



atla  **Newsletter**

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This is a PDF version of the Atla Newsletter Digest. View the
Atla blog at atla.com for the latest Atla news.

POST

Moving Toward Clarifying Our Beneficiaries and Clearly Identifying Our Desired Outcomes: Atla's New Organizational Ends



by Stephen Sweeney, President 2019-2020 / March 17, 2020

From the President

Greetings, we have already made it to March! As you know, the Atla Board of Directors meets three times per year. The Board met in Chicago in February to discuss a variety of topics important to the Association. To learn more about all the work we accomplished, you can read the Board Secretary's report of the meeting <<https://www.atla.com/blog/board-summary-0220/>>.

In my column, I wanted to focus on one of the motions that took shape over the course of this fiscal year and was voted on when the Board came together in February. I will share each clause of the motion and provide context specific to that clause that I hope will help you have clarity and understanding as to why the Board has adopted new Organizational Ends.

WHEREAS, the Organizational Ends represent the Board's vision for the Association, and...

The Board Policy Manual, an important governing document of the Association which can be found in the Members Only section of the Atla web portal, defines in BP2 that Organizational Ends are, "Organizational impacts, benefits, outcomes;

recipients, beneficiaries, impacted groups; and their relative worth in cost or priority.”

For an Association like ours that uses Policy Governance[®], Organizational Ends are the way that the Board effectively assesses the direction of the organization.

WHEREAS, clarity of language in the Organizational Ends is required to assess progress, and...

The Board Policy Manual states in BP3 that, “To accomplish its intended outcomes with a governance style consistent with board policies, the board will follow an annual agenda that (1) completes a review of the Organizational Ends policies and (2) continually improves board performance through board education and enriched input and deliberation.”

Over the course of each fiscal year, all Board members participate in evaluating and assessing monitoring reports prepared by the Executive Director. Monitoring reports are the way that the Association communicates with the Board how it is accomplishing the work of the Ends defined by the Board. In evaluating and assessing recent monitoring reports, it was becoming increasingly clear to the Board that it was time to engage a comprehensive conversation about the state of the current Organizational Ends and whether new ones should be considered.

WHEREAS, the Board wants to clarify the beneficiaries of the Association and more clearly identify the desired outcomes, and...

The Board recognized the need for the Organizational Ends to define clearly the beneficiaries of the Association and identify what makes Atla a strong force as stated in the Association’s mission, “To foster the study of theology and religion by enhancing the development of theological and religious studies libraries and librarianship.”

WHEREAS, the Association has an opportunity to engage with institutional leaders on behalf of religious studies and theological libraries and librarians, and...

Environmental scans, demographic studies, considerations of past Board work, and discussions at Board meetings have had a robust place at the Board table since the adoption of the last Ends in 2016. Recognizing the good work of past Boards and desiring to grow into an ever-brighter future for the Association, the Board decided to evaluate and consider revising the Organizational Ends.

WHEREAS, the Board adopted new Organizational Ends as of the February 2020 Board meeting,

In January 2020, the Board met for a working session in Denver as the culmination of these activities to complete the work of creating new Organizational Ends.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the new Organizational Ends will be communicated to the members by the Board.

At its February meeting, the Board voted to adopt new Organizational Ends and passed this motion which documents the context of this work and directs communication of the new Organizational Ends to the membership

Atla's Organizational Ends (Adopted February 2020)

Global OE: Atla exists so that: Librarians and information providers in theology and religion are connected in a sustainable and diverse global community at a cost that demonstrates good stewardship of resources.

This is further defined to include but not limited to the following:

1. Users have access to quality academic and professional resources.

1.1 Open access resources and special collections are available and discoverable by librarians and information professionals.

2. Institutional leaders have an awareness of the trends impacting the religion and theology library ecosystem.

3. Librarians and information providers are growing in their competencies and skills.

3.1 Librarians and information providers demonstrate competencies in diversity, inclusion, equity, and antiracism.

3.2 Information professionals are able to successfully navigate the changing landscape.

3.3 Librarians and information providers have access to professional development in technical and digital skills.

3.4 Information professionals have opportunities to innovate.

Questions, Comments, Feedback

Thank you for taking the time to read all the way through this month, there was a lot of information to be shared.

Do you have questions, comments, feedback? I would encourage you to visit the Board page of the Atla website and fill out the Contact the Board form <https://www.atla.com/board-contact/>. Messages from this form are sent directly to the Board of Directors.

POST

Ready for Anything



by Jim Butler / March 12, 2020

From Staff Leadership

The outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is certainly top of mind for many people. At the time of this writing, the number of confirmed cases of the virus is now over 100,000. Some would say with a worldwide population of 7.8 billion people, the number of cases is pretty small. On the other hand, I have two young kids at home and the smallest probability of anything like this makes me take a few extra precautions. The CDC has released recommended actions to help stop the spread of the virus:

- ▶ Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- ▶ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- ▶ Stay home when you are sick.
- ▶ Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- ▶ Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- ▶ Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

The hope is the virus can be contained and a vaccine will be available once next year's flu season ramps up. I'm heartened to see there are many smart people coming together around the world to work on limiting the effects of this virus.

New Normal

In some of the affected areas, people are being asked or forced to stay home. For many organizations, institutions, and businesses this has been a major blow to staff productivity. With the number of cases growing worldwide, organizational leaders are taking a hard look at the benefits of allowing staff to work remotely. They are evaluating where staff physically need to be to do their job effectively and asking questions. Such as, what tasks can be performed remotely? What requirements of a position need to be accomplished in a central location? Can workflows be adjusted to allow staff to perform tasks remotely? What about the staff members, how would they handle the switch to not working onsite? These are just a few of the questions that should be explored ahead of a possible outbreak in your area.

Experimentation

Here at Atla, we have explored the idea of remote work for the last year. We've allowed more positions the option to work from a distributed location. We also designated a few weeks to be optional work from home weeks. As we experiment, the staff continue to provide valuable feedback. One advantage that rose to the top was not having a commute. The time saved allows staff to spend more time doing the things they love. Also, there is a considerable savings with not having to pay for gas, parking, or public transportation. Another perk staff saw was the ability to focus deeply on projects without the distractions a busy workspace may include. Not all aspects of working distributed are positive. Some staff struggle with separating their work and home life when their office is just a few steps away. When staff are remote, they also lose that face to face human interaction with colleagues. Understandably, this causes some staff to become lonely. It's important to look for ways to help staff feel connected even when they are not at a central work location.

Technology

Technology plays a major role in what work is possible outside the office. Over the last few years, we made a concerted effort to move our systems from location-based to the cloud. This has lessened the requirement to situate staff in the office to perform their job. In addition, we've pushed staff to use collaboration tools. These tools allow staff to video chat while working on projects together in real-time. Be sure to give staff the time needed to experiment with the tools and see how they can best use them. Technology is not a fix for everything, but it will go a long way to make the transition easier.

Get Ahead

It's important to not let a crisis control you. Preparing for certain situations ahead of time will go a long way to ensure productivity remains high. Understanding that staff can accomplish amazing things no matter where they are located will be critical as we move forward into an uncertain future.

For more information on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>>

Read the statement on Atla Annual 2020 and Concerns About the Coronavirus (COVID-19) <<https://www.atla.com/atla-annual-2020-coronavirus/>>.

POST

A Message to Atla Members about COVID-19

by Brenda Bailey-Hainer / March 17, 2020

Association News



Dear Atla Members,

The situation with the COVID-19 virus is continuing to change rapidly, as is its impact on Atla. The Atla leadership continues to monitor the situation closely and has made some important decisions to protect the health and safety of our staff, members, and others in the Atla community.

Closure of Office in Chicago

As a measure to protect the health and safety of our employees, the Atla HQ office in Chicago, Illinois, will be closed starting March 16 through at least March 27. Our staff will work from home, except for a few people whose positions require them to come to the office periodically. Staff have access to online tools that enable them to provide ongoing service to our members and others in the community. Your phone calls and messages will receive the same level of attention and timely response as always. All upcoming staff travel has been canceled.

Atla Annual 2020

Atla Annual is scheduled for June 17-20 in Detroit, Michigan, USA. The conference program will be posted later this week. Although our hope is that the COVID-19 situation will improve over the next 3 months and that the conference will occur as scheduled, we are not yet opening registration. Our staff has been in close contact with the conference hotel and local convention bureau to stay abreast of developments in Michigan. We have also been monitoring decisions being made by the administrations at member institutions regarding institutional travel restrictions. At this time, we hope that any travel restrictions placed on members will be lifted before June, but we are also exploring other potential scenarios such as rescheduling or moving the conference to a virtual event. For the latest information, visit <https://www.atla.com/atla-annual-2020-coronavirus/> which will be updated as more information becomes available.

Support for Members

We know you are facing challenges at your own institutions. The Atla community can support each other in these tumultuous times. Our listservs are available for you to connect and share with your colleagues. Staff are preparing lists of resources to support online learning <https://www.atla.com/blog/supporting-online-courses-and-other-resources/>, participating in industry-wide activities regarding copyright <https://www.atla.com/blog/meet-with-library-copyright-experts-during-their-virtual-office-hours/>, as well as passing along important news like the ITHAKA S+R survey of academic library responses <https://www.atla.com/blog/survey-for-academic-libraries-and-covid-19/>.

Updates will be provided as events unfold over the next several weeks. In the meantime, I hope that all of you stay healthy and safe.

BACK

ATLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING SUMMARY, FEBRUARY
2020

POST

Atla Board of Directors Meeting Summary, February 2020

by Christina Torbert, Secretary 2019-2020 / March 17, 2020

Board of Directors



The Atla Board of Directors met February 18-20, 2020 in Chicago, Illinois.

The Finance Committee met prior to the full Board meeting in order to interview accounting firms in accordance with the RFP process for a new audit firm. The results of all this work were a recommendation for a three-year contract with a new firm beginning with the fiscal 2020 audit. The Board also reviewed the audit conducted by RSM LLC regarding the organization's accounting review and financial health. The Board was pleased to accept a clean, unmodified opinion for the period reviewed (August 31, 2018-August 31, 2019).

The Board heard a report from Member Programs Director Gillian Harrison Cain about the membership dues structure and membership trends. The Board identified three primary, short-term goals for membership structure: to encourage international membership, to provide value for institutional members, and to increase the number of individual members. To that end, the Board instructed the Executive Director to develop a plan that allows for bundling institutional and individual memberships and implement for the 2020-2021 membership year.

With the help of Cain, the Board discussed options for how best to communicate with the membership about the newly adopted Organizational Ends <https://www.atla.com/about/mission/>. Board members volunteered for different tasks and methods of getting the information out and responding to members' questions.

The Board considered the question of conflict of interest when a Board member publishes in an Atla Open Press publication, and it was decided that publishing without remuneration will not be considered a conflict of interest. The Board discussed the process of orientation for new Board members and assigned experienced members as mentors to the incoming members.

The Board discussed the Executive Director's January 2020 monitoring report and received an update on the current association activities. The Board discussed upcoming agenda items and meetings, as well as the cost of governance for the coming year.

View the full Board minutes in the Members Only Drive

<<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1eryonzlfeqifgs4kcrbq13owubcvrert>>.


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POST

Information for Libraries in the Wake of COVID-19 – Supporting Online Courses and Other Resources

March 13, 2020

Publications & Resources

A rectangular box with a thin green border containing the article title and a small red triangle at the end of the last line.

**Information for Libraries
in the Wake of COVID-19 –
Supporting Online Courses
and Other Resources** ▾

As many universities, colleges, and seminaries move to online classes in response to COVID-19, libraries and librarians are challenged with developing or expanding efforts to effectively support online learning. Below is a list of resources and guidance that we have gathered from other libraries, those in the field of religious studies and theological education, and related associations.

We welcome your suggestions for additional resources that may be of use to others in the Atla community that we can add to this list. Please share your ideas with <https://www.atla.com/about/contact-us/>US.

Library Support for Online Courses & Distance Students

Atla Reciprocal Borrowing Program <https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/member-projects-and-programs/reciprocal-borrowing/> – Participants extend check-out privileges to each other's patrons/students, includes a map and list of participating libraries and the sign-up form to join the program

Library Copyright Experts Virtual Office Hours <<https://www.atla.com/blog/meet-with-library-copyright-experts-during-their-virtual-office-hours/>> – Seek advice from library copyright specialists in supporting online courses

Navigating COVID-19 and a Possible Campus Closure as a Reference Librarian <<https://ripslawlibrarian.wordpress.com/2020/03/10/navigating-covid-19-and-a-possible-campus-closure-as-a-reference-librarian/>> – Suggestions from the RIPS Law Librarian Blog published by the Research, Instruction, and Patron Services Special Interest Section (RIPS-SIS) of the American Association of Law Libraries

Public Statement of Library Copyright Specialists: Fair Use & Emergency Remote Teaching & Research

<<https://docs.google.com/document/d/10batitjbrh7d6dhvvvfgigp2zqamvm0ehhzyf2cbrk/edit>> – Information regarding copyright and fair use of library resources during an emergency

Other Resources for Libraries

Academic Library Response to COVID-19 –Collection of information on how libraries are responding to the pandemic

■ US Libraries – Survey <https://surveys.ithaka.org/jfe/form/sv_8qn8f2274hmbbbz> and initial results of the survey <<https://sr.ithaka.org/blog/academic-library-response-to-covid19/>>

■ Canadian Libraries – Spreadsheet

<<http://hello%20all%20%e2%80%93%20j%20c%20a9r%20c%20a9mie%20leblanc%20shared%20with%20me%20that%20there%20is%20a%20currently%20a%20google%20spreadsheet%20with%20canadian%20university%20library%20responses,%20if%20you%e2%80%99re%20interested%20in%20reviewing%20or%20participating%20if%20appropriate.%c2%a0%20https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pxasar7wnpcwvjvn5cph7g9ju7cmlfrwx4qxrkkekd4/edit#gid=0>>

Library 2.0 Special Broadcast – Librarians Respond to Coronavirus and Other Pandemics <<https://www.library20.com/pandemicpanel>> – Upcoming webinar with library panelists

Pandemic Preparedness <<http://www.ala.org/tools/atoz/pandemic-preparedness>> – Compiled by the American Library Association and includes news, policy suggestions, and professional tools as well as links to governmental resources

Resources for Shifting Courses to Online

Bringing Your Courses Online <<https://teachingresources.hcommons.org/>> – Information on strategies, equity and accessibility issues, and list of resources compiled by the Modern Language Association and posted on Humanities Commons

Get Resourceful for REL #COVID19 <<https://sowingtheseed.org/2020/03/11/get-resourceful-for-rel-covid19/>> – Suggestions and ideas for teaching religious studies by Richard Newton, PhD, at the University of Alabama from his website *Sowing the Seed: Fruitful Conversations in Religion, Culture, and Teaching* <<http://%20/>>

Resources for Moving Classes Online <<https://www.intrust.org/blog/entryid/774/resources-for-moving-classes-online>> – List of resources compiled by In Trust Center for Theological Schools

Resources for Online Learning <<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/teaching-online/>> – Resources from the Wabash Center Resource Collection, links to resources at other religion and theology schools

Teaching Remotely in Times of Need – Presentation slides from Torrey Trust, PhD, at the University of Massachusetts Amherst

Tips for Teaching Online <<https://mailchi.mp/aarweb.org/tips-for-online-teaching>> – Tips and resources compiled by the AAR Teaching and Learning Committee

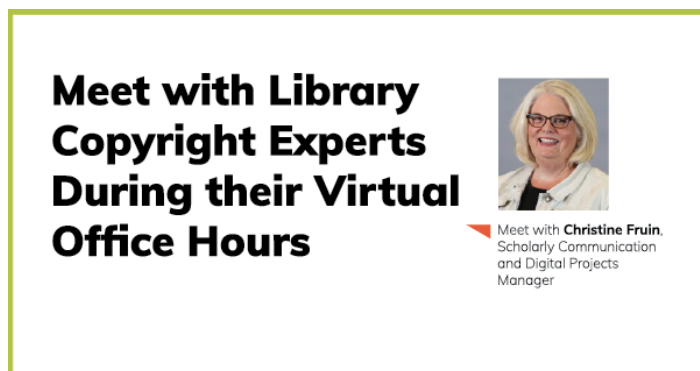
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POST

Meet with Library Copyright Experts During their Virtual Office Hours

March 13, 2020

Publications & Resources



Library Copyright Experts from across the country have joined together to provide resources for higher education, including college, research, community college, and special libraries. They will also host virtual office hours via Zoom beginning Friday, March 13 at 8 a.m. ET to answer copyright questions that are arising as schools are making the rapid shift to online courses.

Information on how and when to access expert advice through the Virtual Copyright Office can be found here <<https://tinyurl.com/wf9gzu6>>. Office hours will begin Friday, March 13 at 8 a.m. ET and are scheduled to run evenings and weekends.

Christine Fruin, Atla Scholarly

Communication and Digital Projects Manager, will be on the “desk” from noon to 2 p.m. ET today.

Atla members may also email Christine directly <<https://www.atla.com/about/contact-us/>> if they have copyright/licensing issues. As an attorney and a librarian, Christine has worked for over a decade promoting access to and use of diverse collections through the utilization of fair use, open access, and responsible licensing. She has assisted the online education offices of both the University of Illinois and the University of Florida when those initiatives were being launched.

The group is also working on Resources on Copyright & Emergency Remote Teaching & Research

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1la_jpcideau0hfi4tipz6eqpzz9jh5xo1kdbt0k8lda/edit>, which can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/v6dvmcb/> <<https://tinyurl.com/v6dvmcb/>>.

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POST

Take Part in a Survey for Academic Libraries and COVID-19

March 12, 2020

Publications & Resources

Many of us are feeling anxious and worried right now in the face of uncertainty around the situation with COVID-19. As travel is postponed, cancellations are announced, and toilet paper becomes scarce, we might feel helpless, unable to do anything to protect our loved ones. But there is one thing that we can do. As members of the library community, we know how important information is, particularly in a time of crisis.

Ithaka S+R is gathering information on academic libraries in the United States and their response to COVID-19. This survey will help contribute to the collective understanding of how libraries are responding to the situation of this pandemic.

The link to the survey

is: https://surveys.ithaka.org/jfe/form/SV_8qN8F2274hM BBBz

<https://surveys.ithaka.org/jfe/form/sv_8qn8f2274hm bbbz>

Please note: Submit only information for your own library.

Live results as surveys are submitted displayed at <https://ql.tc/aAaxhh>

<<https://ql.tc/aaaxhh>>

For questions, please email Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe and Christine Wolff-Eisenberg.

Ithaka S+R provides research and strategic guidance to help the academic and cultural communities serve the public good and navigate economic, technological, and demographic change. Learn more. <<https://sr.ithaka.org/>>

POST

Libraries and Chaplaincy Education – The Chaplaincy Innovation Lab Wants to Hear From You

March 12, 2020

Programs & Projects



Atla is partnering with the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab to conduct a brief survey of Atla members and how their libraries support the teaching and research of spiritual care. The survey, which is accessible here

https://brandeis.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/sv_4vjfnpcdeteejyl, will help both Atla members and the field of chaplaincy more broadly. The Chaplaincy Innovation Lab is looking to start a discussion around the following questions: What are the strengths of theological libraries and their holdings on chaplaincy spiritual care? What resources do faculty use now and what could they use in the future? How does chaplaincy education prepare students for the profession after graduation, and how can Atla members help faculty better prepare those students?

The results of the survey will be presented by the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab at Atla Annual 2020 <https://www.atla.com/eventshome/atlannual/> this June in Detroit, Michigan. The session will also invite an open conversation on how Atla member

libraries can best serve their institutions in supporting chaplaincy programs. As the field of chaplaincy grows and becomes ever more diverse in both its practitioners and communities served, the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab is eager to partner with Atla members in identifying resources that can support the pedagogy and research of spiritual care that is responsive to today's needs.

The Chaplaincy Innovation Lab sparks practical innovation in spiritual care. Founded in 2018, the Lab is a think tank, research hub, and networking partner for chaplains, educators, and researchers. You can learn more at [ChaplaincyInnovation.org](https://chaplaincyinnovation.org/) <<https://chaplaincyinnovation.org/>>, on Twitter [@ChaplainLab](http://twitter.com/chaplainlab) <<http://twitter.com/chaplainlab>>, at facebook.com/chaplainlab <<http://facebook.com/chaplainlab>>, and on LinkedIn <<https://www.linkedin.com/company/chaplaincy-innovation-lab>>.

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BACK

APPLY FOR THE DIVERSITY, EQUITY,
AND INCLUSION SCHOLARSHIP

POST

Apply for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship

by Donna Wells / March 11, 2020

Association News

The Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion offers an annual scholarship to students in accredited library schools in the United States and Canada.

The Atla Diversity Scholarship

We are looking for applicants with an open willingness to explore the possibility of a vocation in information science and religious studies and/or theology.

Atla will provide one scholarship in the amount of \$4,000 USD to a student who belongs to an underrepresented population and who is enrolled in an ALA-accredited master's program in library and information science.

The scholarship recipient also will be required to author and submit a brief newsletter article on a diversity topic of interest to them that relates to the study and/or profession of librarianship. The scholarship also includes the option of a travel grant (\$750 USD) to attend and participate in the following year's Atla Annual. The awardee can choose to participate in Atla Annual by presenting or creating a poster with the support of the members of the sponsoring Atla Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Award

- ▶ \$4,000 USD
- ▶ \$750 USD travel grant to attend Atla Annual 2021 in Forth Worth, Texas (optional)

Eligibility

- ▶ Applicant must belong to an underrepresented population (religious, racial, ethnic, gender identity, sexual orientation, etc.).
- ▶ Applicant must enroll and complete at least 6 credit hours in an ALA-accredited master's program in library and information science in North America in the 12 months following notification.
- ▶ Applicant may attend Atla Annual 2021 and participate with the support of the Atla Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in a presentation or poster session.
- ▶ Applicant must be an Atla individual or student member at the time of acceptance.

The application form can be completed and submitted here.

<https://forms.gle/owvexpwuuwml2df7a>

Additional information about the scholarship is available on the Atla website <<https://www.atla.com/membership/member-benefits/individual/diversity-scholarship/>>.

Applications must be received by June 1, 2020. The awardee will be notified by August 1, 2020. Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the program in which the recipient is enrolled.

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BACK

DETROIT SPOTLIGHT: TOP FIVE
THINGS TO SEE

POST

Detroit Spotlight: Top Five Things to See

by Ana Cackley / March 05, 2020

Atla Annual



Atla Annual 2020 <<https://www.atla.com/events/home/atlannual/>> is coming up, and we are excited to be in Detroit, Michigan, this year! In advance of the conference, we will be spotlighting some of the amazing things Detroit has to offer. This month, we are looking at some of the things you might like to see and do when not busy meeting other collectors and connectors in religion and theology.

Detroit Institute of Arts <<https://www.dia.org/>>

One of the largest art collections in the United States, this museum is a must-see. Permanent installations at the DIA include Diego Rivera's *Detroit Industry Murals* <<https://www.dia.org/riveracourt>>, which covers four walls and includes twenty-seven paintings of the history of Detroit. Rivera considered it his masterpiece. While we are in Detroit, the DIA will also have exhibitions such as *From Bruegel to Rembrandt: Dutch and Flemish Prints and Drawings from 1550 to 1700* and *Guests of Honor: Frida Kahlo and Salvador Dalí*. In addition, every Tuesday through Sunday there is a "Big Picture" Guided Tour <<https://www.dia.org/events/big-picture-guided-tour>> at 1 p.m., starting in the Great Hall, which is free with general admission. Check out some of these incredible works of art at one of the most beautiful museums in the world! The DIA is an eight-minute drive from our hotel, and general admission is \$14 for adults, \$9 for seniors, and \$8 for college students with ID.

Belle Isle Aquarium <<https://www.belleisleconservancy.org/belle-isle-aquarium>>

As the oldest aquarium in the country, Belle Isle Aquarium has been around since 1904. Although it closed due to economic difficulties in 2005, it reopened in 2012 and is more popular than ever! The famous architect Albert Kahn designed the facility, and it features an ornate arch over the entrance with spitting dolphins and an interior lined with green glass tiles. Belle Isle Aquarium lives within Belle Isle Park <<https://www.belleisleconservancy.org/>>, a 2.5-mile-long island park located in the

middle of the Detroit River. It is a sixteen-minute drive from the hotel. Admission is free and there is free parking, but if you are entering the park by car, you will need to purchase a Recreation Passport for \$9-\$11.



Photo Credit: Belle Isle Aquarium <http://detroitaquarium.weebly.com/>
<<http://detroitaquarium.weebly.com/>>

The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History <<https://www.thewright.org/>>

The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History holds the *world's* largest permanent exhibit of African American culture, and is definitely not something to miss. Founded in 1965, the Wright Museum includes both long- and short-term exhibitions. One of the temporary exhibitions which will be open while we are there is *Visions of Our 44th President*, a collective sculptural show of forty-four different artists and their life-size interpretations of President Barack Obama. Another exhibition you'll want to experience is *As We Rise*. The Wright Museum describes it as the central experience of the museum with over twenty galleries that allow you to travel over time, saying,

“The journey begins in Africa, the cradle of human life. Witness several ancient and early modern civilizations that evolved on the continent. Cross the Atlantic Ocean, experience the tragedy of the Middle Passage, and encounter those who resisted the horrors of bondage, emancipated themselves, and sometimes took flight by way of the Underground Railroad.”

The museum is only an eight-minute drive from the hotel, and admission is \$10 for adults and \$7 for seniors.

The Guardian Building <<https://www.guardianbuilding.com/>>

Want to see a National Historic Landmark? Visit Detroit’s “Cathedral of Finance”, also known as the Guardian Building. Built in the 1920s, this forty-story Art Deco skyscraper is full of history and grandeur. Mosaics, stained glass, blood-red marble – this building has it all, blending Native American, Aztec, and Arts & Crafts influences. The Pure Detroit shop in the lobby of the Guardian offers free tours every Saturday and Sunday <<https://puredetroit.rezgo.com/details/165894/pure-detroit-guardian-building-tour>>. Best of all, it’s only a six-minute walk from the hotel!

Pewabic Pottery <<https://www.pewabic.org/>>

One of the oldest continuously operating pottery studios in the country, Pewabic Pottery was founded in 1903. With classes, workshops, exhibitions, shows, and a shop, this pottery has some of the most beautiful ceramics in the nation. You can take a self-guided tour Monday through Friday to explore their collection and see artists practicing their craft, or if you are feeling fancy, you can arrange a group

tour and hands-on workshop in advance <<https://www.pewabic.org/pages/tour-hands-on-workshop>>. Self-guided tours are free, and there is free parking at the site. Pewabic Pottery is a fourteen-minute drive from the hotel.



Photo Credit: Pewabic Pottery <https://www.pewabic.org/pages/about>
<<https://www.pewabic.org/pages/about>>

We hope you're getting excited about Atla Annual 2020! Tune in next month when we will highlight some of the best places to eat in Detroit!

View our Statement about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Atla Annual 2020.
<<https://www.atla.com/blog/atla-annual-2020-coronavirus/>>

Share this article

POST

Statement on Atla Annual 2020 and Concerns About the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

March 05, 2020



Atla is monitoring the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and will continue to do so since its implications are changing daily. Our priority is the health and safety of everyone in the Atla community.

Erica Durham (Atla Annual 2020 Chair), Denise McFarlin (Atla Meeting Specialist), Gillian Harrison Cain (Atla Director of Member Programs), and Brenda Bailey-Hainer (Atla Executive Director) have written a statement concerning Atla Annual 2020 and the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Read the statement on Atla Annual 2020 and Concerns About the Coronavirus (COVID-19) <<https://www.atla.com/atla-annual-2020-coronavirus/>>.

We will continue to update the page <<https://www.atla.com/atla-annual-2020-coronavirus/>> and provide additional information as the situation develops.

We encourage everyone to follow the CDC recommendations <<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>> on preventing the spread of the virus. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. <<https://www.atla.com/about/contact-us/>>

POST

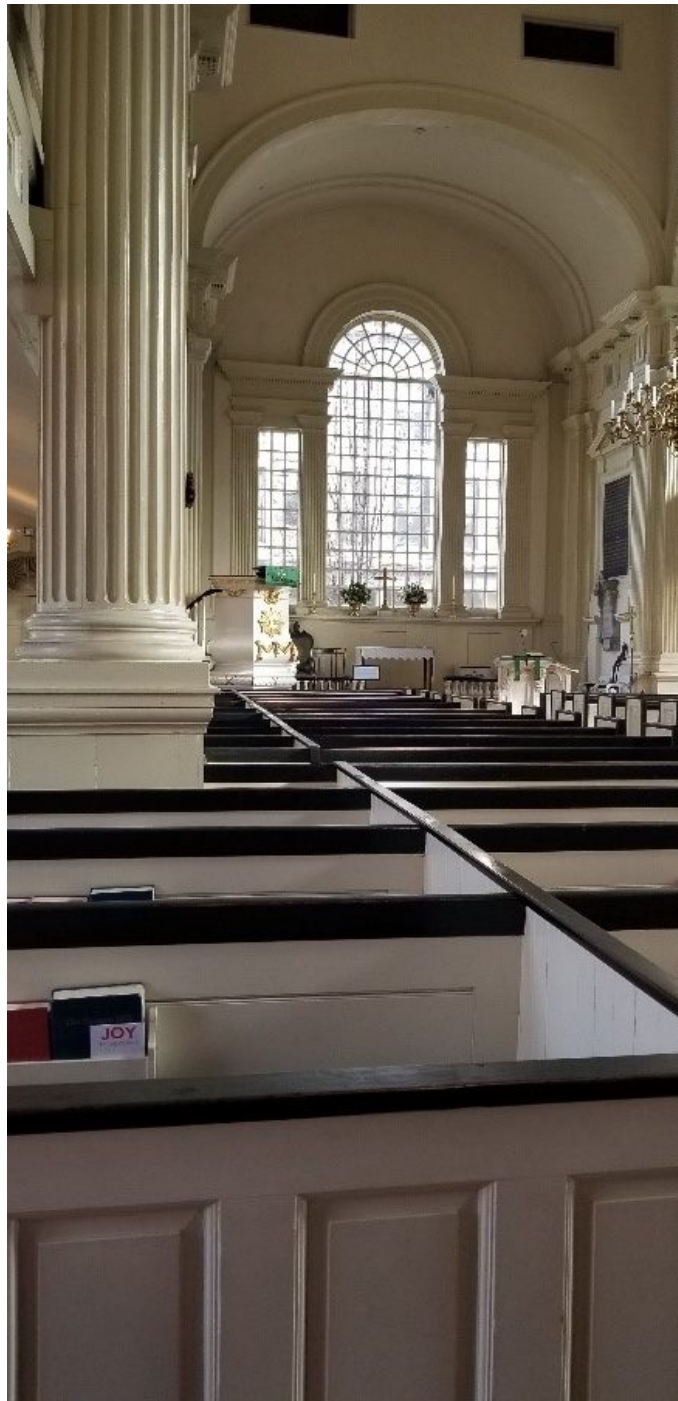
Notes from the Road: A Visit to Christ Church and the Athenaeum of Philadelphia

by Christine Fruin / March 03, 2020

Notes from the Road



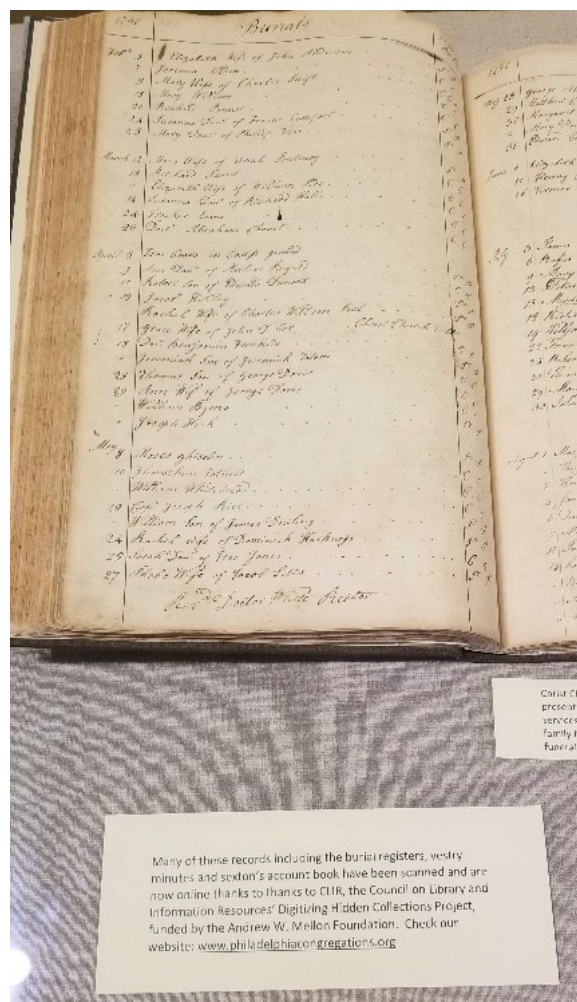
While in Philadelphia this past January to attend ALA Midwinter, I paid a visit to the Christ Church Preservation Trust <<https://christchurchphila.pastperfectonline.com/>> and the Athenaeum of Philadelphia <<http://www.philaathenaeum.org/>> where important digitization of church records is ongoing as part of a CLIR Grant awarded to Christ Church in 2018 <<https://www.atla.com/blog/atla-participates-in-clir-funded-digitization-project/>>. The Atla Digital Library is actively harvesting the metadata of this growing digital collection <<https://www.atla.com/blog/atla-digital-library-philadelphia/>>, and I welcomed the opportunity to see firsthand the origin of the records as well as where the scanning is taking place.



Interior of Christ Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Christ Church Archivist Carol Smith took me on a tour of Christ Church, one of the oldest churches in America and where many of our country's founders worshiped during its formative period. While on this tour, I even saw the pew where General, and later President, George Washington sat.

In a display in the lobby of the building that houses the archives office are examples of the physical records currently being digitized. These digitized records can currently be viewed and interacted with <<https://dl.atla.com/collections/christ-church>> utilizing an IIF viewer within the Atla Digital Library.

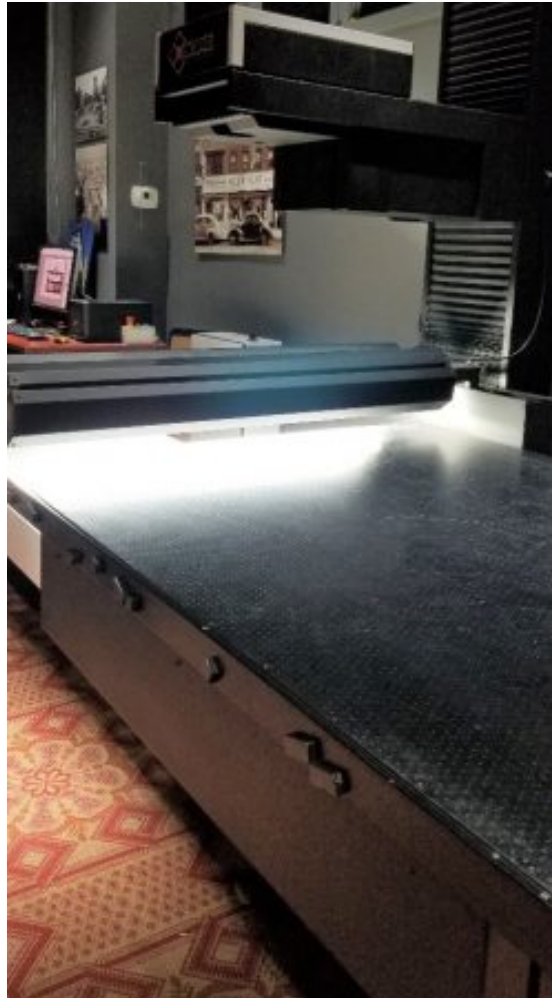


One of the many church records being scanned as part of the CLIR Grant project

Archivist Smith then took me to the Athenaeum to visit with the digitization staff there and to see the scanning center. Along the way, we walked through Independence National Historic Park, and she provided me an in-depth and fascinating tour of the historic sites within the Park.

Once at the Athenaeum, we visited the scanning center where I saw the one-ton flatbed scanner in action as well as the smaller Bookeye scanner that is used for the Christ Church project. I also received a tour of the special collections area and

got to peek at renderings of the United States Capitol Building as drawn by its first architect.



The very large scanner at the Athenaeum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

We concluded our visit at the Athenaeum with a tour of its library, where I learned about not only its mission and history as a member-driven library, but also about the many important historical and cultural persons who have been part of its history.



Library at the Athenaeum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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POST

'Theology Cataloging Bulletin' Seeks New Editor in Chief and Section Editor

February 28, 2020

Association News, Publications & Resources



The *Theology Cataloging Bulletin (TCB)*, an open access quarterly publication of Atla Open Press, seeks a new Editor in Chief as well as a new Section Editor for appointment to three-year terms commencing this June.

TCB contains information about new and changed Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and Library of Congress Classification (LCC) numbers compiled from the Library of Congress's monthly lists of newly approved additions, deletions, and changes in subject headings and classifications. It also includes upcoming training opportunities, a bibliography of recently published articles, as well as other information of interest to religion and theology catalogers.

The Editor in Chief is primarily responsible for overseeing the production of the quarterly issues and collaborating with the Section Editors to ensure collation of content. The Section Editor has primary responsibility for reviewing and reporting on the changes to the Library of Congress subject heading and classification numbers.

To view the full position description for the Editor in Chief as well as for instructions to apply, please visit the Atla Job Board <<https://www.atla.com/job/36/>>. To view the full position description for the Section Editor and instructions to apply, please visit the Atla Job Board <<https://www.atla.com/job/35/>>.

All current Individual and Retired members of Atla with a background and interest in cataloging are encouraged to apply. Review of applications will begin April 1, 2020, and appointments will be made by June 1, 2020.

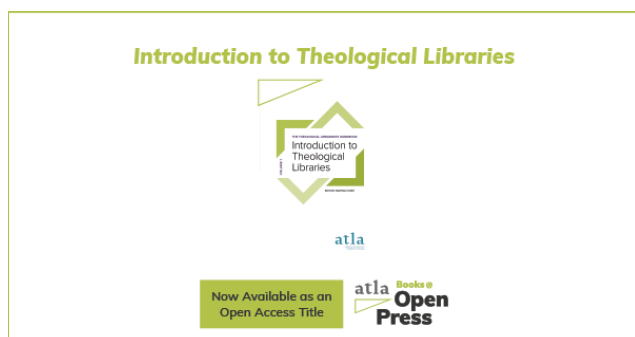
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Volume One of New Open Access Series from Atla, 'The Theological Librarian's Handbook,' is Now Available

by Christine Fruin / February 28, 2020

Press Release, Publications & Resources



Chicago, IL, February 28, 2020 — Atla, in collaboration with the International Theological Librarianship Education Task Force <<https://www.atla.com/about/committees-councils-task-forces/itle-taskforce/>> (ITLE), is pleased to announce the open access publication of the first volume <<https://books.atla.com/atlapress/catalog/book/34>> of a new series *The Theological Librarian's Handbook* <<https://books.atla.com/atlapress/catalog/series/theolibhandbooks>>. This series is a multi-volume guide to theological librarianship and is intended for use by theological and religious studies libraries staff who do not possess professional library training and others who want to learn more about the profession.

Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Executive Director of Atla, shared, “I’m excited that Atla Open Press has published this landmark book, which provides the single most comprehensive overview of the history and current state of theological librarianship globally. Readers will find it both enlightening and inspiring, and it will serve as a beacon to others considering a career in this field.”

The first volume, entitled *Introduction to Theological Libraries*

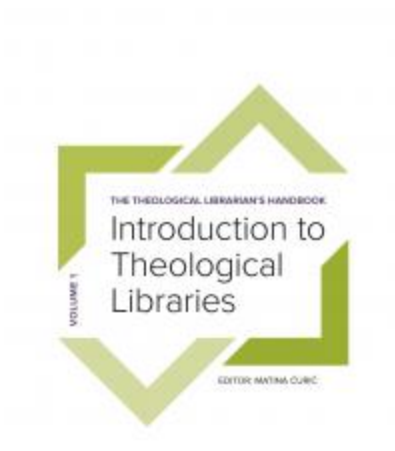
<https://books.atla.com/atlapress/catalog/book/34> introduces the reader to the world of theological librarianship and answers the basic questions:

- ▶ “What are theological libraries?”
- ▶ “Who are theological librarians and what possible career paths can they take?”
- ▶ “What are theological libraries like across the world?”

“This is a book I wish someone gave me when I started working in a theological library,” commented Matina Ćurić, editor of the first volume of the series. “Paths into theological librarianship, circumstances, and contexts in which we work are very diverse. The ITLE Task Force has discovered that many theological librarians around the world are working in isolation without any access to training or support from other colleagues in their countries. With this book series, we want to support these colleagues and offer them perspectives, advice, and best practices to build their collections and grow in their careers. It is an international effort that we hope will find a grateful audience worldwide, yield stronger cooperation between different theological libraries and library associations, and inspire many new initiatives, projects, and research.”

A call for proposals <https://www.atla.com/blog/call-for-proposals-new-edited-volume-on-administration-in-theological-libraries/> for the second volume on the subject of theological library administration is now open. The anticipated publication date for volume two of the series is Summer 2021.

Introduction to Theological Libraries is the second book published by Atla Open Press utilizing the software Editoria <https://editoria.pub/>, an open source book production platform from the Coko Foundation <https://coko.foundation/>. Atla appreciates the collaboration and support we received from the developers and designers at Editoria and Coko.



<<https://books.atla.com/atlapress/catalog/book/34>>All volumes of *The Theological Librarian's Handbook* series <<https://books.atla.com/atlapress/catalog/series/theolibhandbooks>> will be published by Atla Open Press <<https://books.atla.com>> under a CC-BY-NC license in PDF and EPUB formats. Print on demand copies are also available for order from the book's web page <<https://books.atla.com/atlapress/catalog/book/34>>.

About Atla

Established in 1946 as the American Theological Library Association, Atla is a membership association of librarians and information professionals, and a producer of research tools, committed to advancing the study of religion and theology. Atla's membership includes more than 800 individuals and libraries at academic institutions from diverse religious traditions and backgrounds. As a community of collectors and connectors, Atla works to promote worldwide scholarly communication in religion and theology by advancing the work of libraries and related information providers.

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POST

SCOOP: Open Source at Atla Open Press, A Peek Inside the Toolbox

by Race MoChridhe / February 28, 2020

Scholarly Communication, SCOOP



Readers of the books and journals produced by Atla Open Press

<https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/resources-for-librarianship/atla-open-press/> experience our commitment to open access every day through the wealth of knowledge and experience in theological librarianship that we make freely available. What is not always obvious is our commitment to open source software in the tools we use to bring every book and journal issue to life. It is a commitment that we share with many partners and colleagues across the scholarly publishing space (and beyond), who are contributing to an ever-expanding universe of innovative tools and platforms.

Why Open Source?

Every installation of software is derived from “source code” — the basic instructions that define what the application does. The source code to many common programs is the intellectual property of its developer, and the ordinary user is prohibited from modifying it, redistributing it, and in some cases even viewing it.

“Open source” software makes its source code available under an open license <https://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2020/02/how-to-choose-an-open-source-license/> that guarantees the user’s right to view, modify, and redistribute the code. “Free of license restrictions” doesn’t necessarily mean “free of charge,” but in practice much open source software is also available to download and run at no cost, and reducing expenses is a major reason why publishers (and many other kinds of institutions) have been moving toward open source solutions. The opportunity to customize the software for specialized tasks or workflows and the ability to fix problems in-house without being dependent on the software vendor or third-party support services are also major attractions.

While open source adopters save money upfront as against the purchase costs and licensing fees of commercial software, they have to be prepared to invest in other ways. While there are major open source projects that have achieved “turnkey” status, most are not out-of-the-box solutions. Open source software requires time and effort to implement and maintain, as well as teamwork and communication between users, developers, and system administrators.

“Open source initiatives foster community and, where proprietary software models often relegate the user to a passive role as “customer” and “consumer,” open source opens space for scholars, librarians, and stakeholders of all kinds to come into the development process.”

Those demands are also opportunities, however. Open source initiatives foster community and, where proprietary software models often relegate the user to a passive role as “customer” and “consumer,” open source opens space for scholars, librarians, and stakeholders of all kinds to come into the development process. Feedback, input, and contributions arrive from diverse quarters and often make software more responsive to user needs and more equitable in its representation of the communities that employ it. Open source is not just a new way of distributing and using software; it’s a way to pull new seats up to the table when making it.

The Tools Behind the Atla Open Press

One of our most exciting partnerships is with the Coko Foundation <https://coko.foundation/>, which is leading the development of a platform for academic monographs and edited collections called Editoria <https://editoria.pub/>. While there are excellent tools scholars use to write and edit journal articles or individual chapters together in the cloud (such as Fidus Writer <https://www.fiduswriter.org/> or Overleaf <https://www.overleaf.com/>), there have been few options for collaboratively creating whole books. Editoria offers a system in which multiple editors and authors can work together directly on the text from the first blank page all the way through to automated output of PDF and EPUB, without ever leaving their browser.

RELATED
NOTE

For managing book proposals, hosting published books online, and taking our journals from first submissions through to published issues, we employ two platforms from the Public Knowledge Project <https://pkp.sfu.ca/>— Open Journal Systems <https://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/> (OJS) for journals and Open Monograph Press

<https://pkp.sfu.ca/omp/> (OMP) for books. Both enable us to manage review processes, version control, and internal Press communications in one place. Both also power the outward-facing websites, hosting publications in multiple formats, maintaining archives, tracking analytics on downloads and readership, and receiving communication from readers and contributors.

Other Tools and Projects

OJS has worked well for our journals, but Janeway <https://janeway.systems/> offers an alternative platform fitted for Python-based, rather than PHP-based, environments. Similarly, while Editoria better suited our needs, Pressbooks <https://pressbooks.com/> is another strong platform for open book creation. Built on WordPress, it offers an accessible and flexible environment for structuring diverse kinds of books and exporting them to PDF, eBook formats, or interactive online installations. Many of Pressbooks' pre-configured theme options make it especially attractive for projects that focus on open educational resources (OERs).

Another WordPress-based project using commonplace tools to approach open digital scholarship in extraordinary ways is the journal *Southern Spaces* <https://southernspaces.org/>, which uses its platform to synthesize rigorous scholarly content with a journalistic style that makes new work public-facing, approachable, and eminently social-media-shareable. Their digital-first approach to publishing also supports content with integrated, dynamic digital features, such as GIS mapping, that enrich the text and offer opportunities for readers to interact with datasets directly.

Several projects are pushing the boundaries of interactive “digital monographs” in the same way. Scalar <https://scalar.me/anvc/> and Fulcrum <https://www.fulcrum.org/about/> are major tools in this area, offering features that support long-form outputs that are multimedia-rich, involve live data inputs or interactive engagement with data sets, present in nonlinear formats, or otherwise benefit from the unique possibilities

of a digital-first publishing philosophy. Manifold <<https://manifoldapp.org/>> is a similar multimodal publishing platform, with an emphasis on reader engagement and tools for creating community and driving conversation around published work.

The PubPub <<https://www.pubpub.org/>> platform likewise aims at what it calls “community publishing,” borrowing ideas from software development (users of GitHub <<https://github.com/>> will find PubPub’s workflows familiar) to promote collaborative approaches to integrated and ongoing drafting, reviewing, and publishing. The platform has a strong presence in communities that incorporate extensive pre-print and public review practices into their workflow, as in many fields in the sciences, and it is often used for collaborating on technical documentation as well.

Further Reading

The projects highlighted here barely scratch the surface of developments in open-source tools for scholarly communication. MIT Press released its *Mind the Gap: A Landscape Analysis of Open Source Publishing Tools and Platforms* <<https://mitpress.mit.edu/blog/mind-the-gap>> last summer (using PubPub). This report provides the most recent big-picture treatment of all available open-source publishing software today. Charles Watkinson’s guidance on navigating the array of options <<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/leap.1185>> is quite helpful also when trying to select a tool, particularly for eBook creation.

The Library Publishing Coalition’s *Library Publishing Directory* <<https://librarypublishing.org/lp-directory/>> takes metrics on the use of different platforms across library publishing programs every year, and thus offers a valuable resource for seeing adoption patterns, use cases, and generally gauging the activity level of different development communities.

From a more strategic viewpoint, the open access advocacy coalition SPARC has put out both a Landscape Analysis <<https://sparcopen.org/our-work/landscape-analysis/>> of current trends in scholarly publishing infrastructure (especially among major

commercial players in the space) and a Roadmap for Action <<https://sparcopen.org/our-work/roadmap-for-action/>> for scholar-led and community-driven approaches to developing infrastructure.

About Scoop

The SCOOP, Scholarly COmmunication and Open Publishing, is a monthly column published to inform Atla members of recent developments, new resources, or interesting stories from the realm of scholarly communication and open access publishing.

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POST

Continuing Interreligious Dialogue Since 1893: Atla Staff Attend Chicago Interfaith Fair in 2020

by Margot Lyon / February 26, 2020

Association News



The city of Chicago is a historic site for the global interfaith movement. In 1893, the city of Chicago hosted the World Columbian Exposition, which served as the birthplace of the 1893 World's Parliament of Religions. Held on the shores of Lake Michigan, the World's Parliament of Religions

<https://parliamentofreligions.org/parliament/new-chicago-1893/new-chicago-1893> marked the first formal gathering of representatives of many global spiritual traditions. Today, the 1893 Parliament is recognized as the birth of formal interreligious dialogue worldwide.

With the support of a grant from the Templeton Foundation and the partners in our network, the Parliament of the World's Religions continued the spirit of interreligious gatherings by hosting a local Chicago Interfaith Fair on Thursday, February 6, 2020. Margot Lyon, Atla Director of Business Development, and Cristina Ochoa, Atla Product Specialist, attended the event.

Interfaith Organizations

Here are some highlights of the organizations represented.

Interfaith Youth Core <<https://www.ifyc.org/>>

IFYC is a national nonprofit working towards an America where people of different faiths, worldviews, and traditions can bridge differences and find common values to build a shared life together.

Arise Chicago <<https://www.arisechicago.org/>>

A Leader in the Faith-Labor Movement: In response to the need for systemic change, Arise Chicago has partnered with several religious, community, labor, and academic community partners to seek changes in public policy which will lead to a fuller measure of God's justice in the workplace.

Niagara Foundation <<https://www.niagarafoundation.org/>>

Niagara Foundation strives to promote social cohesion by fostering civic conversations and sustained relationships between people of different cultures and faiths.

Faith In Place <<https://www.faithinplace.org/>>

Faith in Place empowers Illinois people of all faiths to be leaders in caring for the Earth, providing resources to educate, connect, and advocate for healthier communities. Since 1999, Faith in Place has worked with over 1,000 houses of worship throughout Illinois to protect common land, water, and air.

Spiritual Playdate <<https://spiritualplaydate.com/>>

Spiritual Playdate is an inclusive, interfaith web-based program that supports fun, engaging, social, and emotional learning while building the bridges of acceptance through group "Playdates" in the home or elsewhere.

Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants <<https://www.icdichicago.org/>>

The Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants is a nonprofit, faith-based organization of staff and volunteers called to respond actively and publicly to the suffering of all individuals and communities affected by immigration detention, deportation, and post-detention through pastoral care, advocacy, public witness, and other activities.

OMNIA Institute for Contextual Leadership <<https://www.omnialeadership.com/>>

The OMNIA Institute for Contextual Leadership is a global leadership training and consulting program serving religious and civic leaders who are committed to solving society's most intractable problems, such as racism, extremism, and economic justice.

Hyde Park & Kenwood Interfaith Council <<https://hpkinterfaith.org/>>

The Interfaith Council is an association of congregations and religious and spiritual bodies, founded in the Hyde Park and Kenwood neighborhoods in 1911 (originally as a council of churches, and thereafter as an interfaith association). Their purpose is to provide effective channels for cooperative expression of shared concern for the well-being of the communities in which member organizations are situated.

The InterReligious Institute (IRI) at Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS)

<<https://iri.ctschicago.edu/>>

The InterReligious Institute (IRI) at Chicago Theological Seminary is devoted to courageous conversations, challenging questions, and innovative action. Through the intersections of academia, theology, and public dialogue, they offer curricular, co-curricular, and public initiatives. Founded in 2017 with generous support from the Henry Luce Foundation, their mission is to create a more just and pluralistic society, where everyone has space to breathe. Yasmine El-Abou-Kheir, Atla member and Director of the CTS library, attended the fair and was one of the IRI representatives at the table.

McCormick Theological Seminary <<https://www.mccormick.edu/>>

For 190 years, McCormick has been a progressive leader within the Reformed tradition, committed to fostering a community of Christian leadership that serves diverse ministries and congregations in a challenging and complex world. Through academic excellence, critical reflection, and transforming witness, McCormick Theological Seminary uniquely equips excellent Church leaders for faithful, inclusive, and liberating ministries in God's world.

Did you or your institution do something to celebrate World Interfaith Harmony Week? We would welcome the opportunity to hear more

<<https://www.atla.com/about/contact-us/>>.

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POST

Call for Your Best Ideas: Best Practices for Promoting Research Tools to Alums and Beyond

by Margot Lyon / February 24, 2020

Atla Annual



At Atla Annual 2020 <<https://www.atla.com/events/home/atlannual/>> in June, Margot Lyon, Director of Business Development, is moderating a panel entitled “After They Graduate: Best Practices for Promoting Research Tools to Alums and Beyond.” Ahead of that session, we would welcome your thoughts on the following topics by April 1, 2020:

- ▶ Does your library offer research tools and databases to alums? Local clergy? Other groups?
- ▶ How do you decide what to offer, and what are some best practices for licensing, promotion, and use of the materials?
- ▶ What are the challenges and opportunities in this space?
- ▶ Would you be willing to talk to Atla staff further and possibly participate in the panel?

BACK

ATLA DIGITAL LIBRARY WELCOMES
3 NEW CONTRIBUTORS!

POST

Atla Digital Library Welcomes 3 New Contributors!

by Christy Karpinski / February 21, 2020

Research Tools



We are pleased to welcome three new contributors to the Atla Digital Library <<https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/member-projects-and-programs/digital-library/>>! We have added collections from Concordia Theological Seminary, Z. Smith Reynolds

Library at Wake Forest University, and the Catholic Research Resources Alliance.

Concordia Theological Seminary Saarinen's Village – The Concordia Campus Through Time



<<https://dl.atla.com/concern/works/cr56n9460>>

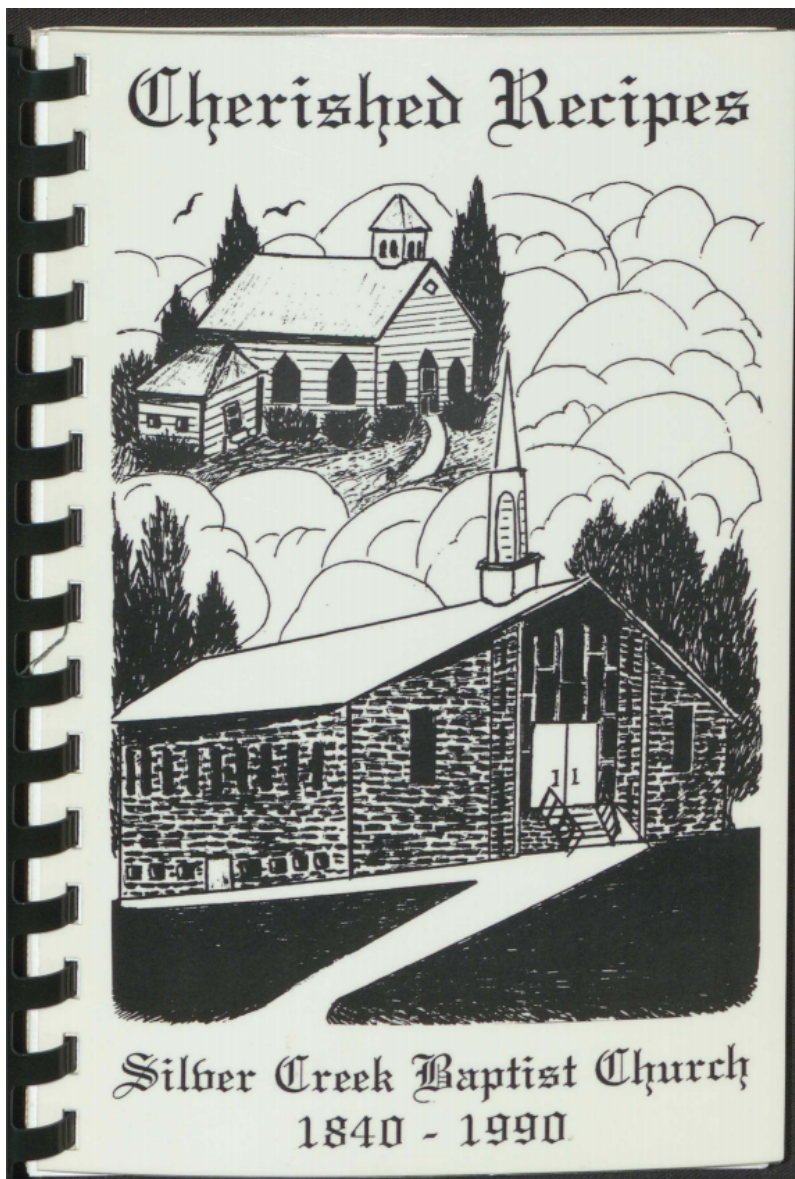
In 1953, the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod commissioned the world-renowned Finnish-American architect Eero Saarinen to design a complete campus for Concordia Senior College. Saarinen believed that “a village of the North European type” would provide “a quiet, unified environment into which the students could withdraw to find a complete, balanced life and yet one which is related to the outside world.” The result is a campus that first served Concordia Senior College (1957-1977) and now serves Concordia Theological Seminary (1977-present).

This digital collection documents in pictures and text how the campus was built, expanded, and used during the more than fifty years it has served to form pastors, deaconesses, and others for service to God and His church.

See the full collection in the Atla Digital Library here.

<<https://dl.atla.com/collections/saarinens-village-the-concordia-campus-through-time>>

Z. Smith Reynolds Library North Carolina Baptist Church Records

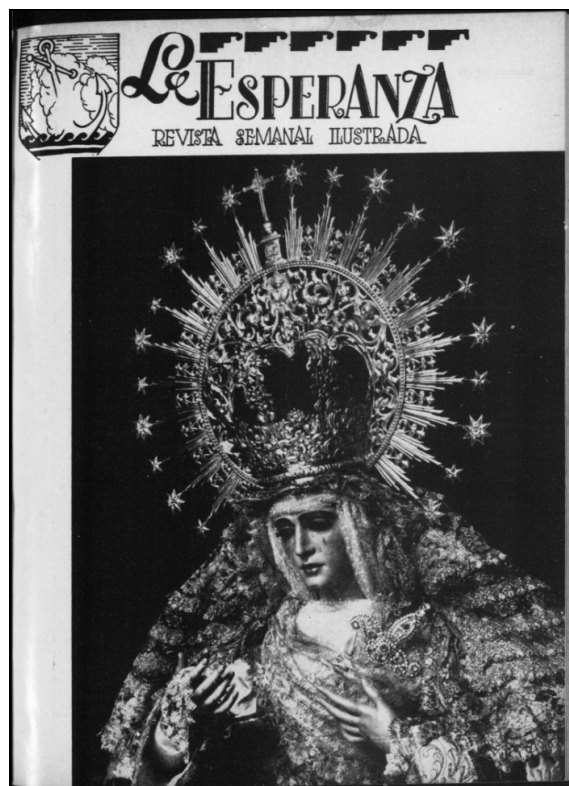


<<https://dl.atla.com/concern/works/9880w208s>>

The North Carolina Baptist Church Records collection contains material on 118 North Carolina Baptist churches (some dating back to the 1700s) selected from the NC Baptist Historical Collection. Objects digitized include original records, photocopies of records, and microfilmed records. The collection may contain timelines of constitutional dates, associate memberships, and any name changes, divisions, or mergers the church may have gone through; newspaper clippings; brief historical sketches; lists of former and current pastors; church directories; and photographs.

See the full collection in the Atla Digital Library here. <<https://dl.atla.com/collections/north-carolina-baptist-church-records>>

Catholic Research Resources Alliance La Esperanza



La Esperanza was a national Catholic Spanish-language publication in Los Angeles, California. Sponsored by the Claretians, the weekly magazine began in 1929 and ended in 1955. The publication's content focused on Catholic topics relevant to the United States Spanish-speaking population. Directed toward the Mexican community, the magazine printed many articles about the Church-State crisis as well as news from the homeland. This transnational viewpoint provides a unique perspective for the reader. This exceptional publication offers a great opportunity for scholars to uncover the Spanish-speaking communities' activities during the first half of the twentieth century.

See the full collection in the Atla Digital Library here. <<https://dl.atla.com/collections/la-esperanza>>

You can see all of these collections and the over 97,000 works in the Atla Digital Library here: <https://dl.atla.com> <<https://dl.atla.com>>

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BACK

2019 SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS
AVAILABLE IN OPEN ACCESS

POST

2019 Summary of Proceedings Available in Open Access

by Miranda Bennett / February 20, 2020

Publications & Resources

Atla Summary of Proceedings

atla Summary of Proceedings
Summary of Proceedings
Miranda Bennett
2020

Now Available as an Open Access Title

atla Summary of Proceedings

I am pleased to announce the publication of the *Summary of Proceedings* for Atla Annual 2019 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The *Proceedings* is the official record of presentations, from plenary keynotes to conversation groups to posters, offered at the conference, and it gives you a taste of the variety of voices that contributed to this important moment in our ongoing conversation about theological librarianship. As a fully open access publication, the *Proceedings* makes the outstanding work of Atla members and friends available to a global audience, and I encourage you to share its contents widely.

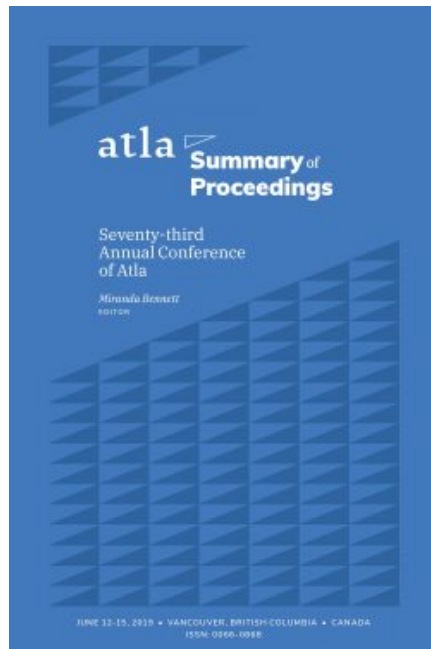
This marks the end of my term as the first member editor of the *Proceedings*, and I am gratified by the progress Atla has made toward becoming a leader in open access publishing and advancing its vision to serve as “the hub of worldwide scholarly communication in theology and religion.” I am pleased to be handing off editorial responsibilities to my dear Atla friend Kris Veldheer, and I look forward to seeing where she and all of you take this publication in years to come.

As the 2019 *Proceedings* are published, I would like to thank the Atla staff who continue to improve publishing workflows and shepherd submissions through them, especially Tawny Burgess, Christine Fruin, and Race MoChridhe, and, of course, all the writers whose work appears in it.

How to Access

The Summary of Proceedings can be found here: <https://serials.atla.com/proceedings/index> <<https://serials.atla.com/proceedings/index>>.

Members, as well as Atla Annual attendees who did not opt-out of receiving a print copy, will receive a printed copy of the *Proceedings*. Print editions will be shipped to 2018-2019 members in March. Members may also view the *Proceedings* from 2011 to 2019 at the My Atla Web Portal <<https://my.atla.com/>> under the Members Only tab.



<<https://serials.atla.com/proceedings>>

Non-members or members seeking additional print copies may order the printed edition at \$60 USD for domestic and \$80 USD international per volume. Contact US <<https://www.atla.com/about/contact-us/>> for more information on how to order.

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POST

Atla Board of Directors Members Elected for 2020-2023

by Gillian Harrison Cain / February 18, 2020

Press Release, Association News, Board of Directors



Chicago, IL, February 18, 2020 – Michelle Spomer, Karl Stutzman, Leslie A. Engelson, and Kerrie Burn have been elected to serve on the Atla Board of Directors. Atla members elected the four candidates to serve a three-year term from 2020 to 2023, subject to the membership's confirmation of the Board Secretary's report at Atla Annual 2020 <<https://www.atla.com/eventshome/atlannual/>>. Approximately 44.69% of eligible members voted.

Michelle Spomer



Michelle Spomer is the Donald G. Miller Librarian and Director of the Clifford E. Barbour Library at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. An incumbent, she has served on the Atla Board of Directors since 2016.

Previously, she chaired the Conference Committee

<https://www.atla.com/about/committees-councils-task-forces/conference-committee/> and has served as President of the Southern California Theological Library Association (SCATLA).

In her election statement, she shared about her recent experience serving on the Board. “I believe that the biggest strength of Atla is the membership. I am constantly grateful for the diversity of institutions, traditions, and opinions that are represented in Atla, all brought together by the pursuit of religious and theological librarianship and scholarship. As a Board member, it’s my goal to listen to and engage with Atla members in order to inform and enrich Board discussions.”

Karl Stutzman



Karl Stutzman is the Director of Library Services at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana. He currently serves as secretary of Small Libraries Interest Group <https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/groups/ig/sl原因-small-libraries-interest-group/> and was the founding chair of the Emerging Technology Interest Group (2013-2014). Outside of Atla, he serves on the Executive Committee for the Private Academic Library Network of Indiana Board (2018-2020).

He shared about the current climate and the value of diversity in an association, “... Atla remains a space where I can cross boundaries and build strong relationships with other ‘connectors and collectors in religion and theology’ regardless of politics, religion, ethnicity, or lifestyle. The focus of our association on a common passion for theological librarianship helps us to build bridges and incorporate broad diversity.”

Leslie A. Engelson



Leslie A. Engelson is the Metadata Librarian for University Libraries at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky. She currently serves on the Atla Open Press Advisory Council in her role as the Editor in Chief of *Theology Cataloging Bulletin* <<https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/resources-for-librarianship/atla-open-press/tcb/>> and has been a longtime member of the Technical Services Interest Group <<https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/groups/ig/tsig/>> (2004-present). She most recently chaired the Tellers Committee <<https://www.atla.com/about/board/tellers-committee/>> (2016-2017) as well as the Conference Committee (2012-2013).

A member for over twenty years, she explains her experience as being “a place of professional growth with colleagues who have become friends.” She also shared, “... I look forward to engaging in thoughtful and intentional conversations that help move Atla forward as ‘the hub of worldwide scholarly communication in theology and religion.’”

Kerrie Burn



Kerrie Burn is the Library Manager for Mannix Library at Catholic Theological College at the University of Divinity in Melbourne, Australia. She serves on the International Theological Librarianship Education Task Force <https://www.atla.com/about/committees-councils-task-forces/itle-taskforce/> and is a member of the Roman Catholic Denominational Group <https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/groups/dg/roman-catholic/>. She currently is a member of the Melbourne Diocesan Historical Commission, Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand, and the Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association.

On why she initially joined Atla, “The University is an institutional member of Atla, and recently became the first institution outside North America to contribute to Atla <<https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/member-projects-and-programs/digital-library/>> Digital Library. Engaging more with Atla arose from my desire to contribute to projects with international colleagues, and was based on the belief that theological and religious studies librarians around the world share many of the same concerns and aspirations.”

The Nominating Committee <<https://www.atla.com/about/board/nominating-committee/>> and the Board of Directors <<https://www.atla.com/about/board/>> express their appreciation to all the candidates who agreed to be on the slate and for their many efforts on behalf of the Association.

About Atla

Established in 1946 as the American Theological Library Association, Atla is a membership association of librarians and information professionals, and a producer of research tools, committed to advancing the study of religion and theology. Atla’s membership includes more than 800 individuals and libraries at academic institutions from diverse religious traditions and backgrounds. As a community of collectors and connectors, Atla works to promote worldwide scholarly communication in religion and theology by advancing the work of libraries and related information providers.

Press Contact

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