

Newsletter



St. Paul Seminary - University of St. Thomas
Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library
St. Paul, Minnesota

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From the President Celebrating Theological Libraries Month

As noted on the ATLA website, the goal of Theological Libraries Month is “to advance the importance and value of theological libraries and library services to targeted faculty, administrators, staff, and students.” What are you doing for TLM? If you are still undecided, see the [ATLA](#)

[mini grants page](#) for some great ideas.

When I started working at the Burke Library in February, I was told that it was one of the best-kept secrets in the neighborhood. We are doing a few things at the Burke to advance the importance and value of theological libraries to the broader Columbia University community. First, we have undertaken an endorsement campaign to demonstrate the value of the Burke to a wide variety of researchers and to raise the Library’s profile. Drawing on our strengths (see September’s column), we identified one area to promote—our special collections, specifically our McAlpin Collection of British History and Theology (consisting of important 16th and 17th century imprints) and our Van Ess Collection (consisting of early printed books and manuscripts). Then, we invited four researchers (in disciplines outside of theology) who have used these collections to give us brief testimonials about the value of these collections in their work. In collaboration with Columbia University Libraries’ Communications and Marketing Coordinator, we created four posters, one based on each researcher’s experience. The posters have been hung in various places on the Union Theological Seminary and Columbia University campuses, including Columbia’s College Walk. We also included them in our LCD panel slide show at the Burke. We have received a lot of positive feedback from library colleagues and researchers.

Second, we are mounting an exhibit at Butler Library—Columbia’s largest library, which houses its history and humanities collections. We are featuring images of items from the Burke collections that would be of interest to researchers in the humanities. The Burke staff has been hard at work designing the exhibit, which will be installed in mid-October.

Finally, on October 11 we will be hosting a book talk with James Goodman, author of *But Where Is the Lamb: Imagining the Story of Abraham and Isaac*. Goodman takes that famous

Continued on page 2

NFAIS Humanities Roundtable 2013



Kris Veldheer, CEO, New Vistas Educational Consulting, and ATLA member presents on the future of Advanced Information Services.

presentations. The roster of speakers was outstanding as they addressed various subjects, including legal issues of ownership and licensing of intellectual property, existing and emerging initiatives in digital humanities, engagement of users, content enrichment and linked data, and new business models and the future in advanced information services.



Afterward, guests enjoyed a brief social gathering with a view of the Chicago River and cityscape, followed by a splendid dinner at a nearby gourmet Mexican restaurant. We are grateful to all who attended and contributed to the success of the event, especially the speakers, our colleagues and the staff at Quarles & Brady, as well as our estimable colleagues of NFAIS.

NFAIS encourages memberships from organizations (including libraries) that create, aggregate, organize, and otherwise provide ease of access to and effective navigation and use of authoritative, credible information. Learn more about membership at their website.

ATLA hosted and co-sponsored the National Federation of Advanced Information Services (NFAIS) Humanities Roundtable 2013, held in Chicago at the law offices of Quarles & Brady, September 30. Thirty-four onsite attendees were joined by over twenty-five who attended virtually, benefiting from informative, inspiring and thought-provoking

Jill O'Neill, Director of Communication and Planning (right), poses an insightful question to presenter Kris Veldheer, CEO, New Vistas Educational Consulting, and ATLA member.

ATLA Licenses Eight Journals Published by Walter de Gruyter

ATLA announces the licensing of eight journals published by Walter de Gruyter GmbH for inclusion in *ATLASerials®* (*ATLAS®*), an online full-text collection of major religion and theology journals.

The name De Gruyter has been synonymous with high-quality, landmark publications in the humanities and natural sciences for more than two-hundred and sixty years. The following journals greatly expand the German-language offerings in *ATLAS*.

- *Millenium Yearbook*
- *Zeitschrift für Antikes Christentum / Journal of Ancient Christianity*
- *Der Islam*
- *International Journal of Practical Theology*
- *Journal of the History of Modern Theology*
- *Neue Zeitschrift für systematische Theologie und Religionsphilosophie*
- *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft*
- *Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft und die Kunde der älteren Kirche*

Gregg Taylor, ATLA's Licensing Manager, commented, "ATLA and De Gruyter share a commitment to academic excellence in the fields of religion and theology. We are delighted to welcome these first-rate journals to *ATLAS*. ATLA is especially pleased to be able to increase our full-text offerings of German-language scholarship to a global community of researchers."

Letter from the President Continued

biblical narrative, examines its interpretation throughout history, and then places it within our contemporary context. The Burke is partnering with our colleagues throughout the Columbia University Libraries system to promote this event, which will be of interest to those not only in the fields of theology and religion, but also in history, literature, art, and political science.

If you have not already done so, I invite you to think creatively about how to advance the importance and value of theological libraries and library services. After all, it is never too early to start planning for next year. The Board would love to hear about your plans and events.

Best wishes for Theological Libraries Month!

Beth Bidlack
President

ATLA Receptions at AAR & SBL Annual Meetings

ATLA will host two receptions at the National Aquarium during the Concurrent Annual Meetings of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) and Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) in Baltimore this November 23-26. We invite you to join us for refreshments and fellowship. Feel free to bring a colleague. Please RSVP to rybak@atla.com by November 17 with your name, the name of your guest, and the reception(s) you will attend.

Evening Reception

Saturday, November 23, 2013

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

National Aquarium Baltimore

Knott Harbor View Room

501 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Self-guided touring of the Aquarium prior to event, from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Morning Reception

Monday, November 25, 2013

7:00 - 9:00 a.m.

National Aquarium Baltimore

Knott Harbor View Room

501 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Self-guided touring of the Aquarium following the event until 12:00 noon

Also, please stop by the ATLA exhibit booth #1228. Exhibit hall hours are November 23-25 (Saturday-Monday), 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; November 26 (Tuesday), 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

ATLA Member Renewals

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.

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 October 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.

ATLA Board Nominations

The Nominating Committee of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) has named its slate of candidates for the four director positions to be filled on the Board. The term of office is three years, 2014-2017. Petition candidates may still be submitted (information below).

In accordance with ATLA Bylaws (Article 4.3 Board of Directors. Nomination and Balloting) the membership is to be notified of the names of the candidates in writing no later than October 15. The candidates are (in order drawn by lot):

- Matthew Ostercamp, North Park Theological Seminary
- Jennifer Bartholomew, Luther Seminary
- Beth Bidlack, Burke Library
- Leland Deeds, Union Presbyterian Seminary
- Jennifer Ulrich, Eastern Mennonite University
- Kelly Campbell, Columbia Theological Seminary
- Tammy Johnson, Columbia Theological Seminary
- Robert Roethemeyer, Concordia Theological Seminary

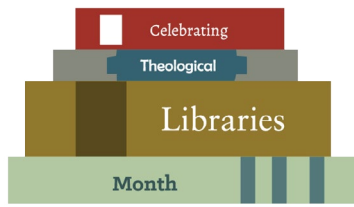
The Nominating Committee members are: Joann Hause (chair), Armin Siedlecki, and Carrie Hackney. The Secretary of the Association is Eileen Saner.

Nominations other than those submitted by the Nominating Committee may be made by petition signed by no fewer than ten individual members, and filed with the Secretary no later than December 1. Ballots and the candidates' biographical statements will be sent in January to voting members in good standing.

The 2014 election will be performed via electronic ballot and ATLA has contracted with Survey and Ballot Systems, Inc., to administer the web election process. Members will be notified via e-mail when the poll opens and be provided with complete information on the voting process. Members who do not have e-mail addresses on file with ATLA will receive a paper ballot and instructions.

For questions on voting procedures, please contact Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Executive Director, at bbailey-hainer@atla.com. For questions about your membership status, please contact a membership representative, at 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.

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.

ATLA Awards Over \$5,000 to Members Celebrating Theological Libraries Month

The American Theological Library Association has awarded over \$5,000 in grants to sixteen libraries across the United States and Canada to support their celebration of Theological Libraries Month (TLM) throughout October.

Funded projects include events such as faculty lectures, celebration lunches and receptions, book sales, dedication events, costume parties, worship services, and scavenger hunts. They may also include service enhancements such as bilingual advertisements, mid-term student care packages, display materials, exhibits, and art lectures.

2013 Theological Libraries Month grant recipients include:

- Beardslee Library - Western Theological Seminary (Holland, Mich.)
- Boston University School of Theology Library (Boston, Mass.)
- Columbia Theological Seminary (Decatur, Ga.)
- Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary - Pacific Northwest Campus Library (Vancouver, Wash.)
- Graduate Theological Union Library (Berkeley, Calif.)
- Harding School of Theology Library (Memphis, Tenn.)
- Luther Seminary Library (St. Paul, Minn.)
- Methodist Theological School in Ohio (Delaware, Ohio)
- Pontifical College Josephinum (Columbus, Ohio)
- Princeton Theological Seminary (Princeton, N.J.)
- St. Paul University (Ottawa, ON)
- St. Peter's Seminary (London, ON)
- The United Library - Garrett-Evan. & Seabury-Western Sem. (Evanston, Ill.)
- Trinity Lutheran Seminary (Columbus, Ohio)
- United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities (New Brighton, Minn.)
- Wartburg Theological Seminary (Dubuque, Iowa)

To learn more about Theological Libraries Month, please visit the [ATLA web site](#).

[Read the press release.](#)

ATLA Receives IMLS Grant to Explore Preservation Needs in Small Theological and Religious Studies Libraries

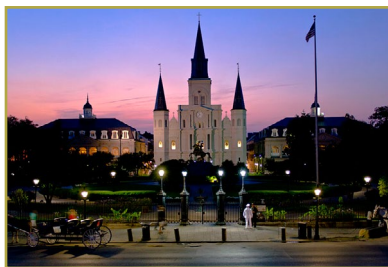
The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) has received a 2013 National Leadership Grants for Libraries Planning Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS) in the amount of \$46,500. The grant will support the project, "In Good Faith: Collection Care, Preservation, and Access in Small Theological and Religious Studies Libraries," in partnership with the Catholic Library Association (CLA) and the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL).

During the grant period, the American Theological Library Association, the Catholic Library Association, and the Association of Jewish Libraries will assess the collection care, preservation, and access practices of small theological and religious studies libraries and begin to identify valuable and vulnerable collections held in these institutions. The centerpiece of the project will be a survey designed for and deployed to institutions that may not have previously been included in such studies. Existing standards and practices that help libraries respond to their unique circumstances will be promoted to the targeted libraries and at the same time the partners will communicate the challenges and opportunities faced by these libraries to the larger library and research communities. Finally, the project will explore collaborative initiatives to respond to identified long-term collection care, preservation, and access needs.

"'In Good Faith' is an exciting project that will benefit the members of all three associations. Based on earlier research, we know that many small theological and religious studies libraries hold valuable unique special collections but lack the resources locally to preserve them and make them easily accessible to researchers. This project will begin to identify and inventory these collections and to seek solutions - before these materials are lost to scholars forever," said Brenda Bailey-Hainer, ATLA Executive Director.

[Read the press release.](#)

2014 ATLA Annual Conference: A Cultural and Educational Experience



ATLA and the Conference Committee are hard at work preparing for the 2014 ATLA Annual Conference.

New Orleans will bring together a wealth of ATLA educational programs, member group meetings, excursions and events, against a backdrop rich with history and culture. The New Orleans region is full of cultural experiences and exciting destinations that cannot be missed.

Educate yourself on New Orleans history by visiting the infamous [Cities of the Dead](#), New Orleans elaborate and decorative cemetery; touring the numerous historical [plantations](#); or visiting any of the several [museums](#).

Enjoy the [French Quarter](#) by grabbing a bite world famous restaurants, listening to local Jazz musicians, or shopping at the many unique boutiques.

You could also extend your stay in New Orleans and find plenty to do within the city. [Click here](#) for an online visitor's guide and learn more about what New Orleans has to offer.

We look forward to sharing more information about the 2014 Annual Conference in the upcoming months. Be sure to check the [conference website](#) for updated information.

Mark your calendars for June 18-21, 2014, and we'll see you in New Orleans!

ATLA and Maney Publishing Partner for Discount for Member Libraries

ATLA institutional and affiliate members are eligible to receive 60% off the full price of the [Maney Publishing Philosophy, Religion and Theology Collection](#).

The collection includes:

- *Black Theology*
- *Comparative and Continental Philosophy*
- *Journal for the Study of Spirituality*
- *Journal of Adult Theological Education*
- *Journal of Chinese Religions*
- *Levant*
- *The Linacre Quarterly*
- *Medieval Mystical Theology*
- *Medieval Sermon Studies*
- *Palestine Exploration Quarterly*
- *Political Theology*
- *Practical Theology*
- *Reformation*
- *Reformation and Renaissance Review*
- *Rural Theology*
- *Theology and Sexuality*

ATLA members are also eligible for 10% discounts on individual journal subscriptions.

Subscription discounts are honored each year with a renewal.

Maney Publishing offers unlimited searching and downloads with no limits on number of end users and no extra charges. Maney Publishing works with LOCKSS, CLOCKSS, and PORTICO.

Each journal subscription includes complete access to archives from year of first publication to current year.

Offers are immediately available to new subscribers. Current subscribers should contact Allan R. Barnett, North American Journals Sales Manager, at ata.barnett@maneypublishing.com, for more information.

To inquire about pricing, please contact Allan R. Barnett, North American Journals Sales Manager, at a.barnett@maneypublishing.com. Please indicate ATLA membership in your inquiry.

For information on this and other Consortia offers for ATLA Member Libraries, please visit <https://www.atla.com/Members/programs/consortia/Pages/default.aspx>.

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. The deadline for all submissions has been extended to Sunday, October 13.

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.

Section Editor for Critical Reviews - *Theological Librarianship*

Theological Librarianship's editorial board is seeking a new Section Editor for Critical Reviews for appointment in January 2014.

About the position:

The Journal's bylaws (2011) describe this position as follows:

The section editor for Critical Reviews is responsible for selection and acquisition of reference works (print and non-print) to be reviewed, soliciting reviewers and assigning reviews, maintaining records of reviewers and review works, and managing the editorial process for reviews. The journal publishes reviews of reference works in religion and theology, as well as interdisciplinary works that would be of interest to theological libraries, and professional literature of interest to theological librarians.

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BETH Meets in Paris, France

By Chris Anderson, International Collaboration Committee Chair



Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie (BETH) members and official attendees visit Paris, France, September 11-15.

The 42nd General Assembly of BETH (Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie) convened September 11-15 in Paris, France. The conference was held at the FIAP Jean Monnet and the Institut Catholique de Paris. The Assembly comprised many events including a business meeting, presentations, food experiences, and several excursions. ATLA members present at the event included: Chris Anderson, Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Eileen Crawford, Melody Mazuk, and John Weaver.

The theme of the 2013 meeting was "Tradition, Modernity and the Future of Theological Libraries." Attendees discussed and celebrated the work of theological librarians from all over Europe. One session highlighted "Religious Libraries in Danger" articulating the opportunities for and difficulties faced by libraries and librarians in Belgium, Germany, Italy, Scandinavia, and the UK. Another session addressed particular issues for libraries in France and the Netherlands.

Odile Dupont, of the Institut Catholique de Paris, gave a presentation on RELINDIAL and provided details concerning BETH participation at the 2014 IFLA conference. John Weaver, Director of the Library at Abilene Christian University, gave a fascinating presentation titled, "Theological Libraries Negotiating Digital Culture: A North American Perspective."

Several vendors gave presentations including Brepols, De Gruyter-Saur, EBSCO, and GlobeTheoLib. Licensing Manager, Gregg Taylor, provided an update on ATLA's products. During the last session, ATLA's Executive Director Brenda Bailey-Hainer led a discussion session on how ATLA and BETH might collaborate more closely in the future to support theological librarianship throughout the world. Attendees enjoyed several venues for entertainment including a concert at the lovely Chapelle des Carmes by Ensemble Aparté and a walking tour of the Bibliothèque Mazarine with Library Director Yann Sordet.

The meeting presented many opportunities to network and discuss current and future collaborations with theological librarians from around Europe. I was honored to represent ATLA as chair of the International Collaboration Committee. A schedule of the meeting and links to presentations can be found at: <https://theo.kuleuven.be/apps/press/beth/member-pages/meetings/42nd-2013-paris/>. The 2014 meeting will be held in Poland.

Section Editor for Critical Reviews Continued

A small stipend is paid to the editor with the publication of each issue

Further information:

The Critical Reviews Editor serves with four other members (section editors and a managing editor) on the journal's Editorial Board. For all Board members, the bulk of the work is a combination of responsibility for the individual sections and for the overall health of the journal.

TL is published semi-annually (in January and July). Typically the Editorial Board convenes about once a month online. Editorial Board members may be asked to participate in up to two in-person meetings per year. ATLA provides support for transportation and accommodations for these meetings.

At some points in the year most of the Board's energy is absorbed with getting the upcoming issue ready for publication, while at other times there is more emphasis on long-term strategy, improving the health, and extending the reach of the journal, etc.

A commitment of three years (renewable) to the position is strongly desired. All of *TL*'s editors are required to be Individual Members of ATLA.

Further questions about this opportunity may be addressed to *TL*'s Managing Editor, David Stewart (Phone: 651/638-6225; Email: d-stewart@bethel.edu)

Desired qualifications:

- Basic experience in editing.
- Capacity to work collegially with authors and editors.
- Proven ability to meet deadlines.
- Familiarity with *TL*, and of its function within and beyond the ATLA community.

Other information:

To ensure a healthy transition, the successful applicant will be appointed three months prior to the current Critical Reviews Editor's departure. It is expected that this overlap will provide the appointee with ample opportunity to become familiarized with the routines and processes of securing content and working with the author(s) at each stage of publication.

To apply:

Please send via email a current CV, covering letter, and contact information for three professional references to:

Mr. Miguel Figueroa
Director of Member Programs
American Theological Library Association
Email: mfigueroa@atla.com

Member News

The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology Becomes Institutional Member

ATLA is happy to recognize The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology as they receive their initial accreditation from the Association of Theological Schools' Commission on Accrediting. With this accreditation, The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology has also become an Institutional Member of ATLA, having been an Affiliate Member for several years. Congratulations to the faculty and staff on their hard work towards this accreditation.

JKM Library Re-Opens West Wing

The JKM Library in Chicago, Ill., hosted a blessing and open house on September 25, 2013, for the library's newly re-opened west wing. The library includes new information commons spaces with computers and collaborative work areas, comfortable seating throughout, and a new circulation desk. Congratulations to the staff and users of the JKM Library.

Member Retires

Gene Fieg, Cataloger / Serials Librarian at the Claremont School of Theology Library, will retire this October. In addition to his work at the Claremont School of Theology, Gene is a valued participant in the ATLA NACO Funnel Project. In recognition of his long membership in ATLA and his service to the profession and the Association, ATLA is happy to provide Gene with a Lifetime Membership. Please join us in congratulating Gene and thanking him for his service.

Routine Maintenance Reminder

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, November 4, and December 2. 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 [Director of Production](#).
- Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, is looking for a [Resource Description Librarian](#).
- Clifford E. Barbour Library, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA, is looking for a [Technical Services Librarian/Lead Cataloger](#).
- Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA, is looking for a [Reference Librarian](#).
- Pitts Theology Library, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, is looking for a [Reference Librarian and Outreach Coordinator](#).
- Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, Boston, MA, is looking for a [Library Director](#).
- Cincinnati Christian University Library, Cincinnati, OH, is looking for an [Electronic Services Librarian](#).

ATLA Calendar

October

- 6-8 - Lilly Website Consultation, Durham, NC, Rick Rybak and Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 7 - Routine maintenance performed on ATLA systems
- 13 - Deadline for the 2014 ATLA Annual Conference Session Proposals
- 17-18 - ATLA Diversity Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 17-18 - ATLA Endowment Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 17-18 - ATLA International Collaboration Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 17-18 - ATLA Professional Development Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 17-18 - ATLA Publications Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 17-19 - ATLA Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago, IL

November

- 4 - Routine maintenance performed on ATLA systems
- 5-9 - Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC, Margot Lyon and Jennifer Butler attending
- 7-9 - Conference Committee Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- 13-14 - Theological Librarianship Editorial Board Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 23-26 - AAR & SBL Annual Meetings 2013, Baltimore, MD, ATLA staff attending
- 28- 29 - Offices Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving Holiday

December

- 2 - Routine maintenance performed on ATLA systems
- 24-25 - ATLA Offices Closed in Observance of Christmas Holiday



From the Executive Director Supporting Theological Librarianship Internationally

In August, I attended the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Singapore. ATLA has two International Institutional Members in Singapore: Singapore Bible College and Trinity Theological College. I was able to visit both libraries and meet with their staff while I was there, and learned about digitization projects focusing on locally generated content and what other kinds of materials would be useful to them in an electronic format.

Like other large library conferences, the IFLA program covered a wide range of topics — everything from supporting parliamentary libraries to digitization standards to electronic resources usage statistics — but with a global twist. One day-long session focused on the status of consortial e-book programs in countries around the world. Other conference tracks focused exclusively on a broad spectrum of activities in specific geographic regions.

In addition to the primary IFLA Congress, there are always several satellite meetings focused on various topics. I attended a one-day session on Library and Information Science (LIS) Education in Developing Countries, which featured faculty from LIS programs in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East providing updates on the status of programs in their respective regions.

Recognized credentials differ widely across the world and may include diplomas, certificates, baccalaureate degrees or master's degrees. The governments in a number of countries in these regions have created strategic plans that include transformation to a "Knowledge Society." This has resulted in an increase in ICT (information and communications technology) educational opportunities. Some LIS schools have responded to this trend by adding new curriculum or reducing the emphasis on traditional library skills in their current courses.

During the coming year the International Collaboration Committee (ICC) will be considering what would truly help strengthen theological librarianship internationally. Many seminaries and theological schools are established in the majority world without a trained librarian on staff. A



Attendees at the IFLA Satellite Meeting on LIS Education in Developing Countries.

good first step would be to help those working in theological libraries receive adequate training, preferably by building capacity in the library schools that already exist in their region. Theological librarians also may feel isolated. Strengthening local theological library associations so that opportunities for regional meetings, continuing education, and networking are created would support librarians working in the field.

As the ICC moves through the planning cycle this year, strengthening the global network of theological librarianship and identifying collaborative opportunities at the national and regional level will be their primary goal. The IFLA and BETH (see article in this issue) meetings both provided concrete ideas on how to do this.

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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