



Participants and leaders in the 2005 Wabash Teaching and Learning Colloquy.

November Webinar



What Works Now: New Best Practices for a Changing Reality

Wednesday, November 4, 11:00am CDT - 12:00pm CDT

All ATLA members and member representatives are invited to participate in this free webinar to learn from your peers.

Whatever type of library you serve, the economic downturn is affecting all of us. ATLA is aware of the challenges faced by members, and is pleased to provide a forum for discussion on how to “survive and thrive” during these difficult times.

Conference participants took part in an all-conference lunch in June 2009 that received high marks for timeliness and helpful information. Participants appreciated this program, but requested more, particularly more time with the panelists to discuss developing new best practices and applying those ideas to local situations.

The webinar will provide participants with an extended period of time to hear from and interact with panelists.

continued on page 2

In This Issue

- November Webinar
- Board of Director Slate
- 2010 Wabash Colloquy
- It's Here! TLM - October 2009
- Member News
- From the Professional Development Committee
- Endowment Fund Donors
- Scholarships and Grants Annual Fund Donors
- Have You Heard?



From the President

Is “One Day Late” the New “On-time”?

A favorite New Yorker cartoon shows an addled executive standing behind his desk, asking someone over the phone, “So, Thursday’s out. How about never? Does never work for you?”

HAH! It’s the absurdity of it that makes us smile, and that’s because absurdity is something we live with.

What are we trying to prove, and who are we trying to fool, when we queue up more stuff on our task lists than any mortal could accomplish? But it happens all the time.

This is not the place to make excuses (full disclosure: this column is itself being sent in a day late . . .) but I sometimes wonder if not only what others expect of us but what we expect of ourselves has somehow escalated without much time for reflection. Wouldn’t it be interesting to try and compare, for example, the difference between multi-tasking before and after the advent of networked work environments?

What helps to dial down the absurd-o-meter for you? What does a healthy equilibrium look like where you work? And is the urge to be productive on multiple fronts at the same time something that comes from within, or from our surroundings?

I’m not prescribing, just asking.

Cheers!

-Stewart David R. Stewart

From the Executive Director



Leadership

October is a month when many ATLA committees and task forces spring into action. At ATLA headquarters

we will welcome the Diversity Committee, the Professional Development Committee, the Editorial Board of Theological Librarianship, the Publications Committee, the Board of Directors On Site Inspection Committee, the Board of Directors Policy Governance Committee, and, in early November, the International Collaboration Committee. In addition, the Annual Conference Committee, Education Committee, and Local Host Committee will meet with ATLA staff in Louisville to plan the 2010 annual conference; the planning committee for the 2010 Wabash Colloquy for Theological Librarians will meet in Crawfordsville, Indiana.

That's a lot of meetings and a lot of people involved in them. ATLA is especially fortunate to have so many of our members involved in leadership positions. In addition to all of the committees mentioned above, we have members in leadership positions in interest groups, regional groups, denominational groups, and collaborative projects. In all, more than 25% of the Association's membership are in leadership positions. That is a truly remarkable statistic, and points to the reason for ATLA's vitality, growth, and creativity - our dedicated, talented, and involved members.

During this Theological Libraries Month, I will be giving thanks for all of our terrific members.

-Dennis A. Norlin

To register to receive regular Friday updates of my blog, go to http://edblog.atla.com/?page_id=62.

November Webinar, cont. from page 1



Be sure to register now for this valuable webinar, moderated by David R. Stewart, Director of Library Services, Luther Seminary Library.

Panel Participants

Moderator: David R. Stewart, Director of Library Services, Luther Seminary Library

Panelists (above, from top left):

- Roger L. Loyd, Director, Divinity Library, Divinity School Library, Duke University
- Eileen K. Saner, Librarian and Director of Educational Resources, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary Library
- Bruce Keisling, Associate Vice President for Academic Resources and Seminary Librarian, James P. Boyce Centennial Library, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
- Sharon Taylor, Director of the Clifford E. Barbour Library, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- Dan LaValla, Director of Library Services, Biblical Theological Seminary Library

To register for the webinar, go to <http://my.atla.com/Login/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fConference%2fRegistrationProcessOverview.aspx%3fid%3d7&id=7>.

Have You Heard?

Carnegie-Whitney Awards Deadline Announced

Grants of up to \$5,000 are available for the preparation of print or electronic reading lists, indexes, and other guides to library resources that promote reading or the use of library resources. This applies for any type of library. Available through the American Library Association Publishing Committee, past projects have ranged from proposals aimed at general readership to scholarly bibliographies. The deadline for applications is Nov. 6, 2009. Notifications will be sent out at the end of February 2010.

Go to <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/publishing/sundry/alapubawrds/carnegiewhitney.cfm> for more information and guidelines, or contact Mary Jo Bolduc, Grant Administrator, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611; Fax (312) 280-5275, mbolduc@ala.org.

Board of Director Candidate Slate Named

The Nominating Committee of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) has named its slate of seven candidates for the four places to be filled on the Board of Directors. The term of office is three years, 2010-2013.

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):

- John B. Weaver, Director, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University
- Leslie A. Engelson, Associate Librarian of Technical Services, D.V. Hurst Library, Northwest University
- Sandra Lipton, Philosophy and Religious Studies Librarian and Head, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Liaison Services, University of Calgary Library
- Daniel Kolb, Library Director, Archabbey Library, Saint Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology
- Blake Walter, Director and Director of Academic Administration, Brimson Grow Library, Northern Seminary
- Sandra Oslund, Library Director, St. Paul Library, Bethel Seminary
- Andrew Keck, Associate Director, Divinity School Library, Duke University Divinity School

The Nominating Committee members are: M. Patrick Graham (chair), Ellen Frost, and Melody Layton McMahon. The Secretary of the Association is Eileen Crawford.

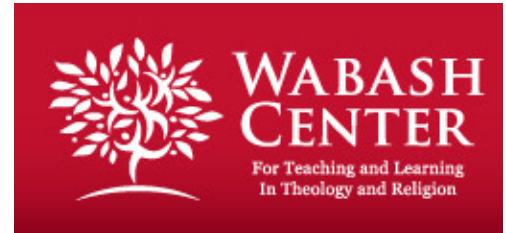
Nominations other than those submitted by the Nominating Committee may be made by petition signed by no fewer than ten individual members, and filed with the Secretary no later than December 1. Ballots and the candidates' biographical statements will be sent in January to voting members in good standing.

The 2010 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 Barbara Kemmis, Director of Member Services, at bkemmis@atla.com. For questions about your membership status, please contact a Membership representative, at memberrep@atla.com. Barbara can also be reached at (888) 665-2852.

-Eileen Crawford
Associate Director, Collections Librarian
Vanderbilt University, Divinity Library

2010 Teaching and Learning Colloquy



Jointly sponsored by the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion and ATLA, the 2010 Teaching and Learning Colloquy on The Role of Theological School Librarians will take place at Wabash College from April 22-26, 2010. According to the course description, participants in the colloquy will "explore the vocation of theological librarianship and promote the development of strategies and skills for increasing the effectiveness of librarians in the teaching/learning/research process in their own institutional and professional contexts."

The course will be led by Roger Loyd of Duke Divinity School, Amy Limpitlaw of Yale Divinity School, Cait Kokolus of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Dennis Norlin of ATLA, and Wabash Center's Paul Myhre.

Application is open for full-time professional librarians working in an accredited seminary or theological school in the United States or Canada. Participants must be members of ATLA who are within the first seven years of a librarian role. They will each receive a stipend of \$1,250 for full participation in the colloquy, plus local expenses and travel. Applications are due on October 12, 2009; participants will be announced on November 15, 2009. For a detailed description and application information, please visit <http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/programs/details.aspx?id=17797>.

ATLA Newsletter Contact Information:
Sara Corkery, Communications Specialist
scorkery@atla.com • 888.665.2852

Member News



ATLA Committees Meet in Chicago

Members of the Professional Development Committee met at the ATLA office on Thursday and Friday, October 1-2 (above, left: bottom row, left to right-Christina Torbert, Seth Kasten; top-Timothy Lincoln, chair, Ellen Frost).

On Friday, October 2, the Special Committee of the Association for Diversity held its meeting at the ATLA office. Susan Ebertz, Mayra Picos-Lee, and Jim Pakala, board liaison (below left, left to right) were present at the office, with Cait Kokolus and chair Diana Brice participating via telephone.



Deadline for Annual Conference Proposals Extended

"Tomorrow is often the busiest day of the week," states an old Spanish proverb. With all the chores most of us have to accomplish, it has been one continuous week.

Well, to add to your never-ending week, the Annual Conference and Education Committees have extended the deadline for submission of session proposals. Those of you still working on proposals for papers, panels, roundtables or other special sessions for the 2009 Louisville 2.0 Conference now have until Monday, October 12 to submit them. There are a number of proposals still in process, and an additional week - while not long - should allow time to complete them. This extension will also provide an opportunity for those to whom a great idea was slow in arriving to submit their plans.

In addition to the traditional conference offerings, the committees are particularly seeking proposals for poster sessions - a new feature

ATLA Calendar

October

- 1-2 Professional Development Committee meeting at ATLA Office
- 2 Special Committee of the Association for Diversity meeting at ATLA Office
- 4-7 Margot Lyon and Tami Luedtke at Lilly Websites Consultation and Duke University
- 7-8 Theological Librarianship editorial Board meets at ATLA Office
- 8-9 Publications Committee meets at ATLA Office
- 12 Proposal submissions for ATLA 2010 Annual Conference due
- 14-16 Onsite Inspection Committee at ATLA Office
- 21-24 ACC and EdCom 2010 Conference planning meeting, Louisville, KY
- 30 Barbara Kemmis attending SWATLA meeting in Dallas, TX

November

- 1 Submissions for inclusion in December ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 4 "What Works Now: New Best Practices for a Changing Reality" Webinar - 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. CDT
- 5-6 Special Committee of the Association for International Collaboration meets at ATLA Office
- 9 Board Policy Governance Committee meets at ATLA Office
- 12 Barbara Kemmis attending Minnesota Theological Library Association meeting in Minneapolis, MN
- 21-24 ATLA 2009 SBL Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA (ATLA breakfast reception Sunday, November 22)
- 26-27 ATLA Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

December

- 1 Submissions for inclusion in January ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 24-25 ATLA Office closed for Christmas holiday
- 31 ATLA Office closed for New Year's holiday

that was added to the annual conference for the first time in 2008. See the conference website for more information: http://www.atla.com/member/conference/conf_2010/conference_home.html.

ICC Grant Deadline Oct. 31

The ATLA International Collaboration Committee invites proposals for projects between ATLA members/institutions and partner institutions abroad that foster international collaboration that are mutually beneficial. Projects might include, but are not limited to, improving the documentation of world Christianity or world religions (collection development, exchanges, archives, etc.), professional development, improving the tools of scholarship, and the like. The proposal deemed to have the most potential impact will be awarded a grant up to \$2000. The recipient will be asked to write a report after the project is completed. The application form may be found at http://www.atla.com/international_collab/grantpage.html.

Please direct any questions to:

paul.stuehrenberg@yale.edu

Paul F. Stuehrenberg, Yale Divinity Library, 409 Prospect St., New Haven, CT 06511

Phone: (203) 432-5292

Fax: (203) 432-3906

SBL Meeting

If you are attending this year's Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (<http://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/default.aspx>) in New Orleans, Louisiana, November 21-24, 2009, be sure to check in with ATLA. Executive Director Dennis Norlin is hosting a breakfast on Sunday, November 22 at the Café Du Monde. All members and friends of ATLA are invited to attend. To RSVP, please email memberrep@atla.com.

Exciting News from Azusa Pacific University

Congratulations to Azusa Pacific University (APU). It is now one of only three institutions of higher learning--Princeton Theological Seminary and the Oriental Institute are the other two--to own original Dead Sea Scroll fragments. The combination gift and acquisition of five Dead Sea Scroll fragments, five first edition King James Bibles, a collection of Bible leaves, two late 17th century Hebrew Sefer Torah scrolls and other rare materials means that APU is going to need to significantly expand its special collections area. A public exhibition is in the works for the summer of next year.

Liz Leahy, Professor of Theological Bibliography and Research and Special Assistant to the Dean at the University Libraries and CP Haggard Graduate School of Theology says, "As you might imagine, we are simultaneously delighted and (more than a little) amazed. I'm a member of our special

collections team within the APU University Libraries and will be glad to let you know more details about the exhibition as things get underway--we have much to do before next summer!" You can read the official announcement at <http://www.apu.edu/media/news/release/14307/>.

Evan Boyd



In August, 2009, former ATLA staff member Evan Boyd graduated from the Master of Library and Information Science program at Dominican University, River Forest, IL. Currently, Evan is a graduate student in the Gender and Women's Studies

Program of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences and is the Reference Graduate Assistant of Memorial Library at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Congratulations, Evan!

Routine Maintenance Reminder

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, November 2, 2009. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. (CST). Services that will be affected include ASE, ListServe and the ATLA Website. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

It's Here! TLM--October 2009

find it here



Have you ordered your bookmarks? Downloaded your logos? Printed up some posters? Are you planning any special celebrations? Why not join the 52 other institutions who've made their participation official so far?

Be sure to email your ideas, photos, stories, and other items to scorkery@atla.com so we can feature them on the TLM website.

TLM Cartoon Contest

The Cartoon Caption Contest is back. Submit your own caption ideas as well as those of your students and faculty by Monday, November 2, 2009--and you could win \$100. Go to http://www.atla.com/member/librarians_tools/TLM/TLM_09/tlm_cartoons.html.

From the Professional Development Committee



The Professional Development Committee (http://www.atla.com/prof_dev/prof_dev.html) has awarded two grants to ATLA regional groups for continuing education grants this fiscal year. These grants were used to support programs that examined a wide variety of topics. The breadth of programming reflects two important mainstays of our work—its constants and the continually evolving ways in which they are achieved. This money helped ATLA librarians meet and think about:

Assessment and Theological Libraries - Issues relating to assessment have become much more urgent for theological schools and their libraries in recent years. This change has taken place partly (but not exclusively) through changes in accreditation standards, but presents new challenges and opportunities for ATLA libraries. This half-day workshop will explore key aspects of this topic.

A Fresh Look at Library Services - This program is a combination of workshops and roundtable discussions with four concurrent sessions: “Creative Use of Google Books for Religion and Theology”; “Copyright Issues and E-Reserves”; “Issues in Managing E-Resources”; “Library Administrators Roundtable”. CATLA members served as presenters.

Visit the PDC web page for descriptions of past programs to replicate in your library or regional group. Would funding help make those ideas a reality? It’s easier than ever to apply for a grant, and funds are still available for this year. Send PDC member Christina Torbert (calthreat@yahoo.com) your program proposal and she’ll shepherd it through the process. If you need more information about the grants process, please go to the ATLA website, or contact another member of the PDC: Seth Kasten (skasten@uts.columbia.edu), Ellen Frost (efrost@smu.edu), or Timothy Lincoln (tlincoln@austinseminary.edu).

The grants for continuing education and the upcoming Webinar, “What Works Now? Changing Best Practices for a New Reality” are just two of the many initiatives that the PDC supports with the goal of helping members with their continuing education needs. If we consider these funds a type of ATLA growth stock, the potential return on these investments is exciting. In today’s tumultuous financial situation, how many organizations can look forward to that?

- Timothy Lincoln, Chair

Endowment Fund Donors

(5/1 -9/30 2009)

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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 Sara Corkery (scorkery@atla.com) with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.