atla Newsletter

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

BLOG POST

Shared Governance: An Opportunity for Inclusive Conversation

by Stephen Sweeney, President 2019-2020 / July 15, 2019

Newsletter, From the President

According to a project of the Pew Research Center in 2011, the average adult American is active in 3.51 groups/associations. Recognizing the North American bias this project re. ects, it's really not difficult to get to 3.51; 40% say they are active in church groups, 24% claim activity in sports/athletic leagues for themselves or their children, and 20% are active in professional or trade associations for people in their occupation.[1]
<https://www.pewinternet.org/2011/01/18/section-1-the-state-of-groups-and-voluntary-organizations-in-america/>

At our annual conference, we learned that there are over 800 members who choose to spend their time and money belonging to Atla. In this context of membership organizations, it is probably not at all surprising that there exists an organization called the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB).

The AGB defines shared governance as "a fundamental principle of inclusion in key areas of institutional responsibility and decision making."[2] <https://agb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2017_statement_sharedgovernance.pdf> While the governing board holds the ultimate authority for the future and vision of Atla, the Board does not make informed decisions without a sense of this shared governance. To that end, you have likely heard from

or about the Moral Ownership Committee <https://www.atla.com/about/board/moral-ownership-committee/> of the Board and the work they have undertaken to connect the Board with the membership. I want to thank everyone who has participated in focus groups, discussions, and other ways to make your voice heard. If you attended the conference in Vancouver, you heard Past President Jennie Bartholomew reec t on the recent historical arc of Atla from a BHAG (Big Hairy Audacious Goal) to conversations about branding and connecting the future with our past.

"Shared governance is at its best when everyone works together for the good of the organization."

It occurs to me that Policy Governance, the governance style of Atla, can be mysterious. The Board has been using this method since 1991. I think it is reasonable to suggest that some Board members still struggle with what appears to be the mysterious complexities it presents. Amid this healthy struggle, the Board works hard at understanding our responsibility to Atla, the moral ownership (you, the members), and sketching a future for our association. Shared governance is at its best when everyone works together for the good of the organization.

My r st conference was in Ottawa in 2008. I appreciate the (current) bookends that represents, from one side of Canada to the other and all the United States cities in between. Thanks for the conference, Vancouver, and thanks to all for your participation in the life and future of Atla!

BACK

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES NEEDED: IS IT
TIME TO DEFINE CORE COMPETENCIES FOR
THEOLOGICAL LIBRARIANSHIP?

BLOG POST

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Needed: Is It Time to Define Core Competencies for Theological Librarianship?

July 15, 2019

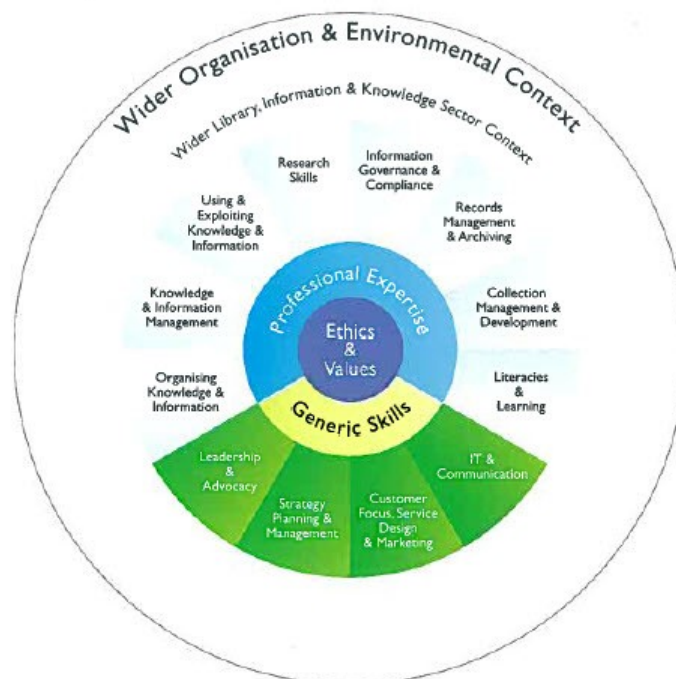Newsletter, From Staff Leadership

What are the skills, knowledge, and abilities required for theological and religious studies librarianship? Is it possible to define a set of core competencies that librarians should acquire as part of their formal education, on the job experience and continuing professional development?

A panel discussion at the Atla Annual 2012 in Scottsdale, Arizona, discussed this very issue. Tammy Johnson, Pat Graham, Carisse Mickey Berryhill, and Andy Keck looked at a few of the core competency lists for librarianship that existed at the time, re. ected on personal characteristics needed specifically for theological librarians, and examined the requirements listed in job postings.

Since then, the number of core competency lists for librarianship has grown. In addition to more general lists for academic librarians, <https://www.carl-abrc.ca/doc/core_comp_profile-e.pdf> there are lists for information literacy <https://www.gvsu.edu/library/information-literacy-core-competencies-59.htm>, library management <https://cpcrl.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/library-management-competencies.pdf>, and serials librarians. Many subject specialties have their own specific competencies, including music librarians <https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.musiclibraryassoc.org/resource/dynamic/blogs/20181127_143046_14639.pdf> and vision science librarians <https://www.avsl.org/resources/vision-librarian-core-competencies-draft/>.

Personally, I like the way CILIP, The Library and Information Association in the UK, has used concentric circles in their Professional Knowledge and Skills Base <https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/professionaldevelop> chart to illustrate the different domains that are relevant to the library, information and knowledge sector. They place ethics and values at the core, then divide other areas into professional knowledge and generic skills. Professional knowledge focuses on areas that are most frequently covered in library and information science programs, such as learning research skills and organizing knowledge. The generic skills are often overlooked by MLIS programs and focus on areas as leadership, advocacy, strategy, management, and planning.

For theological and religious studies librarianship, an additional layer of subject knowledge and expertise would have to be added as the outside concentric ring.

Would any set of core competencies be the same worldwide or are there regional differences? This is a topic that the International Theological Librarianship Education Task Force <https://www.atla.com/about/committees-councils-task-forces/itle-taskforce/> will be tackling during the coming year. We are already aware of educational programs that exist at different levels. Atla has a long-standing course in Theological Librarianship <https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/professional-development/librarianship-course/> offered through the iSchool at the University of Illinois, which has primarily served students in North America. The South Asian Institute of Advanced Christian Studies (SAIAC) in India offers a Certicate in Theological Libr arianship <https://www.saiacs.org/certicate -in-theological-librarianship/>. In the Philippines, Central Philippine University has an MLIS with a Specialization in Theological Librarianship.

Do you have any thoughts on what knowledge, skills, and abilities should be on a list for theological and religious studies librarians? If so, I'd love to hear from you <https://www.atla.com/about/contact-us/>.

BLOG POST

Atla 2019: By The Numbers

by Erica Durham / July 15, 2019

Newsletter, Atla Annual, Atla Annual 2019

> *"I welcome you to the traditional, ancestral, unceded lands of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓-speaking Musqueam people."*

ALEC DAN

The conference opened with a generous welcome from Alec Dan, one of Musqueam's Knowledge Keepers. It drew our attention to pride and ownership that First Nations people have for their culture and the loving care with which they welcome visitors to it (Metro Vancouver is home to **eleven** First Nations <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/first-nation-relations/first-nations/pages/default.aspx>).

Alec Dan opens Atla Annual with a Land Acknowledgement and Welcome.

Situated in the heart of downtown Vancouver, the Sheraton Wall Centre afforded conference attendees a central location with **dozens** of options for dining, **nine** water taxi docks, sunset views from **seven** beaches, short walks to **one** famous library, and the joys of **240** shops and businesses on Granville Island.

Connie Song and Kathy Harty chat after Friday's Business Meeting.

Race MoChridhe presents his poster to attendees, including Andy Keck, during Thursday's break.

Over **thirty** adventurous theological librarians traveled to the University of British Columbia for a pre-conference excursion. Over **200** conference attendees delighted in the arrival of snacks each day (chicken and waffles!!) at the exhibit hall where **twenty-five** exhibitors showered attendees with new products and cool swag (Brill brought the perforated notebooks again!!!). Attendees from **fifteen** countries attended **fifty-five** concurrent sessions and pre-conference workshops.

Matthew Collins, Armin Siedlecki, and
Bo Adams enjoy coffee during a break.

Juan Pablo Alperin opens Atla Annual
as the first Plenary speaker.

Three plenary speakers <https://atlaannual2019.sched.com/overview/type/plenary> for the conference gave practical and relevant lectures related to the Organizational Ends and Core Values of Atla. The topics addressed were: Open Access (widest possible access to relevant information and ideas), Accelerating Allyship (hospitality, inclusion, and diversity), and Evolving Faith Traditions (grow in wisdom). Ask a colleague who attended the conference to share the **four** definitions of Indigenization!

Especially meaningful to me this year were the **four** memorials and the recognition of **ten** retiring members. I was thankful to be reminded of the diversity of paths our members have taken, spanning decades of faithful service to the field of theological librarianship.

The **two** "business" meetings were quite good! Executive Director Brenda Bailey-Hainer recognized the dedicated work of the Atla staff and reported on the excellent fiscal numbers (**lots** of them). Outgoing president Jenny Bartholomew gave a heartfelt overview of the hard work of the Board during the re-branding process. The commitment of the **twelve** Board members to the Association is evident (at least to me). Gentle and hopeful, the words outgoing President Bartholomew offered should be **counted** as one of the best presidential addresses in recent history.

Our two outgoing Board Members Jennifer Ulrich and Brad Ost, and Outgoing Board President Jennifer Bartholomew.

Institute Leaders Dr. Carisse Berryhill and Dr. Kelly Campbell with the three Institute attendees: Arnel Faller (Philippines), Nalini Premadish (Fiji), and Roman Shvetz (Ukraine) on Tuesday.

The Inaugural Atla International Theological Librarian Leadership Institute <https://www.atla.com/member-benefits/individual/institute/> took place at the conference this year. The leadership team provided a week of seminars, conference attendance, and library tours sharing best practices in theological librarianship with **three** librarians from around the world who were seeking training in theological librarianship.

A huge thank you to the **nine** members of the Conference Committee, the **two** new members of the conference committee, and the **two** outgoing members. We will be hard at work planning for the **74th** Annual Conference <https://www.atla.com/event/atla-annual-2020/> (**2020**) in Detroit, Michigan, (**48226**)! You can **count** on it!
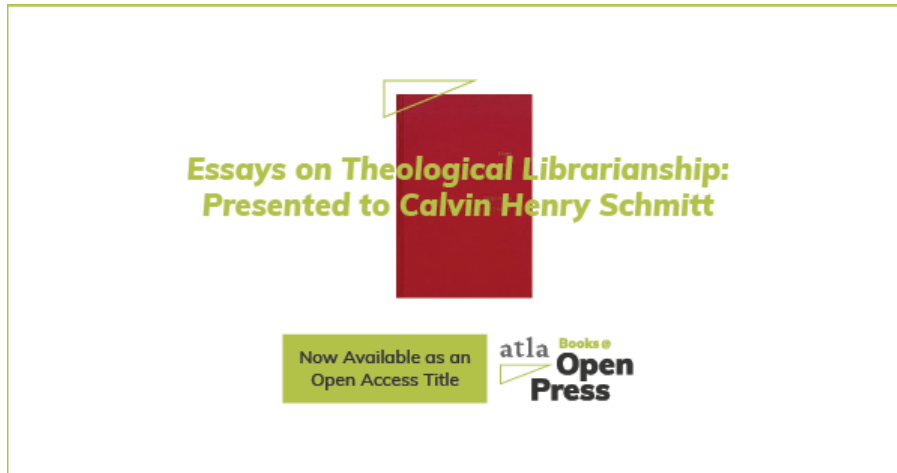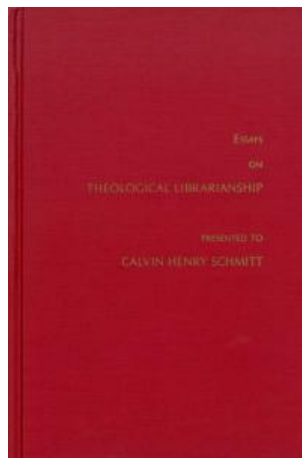
BLOG POST

'Essays on Theological Librarianship: Presented to Calvin Henry Schmitt' now Open Access

by Jim Darlack / July 11, 2019

Newsletter, Publications

Essays on Theological Librarianship: Presented to Calvin Henry Schmitt is the first collection of essays on theological librarianship published by the American Theological Library Association (now Atla). In 1978, the ATLA Committee on Publication initiated this project to grow the body of professional literature in the field of theological librarianship while honoring an experienced theological librarian (and active member), Calvin H. Schmitt. Schmitt was certainly a worthy honoree, having served as librarian at McCormick Theological Seminary from 1949-1980, and President of the association from 1957-1958. His influence on theological librarianship (and theology in general) is still strong, as he contributed to *Religion Index One* and *Religion Index Two* as chair of the Periodical Indexing Board. (Our patrons still use "RIO" and "RIT" each time they query the *Atla Religion Database* *<https://www.atla.com/research-tool/atla-religion-database/>[®]*.)

<https://books.atla.com/atlapress/catalog/book/38>

The essays are grouped into four sections – one dedicated specifically to the honoree, and the others on theological books and their contents, theological libraries and their management, and theological information and its control. The bibliographic essays on ecumenical research, the *Luther-Gesellschaft*, 18th-century theological bibliography, and on theology and literature provide overviews that are still helpful introductions. The essays on theological libraries and their management included helpful discussions of the theological library in the context of theological education, reviewing the use of rare books, the educational role of librarians, collection development, and even examining the "paper stability" of a seminary's circulating collection. The *Festshcrift* is rounded off with three essays on theological information and its control, including an examination of religion indexes and their futures, a "meta-" discussion of the need for bibliographies of theological bibliographies, and an empirical study of catalog complexity looking at corporate entries with subheadings.

> *"The essays also provide a window into the history of Atla as we were transitioning from print to pixels. "*

Though dated, many of the essays cover topics as relevant today as they were at the time of publication. The role of libraries and librarians in theological education is still a matter of discussion at professional conferences, and while bibliographic essays do show their age after four decades, they can serve as snapshots of the history of research and even as launching pads for further inquiry. The essays also provide a window into the history of Atla as we were transitioning from print to pixels. It is wholly appropriate that this publication would continue to strengthen the body of professional literature in the field of theological librarianship by making its way into the Atla Open Press.

Read the open access edition on the Atla Open Press site. <https://books.atla.com/atlapress/catalog/book/38>

Learn more about Atla Open Press. <https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/resources-for-librarianship/atla-open-press/>
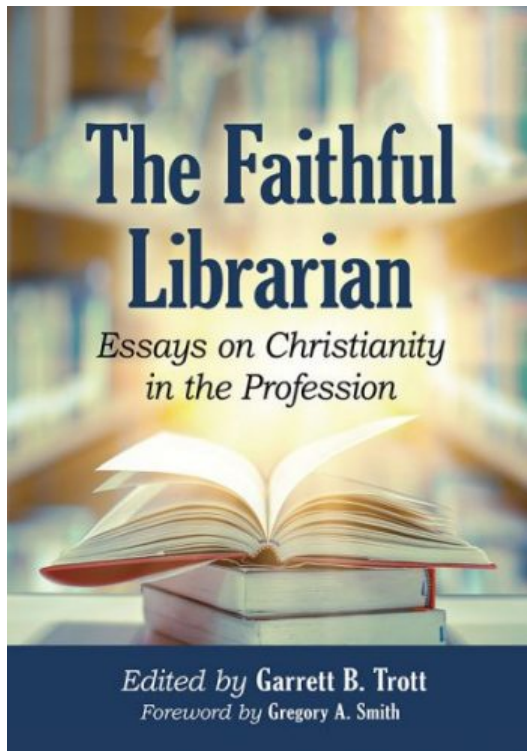
BLOG POST

Atla Member Garrett Trott Shares New Book, 'The Faithful Librarian'

by Garrett B. Trott / July 10, 2019

Newsletter, New Members

What does it mean to be a Christian librarian? A work to be published this fall by McFarland Publications, entitled, *The Faithful Librarian* <https://mcfarlandbooks.com/product/the-faithful-librarian/>, strives to answer that exact question.

For the longest time, if anyone asked that question of me, I would have just provided an awkward glance followed by silence. My journey to begin the discovery of an answer to that query began with a conviction: I understood that God desired me to give myself to him completely. Initially, I saw a pastoral or ministerial role

as the ideal (and perhaps the only) means to do so, subsequently, this was my initial vocational pursuit. Due to some wonderful counsel, I chose an alternative path: librarianship. After the newness of this career path wore down, I found myself coming back to that conviction: how can I give myself completely to God when working in a library? What made this even more challenging was the fact that an even greater question loomed my mind: is it even possible to glorify God as a librarian?

> *"After the newness of this career path wore down, I found myself coming back to that conviction: how can I give myself completely to God when working in a library? What made this even more challenging was the fact that an even greater question loomed my mind: is it even possible to glorify God as a librarian?"*

What I found most challenging at this particular time was that I did not have an answer to these questions. I sought some counsel from good friends, I did a bit of reading, but really could not arrive at an answer. It was about this time that I began my interviews for my current place of employment, Corban University in Salem, Oregon. Corban University is a member of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU). When I was offered the position at Corban University, I was convinced that now, simply because I was working at a CCCU institute, I would know what it meant to be a Christian librarian. If I work for a Christian university, would that not make me a Christian librarian? A naïve assumption, but one to which I held dearly.

After the newness of the job wore off, that same question came back to me: what does it mean to be a Christian librarian? I was surprised. I thought I knew what it meant. The simplicity of my original assumption was accompanied by a restless heart that was not at peace over the issue. Looking back on this scenario, I am reminded of Romans 8:28 (ESV), "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." God allowed me to wrestle with this question again at this particular time because the pursuit of an answer would be incredibly bene. cial.

Upon finishing my first year at Corban University, the Provost announced that the faculty would be working through a book during the next academic year: David Claerbaut's *Faith and Learning on the Edge*. For those familiar with works related to faith and learning, you will acknowledge that Claerbaut's work is one of several resources that discusses the faith and learning dialog. Claerbaut's work provided a great introduction to the conversation.

Although it is a bit ironic, honestly, I had never heard of the faith and learning dialog prior to Claerbaut's work. I was so involved with getting my feet wet, per se, in my first year as a librarian at Corban University that I really had little time to look at the bigger picture of what my colleagues were doing in relation to faith integration. Nor, did I find the time to dig into some of the resources in the CCCU that might have assisted in discovering more about the faith and learning dialog at that time. Regardless, I am thankful for Claerbaut's work and its introduction to the faith and learning dialog.

"I drank from Claerbaut's work like an individual thirsting for depth and understanding. I found it refreshing, encouraging and engaging. It caused me to ask: "How could I glorify God through my day-to-day profession as a librarian?""

I drank from Claerbaut's work like an individual thirsting for depth and understanding. I found it refreshing, encouraging and engaging. It caused me to ask: "How could I glorify God through my day-to-day profession as a librarian?" While Claerbaut does not directly answer this question, his work did provide a path leading to one. It was through that work (and several others subsequently read) that I began to understand how I could make a difference in the world for Jesus Christ through my profession as a librarian.

After reading Claerbaut's work, I soon discovered a collection of essays edited by Gregory A. Smith, entitled, *Christian Librarianship.* This was another work that I savored and treasured. After reading these two works, the oodgates opened. I r ead whatever I could in relation to faith and learning, I began to direct my professional development opportunities toward integrating my faith in Jesus Christ toward my profession as a librarian. Needless to say, there were several efforts made that God used to shape and mold me, even though some did not come to full fruition. However, I have become very thankful for the opportunities to continually develop my understanding of how God can be gloried thr ough my work as a librarian.

So, what is a Christian librarian? How can God be gloried thr ough the work of librarianship? This book provides f teen essays which answer those questions. Discover how librarians from a variety of differing institutions and contexts have manifested their faith through the profession of librarianship. *The Faithful Librarian* <https://mcfarlandbooks.com/product/the-faithful-librarian/> provides examples of glorifying God through the work of librarianship.

BLOG POST

Growth in Atla's Global Full-text Catholic Content

by Annie Ban ch / July 09, 2019

Product Updates

The Atla products team strives to provide users with access to high-quality scholarship across many diverse perspectives. One way we do this is to regularly evaluate the makeup of our research tools and identify subject areas with opportunities for growth.

One area of recent focus for Atla has been scholarship about the study of global Catholicism, a particular growth area supported by the integration of the *Atla Catholic Periodical and Literature Index®* (*Atla CPLI®*) into the *Atla Religion Database® (Atla RDB®)* <https://www.atla.com/research-tool/atla-religion-database/>in 2017.

RELATED
NOTE

This integration was met with enthusiasm from the research and publishing communities allowing us to grow collaborations with international Catholic publishers. This includes expanding long-standing agreements with large content partners and developing exciting relationships with new publishers.

Recent Developments

Here are highlights of our increased scholarship in global Catholicism:

- The long-running *Sisters Today* sheds light on the life of women religious in 20th century North America.

- *Stimmen der Zeit*, published by Herder, covers European Catholicism with printed issues dating back to the early 1900s.

- The agreement between Atla and Ateneo de Manila University Press <https://www.atla.com/blog/spotlight-on-two-ateneo-de-manila-university-full-text-titles-recently-added-to-atlaserials-atlas/>, a Catholic press in the Philippines with two religion journals available in *AtlaSerials® (Atlas®)*.

- The long-running Peruvian social and cultural chronicle *Paginas* joined *AtlaSerials PLUS® (Atlas PLUS®* <https://www.atla.com/blog/paginas-from-the-heart-of-peru-an-intersection-of-religion-politics-and-culture/>)* in the fall of 2017.

- The inclusion of Cambridge's British Catholic History <https://www.atla.com/blog/cambridge-press-joins-atlas/> in *Atlas PLUS,* among several others.

- The 2018 announcement <https://www.atla.com/blog/atla-products-blog-new-catholic-content-from-the-heart-of-rome-in-atlaserials-plus/> of multiple new partnerships in Rome including four new Catholic journals from Gregorian and Biblical Press and *La Civiltà Cattolica*, Italian Version.

And most recently at Atla Annual 2019 held this June in Vancouver, BC, Canada, staff shared that our full-text products now contain fty-six full-text titles <https://www.atla.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/atla-titles-supporting-catholic-scholarship.pdf> supporting Catholic scholarship in multiple languages. These titles come from several European countries as well as Asia, Australia, and South America.

A full list of all fty-six full-text journals supporting Catholic scholarship as of June 2019 can be found here <https://www.atla.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/atla-titles-supporting-catholic-scholar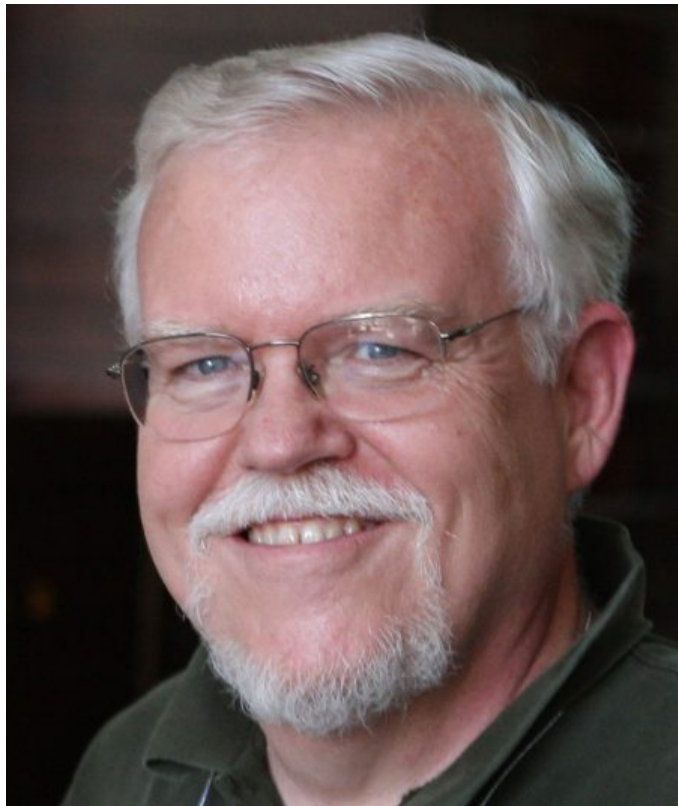ship.pdf> and the full Atla title lists can be found here: https://www.atla.com/research/title-lists/ <https://www.atla.com/research/title-lists/>.

BLOG POST

Bill Hook Retires after 40 Years with Vanderbilt Libraries

July 08, 2019

Newsletter, Retirees

Longtime Atla member will retire from his positions at Vanderbilt on September 1, after 40 years with the Vanderbilt Libraries. Bill has been the Director of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library since 1987 and has held a variety of administrative roles beyond that in the University libraries and in the Divinity School.

Bill came to Vanderbilt University in 1977 to pursue a PhD in religious ethics. As a graduate student, he began as a part-time student worker in the Divinity Library in 1979. He took a full-time position as a periodical-shelver while writing his dissertation. The job evolved into a professional role, and a career, Bill became the director of the Divinity Library in 1987. He has served on a variety of Atla committees and the Board of Directors. He became Associate Dean of the Jean and Alexander Heard Libraries in 2011, and retires as the Deputy University Librarian, having retained his role in the Divinity Library throughout his career.

Please join us in congratulating Bill on his retirement!

Have news? Share with the Atla community by submitting your news to the Atla Blog. Read submission instructions </member-bene ts/association-publications/newsletter/instructions/>.

BLOG POST

Submit to the 2019 'Summary of Proceedings'

by Miranda Bennett / July 08, 2019

Newsletter, Open Access, Publications

Dear Atla colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the call for submissions to the *Summary of Proceedings* of the Seventy-third Atla Annual, held June 12-15, in Vancouver, British Columbia. If you participated in the Conference in any of the following capacities, you are encouraged to contribute to the *Proceedings*:

- Pre-conference workshop presenter

- Paper or presentation speaker

- Panel discussion presenter

- Conversation group facilitator

- Listen and Learn speaker

- In-conference workshop presenter

- Poster presenter
- Worship leader

All *Proceedings* submissions **must** be made using the Online Journal System (OJS), the open access platform used by the Atla Open Press. Email submissions will **not** be accepted. Instructions for submitting your materials to the *Proceedings* may be found at https://serials.atla.com/proceedings/about/submissions. <https://serials.atla.com/proceedings/about/submissions.>

A Brief Submissions Tutorial

Please note that you will use the same login credentials that you created for 2018 *Proceedings* submissions. Additionally, if you already have an account that was created for any other https://serials.atla.com <https://serials.atla.com> publication, you do not need to create a new login for the *Proceedings*. Instead, please email memberrep [at] atla.com to add access to the *Proceedings*. Any other login or password questions may also be directed to memberrep [at] atla.com.

Submit to Annual Yearbook

Further, Atla will also produce an *Annual Yearbook* in addition to the *Proceedings*, and some of the reports that were previously included in the *Proceedings* are now part of the *Yearbook*. The following groups will submit their annual reports to the 2019 *Yearbook* instead of the *Proceedings*:

- Denominational Groups
- Interest Groups
- Committees and Task Forces

For more information on who should submit to the *Yearbook* as well as for instructions on submission, please visit https://serials.atla.com/yearbook/about/submissions <https://serials.atla.com/yearbook/about/submissions>. If you previously submitted to the *Yearbook*, you will use the same login credentials that you created for prior submission.

Submit to other Publications

If you believe that your paper would be within the scope and of interest of readers of one of Atla's other publications, such as *Theological Librarianship* <https://theolib.atla.com/theolib>, please let me know prior to submitting your work to the *Proceedings* and we can discuss the procedure for submission to one of those other publications.

Deadlines

The deadline for submissions to the *Proceedings* as well as the *Yearbook* is **September 27, 2019**. Early submissions are encouraged.

If you have questions about the *Proceedings*, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. Questions about submissions to the *Yearbook* should be directed to memberrep [at] atla.com.
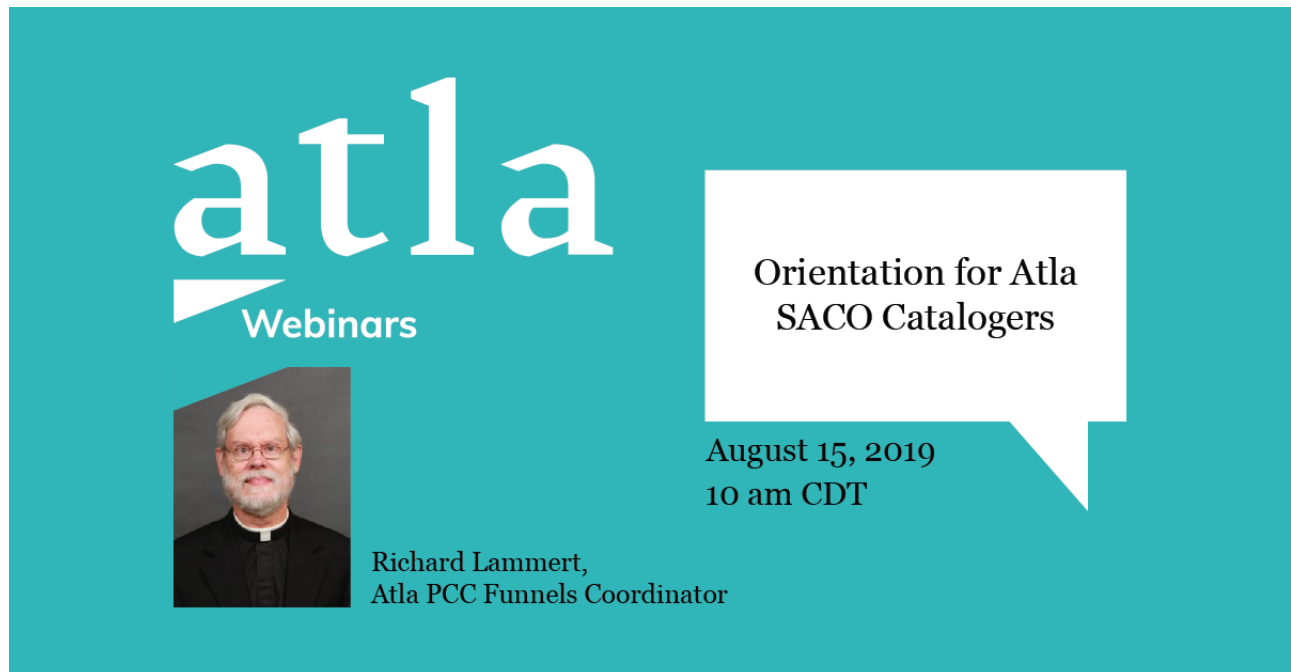
BLOG POST

Register for "Orientation for Atla SACO Catalogers" Webinar

July 03, 2019

Newsletter, Webinars

Presented by Atla PCC Funnels Coordinator Richard Lammert, this webinar will provide an introduction to the process of proposing subject headings and LC classification numbers (through SACO, the Subject Authority Cooperative program of the Library of Congress).

Although intended primarily for catalogers who will be involved in the Atla SACO Funnel, the webinar will be of interest to anyone who wants to see how Atla libraries and catalogers can be gainfully involved in SACO to the benefit of all theological libraries. This webinar does not provide thorough training in making proposals; if such is needed, a future webinar will be scheduled.

Join <https://zoom.us/webinar/register/wn_leuivz4yqfglecvgddxnxa> Richard on Thursday, August 15 at 10 am CDT, for this hour-long orientation for Atla SACO catalogers.

The webinar will be recorded and made available on the On Demand Learning <https://www.atla.com/webinars/> site after the presentation.

Register today! <https://zoom.us/webinar/register/wn_leuivz4yqfglecvgddxnxa>

BLOG POST

SCOOP: Open and Equitable Scholarly Communication

by Christine Fruin / July 02, 2019

Newsletter, The SCOOP

Upon the recommendation of its Research and Scholarly Environment Committee (ReSEC), the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) decided to revisit its 2007 scholarly communications research agenda, which culminated in the release of a new report last month. In the call for proposals <https://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/archives/14974> to develop this new research agenda, ACRL directed an inquiry into what was needed to "accelerate the transition to more open, inclusive, and equitable scholarship."

In the new report, entitled "Open and Equitable Scholarly Communications: Creating a More Inclusive Future <http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/. les/content/publications/booksanddigitalresources/digital/resec.pdf>," the authors first tackle how to define the terms "open," "inclusive" and "equitable." Reflecting upon the feedback gathered

during the interviews, focus groups and workshops conducted with over 1,000 participants, the authors posit that these terms be defined as such:

> *Open refers to removing barriers to access and encouraging use and reuse, especially of the tools of production of scholarly content and of the outputs of that work.*

> *Inclusive refers to (1) creating opportunities for greater participation in systems, institutions, and processes involved in creating, sharing, and consuming research; (2) removing barriers that can hinder such participation; and (3) actively encouraging and welcoming people to participate, particularly those whose voices have often been marginalized.*

> *Equitable refers to ensuring that systems, institutions, and processes function in a way that gives everyone what they need in order to successfully participate. (4-5).*

The report then explores three identified themes, the issues within those themes, and a call to action to research and develop initiatives and solutions to address those issues. In the remainder of this column, I will summarize the three themes and issues identified in the report and reflect upon how our community of collectors and connectors in religion and theology can engage in ways that support the call to action made in the report.

Theme No. 1: People

This theme looks at encouraging and fostering greater involvement in the various stages of the scholarly communication lifecycle by a more diverse workforce. This includes not only greater diversity of voices who author and edit the scholarly content but also diversity among the population of librarians who collect and share that content. It also suggests that the system can move more toward open and equitable if we have a more informed (and proactive) population of authors, editors, and producers of scholarly content about intellectual property. This means we take steps to retain copyright in scholarly works or license it in a more flexible way.

What Can We Do?

Within Atla, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee <https://www.atla.com/about/committees-councils-task-forces/dei/>work on programming and resources that promote diversity and inclusion within the theological librarian profession and brings awareness to voices that often go unheard. Further, the Atla Open Press <https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/resources-for-librarianship/atla-open-press/>welcomes and invites participation in author, reviewer, and editorial roles by persons from underrepresented populations and encourages submissions that investigate the issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion within our community of collectors and connectors in religion and theology. We have also provided resources on managing intellectual property rights through the "Rights of Authors" page <https://atla.libguides.com/copyright/authorsrights> of the new copyright LibGuide as well as webinars on this topic <https://www.atla.com/webinars/>.

Theme No. 2: Content

The output of the scholarly communication system – the content – can also impact the openness, inclusion, and equity of the process itself. One of the primary ways this occurs is through the way that content is evaluated within the academic community, namely through promotion and retention/tenure. To foster development of a system that is more open and inclusive, the way that the value, merit, and impact of scholarship is measured, especially in codified promotion and retention policies, must be revisited so that different forms of scholarship are valued, including not only open access works but other intellectual outputs such as digital humanities projects, data sets, and curated exhibits.

Further, inherent in the current system are implicit and explicit biases that exclude and marginalize majority world contributions. Finally, this theme encourages libraries to look at their own collection building strategies and practices. Are the values of openness, inclusion and diversity part of those strategies and practices or are the voices and works of underrepresented groups being systematically excluded?

What Can We Do?

At Atla's recent Annual Conference, plenary keynote Juan Pablo Alperin <https://www.scholcommlab.ca/people-2/juan-pablo-alperin/> shared the research that the Scholarly Communications Lab <https://www.scholcommlab.ca/> is doing in the areas of promotion and tenure <https://www.scholcommlab.ca/research/rpt-project/> as well as journal metrics <https://www.scholcommlab.ca/research/metrics-literacy/>. He challenged our community to take a critical look at the promotion and tenure systems at our home institutions and be actors in changing those requirements to bring openness and inclusion to how scholarly outputs are evaluated and measured. Further, as a community, we can look at our collection policies and identify ways that diversity and inclusion can be incorporated into the ways we collect materials and promote their discovery and use. If we are unable to collect these materials at our own libraries, we can facilitate access to a larger and more diverse collective body of content by participating in Atla's Reciprocal Borrowing Program <https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/member-projects-and-programs/reciprocal-borrowing/>.

> *"He challenged our community to take a critical look at the promotion and tenure systems at our home institutions and be actors in changing those requirements to bring openness and inclusion to how scholarly outputs are evaluated and measured. "*

Theme No. 3: Systems

This theme specifically examines the digital infrastructure and financial systems that drive the creation, production, and distribution of scholarly content. The authors detail the advancements that have been made in digital infrastructure and financial systems since 2007, including development and growth of open source platforms, implementation of repositories, improvements in accessibility, and innovations in open access funding models. However, there is still work to be done.

A major concern among stakeholders is the sustainability of the technological infrastructure that has been developed. There is also still room for improvement in promoting greater access and discoverability among all persons, including those with disabilities and those persons in regions that experience sociotechnical barriers to access. Finally, while there has been experimentation in open access funding models, no model has emerged as equitable for all persons and institutions. As a result, there has been a growing rise in investing instead in community-owned infrastructure whereby the academy leads and owns the infrastructure rather than invests in paying others to manage it.

What Can We Do?

Atla Open Press supports open infrastructure by utilizing the Public Knowledge Project's Open Journal Systems (*Theological Librarianship* <https://theolib.atla.com/theolib>and other serials <https://serials.atla.com/>) and Open Monograph Press <https://books.atla.com> for its publishing program. Books@Atla Open Press is also collaborating with Coko Foundation <https://editoria.pub/2018/09/26/editoria-community-grows-with-addition-of-american-theological-library-association/> to beta test the open source platform Editoria for the production of its publications. All Atla Open Press publications are open access and do not charge any fees to authors.

Our community is encouraged to promote open access among faculty and students. Guidance to assist faculty and students on evaluating places of publication is available on the "Rights of Authors <https://atla.libguides.com/copyright/authorsrights>" page of the Copyright LibGuide as well as the "Copyright Concerns of Students <https://atla.libguides.com/copyright/students>" page. An open access LibGuide is in progress that will include more information and suggestions on the infrastructure and funding of open access.

Further Reading

- An interview with ReSEC members who were instrumental in facilitating the production of the report appears on the *American Libraries* web site. https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2019/06/20/acrl-research-agenda-more-inclusive-future/ <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2019/06/20/acrl-research-agenda-more-inclusive-future/>

- In August 2018, the *Journal of Scholarly Communication and Librarianship* published a special issue on the role of scholarly communication in a democratic society. https://jlsc-pub.org/15/volume/6/issue/2/ <https://jlsc-pub.org/15/volume/6/issue/2/>

- New York University's Scholarly Communication Librarian April Hathcock takes a look at the intersection of democracy and scholarly communication in this thoughtful piece for "In the Library with the Leadpipe." http://www.inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2018/racing-to-the-crossroads-of-scholarly-communication-and-democracy-but-who-are-we-leaving-behind/ <http://www.inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2018/racing-to-the-crossroads-of-scholarly-communication-and-democracy-but-who-are-we-leaving-behind/>

- The Coalition for Diversity and Inclusion in Scholarly Communications was founded by trade and professional associations that represent organizations and individuals working in scholarly communications for the purpose of discussing and addressing issues of diversity and inclusion. More about this organization, including its joint statement of principles, can be found at its website. https://c4disc.org/ <https://c4disc.org/>

▼ ACRL maintains a LibGuide with resources and other materials on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. http://acrl.libguides.com/EDI/home <http://acrl.libguides.com/edi/home>.

*The SCOOP, **S**cholarly **CO**mmunication and **O**pen **P**ublishing, 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.*

BLOG POST

Announcing Additions to Atla Products – June 2019

June 30, 2019

Press Release, Product Title List

Chicago, IL, June 30, 2019 — Atla is pleased to announce the addition of titles now available in the *Atla Religion Database*® (*Atla RDB*®), *AtlaSerials*® (*Atlas*®) and *AtlaSerials PLUS*® *(Atlas PLUS*®*)*.

New indexing titles in *Atla Religion Database*

- *Journal of Welsh Religious History* by University of Wales Press
- *Native American and Indigenous* Studies by University of Minnesota Press
- *Valley View University Journal of Theology by* School of Theology and Missions of the Valley View University
- *Insights Journal for Global Theological Education* by ScholarLeaders International
- 복음과 실천신학 [Journal of Evangelical Practical Theology] by 한국복음주의실천신학회 [Korean Society of Evangelical Practical Theology]

- *Marriage, Families & Spirituality* by Peeters
- *Rivista di teologia dell'evangelizzazione* by EDB, Ed. Dehoniane

New full-text titles in *Atlas*

- *Puritan Reformed Journal* by Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary

New full-text titles in *Atlas PLUS**

- *Die Welt des Orients* by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht

*Atlas PLUS includes all of the titles in Atla's original full-text product, *Atlas and* 150 additional full-text titles.

To view Atla's title lists click here: https://www.atla.com/research/title-lists/ <https://www.atla.com/research/title-lists/>

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:

Margot Lyon, +1.312.454.5100 ext. 4433, mlyon@atla.com

BLOG POST

View the Newest Contributors to the Atla Digital Library

by Christy Karpinsky / June 26, 2019

Newsletter, Digitization

We are pleased to welcome Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary Styberg Library, and Trinity International University Rolfing Library as the newest contributors to the Atla Digital Library (DL)!

Explore highlights from these contributors below.

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary has contributed the John Howard Yoder collection the DL. This collection comprises the unpublished writings of the Mennonite theologian totaling 383 items. They will be contributing more collections soon as the DL is set up to harvest collections from the Internet Archive (coming September).

You can see AMBS's current collection here: https://dl.atla.com/collections/anabaptist-mennonite-biblical-seminary <https://dl.atla.com/collections/anabaptist-mennonite-biblical-seminary>

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Styberg Library

<https://dl.atla.com/collections/the-methodist-manuscripts-collection>

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary Styberg Library has contributed three collections to the DL, the Methodist Manuscripts Collection <https://dl.atla.com/collections/the-methodist-manuscripts-collection> features letters and papers from the Methodist leader John Wesley totaling 57 items. This will become part of a "Wesley Papers Collection" that will be coming soon to the DL. That collection will be a collaboration between a number of institutions bringing together their Wesley materials into one location.

You can see all of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Styberg Library's collections here: https://dl.atla.com/collections/garrett-evangelical-theological-seminary <https://dl.atla.com/collections/garrett-evangelical-theological-seminary>

Trinity International University, Rolfing Library

<https://dl.atla.com/collections/evangelical-beacon>*The Evangelical Beacon* <https://dl.atla.com/collections/evangelical-beacon> collection was contributed by Trinity International University Rolfing Library and totals 1,967 items. *The Evangelical Beacon* was the official printed magazine and newsletter of the Evangelical Free Church of America. Its roots lie in the Norwegian-Danish Free Church Association newspaper *The Evangelist*, started in 1930, and the Swedish Evangelical Free Church paper, *The Evangelical Beacon*, started in 1931. It was conceived as a way of strengthening the faithful of the Free Church and offering news and perspective from a distinctly evangelical free church perspective. The paper was rebranded as *EFCAToday* in 2004.

You can see all of TIU Rol ng Library's collections here: https://dl.atla.com/collections/trinity-international-university <https://dl.atla.com/collections/trinity-international-university>

About

The Atla Digital Library <https://www.atla.com/learning-engagement/member-projects-and-programs/digital-library/> brings together digital collections of scholarly, historical, and cultural significance that are relevant to the study, teaching, and learning of religion and theology. It is designed to provide Atla members and other organizations with a standards compliant, sustainable, and inter-operable hub that will promote visibility and access of their valuable digital collections. Visit the Atla Digital Library <https://dl.atla.com/>.

Looking to participate? Learn more. <https://dl.atla.com/participate>

BLOG POST

Digital Spotlight: The Pinkasim Collection

by Christine Fruin / June 21, 2019

Newsletter, Digital Spotlight

The National Library of Israel <http://web.nli.org.il/sites/nli/english/pages/default.aspx> has digitized a rare collection of communal ledgers <http://web.nli.org.il/sites/nlis/en/pinkas> from long-lost Jewish communities of Europe, offering the public a chance to study an era seen as a golden age of Jewish self-governance. The documents, known as pinkasim, include detailed descriptions of the administrative functioning of the Jewish bodies that created them, documenting the ways in which Jewish society organized its social, economic, religious, cultural, and family life, as well as aspects of its relations with non-Jewish governments and bodies.

The Library, together with its Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People <http://web.nli.org.il/sites/nli/english/collections/personalsites/cahjp/pages/default.aspx> in Jerusalem, holds the world's largest collection of pinkasim. The Pinkasim Project <http://web.nli.org.il/sites/nlis/en/pinkas> aims to locate, catalogue, and digitize these surviving record books. Making pinkasim available to scholars and readers around the world will permit a deeper understanding of the European Jewish past.

Some of the goals of the project include:

◢ Locate, catalogue, and digitize record books from Jewish communities between the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries.

◢ Provide open access to project relevant pinkasim, on the internet, on computers, and on mobile devices.

◢ Support a quick and efficient search engine, enabling pinkasim searches according to their physical attributes, content, and historical context

◢ Offer a powerful viewer presenting the entire layout of the pinkas and single pages, enabling manipulation of high-resolution images, and supplying links to the catalog record and to other related items or texts.

To learn more about the project, read the official press release <https://apnews.com/3b3811a99f1041e1a4d5909141c3a883> or visit the project's user guide <http://web.nli.org.il/sites/nlis/en/pinkas/pages/user-help.aspx>.

Photo credit: Blog, The Jaffa Gate, towards the end of the 19th-century, photo: Bonfils House

BLOG POST

Atla Celebrates Addition of 500th Full-text Journal

June 13, 2019

Press Release, Atlas, Atlas PLUS

Chicago, IL, June 13, 2019 — At Atla Annual in Vancouver, British Columbia, Atla staff proudly shared the news that more than 500 full-text titles have been licensed for inclusion in *AtlaSerials PLUS*® (*Atlas PLUS*®).

Atlas PLUS, launched in late 2017, offers full-text journals in many diverse areas of religion and theology, with full-text content in more than 20 languages from 35 different countries. *Atlas PLUS* includes all the titles in Atla's original full-text product, *Atlas*, as well as 150 additional full-text titles. The collection includes journals from a variety of global content providers, including prestigious commercial publishers, university presses, and smaller organizations and institutions.

Launching in 2001, *AtlaSerials®*(*Atlas®*) began with a core group of 50 journals curated by staff and a diverse group of accomplished and respected religion scholars. This collection grew steadily, and Atla celebrated the 250th title milestone at Atla Annual in Charlotte in 2013. With the launch of *Atlas PLUS,* combined with efforts to continue to add titles to *Atlas* over the past six years, Atla has doubled the number of total journals from 250 titles to 500 titles.

For complete title lists including title, publisher, subject, and language, visit: https://www.atla.com/research/title-lists/ <https://www.atla.com/research/title-lists/>

Inquiries about subscriptions should be directed to EBSCO at https://www.ebsco.com/contact <https://www.ebsco.com/contact>

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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