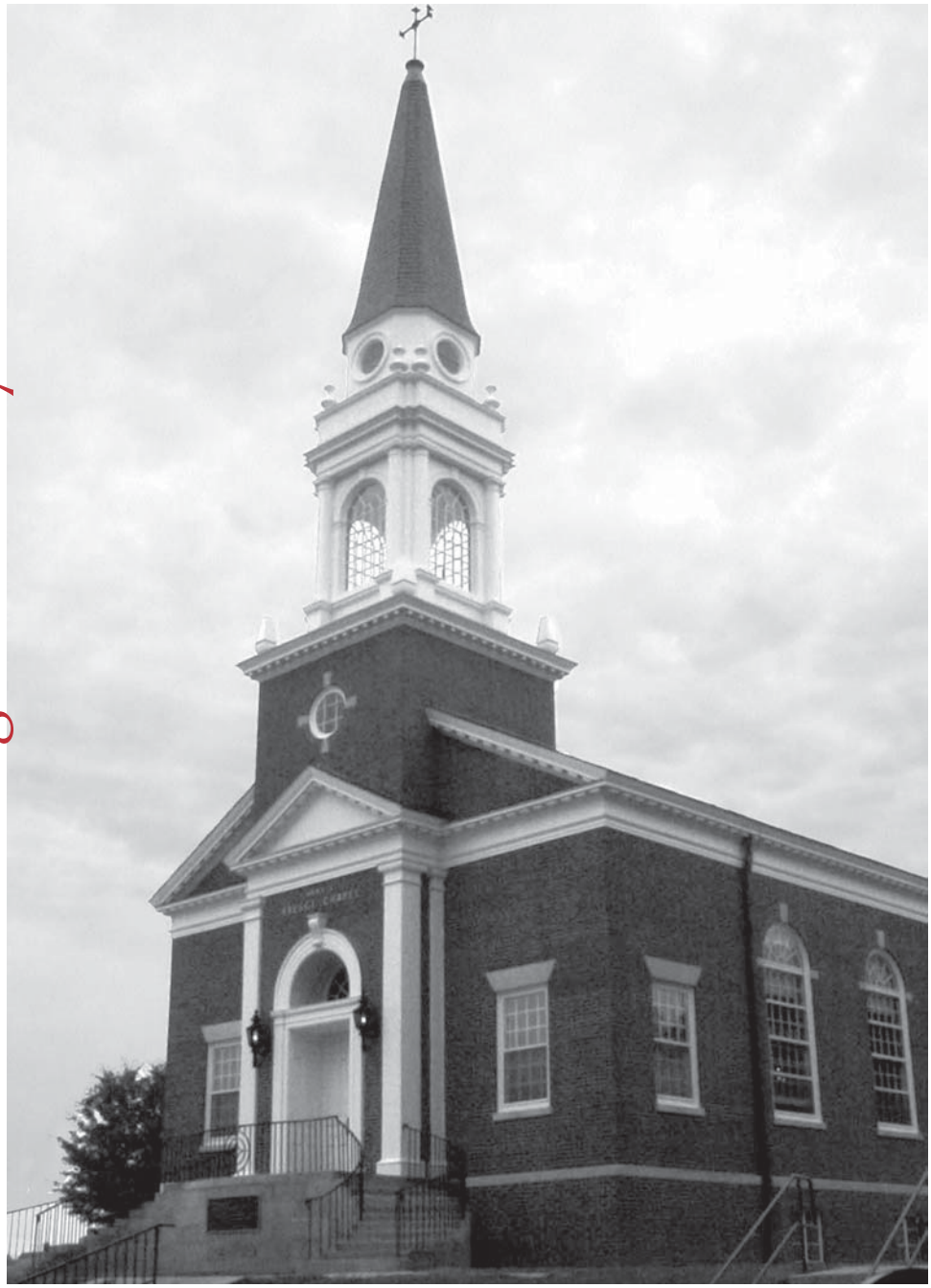
ATLA newsletter

American Theological Library Association



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ATLA Newsletter

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Mission Statement

The mission of the American Theological Library Association is to foster the study of theology and religion by enhancing the development of theological and religious libraries and librarianship.

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ATLA
Member News
a professional association of theological libraries and librarians

President's Message

First, a word of thanks to all who made this year's Annual Conference a success, especially the local hosts and the ATLA staff, who helped to make certain that everything went smoothly. As the musical *Oklahoma!* reminds us, "Everything's up to date in Kansas City!"

The ATLA Annual Conference serves many ends. One of those ends is to imagine together the Association's future. Imagining the future takes place in many ways, both formal and informal. At this year's Annual Conference in Kansas City, one place where the future of ATLA was imagined was at the World Christianity Interest Group.

The World Christianity Interest Group featured a panel discussion on "Christianity and the World's Religions." The speakers strongly suggested that, for a variety of reasons, ATLA libraries have an obligation to collect materials on non-Christian religions. The reasons include the fact that the United States and Canada are becoming increasingly diverse religiously, so those training for the ministries of the churches need not only to understand a great deal about Christianity, they also need to know something about the other religions they and their parishioners encounter. All of this is in keeping with the ATS emphasis on the globalization of theological education—we need to understand the world, if only because the world is coming to us. Some of the speakers went further. They suggested that, in addition to having ATLA libraries document world religions, ATLA should welcome into membership individuals of religious traditions other than Christianity and institutions that train leaders for those traditions.

Making ATLA more diverse would, of course, have its consequences, many of which we cannot foresee with any certainty. But the fact of the matter is that ATLA is already becoming more diverse religiously than it once was. Indeed, ATLA already has individual members who profess faiths other than Christianity (or no faith at all), and institutions that are not grounded in the Christian tradition.

The move toward increasing diversity is clearly supported by the ATLA by-laws. Individual membership is open to "any person who is engaged in professional library or bibliographic work or in theological or religious fields, or who has an interest in the literature of religion, theological librarianship, and the purposes and work of the Association" (Article 1.5). Membership is no longer restricted to those working in theological libraries, but can (and does) include those with "an interest in" the field of religion more broadly understood. Institutional membership is open to any library that meets one of the following criteria:

a) Institutions holding accredited membership in the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada;
b) Institutions accredited regionally, that are engaged in graduate theological education or religious studies primarily beyond the undergraduate level;
c) Regionally accredited universities with graduate religious studies programs that also have a librarian or subject bibliographer in the area of religion;
d) Non-degree granting organizations maintaining collections primarily of theological, religious, or ecclesiastical research material. (Article 1.2)

It is not difficult to imagine non-Christian institutions falling into categories b–d.

Moreover, the ATLA by-laws also provide for the formation of interest groups that might focus on one or more world religions. Interest groups are very much "grass roots" in their origins, created by members who have an interest in common. All that is required to form an interest group, the by-laws state, is: "Provided it has established a steering committee and elected a chairperson, an interest group may petition the board of directors for formal recognition" (Article 8.3). Once recognized by the Board, an interest group has all the same rights and privileges of existing interest groups, including a time slot on the annual conference program.

Should those who think ATLA should pay more attention to world religions wish to do so, they are most welcome to form a World Religions Interest Group. In the same way, ATLA could have interest groups on Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, or any other religious tradition, just as it does now for Judaism.

Two questions remain. First, how much diversity does the membership of ATLA want? The answer to that question will help to determine the second: whether or not the Board should instruct the Executive Director to solicit such memberships. These are questions only the members of ATLA can answer.

I look forward to participating with you as we collectively imagine the future of ATLA—and work together to make that future a reality.

Next year in Austin!

Paul F. Stuehrenberg
ATLA President

Welcome to ATLA!

ATLA welcomes the following new members to the Association:

Individuals

Mr. Clifford Blake Anderson, Princeton, NJ
Mr. Clint Banz, Tacoma, WA
Dr. Ken Boyd, Wilmore, KY
Mr. Lyle E. Buettner, St. Louis, MO
Mr. Don Butterworth, Wilmore, KY
Mr. John Crabb, Jackson, MS
Mr. Douglas Forbes Denne, Madison, IN
Miss Carrie Farrow, Rochester, MN
Mr. Craig Fankhauser, Independence, KS
Mr. Paul Friesen, Winnipeg, MB
Ms. Kathy Frymark, St. Francis, WI
Ms. Elyse Baum Hayes, Huntington, NY
Ms. Renata Z. Kalnins, Cambridge, MA
Ms. Kathleen Kordesh, Evanston, IL
Mrs. Georgina Lewis, Winnipeg, MB
Miss Kyara Kanani Lewis, New Orleans, LA
Mr. Godfrey Luyimbazi, Kampala
Rev. Dr. Jeffrey A. Mackey, New York, NY
Ms. Lorraine McQuarrie, Bangor, ME
Mr. Richard Orand Cheek, Shawnee, OK
Mr. Jerry L. Reisig, New York, NY
Dr. Lorna A. Shoemaker, Indianapolis, IN
Dr. Eduardo R. Tenenbaum, New York, NY
Mr. Yixiong Wu, Guangzhou, Guangdong

International Institutions

Catholic Institute of Sydney, Strathfield, NSW

Institutions

Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY
Community of Christ Library, Independence, MO

Students

Mr. Nicolas Alexandre, Bangor, ME
Ms. Ellen M. Allerton, Hudson, OH
Mr. Benjamin Bennett-Carp, Royal Oak, MI
Mr. Roy Bruce Chance, Abilene, KS
Mrs. Suzanne Gleason, St. Louis, MO
Mr. James Edward Preston, St. Louis, MO
Mr. Dean Seeman, Toronto, ON
Mr. Brad Aaron Shackleford, Redding, CA
Ms. Amber Sturgess, Berkeley, CA
Mr. Howard Tryon, Kansas City, MO

Affiliate Libraries

Dulaney-Browne Library, Oklahoma, OK
Heritage Bible College, Dunn, NC
Northland Baptist Bible College, Dunbar, WI
William Carey International University, Pasadena, CA
Winston-Salem Bible College, Winston-Salem, NC

Affiliate Businesses

Thomson Gale, Woodbridge, CT

Report of the Secretary of the Board of Directors

ATLA Annual Conference, 2004, Kansas City, MO

Business Meeting I was convened by Board President Paul Schrodt at 2:15 p.m., Friday, June 18. Anne Richardson Womack, Board secretary, introduced the newly elected Board members, Roberta Schaafsma, Christine Wenderoth, Duane Harbin, and James Pakala. Paul Schrodt delivered the Presidential Address. Barbara Terry, chair of the International Collaboration Committee, reported on the completion of the International Collaboration Database, now accessible through the ATLA website. Board members Paul Schrodt, Eileen Saner, Timothy Lincoln, and Sara Myers led a discussion of the recently adopted Endowment Policy changes.

Business Meeting II was convened by Paul Schrodt at 1:45 p.m. on Saturday, June 19. Paul Stuehrenburg, Board vice-president, introduced the chairs of the Interest Groups. The PDC announced the plans for a Wabash Colloquium for theological librarianship in the fall, as well as the completion of an agreement with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign School of Library and Information Science for the creation of and teaching of an academic credit course in theological librarianship. The course will be taught using a distance education model. Dennis Norlin later announced that Carisse Berryhill has been chosen as the instructor for the new course.

David Stewart offered a report from the Professional Development Committee. Duane Harbin offered a report from the Digital Standards Committee, announcing that there will be a fourth round of grants available for the Cooperative Digital Resources Initiative. Pradeep Gamadia, Director of Financial Services for ATLA, presented the FY2005 Budget, with indications of balanced income and outgo. The remainder of the meeting was an open conversation with the Executive Director of ATLA, Dennis Norlin. Dennis mentioned a number of topics that have been previously announced in the ATLA newsletter and in the weekly email updates from the ATLA offices. During the time for questions, member Don Haymes encouraged the organization's leadership to speak strongly as an advocate against the closing of theological libraries, such as has happened recently at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. Discussion followed, and the topic was referred to the Board for significant discussion at the Board meeting in January 2005.

Actions taken by the Board in their meetings during the conference consisted primarily of discussions of members' concerns about ATLA indexing coverage, organization advocacy issues, and ILL policies. Board members were asked to prepare for action on these issues at the January 2005 Board meeting. At that meeting, the Board will also participate in a training session on understanding the structure of the ATLA financial reports, to assist in the responsibility of maintaining oversight of our increasingly complex sales and service organization.

left to right: Sara Myers, Anne Womack, Bill Badke, Jim Pakala, Roberta Schaafsma, Christine Wenderoth, Paula Hamilton, Paul Stuehrenberg, Duane Harbin, and Sharon Taylor. Missing are Tim Lincoln and Herman Peterson.

Member Notes

New Board Kicks Off after Conference

Paul Stuehrenberg, director of the **Yale University Divinity School**, is president of ATLA for the coming year. He is joined in leading the Board's activities by Vice-President **Christine Wenderoth** (**The JKM Library**) and Secretary **Anne Womack** (**Vanderbilt University Divinity School**).

Newly elected Board members **Roberta Schaafsma** (**Duke University Divinity School**), **James Pakala** (**Covenant Theological Seminary**), and **Duane Harbin** (**Perkins School of Theology**, Southern Methodist University) join the officers and current members **Paula Hamilton** (Portland, Oregon), **Herman Peterson** (**Sacred Heart Major Seminary**), **Sharon Taylor** (**Andover Newton Theological School**), **Sara Myers** (**Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York**), **Bill Badke** (Associated Canadian Theological Schools), and **Timothy Lincoln** (**Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary**) in leading ATLA for the coming year.

ATLA Signs Agreement with the University of Illinois GSLIS

ATLA Executive Director Dennis Norlin and John M. Unsworth, Dean of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Graduate School of Library and Information Science, have signed an agreement that will insure that the University will offer a full-semester course in theological librarianship beginning with the fall semester 2005. The agreement stipulates that ATLA will identify the instructor for the course and will, through the Professional Development Committee, provide assistance in course design and construction.

The course will be offered through the University's renowned LEEP Online Program and will be available both as a full-credit course and also as an enrichment course for students not enrolled in a degree program. Carisse Berryhill, long-time ATLA member and newly appointed Special Services Librarian at Abilene Christian University, will be the instructor for the first course.

Wabash Center to Hold Colloquium This Fall

The Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion in Crawfordsville, Indiana, is holding a Colloquium on the Role of the Theological Librarian in Teaching, Learning and Research November 3–8, 2004. The Colloquium was designed in a spring meeting between ATLA's Professional Development Committee and the Wabash Center staff. A full description of the workshop is available at www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/programs/librarianscolloquium.html

This colloquium 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. It is focused toward conversation among theological librarians in their first five years of membership in ATLA.

The director of the colloquium is **Linda Corman**, **Trinity College Faculty of Divinity**. Staff is **Carrie Hackney**, Howard University School of Divinity, and **Roger Loyd**, **Duke University**. ATLA Professional Development Committee Advisor is **David Stewart**, **Luther Seminary**. The Wabash staff facilitator is Paul O. Myhre.

The team meets in August to select 15 participants from the applicant pool. Participants receive an honorarium, expenses, and are eligible for a research grant during the coming school year.

SEPTLA Holds Workshop on Strategic Planning

On May 27, 2004, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Theological Library Association (SEPTLA), with funding provided by the Professional Development Committee of ATLA, hosted a seminar workshop on strategic planning on the campus of Lancaster Bible College in Lancaster, PA, with 35 in attendance.

The idea of the seminar workshop was developed by the Continuing Education Committee, as there seemed to be a lack of strategic planning within libraries. The Committee found that many librarians have not been trained to create a strategic plan, particularly with the parent organization's plan in mind.

The seminar workshop was facilitated by Dr. Sue Alman, Director of Distance Education Services at the University of Pittsburgh. The theme of the seminar workshop was the importance of developing, writing, and implementing a strategic plan. The program was a mix of lecture, individual and small group workshops, and large group discussion. The morning session was an introduction to strategic planning with an emphasis on environmental scanning and SWOT analysis. Dr. Alman stressed the importance of understanding the environment/culture of an institution and its constituencies as well as the strengths and weaknesses of the library. After the lecture, the participants were given time to work up their own environmental scan and SWOT analysis. After adequate time was given, the group broke up into smaller groups of three to four to discuss the different SWOT charts. Before the break the small groups shared with the rest of those in attendance the different issues discussed. Dr. Alman provided valuable feedback at the end of each summary.

After lunch Dr. Alman detailed the steps needed to develop a strategic plan. She covered the creating of goals, objectives, action plans, vision and mission statements, and the importance of considering strategic plans as living documents. Again the group broke down into smaller groups of three to four and shared each library's vision and mission statements. There was a lively discussion among many groups considering the role of the library within the greater institution and whether the library's vision and mission statements should be broader than the institution's vision and mission statements. The afternoon small group workshop resulted in a thoughtful interaction among the group as a whole.

The seminar workshop was well received, with the majority of those in attendance rating the presentations and workshops as good to excellent. The interactive group discussion, working with people from other schools, and the interaction between librarians and school administrators were an important aspect of the day. The lecture and workshop on SWOT analysis provided an important first step in starting the strategic planning process. As a whole, the group seemed to appreciate learning more about the planning process and was eager to apply what they learned to their own organization.

Cait Kokolus
St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

Carisse Berryhill Moves to Abilene

Carisse Mickey Berryhill began work May 24 as the Special Services Librarian at **Abilene Christian University** in Abilene, Texas. Carisse formerly served as Associate Librarian at **L.M. Graves Memorial Library** at Harding University Graduate School of Religion in Memphis, Tennessee, where she managed technical services for twelve years.

Christine Wenderoth Moves to Chicago

Christine Wenderoth has accepted the position of Director of the **Jesuit-Krauss-McCormick Library** in Chicago, effective August 1, 2004.

Previously Christine was Director of the **Ambrose Swasey Library** of the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Rochester, New York, a position that she held for ten years.

Herman Peterson Takes Position in Detroit

Herman Peterson has accepted the position of Director of the **Edmund Cardinal Szoka Library** at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. He assumed his new duties on June 15.

Pitts Theology Library

The Pitts Theology Library is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. John B. Weaver** to the library staff. He will oversee the periodicals collection and also serve as a member of the reference staff.

Dr. Weaver holds the BA in Classics and Philosophy from the University of Arkansas, the MA from the Divinity of School of the University of Chicago, the MLIS from the University of South Carolina, and the PhD in New Testament from Emory University. In addition to these academic credentials, he has served in various ministerial capacities with churches in the United States and Eastern Europe.

M. Patrick Graham
Emory University

International Institutional Member Sends Letter

ATLA Executive Director Dennis Norlin wanted to share the following letter and photos from the representative of **North American College** of Vatican City State.

> Dennis,
> Hello from Rome! I won't be coming to ATLA in June because on the 18th there will be a Fund-Raising dinner in Louisville, Ky for air-conditioning for my library and I have to be there. However, I will be in Lyon, France for the BETH conference and hope to see you or a representative of ATLA there.

> Sr. Norma and I were in Gaeta touring the sights on Saturday when a spring shower came. Your trusty raincoat came in very handy for that shower. Enclosed are pictures of me in the "Red Riding Hood raincoat" of ATLA.
>
> Thought you might enjoy!
>
> Sr. Rebecca Abel, OSB
> Librarian
> North American College
> 00120 Vatican City State

Staff Changes at Eden Theological Seminary

ATLA Student Member **Scott Holl**, who had been working at the **Luhr Library** at Eden Theological Seminary on a part-time basis since last December, became full-time Reference Librarian July 1. **Allen Mueller**, director of the Luhr Library, has been granted the title of Professor of Theological Bibliography.

TAC Meets at ATLA

On Friday, May 21, ATLA's Technology Advisory Committee met in Chicago at ATLA headquarters. Present were Bill Hook (chair), Cheryl Adams, Charles Bellinger, and ATLA staff liaisons to the committee Tami Luedtke and Paul Jensen. The meeting centered on developing technologies and emerging standards and how they effect ATLA and its services and products.

Photo (left to right): Tami Luedtke, Cheryl Adams, Bill Hook (chair), Charles Bellinger, and Paul Jensen.

International Report

Librarians Organization of ACTEA and the Nigerian Theological Library Association

Independent and affiliated theological library organizations in Africa are found at the local, national, and continent-wide level. This report spotlights the continent-wide librarians organization that is part of ACTEA—the Accrediting Council for Theological Education in Africa.[1] The vital role libraries and librarians play in theological education in Africa is recognized and supported by ACTEA, which has headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. ACTEA describes its mission as "to promote quality evangelical theological education in Africa, by providing supporting services, facilitating academic recognition, and fostering continental and inter-continental cooperation." The Web site for the librarians' support services of ACTEA is found at www.theoledafrica.org/ACTEA/LibrarianServices/

Services include collection development assistance, staff education and training, and a newsletter. The *ACTEA Librarians eNews* can be found at www.theoledafrica.org/ACTEA/LibrarianServices/ eNews/ and is available in French as well as English. The editor is David Fitz-Patrick, librarian of the Bible Institute of South Africa. Phyllis Masso of the Nairobi International School of Theology writes a regular column on library automation. ACTEA Library Staff Training Institutes provide continuing education for librarians and library staff. ACTEA's Library Development Programme "provides library books to affiliated institutions at 50% discount. More than 27 major international publishers cooperate in this service. The programme also makes books available at 50% discount for the personal libraries of staff at those colleges participating in ACTEA accreditation."

Librarians in the U.S. and around the globe should know about *Booknotes for Africa,* a twice-yearly review journal produced by ACTEA staff and librarians, containing brief reviews of books relating to theological issues about or relevant to Africa. Reviewers, both African and international, focus on recent titles with nothing before 1986 included. An index can be seen at www.theoledafrica.org/BookNotes/Index/. Subscription information is found on the ACTEA Web site.

An example of a national theological group that was inspired by the ACTEA librarians program as well as ATLA is the Nigerian Theological Library Association, founded in 1994. The establishment of many new Bible colleges, seminaries, and churches as well as new Christian faith groups prompted a group of theological librarians to organize the NTLA and develop a constitution. The annual meetings provide a forum for paper presentation, business, and fellowship.[2]

[1]Theological Education in Africa: www.theoledafrica.org, seen 25 March 2004.

[2]F. Aransiola and M.A. Akewukereke. "Nigerian Theological Library Association: The journey so far…" 1999.

Margaret Tarpley
Vanderbilt University

ATLA
Invites you
to our
59th
Annual
Conference
Austin, Texas
June 15–18
www.atla.com/member/conference

Conference Summary

Despite some unseasonably cool and rainy weather in Kansas City, the 2004 Annual Conference was well received by more than 300 attendees.

Evaluations are continuing to come into the office, but a very early look at comments indicates that programming was particularly excellent and relevant to our members this year. Once again, the conference provided opportunities for fellowship and learning, both valuable outcomes of this annual event.

Many thanks go out to the local hosts for their behind-the-scenes planning, and to the Annual Conference and Education Committees for all their work in selecting and scheduling programs.

Here are some pictures from the conference. There are more on the web at www.atla.com/member/conference. Enjoy!

Karen L. Whittlesey
Director of Member Services

Producing a Conference Part 4: August–December

In this series of four articles, Director of Member Services Karen L. Whittlesey gives an overview of what goes into producing a conference, from selecting a site to tying up loose ends after it's all over. The first article (in the November *Newsletter*) looked at selecting the location for a future conference and planning the current conference, both happening at the same time. In February we looked particularly at preparing the budget and setting fees, producing the program book and conference web content, and opening the conference for registration. The May article focused on the conference itself.

In this last article we will look at the physical (and digital) culmination of the conference: publication of the *Proceedings*.

The *Summary of Proceedings* is the official publication of the annual conference. It contains the texts of papers, interest group presentations, homilies, memorials, plenary speeches, and addresses by the president and executive director. It also has summaries of preconference workshops (since these are generally hands-on and not amenable to full-text publication), roundtable discussions, and business and denominational meetings.

[The *Proceedings* also contains statistics of ATLA's institutional members, directories of members by type (student, individual, institutional, lifetime, international, and affiliate), lists of past conference sites, and other association matters, but this article is concerned only with the conference material.]

Jonathan West is the editor of all member publications, including the *Proceedings.* As editor, he is responsible for the entire publication, from solicitation of text through proofreading and production.

Solicitation of material begins with the letters that Carol Jones (assistant director of member services) writes to conference speakers in both the winter and spring before the conference. In both the winter and spring letters, Carol refers to the need for the speakers' texts or summaries for the *Proceedings.* Jonathan can receive these before, at, or within a few weeks following the conference (though they are rarely provided before presentation).

Since the *Proceedings* is a record of the conference, it is important that it be as complete as possible. It is Jonathan's job to follow up on presenters who are slow to submit their material.

As he receives submissions, Jonathan edits them to maintain consistency of style across ATLA publications without sacrificing the writer's individuality. Although most material is currently text documents, each year more of it is multimedia, and policies need to be established about how to treat this kind of submission in a print publication. One solution is to include a summary of the presentation in the *Proceedings,* with the actual multimedia on a web page, to which a link is provided on the *Proceedings* web page.

While Jonathan is working on the conference content, Carol and Tim Smith, membership associate, are collecting, revising, and proofing the appendices. After the conference content and the appendices are complete, the entire volume goes through two complete proofings, one by Jonathan and the other by Karen Whittlesey, director of member services. Stacey Schilling, publications associate, designs and lays it out, there is another review of the book, and it is sent to the printer.

In addition to the print volume, there is a digitized *Proceedings* included in *ATLAS,* ATLA's collection of online journals in theology and religion. ATLA members who do not subscribe to *ATLAS* can request an account to access the *Proceedings* only by contacting Jonathan at jwest@atla.com.

The *Proceedings* is mailed in December to all ATLA members as a benefit of their membership and to subscribers. There are several reasons that it takes so long:

- Laggard speakers. Usually speakers make every effort to meet the deadline, but for those who do not, Jonathan has to spend time and effort to obtain the material. To help assure more timely production, he would have to leave out these late submissions, thus publishing an incomplete record of the conference.
- Volume of material. As one of the Association's two publications of record (the other is the *Newsletter*), the *Proceedings* includes not only the conference sessions but also other material of interest to members, for example, annual reports from committees, names of conference hosts, lists of exhibitors and institutional representatives, statistical records of ATLA

member libraries, and the ATLA membership directory. All this large volume of material needs to be edited, proofed, and laid out. Some of the material could be made available on the web, thus cutting back the amount of time needed on the *Proceedings.*

- Quality of publication. ATLA has high standards for its publications, in terms of both content and design. As noted, every submission is edited and all content is proofed twice, and a great deal of effort is put into design and layout.
- Printer time. The *Proceedings,* which normally runs to more than 400 pages, takes a full month to be printed, bound, and mailed.
- Other simultaneous projects. No one staff person's time is dedicated solely to the *Proceedings.* Between the time of the conference and sending the *Proceedings* to the printer, the Member Services Department publications staff produces three other publications (two newsletters and the products catalog) and updates all print and web materials to reflect changes ensuing from a new fiscal and membership year, from new stationery to changes in advertising prices.

ATLA staff continue to discuss ways to expedite the publication of the *Proceedings* without sacrificing quality or completeness.

Conclusion

Over this past year I have tried to share with you some of what goes into producing a conference, from visiting the site to getting the *Proceedings* into your hands. I hope you have found something that has piqued your interest—and maybe inspired you to become a conference host!

Karen L. Whittlesey
Director of Member Services

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or visit www.atla.com/advertising.html
ATLA

The 2004 Annual ATLA Birding Excursion

Ever since 1995, when I began using e-mail, I've managed to contact a local birder in whatever city the annual conference of the ATLA is being held and arrange a bird-watching sortie. Lynn Berg began joining me on these birding trips in Denver in 1996, and Eric Friede began joining us in Chicago in 1999. Thanks to these excursions we've been able to see scores of "life birds" (or "lifers"), i.e., species that we'd seen for the very first time.

My preliminary research in field guides and the American Birding Association's birdfinding guide for Kansas and Missouri indicated that the following species might be present: Common Moorhen; King, Black, and Virginia Rails; Mississippi Kite; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher; Greater Prairie Chicken; Barn Owl; Yellow-crowned Night-Heron; Worm-eating Warbler; and Henslow's Sparrow.

Through the e-mail discussion group Birdchat I was able to make contact with local birder Bob Fisher, who offered to take us out on the morning of 17 June but warned us that "most of these birds are tough at anytime of year in our area." As the date of our departure for Kansas City approached, Bob e-mailed me that we'd have a shot at 5 birds on our target list: Mississippi Kite, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Henslow's Sparrow, Barn Owl, and Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, but that there was no guarantee that we'd find any of them. We therefore resigned ourselves to simply enjoying the morning and seeing what we could.

Bob's warnings had led me to expect a dour pessimist, but he turned out to be just the opposite: affable, gracious, hospitable, and generous—and an expert birder besides.

Our first stop was a residential neighborhood in Overland Park, Kansas (this and the locations to follow are all south of Kansas City), where some local birders had discovered a nesting Mississippi Kite high in a Sweet Gum tree in someone's front yard. I marveled at the luxuriant foliage of the Sweet Gum (a life tree for me), and we soon located both nest and bird. We could see just enough of the kite through the intervening branches to make out all of the field marks except the red eye. After a couple of minutes it flew off, circled overhead, and gave us some great views of its rich two-toned plumage and its aerobatic abilities.

Then it was off to a location near the headquarters of Sprint, where, after a bit of searching we came across a pair of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, the first of 5 we saw that day. Such a glorious bird, with its dark salmon axillaries (birder parlance for "armpits") and graceful, near-vertical dives just above ground level.

After watching fly-bys by both Green Heron (the first of three for the day) and Great Blue Heron, we headed to Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Area, about an hour to the south. We spent part of the journey talking about a strategy for Henslow's Sparrow. "You'll probably have to take your scope out into the field. I'll stay here; I've already seen them this year. I'll leave it to you to decide whether you want to tackle the chiggers," laughed Bob. Eric had brought some "Chigger Rid" along just in case, but none of us was eager to pay the price (of walking through the chigger-infested grass), and all of us were hoping that we would have a chance to see the sparrow from the security of a country road.

Turkey vultures circled overhead as we drove by the power plant lake at Marais des Cygnes. "Do you have Dickcissels around here?" I asked. "Sure do," replied Bob. We turned onto a country road, flushing an Eastern Phoebe, and, farther on, the first of several Eastern Bluebirds. As soon as we hit the open fields we began to see the hunched forms of Dickcissels on power lines and fenceposts. They were almost the "default bird" in this open habitat—and it was only the second time that I'd seen one. We stopped by a weedy field in the hope of seeing Henslow's Sparrow—"they like fields that haven't been tilled for a couple of years; they like the thatch"—Bob explained. We couldn't see them or hear their "se-lick" song, but we did get good views of Grasshopper Sparrows, heard Field Sparrows, and saw lots of Meadowlarks. The latter refused to vocalize, but Bob assured us that they were all Easterns. After pausing to admire a Swainson's Hawk, we headed east in search of Barn Owl. On our way we bumped into Indigo Bunting and Blue Grosbeak.

When we reached the vicinity of the barn where the owl was said to be roosting, Bob pointed out that every third or fourth fence post had a purple top: "Around here that has the same legal status as a 'no trespassing' sign," he informed us. We found the barn shortly thereafter. The fence in front of it had purple-topped posts and a "no trespassing" sign just in case we were symbolically challenged. Bob, a

retired lawyer, and the three of us theological librarians pondered the attendant ethical problem for a few minutes. There had to be some legal or theological casuistry that would justify an incursion! But in the end, we decided that we would respect the farmer's wishes, leave the reputation of birders (as law-abiding citizens) untarnished, and (in my melodramatic Canadian mind, at least) avoid being shot at. Our frustration was somewhat relieved by the sounds of nearby Baltimore Oriole, Red-bellied Woodpecker, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo, and by the sight of a glorious Red-headed Woodpecker.

Our next stop was some more prime Henslow's Sparrow habitat, where 20 had been seen a few weeks ago at the height of migration. But try as we might, we struck out again, although we did see a Ruby-throated Hummingbird and hear Eastern Wood-Pewee. On our way back to the main north-south highway we flushed an immature Northern Bobwhite, my first-ever sighting of that species, although I'd heard it before (1995, Nashville, Tennessee, on my first ATLA birding excursion).

Our five-hour trip was almost over, and Bob thought we should end our trip with a brief visit to an impoundment in Unit A of Marais des Cygnes WMA. We walked several hundred meters along a dirt road for a closer look at the Great Egrets in the distance, encountering a turtle and a pugnacious pincer-flashing crawdad along the way. A flock of at least 50 American White Pelicans was swimming in the impoundment. We scanned the egrets in the hope of seeing the smaller, more fluffy-plumed Snowy Egrets, but none of the 30 or so present seemed to be anything other than a great. But the three at the north end looked a bit different. They had quite rounded heads that were bisected by a strong black line. Yes, not a great view, but definitely Yellow-crowned Night-Herons, as Eric, who'd had plenty of experience with the species, was quick to confirm. Our day ended with the breathtaking fly-past of a small flock of Little Blue Herons.

A very satisfying excursion, so satisfying that we scrapped plans to borrow a car and go out by ourselves two days later (June 19). We do plan at least one early morning sortie during next year's conference in Austin, Texas, home of two declining and much-sought-after species: Golden-cheeked Warbler and Black-capped Vireo. After the conference Lynn, Eric, and I are planning to fly down to McAllen, Texas, and bird the Lower Rio Grande Valley for four or five days. If any of you would like to join us for either of these excursions we'd love to have you join us. Please e-mail me at sayer@auc-nuc.ca.

Following are the birds we saw:

American White Pelican
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Little Blue Heron
Green Heron
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
Canada Goose
Wood Duck
Turkey Vulture
Mississippi Kite
Swainson's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Northern Bobwhite
Killdeer
Forster's? Tern
Rock Pigeon
Mourning Dove
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Common Nighthawk
Chimney Swift
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Eastern Phoebe
Eastern Kingbird
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Horned Lark
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Blue Jay
American Crow
Black-capped? Chickadee
House Wren
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
Common Yellowthroat
Northern Cardinal
Blue Grosbeak

Indigo Bunting
Dickcissel
Field Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
Baltimore Oriole
House Finch
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow

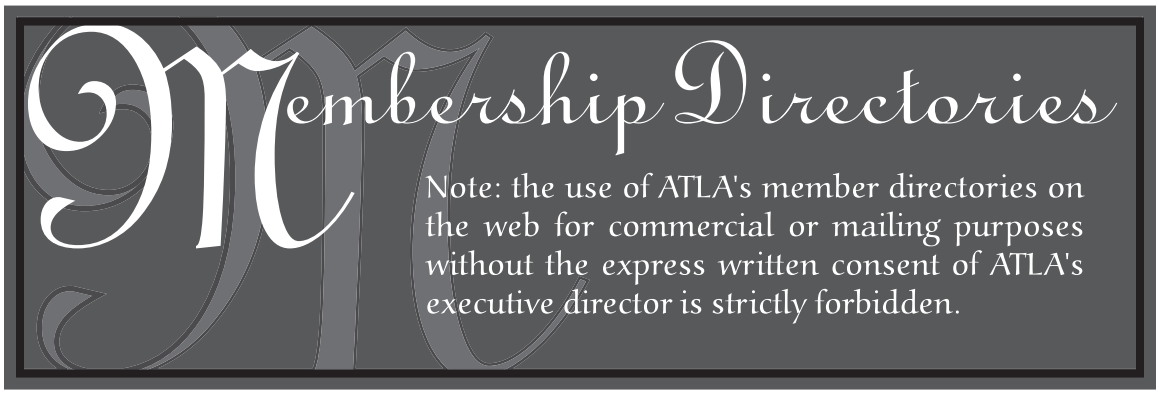
H. D. (Sandy) Ayer
Canadian Theological Seminary

Call for Papers from the Annual Conference Committee

The Annual Conference Committee cordially invites members and friends of the Association to make proposals for **papers, presentations,** or **special sessions** for the 2005 ATLA conference. The conference will be held in Austin, Texas, June 15–18. The Committee will consider proposals on theological librarianship, the academic disciplines of theology, and general librarianship. There is no theme for the 2005 conference.

Proposals should include a title that captures the scope of the paper, an abstract of no more than 200 words giving the significance and focus of the paper, and the name(s) and the institution(s) of the presenter(s). Proposals must be received by **September 10, 2004**. Submit to:

Kris Veldheer, Chair
Annual Conference Committee, ATLA
Graduate Theological Union Library
2400 Ridge Road
Berkeley, CA 94709
Fax: 510.649.2508
E-mail: veldheer@gtu.edu



Call for Ideas from the Education Committee

The Education Committee is responsible for planning and coordinating the educational opportunities for the Annual Conference, including the **preconference workshops** and the **roundtables**. We also work with the chairs of the nine interest groups. We are actively soliciting your suggestions for the 2005 conference, to be held June 15–18 in Austin, Texas. The committee is eager to provide sessions that are relevant to your professional needs and interests. Please send your suggestions (along with names of potential presenters, if possible) to any of the members of the Education Committee by **September 24, 2004**.

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Professional Development Prospectives

Change and decay in all around I see,
O, thou who changest not, abide with me!

Henry Francis Lyte, 19th C

The nineteenth-century hymn these lines come from doesn't take a particularly upbeat view of change, does it? (Other lines are even more dismal.) Not what you'd call "opportunistic," or "embracing the unknown."

Here's a nice irony: few things are as unwelcome to many of us as change and disruption, and yet few subjects generate so many threadbare clichés. "A change is as good as a rest," "change is the only constant," etc. And don't even get me *started* on the language of supposedly *dramatic, epochal* variety, where the language of the truly exceptional ("sea change," "paradigm shift," "strategic realignment," etc.) is so often applied to what is pretty routine.

The misuse of the *language* of change aside, the past year certainly seems to have witnessed more changes and relocations among ATLA colleagues than usual. Considered as a "Professional Development issue" (which, among many other things, it most certainly is!), it's worth asking what resources there are that can prepare us for, or that we can use to help each other prepare for, what changes may come.

My first observation is that, by both informal and formal means, membership in ATLA is in itself a terrific strategic resource. The opportunities presented within ATLA for getting to know one's colleagues who have gone through similar transitions of their own are priceless, as is the counsel of one's friends. On a more "official" level, the networking capacities within an association like ATLA for theological librarianship are beyond comparison.

A second resource: personal reflection. There was a book that came out a few years ago now, called "A Whack on the Side of the Head," which developed methods and exercises for getting one's creative gifts mobilized. In a similar vein, a transition period opens up a rare opportunity (whether sought or unsought!) for reflection. What counts as "helpful" in this regard is entirely a personal matter: some will find spiritual resources especially beneficial, others will find biography, fiction, or the best kind of self-help literature useful in making sense of a given transition. Example: a student worker gave me a copy of the CD version of Spencer Johnson's "Who Moved My Cheese?" and while I can't claim to have found the story or its point especially intriguing ("downsized rodents rise above their difficulties, learning valuable lessons along the way"), it was still a welcome and thoughtful gift. The point is that there is nothing like a transition scenario to prompt the best kind of thinking on "why have I approached things a certain way in the past?" and/or "how would I like to do things differently?" in the next phase of my vocational life. Once a transition is past, things get busy soon enough, and it's much harder then to find the time and space for this reflection.

A third resource (and I suspect the biggest challenge for many of us) is *to cultivate a taste for the unknown*. Each of us needs a balance of security and risk, and (let's face it) librarianship would not rank high on the list of careers requiring great dare-devilry. But the fact is that we're working in a particular time and in a particular vocation where the balance between continuity and uncertainty in our work is undergoing a shift. (I almost said a "sea change.") That may be something that makes us nervous, but what makes the future uncertain may also prove to be what makes it most interesting. And, as one who had no idea a year ago where I'd find myself today (one week into a new job), I wouldn't want it any other way.

Needless to say, all of us on the Professional Development Committee are happy and honored to serve our fellow members, both in the dimensions of our work that are known and in those which are less predictable. Please let us know if we can assist you in any way.

With all best wishes for a restful, and at least somewhat eventful, summer,

David Reay Stewart
Luther Seminary

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Earnings from ATLA's Endowment Fund provide grants for professional development and scholarships for under-represented minorities interested in theological librarianship.

Contributions to ATLA's Endowment Fund are tax-deductible and contribute to the Association's programs and services.

For information about Endowment programs contact: Dennis Norlin, ATLA Executive Director
250 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 1600
Chicago, IL 60606-5889
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outside North America: 1.312.454.5100

Hosted Discussion Lists

ATLA hosts 15 different electronic discussion lists for its general membership. These lists provide opportunities for ATLA members to network with their colleagues. Providing the architecture and organizational support for these lists is congruent with ATLA's mission statement (see below); that is, they help foster professional growth of ATLA's members, advance the profession of theological librarianship, promote quality library and information services, and stimulate purposeful collaboration among theological and religious studies librarians.

ATLA hosts another 22 electronic discussion lists for various committees and projects. Participation is limited to members of the committees and those directly involved in the project.

The bellwether of the discussion lists is ATLANTIS. It has the largest number of subscribers with more than 450 members. ATLANTIS primarily serves librarians and friends who are members of ATLA. While ATLANTIS is hosted by ATLA, it is not an official agency of ATLA. Individuals who are not members of ATLA can join ATLANTIS, subject to approval of the list administrator. The list administrator, acting as a gatekeeper of who can join, helps prevent postings that are not relevant to the purpose of the discussion list. ATLANTIS messages are not moderated.

In addition to ATLANTIS, there are three regional group lists, three interest group lists, six denominational group lists, and two lists serving other constituencies of ATLA who share a common interest.

The three regional groups having a list hosted by ATLA include the New York Area Theological Library Association, the Ohio Theological Library Association, and the Southwest Area Theological Library Association.

The six denominational groups having a list include: Anabaptist/Mennonite, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian/Reformed, Roman Catholic, and the United Church of Christ. The UCC group is the latest addition to the family of ATLA-hosted groups. The number of denominational groups having an electronic discussion list is growing.

ATLA Mission Statement

The mission of the American Theological Library Association is to foster the study of theology and religion by enhancing the development of theological and religious libraries and librarianship. In pursuit of this mission, the Association undertakes:

1. To foster the professional growth of its members, and to enhance their ability to serve their constituencies as administrators and librarians;

2. To advance the profession of theological librarianship, and to assist theological librarians in defining and interpreting the proper role and function of libraries in theological education;

3. To promote quality library and information services in support of teaching, learning, and research in theology, religion, and related disciplines and to create such tools and aids (including publications) as may be helpful in accomplishing this; (and)

4. To stimulate purposeful collaboration among librarians of theological libraries and religious studies collections; and to develop programmatic solutions to information-related problems common to those librarians and collections.

The three interest groups that have electronic discussion lists are: College and University, Lesbian and Gay, and Technical Services.

Finally, there is a list serving those in ATLA who are interested in contemporary religious literature and a list for our student members. The contemporary religious literature discussion list grew out of roundtables and conversations at the Annual Conference.

Each list has an administrator. Requirements for subscribing are determined by the leadership of each sponsoring group. In order to subscribe to any of these lists, all ATLA members need to do is to make a request to each administrator. No one is automatically signed up for ATLANTIS or any other list. The list of hosted discussion groups and information about how to subscribe can be found on the ATLA website with a link from www.atla.com/member.

The lists are hosted on an ATLA server using the Lyris ListManager software. With Lyris software, subscribers can manage their personal settings either through the web interface accessible at http://list.atla.com:81/read/ or by sending e-mail commands. All the e-mail commands can be found in the Lyris manual, which can be found at www.lyris.com/lm_help/7.0/. Often, the web interface allows subscribers to modify their personal settings for all their lists as opposed to sending individual e-mails to all the lists for which they belong.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tim Smith at tsmith@atla.com with your questions. If your group would like to start an electronic discussion list, please contact Jonathan West at jwest@atla.com.

Tim Smith
Membership Associate

ATLA Serials Exchange Update Schedule

IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, NEW ASE OFFERINGS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR CLAIMING ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

August 1, 2004
October 1, 2004
December 1, 2004
February 1, 2005

Issues in Publishing

Jack Ammerman, editor of the ATLA Bibliography Series from Scarecrow Press and ex-officio member of the ATLA Publications Committee, launches a new column to explore ways of expanding ATLA's publishing efforts through Scarecrow Press and other avenues.

Hiring Bibliographies

In his June 28 posting to *Scholarly Electronic Publishing Weblog* (http://info.lib.uh.edu/sepb/sepw.htm), Charles W. Bailey, Jr., recounts his first ventures into electronic publishing fifteen years ago. In 1989, Bailey sent a welcome message announcing the creation of the PACS-L mailing list. Later that year, he announced the establishment of *The Public-Access Computer Systems Review*. Announcements of the publication of new issues were distributed by e-mail, and users retrieved the ASCII article files from the University of Houston's LISTSERV via e-mail. Later, the journal was distributed by means of the University's "Gopher" system and finally via a web site. Bailey is now the author/complier of *The Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography,* published on a web site and updated about six times per year. He uses the weblog for more frequent notices of recently published material.

Bailey's celebration of the anniversary of those first publishing efforts serves to highlight the rapid changes in scholarly publishing that have taken place in recent years. Who would have imagined scholars publishing electronically, much less that a 170-page bibliography would be devoted to scholarly electronic publishing? Only two years earlier, the ATLA/Scarecrow Press Bibliography Series saw one of its best years with the publication of five bibliographies, three of which are held by more than 400 libraries.

Since that time, the sale of the ATLA/Scarecrow Press bibliographies has declined. On average, 318 libraries purchased the twenty-three bibliographies in the series published between 1984 and 1993. Between 1994 and 2003 the average dropped to 198 libraries purchasing the eighteen bibliographies published, a decline of 38%. Undoubtedly many factors influence that decline, but almost certainly changes in teaching, in scholarly research and publishing, in the availability of online bibliographic databases, indexes and catalogs, and in the information-seeking behavior of library users play large roles.

In February 2003 the Publications Committee began exploring how it could bring sharper focus to ATLA's publishing efforts in light of the changes in scholarly publishing. Initially looking at the bibliography series, the Committee began exploring ways to improve marketing, increase the quality of the bibliographies, and the possibility of alternate formats for publication. There remains a really basic question, however. What do we need bibliographies to do for us? In *The Innovator's Solution,* Clayton M. Christensen suggests that consumers of products and services "hire" those products and services to do a specific job. In the past, librarians have hired bibliographies to guide them in collection development. Graduate students have used bibliographies to develop reading lists as they attempt to master a body of literature. Bibliographies have been used to fill very specific needs.

As the Publications Committee continues its planning for the future of bibliographies, it would be helpful to know what you would hire a bibliography to do? Do new tools do better the job you once hired a bibliography to do? How could a bibliography change to be more useful to you? We really would like to know. You can send any comments or observations to me at jwa@bu.edu.

Jack Ammerman
Boston University School of Theology

Reference Reviews

April

BibleWorks 6.0. $299.95 (Upgrade from 5.0, $125.00, upgrade from 4.0 $150.00, www.bibleworks.com)

For a pastor, a student, or a professor to do Biblical research right and well, access to original language tools is necessary. The essential tools for this task include the texts in the original languages, lexicons, and concordances. These tools have been available in print for years (centuries, millennia), and their value in the hands of a dedicated student of the Bible is difficult to measure. The works that are presently available in print to researchers today include items that date to the 19th century: Gesenius's Thesaurus and its offshoots, and works more recently produced, such as E. J. Brill's update and expansion of Koehler/Baumgartner. Though valuable, the use of these resources is tedious. That is especially true for anyone trying to do concordance research, trying to run down the particular use of a particular word in a particular relationship with other particular words and forms within a particular corpus.

Enter the computer. These wonderful machines have done much to enhance a Bible student's ability to squeeze as much information as possible from the various tools that have come to be available to him (or her) in the form of software. This enhancement comes primarily by drastically reducing the tedium associated with accessing and using all of the books useful and necessary to "doing it right and well." Many software products have been available as aids to Bible research for several years now. Among these there are several standouts: Logos, Gramcord, and BibleWorks. This review will focus on BibleWorks.

Included in the software package is the text-only and grammatically tagged versions of the Hebrew Bible (Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, 4th corrected ed. with pointing and accenting), Septuagint (Rahlfs, 1935 ed. with Apocrypha and variants), and Greek New Testament (Nestle-Aland, 27th ed./UBS 4th ed.). A combined morphological database refines the analysis and facilitates comparative study of the Septuagint and Greek New Testament. One also finds editions of the Greek New Testament by Stephanus, Tischendorf, Westcott and Hort, Scrivener, and Robinson and Pierpont (this last item is particularly important to us at Southeastern as Maurice Robinson is one of our own). Additionally there is the Vulgate, the source of much theology and debate (which, however, is not tagged). The program also includes translations of the Bible in 24 modern languages, with English, French, German, and Spanish well represented. Among the many English translations in the program are the KJV (1611/1769), NRSV, NIV, NASB (1977/1995), NKJV, NAB, NJB, JPSV (1917/1985), and the Douay-Rheims. The only major languages I did not find were Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Yiddish! Perhaps with Unicode these will follow soon. The program does include the Salkinson-Ginsburg Hebrew New Testament, an interesting and useful item indeed. A quick note, if I may, on the inclusion of the accenting of the BHS text. C. L. Seow, in his A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew (rev. ed., p. 64), rightly notes that "These [accent] markers . . . are helpful in the task of translation, inasmuch as they provide a traditional understanding of the meaningful units in the text." For the later part of my Hebrew class my students begin dividing the text into its clauses, and one of the most helpful tools for this essential task of understanding the Biblical texts has been the accents. I provide examples for my students from cut-and-pasted texts from BibleWorks, and not having to go back and add in the accents has been a major time saver.

Valuable as the original texts are, especially for cutting, pasting, and comparing, access to them is best made through lexicons and concordances. It is difficult for computers to improve on the work done by serious scholars over the millennia, and most software developers recognize this by making available the lexicons that have already been produced. For most programs the lexicons that appear on the screen are those that have been dropped out of copyright to the public domain. Developers may also make licensing arrangements with publishers to provide copyrighted materials in their offerings. BibleWorks includes as part of their base package the Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament (Harris, Archer, Waltke), the unabridged Brown-Driver-Briggs-Gesenius Hebrew-English Lexicon (1905), Hebrew-French, and Hebrew-

Russian Lexicons, Whitaker's abridged BDB-Gesenius Hebrew-English Lexicon. Available soon as part of the base package will be the complete unabridged Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew-English Lexicon. On the Greek side they provide Liddell-Scott Greek Lexicon, abridged, Friberg's Analytical Lexicon of the Greek New Testament (Complete 2000 edition), Louw-Nida Greek NT Lexicon based on Semantic Domains, 2nd Ed., 1988, UBS Greek-English Concise Dictionary of the New Testament (Barclay Newman), unabridged Thayer Greek Lexicon, many English/German/Dutch/French/Russian Bibles tagged with Corrected Strong's Codes and definitions, and Wigram's TVM (Tense, Voice, Mood) codes and grammar explanations for tagged English/German/Dutch/French/Russian Bibles. New additions (for an unlock price) are the Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament, 4th Edition (Koehler-Baumgartner-Stamm), and A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature, 3rd Edition. (Bauer, Walter. Edited and revised by Frederick William Danker.)

Word meaning is often bound by geography, chronology, and author, and the tool necessary to this task is a concordance. It is in this function that computers come into their own. For Hebrew concordance searches in print, nothing matches the thoroughness of Even-Shoshan, but few possess the skill to scratch its surface, much less plumb its depths. In the Greek world the concordance tools are Moulton, Geden, and Moulton for the Greek New Testament and Hatch and Redpath for the Septuagint. These too are difficult, save for the most skilled and dedicated. BibleWorks brings the power of these works to most Bible students, however humble their abilities, and provides some very important enhancements. The print version concordances provide their information by Bible book, and for the student who needs to do a corpus search of words, this has to be compiled by hand. With BibleWorks, word searches can come from books specified by the researcher and copied and compiled in the program itself or sent to a favorite word processor. Additionally, the program can be set up to transfer not only the original language verses but also the same verses from versions and translations. That last feature is a big plus when doing comparisons. Even when not utilizing the original language power of the program, comparing English language versions can be very productive. In a recent Sunday school class we were taking a look at the NIV and dynamic equivalency and comparing it to other translations to see the difference. That was a very enlightening exercise and one that would be particularly valuable to a pastor whose congregation enjoys a great variety of versions.

For those of us who have gotten ourselves hooked on computers as a necessary tool for doing research and writing, the Copy Center function is superb. Verses are easily copied to the onboard editor of BibleWorks (which allows Right-to-Left Hebrew/Aramaic typing!!), to the windows clipboard, or directly to your favorite word processor. The Copy Center provides the option as to what versions will be copied and in what order they will be copied. For comparisons (BHS to LXX; NIV to KJV, etc.) this function is invaluable.

The new features of 6.0 serve to enhance the reputation BibleWorks has as a language-focused tool. New databases include Tischendorf's Greek NT (with complete apparatus!), WTM Groves-Wheeler Westminster Hebrew OT Morphology database v.4.0 with two accent tagging systems and editorial comments, The Aramaic New Testament (Peshitta) with the James Murdock English translation, The Targumim, parsed, lemmatized, and tied to entries in the Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, Gesenius's Hebrew Grammar, Moods and Tenses of NT Greek, by Ernest Dewitt Burton, Basic Hebrew for Bible Study, by Mark Futato, Matthew Henry's Commentary—complete and linked to BibleWorks, Apostolic Fathers (Greek), Slovak Bishops' Conference Old and New Testaments 2003, Bishops' Bible (1595), Tyndale New Testament (1534), and the Complete works of Flavius Josephus, parsed and lemmatized, with the 1828 Whiston English translation. This last addition is a major strength in this offering of Bibleworks. Josephus's works have been available for quite some time in the Whitson English translation. Valuable as that is, particularly in that it makes available Josephus's histories, having his works in Greek adds to his value as a contributor to our knowledge of first century Judaism, particularly Hellenistic Judaism. With his corpus we have a large body of Greek texts written by a Jew to a gentile audience, pretty much what we have with the New Testament writings. His works serve as a further means of understanding and evaluating both the history of the time and the language. His text is fully tagged and parsed and hotlinked to the standard Greek Lexicons in their program (Liddell-Scott, BDAG, etc.). Serving in a similar vein is the body of the Apostolic

Fathers in Greek. They too have been available for years in their English translation but not easily obtained in their original Greek. They too serve as a handy tool and witness to the first couple centuries of church history in the language of the New Testament. Unfortunately, at this time they are a raw text with no morphological tags nor links to a lexicon (G. W. H. Lampe's A Patristic Greek Lexicon, Oxford, 1961, would be a valuable addition). The same thing is true for the separately available Qumran Sectarian Manuscripts. They are morphologically tagged and linked to the Hebrew lexicons. What the Qumran Manuscripts are lacking is an English translation, something that would be handy but not necessary (I would recommend Florentino G. Martinez's The Dead Sea Scrolls Translated: the Qumran Texts in English, Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1994).

One other note for the future. Recognizing the value of being able to produce documents in characters other than the Latin-based alphabet, the most recent offerings of Microsoft and Apple include Unicode capability in their operating systems and application software. For serious students of the Bible this means being able to import or correctly type Hebrew characters in their native right to left mode. Normally this isn't a requirement so much as a very nice thing to have. However, there is a movement within the study of the Hebrew language that recognizes the value of linguistic studies above the sentence level. For someone who would like to push their studies into Text Linguistics and Discourse Analysis and would like to manipulate more than just words, having a Unicode Hebrew text is a big plus. I am currently using one that I found on the web (www.mechon-mamre.org/c/ct/c0.htm) that includes all of the vowel points and accents. My hope is that soon Bibleworks will include Unicode Hebrew, Aramaic, Peshitta, etc., texts on its electronic bookshelf.

Space does not permit the full explanation of what BibleWorks provides to us who would plumb the depths of Scripture more fully. Suffice it to say that I have used computers for many years to do research and to prepare my classes, and I have found nothing of the depth and speed of BibleWorks, so much so that it is an invaluable and indispensable tool.

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May

New Encyclopedia of Judaism. Ed. Geoffrey Wigoder, Fred Skolnik, and Shmuel Himelstein. New York: NY University Press, 2002. 856 pp. ISBN: 0814793886. $99.95.

The reason to add this one-volume encyclopedia to your reference collection is that your patrons will love you for it. Most of our patrons at theological libraries in North America know little about Judaism save for what they learned in biblical studies courses or in the news. When the *Encyclopedia of Judaism* first came out in 1989, its preface proclaimed that it dealt with "those aspects [of Judaism/Jewishness] which the Western world calls 'religious' and confines itself to religious life and development" (xi). Thus, the original volume and this new edition (2002) present those aspects of Judaism with which Western scholars are concerned in a way that Westerners can understand. In the revised edition "nearly 250 new articles have been added to the original thousand and others have been updated" (xi). More has been added on popular figures in Judaism, on Zionism, on historical periods, and on women. The new edition also added an annotated bibliography "representing a library of accessible basic works on Judaism for the general reader" (xi). This is an example of ready reference at its finest.

The *Encyclopedia* conscientiously cross-references everything in the index and in each entry. Transliterated Hebrew terms refer back to English terms and vice versa. Such referencing and cross-referencing ensures that the patron is directed to all information contained in any part of the *Encyclopedia* on the subject.

Why is such cross-referencing key? This is always a good thing in any ready reference item, but it is essential for works on Judaism. The study of Judaism is particularly difficult for Westerners, especially Western Christians. Not only do we not know the right terms frequently, but the very structure of many Jewish texts are daunting to outsiders, e.g., the midrash(es). The editors knew this. The preface points out that while Jewish civilization predates Christianity by thousands of years, the structure of Western thought and its tendency toward categorizing and abstraction is not easily imposed on Jewish life. The early Israelites had no term for Judaism or even for religion. Torah, or teaching, covered "the totality of Jewish belief

and practice" (xi). It was not until the Middle Ages that Jews "sought to define their creed and codify Jewish practice" (xi). Judaism as a term did not exist until the late 18th century and even then would not have paralleled the term Christianity for Christians. For Jews separating what is secular in their culture/life from what is religious is somewhat arbitrary and misleading. Thus this volume, concentrating on Jewish "religious life and development" as a separate whole, does so by looking at Judaism through the lens shaped by Western Christianity. While it therefore cannot claim to address all things Jewish in a way that remains true to being Jewish, it nonetheless makes what it has to offer much more accessible to the rest of us.

Brief time spent with the *Encyclopedia* results in gems that would help students in all aspects of theological education. Did you know that some biblical stories in the Koran actually "derived from" the Midrash rather than the bible? Or that there are different midrashes with different foci (528)? Or that calling a son an illegitimate child in Judaism, mamzer in Hebrew, is far more complex than using the similar English term "bastard" suggests? A mamzer would be "recognized [by Jewish law] as a son and shares with his legitimate brothers in any inheritance left by his parents" (387). Or perhaps that while Judaism is often identified as one of the earliest societies to have an elaborate moral code, that classical Jewish sources have no corresponding term for "ethics" or "morality" in the Western sense of those words (251)? The entries, like a series of keys, provide just enough information to give basic knowledge or to help patrons find the words or concepts they need to explore issues further in other sources.

Editors Geoffrey Wigoder, Fred Skolnik, and Shmuel Himelstein pulled together a rich community to produce the *Encyclopedia.* Contributors include rabbis, scholars, researchers, doctors, and a librarian. Many come from Jerusalem. The combination of the glossary at the front and the luscious colored plates scattered throughout the text more than justify the cost. The textual layout is pleasing to the eye, and boxed summaries of key biblical books or important sayings enrich the text.

The preface also reminds readers that another text by Editor-in-Chief Wigoder, the three-volume *Encyclopedia of Jewish Life Before and During the Holocaust* (2001), is a nice companion set to this volume. I should also note that Geoffrey Wigoder was one of the editors of the *Oxford Dictionary of the Jewish Religion* (1997), envisioned as a companion volume to the *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church.* The *Encyclopedia* expounds more on practice and personalities; the *Dictionary* more on doctrine and theory. Students would be wise to consult both (and libraries to purchase both), as entries overlap little in many areas. It is sad that Geoffrey Wigoder died before this current revised edition of the *Encyclopedia* was completed. As this publication so richly displays, his ability to share Judaism meaningfully with non-Jews is telling.

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June

Historical Dictionary of the Friends (Quakers). Abbott, Margery Post, Mary Ellen Chijioke, Pink Dandelion, and John William Oliver Jr. Historical Dictionaries of Religions, Philosophies, and Movements; 44. Lanham, Maryland, and Oxford: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2003. ISBN 0-8108-4483-4.

This is a recent addition to an excellent and far-reaching series of historical dictionaries, which continue to introduce readers to such topics as lesbian liberation, witchcraft, Unitarian Universalism, Jainism, and feminism. This genre of literature on Friends has until now generally consisted of glossaries of Quaker terminology. Thus the authors have fulfilled the need for a full-length reference work on Quaker history. They do so from insiders' perspectives; each of the authors is a current or former Quaker, and Chijioke is director of the Hege Library at Guilford College (a Quaker school) in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The stated aim of the book is to "serve as a widely accepted reference for distinctive Quaker language and practices as well as an easily accessible guide for the general reader who knows little about the Religious Society of Friends" (ix). There is an intentional focus upon Friends worldwide, as the movement has spread from 17th-century England to the point at which nearly half of all Quakers are in Africa and Latin America. Contributors to the book are representative of this geographical distribution.

Entries include 20th-century Friends such as Chuck Fager, Ham Sok Hon, Bayard Rustin, Dorothy and Douglas Steere; early Friends, including George Fox, Margaret Fell, William Penn, and James Nayler (duly noting the alternate spelling Naylor), are also given proper treatment. The idea of peace also receives great attention, with detailed entries on peace, peace and/or service agencies, and the peace testimony. The topics of African Americans, women, and marriage among Friends are explained, as are Quaker leadership in mental health reform, penal reform, and abolition. Hat honor is well explained in its own entry, including the challenge by John Perrot (who also has his own entry).

Fuller entries are lacking for Mary Dyer, the Wilkinson-Story Controversy, and Spiritualism (which Stephen Angell has called the most important movement in "providing the specific spark of convincement" among Friends; the entry should also be linked with that on Seekers, who can be viewed as a subset of Spiritualists). Fortunately, Elias Hicks receives a relatively in-depth explanation, complete with a separate entry on Hicksites. Joseph John Gurney and John Wilbur are also well introduced, although the Gurneyite and Wilburite distinctives are included within their personal entries rather than separately. Well-explicated articles are also found on the independent meetings movement, as well as Liberal Friends, Conservative Friends, universalism, evangelicalism, mysticism, and revivalism (although the renewal movement, sometimes confused with the revival movement, is omitted from the text).

Another notable omission from the entire work is that of Rachel Wilson, who has been shown by Rebecca Larson (*Daughters of Light: Quaker women preaching and prophesying in the colonies and abroad, 1700–1775.* New York: Knopf, 1999) to be as influential as other prominent (male) traveling ministers in the 18th century. John Greenleaf Whittier's entry is welcome; one on Walt Whitman would have been as well, as both continue to exert a great influence among other Friends with their poetry. (The reviewer knows a leading Friend who bases her theology upon "Song of Myself.")

Occasionally an indexing or typographical error can be found, as well as an odd arrangement. For example, the entry on education should mention the separate entry for religious education, which is found under "R." Also, the index entry for "sexual minorities" contains a "see also" note for "Committee for Lesbian and Gay Concerns." No such entry exists in either the index or the body of the text. There is, however, an index entry for "Committee on Concern," which reads "*See* Friends Committee for and Gay Concerns [sic]." That one actually appears as a single index entry reading "Friends Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns, xix; Committee on Concern, xix." Page xix is a portion of the book's introductory chronology, with a listing from 1973 reading simply "Committee on Concern formed; becoming Friends Committee for Lesbian and Gay Concerns in 1978."

Useful appendices are included, listing Friends Meetings worldwide with notes on their origins and membership, as well as "family trees" illustrating the separations and unifications of Yearly Meetings in

Africa and in North America. The index, errors aside, is extensive and extremely helpful, as is a 53-page topical bibliography. Biographical notes on members of the advisory committee (again illustrating the international focus) as well as the authors are found as well.

Books of this nature on the topic of Friends are needed as introductions and quick references. Hopefully a more lengthy work will be produced before long; this one feels abbreviated in some places, and the scope of the project demands a more detailed examination. For the near future, however, this stands as an essential resource for philosophical, religious, theological, and historical collections.

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July

The Encyclopedia of Protestantism. Edited by Hans J. Hillerbrand. New York: Routledge, 2004. xxvii + 2195pp. in four volumes. $695.00, ISBN 0-415-92472-3 (set).

> "...the definition of Protestantism is simply that Protestant is whatever is not Catholic (or Orthodox)." *Preface xxviii*

With this statement contained in the preface to his four volumes, Hans J. Hillerbrand brings together divergent streams into one cohesive work, *The Encyclopedia of Protestantism.* Let us dispense with the particulars first by saying it contains more than 1,000 signed articles, each with a bibliography. The volumes are also extensively cross-referenced and indexed. Volume 1 has lists of entries arranged both alphabetically and thematically so the reader can see which volume contains the topic they are interested in. Volume 4 has an appendix of five tables with the statistics of Global Protestantism in a variety of contexts plus a list of contributors and the overall index, again heavily cross-referenced. The indexing and attention to detail is in itself impressive, but the content and scope are what really should be the focus for a reference collection.

This work is more than just a historical reference text. The entries are on significant topics related to and about Protestantism from people to denominations and theological movements. The biographies range from Luther and Calvin all the way to contemporaries like James Hal Cone and Alan Boesak. Of particular interest might be the articles on hot topics from a Protestant perspective ranging from Abortion, Televangelism, Home Schooling, and Homosexuality to Capital Punishment. The four-volume set is also inclusive of movements within Protestantism, such as Evangelicalism, Pentecostalism, and Mormonism.

Another interesting aspect of these volumes for a reference collection is that Hillerbrand includes the presence and influence of Protestantism on a global basis with developments in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. In the same vein, organizations are considered within the global context. The American Bible Society, the Sudan Interior Mission, and even the YMCA/YWCA have entries. To buttress the international scope, Hillerbrand taps an international team of subject specialists to author the articles. This gives the volumes a variety of perspectives and allows them to trace Protestantism from its 16th-century beginnings to the international setting of today.

So the question remains, why should a library spend $695.00 to add this to their collection? Simply put, because it is one of a kind and realistically has no rivals. There is no other place where librarians are going to find such depth and expanse of coverage, nor the currency of information. There are certainly other dictionaries and encyclopedias that have touched on the same subjects. There are also denominational guidebooks that give similar information from a single perspective. However, *The Encyclopedia of Protestantism* has no serious rivals, and there doesn't seem to be anyone else preparing a similar work at this time. This is a substantial contribution to the field and has a place in any academic collection.

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Diktuon

Virtual Reference

Virtual reference is a hot topic in library circles. Is it a dynamic new development that any self-respecting library ought to be engaged in, or is it just a fad? Does it qualitatively change the services offered by libraries, or is it just another incremental means to the same ends? The literature on virtual reference has grown exponentially in recent years, and a column of this nature cannot hope to be comprehensive on the subject, but the ATLA Virtual Reference Task Force thought that it would be useful to use this forum to present an overview of relevant issues, as well as some feedback from ATLA libraries that have been involved in virtual reference projects.

Ever since virtual reference came onto the scene in the late 1990s, discussions have occurred at ATLA annual meetings about how member libraries might get involved. Nothing conclusive emerged from these discussions, but the issue lingered on. So in 2003 the ATLA Public Services Interest Group decided to appoint a Virtual Reference Task Force, which was charged with preparing a proposal for developing a pilot project in virtual reference involving collaboration of selected ATLA libraries. After conducting a survey of ATLA institutional members, the Virtual Reference Task Force concluded that the time was not ripe for ATLA libraries to engage in a virtual reference project. But if virtual reference turns out to have staying power, the issue of ATLA involvement is likely to arise again in the future.

So what is the phenomenon that we are talking about? Various terms have been used to describe the use of an electronic environment for reference transactions—virtual reference, digital reference, electronic reference, remote reference, and real-time reference. E-mail has been used for library reference transactions since the mid-1980s, and this certainly can be defined as electronic reference, but "virtual reference" generally refers to "synchronous" or "real-time" transactions as opposed to "asynchronous" transactions in which the patron sends a query without anticipating an immediate response.

What are the advantages of virtual reference over more traditional reference methods? Virtual reference products allow librarians and patrons to communicate with each other in real time and allow the librarian to show the customer relevant Web-based resources by sending or "pushing" the pages to the user's screen. Phone reference allows for real-time communication, but the librarian cannot visibly demonstrate how a Web-based resource works over the phone, especially if the patron doesn't have a phone line that is separate from his or her Internet connection. With e-mail reference, patrons don't necessarily have the hope of immediate response from a librarian, and traditional e-mail is no better than the phone in terms of demonstrating Web-based resources rather than just verbally describing them. Real-time electronic conversation has advantages over more standard e-mail exchanges in that the back-and-forth process of defining and refining an inquiry can be done more quickly. Of course an actual person-to-person interaction at a physical reference desk solves the problems of real-time communication and visible demonstration, but it is not always convenient for patrons to physically come into the library. Virtual reference allows a librarian to be of assistance to a patron from wherever the patron happens to be: home, dormitory, or satellite campus.

The simplest forms of virtual reference are "chat" transactions. The patron types in a question; the librarian who is "on call" reads the question and responds by typing in an immediate response, even if that response is just an indication that he or she is reading the question and beginning to formulate an answer. Chat protocol also generally calls for an informal ambience in which the inquirer is referred to by personal name and emoticons (☺) may be used to lighten the tone of the exchange in an attempt to emulate the personal feel of a face-to-face encounter.

When the concept of virtual reference first emerged, many people thought that the logical end of the process would be videoconferencing capabilities that fully emulated a person-to-person reference desk transaction. Voice over IP, another method of emulating the traditional reference transaction, has also faltered in practical terms due to the need for higher system requirements than many users have available. For both technical and personal preference reasons (e.g., bad hair days), the video and audio scenarios have not played out widely, but the desire for immediate response and personalized service continues to drive the virtual reference endeavor.

Most virtual reference products allow for functions in addition to chat, such as page pushing (where the librarian sends a web page to the user's screen), screen sharing (where the screen of the user can be seen by the librarian), and co-browsing (where the librarian and user are looking at the same screen and one or the other of them controls the cursor actions). Features such as screen sharing and co-browsing have the added advantage of offering an opportunity for instruction. Rather than just delivering an answer, the librarian leads the user through the process of finding the answer.

Figure 1 shows what a patron's screen looks like in the 24/7 Reference product used in the Yale library system. In this case the librarian sent a Web page to the student's screen and instructed the student how to access the resource that would be useful for answering her inquiry.

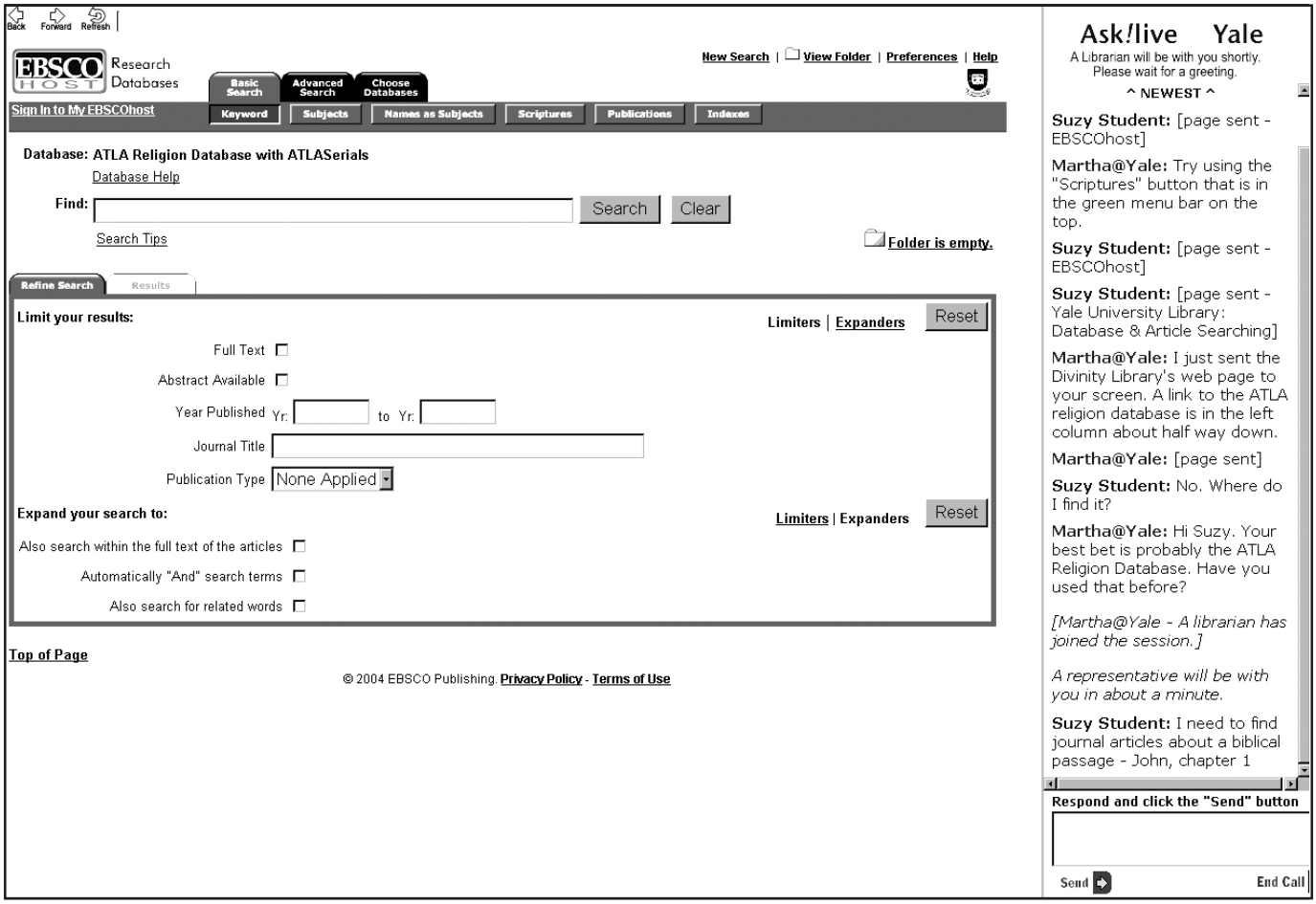

Figure 1

After the transaction is completed, the user receives an e-mail message containing the transcript of the session, including links to any Web sites visited, which can be a useful instructional tool.

On the librarian's side, virtual reference products allow for visible queuing of patrons, canned scripts such as "Hello. I'm reading your question and will be with you in a minute," and administrative functions that facilitate reporting. Figure 2 shows the screen seen by the librarian in the 24/7 Reference product. In this case the librarian has three patrons in the queue:

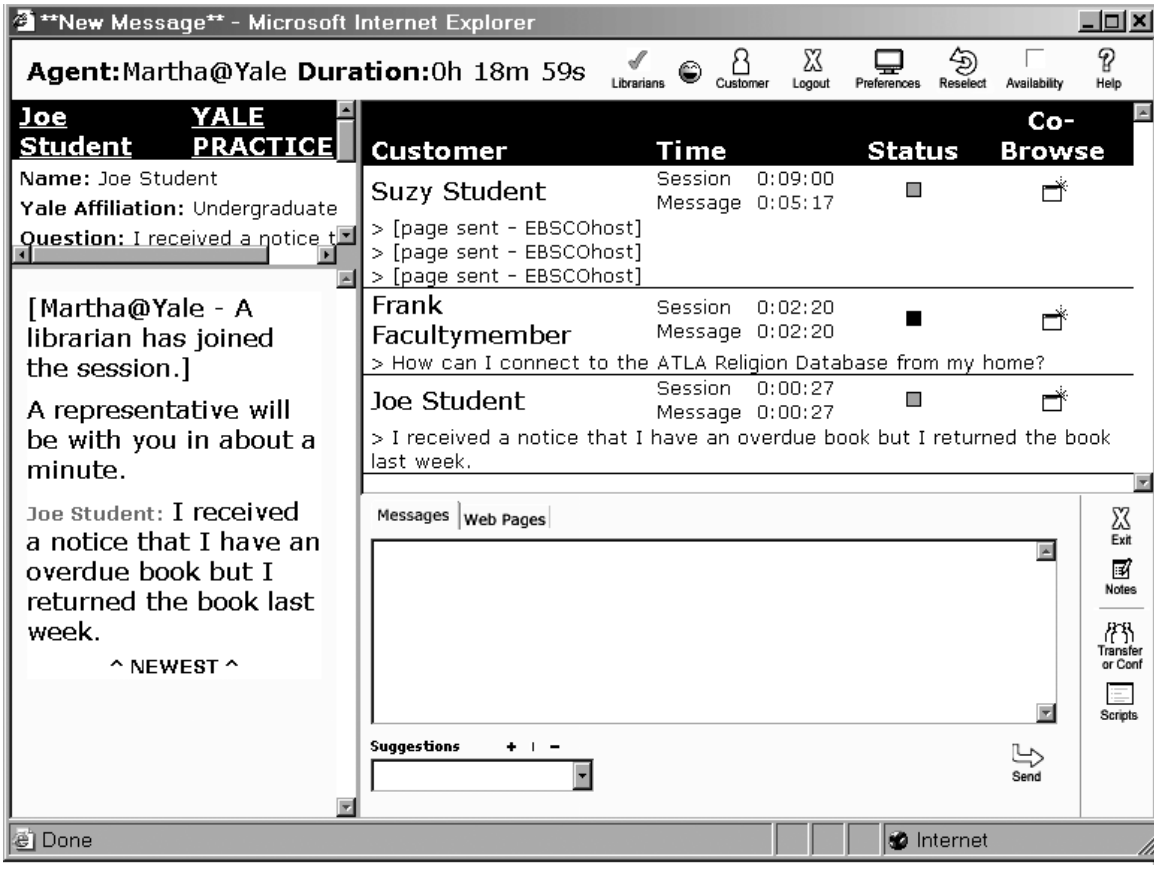

Figure 2

Some of the most popular virtual reference products are 24/7 Reference, created by the Metropolitan Cooperative Library Service (www.247ref.org); Docutek VRLplus, a product of Docutek Information Systems, Inc. (www.docutek.com); eLibrarian, a product of Digi-Net (http://elibrarian.digi-net.com); LiveAssistance, a product of International Business Systems, Inc. (www.liveassistance.com); LivePerson Pro, a product of LivePerson, Inc. (www.liveperson.com); QuestionPoint, created as a joint venture by OCLC and the Library of Congress (www.questionpoint.org); and the Virtual Reference Toolkit from Tutor.com (www.tutor.com). A recent article by Olivia Olivares, "Virtual Reference Systems" in the journal *Computers in Libraries* (24 no5 25—9 My 2004) provides a succinct and up-to-date compar-ison of these products. Olivares also has posted a useful PowerPoint presentation on planning for virtual reference available at: http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/users/olivareo/cil2003wksp.ppt.

Many variables come into play when deciding which of the available options is best for a particular setting—cost, pricing models, functionality, consortial factors, etc. An added variable is the evolving vendor scene; current rumor is that two of the major players, QuestionPoint and 24/7, are about to join forces.

Beyond the complexities of choosing and implementing a virtual reference product, many questions remain regarding the benefits of virtual reference. Usage levels of virtual reference in academic libraries generally have been quite low. Libraries begin to doubt whether it is worthwhile to continue the project if relatively few questions are received. One factor in analyzing usage levels is whether libraries have been willing or able to extend virtual reference hours into the late night and early morning hours when students might be most likely to need assistance. Another response to doubts related to low usage is that the true blossoming of virtual reference is yet to come as consciousness is raised about the service and as younger patrons accustomed to instant messaging and a chat culture enter college and graduate school.

A recent article in the journal *Information Research* compares users' experiences at a physical reference desk with their experiences with virtual reference. One survey found that some patrons preferred virtual reference over the physical reference desk for a variety of reasons:

> When asked why they usually do not ask for help at traditional library help desks, the responses were similar to those long reported in the literature. Twenty-nine percent noted that staff 'did not look like they want to help or they look too busy', 23 percent said they felt stupid for not knowing already, and 17 percent did not want to bother going to the library building, while 10 percent did not think the person at the desk would know the answer. Another reason for not using the physical reference desk, identified by 23 percent of respondents is that they did not want to get up from the computer [in the library.][1]

These reasons given for using virtual reference have a somewhat negative cast to them, but the service does seems to encourage communication when it might not have occurred otherwise. This idea is echoed by one ATLA librarian involved in virtual reference, who commented:

> I suspect that if we did not have the service, many of these questions/comments would not be posed at all, since many patrons would likely not bother to make a phone call or email the library. But the service is easy to use and it's clearly marked so I think it encourages more communication from our patrons. Also, for international students for whom English is a second language, the service is probably easier to use than approaching a librarian for oral bibliographic instruction.

Other advantages of virtual reference cited by ATLA librarians who have been involved in VR projects include: "potentially serves our students off-hours," "allows students to get assistance from home, especially our commuting students," "allows staff to co-browse and push pages to students and conduct sessions from home," "helps staff remain aware of developments in the field of reference service." To these comments I would add from my experience at Yale that engaging in virtual reference has been an excellent educational experience for reference librarians across the system. The virtual reference product we use (24/7 Reference) allows for easy review of the transcripts of reference transactions, and the process of discussing and evaluating sample (anonymous) transcripts has been a very useful exercise.

The comments solicited from ATLA librarians involved with virtual reference projects were by no means all positive. One librarian wrote: "Though [they] have made many improvements, the software does not always work reliably. Chatting works well; application sharing is more complex and involves time delay. The key seems to be patience and informing the patron at each step. In spite of advertising to faculty and students, the library has had very few virtual patrons." Other comments include: "staff remains uncomfortable with non-visual clues and lengthy pauses in 'chat,'" "occasional reliance on Google and other online search engines when print resources might answer the question faster and with greater accuracy," "difficulty with actual 24-hour coverage or even later evening hours due to insufficient funding."

If ATLA libraries were to join together in a virtual reference project, such as has been suggested over the years, yet another layer of complexity would be added in order to implement the collaborative aspect of it. An article by Steve Coffman in *American Libraries,* "What's Wrong with Collaborative Digital Reference?" provides a good overview of the various issues raised by collaboration. He indicates that usage patterns do not justify investing much energy into developing collaborative networks, and furthermore,

> Perhaps it's a blessing in disguise that the collaborative services have attracted so little traffic. Closer scrutiny of these systems' underpinnings suggests some fundamental design problems that make it unlikely that today's collaborative models could ever scale to support more than token usage. It's a little like opening up the hood of a fancy sports car to find that somebody had stuck a lawnmower engine in there—and not a very big one at that.[2]

The ATLA Virtual Reference Task Force concurs with the opinion of the majority of ATLA institutional members that this is not the time for ATLA to engage in a collaborative reference project, but it will be interesting to see how the universe of virtual reference develops over the next five years. As our users become more and more accustomed to doing research over the Internet and as virtual reference products continue to evolve, the ability to engage users in real-time virtual reference transactions may be an added tool that is well within the range of many ATLA libraries.

1 Kirsti Nelsen, "The Library Visit Study: user experiences at the virtual reference desk," *Information Research* 9 No. 2 (2004)—http://informationr.net/ir/9-2/paper171.html

2 Steve Coffman, "What's Wrong with Collaborative Digital Reference," *American Libraries* 33 no. 11 (2002) p.56–8

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ERRATA

There were some errors in the print version of the Diktuon column of May 2004. The bullets on p. 29 should have been a continuation of the numbered list begun on p. 26. At the end of this list, a new heading, *Budget,* should have been indicated, followed by the sentence "This is a sample budget for a project comparable to that detailed above." The chart on p. 29 would then follow. For a correct version visit www.atla.com/member/librarians_tools/diktuon.html.

The American Religion Data Archive

The American Religion Data Archive (ARDA) is an Internet-based data archive that stores and distributes quantitative data sets from the leading studies on American religion. Directed by Roger Finke, supported by the Lilly Endowment, and housed at the Pennsylvania State University's Social Science Research Institute, the ARDA disseminates more than 250 data files on American religion. The abundance of useful online features allows users to conduct basic data analysis, review codebooks, construct a survey instrument, download data and software, search for variables, principal investigators, or topics of interest, and create church membership reports and maps of counties, states, and the nation. Data files from the ARDA can be downloaded free of charge in SPSS, MS Excel, ASCII, or MicroCase format. In addition, a complete codebook for each data file is also available for download. A few of the most frequently downloaded data files include:

- The *General Social Surveys* (*1988, 1998, 2000, and 2002*). Each survey contains a standard core of demographic, attitudinal, and religion variables, plus topical modules that vary by year. The 1988 and 1998 surveys contain a module on religion with the 1998 survey including questions on religious self-identification, religious schooling, congregational affiliation, church attendance, and local church performance.
- The *National Congregations Study,* conducted by Mark Chaves (1998), is a nationally representative sample of American congregations.
- The *Church and Church Membership in the United States, 1990* for 133 Judeo-Christian church bodies are distributed in both state and county files. The 2000 Religious Congregations and Membership Survey data are available on the ARDA's Mapping and Reports section, and the complete data file can only be purchased through the Glenmary Research Center (www.glenmary.org).

For those familiar with the ARDA, try out a few of the new features added in recent months:

- A Browse feature for perusing the data file names and descriptions.
- Bar charts and pie charts are now available in the Analysis feature.
- A Compare Map feature allows two maps to be shown.
- New census, crime, voting, and other data have been added to the mapping files.
- A Search feature is always available in the sidebar.
- Thirty new files have been added to the archive.

To access the American Religion Data Archive go to www.TheARDA.com.

Job Opportunities

Reference Librarian
Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, California

Introduction:
GGBTS is searching for a qualified Reference Librarian for our Main Campus in Mill Valley outside of diverse and temperate San Francisco.

Summary:
This position is the primary reference resource person helping build bridges between theological and pedagogical content, research, strategies and information technologies. This position will provide direct reference services to students, faculty, general staff and public patrons.

Qualifications:
- An MLS/MLIS degree from an accredited institution.
- Strong customer service orientation required.
- Ability to maintain positive staff relations.
- A working knowledge of theological reference tools, including use of traditional print and online resources.
- Must be able to think creatively to address library patrons' questions.
- Knowledge and understanding of library policies and procedures.
- Extensive knowledge of computers and databases.
- Good oral and written communication.
- Excellent interpersonal skill.
- Theological degree or training preferred.
- Experience with Voyager software preferred.

Salary and Benefits:
This position includes full benefits and a starting salary around the mid to upper 30's.

Application Information:
Submit your resume to hr@ggbts.edu or fax your resume to 415-380-1374.

Librarian for Academic Computing Support
Union-PSCE, Richmond, Virginia

Introduction:
The William Smith Morton Library seeks a Librarian for Academic Computing Support (LACS) to begin as soon as possible. Morton Library supports the programs of the Union Theological Seminary-Presbyterian School of Christian Education, the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, and the School of Theology of the Virginia Union University. Its collections include over 424,000 items. Further information about Morton Library can be found at library.union-psce.edu.

JOB LISTINGS WANTED!

ATLA is soliciting job listings for both professional and paraprofessional positions. If you need a librarian, a circulation supervisor, or administrative assistant, we can help you find one!

Deadlines:

November issue: **October 1, 2004**
February issue: **January 1, 2005**
May issue: **April 1, 2005**
August issue: **July 1, 2005**

Prices:
(non-member institutional)

$55 per ad for *Newsletter*
$55 per ad for website
$80 per ad for *Newsletter* and web site

Job listings are free for ATLA member institutions

Send submission to
Editor of Member Publications
newsletter@atla.com
www.atla.com/member/job_submission_guidelines.html

Position Summary:

The successful candidate will manage and maintain the library's integrated automation system, which will either be upgraded or replaced in the next year. The LACS will also be responsible for overseeing the library website's development, for access to online databases and journals, and for training in the use of electronic tools for research and teaching.

Qualifications:

Minimum:

ALA-accredited MLS, or its equivalent in education or experience in Information Science or related field. Two years of library experience and one year experience maintaining an integrated library automation system, including client and server products and systems. Education and/or experience with library online databases and e-resources, current web authoring applications, and relational databases.

Preferred:

Education or background in theological studies. Experience with a broad range of software products, including Windows-based environment, MS Office Professional (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint), and Internet tools (e.g., FTP, web browsers); experience with installation, management, and maintenance of Unix-based systems; and/or experience with advanced information management and library standards (for instance, MARC records, AACR2, XML, XHTML, Z39.50, EDI, SGML).

Salary & Benefits:

Compensation commensurate with education and experience. 4 weeks paid vacation, 14 paid Seminary designated holidays, health, life, and disability insurance and retirement plan.

Application Information:

Submit a letter of application, resume, and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three professional references via email to: Barbara Phillips, Director of Human Resources, at bphillips@union-psce.edu. Applications accepted immediately and continue until the position is filled. EOE.

Library Director

St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore, Maryland

Position:

Saint Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore is searching for a qualified individual to assume the position of Library Director effective immediately. See www.stmarys.edu to learn more about our institution.

Qualifications:

ALA-accredited MLS or its equivalent; 3–5 years library administrative experience, including management and supervisory responsibilities; excellent verbal and written communication skills; and the ability to manage staff, projects, and budgets. The candidate must have knowledge of library automation, including OCLC WorldCat and cataloging/interlibrary loan modules and the Internet/First Search/Commercial databases, such as those in theology and philosophy. Preference will be given to candidates who are familiar with the Roman Catholic tradition, have knowledge of theological terminology, or have training in one of the following disciplines: theology, philosophy, religious studies, pastoral ministry, church history, classics, or ancient languages.

Responsibilities:

- Supervise, hire, train, and evaluate library staff
- Carry out long-range planning for library collection and physical needs of library
- Oversee library budget and provide regular library reports to the administration
- Represent library at faculty meetings and serve on faculty committees as assigned by the President/Rector
- Oversee library acquisitions, including gift donations, and work with faculty in soliciting and selecting new acquisitions
- Supervise maintenance and protection of all special collections
- Maintain collegial working relationship with Archivist concerning shared use of resources and personnel, as necessary
- Oversee security and physical protection of library collection

Salary & Benefits:

Faculty status and competitive salary with full benefits package commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Application Information:

Applications, to include curriculum vitae and names of three references, with salary requirements should be sent to Library Director Search Committee, St. Mary's Seminary and University, 5400 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210; fax: 410-433-1384; e-mail: webmaster@stmarys.edu. Applications accepted until position is filled.

Reference Librarian

Episcopal Divinity School/Weston Jesuit School of Theology Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Introduction:

Reporting to the Director of Library and Information Services, the Reference Librarian is responsible for the provision of reference services to the students, faculty, and staff of the Episcopal Divinity School and Weston Jesuit School of Theology. For more information about the Library, visit the library's web site at www.edswjst.org.

Position Summary:

Responsibilities include providing reference and research assistance and instruction in the effective use of library resources for theological research; developing and maintaining the print and electronic resources of the reference collection; creating and maintaining web and print guides to library and Internet resources; and helping to maintain the library's web site.

Qualifications:

- ALA-accredited MLS
- Graduate degree in a theological or related field of studies
- Reference/instruction experience in an academic library
- Strong presentation and teaching skills
- Familiarity with basic web page editing
- Excellent interpersonal skills

Application Information:

Position available August 1, 2004.

To apply, send or email letter of application, resume and names, addresses and telephone numbers of 3 references to:

Esther A. Griswold
Director of Library and Information Services
EDS/WJST Library
99 Brattle Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
egriswold@edswjst.org

Cataloguer

Jean-Léon Allie, O.M.I. Library, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario

Job Summary:

Under the direction of the Chief Librarian, and with the collaboration of the other librarians and of the cataloguing staff, the incumbent will catalogue and classify the complete array of the library's documents, including documents in Slavic languages.

Qualifications and Knowledge Required:

- Master in Library Science (or its equivalent);
- Baccalaureate or Graduate degree in Theology or Philosophy;
- Experience oriented towards cataloguing, indexing and academic librarianship; extensive knowledge in the area of nontraditional cataloguing; excellent knowledge of MARC format and AACR2 rules;
- Demonstrated ability to interpret the rules and procedures of cataloguing, especially with regard to nontraditional platforms;
- Excellent computer skills with knowledge of word processing and data management software;
- Capacity to conceptualize, establish selection criteria, and plan the cataloguing of some 100,000 microforms;

- Integral bilingualism. Excellent knowledge of both spoken and written English and French;
- Knowledge of Slavic languages will be a considerable asset. Reading knowledge of Latin, Classical Greek, and Hebrew, as well as major European languages (Italian, German, etc.).

Salary & Benefits:

Salary scale (established on a 35 hours per week schedule): from $38,893 to $45,757.

Application:

Interested applicants should forward a resume on or before August 9th, 2004, at 4:00 p.m. to:

Mélanie Boivin
mboivin@ustpaul.ca
Fax: (613) 751-4033
Tel: (613) 236-1393 #2211

Idea?

Suggestion?

Letter to the Editor?

Why not submit it for consideration?

newsletter@atla.com

Editor: Jonathan West

Product News

providing access to the scholarly literature of religion and preserving it for future generations

Product Notes

EBSCO Offering CPLI Online Trials

EBSCO is now offering trials of the online version of *The Catholic Periodical and Literature Index (CPLI).* For more information or to request a trial, please contact EBSCO at 800.653.2726 or information@epnet.com.

CPLI is a partnership product of ATLA and the Catholic Library Association. See the ATLA online catalog at www.atla.com/products for details.

NTA Schedule Updated

As previously announced (see the November and December 2003 News Updates at www.atla.com), ATLA's implementation of its partnership with the Weston Jesuit School of Theology will include both an online version (to be available from EBSCO) and the CD-ROM version (to be available directly from ATLA) of *New Testament Abstracts (NTA).*

In the updated production schedule the first online version of *NTA* is planned by EBSCO for December 2004, with subsequent annual updates each summer. The first ATLA-produced CD-ROM version of *NTA* is scheduled for August 2005.

The current CD-ROM version of *NTA* is being produced this summer and will be available directly from *NTA.* For more information about the current CD-ROM version, contact *NTA* directly at NTAbstracts@aol.com.

Founded in 1956, *NTA* has become an indispensable research and bibliographic aid for scholars, librarians, clergy, and students of the New Testament and its historical milieu. Every year *NTA* abstracts at least 2,100 articles chosen from more than 500 periodicals in numerous languages. More than 700 current books are also summarized annually.

ATLAS Progress

ATLAS, ATLA's full-text journal collection, continues to develop on several fronts.

a) Progress on Stage II. ATLA staff are developing the prototype of the searchable text version of ATLAS and expect to have a working prototype by December. The first stage of *ATLAS* operates by linking GIF images of each page of an issue (more than 500,000 pages) to the corresponding bibliographic index record drawn from the *ATLA Religion Database.* The second stage will retain the search power of ATLA's indexing and combine it with the ability to search within the text of articles and reviews within each issue to provide more comprehensive search features.
b) Hardware and software solutions. ATLA has purchased a high-speed scanner that allows us to create both TIFF and GIF images at a very fast pace—up to 25,000 pages per month. We have also purchased a special storage device with the capacity (8 terrabytes) that will allow us to store and access all of the TIFF and GIF images we create without having to store and organize the enormous amount of data on CD-ROMs.

c) Progress on *ATLAS for Congregations and Clergy.* Following the very successful meeting we held with the Clergy Focus Group at the Indianapolis Center for Congregations in March, we are in negotiations with publishers of journals identified as high priority by the panel, seeking to secure their participation in the project.

ATLA Catalog 2004–2005

The catalog of ATLA products for 2004–2005 will be mailed with customer invoices this month. From the dynamic and energy-filled cover to the brand new sections within, this catalog reflects the exciting products ATLA offers librarians and users, scholars and individuals.

Among these products is *New Testament Abstracts (NTA),* created as the result of a new partnership with the Weston Jesuit School of Theology and offered online through EBSCO and on CD-ROM directly from ATLA.

For information about *NTA* and all other ATLA products, including preservation products, go to www.atla.com or request a print copy of the catalog from ATLA Office Manager Janan Robinson at jrobinso@atla.com.

Contributors to the Retrospective Indexing Project (RIP)

ATLA gratefully acknowledges all those who have contributed to the *Retrospective Indexing Project.*

Abilene Christian University, Brown Library, Abilene, TX
Akrofi-Christaller Memorial Centre for Mission Research & Applied Theology, Akropong-Akuapem, Ghana
Anderson University School of Theology Library, Anderson, IN
Asbury Theological Seminary, B.L. Fisher Library, Wilmore, KY
Asia Pacific Theological Seminary Library, Baguio City, Philippines
Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary Library, Elkhart, IN
Atlantic School of Theology Library, Halifax, NS, Canada
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Stitt Library, Austin, TX
Bangor Theological Seminary, Moulton Library, Bangor, ME
Baylor University Library, Waco, TX
Bethel College Library, Mishawaka, IN
Biblical Theological Seminary Library, Hatfield, PA
Biola University Library, La Mirada, CA
Boston University School of Theology Library, Boston, MA
Brigham Young University, Harold B. Lee Library, Provo, UT
Brite Divinity School Library, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX
Calvary Baptist Theological Seminary Library, Lansdale, PA
Canadian Theological Seminary, Archibald Foundation Library, Calgary, AB, Canada
Cardinal Beran Library, University of St. Thomas Graduate School of Theology, Houston, TX
Catholic University of America, Religious Studies/ Philosophy Library, Washington, DC
Central Baptist Theological Seminary Library, Plymouth, MN
Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Pratt-Journeycake Library, Kansas City, KS
Chicago Theological Seminary, Hammond Library, Chicago, IL
Christian Theological Seminary Library, Indianapolis, IN
Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, Ambrose Swasey Library, Rochester, NY
Concordia Seminary Library, St. Louis, MO
Concordia Theological Seminary, Walther Library, Fort Wayne, IN
Cornerstone College & Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI
Covenant Theological Seminary, Buswell Library, St. Louis, MO
Dallas Theological Seminary, Turpin Library, Dallas, TX
David Lipscomb University, Library, Nashville, TN
Dominican House of Studies Library, Washington, DC
Drew University, Rose Memorial Library, Madison, NJ
Duke University Divinity School Library, Durham, NC
Emory University, Pitts Theology Library, Atlanta, GA
Episcopal Divinity School/Weston Jesuit School of Theology Library, Cambridge, MA
Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Harold & Patricia Booher Library, Austin, TX
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Library, Chicago, IL
Evangelical School of Theology, Rostad Library, Myerstown, PA
Fuller Theological Seminary, McAlister Library, Pasadena, CA
Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Library, Mill Valley, CA
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Goddard Library, South Hamilton, MA
Harding University Graduate School of Religion, L.M. Graves Memorial Library, Memphis, TN
Harvard Divinity School, Andover-Harvard Theological Library, Cambridge, MA
Iliff School of Theology, Ira J. Taylor Library, Denver, CO
Indiana Wesleyan University Library, Marion, IN
Katholieke Universiteit te Leuven/Faculty of Theology, Bibliotheek Godgeleerdheid, Leuven, Belgium
Logos Evangelical Seminary Library, El Monte, CA
Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Ernest Miller White Library, Louisville, KY
Luther Seminary Library, St. Paul, MN
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Central Library, St. Louis, MO
Lutheran Seminary Program in the Southwest, LSPS/ Seminex Library, Austin, TX
Marquette University, Memorial Library, Milwaukee, WI
Meadville/Lombard Theological School Library, Chicago, IL
Memphis Theological Seminary Library, Memphis, TN
Mercer University, Swilley Library, Atlanta, GA
Methodist Theological School in Ohio, John W. Dickhaut Library, Delaware, OH
Missionary Church Archives & Historical College at Bethel College, Mishawaka, IN

Moravian Theological Seminary, Reeves Library, Bethlehem, PA
Nazarene Theological Seminary, William Broadhurst Library, Kansas City, MO
New Brunswick Theological Seminary, Gardner A. Sage Library, New Brunswick, NJ
North Park Theological Seminary, Brandel Library, Chicago, IL
Northwest Baptist Seminary, Powell Memorial Library, Tacoma, WA
Oblate School of Theology Library, San Antonio, TX
Phillips Theological Seminary Library, Tulsa, OK
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Clifford E. Barbour Library, Pittsburgh, PA
Pontifical College Josephinum, A.T. Wehrle Memorial Library, Columbus, OH
Princeton Theological Seminary, Speer Library, Princeton, NJ
Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University/ Library, Prague, Czech Republic
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Mordecai M. Kaplan Library, Wyncote, PA
Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary Library, Pittsburgh, PA
Reformed Theological Seminary Library, Jackson, MS
Regent College, Regent-Carey Library, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Edmund Cardinal Szoka Library, Detroit, MI
Sacred Heart School of Theology, Leo Dehon Library, Hales Corners, WI
Southeastern College, Steelman Library, Lakeland, FL
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, James P. Boyce Centennial Library, Louisville, KY
Southern Christian University Library, Montgomery, AL
Southern Methodist University, Bridwell Library, Dallas, TX
St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Ryan Memorial Library, Wynnewood, PA
St. John's University, Alcuin Library, Collegeville, MN
St. Joseph's Seminary, Corrigan Memorial Library, Yonkers, NY
St. Louis University, Pius XII Memorial Library, St. Louis, MO
St. Mary Seminary, The Bruening-Marotta Library, Wickliffe, OH
St. Paul School of Theology, Dana Dawson Library, Kansas City, MO
St. Paul Seminary, University of St. Thomas, Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library, St. Paul, MN
St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, Fr. Georges Florovsky Library, Crestwood, NY
Taiwan Theological Seminary & College Library, Taipei, Taiwan
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Hamma Library, Columbus, OH
Tyndale University College & Seminary, J. William Horsey Library, Toronto, ON, Canada
Unification Theological Seminary Library, Barrytown, NY
Union Theological Seminary, Burke Library, New York, NY
Union Theological Seminary & P.S.C.E., William Smith Morton Library, Richmond, VA
United Theological Seminary, Memorial Library, Dayton, OH
University of Chicago Library, Chicago, IL
University of Notre Dame, Hesburgh Library, Notre Dame, IN
University of St. Mary of the Lake, Feehan Memorial Library, Mundelein, IL
University of the South Library/School of Theology, Sewanee, TN
Vancouver School of Theology, VST Library, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Vanderbilt University, Divinity Library, Nashville, TN
Vereniging Van-Religieus-wetenschappelijke Bibliothecarissen, Leuven, Belgium
Victoria University, (Emmanuel College) Library, Toronto, ON, Canada
Virginia Theological Seminary, Bishop Payne Library, Alexandria, VA
Wesley Theological Seminary, The Library, Washington, DC
Western Theological Seminary, Beardslee Library, Holland, MI
Westminster Theological Seminary Library, Escondido, CA
Wheaton College, Buswell Memorial Library, Wheaton, IL
Woodstock Theological Center Library, Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Yale University Divinity School Library, New Haven, CT

Retrospective Indexing Project Quarterly Report

March–June 2004

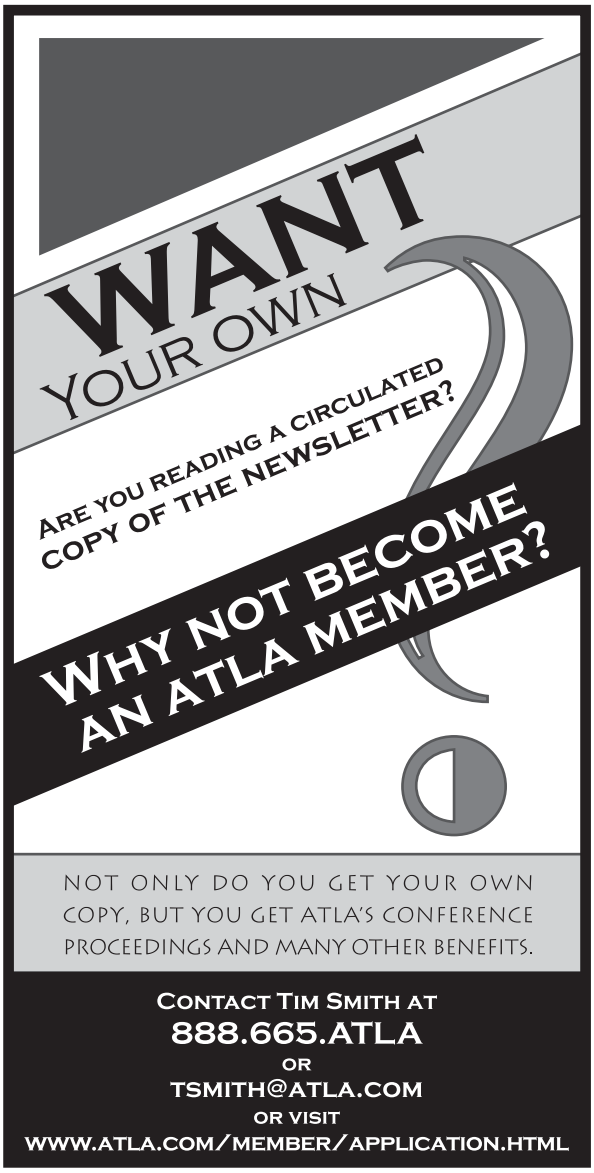
In the course of the spring quarter the *RIP* staff has completed the indexing of five titles: *Journal of the National Association of Biblical Instructors* (1933–1936), *Scottish Journal of Theology* (1948–), *Studia Theologica: Scandinavian Journal of Theology* (1947–), *Studia Missionalia* (1943–), and *The Journal of Bible and Religion* (1937–1966). Indexing has begun on *Evangelical Quarterly* (1929–) and *Theology Today* (1944–).

On the personnel front, Benjamin Butler left *RIP* and ATLA for the siren call of Madison Avenue in New York City. Perhaps there is less difference between indexing 50+-year-old academic journals and marketing video games to the 18–24 year-old crowd than one might suppose. In his tenure here, Ben indexed or contributed to the indexing of the following titles:

Christian Century (1940, 1941, 1942)
Church History (1932–1948)
Journal of the National Association of Biblical Instructors (1933–1936)
Journal of Bible and Religion, The (1937–1948)
Reformed Theological Review, The (1942–1948)
Theological Studies (1940–1948)
Thomist: A Speculative Quarterly Review (1939–1948)
Westminster theological Journal (1938–1948)

On behalf of the ATLA consortium and the countless users of *ATLA RDB* in the future, we thank you.

It gives me pleasure to share the good tidings of two new hires for *RIP.* Virginia (Ginny) W. Landgraf, Ph.D. 2004, Princeton Theological Seminary, brings a wealth of language competencies sorely needed for this project. Her last position was in the Princeton Theological Seminary libraries. Her dissertation was on Jacques Ellul and, among other avocational pursuits, she performs sacred harp music. Ginny moved to Chicago in May and began work at ATLA May 17.



Anthony J. Elia, M.A. 2004, University of Chicago Divinity School, studied at Charles University (Prague), Pontificia Universitas Gregoriana, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and University of Nairobi (Kenya). Anthony's most recent employment was as a bibliographic assistant on the Italian Women Writers Project, Joseph Regenstein Library of the University of Chicago. He has composed a number of musical compositions for string quartets and an opera. He began work for *RIP* July 5.

To date, we have finished *RIP* indexing for these 32 titles:

American Catholic Sociological Review (1940–1948)
Biblical Archaeologist (1938–1948)
Catholic Biblical Quarterly (1939–1948)
Church History (1932–1948)
Commentary (1945–1948)
Eastern Buddhist (1921–1939 [publication suspended until 1949])
Ecumenical Review (1948–1949)
Estudios bíblicos (1941–1948)
Hebrew Union College Annual (1919, 1924–1948)
Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology (1947–1948)
Journal of Bible and Religion, The (1937–1948)
Journal of Biblical Literature (1881–1948)
Journal of Pastoral Care (1947–1948)
Journal of Religious Thought (1943–1948)
Journal of the National Association of Biblical Instructors (1933–1936)
Mélanges de science religieuse (1944–1948)
Nederlands theologisch tijdschrift (1946–1948)
Orate Fratres (1926–1948)
Palestine Exploration Quarterly (1937–1948)
Reformed Theological Review (1942–1948)
Revue des études byzantines (1943–1948)
Scottish Journal of Theology (1948)
Studia Missionalia (1943–1948)
Studia Theologica: Scandinavian Journal of Theology (1947–1948),
Theological Studies (1940–1948)
Theologische Zeitschrift (1945–1948)
Thomist: A Speculative Quarterly Review (1939–1948)
Traditio: Studies in Ancient and Medieval History, Thought, and Religion (1943–1948)
Union Seminary Quarterly Review (1945–1948)
Unitarian Universalist Christian (1946–1948)
Vigiliae Christianae: A Review of Early Christian Life and Language (1947–1948)
Zeitschrift für Religions-und Geistesgeschichte (1948)

Indexing has begun on these 4 titles:

Christian Century (issues in 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944)
Evangelical Quarterly (1929)
Orientalia christiana periodica (1947–1948)
Theology Today (1944–1947)

Title from the 2003 summer triage list remaining to be begun:

Covenant Quarterly (1941–)

Indexing has been suspended on:

Bibliotheca Sacra (1856–1948)
Christian Century (1900–1939)
Christian Oracle (1884–1899)

Respectfully submitted,

Steven W. Holloway
RIP Project Coordinator
June 1, 2004

Preservation: New Dissertations Available on Microfilm

Dissertations on microfilm are available to institutional members for $100 per reel. To purchase, please contact American Theological Library Association (888.665.ATLA; sales@atla.com).

Calvin's hermeneutics of the imprecations of the Psalter / by Paul Mbunga Mpinid, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2003. The author writes: *"This dissertation rehearses the issue of Calvin's Old Testament exegesis in the light of his hermeneutical approach to the imprecatory passages of the Psalter. The imprecatory passages of the Psalms offer an ideal place to examine the thesis that Calvin's exegetical principles shared elements of the late medieval hermeneutics, but also moved him away from late medieval exegesis toward a more direct application of the literal meaning of the text to his contemporary situation."* **ATLA no.: D00007**, 1 reel.

Preservation: Serials Newly Preserved through NEH Grants

The following serial titles were microfilmed as part of the preservation grant "African American Religious Serials, 1850–1950." The preservation of these serials has been funded by the office of preservation of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Serials on microfilm are available to ATLA Institutional Members for $100 per reel. To purchase, please contact Scholarly Resources/Thomas Gale (800.444.0799; gale.sales@thomson.com).

***Western pilot** (San Francisco, Calif.)*

"A monthly magazine devoted solely to the interest of the Negro in all of the intellectual, moral, social and religious spheres on the Pacific Coast." The *Western pilot* "is a monthly magazine dedicated to the enrichment of Negro optimism. A unique system of co-operation and for common benefit, it gives to its subscribers the best obtainable option, information, experience and advice on Race issues. It boils down the doings of the Race so as one can keep up with their progress, and often tells in pictures what a newspaper puts in a page. It deals with everything of note. It entertains and instructs. Its editorials are alive and spicy. It is the only magazine where all the little and big Negroes can speak their sentiment on any racial issue." Editor: J. H. Clark; published in San Francisco. **ATLA no.: 2004-S001**, 1 reel (contains one issue: Vol. 1, no. 8, Sept. 1917). *Note: reel includes 2004-S002.*

Bulletin : a Negro monthly devoted to health, religion, uplift

This African American periodical includes church reports and articles about health, such as: "The doctor says?" "The housing problem in Cincinnati," and "Mercy Hospital as an aid to the Negro health problem." Published in Cincinnati. **ATLA no.: 2004-S002**, 1 reel (contains one issue: Vol. 1, no. 2, May 1926). *Note: reel includes 2004-S001.*

Port Royal Relief Committee. ***Annual report of the Port Royal Relief Committee***

In the winter of 1862, following the capture of Port Royal, James Miller McKim was instrumental in calling a public meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia to consider and provide for the wants of the 10,000 slaves that had been suddenly liberated. One of the results of this meeting was the organization of the Philadelphia Port Royal Relief Committee. Page 3 of the first issue reads: "The object of this Association is indicated by its name. It had its origin in a public meeting held in [Philadelphia]…That meeting was called in response to earnest appeals by Gen. Sherman, then at the head of our forces in South Carolina, and Commodore [Dupont], the victorious commander of our fleet in the bay of Port Royal. The meeting…adopted a series of resolutions, one of which was as follows: 'That a permanent Committee as appointed…whose business it shall be to receive and forward to their destination contribution in food, clothes, and other articles, and to adopt such future measures for the benefit of the freed blacks in the Sea Island, as they may deem expedient.'" Published in Philadelphia. **ATLA no.: 2004-S008**, 1 reel (contains one issue: 1st, Mar. 26, 1863). *Note: reel includes 2004-S009.*

***Bystander** (Brooklyn, N.Y.)*

This African American periodical includes articles about religion, education, and politics. Published in Brooklyn by Christ Church Cathedral. **ATLA no.: 2004-S009**, 1 reel (contains one issue: Vol. 1, no. 7, June 1927). *Note: reel includes 2004-S008.*

National Negro printer and publisher

"The only magazine in the world published in the interest of Negroes in the graphic arts." Printing; bibliography of African American newspapers and periodicals. Contains stories such as: "A.M.E. Zion Publishing House is big concern," "Negro papers have own war correspondents," "John H. Sengstacke heads million dollar publishing company," and "Harry C. Smith, Ed., Cleveland Gazette for 58 years; put civil rights law on books for Ohio citizens—still going." Published in Oxford, Ohio. **ATLA no.: 2004-S012**, 1 reel (1940-1942).

Annual messenger : Negro missions, s.v.d.

Catholic mission to African Americans. Includes articles such as "Negro or Colored," "Facts about the Negro Mission," "The Negro Priest and his flock," "Why should the Negro be proud of his race," and "Old Negro songs of slavery days: some quaint and curious ballads and hymns of the light-hearted black folks." Published by the Fathers of the Society of the Divine Word. **ATLA no.: 2004-S020**, 1 reel (contains two issues: 1918–1919). *Note: reel includes 2004-S021 and 2004-S022.*

Maryland Home for Friendless Colored Children. ***Annual report of the Maryland Home for Friendless Colored Children, Baltimore County, Md.***

Organized and founded by George Freeman Bragg, an ordained minister of the Episcopal denomination, the orphanage received "boys, and only boys…from two to ten years of age…Young boys are often placed with us by their parents who are hindered from giving them requisite attention. The cost of the care of such is $1.50 a week…We have a regular day school in the institute, taught by Miss Nellie G. Bragg, and each and every child is particularly and intelligently cared for."—from p. 7 of 16th issue. Published in Baltimore. **ATLA no.: 2004-S021**, 1 reel (contains one issue: 16th, 1915). *Note: reel includes 2004-S020 and 2004-S022.*

Indianapolis colored directory and year book

A directory for African Americans in Indianapolis. "In presenting herewith the First Annual Edition of the *Indianapolis Colored Directory and Yearbook*…which contains names, addresses, telephone numbers and illustrations of associations, churches, schools, lodge halls, public buildings, societies, clubs, and business enterprises; also valuable information concerning the civic, religious, fraternal, professional, commercial and industrial activity of our people; we feel assured that this volume will be very useful to our many subscribers and advertisers."—T.W. Burks in the introductory. **ATLA no.: 2004-S022**, 1 reel (contains one issue: Vol. 1, 1923). *Note: reel includes 2004-S020 and 2004-S021.*

Preservation: Ongoing Serials on Microfilm

New issues are of various ongoing serials filmed periodically in the On Demand program. New issues of the titles listed below have been recently filmed.

Serials on microfilm are available to ATLA Institutional Members for $100 per reel. To purchase, please contact Scholarly Resources/ Thomson Gale (800.444.0799; gale.sales@thomson.com).

Australian Presbyterian. **ATLA no.: S1003.** Reel no. 1: No. 490-533 (1998–2001).

Catholic standard (Washington, D.C.). **ATLA no.: S0185.** Reel no. 62: v. 53 (2003).

Congregationalist (Melrose, Mass.). **ATLA no.: S0839B.** Reel no. 6: v. 153–161 (1993/94–2001/02).

Echoes (Bath, England). **ATLA no.: S0373B.** Reel no. 26: v. 128–129 (2000–2001).

Entwicklungspolitik. **ATLA no.: S0430.** Reel no. 26–27: 2000–2001.

Evangelische Kirche von Kurhessen-Waldeck. Landessynode. ***Verhandlungen der … Tagung der … Landessynode.*** **ATLA no.: S0959.** Reel no. 15–17: 1997–2000.

Die Gemeinde. **ATLA no.: S0379.** Reel no. 33–35: 2000–2002.

HEKS. **ATLA no.: S0775.** Reel no. 3: No. 233–262 (1994–1998).

HN magazine. **ATLA no.: S0274B.** Reel no. 49–52: v. 56–57 (2000–2001).

Homiletische Monatsheft. **ATLA no.: S0345.** Reel no. 22: v. 75–76 (1999/2000–2000/01).

Indre missions tidende. **ATLA no.: S0361.** Reel on. 39–40: v. 147–148 (2000–2001).

Kotimaa. **ATLA no.: S0275.** Reel no. 49–50: 2002.

Life and work. **ATLA no.: S0370.** Reel no. 38: 2000–2002.

Nordelbische Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche. *Gesetz- und Verordnungsblatt.* **ATLA no.: S0590.** Reel no. 6–7: v. 15–23 (1991–1999).

Pendle Hill pamphlet. **ATLA no.: S0682.** Reel no. 10: No. 327–361.

Reformátusok lapja. **ATLA no.: S0164.** Reel no. 13: v. 42–45 (1998–2001).

Das Sontagsblatt. **ATLA no.: S0946.** Reel no. 11: v. 53 (2000).

Växjö stifts hembygdskalender år … **ATLA no.: S0504B.** Reel no. 11: v. 87–92 (1996/97–2001–02).

Woord en dienst. **ATLA no.: S0464.** Reel no. 14-15: v. 47–50 (1998–2001).

Zwiastun. **ATLA no.: S0382B.** Reel no. 20: 2000–2001.

Preservation: Archival Collections Newly Available on Microfilm

The following archival collection has been microfilmed as part of the "Global Mission History Research Project" in cooperation with Yale Divinity Library and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Archives.

This archival collection on microfilm is available to ATLA Institutional Members for $100 per reel. To purchase, please contact Scholarly Resources/ Thomson Gale (800.444.0799; gale.sales@thomson.com).

Dr. Anna S. Kugler Papers, 1868–1983 [1883–1930]

Anna Sarah Kugler was born in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, on April 19, 1856. She graduated from the Women's Medical College, Philadephia, Pennsylvania, in 1879. In 1882 Dr. Kugler applied to be sent as a missionary of the General Synod's Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society (WHFMS). The board instructed Kugler that it would be unable to appoint her as a medical missionary, but would appoint her as a teacher. She arrived in Guntur, India, Andrah Pradesh, in November 1883. Her primary responsibility was teaching and zenana work among the Muslim women in harems. In December 1885, Dr. Kugler was officially appointed a medical missionary. She began planning for a hospital for women. Her dream was realized when American Evangelical Lutheran Mission Hospital, Guntur, India, opened on June 22, 1897. Dr. Kugler died in Guntur on July 26, 1930, at the age of 74. Shortly after her death the hospital was renamed Kugler Hospital. The collection contains mainly diaries and correspondence. **ATLA no.: XA0085R**, 8 reels.

Preservation: Monographs Newly Available on Microfilm

Each title is contained in one reel, unless otherwise specified. Monographs on microfilm are available to ATLA Institutional Members for $100 per reel. To purchase, please contact American Theological Library Association (888.665.ATLA; sales@atla.com).

Papers concerning affairs in Liberia, December 1930–May 1934 / presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament by command of his majesty. Politics and government in Liberia. Published in London, 1934. **ATLA no.: 2004-B001.**

Concordance to the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments / to which are added a concordance to the books called the Apocrypha ; and a concordance to the Psalter, contained in the Book of Common Prayer. Published in London by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1859? **ATLA no.: B00696.**

Prophecies of Isaiah / translated and explained by Joseph Addison Alexander. Published in New York, 1870. **ATLA no.: B00697.**

Irenaeus of Lugdunum : a study of his teaching / by F.R. Montgomery Hitchcock ; with a foreword by H.B. Swete. Published in Cambridge, 1914. **ATLA no.: B00698.**

Of the light of nature : a discourse / by Nathanael Culverwel ; edited by John Brown ; with a critical essay on the discourse, by John Cairns. A reprint, including facsimile of the original edition, entitled: An elegant and learned discourse of the light of nature, published in 1652. Published in Edinburgh, 1857. **ATLA no.: B00699.**

Hebrew Bible / revised and carefully examined by Myer Levi Letteris ; with Key to the Massoretic notes. Published in New York, 1889. Text in Hebrew. **ATLA no.: B00700.**

Glaube und Lehre : theologische Streitschriften / by Richard Adelbert Lipsius. Published in Kiel, 1871. Text in German. **ATLA no.: B00701.**

Remarks upon the Book of Psalms as prophetic of the Messiah. Published in London, 1843. **ATLA no.: B00702.**

Bible characters : being selections from sermons of Alexander Gardiner Mercer, D.D. (1817–1882) / with a brief memoir of him by Manton Marble. Published in New York, 1885. **ATLA no.: B00703.**

Die palästinischen Martyrer des Eusebius von Caesarea in ihrer Zweifachen Form : eine Untersuchung zur Entstehungsgeschichte der historia ecclesiastica des Eusebius von Caesarea / by A. Halmel. Published in Essen, 1898. Text in German. **ATLA no.: B00704.**

Homilies on the former part of the Acts of the apostles, chap. I–X / by Henry Alford. Published in London, 1858. **ATLA no.: B00706.**

Sermons of Christmas Evans : a new translation from the Welsh, with a memoir and portraiture of the author / by Joseph Cross. Published in Philadelphia, 1857. **ATLA no.: B00707.**

Sermons preached in Trinity Church, Glasgow / by William Pulsford. Published in Glasgow, 1873. **ATLA no.: B00708.**

Lectures on the history of Elisha / by Henry Blunt. Published in Philadelphia, 1839. **ATLA no.: B00709.**

Psalms in Greek according to the Septuagint / edited by Henry Barclay Swete. Published in Cambrdige, 1889. **ATLA no.: B00711.**

Sennacherib's campaign in Syria, Phoenicia, and Palestine : according to his own annuals : Assyrian text and English translation, together with philological and historical notes / by Henry Gustavus Kieme. Published in San Francisco, 1875. **ATLA no.: B00713.**

Commentary on the book of Joshua / by Karl Friedrich Keil ; translated by James Martin. Published in Edinburgh, 1857. **ATLA no.: B00714.**

Kirchliches Jahrbuch für die Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland, 1933–1944 / founded by Johannes Schneider ; published by Joachim Beckman in Gütersloh, 1948. Text in German. **ATLA no.: B00715.**

ATLA Staff News

serving ATLA members and customers

From the Executive Director

Theological Amnesia

When I was in graduate school at the University of Iowa School of Religion many years ago, I served a small Methodist Church in Lisbon, Iowa, as a way to support our family during the course of my doctoral program.

Part of my responsibility as pastor of the church was to participate in the congregation's team in the church bowling league. I was given a blue shirt that had been used by my predecessor with the name "Harry" embroidered on the front, and off I went to my first night of bowling.

We were pitted against a team from Coon Creek Church. I was curious about the church, so I asked one of the team members, "What kind of church is Coon Creek?" He replied, "What do you mean?" I said, "Is it Methodist, Baptist, Independent, or something else?" He said, "None."

Thinking he still didn't quite understand, I asked "Who is the pastor, or who conducts the services?" "We don't have any," he replied. I learned, finally, that this church had been closed for so long that no one remembered what it had been. The only thing that survived was the bowling team!

Coon Creek Church had experienced a kind of theological amnesia, a complete severing of the theological roots and themes and values with which it had begun. And although the example is extreme, I think there are gradations of theological amnesia throughout our churches and our society.

Many denominations are caught up in controversies and disputes that take them far from their theological roots. Denominational leaders and clergy cannot assume that members have a shared historical perspective, or that their view of the world is shaped by common theological values and themes.

The limited theological discussion that does occur appears to take place, like much else in our experience, in the moment, absent of theological context, history, and shared experience.

Theological librarians arguably are the group best equipped to assist churches and denominations with the problem of theological amnesia. As I witness the activities of our association, from single institutions to denominational or regional groups, from individual members to the national association, I see many creative and thoughtful efforts not only to preserve the past, but to provide access to it and to connect it to current needs of churches, congregations, and members.

One hundred years ago, Santayana summarized, for his time, the consequences of theological or any other collective amnesia:

> Progress, far from consisting in change, depends on retentiveness. When experience is not retained, as among savages, infancy is perpetual. Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it....
>
> George Santayana (1863–1952), *Life Of Reason* (1905), Vol. 1, Chap. 12, p. 284

Santayana certainly reflected his own day's stereotypes about non-Western cultures in his writing, but the significant line here, I think, is "progress…depends on retentiveness."

As theological librarians we have the opportunity to help seminaries and churches and

congregations remember who they are, to assist them in maintaining their own roots and grounding as they grapple with the uncertainties and challenges of our day—to help prevent theological amnesia.

Dennis A. Norlin
ATLA Executive Director

Staff Notes

ATLA Hires New Indexer

Anthony Elia joined the *Retrospective Indexing Project (RIP)* team on July 19. Anthony has an MA in the History of Christianity from the University of Chicago, an MA in Religious Studies from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and his BA is in Religious Studies at St. Lawrence University. Most recently he has worked on the Italian Women Writers' Project at Regenstein Library, University of Chicago, as a bibliographic assistant. Anthony's linguistic skills include languages such as Modern Hebrew, German, Italian, Czech, and Latin. Some of his research interests are Christian Hebraism, mysticism, and Eastern Christianity.

Preservation Assistant Joins Staff

Jim LeFager, a graduate student at Dominican University, joined ATLA's preservation team on July 7, 2004, as Preservation Assistant. Jim will be working on the second extension of the NEH-funded microfilming grant "Christianity and the Encounter with World Religions." His primary duties will be contacting donor libraries for selected titles, seeking replacements, checking film for quality, and data entry. He will be working on the grant for a one-year period as an employee of C. Berger, Inc. Jim is also a graduate of Northern Illinois University with a BS in Anthropology, and he volunteers once a week at the Chicago Field Museum in the Anthropology Department.

ATLA Creates New Department

As we begin the new fiscal year September 1, ATLA is creating a new Department of Business Development. The new department, to be headed by Margot Lyons, will have responsibility for marketing campaigns, direct sales, and the design and improvement of ATLA's products. With the proliferation of products (print, electronic, and microform) that ATLA currently offers, the executive director determined that it was the right time and circumstances to create the new department and to develop successful programs for promoting ATLA's own products that will supplement the sale of ATLA products by online aggregators.

The new department is the seventh, and the director will be part of the ATLA leadership team. The organizational structure (see p. 53) will guide staff efforts during the coming year.

ATLA Administrative Structure
September 2004

Executive Director
D. Norlin

Indexes	Financial Services	Business Development	Member Services	Information Services	Electronic Products and Services	Preservation Products and Services	Administration
Director C. Campbell	*Director* P. Gamadia	*Director* Margot Lyon	*Director* K. Whittlesey	*Director* P. Jensen	*Director* T. Luedtke	*Director* R. Kracke	*Executive Assistant* B. Thompson
Database Manager for Authority Control E. Treesh	*Accountant/Payroll Administrator* R. Puranmalka	*Administrative Assistant* VACANT	*Assistant Director* C. Jones	*Database Administrator* K. Frantz	*Programmer Analyst* J. Liu	*Microfilm Specialists* K. Stephens •S. Sul	*Office Manager* J. Robinson
Database Manager for Products T. Elston	*Bookkeeper I* S. Dupervil		*Membership Associate* T. Smith	*Programmer Analyst* Z. Jin	*Digitization Coordinator* J. Knop	*Preservation Specialist* D. Shannon	
Database Manager for Acquisitions and Bibliographic Control H. Arnold			*Editor of Member Publications* J. West	*Systems Administrator* S. Zaidi	*Product Support Analyst* K. Terbrack	*Preservation Assistant* •J. LeFager	
Acquisitions Specialist E. Knapp			*Publications Associate* S. Schilling	*Systems Assistant* •E. Mei	*Structured Text Specialist* J. Bradley		
RIP Coordinator S. Holloway					*Quality Assurance Analyst* VACANT		
Indexer Analysts *A. Elia **T. Guy L. Handy S. Holloway T. Ferry *V. Landgraf O. Medvedev N. Schmit G. Taylor					*EPS Assistants* •F. Alam •J. Bednarczyk		
Data Entry Operator •B. Nguyen							
16 staff/15.5 FTE	**3 staff/3 FTE**	**2 staff/2 FTE**	**5 staff/5 FTE**	**5 staff/4.8 FTE**	**8 staff/7.2 FTE**	**5 staff/4.2 FTE**	**2 staff/2 FTE**

• indicates part-time
* indicates RIP specialist
** indicates ATLAS specialist

TOTALS 47 staff/44.7 FTE

Meet the Financial Services Department

The primary functions of the Financial Services Department can be categorized in three areas.

1. Human Resource Management
   a) Maintaining personnel handbook
   b) Administration of employee benefits (medical, dental, vision, life, short-term and long-term disability, pension plan, vacation, sick and personal leave)
   c) Orientation and enrollment of benefits to new employees
   d) Maintenance of personnel files
   e) Compliance with federal, state, and IRS regulations

2. Accounting and Finance Management
   a) Maintenance of financial records
   b) Assembling annual budget
   c) Issuance of various financial statements
   d) Preparation of financial statements for the granting agencies
   e) Contract accounting (processing royalty payables and royalty receivable arising out of contracts with partners and aggregators)
   f) Banking, cash management, and investments
   g) Payroll processing
   h) Accounts payable and receivable processing
   i) Maintaining accounting systems (general ledger, accounts payable, payroll, and accounts receivable systems)
   j) Filing various tax returns
   k) Business Insurance coverage
   l) Annual Billing

3. Customer Service Management
   a) Compilation of catalog
   b) Providing quotes for the consortium to the aggregators for various ATLA and partnership products
   c) Processing claims and customers' refund
   d) Coordinating the production of various ATLA and partnership database CD-ROMs
   e) Backup for telephone and mailroom

The above functions are carried out by the following employees of the Financial Services Department.

Pradeep Gamadia, who oversees various Financial Services operations, heads the Financial Services Department. Prior to joining ATLA in August 1998, he was employed at Bradford Exchange as a senior staff accountant for 18 years. During his tenure at Bradford, he was involved in various areas of accounting and finance, such as budgeting, financial reporting, taxation, and overseeing the accounting systems.

Radhe Puranmalka, who joined ATLA in September 1999, is a Chartered Accountant from India. He was self-employed, with his own accounting and auditing firm. Radhe also holds CPA certification and is pursuing certification in management accountancy. Radhe's primary functions at ATLA are closing the month-end books, payroll processing, and cash management.

Sabine Dupervil has been with ATLA since January 1994. Prior to joining ATLA Sabine attended Park College, Parkville, Missouri, graduating with a BA in business management. Sabine has also been very instrumental at the registration desk at all of the ATLA conferences since 1998. Sabine is responsible for conference registration, accounts payable, accounts receivable, benefit statements, etc.

In addition to the above functions, in order to protect the interests of ATLA Pradeep serves as a Trustee of the Board of Directors at the Library Community Foundation, where ATLA is a fund partner.

Pradeep Gamadia
Director of Financial Services

Budget for 2004–2005 Fiscal Year

The Association's budget for the next fiscal year (September 1, 2004–August 31, 2005) is just under $5,000,000.

Comparative Budgets—Summary for the year ending 8/31/2005

	2004–2005	2003–2004	2002–2003	2001–2002	2000–2001
Revenue:					
Sales	$4,256,962	$3,697,600	$3,473,245	$2,846,200	$2,646,600
Dues	$124,500	$140,500	$116,700	$116,000	$101,000
Annual Conference	$45,000	$45,000	$45,000	$40,000	$94,000
Grants & Gifts	$439,250	$432,000	$400,000	$1,717,334	$1,557,443
Interest	$55,000	$50,000	$45,000	$102,000	$160,000
	$4,920,712	**$4,365,100**	**$4,079,945**	**$4,821,534**	**$4,559,043**
Disbursements:					
Production Costs	$3,019,587	$2,549,200	$2,275,150	$3,166,685	$2,959,343
Administrative Salaries & Benefits	$980,000	$923,800	$879,900	$881,525	$880,312
Rent & Leasehold Expenses	$531,400	$519,600	$532,200	$431,000	$328,200
Annual Conference	$45,000	$45,000	$55,000	$50,000	$85,000
Professional Development	$53,220	$29,200	$19,650	$26,800	$34,400
Board & Advisory Expenses	$25,300	$20,600	$21,000	$24,000	$26,588
Office Supplies & Expenses	$56,900	$55,300	$48,500	$30,000	$34,200
Legal, Payroll, Other Services	$24,700	$22,000	$34,000	$30,500	$25,500
Marketing	$52,300	$39,000	$42,720	$45,950	$62,200
Telecommunications	$32,605	$65,000	$66,600	$33,750	$41,100
Staff Travel	$10,800	$9,300	$9,000	$16,000	$24,500
Insurance	$29,500	$24,700	$18,600	$16,800	$15,800
Interest Group/Committees	$46,300	$49,300	$65,225	$45,875	$28,900
Postage	$8,500	$8,500	$7,500	$10,250	$8,500
Consultation Program	$1,600	$1,600	$2,400	$2,400	$2,000
Miscellaneous	$3,000	$3,000	$2,500	$10,000	$2,500
Total Expenses	**$4,920,712**	**$4,365,100**	**$4,079,945**	**$4,821,534**	**$4,559,043**
Excess/(Deficit)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Net Surplus/(Deficit)-Actual			$625,048.00 8/31/2003	$782,657.52 8/31/2002	$5,453.75 8/31/2001

Letter from the Editor

In *Producing a Conference Part 4* in this issue (p. 14), Karen Whittlesey explains that in the conference *Proceedings* we try to create stylistic consistency among the contributions without compromising their individuality. Since we face this challenge in many of our publications, including the *Newsletter*, I thought it would be an interesting topic to explore.

When we say "style" we are referring not to the personality of an author's writing but to issues of grammar, punctuation, spelling, formatting, etc. This is "style" in the sense used in a "manual of style" like *Chicago* or *Turabian.*

The number of stylistic questions is dizzying. How much grammatical informality is allowed? Are items in bulleted lists always capitalized? How are they punctuated? Does "PhD" have periods? Do we alphabetize by letter or word? What bibliographic citation style do we use?

Authors differ in style for a variety of reasons. Personal preference in a general way is one, obviously, but there are others. People have backgrounds in different style manuals based on their education. There are also international differences, such as the spelling of "flavor" vs. "flavour" or the use of "diaper" vs. "nappy." Words for new technologies tend to be used differently, too. Should "web" and "internet" be capitalized? Should "online" be hyphenated?

So, why do we care about stylistic consistency? It's not so much the individual stylistic issues that are important. Rather, it's the cumulative effect. The more consistency our publications have, the more professional they are. And ATLA being an academic, professional organization, professionalism is something we value highly.

However, two factors make obtaining such consistency more complex. The first factor has already been mentioned: preserving the individuality of authors' writing. The second is the time it takes to accomplish this task.

There is, in my opinion, surprisingly little gray area (or is it "grey" area?) in the first factor. Most of the issues are just mechanics. One author may capitalize all the items in a bulleted list, and one may tend to lowercase them. One author may tend to add periods to abbreviations and another omit them. I don't believe that making these all the same would eliminate the individuality of the authors.

The most notable exception to this is divergences in grammatical formality. Some authors stick pretty much to formal grammar, while others are more liberal. Here I have to decide much more on a case-by-case basis. I would normally add a comma to prevent a sentence from being a run-on, as in a sentence like "I love this independent clause but I really get a kick out of this one." But a sentence fragment, on the other hand, I often leave alone because it reflects personality. Truly.

Time is the much greater concern. Multiply the number of issues of style by the number of contributors by the number of pages in the *Proceedings,* and you'll have to use scientific notation to record the results. It quickly reaches a point where it is more important to get the *Proceedings* to readers in a timely manner than to edit for the ideal amount of stylistic consistency. It's quite a balancing act.

I have swung back and forth on this pendulum. When I first edited the *Proceedings,* I sweated over every comma. One or two prolonged publication dates later, I decided that I had to be much more selective in my editing. It has become much more of an art than a science.

But while I am the editor, you are the members, and these publications belong to you. I want to hear from you. Do you like the balance in ATLA publications? Would you like to see more editing for style or less? Do you think that the individuality of authors is adequately preserved? Do our publications fit our organization and its goals? I want to get your perspective.

Sincerely,

Jonathan West
Editor of Member Publications
newsletter@atla.com

Calendar

July

5 Independence Day—ATLA office closed
12 IllinoisClicks!, Chicago
22 Thomson Gale/Scholarly Resources meets with ATLA Preservation staff, Chicago
22–31 Heidi Arnold, LEEP, University of Illinois

August

1 Heidi Arnold, LEEP program, University of Illinois
7 Russell Kracke and Diane Pugh meet with Primary Source Microfilm, Woodbridge, CT

September

6 Labor Day—ATLA office closed

October

4 ATLA hosts Religion in the Region Project
7 Dennis Norlin meets with Endowment Committee, Austin, TX
7–10 Annual Conference Committee, Education Committee, Local Host Committee, and staff at conference planning meeting, Austin, TX
22–24 Nina Schmit, annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Kansas City, MO
23 Dennis Norlin meets with TTLA Regional Group, Nashville
28 Index Advisory Committee, Chicago

November

6 Dennis Norlin meets with SWATLA Regional Group, Tulsa
15–16 Professional Development Committee, Chicago
19–22 AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, San Antonio

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