

American Theological Library Association

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**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.

## Subscription Information

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## *President's Message*

At the 1999 Annual Conference of the American Theological Library Association, Cain Hope Felder, Professor at Howard School of Divinity, addressed the members gathered at Virginia Theological Seminary. His lecture was entitled "Beyond Eurocentric Biblical Interpretation: Reshaping Racial and Cultural Lenses".

Felder critiqued the predominant influence of European cultural assumptions in theological study and promoted the Bible as "the best handbook for multiculturalism, racial tolerance, and racial/ethnic pluralism". Observing the lack of racial diversity in the audience, he challenged librarians to participate in an effort to develop a common Christian identity that is not limited by race, gender or class.

Later that day, in conversations on the bus into Washington, D.C. and around tables in restaurants near the Mall, ATLA members wondered how to respond to the challenge. We were painfully aware that the faces at our conferences are almost all on the light end of the spectrum of skin tones.

We struggled with what terminology to use to express our desire for diversity: "people of color", "minorities", "underrepresented groups". We observed the difficulty that many of our home institutions have in attracting students and professors from non-European backgrounds. It is a significant challenge simply to have a theological library staff that is representative of the ethnic make-up of the community that it serves.

After the conference, discussion continued on the ATLANTIS listserv. There was common agreement that we as an Association need to "do something" about it.

At its January 2000 meeting, the ATLA Board responded to the desire of Association members to increase minority representation in theological librarianship. We recognized that doing so was in keeping with the second ATLA organizational end, "to advance the profession of theological librarianship".

In accordance with the policy governance model that guides its work, the Board approved a policy to address this specific concern. A sentence was added to the second organizational end: *The*

*Board interprets a timely element of this organizational end to be to promote the introduction and assimilation of individuals from minority communities into theological librarianship and the community of ATLA.*

This new policy has guided the efforts of the ATLA staff on behalf of the members. In consultation with the ATLA Membership Advisory Committee, the ATLA Board and the ALA Spectrum Initiative, Director of Member Services Karen Whittlesey developed a scholarship program. Grants of \$500 were offered to library school students of color who took a class or did an independent study in theological librarianship.

Three grants were awarded in this program and two students actually completed their proposed projects. A student in the School of Religion at Florida State University studied women and spirituality and developed a bibliography in the subject. The 2001-2002 scholarship funded a field education placement for a student at St. Paul School of Theology. She later prepared a bibliography of cross cultural ministry resources which has been posted to the ATLA web site on the Librarians' Tools page.

Seeking to increase the number of grants awarded, the Membership Advisory Committee and the Director of Member Services have decided to redirect the focus of the scholarship program to ATLA institutional members. Member libraries will be invited to apply for the grants on behalf of persons of color who are interested in considering theological librarianship. Funds may be used to pay tuition for studies in theology or library science. A member library may request money to cover the costs of an internship or other meaningful work in the library. Beneficiaries of the grant funding are also awarded ATLA membership for the period of the grant.

The resources for this valuable scholarship program come from the ATLA Endowment Fund. The Endowment also supports travel grants to the ATLA conference and a luncheon at the AAR/SBL annual meeting where student members are encouraged to consider a career in theological librarianship.

Each year, half of the interest on the Endow-

ment fund is spent on initiatives that address the second organizational end of ATLA, to advance the profession of theological librarianship. The amount available is based on a rolling average of the fund's interest over the previous three years.

Soon the downturn in the stock market will significantly reduce the amount of interest available for these valuable projects. While we hope this problem is short-lived, other sources of funding may need to be found if the Association wishes

to continue these programs.

In the meantime, a contribution the ATLA Endowment Fund shows your support for the future of theological librarianship. I hope many of you have made a contribution as you sent in your membership renewal forms. If not, you will have another opportunity to consider a donation when you receive the annual Endowment Fund appeal. This is a tangible and effective way to demonstrate your support of our profession.

*Eileen K. Saner*  
ATLA President

# JOSEPHINUM JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY

*Ministering to the Theological Mind*



#### Essays by...

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## News of ATLA Members & Member Libraries

### William Badke to Publish Articles

William Badke, librarian for Associated Canadian Theological Schools, is having three articles published this fall, two in a yet-to-be-entitled collection on the future of academic librarianship (Scarecrow Press) and one in the Winter 2002 issue of *Academic Exchange Quarterly*. The latter, entitled "International Students: Information Literacy or Academic Literacy?" looks at the many challenges international students face as they struggle with a new educational philosophy, complex information systems, and communication difficulties. It proposes a comprehensive plan to enable these students to achieve academic literacy in our setting. 



### Marquette Publishes Resources on Web


The Department of Special Collections and University Archives at Marquette University has announced its publication of two resources on the web, the periodical *Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education* and the archival records of the National Federation of Christian Life Communities, USA (NFCLC), formerly known as the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Visit <http://www.marquette.edu/library/information/news/2002/conversations.html> to see the full announcement. 



### St. Vincent de Paul Seminary Helps Organize Monastero di San Benedetto Library

Two library staff members of St. Vincent de Paul Seminary in Boynton Beach, FL, Marguerite Wolf and Ethan Allen, traveled to Norcia, Italy, this past July to help organize the library at the Monastero di San Benedetto. Marguerite and Ethan, affiliated with the Benedictines, were asked for assistance by Rev. Cassian Folsom, prior of this Benedictine monastery. Eight hundred thirty volumes out of approxi-

mately 2,000 were catalogued and entered into a computer database this summer, using MARC records found on the Library of Congress Online Catalog and WorldCat. Plans are under way to continue this project to its completion.

Marguerite has been archivist and technical services librarian at St. Vincent since 1997. Ethan has been a volunteer at St. Vincent since 1996 and works full-time at Florida Atlantic University library in Jupiter. The monastery dates back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century, although it was closed nearly two centuries ago due to a religious suppression by Napoleon. The monastery grounds were owned by the Archdiocese of Norcia-Spoleto until 2000, when the monastery was returned to the Benedictines and reopened. More information on this monastery can be found at [www.osbnorcia.org](http://www.osbnorcia.org). 



### SCATLA Holds Seminar

The Southern California Theological Library Association (SCATLA) is happy to announce the successful completion of an ATLA-funded regional professional development seminar. The Seminar was held on Friday, October 18, on the campus of Hope International University in Fullerton, CA. The title was "Preparing for ATS Accreditation," which is a topic of great interest to many of our directors at this time. The speaker was Dr. Sara J. Myers, director, Burke Library, Union Theological Seminary in New York.

In attendance were fifteen of our area library directors, many of whom were expecting accreditation/reaccreditation visits soon. In the morning session, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., Sara skillfully covered the history of ATS, the purposes of accreditation, joint accreditation, and an overview of ATS accreditation standards.

In the afternoon session, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Sara continued by explaining specific standards for library and information resources, multiple sites, distance education, suggestions for writing the report, and suggestions for handling the visit.

Her wealth of experience, professional demeanor, thorough research, and fine presentation skills were appreciated by all. She gave us many historical insights, definition clarifications, and helpful suggestions for completing the accreditation process.

We encourage other ATLA regional groups to apply for grant funding to assist in holding these types of seminars. 📖

*Armand T. Ternak*  
*HIU Director of Library Services*  
*SCATLA President 2001–2002*

## ATTENTION

### ATLA REGIONAL GROUPS

Get the word out! Submit your meetings for inclusion in the ATLA Calendar and/or the Announcements portion of the *ATLA Newsletter*.

E-MAIL: [NEWSLETTER@ATLA.COM](mailto:NEWSLETTER@ATLA.COM)

## Announcements

### Membership Renewal Notices Sent

Renewal notices for ATLA membership were sent in August. They were due back to ATLA on October 15. If you did not receive a notice, please contact Carol Jones, manager of member relations ([cjones@atla.com](mailto:cjones@atla.com) or 888-665-ATLA). 📖



### Regional Grants Announced

The ATLA Professional Development Committee has announced the regional continuing education grants awarded for the October 2002 quarter. One regional group has received a grant. The St. Louis Theological Consortium will receive \$520 for the program “It’s a disaster! Who are you going to call?” presented by Roxanna Herrick.

The next deadline for regional grant applications is January 1, 2003. For more information, see [http://www.atla.com/prof\\_dev/prof\\_dev\\_grant.html](http://www.atla.com/prof_dev/prof_dev_grant.html). 📖

*Jeff Siemon*  
*Professional Development Committee*



### ATLA Mentoring Program Redesigned

The ATLA Mentoring Program has been re-conceived and renamed the ATLA Welcome Service. ATLA has made these changes to reflect better the purpose and scope of the program as identified by former participants in the program. Every new member will receive a welcoming e-mail from an experienced ATLA member, who will answer questions about the Association and help integrate the new member into the Association. The goal is to make every new member feel welcome and at home in ATLA. We hope that if you are asked to be a welcomer you will agree to serve the Association in this way. 📖




### ATLAS Updated

The ATLA Electronic Products and Services Department has completed a significant update to ATLAS. Coverage has been extended for numerous titles, and the Hebrew Union College Annual is a brand-new title that has been added to the collection. See the updated title list ([http://www.atla.com/products/titles/titles\\_atlas.html](http://www.atla.com/products/titles/titles_atlas.html)).


The latest ATLAS update uses citation data derived from our new MARC data set. As a result,

ATLAS users will see some new field labels and data in this update. The new data format reflects numerous subfield and index data policy changes, including the addition of the serial record type, which contains information about ATLAS coverage, journal title relationships, and links to the volume list for each journal.

The record numbers that accompany each ATLAS citation have changed form; e.g., the record formerly numbered ario19970020068001 is now numbered ATLA0001027164. Links containing previously used record numbers will be supported temporarily, but only until the next ATLAS update. If you employ these record numbers for any reason, ATLA recommends discontinuing use of the previous record numbers by the end of 2002. 




### Developing Countries to Receive Product Discounts

Utilizing information produced by the World Bank for 2002, ATLA has created a list of countries that are eligible for a 50-percent discount on all ATLA products effective September 1, 2002. The list is based on two of the World Bank's categories of average per capita annual income. Countries with whom commerce is forbidden by the United States Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control as of July 2002 are excluded from the list. Institutions in the 113 countries listed on the ATLA web site at [http://www.atla.com/news/discount\\_developing\\_countries.html](http://www.atla.com/news/discount_developing_countries.html) will receive the discount. ATLA will revise the list each year based on the July report of the World Bank. 




### ATLA Monograph Series #46 Reviewed on H-Net

*The Quest for Christian Unity, Peace, and Purity in Thomas Campbell's Declaration and Address: Text and Studies*, edited by Thomas Olbricht and Hans Rollmann, #46 in the ATLA Monograph Series from Scarecrow Press (published 2000), was

reviewed by William Atto (University of Dallas) on the H-AmRel list of H-Net: Humanities & Social Sciences Online in October. The book has "a critical edition and exhaustive textual analysis of the Declaration and Address," along with twenty essays written by seventeen authors on different aspects of the document. For the full review, which further explains the content of the essays, visit <http://www.h-net.msu.edu>. 



### Publications Committee Has New Member

Craig Churchill, theological librarian at Abilene Christian University in Abilene, TX, has recently joined the ATLA Publications Committee. The other members of the committee are Andy Keck, chair; Lynn Berg; Don Haymes (as editor of the ATLA Scarecrow Monograph Series); and Jonathan West (as editor of member publications). 



### Groups Meeting at ATLA


October and November have been busy months at ATLA headquarters:

- October 11 more than thirty members of the Chicago Area Theological Library Association (CATLA) met at ATLA for an all-day program on digital practices and projects.
- October 15–16 the Preservation Advisory Committee (Martha Smalley, Steven Pentek, David Berger) met with preservation staff to discuss a variety of preservation products, programs, and services.
- October 17–18 the Digital Standards and Projects Committee (Duane Harbin, Mary Martin, Martha Smalley, Charles Willard, and Cameron Campbell) met to review the first year's progress of the Cooperative Digital Resources Initiative (funded by a grant from the Luce Foundation) and to award grants for the second year of the program.
- October 21 twenty-five humanities-related database providers from the National Federa-



tion of Abstracting and Information Services (NFAIS) met for an all-day session at ATLA headquarters to discuss issues unique to humanities database providers.

- October 28–November 1 seven ATLA members attended a weeklong NACO workshop led by Judy Knop, ATLA digitization coordinator and certified NACO trainer, held in the new ATLA Interactive Conference Facility.
- November 5 the Technology Advisory Committee (Duane Harbin, Doug Fox, and Bill Hook) and the XML advisory committee (Anne Womack, Kris Veldheer, Kirk Moll, and Laura Wood) met with the Electronic Products and Services staff to discuss Phase II of ATLAS, the searchable text version.
- November 6–8 members of the Professional Development Committee (David Stewart, Laura Olejnik, Jeff Siemon, and Laura Wood) met with Jack Ammerman, Duane Harbin, Martha Smalley, Sara Myers, and Judy Knop to develop the techniques and strategies necessary to broadcast courses from the ATLA Interactive Conference Facility through ISDN, Internet, and streaming modalities.

All of these meetings are made possible by the development of ATLA's headquarters in downtown Chicago. If you are going to be in Chicago, please contact ATLA staff to tour our headquarters and familiarize yourself with our operations. Visitors are always welcome! 




### Endowment Campaign

By the end of November all ATLA members will be receiving an invitation to participate in the ATLA Endowment Campaign in two ways: through an annual gift and by considering a major gift through an annuity or bequest. The ATLA Endowment Fund is administered through the Library Community Foundation, a subsidiary of the Northwest Suburban Library System, a consortium of more than 600 libraries (academic, public, special) in the northern suburbs of Chicago. A portion of the earnings from the ATLA Endowment Fund goes to support three major projects:

- travel grants that enable ATLA Student Members and members without institutional support to attend the ATLA Annual Conference
- scholarships that support librarians of color interested in exploring theological librarianship as a professional career
- a luncheon at the AAR/SBL Annual Meeting for student members of AAR and SBL, encouraging their exploration of theological librarianship and introducing them to our Association


This year there are new developments in two of these programs. At its annual meeting the ATLA Board of Directors approved a change in the scholarship program to make ATLA member institutions eligible for grants for their support staff of color to advance their understanding and knowledge of theological librarianship. At this year's AAR/SBL luncheon, rather than having ATLA members give autobiographical reflections on their career choice, we will have two speakers on scholarly projects: Steven W. Holloway, coordinator of the ATLA Retrospective Indexing Project, and Claire McCurdy, Union Theological Seminary, coordinator of the Women in Religion Archives project.

Please give generously when you receive your letter about the ATLA Endowment Fund. This year again contributors will receive a special calendar as a thank-you gift, which will feature photos of ATLA members and events. 



### Library of Congress Authority Records Available On-line

Library of Congress authority records are now available on-line on the Library's web site at <http://authorities.loc.gov>. Known as Library of Congress Authorities, the free online service allows users to search, display, and download authority records in the MARC 21 format for use in local library systems.

The Library's web site also has a PowerPoint presentation (<http://www.loc.gov/ils/ala02arv.ppt>) on Library of Congress Authorities. 



### Revision of AACR2 to Come Out in September

The 2002 Revision of *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition (AACR2)*, was published in September 2002. The revision includes major changes in content and format. See the flyer/order form in pdf on the ALA web site (<http://www.ala.org/alcts/publications/new/aacr2.pdf>) for details on the changes and how to order.



### Faith and Community Video Series

Later this year The Polis Center at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), with its production partner Creative Street, will launch a series of eleven research-based education modules entitled *Faith & Community: The Public Role of Religion*. Supported by the Lilly Endowment, the series is part of The Polis Center's *Project on Religion and Urban Culture*, which creates resources and skills to enhance the public teaching capabilities of institutions engaged in these issues.

Based on a six-year study, these modules will

illuminate the dynamics between and among religion, public policy, and everyday civic life. Each module will include a video, a curriculum guide, and Internet-accessible information.

For more information contact Bill Edwards or Pete Townes at [sales@faithandcommunity.org](mailto:sales@faithandcommunity.org), call (317) 926-9671, or visit [faithandcommunity.org](http://faithandcommunity.org).



### Third Edition of Online Bibliography Theology and Peace Available

The Institute for Theology and Peace (IthP; <http://www.ithpeace.de>), a research institute of the Catholic Church established in 1978, has now published the third edition of its *Online Bibliography Theology and Peace*. The bibliography, which contains 112,000 titles, is available free of charge on the IThP web site. For more information on coverage and to search the database, visit [www.ithpeace.de/bibl](http://www.ithpeace.de/bibl).

### Copy Deadlines for ATLA Newsletter

Vol. 50, No. 2—February issue  
January 1, 2003

Vol. 50, No. 3—May issue  
April 1, 2003

Vol. 50, No. 4—August issue  
July 1, 2003

Vol. 51, No. 1—November issue  
October 1, 2003

**Contact:**  
[newsletter@atla.com](mailto:newsletter@atla.com)

### ATLA Annual Conferences

June 25–28, 2003

#### Portland, OR

George Fox Evangelical  
Seminary

Mount Angel Abbey  
Multnomah Biblical Seminary  
Western Seminary

June 16–19, 2004

#### Kansas City, MO

Kansas City Area Theological  
Library Association

June 15–18, 2005

#### Austin, TX

Southwest Theological  
Library Association

## *Ravinia Photos*

ATLA staff enjoyed an evening of dining and music at their annual Ravinia Festival outing on July 2. This year's concert was Rachmaninoff's Vespers, performed by the Dale Warland Singers.



Exhibit Coordinator/Customer Rep. Melody de Catur (left), Office Manager Stephanie White (right)



Digitization Coordinator Judy Knop (left), Judy's daughter Kendra (right), and Preservation Assistant Diane Shannon (middle)



Staff at the buffet line



Staff dining before the concert

## *ATLA Retrospective Indexing Project (RIP®)*

“Do you realize that the past, starting from yesterday, has been actually abolished? If it survives anywhere, it’s in a few solid objects like that lump of glass. . . . After the thing is done, no evidence ever remains. The only evidence is inside my own mind, and I don’t know with any certainty that any other human being shares my memories” (George Orwell, 1984). There are alternatives. ATLA has begun an ambitious project to index retrospectively 100+ American, East Asian, Latin American, and European periodical titles that predate the beginning of *Religion Index One (RIO®)*, 1949 to the present. All of these titles are currently or have been indexed in *RIO®*; the goal of the *RIP®* is to provide comprehensive coverage of these journals, from the initial publication date and, in some cases, ancestral title, to the present. Twenty-four of these titles extend into the nineteenth century; the earliest, *Theologische Quartalschrift*, dates from 1819. Comprehensive indexing for each periodical will render such significant titles as *Biblica* (1920–), *Christian Century* (1884–), *Ephemerides Theologicae Lovanienses* (1924–), *Jewish Quarterly Review* (1888–), *Journal of Biblical Literature* (1881–) *Revue de l’Histoire des Religions* (1880–), *Revue d’Histoire Ecclésiastique* (1900–), and *Zeitschrift für die Alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* (1881–) vastly more accessible, substantially enhancing the “depth-dimension” of the *ATLA Religion Database®*. Since *RIO®* annually indexes around 600 titles, *RIP®* will extend 18 percent of the *ATLA Religion Database®* periodical coverage backwards for decades and, in some instances, a century or more.

“Indexing” of these periodicals means that analytical bibliographic entries will be created for each issue, article, and book review. What differentiates an indexing from an abstracting service is the creation of subject headings, using a controlled thesaurus. For example, “The Mythological Background of Psalm 82,” by Julian Morgenstern (1881–1976), published in *Hebrew Union College Annual* 14 (1939): 29–126, has been assigned the subject headings Bible (OT)—Psalms 73-89; Bible (OT)—Comparative studies; Myth in the Old Testament; God—Name; New Year; Judgment of God; Gods and goddesses; together with a scripture citation entry specifying that Psalm 82 constitutes a major focus of this


article. A keyword search for “New Year,” “Bible (OT)—Comparative studies,” “Judgment of God,” and “Gods and goddesses” in a bibliographic database lacking subject headings would fail to “bag” this article: this is the value of an index, created and maintained by academically honed specialists. *RIP®* will be combined with *ATLA Religion Database®* and ultimately reach the end user’s hands by way of online database vendors such as SilverPlatter, OVID, EBSCO, and FirstSearch, and directly from the ATLA product web site itself, fully searchable and downloadable in a variety of formats.

Aside from antiquarian interest in musty journals bound in disintegrating tooled leather, what does *RIP®* have to offer academe? Example: In *Bibliotheca Sacra*, first published in 1843 under the seasoned editorship of Edward Robinson (1794–1863), who would himself explore Ottoman Palestine in the quest of creating an accurate map of place-names mentioned in the Old and New Testaments, the entire history of the nineteenth- and early twentieth-century biblical archaeology movement scrolls before the fascinated reader’s eyes. Brief reports from researchers in the field, such as Captain Charles Warren (1840–1927) and Charles Simon Clermont-Ganneau (1846–1923), a pupil of Ernest Renan, figure in its pages, together with reviews of European books chronicling the latest discoveries at Nineveh, Babylon, and the Negev Desert. Acrimonious disputes regarding the expansion of Hebrew lexicography to encompass the fruits of Akkadian and other dead Semitic languages rage. English-language reviews of works by leading German academic writers, in some instances models of eloquent precision and scholarly insight, bring the tide of German higher criticism to the shores of America. For those interested in disciplinary and intellectual history, such texts constitute primary sources for understanding the evolution of the contemporary historico-critical approach to biblical hermeneutics—and its discontents. Ethnographic collages of Bedouin life and myriads of generalizations about the exotic Orient, projected backwards onto the history of the ancient Near East, are grist for students of Orientalism and post-colonial studies.

Funding for the project is provided by annual grants from participating ATLA institutions; eighty-

six have pledged their support. The project is slated for completion in three years, with an official startup date of September 2, 2002. Libraries in the Greater Chicago area will provide primary access to the texts; issues that are locally unavailable will be obtained through the ATLA institutional consortium.

Staff for the *Retrospective Indexing Project* includes Steven W. Holloway, who will head the project. He has been employed as an indexer-analyst by ATLA for fourteen years. He has contributed to *Religion Index One (RIO®)*, *Index to Book Reviews in Religion (IBRR®)*, *Religion Index Two (RIT®)*, the *RIO-Retro Project*, and the *Old Testament Abstracts®* digitization project. Steven holds an MA and PhD from the Divinity School of The University of Chicago. He teaches part-time at local universities and publishes in the fields of Bible and Assyriology; his latest book is *Assur is King! Assur is*

*King! Religion in the Exercise of Power in the Neo-Assyrian Empire* (Brill, 2002). Todd Ferry works full-time as an Indexer-Analyst for *RIP®*. Todd has his MA from The University of Chicago in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, specializing in Syro-Palestinian archaeology. He has also worked on a number of archaeological digs in Israel. Todd was employed by the Regenstein Library of The University of Chicago on an NEH grant preservation microfilming project dealing with rare materials in the area of theology. Another full-time indexer will be added to the *RIP®* staff in the near future. Other members of the ATLA Index Department, including Director of Indexes Cameron J. Campbell (MA, The University of Chicago), are contributing their expertise to the project. 

Steven W. Holloway  
ATLA Indexer-Analyst

### Diktuon

There is no Diktuon column (the column on technology issues facing theological librarians) this issue; it will resume next issue.

## Professional Development Perspectives


No doubt we are often at our most productive when we are under the greatest pressure. (As Samuel Johnson is supposed to have said, “when a man knows he is to be hanged in a fortnight, it concentrates his mind wonderfully.”) But it’s also true that *this* kind of productivity is not so fulfilling as at other times when we are thinking “beyond survival.”

One of the objectives of the Professional Development Committee (PDC) for the coming year is to begin to offer more professional development opportunities more often. We are pleased to have received (and approved) a fine proposal from the St. Louis Theological Consortium for a workshop on disaster preparedness, and to know that it will welcome attendees from within the ATLA community and beyond. (See the announcement from Jeff Siemon of the PDC.)

Other opportunities are coming up, and we hope that you will take advantage of them. These include:

- The second quarterly submission for Regional Grant proposals (January 1, 2003). Many of our regional groups are having their first Fall meeting in the next few weeks, and if discussion of grant proposal ideas is not on your agendas, now’s a great time to include it. Why not consider, for example, a workshop on licensing e-books for your regional group? More information about this terrific opportunity is posted at [http://www.atla.com/prof\\_dev/prof\\_dev\\_grant.html](http://www.atla.com/prof_dev/prof_dev_grant.html)
- Presentations from the new ATLA Interactive Conference Facility (ICF). In early November

we as a committee met in Chicago along with our first presenters and a guest resource person, Heidi Hoerman of the College of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina. We anticipate that very soon workshops on copyright, electronic serials cataloging, online finding aids, ATS accreditation, licensing for electronic resources, etc., will be available remotely for ATLA member libraries.

We were excited about the opportunity to advance plans for the coming year during our meeting in November and to bring more and better resources for professional development to as many ATLA members and libraries as possible. 

*David Stewart, Chair  
Professional Development Committee*

## **JOB LISTINGS WANTED!**

ATLA is soliciting job listings for both professional and paraprofessional positions. Send position open announcements to [newsletter@atla.com](mailto:newsletter@atla.com), and they will be posted on the web site promptly and in the next *Newsletter*. If you need a librarian, a circulation supervisor, or administrative assistant, we can help you find one!

### **Job listings are free for ATLA member institutions**

Non-member institutions will be charged as follows:

\$50 per ad for *Newsletter*

\$50 per ad for web site

\$75 per ad for *Newsletter* and web site

## *Conference News & Information*

The Education Committee and Annual Conference Committee met in Portland, OR, October 11–13, to select programs for the 2003 Annual Conference and to prepare the conference schedule. ATLA President Eileen Saner joined the committees and staff for the discussions.

The committees have scheduled 6 papers and 2 panels, 18 roundtables, and 7 preconference workshops, in addition to interest group and denominational meetings, worship services, business and town meetings, exhibits, and plenary addresses. Meetings will be at the Portland Marriott Downtown along the Willamette River. On Saturday afternoon sessions will be held at Mount Angel Abbey in Benedict, OR, as will vespers and the banquet. This will be a casual day—including a casual banquet.


Three committees are involved in creating the ATLA Annual Conference. Jeff Brigham (Andover Newton Theological School) and Sandra Lipton (University of Calgary) co-chair the Education Committee. Members are Sandy Oslund (Bethel Seminary), Allen Mueller (Jesuit-Krauss-McCormick Library), and Charles Church (George Fox Univer-

sity Seminary), who is the local host representative to the committee.

Roger Loyd (Duke University) chairs the Annual Conference Committee; Eileen Crawford (Vanderbilt University) is the vice-chair. The committee is composed of the local hosts for the current and following two conferences: Paula Hamilton (Mount Angel Abbey), 2003 host; Debra Bradshaw (Nazarene Theological Seminary), 2004 host; and Timothy Lincoln (Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary), 2005 host.

The Local Host Committee plays a vital role in assuring a successful conference. In addition to Paula Hamilton and Chuck Church, the members of the committee are Philip Johnson (Multnomah Bible College) and Karen Arvin (Western Seminary).

As information about the Portland conference becomes available, updates will be posted to the conference web page (<http://www.atla.com/member/conference>).

You are invited to check often for news of the 2003 ATLA Annual Conference. 


## *ASE Statistics through the Roof in First Year*

For years ATLA Institutional Members have been able to offer and request duplicate serial holdings from each other. Until November 2001 this involved sending mailing labels to each of the 135 or so participating institutions with all of their addresses. Each library was responsible for sending their list of duplicate holdings to all the other libraries. Claims were made and duplicates sent for just the cost of postage above \$2.50. While the Library Materials Exchange (LME) program was a sought-after benefit of institutional membership, in the age of computer technology it was cumbersome and slow.

In 1999 a task force was formed under the leadership of Laura Wood (Emory University) to consider how this valuable service might be better formulated in light of the technology available. She and task force members Eric Friede (then at Dallas Theological Seminary), Kevin Smith (Methodist Theological School in Ohio), and Ted Winter (Union Theological Seminary-PSCE) presented their proposal for an electronic version of LME at the 2000 ATLA Annual Conference in Berkeley. With an enthusiastic response, over the course of several months they produced specs for the elec-

tronic version and named it the ATLA Serials Exchange (ASE). With additional help from members who offered suggestions, served as beta testers, and input their duplicate holdings, one year ago, November 12, 2001, ASE was launched with a posting of 4,634 issues. Of these, 2,169 were claimed, an astounding 47 percent. After the task force completed its work, Laura Wood remained to serve as member administrator.

In its first year 148,367 issues have been posted by participating institutions, and 35,567 have been claimed—nearly a quarter of the total. One hundred seventy-three ATLA Institutional Members have registered for the service.

Information about ASE is on the ATLA site on the Collaborative Projects page, [http://www.atla.com/member/collaborative\\_projects.html](http://www.atla.com/member/collaborative_projects.html). Carol Jones, manager of member relations, is the ATLA staff person responsible for enrolling Institutional Members in the program and serving as staff administrator. She can be reached at [cjones@atla.com](mailto:cjones@atla.com). Other staff who worked on the project are Paul Jensen, director of information services, and Zhongwen Jin, programmer analyst. 

## *BETH Meeting in Salamanca*

Report on the Annual Assembly of BETH (Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie) held at Salamanca, Spain, September 21–26, 2002:

The BETH meeting convened at the Colegio de San Estanislao, a Jesuit institution that included wonderful guest accommodations and meeting space. Father Félix Rodriguez, the local host, arranged a nicely paced schedule of meetings, social gatherings, and excursions. There were twenty-four participants representing various European associations and special member institutions. The three international guests were Eileen Crawford and Paul Schrodtt from ATLA, and Mr. Karmito from the Asian association ForATL. Eileen attended as the representative of the ATLA International Committee and Paul as a guest at his own expense. This was the second meeting for both of them. They

were greeted as old friends at the Madrid airport, where the group boarded a bus to travel to Salamanca.

An excursion to the El Escorial Monastery was planned for the first full day of the conference. This 16<sup>th</sup>-century monastery is on a campus that includes a basilica, convent, palace of the King, a pantheon of tombs, outbuildings of the palace, a college, and a library. Our tour focused on the library, where a novel way to shelve books was on display. The books were placed backwards, and an appearance of uniformity was created by gilding all of the pages. Our group of librarians was privileged by special arrangements to visit a room where a monk provided commentary on a select number of medieval and early modern manuscripts. Among them was one written by St. Teresa

of Avila. The El Escorial library has all of the writings of St. Teresa except for the ones during her stay in Seville. Our guide referred to her as "St. Teresa of El Escorial." (Apparently ownership of her writings justified her renaming—catalogers may want to make a note in their authority records.)

Monday was a business day for the group, and ATLA was on the agenda several times. The BETH budget is greatly increased by the arrangement ATLA has with the association to give \$100 for every purchase of the ATLA database by one of their member institutions. A second \$100 is given by ATLA to the regional association. Etienne D'hondt, the presiding officer at the meeting, expressed appreciation for ATLA's generosity and announced that his association in Belgium was returning their portion of the contribution to ATLA as a donation to fund the pre-1949 indexing retrospective project. Marion Smith from ABTAPL announced that their association used the money from ATLA to help fund the Indian Theological Library conference to be held this November. Both gifts confirm the interconnectedness and common mission of the international theological library community.

Discussion generated many ideas to strengthen the association and cooperation among its libraries. Members were reminded to share projects, products, and news on the BETH listserv. Monitoring ATLA's listserv to cross post items of interest was suggested. An ATLA member will be invited to join the BETH listserv to cross post on ATLANTIS. Another discussion to consider creating a federation of theological library associations within IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) generated pros and cons. It was felt that there was not money or staff to add another layer of affiliation at this time. The international connections will be maintained informally and the idea revisited in two or three years.

One of the attendees requested that ATLA consider creating a depository of periodicals in Europe of titles indexed in the *ATLA Religion Database*. European libraries would have more incentive to purchase the product if their patrons had access to the articles that are indexed. There is not a common database like OCLC to expedite interlibrary loans in Europe, and ILL requests from American libraries have not yielded reliable results. The ex-

ample given was *Christianity and Crisis*, which is often requested by students but lacks a full run in a European library.

The exchange between the Swiss theological libraries and the Tennessee Theological Library Association was reported on by Eileen Crawford and Pierre Beffa. Eileen spent the three weeks preceding the Salamanca conference working with Pierre at the World Council of Churches library. Pierre was very generous with his time and provided practical training as well as insight into the day-to-day operation of a European library. Visits to theological libraries in Lausanne, Basel, and Bossey broadened the perspective and made very apparent the much wider variation in policies and procedures as compared with American libraries.


There were three product demonstrations, including the ATLA Serial Exchange (ASE) database. ATLA was offering the ASE software to BETH to enable them to create their own database for serials exchange among European libraries. There was definite interest in the product. Dr. Thomas Riplinger demonstrated Tübingen's Index Theologicus (IxTheo). Dr. Riplinger asked if ATLA libraries used this database. The future of the product is threatened, and he asked for letters of support from BETH and ATLA to the Rector of the University. Henrik Laursen demonstrated a theology portal for the Danish research community that combines search machine techniques with site selection and harvesting techniques.

Several members had projects to announce. Marion Smith from ABTAPL reported on Revelation, a web-based guide providing descriptions of major printed and archival collections for research into 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century church history and Christian theology (<http://www.is.bham.ac.uk/rslp/revelation.htm>). Dr. Riplinger is working on a four-language translation thesaurus of theological subject headings. Etienne D'hondt passed around two CDs produced by the university library of Leuven, the *Bibliotheca Mariana Lovaniensis* (ISBN 9080694711), 24,000 bibliographic descriptions on Mary from the K.U. Leuven's online catalogue, and International Philosophical Bibliography, 1997–2000, an electronic version of the annual bibliography. Mr. Karmito brought several copies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Directory: Asian Theological Libraries and Who's



Who in ForATL (ISBN 9798611365).

Pierre Beffa, librarian at the World Council of Churches, is the new president. Etienne D'hondt continues as the vice-president, Penelope Hall is the new secretary, Hermann-Josef Schmaller continues as treasurer and André Geuns will assume a new position as a special member of the board. Pierre Beffa's retirement from the WCC in December will provide him with time to attend the BETH member association meetings. The number of associations in BETH increased to twelve with the addition of the Hungarian association to full membership. They currently have sixty members representing 3,500,000 volumes.

The 2003 BETH conference will convene in Brixen, Italy, September 13–18. The cost is 250 euros or 43 euros per day for room and board. ATLA members are welcome as guests. 

*Eileen Crawford*  
*Vanderbilt University Divinity School*

### ATLA Serials Exchange Update Schedule

In the next year, new ASE offerings will be made available for claiming on the following dates:

December 1, 2002  
February 1, 2003  
April 1, 2003  
June 1, 2003

## *The World Christian Encyclopedia, 2nd Ed.*

### The Measure of God's Purpose: An Analysis of the Statistical Reliability of the World Christian Encyclopedia

To understand God's thoughts, she [Florence Nightingale] held we must study statistics, for these are the measure of His purpose. Thus the study of statistics was for her a religious duty.<sup>1</sup>

The second edition of the *World Christian Encyclopedia* (Oxford University Press, 2001) has been subject to emotional discussion even before its publication. In an especially passionate review of the three-volume galley in *Library Journal*, Glenn Masuchika of Chaminade University noted, "There is a need for a comparative survey of world Christian churches and other religions. This is not it."<sup>2</sup> On the other hand, reviewer Rich Poll, writing for *Christianity Today*, notes, "Careful researchers will mine a vast wealth of information from this treasure."<sup>3</sup> Given the quality products generally emanating from Oxford University Press, there

must be more to this disagreement than meets the eye. From whence comes the disparity of opinion?

Questions regarding the work's statistical reliability are in the forefront of the criticism. Initial conversations within ATLA commented on the somewhat slippery nature of the statistical categories. The issue that gave rise to the discussion centered on "Great Commission Christians," which the glossary defines as:

Believers in Jesus Christ who are aware of the implications of Christ's Great Commission, who have accepted its personal challenge in their lives and ministries, are attempting to obey his commands and mandates, and who are seeking to influence the body of Christ to implement it.<sup>4</sup>

Theological librarians reacted immediately to attempts to measure such a standard. Noel McFerran, head of public services at the University of St. Michael's College, observed, "It seems to me the only way one could determine the num-

ber of Great Commission Christians is by making a value judgment . . . . It seems to me that this is a term for 'real' Christians . . . . I wonder how the editors came up with this statistic in any "scientific way?"<sup>5</sup>

William Badke, at Trinity Western University, commented "My impression is that the distinction . . . should be somewhat measurable without value judgments simply by asking, 'How many in your group are committed to advancing the Kingdom of God as opposed to those who are Christian in name only?' . . . . From my experience with this resource, I tend to believe that is the approach being used."<sup>6</sup>

But Kevin Smith of the Methodist Theological School in Ohio disagreed. "I know of no denominational official who would be willing to make this kind of 'guesstimate,' i.e., 'there are 4 million Episcopalians in the US, but 2.7 million of them are nominal only.'<sup>7</sup>

Anne LeVeque, library director at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, attempted her own analysis of the question. "Look at the entry for San Marino (p.645, v.1). . . . The country's population is 8,000; the number of Catholics is 8,000 . . . however the number of Great Commission Christians is given as 1,400! . . . . It is still not clear to me how the editors arrived at the figures for Great Commission Christians. An appendix with the formula would be helpful."<sup>8</sup>

Finally on this question, William Badke offered the insight of a faculty member at his institution: "Perhaps what they mean are those 'capable of' carrying out the Great Commission or who are engaged in some aspects of that because as a total population they are sending 'Christian' missionaries. This, for example, would be true of Italian Roman Catholics but the Greek Orthodox Church has little in the way of missions."<sup>9</sup>

It needs to be noted that this discussion of statistical analysis followed soon after the appearance of a review of the work by Kris Veldheer. In her review Ms. Veldheer commented, "Why add this to your reference collection? Simply put, it is the best statistical work on the current state of Christianity to come along in the twenty years since the WCE was first published . . . . The second edition of the *World Christian Encyclopedia* is a 'must have' for every library."<sup>10</sup>

Given the curiosity about its statistical worth, a more detailed analysis of the resource is warranted. What is the background of the authors? From whence do they derive their data? How reliable IS the data in this work?

David B. Barrett (MA, BD, STM, and a PhD in Religion from Columbia University) is research professor of missiometrics at Regent University, and honorary research associate with the United Bible Societies. An active Anglican priest, he also served as a research consultant to the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and is the founder of the World Evangelization Research Center and the Global Evangelization Movement (both currently headquartered in Richmond, VA). He is also the author of several books on world mission, including *Schism and Renewal in Africa: An Analysis of Six Thousand Contemporary Religious Movements* (Oxford University Press, 1968) and *Rise Up and Walk!: Conciliarism and the African Indigenous Churches, 1815–1987* (Oxford University Press, 1989).<sup>11</sup>

George Thomas Kurian is founder and president of the Society of Encyclopedists. He is the author or editor of several demographic encyclopedias, including the *Sourcebook of Global Statistics* (Facts on File, 1985) and *The New Book of World Rankings* (Facts on File, 1991).<sup>12</sup>

Todd M. Johnson, PhD, is a missionary for Youth with a Mission, director of the World Evangelization Research Center in Richmond, and an adjunct professor at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School for the course "Perspectives on the World Christian Movement." Along with David B. Barrett, he is also coeditor of *AD 2000 Global Monitor: Keeping Track of World Evangelization 1990–1994* (William Carey Library, 1995) and *World Christian Trends, AD 30–AD 2200: Interpreting the Annual Christian Megacensus* (William Carey Library, 2001).<sup>13</sup>

Together the authors drew on over 400 consultants from 170 nations. Among those listed are Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum, George Gallup (pollster and author of *Surveying the Religious Landscape: Trends in U.S. Beliefs*), and Coptic Bishop Samuel (of the See of St. Mark in Alexandria, Egypt). However, it needs to be noted that the list of consultants is defined as those who assisted at any stage of the project, from 1970 to 2000.

Some contributed solely to the first edition, some to the present edition, and “a fair number” to both. No guidance is provided, however, as to who did what or when.

In addition, an additional fourteen “Global Consultants” were utilized, including Willi Henkel (Vatican Missions Librarian at the Pontificia Universita Urbaniana), Anglican scholar and Bishop Stephen C. Neill (DD, Universities of Hamburg, Nairobi, and Oxford), and American religious scholar J. Gordon Melton (PhD, director of the Institute for the Study of American Religion, and editor of *The Encyclopedia of American Religions*).

Is the data as reliable and unimpeachable as the consultants? The authors describe their source material thus:

This encyclopedia describe empirical Christianity—those facts about the world Christian movement that are measurable. It does this by setting out summaries of the survey data produced every year by a vast decentralized investigation quietly undertaken by churches and religious workers across the world.

It adapts the vast array of survey data, however, in ways that are not self-evident to the casual reader. For example, the Encyclopedia asserts that there are 33,000 denominations in the world’s 238 countries. In deriving that figure, however, the authors used a definition of “denomination” foreign to most people’s experience:

An organized aggregate of worship centers or congregations of similar ecclesiastical tradition *within a specific country* . . . whose component congregations and members are called by the same denominational name in different areas, regarding themselves as one autonomous Christian church distinct from other denominations, churches, and traditions.<sup>14</sup>

The authors’ insistence that denominations be defined nationally rather than internationally leads to some interesting anomalies. The Roman Catholic Church is thus described as comprised of 236 denominations in 238 counties. Even discounting the separate distinct rites within the Church (e.g., the Maronite, Melkite, Ruthenian,

etc.) and just concentrating on the most familiar Latin rite, the Church is said to be composed of 204 denominations worldwide.<sup>15</sup>

Given the ATLANTIS correspondents’ concern to uncover the assumptions under the Great Commission Christians datum, it is interesting to note the following formula:  $GCC = eAC = PAC$ .<sup>16</sup> Thus for the authors, Great Commission Christians are synonymous with practicing church members (i.e., Christians affiliated with a particular church body who practice that faith). Thus a practicing mainline Christian who is not particularly concerned with “Winning the world for Christ” is equated with a Billy Graham or a Bill Bright (who, obviously, are).

Another complaint is the number of figures for which the sources are not identified. For example, Masuchika faults the \$9,240 billion per annum cost figure for the Structure of Sin during the decade 1990 to 2000, the sources of which are never cited.<sup>17</sup> That figure is itself the sum of other subordinate costs such as Drug Trafficking (\$200 billion), Military Research and Development (\$80 billion), and all varieties of Crime (\$5.7 trillion). Given the solidly responsible sources for certain other figures (such as the 780 million people who live in absolute poverty, which figure is supplied by the World Bank),<sup>18</sup> one is inclined to believe that such data comes from similarly unimpeachable sources. But without explicit explanation, one does not know for sure. The same complaint can be made with regard to figures such as the Number of Persons Born Since A.D. 33 (36,831 million), and the Number of Martyrs Killed Since A.D. 33 (69,420,000). For the latter figures the authors claim that the results “are based on a 30-year research investigation into the extent of martyrdom in Christian history up to the present day,” but no citation to any papers or published books is offered to support them.<sup>19</sup>

Another area of concern is the statistical projections recorded in Parts 4 and 5. Such projections reputedly measure the continuing vitality of Christianity and other religions for the next generation (i.e., until 2025). No doubt these projections are based on contemporary data elsewhere in the Encyclopedia, and yet the nature of such data is never explained.

How are these projections derived? In the first edition of the work, Barrett describes his methodology thus:

In this survey this has been done by obtaining the statistics for 2 different years, where possible 5 years apart. . . . Usually 1967 and 1972, and working out the average annual growth rate as a percentage. . . . Thus a church in a particular country with 500,000 total adherents (including children) in 1967 which grows to 600,000 total adherents (including children) in 1972 shows an increase of 600,000 minus 500,000 = 100,000, which divided by 5 = 20,000 a year, which divided by the mean membership of 550,000 gives an increase of 3.64% per year.<sup>20</sup>

As noted by one critic at the time, this assumes an annual numeric increase. Among demographers, however, an exponential approach is more common, to account for the fact that net annual growth increases as the group being measured does (much as money market funds increase exponentially in accordance with compounding interest). When dealing with vast national and global populations (as does Barrett), the discrepancy between such approaches is significant.<sup>21</sup>

The methodological problem with the present edition is that it is not possible to determine whether the critiques noted with the first edition have been resolved or ignored. Nowhere in the present work is the methodology explained. Nor is any attempt made to explain how tenuous such figures must be. History is replete with individuals overtaken by unanticipated events. One instructive example is the construction of a huge minor seminary by officials of the Catholic Diocese of Haarlem to meet the demand for vocations statistical projections told them was coming. The unanticipated sharp decline in vocations took the diocese by surprise, and the huge complex never served the purpose for which it was built.<sup>22</sup>

What then can be said about the *World Christian Encyclopedia*? It draws upon information provided to the authors by thousands of Church bodies around the world. It also draws on the expertise of world-class scholars, but the authors manipulate the data in unique ways. Some of this manipulation is based on certain assumptions that can be uncovered only by careful reading and will be to-

tally oblivious to the casual user; other assumptions are known only to the authors themselves. The work is not perfect, but to be honest its primary author never claims it to be. In a profile of David Barrett in *The Washington Post*, Barrett is quoted as saying his numbers “are always debatable, but they’re the best available. We don’t have any rivals. That’s the problem.”<sup>23</sup> Thus even Barrett would admit that if the *Encyclopedia* is the “best statistical work on the current state of Christianity to come along in the twenty years since the WCE was first published,” that is more a commentary on the sad state of religiometrics than a paean to the present work.

*Christopher Brennan*

*State University College, Brockport, New York*

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## *Acquisitions and the 2/3 World*

The global content of the *ATLA Religion Database* reflects a concerted effort of cooperation between ATLA and the 2/3 world. In fact, 7.3 percent of our currently indexed journal titles are from the 2/3 world, with 2 percent coming from India, and 1.6 percent coming from South Africa. By so including 2/3 world journals, ATLA actively encourages these local publishing efforts by giving locally published journals a wider audience, in *ATLA RDB* subscribers, and potentially broad overseas circulation. Such non-Western publishing activity is very significant to the exciting and important current developments in the areas of theology and religion.

In Acquisitions we work directly with each individual publisher rather than going through a vendor. By this means we work to keep abreast of complementary publications that may also be indexed alongside the journals. In some cases, such as with the *Journal of Dharma* and Dharmaram Publications in Bangalore, India, we index polygraphs from this publisher as well as the journal. In Acquisitions it is important to us to be acquainted with the 2/3 world publishers' broad range of publications and their local mission.

As Rita and John England wrote, "The biggest challenge for librarians in Asia is undoubtedly the challenge to recognize the immense amount of resources available both in the daily life and witness of our peoples and in the history of Christianity within each country and the re-

gion as a whole."<sup>1</sup> In their own countries local publishers make available specific resources about the religious history of their particular region, and they make these publications available to local libraries. Local publishing efforts reflect and encourage growth of the immense resources in the many and diverse cultures of the 2/3 world.

ATLA is equally concerned that our indexes and publications be priced affordably for institutions in 2/3 world countries. To this end we have instituted a 50-percent discount on all products for such institutions. ATLA members often give books to schools around the world, and we at ATLA headquarters are doing our share. Through the content of *ATLA RDB* and its availability, ATLA is proud of the relationships we have with publishers and institutions in the 2/3 world. Many exciting and important developments in theology are taking place in these areas.

*Heidi Arnold*  
*ATLA Acquisitions Assistant*

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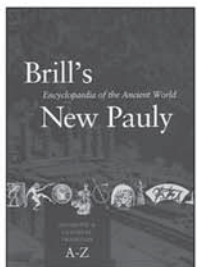
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## ATLANTIS Reference Reviews

### September Reference Review

Sunquist, Scott W., ed. *A Dictionary of Asian Christianity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2001. xliii, 989pp. ISBN 0-8028-3776-X. Price: \$75. Published May 2001.

As the senior editor explains in his "Introduction," *A Dictionary of Asian Christianity* is neither a dictionary nor an encyclopedia but a "thick description" of Christianity in Asia." Sunquist describes the DAC in the "Preface" as "both a reference work and a study in Christian theological and historical method" and adds insightfully, "In fact, the DAC, through the global Christian fellowship it has engendered, has even become part of the Christian history it describes." The product of a massive scholarly project, the DAC reflects the problems and complexity of its subject matter and requires detailed explanation in the front matter. Arising from frustration among Asian church history professors, the project addressed the embarrassing scarcity of resources in this subject. Students in Asian seminaries often turned to Western resources for study and research on account of the abundance of Western materials and the scarcity of Asian resources. These circumstances encouraged the perception of Christianity as a Western religion that was unrelated to the history and development of the Asian world.

Development of a project of this magnitude was itself an event of church history, bringing together hundreds of experts in the history and theology of Asia. More specifically, this project required substantial reflection on the historiography of Christianity in Asia. The editorial staff grappled with issues related to the definition of "Asia," as well as the theological perspectives that would guide the project. Culture and historical development (particularly historical notions of "empire"), rather than geography, established what constituted "Asia," and the theological perspective became ecumenical and contextual. As an ecumenical project, contributors of diverse Christian traditions came together in fellowship. As a contextual project, the originators of the project "agreed that such a dictionary would approach the story of Christianity in each area from the perspective of the people in that area. This meant that Christian historians and theologians from every country would need to be involved." The result

is a "truly ecumenical Christian history of Asia."


As recognized in the front matter, such a massive undertaking could only result in a "first edition" of a reference work of this nature. While articles came in "from the far corners of Asia," some articles were never completed. The editorial staff recognized the indeterminate nature of the subject—that the resulting product does not exhaustively represent every feature of Christianity in Asia. But the DAC nevertheless emerged as an authoritative and distinctively Asian-centered resource, the majority of its articles representing a non-Western, indigenous perspective on the historical and theological development of Christianity in Asia. By bringing together an international and ecumenical team of Asian and Western contributors, the DAC presents an exceptional knowledge base with numerous articles on subjects that have previously been scarcely available to English readers.

Articles in the DAC vary in length, depending on the subject, but practically all of them are of exceptional quality and usually include a brief bibliography. Longer articles include in-depth treatment of the history of Christianity within a particular country. For example, the article on "China" surveys the history of Christianity in this country, its interaction with politics and culture (including church-state relations), and the distinctive obstacles to its survival. The extensive article on "Chinese Translations and Writings" provides a history of the translation of Christian writings into Chinese languages as well as a history of the publication of significant indigenous Christian resources. The excellent article on "Ecumenical Movement" in Asia serves as another example of the high standard of scholarship achieved through collaboration among several contributors. Most of the longer articles have geographical divisions; for example, the article on "Bible Translation" includes sections on individual countries such as Indonesia and China. Articles on the major religions in Asia, such as "Caodaism" and "Islam," are included for their impact on the development of Christianity in this region. The important contributions of missionaries to Christianity in Asia are highlighted in such articles as "Medical Work," a lengthy discussion that includes the social effects of this type of ministry. For example, this article states that "women medical missionaries" by

“gaining access to both the women’s quarters and to the children . . . proved of vital importance for their social and educational uplift and contributed significantly to the emancipation of women in all of Asia.” The article on “Ancestor Worship” is another model of exemplary scholarship and could prove exceptionally helpful for Westerners who misunderstand the nature of this tradition. Like other longer articles in the DAC, “Ancestor Worship” takes account of historical interaction with Christian missions, provides clear distinctions regarding regional differences, and carefully explicates how the concept is closely integrated with a nation’s culture. This example indicates how closely the idea of contextualization has guided the entire project.

Shorter articles cover a wide array of topics related to Christianity in Asia, including significant people, places, and events. Edward Poitras’ article on “Henry Gerhard Appenzeller” critically evaluates the monumental labors of the first Methodist missionary to Korea from a missiologic perspective. Several articles throughout the DAC provide thorough coverage of the history of Catholic religious orders in this region, and their inclusion clearly demonstrates the editors’ concern to make this resource an ecumenical project. Numerous articles also demonstrate the high priority the editors placed on making the DAC an Asian-centered resource. Kim In Soo’s article on the Korean patriot and martyr “Chu Kichul” is just one example of the enrichment that takes place when Asian perspectives determine the selection of subjects. The DAC has also taken into account the impact of historical events and movements that have shaped Christianity in Asia, including colonialism and war. For example, perhaps no other reference resource has a separate article on the influence of “Padroado” on Asian Christianity. And researchers would be hard-pressed to find a better scholarly summary of “Shintoism and Christianity in Korea” than in the DAC. And where could readers find a more comprehensive overview of “Leprosy Work” among Christian missions in Asia than David Keck’s fine article? Keck even adds a summary statement that lends insight into the theological perspective of the DAC: “While medical missionaries were the most prominent laborers in this vineyard, the enormous amount of Christian energy dedicated worldwide to research, local leprosy committees, fund-raising, sermons, and prayers indicates

that leprosy work in Asia engaged the whole body of Christ.” This statement captures the most important theological conviction governing the production of the DAC: that Christianity in Asia is not primarily a Western-missions phenomenon but is rather an extension of the whole Body of Christ, the Church Universal.

Some articles obviously belong to the DAC, for example, “Evangelical Church of Vietnam” or “Seven Martyrs of Thailand.” Others may initially seem to have a tangential relationship with the DAC, for example, “Poverty” or “Human Development,” but nevertheless have considerable bearing on the subject of Christianity in Asia. And the DAC is packed cover-to-cover with articles on subjects scarcely discussed in other English-language reference works, such as “Hidden Christians,” “Kirishitan Evangelism,” “Indian Interpretations of Christ,” people groups such as the “Hmong” and the “Mizo,” and syncretistic groups such as the “Parmalim.” Even for subjects with more extensive coverage in English materials, such as “Sunder Singh,” the DAC provides an authoritative summary. Also notable are substantial articles that deal with the impact of major events on Christianity in Asia, such as “World War II” and “Vietnam War.” Some articles are related to the general subject of Christianity in Asia, but the relationship wouldn’t be obvious to most readers. For example, Frederick W. Norris’ article on the “Didascalia Apostolorum” is rich in detailed information, but one discovers the reason for inclusion only by paying strict attention to the document’s Syrian origin. Nevertheless, *A Dictionary of Asian Christianity* is a monumental labor of love, a gift to the world as well as the Church. Theological librarians should embrace it enthusiastically as an essential reference work. Strongly recommended for all theological libraries. 

Barry W. Hamilton  
Northeastern Seminary  
Rochester, NY



#### October Reference Review

Elsie, Robert. *A Dictionary of Albanian Religion, Mythology, and Folk Culture*. Washington Square, NY: New York University Press, 2001. ISBN 0-8147-



2214-8.

Dr. Robert Elsie, a linguist who has been making journeys to Albania since 1978, has compiled the first comprehensive study in English of Albanian folk culture. He previously authored the similar *Albanian Folktales and Legends*, as well as *Dictionary of Albanian Literature* and *History of Albanian Literature*. He endeavors to fill a gap in the body of ethnographic literature, as many aspects of the Albanian culture remain relatively undiscovered by Western scholars.

The alphabetical entries fill 270 pages, followed by an eighty-seven-page bibliography. Cross-references are found for broad topics but are inconsistent, and are particularly helpful since the Albanian language (Shqip) contains wide variations within a small yet rugged geographic region. For example, one's hometown can be identified by the pronunciation of words such as "cold" (*fjofte* or *fjohte*), or even "Good morning" (*Mire mengjes* or *Mjes*).

The book is only available in hardcover (ISBN 0-8147-2214-8). Guide words are present, as are a map and a guide to abbreviations. There is no index, which would be helpful (e.g., in researching concepts such as fertility, which has no entry or cross-reference itself yet is mentioned in several entries, including "birth customs," "marriage customs and sexual mores," "Mary, Saint," "moon," and "stones"). The binding is a little tight; also, some of the pages were uncut in the copy examined. The entries are of a good length where appropriate, and quotes citing other published sources abound. Translations are good, though perhaps a better translation of *bukura e dheut* would have been "the most beautiful girl on Earth," rather than "the Earthly Beauty."

Religion in Albania carries a strong flavor of the centuries-old animistic beliefs of the Illyrian culture, combined with generous amounts of Greek, Ottoman, and Roman influences. From 1944 to 1990 the country was an experiment in absolute atheism under the Communist dictator Enver Hoxha. Albanians are now relearning customs and beliefs once illegal to practice, or even to mention. Most scholars estimate that 70 percent of Albanians would identify themselves as Muslim, 20 percent Orthodox, and 10 percent Catholic. These religious traditions are new again to the people, many of whom are too young to remember pre-1944 religious practices.

Elsie has certainly made a thorough study, in-

cluding many concepts that are hard to come by for an outsider, and even more difficult to gain clear explanations thereof. He has uncovered the *hija*, or shade (in the sense of a dark spirit), which is even today blamed for phenomena such as infant deaths. Present also is a good explanation of the "sworn virgin," the ancient phenomenon that inspired Alice Munro's short story "The Albanian Virgin" (*Open Secrets: Stories*. Knopf, 1994). Indeed, Albanian culture is so rich in images and meanings that this dictionary makes for a captivating cover-to-cover reading.

Missing in the book, however, is a definition of the concept of "god/goddess." Commonly referred to by Albanians (as well as churches and biblical translations) as "Perendia," a feminine name, the etymology of this word would interest scholars of the culture. No entry is found for "god/goddess," "Perendia," or even "Allah." Also, no mention was found of the fact that most Albanians disregard Muslim dietary traditions other than fasting. Another surprising omission is of Gjergj Kastrioti (or "Skenderbeg"), the primary national hero since the fifteenth century, who embodies Albanian popular mythology.

This dictionary is found to be stronger in explicating folk customs than in examining elements of the three major religious traditions of the country (excepting mythologically linked figures such as Saint John and Saint Nicholas). The ground covered, however, has been ripened for further research. Elsie's primary aim in this work is to "contribute to arousing an interest in this field [traditional folk culture] or in Albanian culture in general." He succeeds fully in that regard.

The work, at a retail price of \$40, is a worthwhile purchase and a valuable accompaniment to Edwin E. Jacques' excellent work *The Albanians: An Ethnic History from Prehistoric Times to the Present*, as well as Edith Durham's classic travelogue *High Albania*. It will prove especially beneficial to seminars, as Albania has been a "hot spot" of missionary and humanitarian work for over a decade, and persons involved find a dearth of published resources available with which to study the culture beforehand (this reviewer speaks from such experience!). Highly recommended for any library supporting anthropology, mythology, or religious studies. 📖

Jonathan H. Harwell

## *Preservation News*

### New Dissertations Available on Microfilm

Dissertations on microfilm are available to Institutional Members for \$75 per reel. To purchase, please contact Rick Adamek (888-665-ATLA, radamek@atla.com).

*Tritheism and divine person as center of consciousness with a comparative appraisal of Jürgen Moltmann and William Hill as test cases*, by Byunghoon Kim, submitted to Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan (2002).

The author writes: "The task that this dissertation chooses is that of understanding tritheism. The dissertation intends to accomplish three things: (1) to suggest a definition of tritheism by uncovering historical criteria for tritheism contained in the responses of the church councils to various tritheist positions and evaluating and deepening those historical criteria, (2) to discuss whether the notion of the three personal subjects in the Trinity necessitates tritheism, with reference to the Cappadocians, Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Gregory Palamas, Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., William Sherlock, and Karl Barth, and (3) to show that not all theologians supporting the three divine personal subjects are tritheist, through applying the tritheist criteria of the dissertation to two so-called social trinitarians, Jürgen Moltmann and William Hill." **Order no. D00002**, 1 reel.

### Serials Newly Preserved through the NEH Grant

The following serial titles were microfilmed as part of the preservation grant, "Christianity and the Encounter with World Religions, 1875–1950." The preservation of these serials has been funded in part by the office of preservation of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Serials on microfilm are available to ATLA Institutional Members for \$75 per reel. To purchase, please contact Scholarly Resources (800-772-8937, sales@scholarly.com).

*Methodist education : organ of the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church of India and Burma* (1921–1923)

### *Christian education* (1924–1986)

Being the organ of the Council of Education of the Methodist Church in Southern Asia, "this magazine is devoted to the cause of Christian education throughout India and Burma. It is denominational in scope and interests and all Christian educationalists are invited to cooperate in making it the means of disseminating the results of successful educational method and experiment." Published in Jabalpur, India. **ATLA no.: 2001-S169 through 2001-S171**, 10 reels (1921–1986).

### *Jewish era : a Christian quarterly*

As a Christian interdenominational mission to the Jews, the Chicago Hebrew Mission was founded in 1887 by William E. Blackstone. Its purpose was the evangelization and education of Jews of Chicago, America, and the world. The Jewish era provides "information concerning the work of the Chicago Hebrew Mission among the fifty thousand to sixty thousand Jews in Chicago, but hopes through friends of Israel to reach multitudes of Christians and awaken a scriptural interest in this work for God's ancient people." **ATLA no.: 2002-S048**, 6 reels (1892–1953).

### *Story of the American Bible Society*

The object of the American Bible Society, founded in New York in 1816, was to publish and circulate the Holy Scriptures "everywhere without note or comment." The Story of the American Bible Society records the Society's far-reaching activities in reports and photographs. Home agencies included Bible work for immigrants, "native born destitutes," and "colored people of the South;" foreign agencies included Latin and Central America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Persia, and Arabia. **ATLA no.: 2002-S049**, 1 reel (1905–1920).

### *American Mennonite Mission (Dhamtari, India). Annual report*

"Mission work was begun in Dhamtari by the American Mennonite Mission, Nov. 22, 1899. This was just the beginning of the famine and, for over a year, famine work fully occupied the time of the missionaries. . . . At one time, 9,000 persons were under the care of the missionaries who oversaw famine works.

Later some 20,000 persons were fed in kitchens in 38 villages." Includes reports of the orphanage, schools, the hospital, and the leper asylum. Printed in Bombay. ATLA no.: 2002-S050/2002-S051, 1 reel (1900–1929).

*Jahrbuch der Bayerischen Missionskonferenz*

Yearbook of the Bayerischen Missionskonferenz, Lutheran Church. Published in Germany. Text in German. ATLA no.: 2002-S052 through 2002-S054, 4 reels (1899–1953).

*Besonderer Teil der Bayerischen Missionskonferenz*

This special section was issued by the Bayerischen Missionkonferenz in various journals. It contains mission reports. Text in German. ALTA no.: 2002-S055, 1 reel (1913–1938).

*Lutherisches Missionsjahrbuch*

Published previous to 1922 for smaller circles by the Missionskonferenz in Sachsen, the new "[Lutherisches Missionsjahrbuch] soll die gesamte lutherische Mission der Erde umfassen und Mitarbeiter aus allen lutherischen Kirchen heranziehen" (translation: "[The Lutherisches Missionsjahrbuch] will surround the entire Lutheran mission of the earth and draw to it collaborators from all Lutheran churches."). Published in Germany. Text in German. ATLA no.: 2002-S056 through 2002-S060, 7 reels (1922–1968).

**British Society for the Propagation of the Gospel Among the Jews. *Annual report***

Commonly known as the British Jews Society, the British Society for the Propagation of the Gospel Among the Jews was founded in 1842 in London. The Society was the oldest interdenominational organization in the world for the evangelization of the Jews and cooperated with the Church of Scotland's Mission to the Jews. Today it is known as Christian Witness to Israel. ATLA no.: 2002-S507A-F, 6 reels (1843–1944).

**Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. *Annual report***

Founded in 1698, the Society is the oldest organization for Christian work of the Church of England. The Society works in the United Kingdom and around the globe to help people grow in the Chris-

tian faith through Christian education and literature. ATLA no.: 2002-S500 through 2002-S506, 27 reels (1813–1975).

**Archival Collections Newly Available on Microfilm**

In cooperation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Archives, the following archival collection is now available through ATLA.

This archival collection on microfilm is available to ATLA Institutional Members for \$75 per reel. To purchase, please contact Scholarly Resources (800-772-8937, sales@scholarly.com).


*Cooperative Lutheranism : The Helen M. Knubel Archives*

The Knubel archives on microfilm contain records from agencies conducting inter-Lutheran work between 1936 and the formation of the ELCA in 1987; organizational records date chiefly from the 1960s through 1987. Documented activities include famine, refugee and emergency war relief, church-state relations, immigration services, international exchange, global missions, ecumenical and interreligious dialogues, social welfare, service to military personnel, and campus ministries. Included are minutes and agendas from the committees, boards, and agencies of the Lutheran Council in the USA, Lutheran World Ministries, Lutheran World Relief, and the National Lutheran Council. Records of other organizations included are the Lutheran World Federation, Lutheran World Action, the Lutheran World Convention, and the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

The collection also contains the personal papers of John A. Morehead, Abdel Ross Wentz, Lauritz Larsen, and W. L. Scheduling, as compiled during their involvement in various Lutheran agencies starting from the 1920s. Morehead was president of the Lutheran World Convention (LWC); Wentz participated in the LWC, Lutheran World Federation, and the World Council of Churches; Larsen was executive director of the National Lutheran Council (NLC); and Scheduling participated in the NLC. ATLA no.: XA0001R through XA0034R, 90 reels (extent: 1920–1987).

### 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 \$75 per reel. To purchase, please contact Rick Adamek (888-665-ATLA, radamek@atla.com).

*Der evangelische Glaube nach den Hauptschriften der Reformatoren*, by Paul Wernle. 3-volume set: vol. 1, Martin Luther-vol. 2, Ulrich Zwingli-vol. 3, John Calvin. Published in Tübingen, 1918–1919. Text in German. **Order no.:** B00638. 

## *From the Executive Director*

I'm a South Dakotan. I grew up in a state that has a total population of fewer than 700,000 people, that has more senators (2) than representatives (1), and that has areas where there are fewer than 10 people per square mile. Many years ago I was riding a train in Chicago and when my seatmate asked me where I was from and I told her South Dakota, she said "I know only one person from South Dakota." I replied, "I probably know him." As we pursued the conversation it turned out that I'd had dinner with the man she knew one week earlier. She said, "That's incredible!" and I answered, "No, that's South Dakota."

South Dakota is a state larger in area than Illinois. It has a governor, legislature, capital, university system, park service, highway patrol, and all of the other things that Illinois has, but just a fraction of Illinois' population. For many years South Dakota depended nearly entirely upon agriculture to support its economy and all of its institutions and programs. During the past several decades, however, the state has diversified its base to include major emphases on tourism, information technology, non-geographic-limited enterprises like publishing and database management, and investment in science and technology.

I'd like to suggest that the American Theological Library Association is a little like South Dakota. We cover a wide area (geographically and in programs, products, and services) but we are relatively small in number (fewer than 600). When compared with the 64,000+ member American Library Association we're really very small. And when someone mentions an ATLA member to me, there's a pretty good chance I know him or her. That's ATLA.

We still do all of the things that other Associations do, like the American Library Association

(ALA). We have a constitution, bylaws, headquarters, staff, an annual conference, a board of directors, a newsletter, annual proceedings, regional groups, interest groups, listservs, and many other constituent parts.

We also retain a sense of family in our Association that is truly unique, even as older members retire and new members join. That sense of family has characterized ATLA from its beginning and is a very special quality that we seek to preserve and expand in this era of electronic communications.

Describing ATLA as a small professional association of theological libraries and librarians is hardly an adequate description of who we are, however. We are also a diverse business enterprise. We are a major secondary publisher, producing a variety of print, CD-ROM, and online databases, not just for our members but for more than 2,000 customers who purchase our products. ATLA is also a major preservation program, responsible for microfilming and preserving 30,000 monographs and 2,500 serials. We have digitized more than 500,000 pages of key journals in theology and religion.

It is the business side of ATLA, in fact, that allows us to provide the full range of benefits and services we offer to our members. The diverse nature of ATLA's activities and products and services is vital to its life and its future. The complexity of our Association means that, as a member of ATLA, you find yourself playing diverse roles, too: member, customer, virtual stockholder, investor, advisor, advocate.

In an uncertain economy, with many businesses and associations suffering severely, our Association, like South Dakota, has had to diversify and expand our services and programs and membership. We have forged alliances with aggregators and

publishers and other associations; we have worked collaboratively on a variety of projects with a variety of partners; we have developed a new opportunity for membership with the Affiliate Member category; and we have looked for new markets and horizons for our products and services—individuals, churches, public libraries, developing countries.

To maintain our strength and be confident about our future we all—staff, members, friends—need to employ our creativity, share our experiences, and give generously of our time, talent, and wisdom. With that strong foundation we can be extremely confident about a bright future for our Association. 📖

*Dennis A. Norlin*  
*ATLA Executive Director*

## *ATLA Calendar*

### November

- November 6 Professional Development Committee meeting at ATLA offices
- November 22 ATS/ATLA Joint Committee meets at AAR/SBL Annual Meeting in Toronto
- November 23 ATLA Reception at ATS suite, AAR/SBL Annual Meeting
- November 23–26 ATLA exhibits at AAR/SBL Annual Meeting
- November 24 ATLA Luncheon for AAR/SBL student members at AAR/SBL Annual Meeting
- November 28–29 Thanksgiving Holiday. ATLA offices closed.

### December

- December 24–25 Christmas Holiday. ATLA offices closed.
- December 31 New Year's Eve. ATLA offices closed.

### January 2003

- January 1 New Year's Day. ATLA offices closed.
- January 16 ATLA On-site Inspection: Products
- January 17–18 ATLA Midwinter Board Meeting
- January 20 Martin Luther King Holiday. ATLA offices closed.

### *Advertising in the ATLA Newsletter*

If you are interested in advertising in the *ATLA Newsletter*, please contact the editor at (888) 665-2852 or by e-mail at [newsletter@atla.com](mailto:newsletter@atla.com) for more information and to receive an Ad Rate Card. Or visit [http://www.atla.com/member/publications/newsletter/newsletter\\_advertising.html](http://www.atla.com/member/publications/newsletter/newsletter_advertising.html)

*Note:* Job openings are listed free for ATLA member libraries. For more information, please visit [http://www.atla.com/member/job\\_submission\\_guidelines.html](http://www.atla.com/member/job_submission_guidelines.html).

## *News from ATLA Staff*

### ATLA Hires Publications Assistant

On September 27 Shannon Siggeman joined the ATLA Member Services Department as publications assistant. Shannon is currently living in Chicago as she writes her thesis for an MA in English at the University of Delaware. The thesis is entitled “*Words which are things*”: *Lord Byron and Romantic Translation Theory*. Shannon worked as a teaching assistant at the University of Delaware while she took classes there. Before that, she worked as a research assistant while completing her BA in English at DePaul University.

As publications assistant, Shannon works with the editor of member publications on the layout, proofing, production, and distribution of web and print materials. 📖



### ATLA Hires Structured Text Specialist

On July 29 Jim Bradley joined the Electronic Products and Services Department as the new structured text specialist. Jim moved to Chicago from Bloomington, IN, where he received his MIS from Indiana University School of Library and Information Science. He is also expecting approval of his thesis on the intersection of religious belief and folklore this fall to earn a second master’s degree in Folklore and Museum Studies from Western Kentucky University. Currently Jim’s primary responsibility is to oversee verification and maintain accuracy of the ATLAS XML-encoded documents. 📖



### Carolyn Coates Accepts New Position

Carolyn Coates, editor of *Religion Index One: Periodicals (RIO)*, accepted a new position as acquisitions librarian at Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic, CT. She took up her new post in early October. Carolyn served as the *RIO* editor for the past five years. Before that, she was an indexer-analyst for three years. 📖



### EPS Assistants Hired

This July and August Gwen Conti and Yuk Chow Tom joined the Department of Electronic Products and Services (EPS) as part-time EPS assistants. Both EPS assistants participate in a variety of production tasks, including scanning images for ATLAS. Yuk Chow is currently working on a Master of Science in Computer Science at DePaul University. Gwen, who formerly worked on the Electronic Reserves Program at Loyola University’s Science Library, is a student in Vocal Performance/Pedagogy at Roosevelt University. 📖



### Gamadia and Adamek Travel to Columbus and Dublin, OH

ATLA Director of Financial Services Pradeep Gamadia and Sales Manager Rick Adamek drove to Columbus, OH, on Wednesday, November 6, to help fete OhioLINK’s decade of service to that state’s colleges and universities. For the last four years OhioLINK has been ATLA’s largest MARC consortium, with at least 108 institutions subscribing to the *ATLA Religion Database* annually. The following day, Gamadia and Adamek attended a “Futures’ Symposium” sponsored by OhioLINK and hosted at Ohio State University to hear perspectives on higher education, libraries, and the state in the decades to come. On the afternoon of the 7<sup>th</sup> they made courtesy calls at Metatec International and OCLC, both headquartered in Dublin, OH, just outside Columbus. Metatec converts ATLA data into CDs for all of ATLA’s CD products, while OCLC is ATLA’s partner of longest standing in providing online access to the *ATLA Religion Database*. 📖



### Nina Schmit Presents Paper

Nina Schmit, ATLA indexer-analyst, delivered a paper at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, which took place in Salt Lake City October 31–November 3. The paper was entitled “Photographing the religious ‘other’ of the Russian Empire.” 📖



### ATLA Adds to the Population

Three ATLA staff have had children recently. Margret Collins, the former editor of member publications, gave birth to Rylie Marie Collins (8 lbs., 10 oz., 21") on August 14. Kurt Buhring, indexer-analyst, became a father on August 28 to Jackson Martin Buhring (8 lbs., 1 oz., 20"). And on September 24 Paul Jensen, director of information services, became a father to Corianna Jensen (7 lbs., 3 oz., 20"). 📖



Rylie Marie Collins



Corianna Jensen



Jackson Martin Buhring

#### **Idea? Article? Suggestion?**

Why not submit it to the *ATLA Newsletter* for consideration?

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## *Positions Open*

### Director of Library Services

*Regent College, Vancouver, British Columbia*


Regent College, an international graduate school of Christian studies, invites applications and nominations for a full-time Director of Library Services. The position is currently open and will remain open until an appropriate candidate is found.

#### *Qualifications & Responsibilities*

The applicant should possess an MLS degree plus a master's degree (minimum) in a theological discipline and have at least five years experience in a theological or academic library and have a working knowledge of computerized library systems. Evidence of established scholarly interests and a publications record will be an asset. The successful candidate will have full faculty status and will be granted rank and salary depending on experience and qualifications. The Director of Library Services will be responsible for the administration of the library, the supervision of staff, the development of the collection, and related duties.

The successful candidate must be able to agree wholeheartedly with the College's statement of faith, its mission, and values. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada. Regent College encourages applications from all qualified women and men. Review of applications will begin January 1, 2003, until the position is filled.

#### *Applications*

Applications, with curriculum vitae and three letters of reference, should be sent to Gordon T. Smith; Academic Vice President/Dean; Regent College; 5800 University Blvd.; Vancouver, BC V6T 2E4. A detailed description of the position can be obtained by e-mail from: [deansoffice@regent-college.edu](mailto:deansoffice@regent-college.edu). Web site: [www.regent-college.edu](http://www.regent-college.edu). 



### Director of the Library

*Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC*

#### *Description*

Wesley Theological Seminary announces an opening for Director of the Library to begin on July 1, 2003. Wesley Theological Seminary is a graduate theological school of the United Methodist Church located in Washington, DC, with over 600 students in MDiv, MTS, MA, and DMin degree programs. The Director of the Library serves as an administrative faculty member and is compensated at a faculty rank depending on qualifications and experience. The Director supervises a professional staff of five persons, oversees the development and quality of collections and services, manages the financial and material resources of the library, and coordinates the role of the library with the educational programs and faculty research needs of the seminary.

#### *Qualifications*

Wesley Seminary seeks applicants with graduate degrees in library science and theological studies and demonstrated competence as a library director or administrator with broad responsibilities in an academic library (preferably a theological library). The applicant must have broad knowledge and skills in all areas of library work. Familiarity with educational technology as it relates to the role of the library in theological education is necessary.

#### *To Apply*

Send a resume, references, and a statement of the applicant's understanding of the role of the library in a theological school today, to Dr. Bruce C. Birch, Dean; Wesley Theological Seminary; 4500 Massachusetts Avenue, NW; Washington, DC 20016-5690. FAX: (202) 885-8605.

Review of applications will begin January 1, 2003, and continue until the position is filled.

Wesley Theological Seminary is an equal opportunity employer. 



**Director of the William Smith Morton Library**  
*Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian*  
*School of Christian Education, Richmond, Virginia*

#### *Introduction and Position Summary*

The Library Director has overall responsibility for the William Smith Morton Library, which serves Union-PSCE and the two other members of the Richmond Theological Consortium (RTC): The Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology of Virginia Union University and the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. The library, completed in 1997, holds more than 300,000 volumes and serves more than 1,000 students and faculty in basic theological and advanced professional degree programs at all schools, as well as the PhD program offered by Union-PSCE.

#### *Responsibilities*

The Library Director is responsible for supervising collection development and maintenance, a staff of fourteen, and several students in part-time employment; for overseeing an International Book Project; and for maintaining relationships with partner libraries, including the Everett Library at Queens University of Charlotte. As a faculty member of Union-PSCE, the Library Director will teach courses, serve on committees, and participate in the full life of the institution and the RTC. Rank, tenure, salary, and fringe benefits are commensurate with qualifications and experience.

#### *Qualifications*

1. Christian faith and active participation in a congregation in a Reformed or other Christian denomination
2. a seminary degree and a Masters in Library Science
3. a PhD or equivalent research degree in an area of theological studies
4. experience in library administration and information technology
5. proven ability to work effectively with students, faculty, staff, and patrons in a diverse community

#### *Application information*

Send a resume, a letter of application, and three professional references with addresses, phone num-

bers, and e-mail address (applicable) to Louis B. Weeks, President; Union-PSCE; 3401 Brook Road; Richmond, VA 23227. (804) 278-4200; lweeks@union-psce.edu. 📖



#### **Indexer-Analyst**

*American Theological Library Association, Chicago, Illinois*

The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) seeks qualified applicants for an indexer-analyst. The position is permanent and full-time.

#### *Required Qualifications*

- master's degree or at least two (2) years of graduate study in religious studies, theology, or a closely related field
- experience with computers and databases
- ability to read and work in at least one Western European language (German, French, Spanish, or Italian); knowledge of additional languages a plus
- reading comprehension and analytical skills
- extended concentration and attention to detail
- capacity to work with different types of material, different supervisors, data entry applications, and indexing conventions
- ability to produce accurate and timely work in a publishing atmosphere with firm deadlines
- effective interpersonal skills to work in a collegial team environment with other staff members

#### *Preferred Qualifications*

- background in the history of religions, comparative studies in religion, or philosophy of religion
- knowledge of Asian, African, or Islamic studies and related languages

#### *Responsibilities*

- using data entry software to enter indexing information for journal articles, essays, and book reviews according to ATLA indexing conventions (the materials indexed may be electronic)

- and/or print)
- reporting regularly to editors regarding work performed
- doing bibliographic authority work using electronic and printed resources
- proofreading data
- participating in a journal evaluation and selection process
- participating in ongoing data cleanup projects
- attending staff and departmental meetings as required
- staying current with developments in contemporary theology and/or religious studies

### *Salary & Benefits*

ATLA is an equal opportunity employer located in downtown Chicago, offering a competitive salary and excellent benefits. Review of applications will begin November 18, 2002, and continue until the position is filled. For more information about ATLA, please visit our web site at [www.atla.com](http://www.atla.com).

### *To apply*

Send a letter of application specifically addressing qualifications for the position, a curriculum vitae, and a list of 3 references to Cameron J. Campbell, Director of Indexes; American Theological Library Association; 250 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 1600; Chicago, IL 60606-5889.



## **Library Director and Director of Information Services**

*Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, Ambridge, Pennsylvania*

Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry seeks qualified applicants for the position of Library Director and Director of Information Services, to take up duties beginning July 1, 2003.

Located just outside of Pittsburgh, Trinity is an Anglican evangelical seminary primarily training men and women for ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church. At the same time, as an evangelical seminary, Trinity is strongly committed to providing education and training for those coming from

other denominations, whether or not they seek ordination. There are six degree programs offered at Trinity. Information is obtainable at our web site: [www.tesm.edu](http://www.tesm.edu).

Trinity numbers approximately 150 students on campus, with more involved in Inter-Terms, Doctor of Ministry, and online programs. Currently there are twelve full-time faculty members and a number of adjunct faculty members. Trinity's library contains over 75,000 volumes, especially strong in biblical studies and Anglican theology. This past year Trinity completed a major building project that included significant improvements and plant additions to the library. The library staff consists of five staff members and a number of student workers.

### *Responsibilities*

The Library Director and Director of Information Services is responsible for all aspects of administration of the library, including oversight of the growing computer-based information technology. The position may involve some teaching, depending upon qualifications.

### *Qualifications*

This position is open to lay or ordained individuals, whether in the Episcopal Church or other Protestant denomination. Trinity asks for agreement with our Statement of Faith as well as degrees in library science and theology.

### *Applications*

For more information, including job description, salary and benefits, and details related to applying for this position, please contact the Academic Administrator—by e-mail, [BCosta@tesm.edu](mailto:BCosta@tesm.edu), or post, The Academic Administrator; Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry; 311 Eleventh Street; Ambridge, PA 15003.

Closing date for all applications is January 6, 2003.



**Public Services Librarian**

*The United Library, Garrett-Evangelical and Seabury-Western Theological Seminaries, Evanston, Illinois*

***The United Library***

The United Library serves Garrett-Evangelical and Seabury-Western Theological Seminaries. The two schools serve approximately 600 students and about forty faculty. The library staff consists of four professional librarians and four general staff members, and several student assistants. We are located on the campus of Northwestern University and have full reciprocal privileges with the university library. In addition, we contract with Northwestern University for computer services, including Endeavor/Voyager. The United Library is part of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA), the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (ACTS), and the Chicago Area Theological Library Association (CATLA).

***Position Description***

The two seminaries offer the degrees MDiv, MTS, MA, DMin, and PhD. The successful candidate will be someone who can provide reference services to this wide range of theological inquirers. In addition, the person will: develop and implement programs of bibliographic instruction; provide instruction in the use of electronic resources; work with collection development in reference and in electronic resources; work closely with faculty in their research; provide supervision and direction in public services such as interlibrary loan and inter-institutional borrowing.

***Qualifications***

A theological degree (MDiv, MTS, MA) and/or an MA or demonstrated excellence in Library Science/Information Science/Educational Technology. Candidate must be energetic in working with faculty, students, staff, and university personnel. Previous experience in library public services and educational technology is desired.

***Application Procedure***

To apply send: (1) resume; (2) letter of application introducing yourself; (3) a brief outline of work you have done in public services, including such


things as courses taught, web pages developed, electronic services, bibliographic projects, experience in reference and public services; (4) three letters of reference. You may either include the reference letters in your application or have the letters sent separately. Send application and all materials to UL Search Committee; Dr. Alva R. Caldwell, Librarian for Administrative Services; United Library; 2121 Sheridan Road; Evanston, IL 60201. Phone: (847) 866-3911; Fax: (847) 866-3957; E-mail: [alva@garrett.edu](mailto:alva@garrett.edu).

***Salary and Fringes***

The salary and fringes are commensurate with experience and qualifications. The position is designated Administrative Staff.

***Availability***

The position is available February 1, 2003. Review of applications will begin December 2, 2002, and continue until the position is filled.

The United Library is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 

Submit Your  
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**October 1, 2003**

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