



ATLA NEWSLETTER

Association	1
Events.....	5
Features	8
Member News	10
Programs and Projects	12

This is the PDF version of the ATLA *Newsletter*. Please visit the ATLA *Newsletter* (newsletter.atla.com) for the latest content.

From the President Creating a Firm Foundation



*Submitted by Kelly Campbell,
ATLA President*

As my time as President is coming to a close, I am reflecting on leadership and succession planning. To maintain excellent leadership, an organization needs a strong and continuous succession plan. Otherwise, the organization may move

in different directions with each new set of leaders, i.e., the ATLA Board of Directors. The ATLA Board consists of twelve directors who rotate on a systematic basis. In June, four new board members will officially start their term of three years. During the past three weeks, I spent time talking individually with each new board member. These conversations were the first step in the succession planning process as I introduced them to the Carver Governance model utilized by the ATLA Board. This model is unique in several ways and creates the framework within which the Board and Executive Director perform their daily duties and tasks. The ATLA Board committed to this governance model quite a while ago and each year continues its investment in the model by sending all new board members to Carver Governance training, which will take place this month for all new board members (succession planning step two).

In addition to the two steps above, this year all new Board members will participate in the first ever online interactive training. This new training (succession planning step three) will be hosted by the Board Governance Committee. The final step in succession planning helps new Board members become familiar with their fiduciary responsibility as a Board member. All new Board members receive intensive financial training before the annual conference by ATLA staff. The ATLA Board values consistent leadership and strong succession planning and worked hard this past year to develop a more comprehensive succession planning process.

From Staff Leadership Digital Preservation: A New Hope



*Submitted by Jim Butler, Director of
Information Systems*

For years Archivist and Librarians have struggled with the long term preservation of digital content. Members of the library community have implemented strategies to ensure lasting access to reformatted and born-digital content with limited success. Recently ground breaking work was shared that may help, but first let's review current technologies.

We start with the disc family — CD, DVD, and Blu-ray. Compact discs first appeared in the late 1970s with the DVD and Blu-ray coming in subsequent decades. All forms are still in use today but with a max storage of 50GB and a shelf life of 5 to 10 years, I think we need to keep looking.

Magnetic tapes are an interesting option with their many variations over the last 60 years. Currently you can store up to 6TBs on a single tape. Its life span is a little better with a range of 10-20 years, but what we really need is a long term solution.

That leads us to the popular option today, hard drives. They have been relied on since the 70s, they're cheap and can store a lot of data. Unfortunately, mechanical devices that spin at high speeds are prone to break over time. The next iteration in hard drive technology is the flash drive, they process data extremely fast and have no moving parts. The downside, pricing is still fairly high and memory cells can lose their charge over time. This can result in corrupt data after 10 years of storage. I think we can do better.

Let's look to the sky or as Microsoft put it in their ad campaign a few years back "To the cloud!" No one really knew what they were talking about back then but it certainly has become big business today. Companies like Microsoft, Amazon, Dropbox, and Google will soon if not already work on the exabyte scale. To put that number into perspective, an exabyte is one million terabytes. With a seemingly unlimited amount of storage that is backed up continuously, there's no downside right? When we take a deeper look, all cloud companies are profit driven. If you miss a payment, there is no telling what will happen to

Continued on Page 2

Continued from From Staff Leadership

your data. In addition, keeping up with payments does not guarantee the data will be there, a cloud storage company could decide to close operations at any moment. That could be a problem.

I think we need to look in a new direction. Looking beyond our current technology for something dramatically better for our preservation needs. That's exactly what researchers at the University of Southampton have done. They've refined a process that uses an ultrafast laser to write data on three layers of nanostructured glass. Currently this glass can hold up to 360TB of data. You may be wondering how long can the data be stored. Would a hundred years be good? No, I said we need something dramatically better. How about this, it's said the nanostructured glass stored at room temperature can last up to 13.8 billion years. Yes, that is a billion, your data may outlast our sun.

It will be sometime before we can get this technology into our libraries, but it sure is exciting to see this type of research in the area of data preservation. If you would like to learn more about this amazing project, please visit: <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/news/2016/02/5d-data-storage-update.page>.

Letter from the Nominating Committee

Do you know someone who has the skills and dedication necessary to become a successful member of the ATLA Board of Directors? If so, the Nominating Committee for the ATLA Board would appreciate your suggestions for the 2017-2020 term.

To help understand the process by which candidates are nominated for election to the ATLA Board of Directors, please be sure to review the information on the [ATLA Nominating Committee's](#) page.

You will not need to contact the person(s) you are recommending. Committee members will assess all potential nominees and will contact those who appear to show the greatest promise. Please send your suggestions by June 1, 2016 to:

Tammy Johnson johnsont@ctsnet.edu

Eileen Crawford Eileen.crawford@vanderbilt.edu

Ellen Frost efrost@smu.edu

Board of Directors Meets in Chicago

Submitted by Steve Perisho, ATLA Secretary

The Board devoted the 24th of February to aligning the Organizational Ends (<https://www.atla.com/about/who/Pages/MissionStatement.aspx>) with the new Strategic Plan (<https://www.atla.com/about/who/Pages/ATLA-Strategic-Plan.aspx>). It was assisted in this process by independent Carver Governance consultant Eric Craymer, and concluded its extended deliberations by appointing a task force to continue this work and report back to the Board in June.

On Thursday, the Board approved its consent agenda, including the following slate of officers for 2016-2017: Timothy Lincoln, President; Matthew Ostercamp, Vice President; and Tracy Powell Iwaskow, Secretary. The Board then discussed its response to the Executive Director's January Monitoring Report and received a further report on recent developments. A document entitled "Guidelines for Board Resolutions Crafted for a Purpose Other than the Governance of the Association" was submitted by the Governance Committee and approved. It will reside in the *ATLA Board Policy Manual*. The Board then resolved to "review all feedback from members and deliberate if changes to the policy are needed."

On Friday, 26 February, the Board received the auditor's report and, on the recommendation of its Finance Committee, accepted the audit. As part of its plan to hear from the moral ownership, the Board assigned its members to the various regional-group meetings occurring from March through October of 2016. At these meetings they and the Director of Member Programs will share the new Strategic Plan and receive feedback. The meeting on Friday concluded with a discussion of a proposed major revision of the *Bylaws*, on which, once this work has been completed, the membership will be asked to vote.

Saturday morning was devoted to the discussion of items of business more routine in nature.

Planning the Future of Theological Librarianship

The April 2016 issue marks the last for two of the founding editors of *Theological Librarianship* (<https://theolib.atla.com/theolib>), David Stewart and Ronald Crown. Both have been instrumental in bringing to fruition the dream of creating a venue for theological librarians and others who want to contribute to the profession through scholarly publishing. Born out of a spirited roundtable session, the journal launched during the 2008 ATLA Annual Conference held in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Thank you to David and Ron for their long term service to *Theological Librarianship*.

Theological Librarianship fosters the professional development of theological librarians and contributes to and enriches the profession of theological librarianship. David and Ron's vision, passion, and hard work helped *Theological Librarianship* transition from an idea, to a fledging publication, to a professionally published journal that enjoys a readership from throughout the world.

In order to plan for the next phase for the journal, members of the Editorial Board and ATLA staff will meet in late April for a strategic planning discussion. With *Theological Librarianship* now an established journal, the infrastructure, processes, and support needs have changed. The Editorial Board and ATLA Staff will meet to define roles and responsibilities and discuss how best to work together to move *Theological Librarianship* to the next level.

In early 2016, the position of Editor in Chief for *Theological Librarianship* was posted and a search committee was formed to evaluate applicants. The search process has been temporarily suspended while the members of the Editorial Board and ATLA staff collaborate on determining the best operational and organizational structure to support the journal moving forward. We will keep the ATLA membership updated as this process continues.

In the meantime, the Editorial Board is moving forward with plans to publish the October 2016 issue. And, as always, welcomes inquiries from those interested in contributing to the journal, either as writers or editors. Please submit any inquiries to editors-tl@atlanow.com.

Changes to the Board of Directors

This winter, David Stewart resigned his position on the ATLA Board of Directors. David was elected to the Board in 2015.

In accordance with ATLA Bylaws, the Board selected a replacement to serve on the Board for the remainder of David's term. We are grateful that Jaeyeon Lucy Chung has agreed to join the Board in this capacity. Lucy is the Library Director of the United Library, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL. Her term on the Board is through June 2018

Judy Knop Retires from ATLA

After many, many years of service to ATLA, Judy Knop will be retiring from her position as Member Programs Librarian at ATLA effective June 30, 2016.

Judy first came to ATLA in 1986 as the Head of Technical Services and was responsible for all aspects of technical processing required to catalog and prepare 3,000-4,000 books per year for microfilming. She moved on to be the Preservation Specialist responsible for microfilming of journals, then Digitization Coordinator overseeing digitization of journals, and recently Metadata Curator improving the quality of metadata in *ATLA RDB*® and *ATLA CPL*®. As Member Programs Librarian she has focused on the areas on membership engagement, retention, and recruitment and facilitating relationships with regional groups and interest groups. Since 2002, Judy has spearheaded the ATLA NACO and CONSER Funnel Program, training and reviewing authority records and CONSER level serial records created or modified by ATLA members.

Prior to joining ATLA, Judy held cataloging positions at Cudahy Library, Loyola University of Chicago, and the Jesuit-Krauss-McCormick Library.

We are deeply appreciative of Judy's contributions to ATLA and its membership over the past 29 years.

The position of Member Programs Librarian is available on the ATLA Job Board (<https://www.atla.com/Members/development/jobs/Pages/Member-Programs-Librarian.aspx>). ATLA Member Richard Lammert will be assuming the responsibilities of ATLA Funnels Coordinator and ATLA NACO Funnel Lead, and ATLA Member Michael Bradford will be the ATLA CONSER Funnel Lead and they are coordinating a transition with Judy over the next several months.

Please join us in wishing Judy the best in her well-deserved retirement!

Nicholas Weiss Assumes Chair of DEI

Nicholas Weiss will be assuming the chair of the Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) for the remainder of Jaeyeon Lucy Chung's term and serving as chair in 2017. Lucy replaced David Stewart on the ATLA Board of Directors (<https://newsletter.atla.com/2016/changes-to-the-board-of-directors/>).

Nic is the Director of Library and Archives at Naropa University, Boulder, CO.

Learn more about the DEI Committee (<http://www.atla.com/Members/divisions/committees/Pages/Committee-Diversity-Equity-Inclusion.aspx>).

Guidelines For Board Resolutions Crafted For A Purpose Other Than The Governance Of The Association

During the past year, ATLA members have raised concerns about events occurring in the public arena and whether ATLA should be taking a formal position on them. One of them was raised at the 2015 ATLA Annual Conference, which led to a formal Board resolution (<https://newsletter.atla.com/2015/board-of-directors-meets-in-denver/>) about the sad events which occurred at the Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, last June. The second was raised on the ATLANTIS listserv regarding gun laws and academic campuses. As the result of these member concerns, at its February 2016 Board meeting the ATLA Board of Directors discussed and passed a set of guidelines regarding resolutions on these types of issues. This document, "Guidelines for Board Resolutions Crafted for a Purpose Other than the Governance of the Association," has been added as an Appendix to the *Board Policy Manual* (page 63) and has been included below for your information.

The Board welcomes member feedback on these guidelines. Comments can be sent to guidelines@atla.com. Messages sent to this email address will be kept in confidence and will be read directly by Board members without intermediation by staff.

The *ATLA Board Policy Manual* can be found on the Community section of the ATLA website. Member login is required. If you have issues logging in please email memberrep@atla.com.

For more information on the meeting, please see the summary from Board Secretary, Steve Perisho (<https://newsletter.atla.com/2016/board-of-directo...meets-in-chicago/>).

GUIDELINES FOR BOARD RESOLUTIONS CRAFTED FOR A PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE GOVERNANCE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The core purpose of the American Theological Library Association is "To promote worldwide scholarly communication in religion and theology by advancing the work of libraries and related information providers." An association with a core purpose such as that is bound to consist of members whose interests in, and opinions, judgments, and convictions on matters of religious, ethical, social, and political significance are sometimes diametrically opposed. Indeed, a strength of the American Theological Library Association, developed over the course of a history of hard-won inclusion, has been the differences of its members and their ability to collaborate and form deep and lasting friendships even while respectfully disagreeing on matters of real importance.

For this reason the Association has stated that it values, in addition to "excellence in library collections and services" and the "widest possible access to relevant information and ideas," "hospitality, inclusion, and diversity," as well as "collegiality and collaboration" (not to mention "creativity, innovation, and transformation"). It must therefore be careful to represent its membership as a whole.

Committed to values such as these, the ATLA Board will normally restrict itself to the formulation of resolutions designed to govern the Association. The Board may consider the formulation of resolutions on other matters when all or most of the following conditions obtain:

1. The matter at hand is directly related to or in conflict with the core purpose of the Association.
2. The matter at hand is directly related to or in conflict with the primary activities of the membership considered as a whole.
3. Association members are directly affected.
4. A minimum of ten Association members formally requests action from the Board, and does so in response to a specific event or pressing issue.
5. The Board has heard from the membership and is able to meet in real time to produce a timely, carefully-considered, and appropriate response.
6. The resolution in question cannot reasonably be construed to pit the opinions of one segment of the membership against those of another.

Guided by its core purpose and values, the Board of course supports the widest possible access to information and ideas relevant to the open and hospitable discussion of such issues with an eye to the positive transformation of society, and encourages the members of the Association to act as libraries and related information providers have always done in bringing a balanced array of scholarly communication to bear upon the pressing issues of the day.

The 2016 ATLA Annual Conference Registration is Open

Registration is open (<https://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/default.aspx>) for the 2016 ATLA Annual Conference. Come join a gathering of theological librarians, publishers, scholars, students, and other information providers in Long Beach, CA, June 15-18 as we learn more about “Transformation and Innovation in ATLA Libraries.”

To help you register, we have answered the six big conference questions. These questions and others can be found on the conference FAQ page (<https://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/ConferenceFAQ.aspx>).

How can I register to attend?

If you are an ATLA Individual, Student, or Lifetime Member or are from an ATLA Institutional, International Institutional, or Affiliate Member, follow this link to register (<https://my.atla.com/LogIn/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=/Conference/RegistrationProcessOverview.aspx?id%3d27&id=27>).

If you or your institution are not a member of ATLA, registration requires two processes, Creating a Profile and Registering for the Conference, NonMember-Registration-Instructions.pdf (<https://www.atla.com/Members/conference/SiteAssets/Pages/ConferenceFAQ/NonMember-Registration-Instructions.pdf>) for detailed instructions, and follow this link to register (<https://my.atla.com/LogIn/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=/Conference/RegistrationProcessOverview.aspx?id%3d27&id=27>).

Where can I make hotel reservations?

This year's conference will be hosted downtown at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach. Hotel rooms are offered at a discounted rate of \$169, plus applicable taxes. Book your hotel here for the best rates (<https://aws.passkey.com/g/50893353>).

Where is the conference schedule?

The 2016 conference schedule can be found on SCHED.org (<https://atla2016.sched.org/>).

What are the fees to attend the conference?

Conference pricing did not increase from 2015. To view the conference pricing and our cancellation policy, please see the FAQ page (<https://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/ConferenceFAQ.aspx>).

Are travel grants available?

ATLA is pleased to offer grants to support attendance at the 2016 ATLA Annual Conference in Long Beach, CA, June 15-18, 2016. Any ATLA Student or Individual member in good standing as of January 1, 2016 is eligible to apply. Learn more about this program here (<http://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/ConferenceTravelGrant.aspx>).

Are there any grants available for International Attendees?

Yes, we have the Developing Countries Conference Grants Program (<http://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/DevelopingCountriesGrant.aspx>).

Go to the official 2016 ATLA Annual Conference page for more information (<https://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/default.aspx>).

5 Culturally Diverse Places to Visit During the 2016 ATLA Annual Conference

The 2016 ATLA Annual Conference will be held in Long Beach, CA, on June 15-18 and we have some recommendations of must-see places. We would like to thank the Diversity Listserv who helped us create this list, and while this list is nowhere near exhaustive, we hope that these suggestions will bring awareness to the wide array of diverse cultural experiences Southern California has to offer. We hope that you will take some time out of your busy conference schedule to experience something new.

Japanese American National Museum

Located in downtown Los Angeles and in Little Tokyo, this museum is a must-see.

According to Susan Ebertz who recommended this museum:

“They have a very moving exhibit on the Internment, an archives, and other exhibits. The internment exhibit includes one of the buildings from Heart Mountain Internment Camp in Wyoming. Personal note: our daughter has her name engraved on a brick in the entrance area to the museum. I did research on my grandparents in the archives. They were so helpful.”

Learn more: <http://www.janm.org/>

California African American Museum

Located near the University of Southern California, the California African American Museum is free to all visitors and focuses on enrichment and education on the cultural heritage and history of African Americans with a focus on California and western United States.

Learn more: <http://www.caamuseum.org/>

Terminal Island Japanese Memorial

Located six miles from the conference location, the Terminal Island Japanese Memorial is a relatively unknown, but important historical location, outside of Long Beach. According to Susan Ebertz who recommended this location:

“Terminal Island was a fishing village where many Japanese settled when they first came to America. The residents were the first Japanese Americans on the West Coast to be evacuated.”

Learn more: <http://www.sanpedro.com/spcom/Terminal-Island-Japanese-Memorial.htm>

Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA)

Located in Long Beach, this museum is the only one in the United States dedicated to modern and contemporary Latin American art. As a Smithsonian Affiliate Museum, their collection and resources are expansive. They are celebrating their 20th Anniversary, so expect some fun events while you're in town!

Learn more: <http://www.molaa.org/>

Museum of Tolerance (MOT)

While it's located near Beverly Hills and the furthest of our must-see places, this museum is unique and not one to miss. The museum is designed to examine racism and prejudice around the world with a strong focus on the history of the Holocaust. MOT also deals with atrocities in Cambodia and Latin America, along with issues like bullying and hate crimes. The museum is known for its use of multimedia technology and interactive computer-controlled exhibits.

Learn more: <http://www.museumoftolerance.com/>

Registration for the 2016 ATLA Annual Conference will open later this month. Until then, check out the Conference website (<https://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/default.aspx>) for more information, including hotel information and travel tips.

We'd love to hear your recommendations. Join the Diversity listserv (memberrep@atla.com), post on the Facebook Events Page (<https://www.facebook.com/events/1443132782675948/>), or comment below with either your most anticipated place to visit or your favorite location.

Events

Call for Papers Deadline Extended: Religions, Libraries in Dialogue (RELINDIAL)

The organizers of the Religions, Libraries in Dialogue (RELINDIAL) satellite meeting are issuing a call for papers (CFP). The theme of this year's RELINDIAL satellite meeting is "Fostering Global Scholarly Communications among Religions and Libraries." The satellite meeting will take place on August 12, 2016, on the campus of Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, OH. The deadline to submit papers has been extended to April 30.

The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) is sponsoring and hosting the satellite meeting. The satellite meeting is prior to the start of the 82nd IFLA General Conference and Assembly August 13-19, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio. The IFLA RELINDIAL Satellite Meeting is held under the aegis of IFLA but is a separate meeting not requiring IFLA registration.

We invite proposals from librarians, scholars, students, and others. We especially encourage first-time presenters (papers will be 20 minutes with 10 minutes for questions) on topics related to RELINDIAL's general theme. Proposals may address a wide range of topics, including, but not limited to:

- Making global knowledge exchanges in theology and religious studies more efficient;
- Identifying explicit and tacit barriers to access in theology and religious studies;
- Intellectual property protection for traditional religious knowledge;
- The state of open access publication in the field of theology and religious studies;
- Differences in open access practices between religious communities.
- Advancing digital humanities in theology and religion

To apply, please email a proposal of 250 words (with title of presentation) or less by April 30 to jyounger@nd.edu. Please include your name and institutional affiliation in your email, but not on your proposal itself. Proposals will be double-blind peer-reviewed. If you have questions, please contact mmcmahon@ctu.edu or clifford.anderson@vanderbilt.edu for additional information.

The "Fostering Global Scholarly Communications among Religions and Libraries" is a Satellite Meeting of the Religions, Libraries in Dialogue (RELINDIAL) Special Interest Group on August 12, 2016, organized under the aegis of The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and hosted by the American Theological Library Association (ATLA).

Registration Now Open! IFLA RELINDIAL SIG Satellite Meeting

The IFLA RELINDIAL SIG (Religions: Libraries and Dialogue Special Interest Group) and the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) welcome you to a timely discussion on *Fostering Global Communication among Religions and Libraries* at their satellite meeting on August 12, 2016 on the campus of Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, OH. The satellite meeting is prior to the start of the 82nd IFLA General Conference and Assembly August 13-19, 2016 in Columbus, Ohio. The IFLA RELINDIAL Satellite Meeting is held under the aegis of IFLA but is a separate meeting not requiring IFLA registration.

A majority of the world's population professes to a faith tradition of their ancestors, their country or both. More than ever, we live in times calling for knowledge and respect for traditions of other people. Two plenary speakers — Jamie LaRue, Director of the Office of Intellectual Freedom at the American Library Association and Dr. Nancy Arnison, Director of the Theological Book Network, panelists from four different faith traditions, and paper presenters will speak on how religions and libraries are changing the nature of interfaith dialogue through their services and activities. Come join us to learn from all of the participants – presenters and audience – and to share your thoughts.

For more information and to register, visit: <https://events.atla.com/rsm/rsm2016>.

Organized under aegis of IFLA and Hosted by ATLA

ATLA Calendar

ATLA is around the globe this season. Check out the ATLA Calendar (<https://newsletter.atla.com/events/>) for a list of events, deadlines, and meetings.

As a reminder, routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, May 2. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. 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.

ATLA as the Hub

Submitted by Steve Perisho, Seattle Pacific University Library

Note: This series of feature articles written by ATLA Board members talks about how ATLA's Strategic Plan resonates with them personally in the context of their own institutions.

Back in January, Timothy Lincoln reflected on the second of the four goals in the new ATLA Strategic Plan, the one focused on open access (<https://newsletter.atla.com/2016/atla-and-open-access/>). I would like to reflect on the fourth goal, which strives for the development of “a shared understanding of what it means to be a hub,” interpreting it in such a way as to stress that it transcends the other goals.

It encompasses the other three goals because it is the one in which the underlying vision is most obviously reflected, namely, that someday the ATLA will be “the hub of worldwide scholarly communication in theology and religion.” And that, it should be easy to see, would have to involve a greater degree of inclusivity; strategic collaboration on a global scale; and as much as possible in the way of open-access publishing, be that the open-access publishing of, or open-access publishing facilitated or flagged by the ATLA and its members.

But what does “scholarly communication” mean to you? The Association of Research Libraries defines it as:

the [entire] system through which research and other scholarly writings are created, evaluated for quality, disseminated to the scholarly community, and preserved for future use. The system includes both formal means of communication, such as publication in peer-reviewed journals, and informal channels, such as electronic listservs. (<http://www.arl.org/focus-areas/scholarly-communication#.VwG9oPkrLcs>)

This definition states the basic idea, but the phraseology gives this definition an already old-fashioned feel that makes it a bit too easy for us to see ourselves as already having achieved this goal. The ATLA and its members have been involved in the evaluation (in the sense of selection), preservation, organization, and dissemination (including the indexing) of — and, yes, ready and even open access to — such materials (and the primary sources upon which they reflect) for decades (its institutional members even longer). And more recently have moved into the arena of publishing (creation, and evaluation in the sense of peer review) as well, both traditional and emergent.

Yet although ATLA and its members have made major *contributions* in these areas, it might be stretching things a bit to claim that the ATLA has been “the *hub of worldwide scholarly communication in theology and religion*” to date. Theology libraries and librarians play an important role, but to be viewed as the facilitators to information by the

religious-studies collections and librarians we prize; the scholars, reflective practitioners, students, administrators, and information- and wisdom-seeking publics we serve; the formal and informal scholarly associations, networks, and means of communication (even “invisible colleges”) we all try to stay abreast of; the publishers and editors whose multi-formatted texts and tools we purchase; the educational technologists we are hiring or forging partnerships with; and so on, on into the future, worldwide, there is work yet to do.

To say that the ATLA seeks “a shared understanding of what it [would] mean to be a hub” “of worldwide scholarly communication in theology and religion” is to say that it seeks to be of *greater service*. The goal is not an imperialistically supercessionist one, predicated upon the silly and ethically problematic idea that the ATLA could or should do it all; but rather, the more that—building strength upon historic strength — the ATLA could do in conjunction with all of these potential partners *collaboratively* to facilitate the intricate connections among texts (more broadly artifacts), tools, and people so crucial to the future of the study of religion, theology, and ministry around the world.

Every last hint of supercessionism aside, the vision remains a capacious one, so expansive, indeed, that the goal for now is simply to make progress towards “a shared understanding.” What would be the elements of such a hub, and how would they be (variously) connected? Which would ATLA have to create, and which would it simply refer out or link to? What resources would be required to take the idea of a comprehensive (if loose and distributed) nexus of nexi[1] beyond where it already stands at present, and what are we really *realistically* capable of accomplishing over time? What are the steps to the goal, and what — in addition to an inclusive and diversified membership, an international reputation for strategic collaboration, and an even heftier track record for the facilitation of open access publishing — should we “build” first? Where are the gaps?

I am a lowly *reference* librarian. Like my confreres in theology and religious studies around the country and throughout the world, I want to be able to make the connections that my students, faculty, administrators, colleagues, and publics need me to be able to make. This means that I need at my fingertips a whole suite of “the right ‘tools’ for the job.” Or, rather, it means that I need to know where to turn for the information that I am expected to be in a position to provide. In many cases that will be a superbly specialized tool. But the other day, in response to the query of a stumped specialist on antebellum New York abolitionism, every superbly specialized tool I could think of (or that “the hub” might incorporate into a single “hive mind”) failed me, and it was only the connection I was able to make with another specialist on antebellum

Continued on Page 9

New York abolitionism unknown to the first (not to mention me before that point) that secured for this member of my Seminary faculty a copy of an 1856 pamphlet not present in WorldCat or any other national union catalog (and indeed only just *barely* in Google, and even then not before I had *already* learned what it was that I was looking for), and therefore *very far* indeed from even merely open *representation*, let alone open access.

To *my* way of thinking, then, anything that (upon the failure of the specialized works of reference) would have made the forging of that one connection — that one small example of “worldwide scholarly communication in theology and religion” — just a bit more automatic might be an element of “the hub of worldwide scholarly communication in theology and religion.” Could there be a truly comprehensive but extremely well-organized work of reference for the whole of theology and religious studies capable of functioning, when necessary, at a comparable level of granularity worldwide, but incorporating dynamically, in addition to where to look, whom to contact? Or, at least, allow the answers to questions like that to be catalogued and retained for ready recovery around the world? And if so, then what would an element like that look like? One could say that the envisioned nexus must already exist because otherwise I would never have managed to come up with so much as a title, let alone the full text. And one would be right. But is there anything further that the ATLA can do to grease such wheels? Could what we do for one another over ATLANTIS, for example, become the kernel of something we create in collaboration with others “for the life of the world”? Could the ATLA “brand” become associated somehow with information provision and reference work of that complexity, however facilitated and however distributed?

But then I’m just an unrealistic *reference* librarian, and that is but one idea. What would it mean for *you* (in your role) were ATLA to become “the hub”? With whom (and how) would you see us collaborating? And what might you or your institution be willing to contribute to such an end?

[1] Though “nexus” is in Latin the proper plural, “nexi” does occur (along with “nexuses”) in Webster’s *Third new international* (though not the *OED*).

Digital Spotlight: Robots Reading Vogue

In this month’s installment of Digital Spotlight, Andy Carter, ATLA Digital Projects Manager, shares Robots Reading Vogue (<http://dh.library.yale.edu/projects/vogue/>).

The Digital Humanities at Yale University Library acquired the text, scans, and metadata of the entire Vogue catalog (1892-present) from ProQuest. As the library states, “One of the great things about academic libraries is the way they can bring together seemingly disparate research interests—for example, fashion and data mining.” The project includes 27,000 covers, 400,000 pages, and 6 TB of data.

They built some interesting tools, one in particular is the Colormetric Space (<http://dh.library.yale.edu/projects/vogue/colormetricspace/>). According to the library,

We have long been inspired by the work of Lev Manovich and his Software Studies Initiative (<http://lab.softwarestudies.com/>). Their team has produced a wonderful free tool called ImagePlot (<http://lab.softwarestudies.com/p/imageplot.html>) along with copious documentation and examples. Together, these tools and resources allow new and exciting work with image collections, exposing some of the inherent dimensions of visual material such as hue, saturation and brightness. ImagePlot lets us quantitatively visualize how colorful Vogue covers were over time — from the 1890s on the left to the 2010s on the right.

The image selected is from the Colormetric Space and demonstrates how in the late 1970s women’s faces completely filled the covers significantly bumping the average saturation of covers. See their 20,000 pixel-wide graph for more information (<http://dh.library.yale.edu/projects/vogue/colormetricspace/>).

Learn more (<http://dh.library.yale.edu/projects/vogue/>).

Karl Stutzman to Serve as AMBS Library Director

We are excited to announce that Karl Stutzman has been named the new Director of Library Services at the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) effective July 1, 2016.

Karl has been serving the AMBS library since 2008, most recently as Assistant Director for Digital Library Services. He joined ATLA in 2008 and has been an active member, including chairing the Emerging Technology Interest Group and attending ATLA Conferences. In 2013 he was selected to attend the Wabash Center Teacher and Learning Colloquy for Theological School Librarians.

Previous AMBS Library Director and ATLA Lifetime Member, Eileen K. Saner, said, "It has been stimulating and enjoyable to work with Karl for the past eight years. I am grateful that he will be continuing to serve AMBS and theological librarianship." (<https://newsletter.atla.com/2015/eileen-k-saner-retires/>)

Please join us in congratulating Karl on his new position in the comments below.

Read the full press release (<https://www.ambs.edu/news/Stutzman-to-serve-as-AMBS-library-director.cfm>).

Sue Ebbers Retires from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities

Susan K. Ebbers is retiring from the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, effective August 2016.

Sue has served on the library staff for 30 years, including 21 years as Director of the Library and 2 years as Dean (2011-2013).

She received her BA in English Literature at Central College, MS in Counseling at Drake University, MA in Library and Information Services at University of Wisconsin-Madison, and MDiv at the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

Sue has been a member of ATLA since 1991 and has served in several capacities, including chairing the Tellers Committee (14). She also served on several interest groups, including Teaching and Learning, Public Services, and Collection Evaluation and Development. She has also been active in the Minnesota Theological Library Association.

We thank her for her years of service in ATLA and wish her well in her retirement.

James Dunkly Retires from University of the South

James Dunkly is retiring from the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee, effective June 30. Jim received a BA from Texas Christian University, and MA and PhD degrees from Vanderbilt University. He also earned a Diploma in Theology from Oxford University. He has served as Librarian of the School of Theology, Associate University Librarian, and Lecturer in New Testament at Sewanee since 1993. Earlier he occupied similar positions at Nashotah House (1975-83) and at Episcopal Divinity School (1983-92).

Jim has been a member of ATLA since 1974 and has served in several capacities, including President (1990-1992) and Vice President (1989-1990) on the ATLA Board of Directors. He chaired the ATLA Judaica Interest Group and the Anglican Denominational Group and has served on the Education Committee. He He has also been active in the Tennessee Theological Library Association, of which he was president from 2013 to 2015, and has served on many visiting teams for ATS.

We thank him for his years of service in ATLA and wish him well in his retirement.

Apply for the available position here (<https://www.atla.com/Members/development/jobs/Pages/School-of-Theology-Librarian.aspx>).

Robert W. Woodruff Library Received 2016 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

ATLA Institutional Member Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library, Atlanta, Georgia, is one of three to receive the 2016 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.

Sponsored by ACRL and YBP Library Services, the award recognizes the staff of a college, university, and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution.

The Robert W. Woodruff Library was selected for transformative change in innovative services and programs in the university category.

Please join us in congratulating them on this fantastic honor!

Read the full press release here. (<http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2016/01/2016-acrl-excellence-academic-libraries-award-winners-announced>)

New Members: Summit University, Clarke University, Georgia Christian University School of Divinity, Digital Theological Library

Please join us in welcoming four new members to the American Theological Library Association:

Institutional Member, Murphy Memorial Library, Summit University, Clarks Summit, PA

The library currently holds approximately 85,000 volumes and maintains about 110 print subscriptions. Online resources total about 16,000 journal titles in various databases, with approximately 8,000 titles available in full-text. Additional holdings include CDs, DVDs, VHS and microfiche. Within the library, areas are provided for viewing or listening to audiovisual materials as well as working on projects. Computers are available for student and community use for purposes of Internet browsing, printing and searching the Library catalog and databases. Learn more. (<https://www.summitu.edu/>)

Affiliate Member, Nicholas J. Schrup Library, Clarke University, Dubuque, IA

Clarke University is a liberal arts and sciences university focused on progressing with the times. Humble beginnings have developed into over 30 undergraduate and 6 graduate programs, including a best-in-class adult education program. The Nicholas J. Schrup Library provides resources and services to support the curricular and personal information needs of the Clarke University community. The collection of the library contains 100,000 volumes. Learn more. (<http://www.clarke.edu/>)

Affiliate Member Georgia Christian University Library, Georgia Christian University School of Divinity, Atlanta, GA

The vision of GCU is to glorify God by equipping students who will proclaim God's Word, to build up the body of Christ through education, and to advance God's kingdom by reaching out to the globe. GCU seeks to maintain an appropriate balance between training for academics and professionalism. Georgia Christian University had its beginning as the Immanuel Original Bible Institute in Alabama in the year of 1993. Its sole focus was on studying Biblical languages and Biblical interpretation. In February 2014, School of Divinity is granted a Candidate for Accredited Member from ATS. The collection of the library contains 34,764 volumes. Learn more. (http://library.gcuniv.edu/customer/Mainlayout.aspx?lib_code=P1001175)

Affiliate Member Digital Theological Library, Upland, CA

The Digital Theological Library is a co-owned, born-digital library of religious and theological studies. The mission of the DTL is to provide its co-owning institutions with the highest quality digital resources in religious and theological studies at the lowest possible costs. Learn more. (<http://www.digitaltheologicalibrary.org/>)

ATLA Job Board

- ATLA, Chicago, IL, is looking for a [Member Programs Librarian](#).
- Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA, is looking for an [Acquisitions and Collection Management Librarian](#).
- Concordia University Irvine, Irvine, CA, is looking for an [Assistant Librarian/ Archivist](#).
- David Allan Hubbard Library, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA, is looking for a [Reference Librarian and Spanish Language Specialist](#) and [Electronic Resources Librarian](#).
- Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Ontario, is looking for a [Cataloging Services Librarian](#).
- Harvard Divinity School, Harvard-Andover Theological Library, Cambridge, MA, is looking for a [Head of Special Collections](#).
- International Theological Seminary (ITS) in El Monte, CA, is looking for a [Part Time Librarian](#).
- Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, St. Louis, MO, is looking for a [Systems/Cataloging Librarian](#).
- P.H. Welshimer Memorial Library, Milligan College, TN, is looking for a [User Services Librarian](#).
- Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Forth Worth, TX, is looking for a [Public Services Librarian](#).
- St. John's Seminary, Camarillo, CA, is looking for a [Library Director](#).
- The University of the South, Sewanee, TN, is looking for a [School of Theology Librarian](#).
- Trinity International University, The Roling Memorial Library, Deerfield, IL, is looking for a [Theological Librarian](#).

Updates on the ATLA Funnel Programs

Eight New Participants in ATLA NACO Funnel Program

Eight catalogers completed the training necessary to become members of the Name Authority Cooperative Program (NACO), one of the components of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) which was initiated by the Library of Congress. This brings the number of members of the ATLA NACO Funnel to thirty, representing twenty-seven institutions. The eight new catalogers participated in the online training course developed by the Library of Congress, consisting of eight modules and seven webinars, conducted over 3-4 weeks. Since then, several have begun creating and modifying records in the Name Authority File (NAF). After review and corrections, those records are added to the NAF. During the last fiscal year, the ATLA NACO Funnel contributed 191 new name records and modified 609 existing records.

Anyone interested in joining this program should contact Judy Knop (jknop@atla.com) for information on requirements for membership.

Two Possible New Funnel Programs

Six catalogers expressed interest in participating in a series funnel and one NACO member is currently taking the series training. Training to create and contribute series authority records is completely online and can be taken at the cataloger's convenience. If you are interested in participating and have not already indicated your interest to Judy Knop, please email her at (jknop@atla.com).

Catalogers have also expressed interest in starting a Subject Authority Cooperative (SACO) funnel. There will be an opportunity for conversation around this topic at the 2016 ATLA Annual Conference in Long Beach, CA this coming June. Anyone interested in participating in this funnel should attend that session if you are coming to the Annual Conference. If you cannot make it to the conference, please send an email to Judy Knop (jknop@atla.com) expressing your interest in participating in this funnel.

Webinar Reminder

Preparing for a Linked Data Future – The Importance of ATLA's NACO and CONSER Funnel Projects

Richard Lammert, Technical Services and Systems Librarian, Concordia Theological Seminary, Anna Appleman, Cataloger, Columbia Theological Seminary, and Judy Knop, ATLA NACO/CONSER Funnel Coordinator

Wed, May 25, 2pm ET

Register (<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4399957835315114244>)

This information was taken from the most recent issue of Theology Cataloging Bulletin (TCB). Learn more and subscribe.

EBSCO Offers Several eBook Collections That May Be of Interest to ATLA Members

EBSCO Collection Development Librarians created 10 smaller Theology and Religion 2016 collections (scroll halfway down the page <https://www.ebscohost.com/ebooks/academic/featured-collection>). These collections provide titles on a variety of aspects of Christian religious studies. These collections are highly focused on specific fields of Christian studies and Christian theology and are organized by subject for ease of use. Key publishers include Baker Publishing Group, Fortress Press, Westminster John Knox Press, Eerdmans Publishing Company, and United Methodist Publishing House.

The 2016 collections are updated collections with no overlap of titles included in the 2014 collections, therefore libraries who purchased the 2014 versions can be assured they are buying all new titles. These collections are available for perpetual purchase and the collections cannot be broken up.

Also available are 12 collections (<https://www.ebscohost.com/archives/atla-historical-monographs-collection>) curated by ATLA (ATLA Historical Monographs Collection) where religion and theology scholars can focus their research on the era and topics that most closely fit their fields of study. Eleven thematic series provide researchers with specialized content spanning from the 13th century through 1922. Two comprehensive sets are also available. The majority of content dates from the 19th and early 20th centuries, a time of great doctrinal, social and organizational turmoil and upheaval in American culture, making this collection an invaluable resource for scholars seeking to understand not only religious thought during this time period, but the general social, political and economic transformation of the country as well. Researchers can view all of the typography, graphics and drawings as they were originally presented, which provides context and perspective to religion in American and world history.

The ATLA Historical Monographs Collections have not changed in 2016 and are available for perpetual purchase. EBSCO will provide custom quotes for any library interested in these collections.

Contact your EBSCO Sales Rep to receive your quote for the EBSCO eBook Collection today!

FirstSearch® Will Continue to be Offered as a Separate Service

In response to feedback from librarians about the unique capabilities of FirstSearch, FirstSearch and WorldCat Discovery will continue as separate services. OCLC will continue the full-featured WorldCat searching valued in FirstSearch in a new version of FirstSearch, and will add these capabilities to WorldCat Discovery.

- **A new version of FirstSearch** will deliver the full-featured searching of WorldCat valued by FirstSearch users today.
- **WorldCat Discovery** will continue to provide single-search discovery of electronic, digital and physical materials in your collections and in libraries worldwide. In addition to the single search box preferred by many searchers, future WorldCat Discovery will provide the full-featured search experience of FirstSearch for library staff and other expert searchers. WorldCat Discovery will remain the user-facing interface to WorldShare Management Services.

Both WorldCat Discovery and the new version of FirstSearch will include a modern, mobile-ready interface.

Collections of libraries represented in WorldCat will remain visible on the websites where many people begin their research, no matter which service they choose to use in the future.

As OCLC works to deliver critical functionality required in both services, access to the current version of FirstSearch will extend beyond the 2016 calendar year into 2017.

OCLC has modified the plan to transition all FirstSearch and WorldCat Local users to WorldCat Discovery because it is clear libraries need to deliver search experiences that meet different user needs, such as:

- power searching of the WorldCat database, often used by library staff and expert searchers, and
- single-search-box discovery of electronic, digital and physical library collections for a broader user community.

Many libraries also already have a discovery service but still want to provide detailed searching of WorldCat to support research and a variety of library workflows.

Your current subscription supports use of either the new version of FirstSearch or WorldCat Discovery, implementing the service that best meets your needs. We will work with OCLC to determine the best way to support your needs as these changes take place.

It's Time! ATLA / EBSCO Consortium Renewal

ATLA is currently working with EBSCO on quotes for renewing and new members of the ATLA / EBSCO Consortium for the 2016-2017 subscription year that runs from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. This program provides consortium pricing for several EBSCO databases via EBSCOhost, including *ATLA ReligionDatabase®*, *ATLASerials®*, *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index®*, *Old Testament Abstracts (OTA)*, and *New Testament Abstracts (NTA)*.

Institutions that participated in the consortium in 2015-2016 should have received an e-mail in early April and need to confirm their desire to participate this year by April, 22, 2016. If your institution has not participated in the past and is interested in joining the consortium, please contact Kelly Jurecko at memberrep@atla.com.