and **Dennis A. Norlin** (Executive Director of ATLA) at a *Consultation on Teaching and Learning for Theological Librarians.* Participants in the workshop will:

1. explore effective models of teaching and learning for theological librarians;

2. determine what is needed professionally and systemically to implement effective teaching;

3. generate ideas for programs of professional development for theological librarians that will enhance teaching and learning in their schools.

ATLA members invited to participate in this consultation include:

- Mrs. **Marti Alt**, Ohio State University Libraries
- Dr. **Carisse Mickey Berryhill**, Harding University Graduate School of Religion
- Dr. **Milton J (Joe) Coalter**, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- Dr. **Ronald Deering**, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
- Mr. **Douglas Fox**, Emmanuel College, Victoria University
- Dr. **M. Patrick Graham**, Emory University
- Mrs. **Carrie Hackney**, Howard University
- Dr. **William Hook**, Vanderbilt University
- Mr. **Seth Kasten**, Union Theological Seminary
- Mr. **Kirk Moll**, Dickinson College
- Dr. **Sara Myers**, Union Theological Seminary
- Dr. **Steven Perry**, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- Mr. **Herman Peterson**, University of St. Mary of the Lake
- Ms. **Roberta A. Schaafsma**, DukeUniversity Divinity School
- The Rev. **Keith Wells**, Trinity International University
- Dr. **Christine Wenderoth**, Colgate Rochester Divinity School 📖

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Peggy Nicholls Else, wife of longtime ATLA member **Jim Else**, died on October 16, 1999. A memorial service was held on October 22, 1999 at the United Methodist Church in El Sobrante, California. 📖

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Report from October CATLA Meeting

Thirty-six theological librarians from the Chicagoland area met at the **Northern Baptist Theological Seminary** in Lombard, Illinois, on October 22, 1999. This meeting was the Fall session of the organization, which meets biannually and at which current library issues are discussed. The topic under presentation and discussion was "The Role of the Internet in the Library of the Future." The presenter and leader was Dr. Gertrude Koh, Professor, Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Dr. Koh's discussion centered around the need of the library world to be conscious of the sudden growth of information—not only in the traditional world of books and libraries, but in the dynamic world of the Internet. The presentation addressed the need for librarians, who have in the past been organizers of knowledge and information, to become aware of and involved in the new ideas regarding the organization of the enormous amount of information available on the Internet. Within this context Dr. Koh introduced the concept of Metadata Schema. This concept includes traditional forms of metadata—AACR and MARC, with which most librarian/catalogers are familiar, and the emerging world of DC (Dublin Core), EAD (Encoded Archival Description), and TEI (Text Encoding Initiative).

In reviewing the traditional modes of metadata, concepts were explained that seemed redundant; however, this enabled the librarian to be cognizant of the decision-making and analysis required in AACR and MARC which can be applied to the new metadata. This is particularly demonstrated in the case of MARC and DC. Relationships between fields, as characterized in AACR, and elements, in DC, can be drawn, as well as terms within those fields. The presentation also touched on EAD (Encoded Archival Description) and TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) and their roles within particular collections and libraries. The climax of the presentation was a demonstration of the research project going on now with a new product from OCLC, called CORC (Cooperative Online Resource Catalog).

After the presentation, the business meeting was called together by the CATLA President, **Dr. Helen Mainelli** of Northern Baptist Theological Seminary. The meeting included the reading and approval of the minutes from the Spring meeting, a discussion of dues and number of meetings, and the election of new officers. **Blake Walter,** representing the

nominating committee, announced the nominations and after a short presentation by attending nominees, **Robert Krapohl** was elected Vice-President/President-elect and **William Beerman** was elected secretary. The issues regarding dues and meeting will be addressed by the Executive Board. The CATLA organization was invigorated and challenged by the quality of the presentation and the number of members who attended. 📖

JoAnn B. Hrabak, Cataloging Librarian
Brimson Grow Library
Northern Baptist Theological Seminary
Lombard, IL

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SWATLA Holds Copyright Workshop

Twenty-three librarians from the Southwest Area Theological Library Association (SWATLA) met at **Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary** on October 29, 1999 to improve their understanding of copyright.

Dr. Philip Doty, Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science of the University of Texas at Austin led a seminar titled, "Managing Copyright Issues in a Changing Legal and Information Environment." First Dr. Doty spoke about the history of intellectual property and American copyright law. He noted that copyright concepts originated in the world of the print press, but now are also applied to electronic resources. He encouraged all librarians to become familiar with the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (PL 105-304), which is conveniently summarized by the U.S. Copyright Office (http://lcweb.loc.gov/copyright/legislation/dmca.pdf).

In the second part of the workshop, Dr. Doty divided participants into several groups of three or four persons in order to begin thinking about shaping copyright policies for their respective institutions. He emphasized that an adequate policy needs to recognize all stake holders (administrators, faculty, students, library staff, etc.), all formats, and the connection between the policy and the mission of the library and its parent institution.

Those interested in a "crash course" on copyright, Dr. Doty noted, may point their Web browsers to: http://www.utsystem.edu/OGC/IntellectualProperty/cprtindx.htm. The workshop was funded by a grant from the Education Committee of the American Theological Library Association. 📖

Timothy D. Lincoln
Director of the David L. and Jane Stitt Library
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

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The **Duke Divinity School Library** is pleased to inform their colleagues that their ATLA Periodical Exchange List is now available online at http://www.lib.duke.edu/divinity/atlaper.html. This site will allow ATLA member libraries to browse, select, and submit their requests through the Web. Please use this page as they will no longer be sending out their paper list. 📖

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Lorna Hassell died on January 20th, 2000 suddenly, but peacefully, having struggled for some time with cancer. She is survived by Jack, her husband of 52 years, and also by three children and seven grandchildren. After retiring from the Wycliffe College Library in 1983, having been the College's first full-time professional librarian, she completed an M.A. in comparative literature, travelled, and undertook volunteer work, especially in connection with her church. 📖

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Daniel W. Casey, Jr., at age 52, died in his sleep on January 9, 2000 in his beloved Jerusalem, Israel, where he was a Scholar in Residence at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute. Dan was an itinerant teacher, teaching Biblical Interpretation and Archeology in Rochester, NY, teaching at Notre Dame University in Indiana, and leading many pilgrimages to Israel and the Middle East. A memorial mass was said for him on January 25th in Rochester, where 150 people came and celebrated Dan's life with stories, reminiscences, and even "show-and-tell." 📖

Announcements

Invitation to All Retired ATLA Members

You are cordially invited to a dinner in your honor with the ATLA Board at the Annual Conference in Berkeley, California on June 20, 2000. Many of you have given generously of your time, professional expertise, and finances to the Association over the years. The Board would like to personally acknowledge your contributions at this event. A formal invitation will be sent to all Retired ATLA Members in the Spring. Hope to see you there! 📖

Cindy Derrenbacker
ATLA Development Officer

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New Provider of RDB Online

ATLA welcomes EBSCO Information Services as the fourth provider of *ATLA Religion Database* online. EBSCO joins OCLC FirstSearch, SilverPlatter, and Ovid Technologies in the effort to offer the widest possible subscription opportunities to ATLA's premier database. As with all other online vendors, EBSCO mounts the database in a unique manner and prices it accordingly. Contact EBSCO directly at (800) 653-2726, fax (978) 356-6565, or e-mail *ep@epnet.com*—for pricing and technical information. 📖

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**2000 Award for Bibliographical
or Indexing Project**

The Publication Section of the American Theological Library Association invites applications from bibliographers and indexers in the fields of religious studies/theology, for the 2000 grant-in-aid award of $1,200. The scope and subject matter are broadly conceived, with the intent of encouraging bibliographical and indexing work at all levels, especially by persons undertaking their first major bibliographical study or indexing project.

Projects from article to multi-volume length, reflecting research in the full range of religious/theological disciplines, are appropriate for consideration. ATLA reserves first rights of publication for all projects receiving grants. The application deadline is May 15, 2000. The winners will be selected by the steering committee of the Publication Interest Group at the ATLA Conference in June.

Applications should contain:

1. date, applicant's name, address, telephone number, current position, professional experience, and educational background;
2. a description of the project in not more than two typewritten pages including title, purpose, scope, size, format, organization and methodology, an anticipated date of completion, and a proposed expense budget (listing other anticipated sources of financial assistance);
3. two letters of reference, one from a person acquainted with the applicant's general bibliographical competence, the other from a person acquainted with the applicant's specific project.

Inquiries, applications, and letters of reference should be referred to: Karen L. Whittlesey, Director of Member Services, ATLA, 820 Church Street, Suite 400, Evanston, IL 60201-5613; Telephone: (847) 869-7788; Fax: (847) 869-8513; E-mail: kwhittle@atla.com.

Application deadline is May 15, 2000. 📖

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BETH 2000

ATLA members are invited to attend the meeting of Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie (BETH) in York, England, August 28–September 4, 2000. ATLA has been represented by the Executive Director at the last three meetings of BETH (formerly the Conseil) in Cologne (1997), Krakow (1998), and Montpellier (1999). For the last four ATLA Conferences (Denver 1996, Boston 1997, Leesburg 1998, and Chicago 1999) BETH representatives have attended.

BETH is a meeting of representatives from national theological library associations from many European countries and from a number of European universities. Each year BETH meets at the conclusion of the host nation's own association meeting. In 2000, the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries (ABTAPL) will be holding its meeting prior to the BETH meeting and has invited ATLA members to attend as guests. The ABTAPL convention anticipates fifty to sixty attending, and BETH typically has about twenty attending.

Any ATLA member interested in attending the York Conference should contact Andrew Lacey, Trinity Hall, Trinity Lane, Cambridge CB2 1TJ, England. 📖

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Journal of Religious and Theological Information Resumes Publication in 2000

Please note: JRTI is not affiliated in any way with the American Theological Library Association. This article appears as a courtesy to JRTI.

After a hiatus of nearly four years, the *Journal of Religious and Theological Information* will resume publication with volume 3, issue 1 in the Spring of 2000.

The *Journal of Religious and Theological Information* (*JRTI*), a publication of the Haworth Press, is not an official publication of the American Theological Library Association. *JRTI* does endeavor to serve the theological library community by providing a forum for discussion of the information needs of scholars, clergy, students, and lay people in various fields of religious vocation and study. *JRTI* also aims to stimulate discourse and enhance communication between librarians and practitioners about issues related to the production, retrieval, and use of religious information.

In keeping with this theme, volume 3 of the *Journal of Religious and Theological Information* will focus on the users of religious information, and their changing needs in religious communities—past, present and future. Issue number 1 will examine topics ranging from the "digital divide" to the information needs of "non-traditional" seminarians.

Issue number 2, historical in scope, will seek to shed light on the ways Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish bodies have transmitted religious writings and disseminated information about themselves. Issue number 3/4, a special issue guest edited by Dr. Mark Stover of San Diego State University, will consider the implications of the Internet for theological librarianship.

Volumes 4 and 5, still in planning, will deal with the information needs of religious professionals in pastoral ministries and in religious education. Articles in volume 4 (2001) will include discussions of information needs and resources supporting homiletic, counseling, diaconal, liturgical, and missionary ministries. Those in volume 5 (2002) will provide insights on the information needs of religious educators in private and parochial schools, religiously affiliated colleges, seminaries, as well as Hebrew and Sunday schools.

In addition to fine scholarly articles, this refereed journal will include regular columns on bibliographic instruction and new information technologies. *JRTI* will also provide reviews of current books of interest to clergy, religious educators, and librarians. Members of the American Theological Library Association are invited to submit article prospectuses or manuscripts to Iren Snavely, editor of the *Journal of Religious and Theological Information*, for consideration. Those interested in reviewing books for *JRTI*, should contact the book review editor, Bill Hair of Baylor University. Please address your submissions to one of the addresses below. 📖

Iren L. Snavely, Jr.
Editor, JRTI
Temple University Harrisburg Library
223 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Bill Hair
Book Review Editor, JRTI
Associate Director for Reference
And Research Services
Baylor University Libraries
P.O. Box 97146
Waco, TX 76746-7148

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Regional Centers Receive IMLS Support for Joint Web Site

The Association of Regional Conservation Centers (ARCC) announces that its members will work together to create a joint Web site, through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Some of the centers have received support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to create individual leaflets.

The site will bring together a core group of technical leaflets on collections care, representing the range of conservation disciplines covered by the centers. As a first step, the project will create a searchable online bibliography of all publications of the centers. The group will make a selection of technical leaflets and mount them in full text on the joint Web site. Making this literature available through the Internet will make the information accessible to institutions across the country and will make it possible to update regularly this information.

For information about the project, contact Tom Clareson by phone at (800) 843-8482, or by e-mail at clareson@amigos.org. 📖

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Book by Leading News Researchers Is a Cure for "Internet Overload"

Information Today, Inc. has announced the publication of *Great Scouts! CyberGuides for Subject Searching on the Web* by Nora Paul and Margot Williams. A Web page offering links to almost 550 Internet sites went online simultaneously.

Great Scouts! profiles the best of the Internet's "scout sites"—Web sites that provide access to the most important online sources of information on specific subjects. Scout sites act as Web directories, offering researchers an alternative to search engines by providing organized collections of links to the most appropriate and useful Web sites for a given topic.

Great Scouts! profiles the premier scout sites for over twenty-five topic areas, including religion. Scout site profiles include site name, URL, and e-mail address. Information on why a site was chosen and when it was created, topics covered, content, and currency are also included. Additionally, scout site profiles include a description of the primary audience, the number of sites it links to, how linked sites are selected, how it's supported, how to use/search it, notes on interface design, special features, and more.

A Web page offering links to almost 550 Internet sites went online simultaneously with the publication of *Great Scouts!* Providing links to scout sites profiled in the book, "The Great Scouts! Web Page" (www.infotoday.com/greatscouts!) is periodically updated by the authors, so that defunct sites can be removed and newly discovered resources that meet their criteria for inclusion can be added.

Great Scouts! CyberGuides for Subject Searching on the Web (320 pp/softbound/$24.95/ISBN 0-910965-27-7) is published by Information Today, Inc., and is distributed to the book trade by Independent Publishers Group (IPG). It is available in bookstores or can be ordered direct from the publisher at (800) 300-9868 (outside the U.S. call 609-654-6266); Fax: (609) 654-4309, or log onto the Information Today Web site at http://www.infotoday.com. 📖

Copy Deadlines for *ATLA Newsletter*

Vol. 47, No. 3—May issue
April 1, 2000

Vol. 47, No. 4—August issue
July 1, 2000

Vol. 48, No. 1—November issue
October 1, 2000

Vol. 48, No. 2—February issue
January 1, 2001

> # *Conference News & Information*

2000 ATLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

"Embrace the Diversity:
International Theological Librarianship"

Co-hosted by Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, St. Patrick's Seminary, and the Graduate Theological Union

On the Campuses of the Schools of the
Graduate Theological Union
Berkeley, California

June 21–24, 2000

The 2000 ATLA Annual Conference will bring together more than 300 theological librarians, library directors, educators, and academic administrators to discuss issues that affect library professionals as leaders in religious education.

Conference Highlights

PLENARY ADDRESSES:

Dr. Robert N. Bellah, Elliott Professor of Sociology, Emeritus, University of California-Berkeley

Mr. Robert Wedgeworth, former President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and former Executive Director of the American Library Association

CONFERENCE SESSIONS will address, among other topics, building library collections for a new school of divinity, librarians and archivists as partners in the globalization of theological education, bringing technology to teaching and the classroom, information-gathering in Argentina, reference services for a new millennium, acquisition of foreign language materials, and religion and literature. There will also be a tour of the Judah L. Magnes Museum on the University of California-Berkeley campus.

PRECONFERENCE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT topics will include rare book cataloging, effective communication and managing conflict, digitization, distance education, Asian reference resources, bibliographic instruction, and trends in cataloging.

For More Information

Please call ATLA toll-free at (888) 665-ATLA (2852) or at (847) 869-7788, fax (847) 869-8513, or
write to Conference Information, ATLA, 820 Church Street, Evanston, IL 60201
You may also send e-mail to atla@atla.com

Conference Programs & Registration will be available in March, 2000

ATLA Heads West!

Sunny days, cool nights, coastal fog, the Golden Gate Bridge . . . . Yes, ATLA 2000 is coming to the West Coast. This year the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley join together to host the Annual Conference. The Local Host Committee has been working on the Conference theme of "Embrace the Diversity: International Theological Librarianship" to provide you with a glimpse of life in the Bay Area.

The locale for ATLA 2000 will be Berkeley's "Holy Hill," home of the Graduate Theological Union Library and the seminaries that surround it. On Wednesday evening, the Opening Reception will showcase the GTU Library, which has views of San Francisco Bay and the Golden Gate Bridge. The GTU Library also serves as an art gallery and will be hosting a photo art exhibit called "Politics of the Spirit: Portraits of Faith and Community in Los Angeles." This exhibit was originally commissioned by the Center for Religion and Civic Culture at the University of Southern California. In keeping with the theme of the conference, entertainment will be provided by a trio from the Murasaki Ensemble, including jazz and contemporary Asian music. What a great way to embrace old friends and meet new ones while opening the Conference.

This year's accommodations are at the Foothills Housing Complex of the University of California–Berkeley. Located in the foothills on the northeast corner of the UC Berkeley campus and about three blocks from the GTU, Foothill is a rustic and charming complex. Landscaped, enclosed courtyards offer the feeling of seclusion, while many areas of the complex present spectacular views of the San Francisco skyline. Amenities include cafeteria-style dining in the lovely Foothills dining center; two- to eleven-bedroom suites featuring comfortable living rooms and partial views; spacious single- or double-occupancy bedrooms with large windows overlooking courtyards and patios; laundry rooms and vending machines; and telephones in each bedroom. The whole complex offers privacy while still being close to the GTU and the University of California campus. Hotel options around Berkeley are also available for those who prefer that style of accommodation.

The member seminaries of the GTU provide the facilities and meeting spaces for this year's conference. All located within one block of each other, the meeting spaces range from the chapel and classrooms at the Pacific School of Religion to the sanctuary of the University Christian Church. The exhibits will be located at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. Ample signage, maps, and local guides will keep you from getting lost as you traverse Holy Hill and you will find the GTU a very compact community. Additionally, opportunities will arise throughout the conference for you to embrace the rest of Berkeley with bookstore and coffee crawls. Friday evening will provide organized outings for recreation and entertainment around the Bay Area.

On Saturday, the banquet will be held at St. Patrick's in Menlo Park, allowing you to see their newly renovated library facility and another part of the beautiful Bay Area. Located about forty miles from the GTU, St. Patrick's is the seminary for the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Celebrating the diversity of the Bay Area, entertainment at the banquet will be the Ballet Folklórico, who will be performing Aztec dances during the reception out of doors on the front lawn of the seminary, and will do folk dances during the dinner. The banquet promises to be a wonderful ending to a great conference.

Everyone is encouraged to bring their walking shoes and prepare for a time of friendship, learning, and fun. All of the Committees have been working hard for several months on this Conference. The Local Host Committee invites you to "Embrace the Diversity" and looks forward to welcoming you to Berkeley in June. &

Kris Veldheer
Teaching Librarian
GTU Library
Chair, Local Host Committee

Midwinter Board Meeting

ATLA Board of Directors' Midwinter Meeting, January 14–15, 2000

During two days of meetings, the Board of Directors held vigorous discussions and articulated policies to guide the activities of the Association. A digest of those discussions is included in the *Newsletter* for the information of the members. A copy of the complete Board Minutes is available upon request.

Conference Planning: The Board approved the recommendation from the Annual Conference Committee that the 2003 Annual Conference be held in Portland, Oregon. The Director of Member Services presented the current version of the Annual Conference Handbook which includes guidance for the committees and staff persons responsible for the various aspects of planning.

ATLA Finances: Pradeep Gamadia gave a very positive report of the financial status of the Association. The Board agreed that the Capital Fund will be used for expenses related to moving the Association's headquarters to Chicago.

Use of Endowment Fund Proceeds: The Board approved a proposal from the Executive Director that the proceeds of the Endowment Fund be used for several initiatives to promote theological librarianship: the ATLA-sponsored careers luncheon for student members at the AAR/SBL Conference, scholarships to the ATLA Annual Conference, and scholarships for library school students.

Increasing Minority Representation: The Board approved an addition to the Organizational Ends of ATLA which states that increasing minority representation in theological librarianship is a value of the Association. This statement gives direction to the Executive Director. A Board Committee will make further recommendations.

Institutional and Affiliate Membership: The Board approved changes in the bylaws which define more clearly the criteria for institutional membership and which create a new institutional membership category—Affiliate Members. Affiliate membership will be open to institutions that do not meet the criteria for Institutional Membership, that is, accredited institutions of graduate theological education and research libraries. Affiliate members are eligible for member discounts but do not participate in the Library Materials Exchange program or receive Association publications. The proposed bylaws change will be taken to the membership at the June 2000 Annual Conference.

International Relations Committee: The President will appoint a new Board Committee to promote cooperative relationships with other regional theological library associations and to host international guests at the Annual Conference.

ATLA Archives: The Executive Director announced that the ATLA Archives will be managed by the Yale Divinity Library. The Board discussed ways to improve management of and access to Board documents.

Strengthening Interest Groups: The Board received a subcommittee report suggesting ways to strengthen Interest Groups. Interest Group chairpersons will be officially recognized at the next Annual Conference. The Groups will also receive guidance for leadership development.

New Headquarters: The Board visited the office space on Wacker Drive in Chicago which will be the new ATLA Headquarters. The move is anticipated in late Summer, 2000. 📖

Eileen K. Saner
ATLA Secretary
Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary
1-219-296-6233
esaner@ambs.edu

Preservation News

Serials Newly Available on Microfilm

ATLA has received written permission from the publishers to duplicate and sell archival microfilm copies of the following titles for preservation purposes and for the advancement of theological and religious research and studies.

Serials on microfilm are available to ATLA institutional members for $60 per reel and to others for $115 per reel. To purchase, please contact Scholarly Resources (Tel: (800) 772-8937; E-mail: sales@scholarly.com).

Christian monthly. Published 1944–1962 by the Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church of America; 1962–current by the Apostolic Lutheran Church of America. Order no.: S0435, currently 9 reels (1944–1996).

CrossCurrents (Kittery, Me.). News and events from the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church. Includes annual conference editions. Order no.: S0993, currently 1 reel (1997–1999).

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod: Minutes of the Proceedings. Published 1962–1968 by the Eastern Pennsylvania Synod (under the auspices of the Lutheran Church in America); 1969–present by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod (1988–present under the ELCA). Order no.: S0611, 1 reel (1962–1968); S0612, 3 reels (1968–1987); S0885, currently 2 reels (1988–1997).

Foi éducation. Revue trimestrielle de la Fédération protestante des membres de l'enseignement. Published in France. French language. Order no.: S0571, currently 8 reels (1947–1997).

In die Skriflig. Journal for the study and education of Reformed theology in a scientific, responsible way that "serves the church and the kingdom of God." Published by the Gereformeerde Teologiese Vereniging. Afrikaans language. Order no.: S0966, currently 6 reels (1966–1996).

International Humanism and *International Humanist.* Published by the International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU). IHEU promotes issues of concern to humanists at the international level by maintaining representatives at the United Nations and the Council of Europe, and by sponsoring the activities of an international Human Rights Commissioner. IHEU facilitates the exchange of ideas of particular interest to humanists through this quarterly publication. English language. Order no.: S0967, 1 reel (1962–1978); S0867, 2 reels (1981–1992).

Det Københavnske Kirkefonds årbog and *Kirkefondets årbog.* Yearbook of the church archives. Published in Copenhagen, Denmark. Danish language. Order no.: S0508A-B, 2 reels (1966–1990).

New Zealand Lutheran. Official organ of the Lutheran Church of New Zealand (1967–1997); previously published 1956–1967 by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of New Zealand. Ceased publication in 1997. Order no.: S0781, 4 reels (1956–1997).

Sharing the Practice. The International Quarterly Journal for Parish Clergy. Published by the Academy of Parish Clergy. Order no.: S0465, currently 4 reels (1978–1997).

Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland: Minutes of the annual meeting. Includes directory and special meetings (sometimes called "pro-re-natâ meetings." Order no.: S0648, currently 4 reels (1969–1997). 📖

Reminder Regarding Your Library's Copy of the *ATLA Newsletter*

ATLA member institutions receive their copies of the *ATLA Newsletter* via their Institutional Member Representative. If you are a Rep, please remember to pass on the newsletter to your library's serials department. If you are also an individual member, you will receive two copies of the newsletter, one of which is yours to keep.

ATLANTIS Reference Reviews

November Reference Review

Historical Handbook of Major Biblical Interpreters, by Donald K. McKim (Editor); List Price: $29.99; Amazon: $20.99 Hardcover—600 pages (November 1998); InterVarsity Press 0830814523. *Dictionary of Biblical Interpretation,* by John Haralson Hayes (Editor); List Price: $200.00; Amazon: $140.00 Hardcover—1,408 pages (April 1999); Abingdon Press; ISBN: 0687055318.

Samuel Sandmel used to speak of the "simhat Torah"—the delight of Scripture. Theological librarians can take similar delight in two new reference works, both dealing with the history of Biblical interpretation. This approach has been gaining momentum steadily for at least twenty-five years. It rests partly on a recognition that there is a rich history of interpretation "behind" every book of the Bible, one in which the disciplines of Church History and Biblical Studies often intersect. One of my favorite essays along these lines was published in 1991 by Blake Heffner: "Meister Eckhart and a Millennium With Mary and Martha." Accordingly, here are two books I would like to recommend for every theological collection. From InterVarsity Press and editor Donald McKim, *Historical Handbook of Major Biblical Interpreters* is a gem. "And the second is like unto it," Abingdon's *Dictionary of Biblical Interpretation,* edited by John Hayes.

Historical Handbook of Major Biblical Interpreters

When you get your hands on this book, among the features you will first notice is its unique arrangement. There are six sections arranged historically, and each section begins with a substantial introductory essay of fifteen to twenty pages: Early Church, Middle Ages, Reformation, 18th & 19th Centuries, 20th Century Europe, and 20th Century North America. Within each section are selected major interpreters of that age. This is an arrangement that invites close comparison of certain writers within each era. It would be fun, for example, to compare Chrysostom's style of commentary, from the sober school of Antioch, to the sometimes outlandish allegorical approach of Origen and the Platonism of the Alexandrian school. In the section on the Ref-

ormation, you could do something similar if you wanted to compare Galatians as it was interpreted by Martin Luther to the Anabaptist Pilgram Marpeck and his approach to Galatians.

Turning to writers closer to our own time, we might be surprised (make that overjoyed) to find articles on Hebrew Testament scholars such as Walter Brueggemann, Brevard Childs, and Phyllis Trible. New Testament scholars include Norman Perrin, Raymond Brown, and C.K. Barrett. Alongside them, there is a substantial entry on dispensationalist C.I. Scofield and his chain reference Bible. The confessional Presbyterian orthodoxy of Gresham Machen is also represented, as is the careful, conservative work in the long career of F.F. Bruce. Thus, evidence of balance and fairness to a widely diverse body of Biblical scholarship abounds.

While this biographical approach has its definite advantages, users not familiar with the names of scholars might find themselves somewhat at a disadvantage. Likewise, there are no entries for topics such as "the historical Jesus" or "the Synoptic Problem." All is not lost, however, for there is an index approach ("Names" and "Subjects") to schools and problems that will deliver us to relevant entries—"historical Jesus" in the Subject Index leads us to Schweitzer's entry and the article on "Griesbach" waits for those who are interested in the "Synoptic Problem"). Not elegant, but certainly workable.

Such small problems can be ignored, however. To all my fellow Theological Reference Librarians I say, you need this book!

Dictionary of Biblical Interpretation

How many times have we longed for just this kind of book—one source that would help locate "the stars in the firmament" of Biblical Studies?

Here are several examples. First, in a recent course on Jeremiah, I found that John Bright's commentary kept mentioning the work of "Duhm," which was altogether a new name for me. From the *DBI* I learn that Duhm was a friend, though not necessarily a follower, of Wellhausen in the second half of the nineteenth century. Duhm loved the Hebrew prophetic literature and felt that we appreciate the prophets better if we understand the po-

etic nature of their writing, as in the "qinah" meter of Jeremiah's dirge-like lines. A second example: I can't recall now when I first learned that there was a Jewish commentator in the Middle Ages named Rashi, maybe it was in the books associated with the "Genesis" conversations hosted by Bill Moyers. I made a promise to myself then that I would find out more about Rashi, and the *DBI* helps. It tells me that one of Rashi's projects was to challenge the Church's Christological interpretation of the Hebrew scriptures, so that the Pentateuch and Prophets might emerge again as documents of Judaism. I'll quote from the entry on Rashi the following line: "his last years were saddened by the massacres perpetrated in several Jewish communities in Europe during the first crusade." Thus we are allowed a glimpse of Rashi as a vulnerable human being and a scholar whose motivations for Bible study included a deep desire to keep the Jewish people safe from violent men. For a third sortie in the *DBI,* not too long ago I learned that Henri de Lubac, one of the Catholic scholars who participated in Vatican II, described four levels of exegesis practiced in the Middle Ages, one of which is the "anagogical" sense. I didn't find an entry for "anagogical," so I turned to "Lubac." Again no mention of "anagogical," but something did turn up called "Quadriga" which to my ear sounded like "four of something." And voila! "anagogical" is explained there: "The letter teaches what happened; allegory what to believe; morality, how to behave; anagogy, what to hope for."

So far I've been describing "connections" more or less in the style of James Burke, and reference librarians have been known to snarl a little if the bibliographies in such works don't help us make more connections.

But the same stellar quality is evident in the bibliographies as well, where there is listed a wonderful variety of monographs, articles, and even (miraculously!) dissertations. Articles on different schools of Biblical interpretation are valuable as well, including "Liberation Theology" which is rooted in the Exodus, but also makes much wider use of scripture. A wide ranging essay on "Feminist Interpretation" has given me my first acquaintance with Margaret Fell Fox's *Women's Speaking Justified* and Tina Pippin's *Death and Desire* on the four female figures in the Book of Revelation. Also impressive, for the most part, are the entries on each book of the Bible.

The entry for Matthew is typical, describing Ancient, Reformation, Modern, and Contemporary approaches in a handy way. Curious, however, is the neglect of Chrysostom and his wonderful series of sermons on Matthew. A quick look at "Chrysostom" does not help much in this case. I had a similar small disappointment with the article on Augustine. While it was all true enough, it didn't capture for me the liveliness of Augustine's encounter with Paul's letters in the Pelagian controversy, nor the unique character of his Neo-Platonic reading of the *Psalms of Ascent.* Another area in which improvement may be desired "next time" is more attention to Anabaptist writers. The articles on Menno Simons and Pilgram Marpeck, for example, are just too short. The scholarship certainly already exists to give the Anabaptist tradition of Biblical interpretation a more thorough treatment, but all they receive here is half a page.

These minor objections ought not to deflect the genuine joy, however, that a theological librarian will be justified in feeling upon receiving such a fine work for the library's collection. Your $150 investment will be richly, richly rewarded. 📖

Fred Guyette
McCain Library
Erskine College and Seminary

Diktuon

Diktuon *for this issue comes to us courtesy of John Robert Gardner. As XML Engineer on the ATLAS Project for the ATLA Center for Electronic Research in Theology and Religion, John Robert is perfectly qualified to introduce us to XML. In addition to his technical expertise, John Robert also holds a Ph.D. in History of Religion in Asia from the University of Iowa. I want to thank him for writing this article, and I hope this will be just one of many occasions when he will share with us his expertise in various fields.*— Duane Harbin, Bridwell Library, Perkins School of Theology

eXploring What's neXt: XML, Information Sciences, and Markup Technology

Since becoming a formal recommendation by the World Wide Web consortium in the spring of 1998, XML as been described as everything from "dumbed-down SGML," "a panacea of data solutions," "the true promise of what the Web was meant to be" to "vapor ware," and "assimilation by the Borg" (with apologies to Star Trek). The truth of the matter is a combination of these.

What is XML?

XML (Extensible Markup Language) is one of many "ML's," or markup languages. A Markup language is basically a set of tags, or identifiers, that is added to a given text or data source. In effect, a book, essay, or other digital piece of information is effectively "marked up" with these tags. This is the principle lying behind SGML (Standard General Markup Language) and the more well-known HTML (Hypertext Markup Language).

The tags these markup languages use are composed of angle brackets, or less-than/greater-than symbols. The tags, also called "elements," are used to indicate a portion of a document that can be described by a general name, such as one to designate an author:

```
<author>Coleridge</author>
```

They generally appear at the beginning, and immediately following, whatever it is that they are marking. The tags are usually only visible to the computer or processing software. If it sounds simple, it

really is. This basic format has remained unchanged for over fifteen years and shows no indications of doing otherwise.

This simple syntax characterizes most of SGML, HTML, and also XML. Obviously the tags can be more complex, and contain more information, such as attributes:

```
<author "name=last" more="Samuel
     T.">Coleridge</author>
```

In this example, "name" is an attribute whose value for this occasion of "Coleridge" is "last." The tags-or elements-and the attributes in this example say: Coleridge, an author, is referenced here by his last name, but also can be known by Samuel T. Coleridge.

XML works the same way with several important specifics. Any tag that begins—e.g., "`<author>`"—must also end, or be "closed"—e.g., "`</author>`." All tag names (e.g., "author" in the example above) must be in lower case. If capital letters are used, they must match in the starting and ending tags. Any attributes—such as '`name="last"`' above—must use quote marks. Also, tags must nest within each other:

```
<author><bold>Coleridge</bold></
          author>
```

is okay, but

```
<author><bold>Coleridge</author></
          bold>
```

is not. There are a few other details, but this is the primary core of rules which make XML files better structured and easier to process—and preserve— than HTML or even SGML files.

Why is XML Important?

Building upon these strict rules of syntax, XML is both robust and versatile. XML is important not only because of this archival integrity—it is also extremely valuable because of the wide range of related technologies with which it is compatible. XML is fully compatible with existing SGML technology, and it's fully workable with any Z39.50 information

interchange system.

XML is at the hub of a set of information processing standards built around basic principles of ease in interchanging and accessing data, archivability, and affordability of processing software. It includes advanced linking capabilities that enable associated material for one query or search to be accessed from several different places and then embedded or included in the original document returned by the query.

Best of all, XML's strict syntax rules enable it to be easily converted to other formats. For instance, going from MARC to XML and back again is simple. Accordingly, working with XML does not become a liability in the event of further changes in technology years down the road. In fact, it is insurance for your data that its format will not become obsolescent. XML is important as a conduit of present and past formats through the future of digital data technology.

How is XML different from HTML and SGML?

HTML does not have the capacity to represent such detailed information as in the "author" example above. This detail, often called "semantic detail" or "semantic markup" has, however, been effectively conveyed for the past decade or so by SGML. Nonetheless, the technology to work with SGML has remained so difficult to learn and expensive to deploy that information scientists and institutions have little or no time to spare for such steep learning curves and costly ongoing support.

To better understand XML as a markup technology, it actually helps to characterize it with respect to its sibling, HTML, and its parent, SGML. SGML establishes the rules by which any system of markup, such as HTML, can be created. Thus the various forms of markup such as XML and HTML are descended from SGML (in fact, you could characterize HTML as a prodigal son to SGML, with XML as the wiser son-see http://vedavid.org/xml/luke/ for a "marked-up" version of the well-known parable).

HTML is not good for data storage because it only describes what information should look like, not what it actually is. This focus on format in HTML tags is also problematic because the code can be inconsistent, even haphazard. For example, paragraphs with starting "`<p>`" tags frequently do not have closing, or ending "`</p>`" tags. Sometimes HTML attributes have quote marks, sometimes they don't. Sometimes tags will be capitalized, others won't be. This is why, with good reason, HTML has not been recognized as an archivable or data-worthy standard.

SGML has always offered a viable contrast to HTML. Its widely-known academic application in the form of the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) tag set has been a staple part of projects with electronic texts for nearly a decade. TEI is like other markup tag sets, such as MathML in that it specifically addresses needs of particular disciplinary groups. The way these tag sets are defined is by means of a detailed, code-like file which establishes rules for which tags are to be included. These rules also specify where and how tags are included for the overall structure of any given document that conforms to them. These sets of rules are called Document Type Definitions, or DTD's.

SGML files require these DTD's in order to be formatted, processed, and—especially—preserved for archival integrity. XML can also use DTD's, but it can be read and interpreted without them. A related standard, called X-Schema's, enables an XML file's data structure to be read and interpreted even without a DTD. For concerns of archiving and institutional memory, this feature is a key innovation over SGML, and was never possible with HTML.

How is XML used?

How XML is used goes hand in hand with why it is important. XML is already widely deployed in the electronic commerce sector because of how well it enables data to be exchanged across different systems and different continents. XML is now a fundamental part of the major software providers for the average user—WordPerfect 9, forthcoming Microsoft Office 2000, and Adobe products, for instance.

XML shares the same archival characteristics as found in MARC and SGML at the character data level. In other words, all three are based on simple character data rather than proprietary or commercially-owned specialized codes or figures. This characteristic is included in what is called "flat data" in archival—as opposed to structural—terms, and is recognized as suitable for data storage by the U.S. Government's National Archives and Records Administration (http://www.nara.gov/records/, cf.

additional, gopher://gopher.nara.gov:70/00/ about/cfr/records/1228.txt, and "Preserving Digital Information," the report of the Task Force on Archiving of Digital Information, commissioned by The Commission on Preservation and Access, and the Research Libraries Group, Inc., http://www.rlg.org/ArchTF/tfadi.index.htm). Flat data is also the format chosen for the Oxford English Dictionary and the e-Text Library, Special Collections and Rare Books at the University of Virginia, (http://etext.lib.virginia.edu).

More important for users of MARC, XML offers a viable conduit for making an existing MARC database interactive with other formats such as Dublin Core or GILS. XML's strict syntax, in effect, serves the same function as the MARC directory fields. Where the directory fields specify a tag identity, such as "100," as well as the field length and starting point in the record's sequence of characters, so too does the XML requirement of a start and end tag to identify data set formal parameters on a record's fields.

What Skills and Tools are Necessary to Work with XML?

Most of the skills that an information sciences professional already has at his/her disposal will translate directly into the skillset for XML work. Fundamentally, it is not the technology that is as challenging as is the understanding of the data itself. Where MARC, for instance, uses "245" for a title or "651" for a geographical keyword, XML simply uses the descriptive (for the most part) terminology to represent the same material.

Obviously the tools for entering XML data and those for something such as MARC will be different. However, the interface for library sciences can largely be the same. One is still categorizing authors, editors, titles, etc. There is also a whole range of XML software for library scientists such as converters from MARC to XML (e.g., Bob Pritchett's "marcxml.exe" http://www.logos.com/marc/marcxml.htm), and even live online converters from MARC to XML-compliant Dublin Core at the CORC/ Cooperative Online Resource Catalog project's site (http://corc.oclc.org/ — the password is preset, it's free).

For editing XML, there is a vast array of software, much of the best of which is free (cf. http://www.oasis-open.org/ or http://www.xmlsoftware.com). For less than $100, more elaborate packages are available. One such tool which is quite handy comes as part of the new WordPerfect Office 2000 (http://www.corel.com/). For the MacIntosh there is Media Design In-Progress' XPublish and Emile (http://www.in-progress.com/). In addition, much of the processing and serving of XML can be done with the Internet standards which are free based on Java, Python, or Perl. Apache Web servers support it as well.

If you are already committed to a high-end database system such as Oracle, there is a full set of XML tools that are free from Oracle's technet (http://technet.oracle.com/tech/xml/info/plsxml/feedback.htm). A really exciting, Z39.50 resident system stores MARC, XML, and SGML in their native formats and can respond to searches in any of these formats with equal speed. This remarkable tool is called Structured Information Manager or SIM and is made by RMIT (http://www.mds.rmit.edu.au/).

How Should One Prepare to Move from HTML to XML?

The best tool for doing this, called HTML Tidy, is actually free and operates on almost any platform (http://www.w3.org/People/Raggett/tidy/). Tidy will take your HTML file and turn it into XML-compliant data with strict and proper syntax (called "well-formedness"). If you have large quantities of files, much of this can be automated depending on the relative consistency of your file structure.

One excellent tool for conversions is the related XML standard for transforming data formats, called Extensible Stylesheet Language for Transformations, or XSL/T. XSL/T tools can run on any platform (a ready-made tool, XT, for Windows and Unix is free at http://www.jclark.com/; and one which runs on Python—and thus any platform—is from the 4Thought folks at http://FourThought.com). XSL/T is written according to XML rules and allows you to change all your data with only a relative handful of easy-to-use lines of code (see my forthcoming article at IJTS for an easy introduction http://www.asiatica.org/publications/ijts/default.asp). Primarily, the main thing to remember is that XML was designed with ease of conversion in mind.

Conclusion

The "extensible" future is bright. XML and its suite of technologies are standards-based and standards-driven. No single company—not even Microsoft—controls the design. It is also an international standard which means support and internetworking are pre-built-in. If it's XML, it is network-worthy, archive-ready, and comparatively simple to use. It will actually enable you to do more with what you already have at less cost and less learn-ing overhead. XML enables you to configure and adapt what you already have been doing for both the present and the future without loss of granularity in detail, while still maintaining the option to accommodate and integrate future technological advances seamlessly. 📖

John Robert Gardner
ATLA-CERTR
Emory University

The American Religion Data Archive

Recently Dennis Norlin, ATLA's Executive Director, reached an agreement with Roger Finke, Director of the American Religion Data Archive (ARDA), to collaborate on internet and digital projects. Dr. Finke granted permission to reproduce the following article that introduces the project for ATLA members and gives important background about the information available through ARDA.

Democratizing Access to Data: The American Religion Data Archive (www.TheARDA.com)

(Forthcoming in the IASSIST Quarterly. The IASSIST Quarterly publishes selected proceedings from the annual meeting of the International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology.)

From its beginning, the American Religion Data Archive (ARDA) was developed to provide immediate access to the best data on American religion at no charge. Starting in 1997, the ARDA was created as an Internet-based archive and was designed to serve a highly diverse audience. But serving a diverse audience, including many with little or no background in the social sciences, required ARDA to meet the rigorous methodological standards of the social science community and still be easily used by those without a knowledge of statistics, research design, or data management. Since its inception, the ARDA has attempted to democratize access to data, without compromising the integrity of the data being archived.

This essay will review our efforts. We begin by giving a brief overview of the data we archive and the audience we serve. Next, we will review the goals of the ARDA and how we attempt to achieve each goal. Although the goals are similar to many other archives, we will highlight how we have developed features that allow us to achieve these goals in new and creative ways.

Religion Data Sources and Users

When ARDA was initially conceived, the 1995-96 *ICPSR Guide to Resources and Services* reported on more than 40,000 data files from over 3,000 social research studies. Even a topic such as education, which had comparatively few entries, reported 119 data files from 65 studies, with 34 of these studies being conducted since 1980. By comparison, the subheading of religion reported only 9 data files from 9 studies, with only two of the studies being conducted after 1980. Yet, this paucity of archived data on religion does not mean that data are not being collected. Over the last 10 years alone, Lilly Endowment has funded over 150 grants with a data collection component, the Pew Charitable Trusts has funded several major national and international surveys, and many denominations support research divisions that collect large amounts of data each year. Unlike education, health care and other substantive areas, where most studies are funded by government sources, nearly all of the data collections on religion are funded by private endowments or religious organizations. Most funding sources have either wanted the data to remain "in house" or have not required principal investigators to place the data files in a public archive.

In the mid-1990s, however, the Lilly Endowment began a major initiative for improving dissemi-

nation. One component of this initiative was the American Religion Data Archive. After awarding a planning grant to Roger Finke in 1996 to study the feasibility of starting a religion archive, Lilly Endowment funded the start-up and operation of the ARDA from 1997-2000. Recently, they extended the support until 2003. Thus, the funding sources for the collection and archiving of data on American religion remain private sources.

The ARDA currently holds 120 data files and the number should approach 150 by the close of 1999. These studies include national samples of the United States and Canada, regional samples of selected communities or areas, and samples of selected religious groups or professionals. Although all surveys include the topic of religion, the survey items span a wide range of other topics (e.g., from involvement in small groups and politics to attitudes on race relations and professional development). In addition to the surveys, the ARDA also distributes data on American religion by ecological units, such as the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies' data on churches and church membership by counties and states for 1980 and 1990. Both the size and the diversity of the collection will continue to grow.

Once established, the greatest challenge for the ARDA was appealing to the diverse audience interested in American religion. Initially, we were most aware of the social scientists from research universities who frequently conduct and report on the major data collections. For this group, the ARDA was a valued repository of past data collections and a source of new data for future research studies. But this audience, often sophisticated in research methods and statistics, represents only a small portion of the total audience. Many, and probably most, of our users have little background in the social sciences and are not located at research universities. Instead, many are faculty members and students located at small universities, colleges, and seminaries that previously had little access to data on American religion. Based on our web site reports, seminaries have made more contacts and referrals to the ARDA site than any other type of educational institution. And, though we have no record of individual users, our most frequent e-mail and telephone inquiries come from journalists and students. Several instructors have informed us that they have incor-

porated ARDA data files and software into class assignments. Rather than limiting access to a small group of researchers, ARDA has democratized access to the data, and a very disparate audience is taking advantage of this access. Below we review how we appeal to this disparate audience as we strive to achieve standard archiving goals.

Goals of the American Religion Data Archive

The goals of the ARDA are similar to those of many other archives. ARDA was established to:

1. *Preserve Data*
2. *Improve Access to Data*
3. *Increase the Use of Data*
4. *Allow Comparison Across Data Files*

To achieve these goals we combine proven archiving practices with new attempts to serve a diverse audience.

The first goal, *preserving data*, is the foundation of virtually all archives, and in the case of data on American religion, it was the most essential. Of the first 150 data files we received for the ARDA only three were previously held in a public archive. Preparing the data for the archive follows many of the same procedures developed by other scholarly archives. After we receive the data files, we verify the accuracy of the data by comparing our variable frequencies with those of the principal investigator and we begin collecting summary information, or metadata. For each of the files we offer a brief abstract of the study and we provide information on the number of cases, number of variables, the year it was conducted, sampling techniques, sources of funding, principal investigators, collection procedures, any related publications and additional information on the construction of indices or the use of weight variables when appropriate.

In our effort to "democratize" access to the data, however, we have gone beyond the standard procedures used to prepare data files for scholarly research. We have added a couple of features that make the data files more accessible and easier to use. First, we recreate the original survey instrument within the data set. Using the original questionnaire, we record the complete variable description and all response categories. Users are not forced to keep a codebook

by their side to decipher variable names or truncated descriptions. Moreover, when the files are downloaded as MicroCase files the entire survey wording remains.[1] Second, we have designed the web site so users are forced to review the metadata before they download files, and they can easily link to the metadata whenever they are reviewing questions or data from the file. This is handy for experienced researchers and essential for those with less experience.

Improving access to data, the second ARDA goal, was primarily achieved by adding an easy download feature to the site. Thanks to the support of the Lilly Endowment, anyone with access to the Internet can download the data free of charge. Once users find a data file they want to use, they can easily download it to their own PCs as an SPSS, ASCII or MicroCase file. They also have the option of downloading a codebook without the data.

Once again we have added a feature that allows the data to be used by non-specialists. MicroCase Corporation's statistical software, ExplorIt, can be downloaded free of charge and is fully compatible with the MicroCase data files available from our site. The ExplorIt software is used by thousands of social science students each year throughout the United States and Canada and is remarkably easy to use. The ExplorIt version offered from the ARDA site holds fewer statistical options than the version typically distributed for classroom use, but it offers an important option for non-specialists who do not have a statistical package readily available.[2] Many professors have found this to be an especially attractive option for their students.

For the third goal, *increasing the use of the data*, we wanted to allow users to conduct basic analyses of the data files on-line. Yet, from our own classroom experiences with undergraduates, we knew how confusing bivariate cross-tabular analysis can be for those not familiar with statistics. First, constructing the table requires students (or any user) to fill in boxes that ask for an independent and dependent variable—unfamiliar and unfriendly words for most. Second, they must select variables with an appropriate number of categories. For example, when a student tries to set up a table with age by income, the resulting table might offer an incomprehensible 70 columns and 20 rows. And, even if they are successful in constructing an appropriate table, they

need to know which way to percentage the table. Choosing to percentage in the wrong direction leads to meaningless or often misleading results.

We have avoided this quagmire by working with MicroCase Corporation to develop a simplified version of their *auto-analyzer* for our web site. When users find a question of interest, they can click on a button called "Analyze" and tables are constructed using preset variables. The tables are percentaged correctly and typically include standard demographic variables like age, gender, income, marital status and education. This avoids the potential problems of choosing an independent and dependent variable or deciding which way to percentage.[3] For example, if a question is selected that asks "which party's candidate would you be most likely to support if a federal election were held tomorrow?," the user would first see a table summarizing the number and the percentage of respondents who would vote for each candidate. Then a series of tables would follow, showing how these percentages and numbers vary by age, gender, income and so forth. The user has received a series of meaningful tables on the question of interest, without struggling through a series of commands.

The fourth goal, *allowing comparisons across data files and over time*, is achieved through standard searches. The user can search for a topic of interest within a single data file, a selected group of data files, or all ARDA data files. After locating questions of interest, the user can quickly compare the results for each question by conducting online analysis or they can compare the data files from which the questions were selected. Thus, users can quickly compare similar questions to see if they offer equivalent results, and they can review information about the data files to better understand why the results might differ (e.g., the samples might vary by location, time or religion).

Once users receive questions from their searches, they can also place the questions in their own question bank. In other words, they can start saving questions for their own survey. During the planning phase of the ARDA, we were encouraged by prospective users to establish an archive of questions as well as an archive of data. Because the complete survey questions are entered and stored in the data file, however, the data file represents a complete record of the survey instrument. Hence, when

data collections are submitted, ARDA serves as an archive for the questions used and the data received. By combining the question bank feature with the search feature, the ARDA becomes a rich resource for constructing a new survey as well as using a previous one.

Summary

We recognize, of course, that ARDA's initial efforts to democratize access to data are simply that: initial efforts. Still, we are encouraged. The support of the Lilly Endowment has made the archive possible and has eliminated the barrier of financial cost for using the data. The availability of downloading MicroCase's ExplorIt software and using their online analysis tool has greatly reduced the barrier of data analysis for a larger audience. And, providing data files that offer complete question wording, detailed metadata, verified data, and muliple download formats, renders a rich resource to the experienced and inexperienced user alike. Reducing each of these barriers, and extending the services offered, has helped to increase the use of the data and expand the diversity of the audience using the ARDA.

Finally, we want to close with a gentle reminder to ourselves and others. Democratizing access to data and metadata are noble goals made possible by recent advances in technology. Yet, we should remember that metadata are often an empty promise unless the data are available; and, easily accessible data can still be useless (and misleading) unless they are carefully conducted and prepared data collections. A data archive will still be judged by the quality of the data it provides. Hence, just as evangelists close each revival with an invitation to submit to the message just heard, we end each essay and presentation with an invitation for submitting data. If you have data on American religion to submit, or you know of data that should be submitted, contact the ARDA (archive@sri.soc.purdue.edu) or download a submission form from our Web site (www.TheARDA.com).

Endnotes

1. Due to the character limitations of SPSS for variable descriptions, some of the questions will be truncated when SPSS portable files are downloaded.
2. The simplified version of the ExplorIt software, downloaded from the ARDA web site, provides univariate statistics with the appropriate bar graphs and pie charts, crosstabs with the appropriate statistics, and a complete list of survey questions that can searched for a topic of interest.
3. If the variable has too many categories for constructing a table, the user receives a message with this information. 📖

Roger Finke, Jennifer McKinney and Matt Bahr
The American Religion Data Archive
Department of Sociology
1365 Stone Hall
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1365
www.TheARDA.com

ATLA Calendar

Feb. 2–4   Whittlesey to St. Paul for conference 2001 site visit

Feb. 14–15   Midwest Region of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Feb. 17   Norlin at the Wabash Center for Theology and Religion, Crawfordsville, IN

Feb. 19–23   Norlin at Annual Meeting of the National Federation for Abstracting and Information Services (NFAIS) in Philadelphia

March 2   ATS/ATLA Digital Standards and Projects Committee meets in Evanston

March 9   Directors' Strategic Planning Meeting

March 17   Membership Advisory Committee meets in Evanston

March 20–24   Norlin at "Financial Analysis for Nonfinancial Managers Seminar," University of Chicago

March 26–29   Norlin on ATS accreditation team visit

Wabash Center Consultation on Teaching and Learning for Theological Librarians
(Co-sponsored by ATLA)

Date: July 22–26, 2000

Location: Wabash College

Goals: (1) develop models for effective teaching and learning for theological librarians; (2) determine what is needed professionally and systemically to implement effective teaching; and (3) generate a program of professional development for theological librarians that will enhance teaching and learning in their schools.

Participants: fifteen theological librarians by invitation of the Wabash Center and ATLA

Conveners: Raymond B. Williams and Dennis Norlin

From the Executive Director

From the Executive Director

This week marks my fifth anniversary at ATLA. I attended the 1995 midwinter meeting of the Board of Directors as the new Director of Index, Database, and Documentation Operations. One year later, in February 1996, Patti Adamek—former Director of Financial Services—and I were asked to assume leadership of the association as interim co-executive directors, and in June 1996 I was selected as the second Executive Director of ATLA.

When I met with the Board following my selection as Executive Director, I asked each member to give me one piece of advice. The comments that I received from the Board that day in June 1996 still guide me in my planning and decision-making because they reflect the collective wisdom of our Association. I look at these comments regularly, and would like to share them with you:

Keep your eye on the ball; the ball is the membership

Visit as many libraries as you can

Keep your pastoral role in mind - for the staff, for the board, and for the membership

The majority of ATLA's members are from small institutions; don't forget them

Follow the directive of liberation theology—preferential treatment for the poor—and be aware of the have-nots in the association

Work hard to include new members: they are a source of constant renewal

Leadership means giving co-workers the freedom to be creative; trusting staff and the membership multiplies the effectiveness of the association

Don't isolate yourself from the board or the membership; the association is supportive and forgiving

Make the products better; we depend upon you for the tools we need

Get a feel for the whole, but don't try to do everything yourself; be a cheerleader for the association

There is a fine line between visionary leader and facilitator; relax and enjoy your role and don't intimidate people

Keep the same level of energy and enthusiasm when things are not going well, and keep your sense of humor

An attitude of openness and trust will elicit trust and cooperation from others

Most of the 1996 ATLA Board members have completed their terms and have been replaced by new elected representatives. The Board continues to represent members well and to provide wise counsel and guidance as we enter this new century, filled with promise and opportunity. I will continue to seek their counsel and pledge the commitment and dedication of the staff who seek to be responsive to members' aspirations and goals. 📖

ATLA Annual Conferences

June 21–24, 2000
Berkeley, CA
Graduate Theological Union

June 20–23, 2001
Durham, NC
Duke Divinity Library

June 19–22, 2002
St. Paul, MN
Minnesota Theological
Library Association

News from ATLA Staff

New Headquarters Agreement

ATLA's two-year search for a new headquarters appears to have met with success. As the newsletter goes to press we are negotiating the lease for our new headquarters at 250 South Wacker in Chicago. The new site is directly across the street from the Sears tower and on the banks of the Chicago River. Abundant light and marvelous views will greet visitors to our new headquarters, the penthouse of the building. The new site has a spacious deck, on two sides of the building, where visitors and staff can walk outside to enjoy the view from the sixteenth floor. Just one block from Union Station and two blocks from the CTA (El) stop, our new headquarters will be easily accessible by public or private transportation.

Our search for a new headquarters began when our bank/landlord informed us that they needed our current space at 820 Church Street to accommodate their expansion. At the 1998 Annual Conference town meeting in Leesburg we began discussion of the need to relocate. Members and staff agreed that Chicago was the ideal location for our headquarters, both for convenience and for our important link with the University of Chicago and the Oriental Institute, institutions from which we have recruited most of our indexer analysts with their combination of theological and language skills.

Since the 1998 Leesburg conference we have examined more than two dozen sites throughout Chicago and the suburbs with our realtor consultant, Leonard Lickerman. The Executive Director and departmental directors have established six criteria with which to evaluate potential sites. The 250 South Wacker site is an excellent match for all of our criteria:

1. **Financial Factors.** The lease calls for $24.00 per square foot with a $.50 increase each year. This rate includes all costs including taxes, maintenance, and common area expenses. In comparison, an Evanston site we visited cost $28.00 per square foot with larger annual increases. Total cost of our rental at both our Chicago and Atlanta sites will be less than 10% of our annual budget, a very safe and conservative expenditure.

2. **Permanence/Longevity.** The lease is for twelve years with an option to renew for five additional years. We have been in our current site less than ten years, so this new lease offers us long-term security.

3. **High Tech Capability.** The building is already wired for T1 access and its Loop location insures future upgrades comparable to other sites in the Loop.

4. **Staff Concerns for Location, Transportation, Safety.** The building is located just one block (across the Chicago River) from the Metra and Amtrak stations; just two blocks west of all major CTA (El) lines. The neighborhood is safe and well-lighted, and the building has 24-hour security on site.

5. **Availability to Airport for Board, Committees, Off-site Staff.** Either the Metra or the CTA from the airports will bring visitors downtown quickly and inexpensively (the CTA is $1.50). Airport shuttles and cabs regularly travel downtown from both airports. In addition, Midway airport will be much more accessible than it has been to Evanston.

6. **Ability to Be Part of a/the Community.** The neighborhood is conducive to our staff and members; it's comfortable and lower key than the financial district.

ATLA Board members visited the site during their midwinter meetings and, on January 20, all ATLA staff had the opportunity to visit the new site. Architect Robert Isaac will design our space, and during February he is working closely with ATLA staff to complete the plans. Yehoshua ben Avraham, Coordinator of Special Projects, is the staff liaison with the architect and contractors.

Current plans are to occupy the sixteenth floor space by August 1, just before the start of our fiscal year. One year from then (August 2001), we will add a 4,500 square foot addition on the fifteenth floor that will be used as a conference center and electronic classroom—a place where ATLA members can work together on projects, conduct continuing education events, and hold mini-conferences. We also plan to offer this space at no charge for use by religious and theological organizations that wish to

meet in Chicago, much as ATLA member libraries offer meeting space to local organizations.

We hope to conclude lease negotiations very soon, and will keep you apprised of our progress. We hope you will be pleased with the new headquarters, and we issue an advance invitation to all ATLA members to come visit us next fall. 📖

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From the Director of Member Services

The announcer on the radio just asked, "When was the last time your vacation was absolute perfection?" Obviously a commercial, but it made me wonder about "absolute perfection." I am not a theologian and I am not a philosopher. What I'm thinking about is the ATLA Annual Conference coming up in June.

Vacation? Perhaps some of you will take advantage of being in the San Francisco area and stretch your conference trip just a bit. Absolute perfection? Of course not. Some logistical things may go wrong (with luck, most of them will happen behind the scenes and you'll never know!), but most everything will go right. And this is what I mean by "go right": it is my hope that you will find yourself amidst a welcoming and warm group of your colleagues and friends, whether this is your first conference or your tenth; that you will visit and reminisce and share meals together; that you will learn something, and maybe teach something; that you will meet someone new or engage in conversation with someone you don't know very well—yet; that you will look across the bay to San Francisco and be wowed by the view. It is my hope that you will see yourself, and your chosen profession, lifted up and honored.

You the members, through the Local Host Committee, the Annual Conference Committee, the Education Committee, and the Board of Directors, have been working hard—as volunteers—to provide all members with a good conference. All of us on the ATLA staff are working to provide the infrastructure for the conference. But all the planning, negotiating, scheduling, and meetings in the world mean nothing if you aren't in Berkeley this June! Please take a moment to read the invitation from the Local Host Committee and the conference highlights found elsewhere in the *Newsletter*.

No, the conference won't be absolute perfection, but it will be darn good—and even better if you're there! 📖

Karen L. Whittlesey
Director of Member Services

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From the *Newsletter* Editor

Having edited three volumes of the *Proceedings* and eleven *Newsletters,* I have become familiar with the wide range of styles and personalities that make up this association. I am also aware that there are widely varying levels of contribution among our members. You know this too. One thing you do not know, however, is how often I receive notes and e-mail messages saying, for example, "I received my copy of the *Proceedings,* and I thought it was great, but I wish that some people would have written *more.*"

Our members have a high degree of respect for one another and greatly value each others' contributions to the association and to the profession of theological librarianship. Knowing this, I am writing to encourage those of you who have never submitted *Newsletter* articles to do so. For those of you who submit text for the *Proceedings,* I'd like to encourage you to write more thorough synopses of your presentations and meetings. People really do read the stuff, folks, and they want to learn from you! Think of ATLA member publications as a way to share not just news but expertise. By writing an article for the *ATLA Newsletter,* or submitting a thorough synopsis of your conference meeting or presentation, you can help provide a lasting resource for other theological librarians.

If you have any questions about submitting to ATLA member publications, please do not hesitate to contact me. Even if all you have is an idea, we can work together to make it grow. 📖

Margret Tacke Collins
Editor of Member Publications
mcollins@atla.com

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LME Task Force

The Library Materials Exchange Program (LME) Task Force, consisting of chair Laura Wood (lcwood@emory.edu), Ted Winter (twinter@utsva.edu), Eric Friede (eric_friede@dts.edu), and Kevin Smith (ksmith@mtso.edu), has met several times over the last two months. We have been having real-time electronic meetings that have produced many ideas about the format of an electronic database for LME that will be housed on the members' page on the Web. Incorporating their own and other ATLA members' comments, the group has come up with some very interesting specifications for what they feel would be an ideal format with ideal capabilities.

The task force will be meeting later in the spring with the Information Services team at ATLA for further discussion and formalization of their ideas. If you have any ideas or expectations about a Web-based database for the LME Program, please feel free to forward them to me or to a member of the task force. 📖

Carol B. Jones (cjones@atla.com)
Member Representative &
Staff Liaison to LME Task Force

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The ATLA Serials Collection Project: An Update

Journals Included in the Collection
As of January 12, 2000, the following journals have signed license agreements:

1. *Church History,*
2. *Cross Currents,*
3. *The Ecumenical Review,*
4. *International Bulletin of Missionary Research,*
5. *The International Review of Mission,*
6. *Interpretation,*
7. *Journal for Preachers,*
8. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion,*
9. *Journal of Biblical Literature,*
10. *Journal of Ecumenical Studies,*
11. *Journal of Pastoral Care,*
12. *Journal of Ritual Studies,*
13. *The Muslim World,*
14. *Near Eastern Archaeology,*
15. *Religious Education,*
16. *Semeia,*
17. *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly,*
18. *Theological Studies.*

In addition, we have an agreement, in principle, with Brill for *Novum Testamentum*, *Numen*, as well as *Vetus Testamentum*.

Locating Print Journals
Since November 1999, a full set of *ATLA Summary of Proceedings*, as well as a nearly full set of *Interpretation*, have been shipped to Pacific Data Conversion Corporation in Eugene, Oregon. Partial sets of *Church History* and the *Journal of Pastoral Care* have been shipped as well.

Dr. John Keating notified ATLA CERTR on Friday, January 7, 2000 that his staff have procured three (3) complete sets of *Theological Studies*, not only from 1947 to 1999 but also all copies from its first publication in 1940. They should arrive during the week of January 10–14, 2000. Furthermore, the *Journal of Ritual Studies* has notified ATLA CERTR that they have prepared two sets also. Where one issue is missing, they have prepared a very clean photocopy. It appears then that the publishers are very keen on procuring as many issues as they can and are making every possible effort to send quality copies to ATLA CERTR. This speaks volumes to the staff at ATLA CERTR about the publishers' enthusiasm for the ATLAS Project.

ATLA CERTR has developed strategies with Judy Knop, Russell Kracke, and Ric Hudgens, among others at ATLA, to obtain copies of missing issues —whether they are in print form, photocopies, or microfilm. All of the Institutional Member libraries that we have contacted have been superlative in offering their time and effort in locating these issues, as well as providing substantial support for the ATLAS Project. ATLA CERTR hopes all these libraries will continue their involvement by offering their help in the ATLA Serials Project.

The Journey from Print to Digital (Phase I)

The ATLAS journals are being digitized into two formats: encapsulated images (Phase I) and fully encoded texts (Phase II). In Phase I, page images of each journal will be wrapped in a metadata "envelope" that will allow users to search the collection for articles that are written by particular authors, contain certain words in the title, deal with specific topics, or treat selected passages of a religious text. In Phase II, the fully encoded texts will allow users to search on all these fields and more. Both formats are based on the XML standard.

ALTA CERTR is following the best practices of the Library of Congress and other digital library projects. In Phase I, image specifications for scanning the journals have been defined concisely. The TIFF images are scanned at 600 dpi in black and white. They are ITU Group 4 TIFF images. This is the ISO standard, formerly known as CCITT Group 4 TIFF. The 89aGif images are converted from these TIFF images into 150 dpi, 4-bit, 16 grey scale. Each image has its left and right margins cropped. This is done so that a minimum amount of left-right-left scrolling is necessary. Encapsulated images will be available to subscribers by January 2001. For information that is more detailed point your browser to http://purl.org/CERTR/ATLAS/FAQ.html

Christian Kelm
Digitization Coordinator & Web Administrator
ATLA CERTR
ckelm@atla-certr.org

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New Windows Version of RDB

ATLA would like to thank all the customers who participated in the beta testing of the new Windows version of the *ATLA Religion Database on CD-ROM*. During the testing period, customers and users sent us many insightful comments and suggestions describing ways to improve the new application.

By the end of the beta test period the compiled comments filled thirty pages. These comments have been translated into over 110 items that might be changed or improved in the new Windows application. ATLA and NexData Solutions are currently reviewing and tracking each item's priority, status, type, and scope. Some examples of items that are under review include: a network installation that will not copy files to client workstations; the visual accessibility of the interface (e.g., color usage, font size, record display, button and icon size and location); and the incorporation of help text in search screens. The functionality of the Search History, Thesaurus, Cross Reference Search, and Link to Holdings features is also being closely examined.

The outcome of working through each of the items is that we will be able to improve the usability of the new Windows version of the *ATLA Religion Database on CD-ROM*. Since there are quite a few items to resolve, however, ATLA and NexData Solutions will be unable to adequately review and implement changes derived from beta comments in time for a February 2000 release of the new Windows application. Due to the time constraints, and the seriousness of some of the needed changes, ATLA has chosen to delay the release of the new Windows *ATLA Religion Database on CD-ROM* until the August 2000 issue of the database. The February 2000 issue of the *ATLA Religion Database on CD-ROM* will contain the current (i.e., older) Windows version and the MS-DOS version of the *ATLA Religion Database.*

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Endowment Fund Gifts

Nearly fifty ATLA members, friends, and staff have made contributions to the ATLA Endowment Fund since September, 1999. Contributions to the ATLA Endowment Fund not only contribute to our Association's long-term financial strength, they also provide annual earnings that are used to provide support for attendance at the ATLA conference, to provide scholarship support for future theological librarians, and to promote theological librarianship.

1. Anonymous Member
2. Anonymous Staff
3. Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. and Patti K. Adamek
4. Ms. Cheryl L. Adams
5. Mrs. Marti Alt
6. Dr. Jack W. Ammerman

7. Ms. Mary R. Bischoff
8. Dr. Cynthia Davis Buffington
9. Dr. Milton J. Coalter
10. Ms. Linda Corman
11. Ms. Melody L. De Catur
12. Ms. Cynthia E. Derrenbacker
13. Mr. Chester B. Ellyson
14. Dr. D. William Faupel
15. Mrs. Ellen L. Frost
16. Mr. Pradeep Gamadia
17. Miss Elizabeth M. Grant
18. Miss Lucille Hager
19. Wm. T. & Kathryn Luther Henderson
20. Dr. William J. Hook
21. Mr. Ric Hudgens
22. Dr. Donald Keeney
23. Mr. Jonathan A. Klenklen
24. Dr. Johan Koren
25. Mr. Roger Loyd
26. Mr. Donald Matthews
27. In memory of Mr. John B. McTaggart
28. Ms. Theresa S. Mendoza

29. Dr. Sara J. Myers
30. Dr. Dennis A. Norlin
31. Mrs. Betty A. O'Brien
32. Rev. Elmer J. O'Brien
33. Rev. Ellis E. O'Neal, Jr.
34. Mr. James C. Pakala
35. Mr. Stephen P. Pentek
36. Ms. Alice I. Runis
37. Dr. Paula Youngman Skreslet
38. Mrs. Martha Lund Smalley
39. Ms. Susan E. Sponberg
40. Mr. Michael R. Strickland
41. Dr. Ray R. Suput
42. Ms. Margaret Tarpley
43. Ms. Sharon Taylor
44. Ms. Barbara Terry
45. Mrs. Dorothy Gilliam Thomason
46. Dr. John B. Trotti
47. Ms. Phyllis Tuchten
48. Ms. Polyxeni Vanou
49. Ms. Karen L. Whittlesey 📖

ATLA Welcomes New Members

Individuals

Mr. Kuruvilla Abraham
Wesley Theological Seminary
Washington, DC

Mr. C.S. Per Almquist
Reference & Systems Librarian
Covenant Theological Seminary
St. Louis, MO

Dr. Lisa Baltazar
Charlottesville, VA

Ms. Carolina Nargis Barton
Asst. Librarian for Information Technology
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
South Hamilton, MA

Mr. Charles Bellinger
Regent College
Vancouver, BC Canada

Ms. Cynthia D. Bertelsen
Indexer
Bertelsen Indexing Services
Blacksburg, VA

Ms. Vicki Biggerstaff
Catalog Librarian
Eastern Mennonite University
Harrisonburg, VA

Dr. Regina A. Boisclair
Cardinal Newman Chair of Catholic Theology
Alaska Pacific University
Anchorage, AK

Rev. Leroy H. Bradway
Pastor
Moorhead, MN

Mr. Marty Breen
Reference Librarian
Jesuit-Krauss-McCormick Library
Chicago, IL

Mr. Halvard Cain
Melbourne University
Victoria, Australia

Mr. Bryan M. Carson
Reference Coordinator/Religion Librarian
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, KY

Mr. Bill Cohen
Haworth Press, Inc.
Binghamton, NY

Mr. Stephen Constantelos
Alexandria, VA

Mr. James Gulick
Haverford College
Haverford, PA

Dr. Randy G. Haney
Adjunct Prof. of Philosophy & Religion
Mt. San Antonio College
Walnut, CA

Ms. Laura Hoelter
Cataloger
Duluth, MN

Dr. Timothy K. Hui
Director of Learning Resource Center
Philadelphia College of Bible
Longhorne, PA

Mrs. Debbie Hunn
Dallas Theological Seminary
Dallas, TX

Mr. John Jaeger
Reference Librarian
Union University
Jackson, TN

Rev. John L. Janeway
Reference Librarian
University of the South
Sewanee, TN

Mrs. Terese M.J. Jerose
Reference Librarian
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
Wake Forest, NC

Ms. Jonnie C. Johnson
Huntington, WV

Rev. Terry Jones
Senior Minister
First Christian Church
Elizabethtown, KY

Miss Valerie Julius
Librarian
Christian Research Institute
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA

Dr. Johan Koren
Asst. Professor
Dominican University
River Forest, IL

Dr. Karl Krueger
Asst. Librarian
Lutheran Theological Seminary
Philadelphia, PA

Rev. Kevin McCaffrey
Librarian
Jerusalem, Israel

Mr. Timothy J. McFadden
Library Director
Pope John XXIII National Seminary Library
Weston, MA

Dr. Linda P. Miller
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Pittsburgh, PA

Mr. Douglas R. Olbert
Library Director
Phoenix, AZ

Dr. Arturo V. Parra
Library Director
Asbury Theological Seminary
Orlando, FL

Ms. Susann Posey
Lutheran Theological Seminary
Gettysburg, PA

Mr. Ronald Reifsnider
Assistant Librarian
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
Austin, TX

Ms. Leslie Reyman
New York, NY

Mr. James L. Sauer
Eastern College
St. Davids, PA

Mr. Eric Schantz
Rochester, NY

Ms. Rose Schneider
Librarian
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
Pittsburgh, PA

Mr. Vance Whitesides
Washington, DC

Students

Mr. Val Bernard Armstrong
Dallas, TX

Mr. James Beaven
Evansville, IN

Mr. Renato Cardenas
North Miami Beach

Ms. Amanda Collins
Mobile, AL

Mr. Terry Eagan
Tampa, FL

Miss Alison Foster
Santa Cruz, CA

Rev. Terry Fung
Deerfield, IL

Mr. Bill Garrison
Baltimore, MD

Mr. Dong-Ha Kim
Toronto, ON, Canada

Mrs. Sydney King
Denver, CO

Ms. June Krayer
Dublin, OH

Mr. David LaDuke
Pittsburgh, PA

Mr. Lech Lee
London, OT, Canada

Ms. Amy Limpitlaw
Boston, MA

Mr. James R. Lynch
Austin, TX

Ms. Karen Madigan
Kent, OH

Rev. Kevin Maroney
St. James, MD

Mr. Raymond Melendez
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Ms. Emily Miller-Francisco
Newton Corner, MA

Ms. Susanna Morrill
Chicago, IL

Rev. Martha Myre
Mesquite, TX

Miss Kim A. Pettman
Blaine, MN

Rev. William Raccah
Calgary, AB, Canada

Ms. Marcia Robinson
Berkeley, CA

Ms. Linda Ronan
Newton Ctr., MA

Mr. Jonathan Schofer
Chicago, IL

Ms. Melissa Schutt
Richmond, VA

Mr. C. Brian Smith
Bloomington, IN

Miss Julie A. Somers
San Diego, CA

Mr. Frank H. Wilmot
Bronx, NY

Mr. Daniel S. Weinberg
Chicago, IL

Institutions

Biola University Library
La Mirada, CA

Moody Bible Institute
Crowell Library
Chicago, IL

Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University/Library
Prague, Czech Republic

Positions Open

Catalog Librarian
Reformed Theological Seminary

Reformed Theological Seminary Library (Jackson, Mississippi) seeks a full-time Catalog Librarian. Responsibilities include copy and original cataloging of all types of library materials in all formats, including assignation of LC classification numbers and subject headings. The position reports to the Library Director.

The RTS library collection consists of approximately 190,000 titles including monographs, microforms, videos, and others.

Qualifications: ALA-accredited M.L.S., experience in original cataloging, employing MARC format, AACR2, and LC cataloging practice, and knowledge of OCLC. A familiarity with theological literature is preferred.

Send resume with letter of application to: Kenneth R. Elliott, Reformed Theological Seminary Library, 5422 Clinton Blvd., Jackson, MS 39209. E-mail: Kelliott@rts.edu

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Cataloger
Masland Learning Resource Center
Philadelphia College of Bible

The Masland Learning Resource Center, Philadelphia College of Bible, 200 Manor Ave., Langhorne, PA 19047, is seeking a cataloger. The cataloging librarian is the primary professional cataloger of the Center. Candidates must have obtained a master's degree in library or information science from an ALA accredited institution, and three years of experience in an academic library subsequent to graduation. Administrative skill, and knowledge and/or experience in AACR2, DDC, and LC classification systems are preferred. The Cataloging Librarian reports to the Technical Services Librarian and acts as supervisor of cataloging department personnel. Please send a letter of inquiry, resume, and references to Robin Clouse, Director of Human Resources. E-Mail: rclouse@pcb.edu.

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Librarian (General & Distance Learning)
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
(North Georgia Campus)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is a conservative evangelical seminary founded by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1917. It is the third largest theological seminary in the world. The main campus in New Orleans offers bachelor, master, and doctoral degree programs. A leader in distance education, the Seminary also operates sixteen extension centers across the Southeast. Twelve of these centers offer baccalaureate degree programs; ten offer classes at the masters level. Technologies such as compressed interactive video and Internet courses are utilized in instruction. The office of the NOBTS Extension Center System is located at the North Georgia campus in Decatur, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta.

Position Summary: Responsible for general library duties at the North Georgia campus (reference, circulation, technical processing). Responsible for extending all NOBTS library services to distance learners/faculty by coordinating reference, user instruction, and document delivery with the assistance of the staff of the main campus' (New Orleans) John T. Christian Library. Develops library instruction tools using various media; assists faculty in incorporating library components into courses; develops and maintains appropriate Web pages; develops marketing strategy to promote NOBTS library services to extension students; travels intermittently to extension sites for evaluation and supervision.

Qualifications: Requires an ALA-accredited MLS or MLIS. Needs ability to work in a long-distance team environment as well as to be self-directed and to work independently. Experience desired. No technical services experience necessary. Must be a Christian.

Salary and Benefits: Salary negotiable, commensurate with educational background and experience.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of application and resume to: Mr. Michael Garrett, Director of Library Services New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary 4110 Seminary Place New Orleans, Louisiana 70126 mgarrett@nobts.edu www.nobts.edu

Review of applications begins immediately and will continue until the position is filled. &

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Public Services Librarian for Reference & Bibliographic Instruction
Bridwell Library, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University

Bridwell Library seeks a pro-active, flexible, and innovative individual to serve a leading role in patron-centered public services.

Responsibilities: Provides reference and research assistance to patrons, via direct contact, mail, e-mail, and telephone. Provides bibliographic instruction, advice, and documentation for patrons and visitors. Prepares documentation and aids to the use of the library's collections. Manages the Bridwell Library public Web site. Selects reference materials for collections. Acts as an advocate for patrons regarding reference, instruction, and research support. Other duties as assigned. Occasional weekend and evening hours required.

Qualifications: ALA accredited MLS. Advanced degree in religious studies, theology, or applicable field. Experience in public services, preferably in an academic theological library. Proficiency in Biblical Hebrew or Greek and reading knowledge of at least one non-English modern language. Demonstrated mastery of theological reference tools. Strong service orientation and excellent interpersonal skills. Excellent oral and written communication skills, including proficiency in public speaking. Strong computer skills, including proficiency in HTML. Knowledge of XML preferred. Ability to work both independently and as a team member.

Compensation: Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. Competitive benefits package.

Applications: Submit letter of application, resume, and three references to Search Committee, Position 050424, SMU, P.O. Box 750232, Dallas TX 75275-0232. To ensure full consideration, the application must be postmarked on or before February 29, 2000, but the committee will continue to accept applications until the position is filled. SMU is an equal opportunity, affirmative action, Title IX employer. &

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Technical Services Librarian
Columbia Theological Seminary

The John Bulow Campbell Library of the Columbia Theological Seminary, a graduate theological school of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is seeking a technical services librarian with a public services orientation who can catalog and classify library materials, both print and nonprint, using DRA's automation system, OCLC's PRISM Service, AACR2R, LCRI, LCC, and LCSH. Maintain shelflist files and catalogs, supervise and do copy cataloging, processing, and other technical services functions; maintain recent acquisitions and share library reference duties with other members of the professional staff.

Qualifications are: Masters of Library Science from an ALA accredited institution. Some formal theological training and two years cataloging experience preferred.

Submit cover letter, resume and the names of three references to M. Tim Browning, Director, John Bulow Campbell Library, Columbia Theological Seminary, Post Office Box 520, Decatur, Ga. 30031 or e-mail, BrowningT@CTSnet.edu. This position is available immediately. The filing date for the application is March 24, 2000. &

American Theological Library Association
820 Church Street, Suite 400
Evanston, Illinois 60201-5613