



From BETH 2011: The Central Library in Amsterdam (photo courtesy Brenda Bailey-Hainer).

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It's Here! TLM--October 2011

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

Be sure to email your ideas, photos, stories, and other items to scorkery@atla.com so we can feature them on the TLM website (<http://www.atla.com/MEMBERS/PROGRAMS/TLM/Pages/default.aspx>).

TLM Cartoon Contest

The Cartoon Caption Contest is back. Submit your own caption ideas as well as those of your students and faculty by Tuesday, November 1, 2011--and you could win \$100.

From the President

ATLA and "The Work of the People"



"God, make us into athletes of virtue." This phrase was a part of a prayer spoken by a congregant in a Sunday morning class at a church that I recently visited for the first time. The quoted phrase was for me part of a day of renewed awareness of ATLA's importance, not only to congregational reading and reflection, but also to congregational prayer.

In a conversation later that morning, the teacher of the class shared with me his regular use of ATLAS® for ALUM to research the scholarly literature on a biblical passage before teaching texts on Sunday (his graduate school's access is currently funded by Lilly Endowment Inc.). This particular day, the teacher's class was on the second chapter of Acts of the Apostles, and he (artfully, I thought) interwove into the class' conversation a number of historical and literary insights from professional and scholarly articles available in full-text through ATLAS®. Among the insights that I recognized were those gleaned from Gregory Sterling's 1994 JBL article on the "summary narratives" in Acts 2:41-47, et al., and their apologetic portrayal of the early Jerusalem Christians as "athletes of virtue"--a proverbial phrase signifying conventional and idealized depictions of religious and philosophical communities in the ancient world. The Sunday school teacher did not mention the ATLAS® article by name, but, by the end of the class, ancient conventions related to communal friendship and rigorous piety were both recognized in the ancient biblical text, and impressed upon the minds of the present-day assembly--so much so that a congregant intoned "athletes of virtue" in a group prayer for divine grace to share possessions and to be unified in faith.

Excellent sermons, classes, and prayers occur all the time, of course, without recourse to ATLA products, but this experience reminded me that reflective reading--and the tools that make it possible--support the liturgical work of prayer among God's people. This experience also confirmed for me the high value of our association's efforts to create "excellent research tools supporting the study of religion and theology . . . to meet the needs of . . . clergy and laypeople," and to make these accessible "at a reasonable expenditure of funds, time, and resources" (ATLA Organizational Ends 2 & 2.1--<http://www.atla.com/about/who/Pages/MissionStatement.aspx>).

-- John B. Weaver



From the Executive Director

Whither Innovation?

Lately, innovation has been my main preoccupation. I've been reading *The Innovator's DNA* (<http://innovatorsdna.com/books-on-innovation/the-innovators-dna/>), *The Ten Faces of Innovation* (<http://www.tenfacesofinnovation.com/thebook/index.htm>), and *Where Good Ideas Come*

From (<http://www.research-live.com/features/where-do-good-research-ideas-come-from/?/4005247.article>). In September, I attended a national summit, Innovation for Associations, and participated in a Society for Scholarly Publishing event, Innovation, Collaboration and Globalization. At ATLA headquarters, we shuffled some responsibilities, created a couple new interdepartmental teams, and freed up some staff time just to "think" and share ideas in order to foster an innovation environment.

In academic settings, innovation may not always be easy. An aspiring innovator often must run the gauntlet of bureaucracy, limited funding and time frames for change that stretch out into eternity. In current economic times, there is rarely an opportunity to add new positions or allocate funds for outside consultants to think creatively about what we do. Ironically, however, the economic climate might also work in our favor. It turns out that innovation is highly correlated with resource scarcity.

Still, there is ample opportunity to innovate. Four behavioral skills of an innovator are questioning, observing, networking and experimenting. All of these can be accomplished with relatively little expense. Start by asking a "What if..." question. Instead of asking "How do we get Band-Aids to stick better?", Johnson & Johnson changed the question to: "What would it look like if Band-Aids couldn't fall off?" The answer turned out to Liquid Band-Aid. Observing faculty and students in their native environments--in addition to in the library--is relatively easy, and would provide valuable insight as to what their day-to-day behaviors are. It's easy to expand your networking opportunities by attending a meeting of a group you've never interacted with before--say, the local crop dusters, spelunkers or elevator engineers. Flashes of innovation often come from aligning perspectives or ideas from disparate disciplines. And finally, many experiments can be cheap. Staff an information desk in the student commons or the local coffee shop. Use texting to instigate a "flash" information literacy session or use Foursquare to illustrate where librarians really roam.

Throwing the questions and observations into one pot and mixing them with new flavors drawn from a broadened network of contacts, then using it to craft some experiments would help us all look at our library services in new and innovative ways. I know we'll be crafting some new ideas and experiments ourselves here at ATLA. We'll let you know when inspiration happens.

--Brenda Bailey-Hainer



BETH participants in the entrance to the University of Amsterdam's special collections (photo courtesy Brenda Bailey-Hainer).

BETH 2011

Brenda Bailey-Hainer, ATLA Executive Director, attended the 40th General Assembly of Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie (BETH) in Amsterdam, Netherlands, on September 3-7. The theme of the meeting was Religious Diversity: Past, Present and Future in Theological Librarianship. Nearly 30 participants from 13 countries attended BETH, which was held primarily at The Central Library in Amsterdam. The group visited the University of Amsterdam Library, where they toured the special collections area and saw treasures from the Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana and the Mennonitica collections. Guest speakers over the course of the event included several researchers who use social media as part of their research and who highlighted the challenges they face when citing digital material that may be ephemeral. Representatives from Brill and the University of Amsterdam Press talked about new models for publishing, and other speakers provided information on OCLC services, GlobeTheoLib, and the future of digital humanities. Discussion during the General Assembly meetings indicated that theological libraries in Europe are facing many of the same challenges as those in the U.S., such as concerns about budget and personnel cuts, digitizing collections and creating digital repositories, and replacing outdated ILS software.

ATLA 2012 Annual Conference Welcome

Experience a Desert Retreat

The 2012 ATLA Annual Conference (<http://www.atla.com/MEMBERS/CONFERENCE/Pages/default.aspx>) promises to be an exceptional experience. The novel resort setting provides the perfect backdrop for the invigorating and challenging programming we have planned.

Soar through western skies and arrive at a place of spiritual awakening and worship--a desert retreat. The Hyatt Regency Gainey Ranch is a resort like none other: beautiful spacious rooms, date palms, and colorful bougainvillea-covered grounds uniquely interspersed with acres of swimming pools, fountains, and waterways among endless emerald fairways. Within its unique confines, our meals will be taken together as a group, offering even more opportunities to network than ever before.

Take time from your busy life to reconnect with other theological librarians while you learn, explore, and relax. Unwind as you gaze out upon majestic purple mountains and colorful orange turquoise sky-cloud formations. Celebrate a beautiful and adventure-filled land that was only a territory 100 years ago.

June in Scottsdale is a time when everyone seeks the shelter of refreshing home pools, indoor sports structures, magnificent water parks, and air-conditioned mega malls. Discover Arizona history, with its Native American and Hispanic roots, frontier battlefields, and Catholic missions. Fall in love with our picturesque roadways, surrounded by massive boulders and saguaro cactus.

The local hosts want this retreat to be one of your most memorable getaways. On Wednesday, we plan to venture out on a combined excursion to the Desert Botanical Garden and the Heard Museum; or perhaps you'll accompany us on a visit to another architectural wonder—Taliesin West. These activities, in conjunction with our pre-conference sessions, will provide a rejuvenating start to your stay.

The opening reception and centennial celebration will offer a warm welcome to Arizona. As the week progresses, we hope you will take part in several evening jaunts: Old Scottsdale, resort gondola rides, or relaxing swims. We will conclude our time together on Saturday, savoring each other's company for a final memorable evening. As you begin putting together your itinerary, look for our web link or Facebook site to access updated excursion and conference information.

YAAT'AHAE QUAASINE' ("Welcome, hope you are well" in Navajo)

-- 2012 Local Host Committee, Theological Cooperative of Arizona (TLCA)



TLCA—Front row, left to right: Marcia Gammon (International Baptist College and Seminary), Shirley Anderson (Arizona Christian University), John Rose (American Indian College), Darcy Peletich (Diocese of Phoenix), Nita Mailander (Grand Canyon University). Back row, left to right: Doug Olbert (Phoenix Seminary), Marilyn Howard (Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records), Julie Hines (Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Arizona Campus), Rachel Leket-Mor (Arizona State University), Sean McNulty (Arizona Christian University), D. Glenn Simmons (Wayland Baptist University, Phoenix Campus), Jim Santeford (Phoenix Seminary)

2012 Conference Proposal Submissions

Deadline Extended to Midnight on Sunday, October 9, 2011

The Annual Conference Committee and the Education Committee eagerly await your proposed pre-conference workshops, in-conference workshops, papers, panel presentations, interest group presentations, conversation groups, and posters or other special sessions. For more detailed information on each type of session and to access the proposal form, visit the Call for Session Proposals page (<http://www.atla.com/Members/conference/Pages/CallforSessionProposals.aspx>) on the ATLA website.



ATLA Newsletter Contact Information:
Sara Corkery, Communications Specialist
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Board Nominations

The Nominating Committee of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) has named its slate of eight candidates for the four places to be filled on the Board of Directors. The term of office is three years, 2012-2015.

In accordance with ATLA Bylaws (Article 4.3 Board of Directors. Nomination and Balloting) the membership is to be notified of the names of the candidates in writing no later than October 15. The candidates are (in order drawn by lot):

- Christopher Anderson, Methodist Librarian and Coordinator of Special Collections, Drew University
- Timothy Lincoln, Director of the Library, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Stitt Library
- David Mayo, Director of the Library, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte Campus
- H. D. (Sandy) Ayer (Mr.), Director of Library Services and Archivist, Ambrose University College and Ambrose Seminary
- Melody Layton McMahan, Director of the Library, Catholic Theological Union
- Carrie M. Hackney, Assistant Director and Divinity Librarian, Howard University
- Blake Walter, Director of the Library, Northern Seminary
- Clair Powers, Technical Services/Reference Librarian, Phillips Theological Seminary

The Nominating Committee members are: Ellen Frost (chair), H.D. Sandy Ayer and Joanna Hause. The Secretary of the Association is Carrie M. Hackney.

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

The 2012 election will be performed via electronic ballot and ATLA has contracted with Survey and Ballot Systems, Inc. to administer the web election process. Members will be notified via e-mail when the poll opens and be provided with complete information on the voting process. Members who do not have e-mail addresses on file with ATLA will receive a paper ballot and instructions.

For questions on voting procedures, please contact Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Executive Director, at bbailey-hainer@atla.com. For questions about your membership status, please contact a Membership representative, at memberrep@atla.com. Brenda can also be reached at (888) 665-2852.

Yours sincerely,

Carrie M. Hackney, Divinity Librarian
Howard University School of Divinity

Member News

ICC Grants Available

ATLA members are invited to apply for an international collaboration grant for 2012. Grants of up to \$2,000 are available to foster collaboration between ATLA institutions and institutions abroad. More information about the grants, reports from previous recipients, and the application form can be found at <http://www.atla.com/Members/programs/awards/Pages/International-Collaboration-Grant.aspx>. The deadline for applications is October 31, 2011.

ATLA Reception at AAR/SBL

Are you attending the American Academy of Religion (AAR) [http://www.aarweb.org/meetings/Annual_Meeting/Current_Meeting/default.asp] or Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) [<http://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/annualmeeting.aspx>] annual meetings in San Francisco this November 19-22? Brenda Bailey-Hainer, ATLA's Executive Director, and ATLA's staff invite you to join us for refreshments and fellowship. Feel free to bring a colleague or two. For greater scheduling flexibility and convenience, we will host two receptions in our hospitality suite:

Marriott Marquis, 55 Fourth Street, San Francisco, CA

Saturday, November 19: 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Monday, November 21: 7:00 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Important: we will not be able to share the suite number until Friday, November 18. We will send you an e-mail and also provide this information at our exhibit booth, number 251. Please RSVP to rrybak@atla.com by November 17 with your name, the name of your guest(s), and the reception(s) you will attend.

ATLA's American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meetings booth number is 251. Exhibit hall hours are November 19-22 (Saturday-Monday), 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Job Postings Online

Are you in the market for a new position? Be sure to check the ATLA web listings (<http://www.atla.com/Members/development/jobs/Pages/default.aspx>) to see who is hiring now.

Routine Maintenance Reminder

Routine maintenance will be performed on ATLA systems on Monday, November 7, 2011. You may encounter a brief interruption of service between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. (CDT). We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

Bittersweet Congratulations

Barbara Kemmis Moves On

Please join the ATLA staff in congratulating Barbara Kemmis as she departs ATLA to assume the role of Executive Director of the Cremation Association of North America (<http://www.cremationassociation.org/>). Her last day will be October 14, and a search to fill the position of Director of Member Services will be launched shortly.

Barbara has served ATLA as Director of Member Services since September 2005, and has made many lasting contributions to the organization. Her energetic presence will be missed by staff and members. Starting October 15, Brenda Bailey-Hainer will be serving as Acting Director of Member Services until the position has been filled.



Farewell from Barbara Kemmis:

I never could have guessed that six years could fly by in an instant. During my time at ATLA, I have had the pleasure and honor of visiting nearly 80 member libraries, staffed dozens of

committee meetings and six conferences. ATLA members have worked with Member Services staff to launch Theological Libraries Month, numerous group pricing benefits, the first ATLA salary and benefits survey as well as ongoing essential member benefits.

The golden thread through all of this work has been my interactions with ATLA members. Whether by email, phone or in person, I know you to be intelligent, dedicated, hard-working volunteer leaders working to advance the field of theological librarianship as well as your institutions. With this core of strength the current and future staff are well directed and you can be assured that the member services staff team will continue to provide you with exceptional service.

ATLA is a reflection of its amazing members. Thank you for counting me among your number for this time together, and for your support and friendship. I can only hope that the lessons I have learned with you will serve me well in my new field.

Staff News

Index Department

The Index Department is pleased to announce that it filled several vacant staff positions last month. Steven Szczeblowski started on September 19 as Bibliographic and Authorities Data Entry Assistant. On September 26, Christopher Rogers began work as an Index-Analyst. Both Joel Schorn and Steven Kiczek started training as remote indexers for ATLA CPLI™ at the end of September.

Electronic Products and Services

Melissa Lambert joined ATLA as a part-time EPS Assistant on September 26. Melissa is currently working towards a Masters of Library and Information Science at Dominican University.



Mini-Grant Available to Promote ATLAS® for ALUM

New Promotional Materials are Now Available on <http://www.atlasalum.com>

ATLA is pleased to offer up to 150 grants of \$100 toward the development of *ATLAS for ALUM* promotional materials specific to your institution, or a promotional event, or both. These funds are supplied by a generous grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. and are available for current participants in the Lilly Endowment Inc. grant funded program toward subscription to *ATLAS for ALUM*. See your *ATLAS for ALUM Update* email for more information or contact Rick Rybak, atlasalum@atla.com, for more information.

We welcome your submission of news, photos, and other items of interest for the *ATLA Newsletter*. All submissions are due on the first business day of the month preceding publication. Contact Sara Corkery (scorkery@atla.com) with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.

Have You Heard?

Volunteer Library Consultant Needed

The South Pacific Association of Theological Schools (SPATS) is working towards raising the level of service delivery in libraries of theological schools in Pacific Island countries. As a regional ecumenical organization serving theological schools, the need for a library consultant is essential to assist theological schools upgrade their libraries and build capacity within the region. This position will report directly to the General Secretary based at 30 Gardiner Rd., Nasese, and Suva, Fiji Islands.

Scope of Work

- Conduct situational analysis on library services offered by Theological schools
- Conduct consultation meetings with SPATS member schools on library issues
- Facilitate the establishment of the library service network amongst SPATS members
- Developing library standards that could be adopted by SPATS member schools
- Conduct library staff training on library standards
- Recommend library management system for Theological Schools
- Help with assigned SPATS office role

Qualifications and Experience

- Mature and committed Christian
- A degree or equivalent in Library/Information Science with experience in information resource development with IT skills
- Ability to work effectively and creatively in a culturally diverse, technologically complex, and rapidly changing system of college and university libraries
- Knowledge and experience of library services in the greater Pacific region

Start Date and Length

The Volunteer is required to begin by early January 2012 for approximately two and half years. Terms and dates can be negotiated dependent on the volunteer's availability.

Remuneration

This would be essentially a volunteer position with expenses covered. Expenses would include accommodation, relocation, and a small living allowance.

Applications with relevant information could be sent to: The General Secretary, SPATS, GPO Box 2426, Government Buildings, Suva, or email Rev Rusiate Tuidrakulu, ongensec@spats.org.fj

ATLA Calendar

October

- 1 Official start of TLM 2011
- 1 Submissions for November ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 3 NFAIS Humanities Roundtable Meeting, New York, NY - Brenda Bailey-Hainer and Margot Lyon attending
- 9-11 Lilly Websites Consultation Meeting, Durham, NC - Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Tami Luedtke, Margot Lyon attending
- 15 Creating Leaders of Tomorrow application deadline
- 24-25 Publications Committee meets at ATLA Office
- 25-26 *Theological Librarianship* Editorial Board meets at ATLA Office
- 26-29 2012 AC Fall Planning Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ - Annual Conference Committee, Education Committee, Denise McFarlin, Brenda Bailey-Hainer attending
- 31 Professional Development Committee meets at ATLA Office
- 31 Deadline for submitting International Collaboration Committee grant applications

November

- 1 Submissions for December ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 2-6 Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC - Margot Lyon attending
- 10-11 International Collaboration Committee meets at ATLA Office
- 18-22 AAR and SBL Annual Meetings, San Francisco, CA - Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Margot Lyon, Lavonne Cohen, Rick Rybak, Gregg Taylor attending
- 24-25 ATLA Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

December

- 1 Submissions for January ATLA Newsletter due on first business day of this month
- 23 ATLA Office closed for Christmas Holiday
- 26 ATLA Office closed for Christmas Holiday