

Newsletter



Trinity Theological College Library in Singapore

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From the President Building on Our Strengths

Recently, the staff of the Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary went on a retreat. We did not travel far, just across the Columbia University campus to the conference room at the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, but we were able to put aside our day-to-day responsibilities and learn more about our strengths as

individuals, as a team, and as a library. Using the StrengthsQuest exercise we talked about how we use our strengths in our jobs. Overall, each of us felt that our individual strengths were good fits for our current job responsibilities. We learned that our team is strong in strategic thinking and relationship building - important areas in librarianship.

The day was framed by the philosophy of appreciative inquiry, a concept dating back to 1980 when David Cooperrider and Suresh Srivastva collaborated on a project involving the Cleveland Clinic. Rather than looking at problems to be solved, appreciative inquiry looks at best practices and successes. Essentially, it involves looking at what your organization does well — its strengths, successes, and peak experiences — to draw on them in future planning. The strengths of the Burke Library include its history, collections, reading room, space, and, of course, its staff. Our peak experiences include instruction sessions, helping connect researchers to primary source materials and to each other, and giving tours to diverse groups of people, from local community college students to participants in the Researching Early Modern Manuscripts and Printed Books NEH Summer Seminar.

I invite you to think about your strengths and peak experiences as individuals, as teams, and as libraries and organizations. What do you do well? What does your library or organization do well? How can you draw on these strengths and successes in the future? What does ATLA as an organization do well? Let me start the list. We foster collaboration as a membership organization. ATLA creates excellent products that promote research and scholarship. What would you add to the list? What strengths, successes, and peak experiences could we draw on in future planning? The ATLA Board and I look forward to hearing from you. [Please contact us.](#)

Best wishes for the start of the academic year!

Beth Bidlack
President

ATLA Co-Sponsors the 2013 NFAIS Annual Humanities Roundtable: Virtual and In-person Registration Available

The American Theological Library Association with the Brook Center for Music Research and Documentation, the Modern Language Association, the law firm of Quarles & Brady, and the Philosopher's Information Center will co-sponsor the 2013 NFAIS Annual Humanities Roundtable.

Registration instructions and rates for individuals and groups are available at the NFAIS web site : <http://nfais.org/event?eventID=527>.

One of the few information industry events that focuses primarily on the concerns of content providers and information professionals working in the broad spectrum of the humanities, this is the time to register for the forthcoming 2013 NFAIS Annual Humanities Roundtable. This one-day workshop will be held in Chicago, Illinois, on Monday, September 30, 2013. Today's rapidly shifting digital information environment offers plenty of opportunity to both content providers and information professionals for adding value to their services and demonstrating the great return on investment that those services provide to the student, scholar, and professional. This year's Roundtable offers a chance to learn from active leaders in the field about projects in the digital humanities, content enrichment and linked data, assessing usage and user behavior and much, much more. Of particular interest this year, we're thrilled to be featuring legal experts discussing the long-term significance of recent court rulings that may be impacting practices of both content providers and libraries!

Focus: Partnerships and Best Practices: Critical Issues Impacting Humanities Content Providers, Librarians and End Users

Venue: Offices of Quarles & Brady, 300 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 4000, Chicago, Illinois

Date: Monday, September 30, 2013

Committed speaker-participants include:

- Dr. Christopher D. Cantwell, Assistant Director, Scholl Center for American History & Culture, Newberry Library
- Harriet E. Green, English and Digital Humanities Librarian, University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign
- Heather Buchta, Partner, Quarles & Brady
- Jessica L. Franken, Partner, Quarles & Brady
- Richard W. Young, Partner, Quarles & Brady
- Korey Jackson, Editor, Anvil Academic
- Tim Lloyd, Chief Operating Officer, Alexander Street Press
- Mike Teets, Vice President, Innovation, OCLC
- Kris Veldheer, CEO, New Vistas Educational Consulting

In-person attendance is limited to fifty people — virtual attendance options are also available. Group registration rates are available for groups of three or more. Additional program details and registration rates are posted to the NFAIS web site at: <http://nfais.org/event?eventID=527>.

For more information contact: Jill O'Neill, NFAIS Director, Communication and Planning, 215-893-1561 (phone); 215-893-1564 (fax); or e-mail: jilloneill@nfais.org.

Social Gathering for Dr. Dennis A. Norlin



Over forty people gathered in Chicago, September 4, at the law offices of Quarles & Brady LLC to celebrate the life of Dr. Dennis Norlin, former Executive Director of ATLA. Guests included current and former ATLA staff and professional associates, as well as members of Dennis' family. Many of us remember him as a colleague and a friend, and a few were

inspired to share their memories from the podium. Several members of Dennis' extended family also shared memories and moments in Dennis' life as their beloved patriarch, including Eleanor, his granddaughter, who told us how Dennis went on amusement park rides with her and her brothers.

Small boxes of jelly beans were handed out to guests, while the kids found them as fun as they were flavorful. Jelly beans were a Dennis Norlin favorite. He always had a bowl of them on the table in his office.

ATLA is grateful to Quarles & Brady for generously hosting the event, to all who attended and those who wanted to attend but could not. Most importantly, we thank the Norlin family for graciously sharing in this meaningful event.

A memorial book, compiled from recollections and tributes submitted by members and friends, is available at the [ATLA web site](#).

ATLA Member Renewals Start of 2013-2014 Membership Year

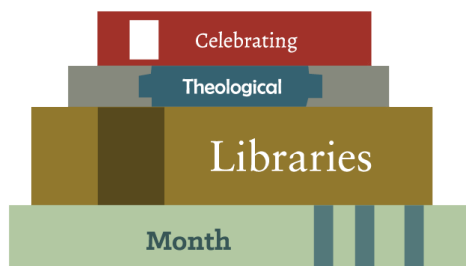
ATLA Membership renewal season is upon us! Renewal notices were sent to all current members - Institutional, Affiliate, International Institutional, Individual, and Student. The ATLA membership year runs from September 1 through August 31.

All individual and student members and member representatives of institutional, international institutional, and affiliate members should have received reminder e-mails in August. If you did not receive a renewal notice, please contact memberrep@atla.com.

As Beth Bidlack has stated, ATLA membership provides numerous benefits, including discounted conference registration, publications (*ATLA Newsletter*, *Theological Librarianship*, *Theology Cataloging Bulletin*, and the annual *ATLA Summary of Proceedings*), access to networking, professional development opportunities, discounts on products, and more.

Un-renewed members will be contacted in September to help us complete the renewal process. Thanks to those members who have already renewed their memberships online. If you have questions or concerns regarding your 2013-2014 ATLA membership renewal, please e-mail memberrep@atla.com.

October is Theological Libraries Month



October is Theological Libraries Month (TLM) and ATLA is ready to help you celebrate!

Join us in celebrating TLM with [Book Spine Poetry](#). Encourage students to create poetry using the titles of books

from the library and snap a photo. Send photos to newsletter@atla.com to be featured on the ATLA [Facebook page](#) and TLM website. Three winners will be chosen and showcased in the *ATLA Newsletter* and receive a \$25 gift card.

ATLA is pleased to once again offer [TLM Mini-Grants](#) of up to \$500 to ATLA Institutional Member Libraries to help plan an event in celebration of Theological Libraries Month. The mini-grant application form is available at the TLM website and submissions must be received by September 15th.

TLM posters, logos, and bookmarks are available for download.

Share your plans and ideas for celebrating Theological Libraries Month with ATLA so that we can promote them on Facebook, Twitter, and in the ATLA Newsletter. Send your plans to newsletter@atla.com.

Theological Libraries Month was established to advance the importance and value of theological libraries and library services to targeted faculty, administrators, staff, and students.

Call for 2014 ATLA Annual Conference Proposals

The Conference Committee cordially invites members and friends of the American Theological Library Association to [submit proposals for](#):

- Pre-conference Workshops
- In-conference Workshops
- Papers
- Panel Presentations
- Listen & Learn Sessions
- Interest Group Presentations
- Conversation Groups
- Posters or Other Special Sessions



The conference will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, June 18-21, 2014.

The Committee will consider proposals addressing theological librarianship, the academic disciplines of theology, and/or general librarianship. All submissions are due by Monday, September 30.

Look for a separate e-mail notification with all the details for [submitting your proposal](#).

We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans, June 18 - 21, where you will "Experience the Extraordinary" hosted by the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Call for 2013 ATLA Annual Conference Presentation Slides

ATLA will host your presentation slides on our website. Please submit your slides to proceedings@atla.com and they will be uploaded for others to see.

Submit for the 2013 Proceedings

You are invited to submit your presentation and/or committee and group reports, for the 2013 *Summary of Proceedings*. The annual ATLA *Summary of Proceedings* is a historical record of the ATLA Annual Conference.

Send submissions, forms, presentation slides, and questions to the editor at proceedings@atla.com. Please use the [Proceedings format](#) to submit your materials.

The deadline for submissions for the *Proceedings* has been extended to September 20, 2013.

Those encouraged to make submissions to the *Proceedings* include:

- Denominational Group secretaries
- Interest Group speakers and secretaries
- Memorial tribute speakers
- Plenary speakers
- Paper/presentation speakers
- Panel discussion presenters
- Pre-conference workshop presenters
- Regional Group secretaries
- Conversation group facilitators
- Worship leaders

Catholic Content Advisory Group

In an effort to gather valuable ideas, suggestions and input from a variety of knowledgeable and vested constituents toward the development, improvement, and enhancement of the *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index® (ATLA CPLI®)* and other potential projects, ATLA formed a product advisory group of librarians and scholars from our global customer base. We have finalized the inaugural list of librarians and scholars to serve as ATLA's Catholic Content Advisory Group. An excellent set of thoughtful people who have a variety of experiences, specializations, connections and languages have committed to at least a full year of participation to help ATLA consider a wider range of significant Catholic content for current and potential ATLA products.

Inaugural members include:

- George Carlson, Religious Studies Librarian, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California.
- Denise Lardner Carmody, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Religious Studies, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California.
- Rev. Scott Hebden, S.T.D., Assistant Professor of Dogmatic Theology, University of Saint Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois.
- Edmondo F. Lupieri LLC, Lic., John Cardinal Cody Endowed Chair of Theology, Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois.
- Noel S. McFerran, Theology Librarian, University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, Ontario.
- Lorraine Olley, Library Director, University of Saint Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois.

ATLASerials® Reaches Another Milestone

In 2001 ATLA launched *ATLASerials® (ATLAS®)* with fifty journal titles selected by respected and accomplished religion scholars. We are proud to announce that 250 distinct serials have now been digitized and will soon be available in the *ATLAS* collection.



In the past year ATLA has continued to increase non-English language content, including German titles such as the following: *Biblica*, published by Pontificum Institutum Biblicum, which includes articles in English, French, German and Italian; *Zeitschrift fur Dialektische Theologie*, published by Protestantse Theologische Universiteit im Kampen; as well as two titles published by Mohr Siebeck, *Theologische Rundschau*, and also *Zeitschrift fur Theologie und Kirche*.

ATLA has also continued its focus on expansion of faith coverage and international publications. Respective examples are the journal *Pacific World*, by Institute of Buddhist Studies and *Ogbomoso Journal of Theology*, by Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary.

ATLA Welcomes Extern, Sabahat Adil



Sabahat Adil (center) meets with staff members, Lorraine Cohen and Gregg Taylor, during her externship.

Each year ATLA hosts an extern for one day. This year it was our pleasure to welcome Sabahat Adil, who is a Ph.D. candidate in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Sabahat's presentation, "From Mansueto to Morocco: An Overview of Libraries and Research Experiences," was well-received. Her interest, inquiries, and attentiveness in the quotidian yet multi-faceted work at ATLA are appreciated and endorse our sense of mission. We wish Sabahat good fortune and we expect her accomplishments will continue to accumulate.

ATLA Summer Outing

This year's ATLA All-Staff Summer Outing featured a visit to Chicago's Chinatown on Friday, August 23. The day began with a guided tour of the [Chinese-American Museum of Chicago](#), which included a brief documentary film on the neighborhood's origins and evolution. We were also treated to a fun and elucidating presentation about Chinese holidays, festivals and traditions, offered by Anita Luk, Executive Director. Then a short, sunny walk took us to [Lee Wing Wah](#) restaurant for a lunch of multifarious dishes and fruit smoothies accented with chewy tapioca, whirling from guest to guest on spinning center pieces. Chicago's Chinatown is a unique and enjoyable place to visit. We recommend you check it out sometime when you're in town.



ATLA staff enjoying Lee Wing Wah



ATLA staff at the Chinese-American Museum



ATLA staff walking the streets of Chinatown

Minnesota Theological Library Association and Palgrave Macmillan Build eBook Collection

Submitted by Andy Keck, Director of Library Services, Luther Seminary

Palgrave Macmillan is a publisher admired by libraries for running their own ebook platform that jettisons the usual DRM and usage restrictions. The files exist as PDFs and ePub (beginning in 2011) that don't require extra logins and can be viewed/downloaded/printed without regard to simultaneous or cumulative uses. Up until recently, their model for library licensing only allowed for libraries to buy entire annual collections within certain subject areas including one in "Religion and Philosophy." While an attractive model for larger university libraries, the collection model wasn't entirely appropriate for seminaries who don't always have the same level of interest in all religion and philosophy titles but also have other interests in social sciences, leadership, linguistics, etc.

Our Palgrave Macmillan regional salesperson began a conversation with Minnesota Theological Library Association (MTLA) members last year as Palgrave had recently rolled out a "Build Your Own Collection" model. As an active regional association with ATLA, we also wanted to see if there was a possibility of consortium license for MTLA. One of the challenges with

ebooks is how digital platforms can often limit our ability to share resources across the consortium. A consortium license, however, would enable our students and faculty to share the same access with a "core list" of ebook titles. The purchase was financially attractive for MTLA libraries as each library's cost was less than if each of us purchased the content separately.

In order to make a collaborative offer work, MTLA members and Palgrave Macmillan worked closely to create a list of agreed upon core titles, which was done in a timely manner. Each member was given a free trial of Palgrave Connect to explore the platform and set-up a Palgrave Connect Acquisitions Portal (CAP) account to create wish lists and generate real-time quotes. Members created individual wish lists of desired Palgrave Macmillan titles and then provided them to Palgrave Macmillan to combine and analyze. After meeting with our regional salesperson to discuss the analysis, we ended up selecting 56 titles that two or more institutions had included in their wish lists. MTLA is looking to add further ebook titles in this way on an annual basis. Even though this process may sound daunting, we found it to be an interesting exercise in cooperative collection development with

the fantastic result of a common set of digital resources.

For my money, MTLA is one of the best cooperative ventures going and member libraries continue to benefit in countless ways; the acquisition of a shared ebook collection is a natural next step for MTLA. On our own United would never have been able to make this significant move into the world of ebooks.

*Dale Dobias
United Theological Seminary*

Libraries can have an antagonistic relationship with publishers — often over issues of licensing, pricing, and content, but I've found Palgrave Macmillan to be quite responsive. We have appreciated their listening to the needs of MTLA and working with us to develop an attractive solution.

*Andy Keck
Luther Seminary*

To participate, learn more, or develop your own consortial purchase, contact Colleen Osborne at Colleen.Osborne@palgrave-usa.com or 646-307-5841.

To learn more about this and other consortia opportunities available to ATLA members, please visit www.atla.com/Members/programs/consortia/Pages/default.aspx.

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary Library Collaborates to Digitize and Publish Online the Works of Theologian John Howard Yoder

Submitted by Eileen Saner, Director of the Library, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

The Mennonite Historical Library has received a \$12,023 grant to digitize and provide online access to unpublished and informally published works of John Howard Yoder, one of the most prominent theologians of the 20th century. The project is a collaborative effort between Goshen College's Mennonite Historical Library, the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) and the Mennonite Church USA.

Rooted in the Mennonite tradition, John Howard Yoder introduced Anabaptist thought, including pacifism, into mainstream Christian theology. Yoder served nearly thirty years as a teacher and scholar on the faculty at Goshen Biblical Seminary, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) and the University of Notre Dame.

The digital library will provide improved access to Yoder's unpublished works, including lectures, essays and

correspondence. Digital files of these works will become freely accessible through the Private Academic Library Network of Indiana and Indiana Memory websites. [View a prototype of the project.](#)

John D. Roth, director of the Mennonite Historical Library, said, "We are delighted to partner with the Archives of Mennonite Church USA and the AMBS Library in this collaborative venture. This project is an important step in making the unique resources of our collections more accessible to researchers regionally and around the world."

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Indiana State Library. The institute is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Its mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas.

Member News

Routine Maintenance Reminder

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, October 7, and November 4. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. (CST). 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, IL, is looking for a [Production Programmer](#).
- Drew University Library, Madison, NJ, is looking for a [Lead Metadata Librarian and Methodist Cataloger](#).
- Biola University, La Mirada, CA, is looking for a [Dean of the Library](#).
- Boston University, Boston, MA, is looking for a [Digital Projects Librarian](#).
- Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL, is looking for a [Reference and Systems Librarian](#).

ATLA Calendar

September

- 11-15 - The 42nd General Assembly of BETH (European Theological Libraries), Paris, Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 30 - National Federation of Advanced Information Services (NFAIS) Annual Humanities Roundtable, Chicago, IL

October

- 6-8 - Lilly Website Consultation, Durham, NC, Rick Rybak attending
- 7 - Routine maintenance performed on ATLA systems
- 17-19 - ATLA Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago, IL

November

- 4 - Routine maintenance performed on ATLA systems

Staff News

Staff Presentations

- John Meeks delivered a paper, "Materiality and the Remains of an Other: Reading 'Quartre hueres à Chatila,'" at the 2013 Annual Conference of the North American Levinas Society in Pittsburgh in July.
- Brenda Bailey-Hainer and Evan Simpson (Tufts University) gave a presentation, "Rethinking Resource Sharing: New Models for Collaboration," at the 2013 IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Singapore in August.

Brenda Bailey-Hainer Joins Editorial Board

Brenda Bailey-Hainer has joined the Editorial Board of [Collaborative Librarianship](#), an open access journal. She has been appointed the Lead Editor for the "From the Field" section.



From the Executive Director Achieving ATLA's Mission: Setting a New Course Together

ATLA pursues a mission "to foster the study of theology and religion by enhancing the development of theological and religious studies libraries and librarianship." ATLA's Organizational Ends articulate this mission at a more detailed level. While

it's easy to recite the mission and ends of our organization, it's another thing entirely to actually achieve them.

As executive director, it is my responsibility to insure that the Association's resources are used wisely and effectively in support of our mission. ATLA's Organizational Ends have been revised a number of times over the last several years, but the work of our committees and member groups that support these Ends have remained essentially the same. While the Association has achieved a great deal, more can be accomplished if the Board, staff, and member leaders plan together and work in concert, always keeping our mission and Organizational Ends in sight.

With that in mind, in October ATLA will embark on a new method for the annual planning of the work of the Association. Members of committees, interest group chairs,

and the Board will come together in Chicago for a joint meeting on Thursday, October 17. It is our hope that this new strategy will help us align the work of our member groups and bring forth some of the primary concerns of the Association.

This meeting also will help our member leaders work more effectively toward achievement of the Organizational Ends. Groups that already have very focused and essential duties, such as the Annual Conference Committee, the *Theological Librarianship* Editorial Board, and the Nominating Committee will not participate in this meeting.

Like the silos that may occur within a library when different departments do not communicate regularly with each other or collaborate on planning, ATLA's Board, staff, and volunteer groups may also operate in silos without understanding what other groups are doing, and such lose out on the opportunity to leverage multiple complementary initiatives.

Building on ATLA's successes, there is still ample room to dream big and envision what an association is capable of achieving if we all work together in a strategic fashion. The October planning meeting is our opportunity to do so.

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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