



Bishop Payne Library, Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria, VA

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## In Memoriam - André Paris



The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) remembers the life of André Paris, Chief Librarian at Saint Paul University (Ottawa, ON), ATLA member and current member of the ATLA Board of Directors. Mr. Paris passed away on Sunday, September

30, 2012, from unanticipated complications following a minor surgery.

André was a respected colleague whose professional contributions and warm friendship will be missed. ATLA offers its condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Paris.

## From the President

### Filter, Improve, and Promote

How can you tell what is trustworthy and good scholarship versus what is shoddy? Or even within the good stuff, how can you discern the author's good points from the points not fully cooked?



Within scholarly communication, we abdicate a portion of critical consumption to the process of peer review. Instead of all of us doing intensive sleuthing, a couple of "peers" are assigned to investigate and pass judgement on an author's work. Peer review ideally helps to filter out the "junk," improve the author's work by asking important questions, and promote the authors' work through placement in a peer-reviewed journal. However, most peer-reviewed writing shows no public record of the reviewers or their sometimes detailed reviews.

Now think about someone posting their writing project online. Peers and other interested parties begin the work of critical consumption: analyzing the writing and argument, investigating the author's credentials, and trying to put this piece within the broader literature of the topic. And then, ideally, people begin to leave public comments which often engender further comments, sometimes by the author him or herself. While critical consumption is also required in reviewing the comments from others, all is part of the public conversation and, like peer-review, becomes both a filter and promoter of new knowledge.

Libraries and librarians have a role in filtering, improving, and promoting knowledge in scholarly communication. How might we enable a conversation about scholarly communication? How might we contribute directly and add value to the process?

--Andrew Keck

ATLA members and colleagues are invited to share their thoughts and memories to be compiled by ATLA staff for André's family and friends. To contribute to this memorial, please visit <http://atlaremembers.wordpress.com>.

## **ATLA Board Nominations**

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The Nominating Committee of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) has named its slate of six candidates for the four places to be filled on the Board of Directors. The term of office is three years, 2013-2016.

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
- Blake Walter, Director of the Library, Northern Seminary
- Steve Perisho, Librarian for Theology and Philosophy, Seattle Pacific University
- Andrew Keck, Director of Library Services, Luther Seminary
- Eileen Saner, Director of Library Services, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary
- Amy Limpitlaw, Head Librarian, Boston University School of Theology

The Nominating Committee members are: H.D. Sandy Ayer (chair), Armin Siedlecki, and Joanna Hause. The Secretary of the Association is Eileen Saner.

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 2013 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](mailto:bbailey-hainer@atla.com). For questions about your membership status, please contact a Membership representative, at [memberrep@atla.com](mailto:memberrep@atla.com).

## **Charlotte, North Carolina: Make Plans for the 2013 ATLA Annual Conference...and So Much More**

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Preparations for the 2013 ATLA Annual Conference, June 19-22, are in full swing, with ATLA's 2013 Local Host Committee, Annual Conference Committee, and Education Committee all hard at work. Charlotte will bring together a wealth of ATLA educational programs, interest group meetings, excursions and events, against a backdrop of exciting attractions, including the NASCAR Hall of Fame and the Billy Graham Library.

The Charlotte region is full of cultural experiences and exciting destinations to help you make the most of your travel to the 2013 ATLA Annual Conference.

For those looking to explore the region, [Asheville](#) is tucked in the Blue Ridge Mountains just a few hours from Charlotte. With great restaurants and attractions, Asheville is a picturesque mountain town and is home to the famous [Biltmore House](#), the [Carl Sandburg Home](#), and is just a short distance from Boone, North Carolina and the [Great Smoky Mountains National Park](#).

For those who prefer the coast, you're in luck too. Just a few hours on the other side of Charlotte is [Charleston, South Carolina](#). Full of history and old Southern charm, Charleston provides visitors with a taste of the old south through historical walking tours, the old City Market, fantastic restaurants, and much, much more. With the history and charm of Charleston, in addition to the [beautiful beaches](#) surrounding the area, you will quickly understand how historical Charleston was named a 2011 top US city.

You could also extend your stay in Charlotte and find plenty to do within the city. [Click here](#) for a visitor's guide and learn more about what Charlotte has to offer.

Charlotte will prove an excellent host to the 2013 ATLA Annual Conference-and with so much to do in the city and surrounding region, we hope that you will make plans to join us. We look forward to sharing more information about the 2013 Annual Conference in the upcoming months. Be sure to check the [conference website](#) for updated information.

Mark your calendars for June 19-22, 2013, and we'll see you in Charlotte!

## ATLA Receptions at AAR & SBL Annual Meetings

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Are you attending the Annual Meetings of the [American Academy of Religion](#) (AAR) and [Society of Biblical Literature](#) (SBL) in Chicago this November 17-20? 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:

- Saturday, November 17, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Quarles & Brady, in the Loop  
300 North LaSalle Street  
Chicago, IL 60654  
Check in at downstairs reception. Proceed to the 40th floor.
- Monday, November 19, 7:00 - 9:00 a.m.  
Burnham Pointe, in Printers Row  
730 South Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60605  
Check in at downstairs reception. Proceed to The Club Room on the 7th floor.

Admission will be based on the guest lists. Please RSVP to [rybak@atla.com](mailto:rybak@atla.com) by November 15 with your name, the name of your guest(s), and the reception(s) you will attend.

ATLA's exhibit booth number is 346. Exhibit hall hours are November 17-19 (Saturday-Monday), 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; November 20 (Tuesday), 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

## ATLAS Licenses Significant New Content

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[ATLASerials® \(ATLAS®\)](#), an online full-text collection of major religion and theology journals, includes more than 380,000 records and more than 220 titles, a 120% increase in titles since 2007. Thirty-five new titles were added in the past year, with an increased emphasis on international, world religion, and historically significant content. ATLAS now includes three German language titles: *Zeitschrift für Dialektische Theologie*, *Zeitschrift für Theologie und Kirche*, and *Theologische Rundschau*. Twenty-one historically significant ceased titles were signed, including the highly acclaimed *Christianity and Crisis* and the influential journal *Church and Society*. ATLA reached agreement with Oxford University Press to continue to include *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* and *Sociology of Religion*, and also concluded negotiations with SAGE Publications, Ltd., to continue to include *Interpretation and Theology Today*.

## Brenda Bailey-Hainer named to Theological Book Network Board of Directors

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ATLA Executive Director Brenda Bailey-Hainer has been appointed to a 3-year term on the board of directors of the Theological Book Network (TBN). A longtime ATLA Affiliate member and exhibitor at the ATLA Annual Conference, TBN provides quality academic books and journals to the libraries of seminaries, colleges, and universities that provide theological training in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East.

## 2013 Call for Proposals

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### Deadline Extended - Sunday, October 14

The Annual Conference and Education Committees cordially invite members and friends of the American Theological Library Association to submit proposals for:

- Pre-conference Workshops
- In-conference Workshops
- Papers
- Panel Presentations
- Listen & Learn Sessions
- Interest Group Presentations
- Conversation Groups
- Posters or Other Special Sessions

The conference will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, June 19-22, 2013. The Committees will consider proposals addressing theological librarianship, the academic disciplines of theology, and/or general librarianship.

For more information, instructions, and to submit a proposal, please visit the [2013 Proposal Guidelines](#) page. All submissions are due by Sunday, October 14.



## Member News

### ATLA Awards 12 Theological Libraries Month Mini-Grants

The American Theological Library Association awarded mini-grants to twelve libraries to support their celebration of Theological Libraries Month. Applications for grants of up to \$500 were accepted to support projects which reach out to students, faculty, and administrators to promote the value of the library.

The twelve recipients were:

- Boston University School of Theology Library
- Columbia Theological Seminary
- Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary (Mill Valley, California)
- Graduate Theological Union Library
- Methodist Theological School in Ohio
- Pontifical College Josephinum
- St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
- St. Peter's Seminary (London, Ontario)
- Trinity Lutheran Seminary (Columbus, OH)
- Urbana Theological Seminary
- Wartburg Theological Seminary
- William Jessup University



Learn more about [Theological Libraries Month](#) at the ATLA web site.

### ICC Grants Available

ATLA members are invited to apply for an international collaboration grant for 2013. 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 on the ATLA website. The deadline for applications is October 18, 2012.

### Job Openings

Are you in the market for a new position? Be sure to check the [ATLA web listings](#) to see who is hiring now.

Several positions have been posted this month:

**Fresno Pacific University**, Fresno, CA, is seeking an [Archivist](#).

The **American Theological Library Association**, Chicago, IL, is seeking a [Project Manager](#).

The **American Theological Library Association**, Chicago, IL, is seeking a [Business Strategy Analyst](#).

### Member Update

Congratulations to Jo Ann Rhodes on her retirement as the Library Director at Columbia International University. Jo Ann will conclude her 28 year career as a librarian on December 31, 2012. For the past 12 years she has been the Library Director at CIU.

If you have personal updates or announcements that you would like shared in the ATLA Newsletter, please send them to [newsletter@atla.com](mailto:newsletter@atla.com).

## ATLA Calendar

### October

- 7-9: Lilly Websites Consultation Meeting, Durham, NC - Brenda Bailey-Hainer and Rick Rybak attending
- 18-20: ATLA Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 22-23: ATLA Professional Development Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL

### November

- 1: ATLA International Collaboration Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 7-10: Annual Conference & Education Committee Meeting, Charlotte, NC - Denise McFarlin and Miguel Figueroa attending
- 7-11: Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC - Margot Lyon attending
- 17-20: Annual Meetings of AAR and SBL, Chicago, IL - ATLA Staff Attending

## BETH Meets in Belfast

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By Terry Robertson, Chair, International Collaboration Committee

The 41st General Assembly of BETH (Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie), with representatives from over ten countries, met in historic Belfast, Northern Ireland September 8-12 in the excellent facilities of Stranmillis College. Among the ATLA members enjoying their hospitality and participating in the full schedule of events, business meetings, and wonderful food, were: Nancy Arnison, Brenda Bailey-Hainer, Eileen Crawford, Melody Muzak, and Terry Robertson. The theme of the meeting was "Religion in Conflict."



A highlight of the assembly was the intriguing presentations on the theme of "Belfast: Religion in Conflict." Scott Spurlock delved into the early historical causes of the conflict up through the 18th century; a visit to the Linen Library, founded at the end of the 18th century, carried the story forward by displaying the artifacts and documents up through the 20th century; and Christopher Maccabe shared his story of involvement in the final peace process.

We were treated to a study in contrasts in our visits to McClay Library, Queen's University, a state of the art, recently completed university library, followed immediately by a visit to the library of Union Theological College, still reminiscent of a 19th century ambiance. Karen Latimer of McClay Library shared a presentation on recent developments in library design. SAGE, a major sponsor of the event, described their business model and goals for the publishing company going forward, particularly as it relates to Open Access. Brenda Bailey-Hainer provided an update on ATLA products and association activities, and Nancy Arnison, a first-time attendee at BETH, provided an update on Theological Book Network. Other presentations included Father Marek Rostkowski on "The Contribution of Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate [OMI] in the Beginning and Development of the Missionary Bibliography," and a presentation on the new IFLA Special Interest Group RELINDIAL by Odile Dupont.

Some actions taken during the business meetings included formal support for GlobeTheoLib, a vote of support for the RELINDIAL activities, but not joining IFLA at this time. New board members and officers were elected. Penelope Hall, whose term on the board ended at the close of the assembly, was honored for her longtime service to BETH.

Copies of the meeting agenda and links to presentations are available on the BETH website at: <http://theo.kuleuven.be/beth/page/114/>. Next year's general assembly will be held in Paris.

## Contact Information

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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 [newsletter@atla.com](mailto:newsletter@atla.com) with any questions or concerns or if you are interested in sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.

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## From the Executive Director

### Higher Education and Libraries: Joined by Technology



Higher education and library services have become increasingly intertwined with information technology. I attended two events in early October that emphasized this even more strongly.

The keynote speaker at the NFAIS Humanities Workshop was Dr. Elliott Shore, currently the Chief Information Officer at Bryn Mawr College as well as the Constance A. Jones Director of Libraries and Professor of History – and soon to be Executive Director of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). His remarks were based on his personal experience in different roles as faculty member, librarian, and information officer, and are outlined in a recent article “Embracing Hybridity: The Merged Organization, Alt/Ac and Higher Education” (*Journal of Library Administration* 52:189–202, 2012).

Shore sees libraries as just one of many players in the academic environment that helps create conditions that are conducive to teaching, learning and research. The traditional higher education institution has well-defined roles: faculty teach and do research, students learn, and others on campus provide supporting services. As more and more aspects of campus life become networked as the result of technology, the lines between these various roles have blurred.

Libraries and computing services are one example. Questions that come to the reference desk at the library may start out being about research, but end up as questions about database authentication, downloading ebooks or other technology related topics that could just as easily have come to the computing help desk.

The second event I attended highlighted the impact of technology on teaching. Technology has had an impact on the role of faculty as well. As technology begins to permeate the classroom, faculty can no longer afford to see themselves as just “content providers” – they must become facile enough with technology to effectively integrate it into their teaching. Each year a group of organizations funded by the Lilly Endowment gathers together to share information and learn from each other. This year’s event featured a number of speakers talking about technology, including ATLA past president John Weaver. His presentation focused on education and how technology will enable it in the future.

While Weaver talked about many of the trends in technology affecting higher education, the one that really caught my attention was augmented reality. Basically, text, images or video can become a portal into another reality. You point your smartphone or tablet camera at an object, and when you look at your device you see not just the object but additional information that overlays it. For example, when pointed at a painting it can be used to provide additional information on the artist or to overlay the original pencil drawings created by the artist to plan the work. [Aurasma](#) and [Junaio](#) are two augmented reality platforms that support this practice. While some libraries have already adopted the use of QR codes as a way to allow users to link to additional information on the web, augmented reality services have the potential to take this one step further and completely revolutionize the way libraries organize and describe material.

Making effective use of augmented reality in teaching may require a combination of tech savvy, subject area expertise, organization skills and knowledge of educational techniques. The central opportunity to remix faculty, scholar, technologist and librarian roles is at the library. A merging of library and computing services would help support this kind of collaboration on supporting teaching.

This merger of computing and libraries has already taken place in some institutions. The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) annually convenes a group of over 30 organizations that have merged the library and information technology units in liberal arts colleges. Co-mingling expertise within the library would help break down silos that have become entrenched in academia over time. But doing this means rethinking many aspects of library service – the credentials required, how work is organized and creating an openness to ending non-productive working practices or re-engineering them.

Blending the roles and relationships of different players in higher education as part of the library offers the opportunity to improve the experience of all of those involved, to the benefit of all. It’s a radical thought, but one well worth considering.

--Brenda Bailey-Hainer