ATLA Newsletter

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June 2018

ATLA

Storytelling

June 8, 2018

Submitted by Matthew Ostercamp, ATLA President

Resourceful water beetles, spunky turtles, and courageous hummingbirds are a few of the creatures I was introduced to by Cherokee storytellers last month. I was privileged to spend the second half of May exploring Cherokee history and culture with a group of undergraduate students on a camping trip that began in the Smokey Mountains and followed the Trail of Tears to Tahlequah Oklahoma. Along the way, we met Cherokee historians, activists, politicians, scientists, and students. One of the threads of the trip was the history and impact of the Indian Removal Act of 1830. Another connecting thread that emerged on the trip was the persistence, evolution, and power of Cherokee myths to preserve the Cherokee identity and help them envision the future.
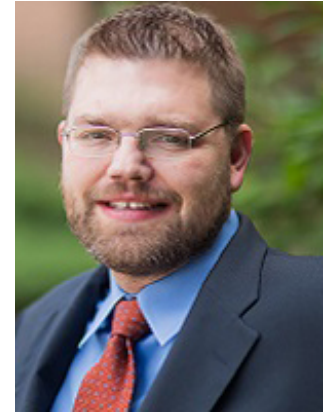
Reflecting on my year as ATLA president, I'm grateful for the support of my Board colleagues, the ATLA staff, and all the members that we serve. There is exciting and innovative work being done in this Association that I believe will be a great benefit to future students and scholars of theology and religion. Although we have a responsibility to plan carefully for the future, I'm reminded that we also have a responsibility to be a good steward of our Association's stories. Stories of spunky librarians coming together to create an index, or resourceful librarians cooperating across denominational and institutional lines. Stories of resilience and creativity in times of change and resource scarcity and let's not forget the stuck buses and broken elevators. Stories that continue to teach and inspire me.

I have found Melody Layton McMahon and David Stewart's anthology of readings on theological librarianship entitled *Broadening Conversation* an especially rich source of inspiration and insight into our professional identity. I highly recommend it. I also find the annual conference to be a great opportunity to reaffirm our common identity as we gather to listen to each other's stories and celebrate our collective achievements. To Melody, David, and all those who preserve, tell, and help us interpret our stories: Thank you. The future will continue to bring change and challenge but, like the Cherokee, our common stories are a source of enduring strength.

A New Definition for "Face to Face"

June 8, 2018

Submitted by Gillian Harrison Cain, Director of Member Programs

I lost my voice a month ago. And while it's back, it's rough. To paraphrase my doctor, she's put me on vocal rest to keep me from continuing to run on a sprained ankle (my over-taxed vocal cords) before the marathon (our conference) next week.

When I tell people I work from my home part of the time, they often assume that the majority of my face to face interaction comes from when I'm in the office in Chicago. Being on vocal rest this week has solidified something I suspected was true… I talk to some people not in-person, but literally "face to face" via video chat MORE when I'm remote than I do when I'm in the office.

Technologies these days make it easy to jump on a quick video call to ask a question, resolve an issue, or share a quick anecdote. In the office I have to get up, walk down the hall, often find the person isn't there because they've stepped out for whatever reason, and then wander the halls aimlessly for another few minutes before we maybe find each other, and then finally I'm able to ask my question and discover yes, my newsletter column is due today.

When I first started at ATLA, we didn't slip onto video chats so easily. Once a week my staff would dig out their headphones and reposition their webcam so we could have our one on one meeting via video. Over time, as we got to know each other through both in-person chats as well as over video, we've become more comfortable with sending a quick (typed) Skype message "Quick chat?" and moments later Skyping (video chatting) for a few minutes.

I've been thinking about this shift in terms of the conference. There is a ton of preparation that goes into what will be a jam-packed handful of days. While staff are mired in logistics (Does Andy need to rent a standard car or an SUV to fit all the boxes?) all of you have had to make travel plans, prepare materials if you're speaking or participating in meetings, reach out to colleagues to set up a time to get together, contemplate which sessions you'll attend, and, sometimes the most taxing task of all, make arrangements to keep things moving smoothly at the library while you're gone.

When we chose Indianapolis as the venue for the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference, we knew that things might be a little different. There is only one institutional member (Christian Theological Seminary) in the city proper but members in Indiana range from Saint Meinrad

[Seminary and School of Theology](#) in the Southern part of the state to [Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary](#) and [Concordia Theological Seminary](#) in Northern Indiana with many other seminaries, colleges, and universities sprinkled across the state.

Despite the distance from institution to institution, a group of folks came together in person and virtually to put together an amazing conference. Perhaps it's their experience in [PALNI](#), the collaborative, strategic, and innovative network of private, academic libraries in Indiana with a commitment to deep collaboration and a completely distributed workforce that set the stage for them to create a connection. That collaboration included not only member institutions, but individual members from non-member institutions, and other organizations like PALNI, leaders of the group that created the [Stone-Campbell Teaching Archive](#), and the [Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Religion and Theology](#) who all helped to create content for this conference.

I know many of you treasure the opportunity to connect with your colleagues in person at the ATLA Annual Conference. And we as staff certainly appreciate the opportunity to get to put faces to the names of people we correspond with regularly. The conference comes but once a year (whew?!?!) and as I silently make my way through this week, I'm inspired to make the most of those in-person conversations next week and hopefully make connections that can continue "face to face" year-round.

Upcoming ATLA Events: June and July 2018

June 7, 2018

ATLA is around the globe this season. Check out the new ATLA Calendar for a list of events, deadlines, and meetings.

If you would like your meeting or event added to the calendar, email memberep@atla.com.

Upcoming Events

Open Access Symposium (joint w/ Joint Conference on Digital Libraries)
Forth Worth, Texas
June 6

MTLA Workshop, "Rediscovering the value and agility of theological libraries"
June 8
Learn more

NASIG 2018
June 8 – June 11
Atlanta, GA, USA
Staff attending: Maria Stanton

ATLA Board Meeting
June 12
8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Hyatt Regency Indianapolis

ATLA Annual Conference
June 13-16
Hyatt Regency Indianapolis
Register

ATLA Annual Conference Committee Meeting
June 17
Hyatt Regency Indianapolis

ALA Annual Conference Meeting
June 21-26
New Orleans, Lousiana
Staff attending: Christine Fruin, Brenda Bailey-Hainer

Submit to ATLA *Newsletter*
July 1

ATLA Systems Routine Maintenance

July 2

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

ATLA Offices Closed

July 4

NEDCC Presents Digital Directions 2018 in Atlanta, Georgia, October 15-16

June 7, 2018

You're invited to the 2018 Digital Directions: Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections, October 15-16 at the Commerce Club in Atlanta, Georgia. Guided by a faculty of national experts, join colleagues from institutions large and small for two days of instruction on best practices and practical strategies for the creation, curation, and use of digital collections. Network with colleagues who have similar challenges, interact with faculty one-on-one and gain a comprehensive introduction to digitization and digital preservation.

Are you just getting started with a digital project? Trying to bring several digital projects together into a cohesive digital preservation program? Or are you well into a digital collections project and need a refresher on the latest standards and best practices?

The Digital Directions conference is geared toward professionals working with digital collections at archives, libraries, museums, historical organizations, tribal organizations, government agencies, business and special libraries and archives, and other organizations that steward digital collections. A discounted student rate is available.

Learn more and register

Founded in 1973, the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) is the first independent conservation laboratory in the nation to specialize exclusively in treating collections made of paper or parchment, such as works of art, photographs, books, maps, manuscripts, and more. The Center offers conservation treatment, digital imaging, and audio preservation services, as well as training, consultations, and disaster advice for collections. NEDCC is a trusted resource for information on the preservation of paper-based collections. Learn more.

Code4Lib Chicago Spring Meeting at ATLA Headquarters

June 7, 2018

Submitted by Andy Carter, ATLA Digital Projects Manager, and Christy Karpinski, ATLA Digital Collections Metadata Librarian

On May 16, ATLA hosted the Code4lib Chicago Spring Meeting in our downtown office. Code4lib is a nationwide organization of developers and technologists who work for and with libraries. We saw this event as a chance to share ATLA's digital projects, meet our peers in the Chicago area and learn about what other institutions are working on. This meeting of the Chicago chapter brought together twenty-five people from academic and public libraries around Chicago to share and discuss current technical projects and interests.

The event was scheduled as a mix of twenty-minute presentations, lightning talks, and break-out sessions for more in-depth discussions. The best parts of any conference are the human connections and conversations started around topics of mutual interest. There were many interesting and novel ideas kicked around by the participants, more than a summary can fairly capture. We'd like to highlight four presentations by ATLA staff as they offer a glimpse of the talents and projects inside of our home office.

Highlights of the Day

The day started with ATLA Production Programmer Timothy Yoder talking about API first software development and presenting a project he created with ATLA Production Software Developer Stephen Hull called "Incremental Noir." This project demonstrates the benefits of API first development through a playful collaborative writing tool. Using the online application participants help create a noir story by contributing a line or two after only being shown the line that comes right before theirs. You can check it out here http://incrementalnoir.com/ and view the presentation slides here.

Andy Carter, Digital Projects Manager, then gave a preview of the ATLA Digital Library's harvest tool. The idea for this tool was to create a user-friendly interface for metadata harvesting into the ATLA Digital Library. The tool allows anyone to easily set up and initiate a "harvest" of a contributing institution's digital collections into the digital library. It pulls in the metadata, a thumbnail image, and a link back to the original item and creates this as a new item in the ATLA Digital Library. You will be able to learn more about this at ATLA Annual in Indianapolis this year (a shameless plug!).

Ozzy Flores, ATLA Systems Analyst, presented his work on using Docker to facilitate launching a new instance of digital library

software on a laptop. Docker automates the process of configuring and launching the digital library without the need of advanced coding skills. This work has allowed us quickly try out changes to the digital library's appearance and functionality before making those changes live on the production digital library. You can learn

more about Docker here.

And ATLA Metadata Analyst Iskandar Bcheiry gave an update on his plan to create a database of historical registers and archives belonging to the Syriac community. Iskandar first presented on this project at the 2017 ATLA Annual Conference, and has since been planning on ways to make the database more impactful for "scholars and students of Syriac studies, Near East Christian studies, and Ottoman history." You can read more about his project in the *ATLA Newsletter*.

The Code4Lib Chicago Spring Meeting led to engaging questions and conversations throughout the day. It was an encouraging and thoughtful group of professionals, and we all left with a bit of camaraderie based on our shared work experiences. Our thanks go out to everyone who attended and to everyone at ATLA who helped make the day a success.

Andy Carter presenting on the ATLA Digital Library harvesting tool.
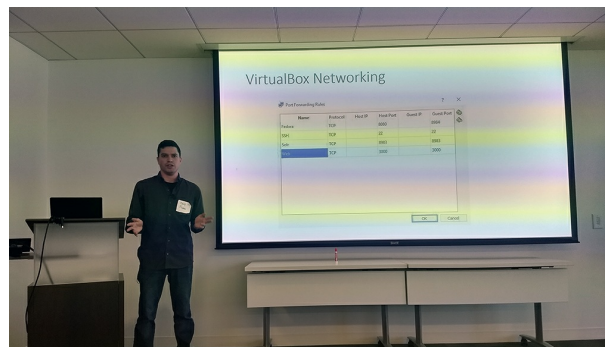
Ozzy Flores presenting on Docker.

Iskandar Bcheiry presents on database on historical registers.

Christy Karpinski is the ATLA Digital Collections Metadata Librarian. As a librarian she has worked to digitize and describe library and museum collections. She also teaches photography and web design at Columbia College Chicago.

Andy Carter is the ATLA Digital Projects Manager. As an archivist and metadata librarian, he has worked on many collaborative digitization projects.

Plan Your Visit to Indianapolis with Destination ATLA

May 30, 2018

Destination ATLA is *the* place to find information on the location of the ATLA Annual Conference. Run by the Local Host Committee (LHC), this blog is a great resource to help conference attendees plan their visit to Indianapolis for the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference.

Do you have questions on restaurants and the best food to taste? Wondering what entertainment options there are in Indianapolis? This blog will be answering those questions and more. Also, we invite you to use the comment section on the blog to ask questions about Indianapolis and a member of the LHC will respond.

The Top 5 Blogs Posts (so far)

45 Degrees from Ordinary: Explore the Mass Avenue Cultural District!

Massachusetts Avenue is the spoke that flows to the northeast from Monument Circle.

The Mass Avenue Cultural District is a five-block area ripe with theaters, restaurants, art galleries, and, most attractively for shoppers, a number of eclectic, independent boutiques (15-minute walk to Mass Avenue).

Read more

Shopping, Dining, and Entertainment Just Across the Street!

Located in the heart of downtown Indianapolis just across the street from the conference hotel, Circle Centre Mall is a prime retail, dining, and entertainment destination.

Read more

Only Four Blocks from the Conference Hotel to the Central Canal Walk!

As America's only cultural urban state park, White River State Park offers a unique blend of green space and cultural attractions. In addition to the Central Canal (pictured above) there is Military Park and the White River itself. Cultural attractions include the Indianapolis Zoo, White River Gardens, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, the NCAA Hall of Champions, the IMAX Theatre, and the Indiana State Museum.

Read more

Just a Short Walk from Your Room to Attractions in White River State Park

The NCAA Hall of Champions boasts two-levels of interactive exhibits to engage visitors and create a true-to-life understanding of what it takes to make the grade. **Arena**, on the first level, has all 24 NCAA sports represented and includes a novice to historian trivial challenge, current team rankings, video highlights, and artifacts donated from colleges around the nation. **Play**, on the second level, is a fully interactive area to compete virtually and hands-on through sports simulators, a 1930s retro gymnasium, ski simulator and more. (13-minute walk)

Read more

Non-stop Bus Service from Indianapolis International Airport to Conference Hotel

The conference hotel is approximately 10 miles from the Indianapolis International Airport (IND).

Hyatt Regency Indianapolis
One South Capitol Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, 46204,
Tel: +1 317 632 1234

Go Green Airport Shuttle provides transportation from the airport to the hotel.

- Buses run twice an hour on the half-hour
- Service runs from 5:00 AM – 11:00 PM
- Fare is $12 per person each way, credit card only
- Online reservations are recommended

ATLA Collaborates with re:loom to Offer Sustainable Handmade Conference Swag

May 16, 2018

Over the years we have heard from conference attendees that they want ATLA to incorporate eco-friendly and sustainable products and practices at the annual conference. We've heard you… we're using less paper, staying at hotels with recycling programs, and last year we took a major step forward in this area.

At the 2017 ATLA Annual Conference in Atlanta, the JBC Library at Columbia Theological Seminary sponsored conference bags made by re:loom, a non-profit that employs and empowers homeless and low-income individuals through weaving beautifully-designed products out of upcycled materials. The bags were handwoven, unique, and conference attendees helped to invest in a community in need.

After Atlanta, it is impossible to go back to the standard conference bag.

At the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference in Indianapolis, conference attendees will not be receiving conference tote bags. Instead, we are continuing to collaborate with re:loom to offer sustainable conference swag, encourage attendees to bring their own bags to conference, and donate used lanyards.

Eco-Friendly, Handmade Conference Swag

We are collaborating with re:loom again this year to offer eco-friendly, handmade conference swag. All attendees will be give the option to select one of two different items, a key fob and a mug rug, in a variety of colors. We hope that attendees will be excited to support this sustainable option and choose their own unique reminder of the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference.

Show Us Your Bag

We invite you to bring your own bag to conference. You may choose to reuse a bag from year's past, a bag you love from another conference, or your regular briefcase, backpack, or other bag. Show us your bag at the Registration Desk to receive a 25% coupon off any item at the re:loom online shop good up until July 31.

For those who would like to purchase a re:loom bag for yourself or as a gift, we will have a limited supply available for sale at the wholesale price of $20 each.

Lisa of re:loom at the 2017 ATLA Annual Conference

Donate Your Lanyards

Last year, we collected ATLA lanyards at the end of conference and donated them to re:loom. If you're anything like us, you have a bunch of lanyards from previous conferences hanging around your office. So this year, in addition to collecting lanyards at the end of conference we're encouraging you to do a little office cleaning and will accept any lanyards you might gather up and bring to Indianapolis. Lisa at re:loom assures us her team will find a creative way to use them. And be sure to stop by the re:loom exhibitor table to see the item they made from our donations last year!

We hope that these incremental changes will make a positive impact on the world and will also allow us to continue to provide a positive conference experience.

We cannot wait to see you in Indianapolis next month!

Haven't registered for the ATLA Annual Conference yet? Learn more and register today!

Blast from the Past: 72 Years of ATLA Conference Bags

May 16, 2018

The ATLA Annual Conference is just around the corner! In an effort to be more sustainable and eco-friendly, this year we are encouraging conference attendees to bring their own conference tote bags. To entice you to take up valuable space in your suitcase with your own bag, we'll be having some fun showcasing our annual conference history through conference bags and offering prizes!

72 Years of History

Help us pay tribute to past conferences by bringing your old ATLA Annual Conference bags to this year's conference. Stop by the Registration Desk to have a photo taken with your bag so we can add it to our display celebrating ATLA Conferences Through the Years. How have the shapes and sizes and colors changed over the years? Which bags are everyone's favorite? Which attendee has the oldest conference bag? Which attendee has preserved their own slice of conference history and has the most bags? Stop by the display to discover the answers to these questions and more.

Everyone posing with their bag for a photo will be entered into a drawing to win an Amazon gift card. We will also award Amazon gift cards to the person who brings the *oldest* ATLA conference bag and to the person who brings the *most* ATLA conference bags.

Also, show us your bag at the Registration Desk and to receive a 25% coupon off any item at the re:loom online shop, good up until July 31.

Learn more about how ATLA is going more sustainable.

Haven't registered for the ATLA Annual Conference yet? Learn more and register today!

Notes from the Road: Member Visits in San Diego, California

Submitted by Gillian Harrison Cain, ATLA Director of Member Programs

Early April found me in San Diego, California, enjoying the company of other librarians in yet another hotel ballroom at the CNI (Coalition for Networked Information) Spring 2018 Membership Meeting. It was a great meeting, lots of good sessions attended and connections made, but honestly one of the highlights for me was achieving escape velocity from the hotel and spending some time in the sunshine en route to visit with members at the University of San Diego and Bethel Seminary.

Helen K. and James S. Copley Library

I met Martha Adkins, Assistant Professor and Reference Librarian, at the entrance to the Helen K. and James S. Copley Library on the campus of the University of San Diego the front of which had been recently renovated to fit into the new pedestrian "mall" area created when they closed a street that formerly went through campus. Students and others were out enjoying this area and the weather, as did we as we walked up it to lunch. Lunch was in a beautiful dining area with an amazing view and Martha and I chatted about many topics including the tenure process for librarians, engaging with faculty to improve information literacy, and professional development for theological and religious studies libraries. After lunch she took me on a lightning tour of a bit of the campus and the library, highlighting room the classic-looking room in the older part of the library. Afterwards, she pointed me in the direction of the Garden of the Sea at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice where I spent a peaceful hour catching up on email.

Prince Memorial Library

The next day found me headed out to visit with Mary Lou Bradbury at the Prince Memorial Library at Bethel Seminary San Diego. Mary Lou, who is retiring at the end of May after being at Bethel since 1981, and I had a lovely chat that covered a wide range of topics. Along with Bethel Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, they recently changed to ALMA, and she shared some of the challenges and opportunities working with a new system brings. With only herself and one other assistant in the library (the ever smiling and welcoming Leslie Houston), she expressed appreciation to engage closely with colleagues in St. Paul, as well as members of SCATLA and ATLA. We discussed the value of the ATLA Serials Exchange (ASE) program and how that helped her in building the collections in her library. With classes starting at 4pm, there weren't many folks in the library that morning, but we took a quick spin around. Along the way she shared that she's been dropping print subscriptions to many current periodicals, as many members do, and the discussions about fitting a small room with technology for virtual meetings but the need to maintain a library workroom which is so critical for sorting donations and other tasks.

Prince Memorial Library at Bethel Seminary San Diego
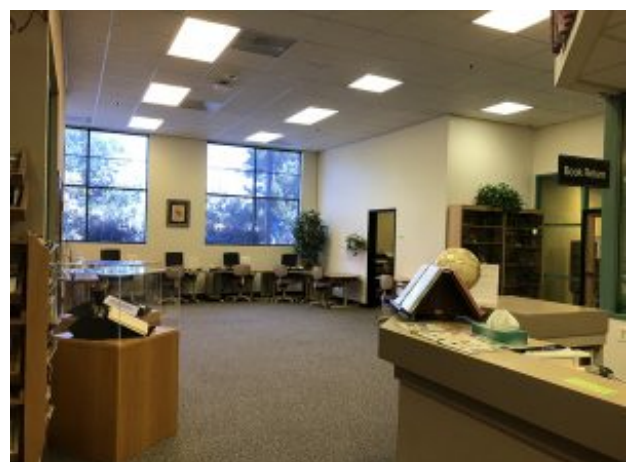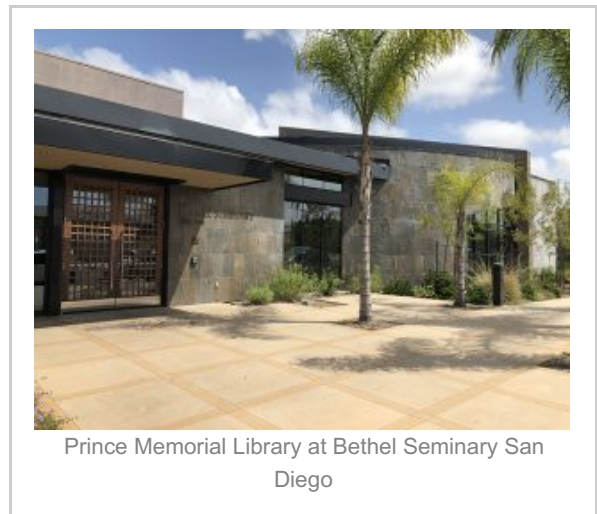
My thanks to Martha, Mary Lou, and Leslie for their warm welcome which I could feel in addition to the lovely Southern California sunshine.

Gillian Harrison Cain is the Director of Member Programs at ATLA. She has worked in lots of corners of library land, from public to academic libraries, from vendors to nonprofits, from small hidden rooms of catalogers to large circulation and reference desks. With an engineering background and a flair for marketing, she is passionate about bringing together technology, libraries, and people.

A Relational Database for the Syriac Orthodox Patriarchal Archives of Dayr al-Zaᶜfarān

June 8, 2018

Submitted by Iskandar Bcheiry, ATLA Metadata Analyst

In April 2002, I had the opportunity to examine a collection of Arabic and Syriac manuscripts in the Library of the Syriac Orthodox Church of the Forty Martyrs in Mardin, the Library of the Syriac Orthodox Church of St. Mary in Diyarbakir, and the Library of the monastery of al-Za'faran in southeast Turkey. This was all due to permission from the late Patriarch Ignatius Zakka I Iwas and a grant provided for my research by the Italian Institute for the Philosophical Studies, Naples, Italy.

Besides the subject of my intended study and examination, I had a glimpse of the archives that were stored in the library in the form of reports, letters, and communications. These materials were organized in batches and classified by numbers. A few years later in 2010, a team of scholars led by Archbishop Yuhanna Ibrahim of Aleppo examined and photographed nearly 18,000 documents. Most of this archival material consisted of letters written to the patriarch of the day from a variety of sources from within the church and community as well as from outside sources. This material also included telegrams, financial accounting data, draft letters, and internal reports, and internal correspondence. Some of the documents were now mere scraps of the original, having worsened as the result of age or poor storage.

Presenting the Significance and a Plan for a Relational Database at the ATLA Annual Conference

At this year ATLA's Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, I am planning to illuminate the importance of this historical collection. Also, I would like to present a plan of a relational database for the historical records extracted from the materials of this collection. Most of the archive's materials belong to the second half of the 19th century and the early part of the 20th century. This period brought radical events that enormously changed the life, culture, social, and religious aspects of the Syriacs. These events occurred when the Syriac community, as well as other Christian communities, lost a great number of its members during this period due to political and security unrest and chaos. In addition, the twentieth century witnessed a massive Syriac immigration toward Europe and North America, and many Syriacs lost contact with their relatives and members of the same family found themselves dispersed in distant

places. More recently there has been greater interest in rediscovering some of the historical data on the Syriac history, genealogy, and communities, particularly from archives that date from Ottoman period. The importance of the archives that I am planning to discuss is not only limited to the history of the monastery and the church with which they belong to, but also for Ottoman history.

The letters, reports, and communications found in the archives describe the relationship with neighboring Muslim communities, with other Christians communities, and with the Ottoman authority in Constantinople and in other places in the Ottoman Empire. Since the accounts in this archive were not written to be part of a written history, but to report about issues and incidents occurred during the people's daily life, one might consider them free from intentional bias. The letters were addressed to the patriarch of the day from different sources such as bishops, abbots, heads of monasteries, priests, monks, deacons, secular leaders in the Syriac communities, and keepers responsible for collecting donations and patriarchal dues. There are different topics and issues discussed in these letters: social, financial, church administration, and others. These archives can be considered to represent the state of society from ordinary people as opposed to the elitist view.

In my presentation, I would like to shed light on:

1. The importance of this collection of letters, telegrams, ecclesiastic decrees, legal verdicts, and other documents
2. Digitizing the images of the collection with a preliminary description of the content
3. Extracting valuable historical information from the documents
4. Storing the historical information in a relational database by schematizing the data according to a framework of the relationship

I will be presenting on this topic at the 2018 ATLA Annual Conference on Saturday, June 16. I invite you to attend my session, read about it on SCHED, or read about it in a future ATLA *Proceedings*.

Photo credit: Image by Turkey Cultural Tour, Mardin City and Deyruz-zafaran Monastery
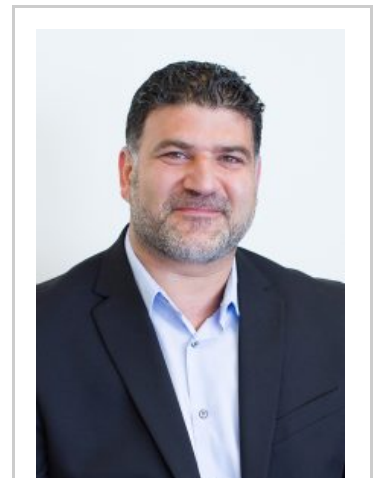
Dr. Iskandar Bcheiry is a Metadata Analyst for ATLA. He is also a historical researcher in the field of Syriac Studies and Christian-Muslim relationship.
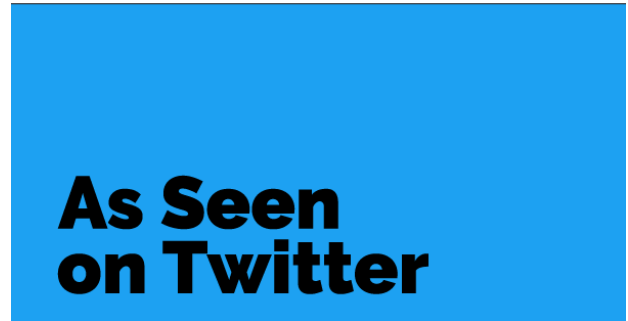
As Seen on Twitter: May 2018

May 30, 2018

The ATLA Twitter feed is filled with news on ATLA events and product updates as well as stories that have relevance to the work of libraries and librarians.

Here are some highlights from last month's @YourATLA Twitter feed:

ATLA Partners with Lockwood Press and Licenses Two Full-Text Journals https://productsblog.atla.com/2018/lockwoodpress/

> ATLA Partners with Lockwood Press and Licenses Two Full-Text Journals https://t.co/vTvq6Ufs8d
>
> — ATLA (@YourATLA) May 2, 2018

It isn't just publishers that engage in predatory behavior. A new resource, "Think. Check. Attend.", guides and assists researchers and scholars to judge the legitimacy and academic credentials of conferences to help them decide whether or not to attend. https://thinkcheckattend.org

> It isn't just publishers that engage in predatory behavior. A new resource, "Think. Check. Attend.", guides and assists researchers and scholars to judge the legitimacy and academic credentials of conferences to help them decide whether or not to attend. https://t.co/bmtRiD5Nst
>
> — ATLA (@YourATLA) May 2, 2018

ATLA Collaborates with re:loom to Offer Sustainable Handmade Conference Swag. Read on: https://newsletter.atla.com/2018/reloom-atla2018/ #ATLA2018

> ATLA Collaborates with re:loom to Offer Sustainable Handmade Conference Swag. Read on: https://t.co/VxTgZUhItX #ATLA2018
>
> — ATLA (@YourATLA) May 22, 2018

Cool new digital resource: UC Berkeley's Hearst Museum of Anthropology has opened digital portal for more than 3 mil objects, photos, films and sound recordings. Examine museum's

cataloged objects and accompanying documentation via user-friendly interface.
http://ow.ly/Fz1530k2Tf5

> Cool new digital resource: UC Berkeley's Hearst Museum of Anthropology has opened digital portal for more than 3 mil objects, photos, films and sound recordings. Examine museum's cataloged objects and accompanying documentation via user-friendly interface. https://t.co/1NII6SFphL
>
> — ATLA (@YourATLA) May 17, 2018

"The Welcoming Labyrinth: What We Gain and Lose as #Libraries Change" via @chronicle
https://www.chronicle.com/article/The-Welcoming-Labyrinth-What/243364

> "The Welcoming Labyrinth: What We Gain and Lose as #Libraries Change" via @chronicle https://t.co/6roPlhVNds
>
> — ATLA (@YourATLA) May 11, 2018

The SCOOP: Searching for Open Access Content

May 31, 2018

Submitted by Christine Fruin, ATLA Member Programs and Scholarly Communication Manager

Strategies for Locating Open Access Content

In an era of shrinking library budgets and increasing cost, as well as quantity, of content, libraries must make strategic decisions in how many books to buy and what subscriptions to maintain year to year. Some academic library systems have partnered to lower costs by sharing collection building and by implementing liberal and efficient means for faculty and students to borrow materials from other libraries within the system. Libraries also participate in consortial licensing programs as a means of negotiating more affordable access to licensed resources. Increasingly, however, libraries are employing a new strategy for locating affordable content for their faculty and students: searching for open access versions of materials.

Whether responding to course reserves or interlibrary loan requests for content not owned by the library, library staff have begun implementing processes to search first for an open access version of the requested material before resorting to potentially expensive permissions requests or simply telling a requestor "no." These processes can include one or more of the following strategies:

- *Search the authors' institutional repositories.* With more colleges and universities implementing institutional repositories and increased awareness of scholars of the availability and use of the IR (thanks to the efforts of librarians at those colleges and universities), more scholarly content is being deposited into these open access repositories. OpenDOAR is a registry of institutional repositories that you can search to locate an author's home institution IR.
- *Search a funder repository.* Is the article you are seeking the product of grant-funded research? If it is federally funded research, chances are the article is available open access through a government repository such as PubMed. Since a 2013 Executive Order directing federal agencies to make federally funded research publicly accessible within 12 months of publication, federal agencies have been developed policies and infrastructure to make that a reality. Private agencies such as the Gates Foundation have also mandated that grantees make their work openly available. SPARC maintains a

list of federal agency policies and repositories.

- *Search Google Scholar*. Sometimes a search for an article in Google Scholar will also return a result of an open access version of the article if it has been deposited in an open access repository. It may also lead you to discover that you actually had access through the library's subscriptions all along if you search while on your institution's network.
- *Maximize discovery with link resolvers and federated search/discovery tools*. Many of the link resolvers (e.g., SFX) and federated search or discovery tools (e.g., Summon) have open access filters that can be toggled on and off. Be sure to investigate the options available in the systems your library maintains and educate your patrons as well as library staff on how to utilize those features.

Tools for Locating Open Access Content

In response to the growing need for and interest in locating open access versions of scholarly materials, tools have been developed to help expedite searching for open access content:

Open Access Button

The Open Access Button was developed by a group of students in 2013 as a means of allowing searchers to report paywalled content. The tool aggregates the data and presents a visual representation via a map of the access problem worldwide. Further development has led to the recent release of DeliverOA, an add-on for popular interlibrary loan services such as Illiad that searches for and delivers OA content within the ILL system. Also available is EmbedOA, a web-based search tool that libraries can include in their LibGuides or other websites to facilitate the search for open access versions of articles. ATLA institutional member Milligan Libraries has implemented this on their Interlibrary Loan request page.

Unpaywall

Unpaywall is a browser extension that a user can install that alerts the user when the paywalled article they wish to read is available as an open access version. The color of the icon indicates whether it is available as a gold or green open access version; a black icon indicates that no open access version was found. Clicking on the icon takes you to the open access version of the article if available.

Example of Unpaywall – showing an article that is available as a Gold Open Access version

Unpaywall has additional tools available now and in development that libraries are encouraged to investigate and implement to facilitate the location of open access content.

Recommended Further Reading:

- Story on Unpaywall from the *Chronicle of Higher Education* – "How A Browser Extension Could Shake Up Academic Publishing." https://www.chronicle.com/article/How-a-Browser-Extension-Could/239714
- An academic librarian challenges whether open access versions can really be a substitute for subscription versions in "Academic Libraries in a Mixed Open Access Paywall World." https://medium.com/a-academic-librarians-thoughts-on-open-access/academic-libraries-in-a-mixed-open-access-paywall-world-can-we-substitute-open-access-for-d30fa182cafd

*The SCOOP, **S**cholarly **CO**mmunication and **O**pen **P**ublishing, is a monthly column published to inform ATLA members of recent developments, new resources, or interesting stories from the realm of scholarly communication and open access publishing.*

Christine Fruin is the ATLA Member Programs and Scholarly Communication Manager. As an attorney and a librarian, she has worked for over a decade promoting access to and use of diverse collections through utilization of fair use, open access, and responsible licensing.

Digital Humanities and the Study of Asia, Part II

Submitted by Antonio Terrone, ATLA East Asia Metadata Analyst

Librarianship continues to evolve and develop in terms of access, preservation, education, and technology. As research in information provision and digital technology advance swiftly, launching new products and ideas for the dissemination of knowledge, libraries are forced to continually adapt and innovate. As centers of information, libraries have the burden to both preserve and respond to their patrons' request for more efficient, faster, and reliable forms of retrieval. And considering that libraries are now fully dependent on computerized searches, the rapid pace of technological evolution will continue to remain one of the major challenges.

Beyond the challenges that librarianship faces in the digital age, however, progress is being made in the field of preservation, management, and bibliographic description. In this second part of an essay dedicated to the Digital Humanities in Asian Studies, we will explore some of the recent advancements in the field of librarianship as described during the recent conference of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) convened in Washington D.C., last March 25-28, 2018.

Asian Studies Databases

The nature of bibliographic collection is becoming more democratic, diverse, and accessible. As tools to foster not only knowledge but also education, learning, access, and research, online databases continue to be relevant in academic studies. With more databases available in libraries anyone can now virtually access them from anywhere and at any time. With the Internet and digital technology continually advancing, databases offer the opportunity to make materials immediately available. They also succeed in the preserving otherwise unobtainable sources and contribute to making them accessible and more affordable to a broader public.

The Asian market of databases is expanding rapidly with Japanese, Chinese, and Korean companies offering vast collections of academic and non-academic titles, rare books, newspapers, and specialized magazines. Chinese vendors including Beijing Zhenben Technology Co. Ltd., China National Publications Import & Export (Group) Corporation, China Educational Publications Import & Export Corporation Ltd., China Knowledge Resource Integrated Database, Bunsei Shoin Booksellers Co., Ltd., Korean Studies Information Ltd. Co.

were some of the East Asian vendors present at the Association for Asian Studies last March 2018 in Washington D.C. These companies offer an ever-growing plethora of materials of various types for the study of culture, politics, society, and religion.

Bibframe

One of the challenges that competitive librarianship and database technology must face in the rapidly shifting digital world lies not so much in the vastness of publications available in both print and electronic format, but the continuous innovations in the field of bibliographic description. As new data models are being studied and launched, the goals are not limited to more efficient use and consultation of bibliographic records but to making the data more interlinked and accessible to wider audiences and users. The BibFrame, a Bibliographic Framework Initiative initiated and designed at the Library of Congress in the past few years, was released in 2016 with the specific intent to replace the MARC Standards so far used to catalog and describe bibliographic materials through digital formats. Paul Frank is the NACO/SACO Coordinator with the Cooperative and Instructional program Division at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. During a discussion at the Library Technology Committee Joint Session, Mr. Frank explained that "the BibFrame model offers bibliographic description standards to a linked data model, in order to make bibliographic information more useful both within and outside the library community." According to him, BibFrame is the future of bibliographic description.
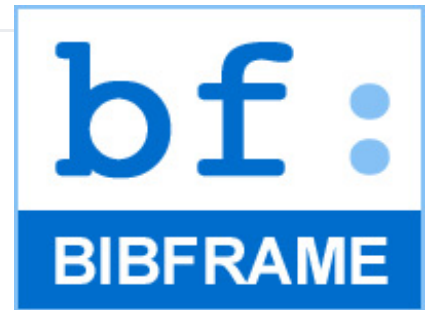
Internet Websites Archives

The world of digital librarianship, however, has to come to terms with the fact that as everything can be virtually created on the Internet, likewise it can also easily disappear from cyberspace. Among us researchers and librarians, who has never faced the disappointment of failing to access a website, a webpage, or digital documents online because the URL is no longer active or the material is no longer available? For nearly twenty years, the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine has collected and archived cached pages and internet content in order to prevent permanent loss. Anyone can technically use Internet Archive to search and view cached and archived websites preserved in this database. More recently, a little more than a decade ago, Archive-it was created to facilitate archiving services. UCLA librarian, Jade Alburo believes that "as a subscription-based web archive service offered within the Internet Archive, a simple web application helps organizations build, preserve, manage, harvest, and search any collections of digital content." Archive-it is meant to offer exactly that: the preservation of digital collections of cultural heritage materials and the creation of an archive that would help retrieve information.

The Future of Humanities

The digitization of knowledge has great advantages especially in terms of preservation and accessibility, but it begs the question: what will that future bring? With regard to Asia and Asian studies, the more databases, sophisticated bibliographical descriptions, and web applications are created, the more materials and resources will be available to understand and engage with knowledge across the oceans, thereby challenging the limitations of time and space. It is not possible, however, to foresee or predict at this point the future of humanities and the long-term impact that this technological revolution will have on us and on future generations. As always, the hope is that universities, governments, and public institutions make good use of wisdom and balance to support new technologies while protecting traditional sources of knowledge and production. These can coexist as essential expressions of human endeavor and universal communicators. Prioritizing the former over the latter might have dire and irreversible consequences for human civilization. Using digital or quantitative methodologies (big data) to answer research questions in the humanities, promoting project-based learning, online reading, computer work, and lab-based research over traditional reading, writing, and analysis could have the effect of emphasizing the production of digital archives and tools at the expense of traditional interpretive literary research, thereby weakening humanities scholarship. The best way to explore the digital revolution is by maintaining a critical attitude and responsible approach to it, keeping in mind, as Adam Kirsch warns, that "Humanistic thinking does not proceed by experiments that yield results; it is a matter of mental experiences, provoked by works of art and history, that expand the range of one's understanding and sympathy. It makes no sense to accelerate the work of thinking by delegating it to a computer when it is precisely the experience of thought that constitutes the substance of a humanistic education."

Conclusions

The impact of digital tools and technology on Asian studies is continually changing and shaping the way we organize and analyze cultural and historical information. Text analysis (data mining) and network analysis (network analysis of Asian societies) are increasingly popular methods of scholarly investigation. Specialists continually perfect the standards of metadata creation in order to offer effective ways to retrieve information from different types of files and are working on the development of Digital Humanities tools and platforms designed to face some of the unique challenges of Asian Studies scholarship including the integration of non-Latin scripts.

Numerous panels, meetings, and papers at the Association for Asian Studies this year were particularly focused on the advances and challenges of Digital Humanities in this field. However, they all conveyed the idea that data and digital methods in the study of Asian societies in their multiplicity of manifestations is not simply a trend, but a product of the evolving nature of the humanities in academia. Despite the challenges, the work and cutting-edge innovations proposed by IT specialists, library scholars, academics and analysts, and the continued involvement in Asia studies database development, as in the case of ATLA, can help balance the new technology with traditional humanities.

Read part one on Asian Studies Librarianship.

Antonio Terrone (PhD) is a specialist of religion and politics in China and East Asia and serves as an East Asia Metadata Analyst for ATLA since 2016.

Andrew Keck Named Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives, Perkins School of Theology

June 7, 2018

We are excited to share that Andrew Keck has been named Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives of Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. Previously the Director of Library Services at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, this newly created position will have Andy working closely with Dean Craig C. Hill to provide leadership and management for school-wide projects and priorities. Areas of special emphasis will include church relations, student discernment related to deacon ministries, preparation of accreditation reports and visits, assisting in the development of grant proposals, and helping Dean Hill with development initiatives.

Before becoming director of Luther Seminary's library in 2012, Andy worked for thirteen years in the library at Duke University Divinity School. And for the last three years at Luther Seminary, he also held the position of Director of Institutional Effectiveness.

Andy holds a master of theological studies degree from Boston University's School of Theology and a master of library science degree from Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

Andy has been a member of ATLA since 1992 and has since played an integral part of the association. He currently serves as the chair of the Task Force on Scholarly Communication in Religion and Theology, he has served on the ATLA Board of Directors as Board President (2012) and Vice President (2011), and served as Columns Editor of *Theological Librarianship*.

Join us in congratulating Andy on this new position.

Read the full press release

The Pitts Theology Library Wins PR Xchange Awards Competition, ALA

June 7, 2018

The Pitts Theology Library has won the 2018 PR Xchange Awards Competition in the Special Programs & Exhibits – Electronic in the budget category of under $5 million for their Wesley Exhibition Catalog.

Religion of the Heart: John Wesley and the Legacy of Methodism in America (December 11, 2017 – March 9, 2018) is an exhibition curated by Brandon Wason. The exhibition explores the rise of Methodism with John Wesley and looks at the establishment and history of Methodism in America. View the winning exhibition catalog here.
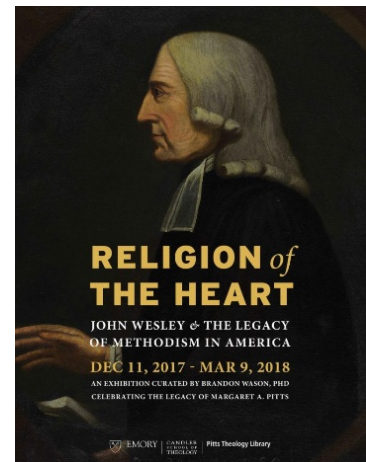
With over 400 entries, the panel of 15 virtual judges was very impressed with the depth and breadth of all the work submitted. The PR Xchange Awards Competition is sponsored by the Marketing and Communications Community of Practice of the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). The PR Xchange Awards Competition is overseen by the PR Xchange Committee.

Pitts Theology Library will receive their award at the PR Xchange Awards Ceremony during the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, on Sunday, June 24 at 1:00 pm.

Join us in congratulating Bo Adams, Director of the Library, Brandon Wason, and the library staff for this exciting news!

The Congregational Library & Archives Receives Grant by National Endowment for the Humanities

June 7, 2018

The Congregational Library & Archives is happy to announce that their *New England's Hidden Histories* project, which seeks to locate, digitize, transcribe, and place online New England's earliest manuscript church records, has been selected to receive a $300,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Grant supports projects that provide an essential underpinning for scholarship, education, and public programming in the humanities. Funding from this program strengthens efforts to extend the life of such materials and make their intellectual content widely accessible through the use of digital technology, which closely aligns with the mission and directive of _New England's Hidden Histories_.

New England's Hidden Histories will collect and publish an additional 18,000 pages of records from the nation's founding era from the archives of churches in the American Northeast; 7,000 of these pages will be transcribed. The documents are of immeasurable value to anyone "exploring political culture, social history, linguistics, epidemiology, and climatology…as well as to genealogists and members of the public interested in a range of subjects," The National Endowment for the Humanities said in its announcement.

Many of the documents in *New England's Hidden Histories* are being made available to the public for the first time. Since 2005 the Congregational Library, in partnership with the Jonathan Edwards Center at Yale and many local churches across New England, has been rescuing old records from church attics and basements and making them widely accessible through preservation and digitization. Many of the documents also include transcriptions.

Early New Englanders recorded the most intimate details of their lives and communities in their manuscript church records. Spirited church debates, disciplinary hearings, personal narratives, and vital statistics listing marriages, births, and deaths, can all be found in often lost or hidden church records. *New England's Hidden Histories* looks to reveal the texture of early New England society, sharing the stories of ordinary people in extraordinary detail. The project has already produced tens of thousands of digital images of these documents in its ongoing effort to freely share this historical resource with scholars, teachers, genealogists, and all interested members of the public on the website of the Congregational Library & Archives.

ATLA Job Board Postings, June 2018

June 7, 2018

Member and non-member institutions are invited to post and view job openings on the ATLA Job Board. Here is a list of the current job openings:

- Bethel Seminary, San Diego Campus, San Diego, CA, is looking for a **Librarian**
- Biola University, La Mirada, CA, is looking for a **Scholarly Communications Librarian**
- Brandel Library, North Park University, Chicago, IL, is looking for a **Public Services Supervisor**
- The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University Libraries, New York, NY, is looking for a **Collection Services Librarian**
- Saint Meinrad Archabbey Library, Saint Meinrad, IN, is looking for a **Assistant or Associate Library Director**
- Western Seminary-Portland Campus, Portland, OR, is looking for a **Information Services Coordinator**
- Western Seminary-Portland Campus, Portland, OR, is looking for a **Information Services Librarian**

Want to post a job opening? Visit the Submissions Guidelines page for more information.

May Issue of Theology Cataloging Bulletin Available

May 21, 2018

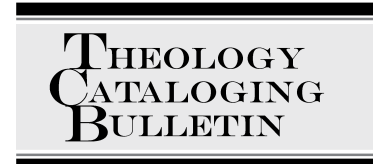The May 2018 issue of *Theology Cataloging Bulletin* (*TCB*), a
benefit of membership, is now available. Please click here to
access this issue in the members-only section of the ATLA
website.

Section one of each issue lists new and changed subject
headings and genre/form terms and section two lists new and
changed classifications. Both are selected and compiled by Ann
Heinrichs (Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois). Section
three includes general information, including professional
development opportunities, and is edited by Leslie Engelson
(Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky).

THEOLOGY
CATALOGING
BULLETIN

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This issue's Testimony is on "Searching for Dead People: Using Genealogy Tools for Name
Authority Work" by Christa Stickler (Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois).

Thank you to the Technical Services Interest Group (TSIG) for their work on this publication.

Click here to access the Member's Only publication.

Presenting at Conference or Lead One of ATLA's Groups? How to Submit Your Papers and Reports

June 5, 2018

As we underlined announced in February of this year, the ATLA *Summary of Proceedings* is moving to open access and will be published on the Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform. Additionally, ATLA will produce a new publication, the *Annual Yearbook*, which will include materials that historically have been a part of the *Proceedings*. The *Yearbook* will also be an open access publication hosted on

OJS. We will share later this summer how ATLA members can receive a print copy of the new *Yearbook*. As a result of these changes, persons presenting or speaking at the Annual Conference or who lead one of ATLA's many committees and groups will have a new way to submit their materials for publication in the new *Yearbook* or in the *Proceedings.*

How to Submit to the *Yearbook*

Reports submitted by interest groups, committees, task forces, and denominational groups will now be published in the *Yearbook.* Submission of reports by persons leading those group must be done at the *Yearbook* site. The format of submissions, including required elements for reports, can be found at https://serials.atla.com/yearbook/about/submissions. We have also prepared a video that shows step-by-step how to submit reports to the OJS site for the *Yearbook* (https://vimeo.com/273342070) or watch below:

How to Submit to the *Proceedings*

Persons speaking at or presenting at the Annual Conference, including persons who lead conversation groups as well as pre-conference or in-conference workshops, will submit their papers and other accepted documents at the *Proceedings* site. All submissions must comply with the submission guidelines, which may be found at https://serials.atla.com/proceedings/about/submissions. The guidelines list all conference sessions for which papers will be accepted. We have also prepared a video that shows step-by-step how to submit papers to the OJS site for the *Proceedings* (https://vimeo.com/270745239) or watch below:

If after reading the guidelines and viewing the instructional videos you have any questions about the format of your submissions or how to use the OJS site, please send an email to memberrep@atla.com.

ATLA Products Blog: Cross-Continental Collaboration, ATLA and Japan

May 23, 2018

The ATLA Products Blog is sharing the stories behind our product offerings, and this month's posting highlights new full-text titles from *ATLASerials PLUS™* (*ATLAS PLUS™*).

Here's an excerpt from the ATLA Products Blog.

Cross-Continental Collaboration: ATLA and Japan

Since the beginning of ATLA's full-text production, academic journals from Japan have been an essential part of our foundation. The journals, along with their publishing institutions, have been instrumental in shaping ATLA's full-text canon.

One important early relationship was with Otani University, home of The Eastern Buddhist Society and of the long-running journal *The Eastern Buddhist*. Founded in 1921 under the editorship of respected scholar D. T. Suzuki, the journal's publication was revived in 1965 after a war-time hiatus. Publishing academic scholarship on all aspects of Buddhism, *The Eastern Buddhist* is also renowned for its English-language translations of Buddhist texts and scholarship.

International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies

ATLA also has a long-standing relationship with the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies (IASBS), which publishes *The Pure Land: Journal of Pure Land Buddhism*. First printed in 1979, with a new series beginning in 1984, this is the only scholarly journal specifically dedicated to the study of Jōdo, Jōdo Shinshū, and other Pure Land Buddhist traditions. The journal serves as a platform to develop such scholarship, while also facilitating dialogue amongst IASBS members.

Read the whole story on the ATLA Products Blog.

ATLA offers a prestigious product line of electronic resources to support the scholarly study of religion and theology and we want to share with you the stories behind the journals that have been carefully curated for our users. So, we have created the ATLA Products Blog to give an insider's perspective and spotlight just some of the journals found in our databases.

New Titles Added to ATLA RDB, ATLAS, and ATLAS PLUS in May

May 24, 2018

We are pleased to announce the addition of titles now available in the *ATLA Religion Database®* (*ATLA RDB®*), *ATLASerials®* (*ATLAS®*), and *ATLASerials PLUS™* (*ATLAS PLUS™*).
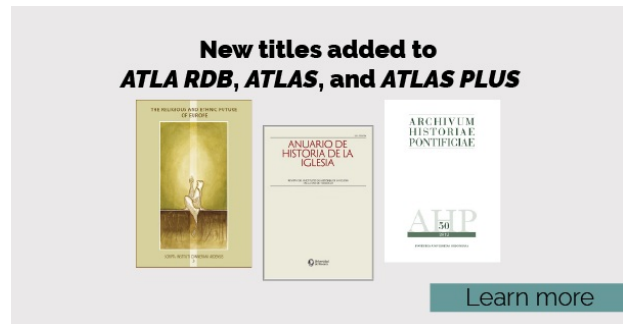
New indexing titles in *ATLA RDB*

- *The Journal of Oriental Studies* by the Institute of Oriental Philosophy
- *Scripta Instituti Donneriani Aboensis* by Donner Institute for Research in Religious and Cultural History
- *Annali di Scienze Religiose* by Instituto de Historia de la Iglesia, Facultad de Teología, Universidad de Navarra

New full-text titles in *ATLAS*

Anuario de Historia de la Iglesia by Universidad de Navarra

New full-text titles in *ATLAS PLUS*

Archivum Historiae Pontificiae by Gregorian & Biblical Press

Read the full press release