

Newsletter



Karl Barth's desk at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

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From the President The Ends Restated



As I mentioned back in November's column, your Board of Directors have been actively working to restate the Organizational Ends of ATLA in "outcomes" language that can be more easily measured and evaluated.

Although ATLA has worked under Organizational Ends for a number of years, the changes are crafted to articulate how the world is different because ATLA exists; to identify both benefit

and the beneficiary of ATLA's work.

These restated Ends enable us to develop metrics for evaluating our effectiveness in achieving these Ends as well as more clearly define the work of ATLA in the present and future.

The Board welcomes your reflections on both what is stated as well as unstated.

ATLA Organizational Ends as adopted by the Board of Directors, February 2013

ATLA exists so that:

Libraries and librarians are increasingly effective and valued partners in the academic study of religion, theology, and ministry.

Subsidiary Ends 1 and 2 are in ranked order. Below that level, the ends are increasingly specific elaborations, numbered to indicate their relationship to 1 and 2. The ranking of the Ends does not dictate the proportion of resources allocated.

1. Libraries are served by a continuing, prepared, and diverse complement of librarians.

1.1 A sufficient number of qualified librarians serves libraries.

1.2 Librarians at all career stages and specializations have increasing knowledge, abilities and skills.

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Board of Directors Meet in Chicago

The Board of Directors met January 7-9 in Chicago to discuss the following items on their agenda.

The Board reviewed the January quarterly report of ATLA Executive Director Brenda Bailey-Hainer. During the past year, the Executive Director has been providing quarterly reports on progress made in advancing the Association's Organizational Ends and avoiding violations of the Executive Limitations. This new reporting format facilitates the Board's monitoring of the Executive Director's work.

To provide greater clarity, minor wording changes were adopted for four of the Association's Organizational Ends. The Organizational Ends are on the ATLA website: <https://www.atla.com/about/who/Pages/MissionStatement.aspx>. The Ends guide the ATLA staff in developing programs and products for the Association.

The Board seeks to represent the views of the members as it continues to refine the Association's Organizational Ends. ATLA members are invited to discuss priorities for the Association's future at the Annual Conference luncheon. Members are encouraged to register for the Conference luncheon and to take other opportunities to communicate with Board members.

Director of Member Programs Miguel Figueroa presented historic and current perspectives on membership dues. While no changes were made, the Board and the staff continue to consider options for increasing Association revenue.

The Board reviewed member responses to the ATLA Preservation Survey conducted by LYRASIS. The staff will



Back, Left to Right] Eileen K. Saner (Secretary), Kelly Campbell, Andrew J. Keck (President), H.D. Sandy Ayer, Carrie M. Hackney, Tammy Johnson, Sandra Lipton, Douglas L. Gragg, [Front, Left to Right] Timothy D. Lincoln, Melody Layton McMahon, Beth Bidlack (Vice President), John B. Weaver

report results to the members and will develop programs to address needs identified in the survey.

In order to support the work of the Endowment Committee, the Board confirmed that the purpose of the Endowment Fund is to secure the future of ATLA as a membership organization and that the primary strategy for the fund is long-term growth. Spending from the restricted and unrestricted portions of the Fund must be approved by the Board.

Carrie Hackney was appointed to a three-year term as Board representative on the ATLA Nominating Committee. In the weeks prior to its June meeting, the Board will conduct the Executive Director's annual performance evaluation.

Board Members Elected for 2013-2016

ATLA members elected the following candidates to serve a three-year term (2013-2016) on the ATLA Board of Directors, subject to confirmation by the membership of the Board Secretary's report at the 2013 Annual Conference: Andrew Keck, Amy Limpitlaw, Stephen Perisho, and Eileen Saner.

The Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors express their appreciation to all the candidates who agreed to be on the slate and for their many efforts on behalf of the Association.

-Eileen K. Saner, Secretary, ATLA Board of Directors



Andrew
Keck



Amy
Limpitlaw



Stephen
Perisho



Eileen
Saner

2013 Annual Conference News



Registration Opens

[Registration opened](#) on March 4 for the 2013 ATLA Annual Conference.

Members received the Conference Preview e-brochure highlighting conference events, plenary speakers, pre-conference workshops, hotel accommodations, and other important information. [Click here to view the Conference Preview e-brochure.](#)

ATLA Member Product Loyalty Program - Deadline May 15

ATLA Members can be proud of the distinguished line of resources produced by the Association.

In turn, ATLA is proud to sponsor the [Member Product Loyalty Program](#). This member benefit is designed to recognize and reward our current Institutional, International Institutional, and Affiliate Members who demonstrate their loyalty to ATLA through subscription to both the *ATLA Religion Database® (ATLA RDB®)* and *ATLASerials® (ATLAS®)*.

ATLA reserves a portion of funds garnered from product sales for distribution to eligible member sites. This year a maximum of \$200 per eligible site is available to be re-invested into ATLA Member Programs. Redeemable loyalty benefits include:

- A total of \$200 toward ATLA conference registration (may be divided across a maximum of two registration fees)
- A \$200 gift to the Scholarships and Grants Annual Fund

A message was sent to all Institutional Member Representatives on February 4, 2013. We encourage members to redeem their Member Product Loyalty funds by Friday, March 15, 2013.

The [online Member Product Loyalty Form](#) is available now at the ATLA web site. Members will need their member log-in to complete the form.

If you have applied or plan to do so, please do not register for the ATLA Annual Conference until you have received your loyalty confirmation code via e-mail.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact memberrep@atla.com.

Conference Travel Grants Available

ATLA is pleased to offer grants of up to \$500 each to support attendance at the 2013 ATLA Annual Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, June 19-22. ATLA Student or Individual Members who receive no financial assistance from their institutions to attend the conference are eligible to apply. You may apply for a travel grant until April 19, 2013.

Fill out the [Annual Conference Travel Grant Request form](#) to apply. Grants will be awarded on a first come, first served basis and approved recipients will be notified on or before Wednesday, April 24, 2013. Recipients must register for the conference before May 1, 2013, and will be required to stay at the conference hotel.

Stay Connected

Please head over to the [2013 ATLA Annual Conference Events Page](#) on Facebook and let us know that you're attending.

By indicating that you are attending, you can view up-to-date information and insider news through Facebook.



Reserve your Room Today

This year's conference will be hosted downtown at The Westin Charlotte. Hotel rooms are offered at a discounted rate. [Reserve your room today.](#)

Scholarships to Promote Diversity in Theological Librarianship

The American Theological Library Association is pleased to offer two scholarships to help promote diversity in theological librarianship.

ATLA will provide one scholarship of \$1,200 to a student from an underrepresented ethnic population to attend a Theological Librarianship course at any ALA-accredited master's program in library and information studies, including the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's LEEP course, Theological Librarianship (LIS 590TL).

ATLA will also introduce a new Diversity Scholarship of \$2,400 to a student from an underrepresented ethnic population enrolled in an ALA-accredited master's program in library and information studies.

Eligibility requirements, application guidelines, and additional information are available at the [Scholarships web page](#).

Both scholarships are supported by generous ATLA members who donate to the Scholarships and Grants Annual Fund. For more information and to support this fund, please visit the [ATLA Scholarships and Grants Annual Fund web page](#).

Applications will be reviewed by the ATLA Diversity Committee. For more information about the committee's composition and work, please visit the [ATLA Diversity Committee web page](#).

Please share these opportunities with students and professional networks that might benefit from their availability. The deadline for applications for both scholarships is June 1, 2013.

From the President continued

1.2.1 Librarians are effective advocates for their libraries and the profession.

1.2.2 Collaborative relationships locally, regionally, and throughout the world enhance the preparedness of librarians.

1.3 ATLA reflects the diversity of our communities and institutions, including but not limited to religious, racial, ethnic, and gender divisions.

2. Institutions and individuals have access to primary source material and scholarly resources that are organized, preserved, and made accessible at a reasonable expenditure of funds, time, and resources.

2.1 Libraries, librarians, scholars, students, and religious leaders have access to tools and services that meet current and emerging research needs.

2.1.1 Research and development initiatives successfully address needs for improved and new products and services.

2.1.2 Collaborative initiatives involving members successfully address information-related opportunities and problems.

Sincerely,

Andrew Keck
President

ATLA Booth and Reception at ACRL in Indianapolis

Are you attending the 2013 ACRL Conference in Indianapolis, April 10-13? Stop by the ATLA exhibit booth #326.



Also, we invite you to join us for fellowship and refreshments, a short walk from the Indiana Convention Center. Mark your calendar for the ATLA evening reception at the historic Canterbury Hotel, 123 South Illinois Street, Suite 1204, Thursday, April 11, 2013, 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Please R.S.V.P. to rybak@atla.com by Wednesday, April 10. For assistance on the day of the event, call 312.217.5431.

Changes to ATLANTIS

In February an e-mail was sent to ATLANTIS subscribers informing them of recent changes to ATLA-hosted Lyris discussion lists, including ATLANTIS. ATLA has had to limit public access to the Lyris list manager web portal.

This will not significantly change the day-to-day functions of ATLANTIS or other ATLA-hosted discussion lists. Members will continue to be able to post and receive messages and submit list commands (unsubscribe, etc.) via e-mail.

This will, however, restrict access to the archives of ATLANTIS and other ATLA-hosted Lyris discussion lists. Unfortunately, we can no longer provide public access to the Lyris list manager web portal where the archives are housed.

Lyris has informed ATLA that they will not be making necessary security upgrades to their software. As ATLA seeks to maintain a high level of security on our servers, we have had to limit public access to the Lyris software hosted by ATLA.

This change will also affect any list administrators for ATLA-hosted discussion lists. ATLA will be contacting list administrators individually with additional information and instructions.

We apologize for this inconvenience. As you may need to search the Lyris archives for specific information, please feel free to contact ATLA staff at memberrep@atla.com. We will respond as soon as we are able. We are exploring alternatives and hope to have a proposed solution soon.

We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Member News

Annual *Proceedings* Available in April

The *Summary of Proceedings* of the Sixty-Sixth Annual ATLA Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, will be shipped April 1.

All 2011-2012 Individual, Student, and Lifetime Members and Institutional, International Institutions, and Affiliate Member Representatives will receive a copy of the *Proceedings*.

Proceedings will also be available in .mobi and epub versions for your electronic devices starting April 1.

Routine Maintenance Reminder

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, April 1, 2013. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. (CST). (This is not an April Fool's Day prank). Services that will be affected include ASE, listservs, the ATLA website, and member community sections. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

Job Openings

Are you in the market for a new position? Be sure to check the ATLA [web listings](#) to see who is hiring now.

Positions posted this month:

- American Theological Library Association, Chicago, Illinois, is seeking an [Digitization Assistant](#), Part-Time.
- The Paul Becthold Library at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois, is seeking a [Metadata Librarian/Cataloger](#).
- Concordia University Library, Irvine, CA, is seeking a [Distance Education & Technology Librarian](#).
- Biola University, La Mirada, CA, is seeking a [Dean of the Library](#).
- Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, CA, is seeking a [Reference and Instruction Librarian](#).

Member Benefit: Club Quarters Hotels

One of the little known, but valuable benefits of membership in the American Theological Library Association is access to ATLA's global membership in Club Quarters. Billed as a "smart hotel for the sensible traveler," Club Quarters Hotels provide ideally located accommodations at affordable rates.

Members have access to 15 locations, including four locations in Manhattan, two locations in Chicago, and downtown locations in Washington DC, Boston, Philadelphia, Houston, San Francisco, and London. Weekday rates can be noticeably more affordable than regular hotel chains - especially in prime locations like Manhattan and San Francisco - and weekend rates are often even lower.

ATLA's global membership benefits may be used by institutional member representatives and individual members. Booking is fast, easy, and secure. Visit www.clubquarters.com. In the Member Guests box on the left of the screen, simply enter "atla" and click "book now." Proceed to follow the "Make a Reservation" instructions to secure special member rates at any Club Quarters location.

ATLA's global membership password is meant for use by members and should not be shared; however, you are welcome to make reservations on behalf of friends and family for travels to Club Quarters locations. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Club Quarters Member Services at 203-905-2100.

ATLA Calendar

March

- **21** - Florida Theological Library Association Annual Conference, Orlando, FL - Miguel Figueroa attending

April

- **2-4** - Catholic Library Association (CLA) Annual Convention / National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) 2013 Convention and Expo, Houston, TX - Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- **10-13** - Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) 2013 National Conference, Indianapolis, IN - Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Margot Lyon, Miguel Figueroa, Lavonne Cohen, Gregg Taylor, Veronica Simms, Rick Rybak attending

From the Executive Director

Measuring Impact



All scholars may ask themselves at one time or another: what impact will my research have on the field? In the past, citation analysis often served as the primary method to track impact, but that is rapidly changing.

Technology has affected not just research methodologies but also created new opportunities for communication and collaboration between researchers. Whether they are actively collaborating with a colleague, tracking the thread of a debate in an online community, citing a paper, or posting their support for a theory on a blog, researchers leave a kind of “digital exhaust” of click trails. Analyzing these click trails and using them as a measure of research impact has come to be known as “altmetrics.”

A more formal definition for [altmetrics](#) is “the creation and study of new metrics based on the Social Web for analyzing and informing scholarship.” Some of the areas that may be tracked are usage (e.g., downloads, views, ILL); captures (e.g., Favorites, bookmarks, groups); mentions (e.g., blog posts, reviews, Wikipedia articles); social media (e.g., Tweets, shares); and citations (e.g., Scopus, Google Scholar, patents). Uses, captures, mentions, social media, and citations together all show a more complete picture of an author’s impact.

A number of applications have been developed to track altmetrics, including [ImpactStory](#), and consulting firms that specialize in this area have sprung up, such as [Plum Analytics](#). Judy Luther’s Scholarly Kitchen [blog post](#) from last summer provides a good overview of altmetrics and additional information.

Altmetrics opens up several opportunities for librarians. They might assist faculty in understanding how research could be better disseminated, use altmetrics as a factor in collection development and content selection, or illustrate the value of an institutional repository.

The development of altmetrics has been predominantly in the sciences. However, the social sciences and humanities disciplines will not be far behind, including the faculty and researchers that theological librarians serve.

Sincerely,

Brenda Bailey-Hainer
Executive Director



Contact Information

We welcome your submission of news, photos, and other items of interest for the *ATLA Newsletter*. All submissions are due on the first business day of the month preceding publication.

Contact newsletter@atla.com with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.

Stay Connected



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