



ATLA NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

820 Church Street, Suite 400
Evanston, Illinois 60201-5613
Melody S. Chartier, Editor

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Earlier this week an elderly woman stopped by our library and asked me to look at something she'd brought along. We sat at a table and she reached into a large bag, bringing out an object wrapped carefully in linen. She unwrapped this treasure and held it out: a beautiful, 1533 philosophical treatise printed in Basel and bound in a striking 16th century binding. It had been handed down as a family heirloom, and she was thinking now of what would become of it after her death. What could she tell her son about this piece of tradition—this thing that was precious to her and attested her family's reverence for learning and things of the intellect and spirit.

I thought about her question later this week as I attended the meeting of ATLA's Preservation Advisory Committee and then later spoke with members of the Association's Technology Advisory Committee in Evanston. While the first group's concern is with the microform copies of that extensive body of 19th and early 20th-century monographs and serials that ATLA has filmed over many years in its effort to preserve this theological treasure for future generations, the focus of the second group was on the way that technological developments may be harnessed for the benefit of theological libraries and their constituencies. The discussions were lively and generated a number of interesting proposals for future action for the Association to explore.


It seems to me that these two areas of concern illustrate well the world in which theological librarians live. We are entrusted with a corpus of literature that spans the length of human existence—it is not only the past five years that are

relevant for our discipline, but the past five millennia—and our role is to open doors and invite people into conversation with those giants of intellect and spirit who lived in times or places distant from our own. Without such engagement provided by our collections and staffs, theological education and inquiry would be far more restricted and parochial. At the same time, our institutions are set in thoroughly modern environments and are challenged to master new technologies for the effective discharge of our missions. It is not enough to preserve what is old; it must be mediated anew.

I suppose that it remains to be seen how well we'll do. Will we have something worthwhile to say about this tradition that we preserve? Will we be able to say it in effective and engaging ways? 

M. Patrick Graham
Pitts Theology Library, Emory University
ATLA President

PASSWORD FOR ATLA HOME PAGE

The password for the member page this quarter is MEMBER97 (all caps). There will be a new password in February. 

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Committees Meet

Four important committee meetings were held during October:

the Education Committee (October 4–5 in Evanston), the Annual Conference Committee (October 18–19 in Boston), the Preservation Advisory Committee (October 31–November 1 in Evanston), and the Technology Advisory Committee (November 1–2 in Evanston). Our thanks to committee members and chairs (Education—Roberta Schaafsma; Annual Conference—Christine Wenderoth; Preservation Advisory—Myron Chace; and Technology Advisory—Bill Hook).

Proposals from these committees will be forwarded to the ATLA Board of Directors for consideration at its midwinter meeting, January 17–18, 1997, in Evanston.

Demonstration Disk

ATLA's Information Services Department is preparing a demonstration disk that will be distributed at no charge to all ATLA members and customers. The disk will contain 6 major products:

1. Demonstration ATLA Religion Database. 7,000 records from RIO, RIT, and IBRR (approximately 1 % of the Religion Database) demonstrating the full capability of ATLA's premiere bibliographic tool.
2. Demonstration CPLI. 6,000 records from the *Catholic Periodical and Literature Index* including every major record type.
3. Demonstration OTA. 1400 records from ATLA's latest partnership project, demonstrating the unique resource, *Old Testament Abstracts*.
4. Complete Catalog of ATLA Serials on Microfilm. A new application that includes bibliographic information about ATLA's 1300+ serials titles on microfilm, searchable by keyword, title, ISSN, and reel order #.
5. Complete Catalog of ATLA Monographs on Microfiche. A new application that includes full bibliographic information and full MARC records for more than 30,000 monograph titles on microfiche, searchable by 11 fields, including keyword, order number, ISBN, language, main entry, title, descrip-

tion, series, notes, subject entry, and added entry.

6. Catalog of Selections from the Day Mission Collection: Asia and Pacific Rim. A new application that includes full MARC records for all titles of the new ATLA filming project (completed in June, 1996) covering the Asian and Pacific Rim materials from the Yale Day Missions Collection (11 searchable fields).

This exciting new product will be ready for distribution at the AAR/SBL Conference in New Orleans (November 21 - 25), and will be sent to all ATLA members and customers before Christmas. This product will allow everyone to explore the full power and potential of the ATLA Religion Database and, for the first time, to explore the depth and breadth of historic religious materials preserved in microformat. Look for your free disk in the mail. 📖

Dennis A. Norlin
Executive Director

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

The 1996 *Summary of Proceedings* will be printed later than usual due to the internal reorganization of ATLA headquarters. Members should receive their copy soon. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes and appreciate your continued patience and understanding. 📖

**MESSAGE FROM THE
DIRECTOR OF
MEMBER SERVICES**

ATLA Committee Meetings

The Education Committee (EC) met in Evanston on October 4–5, 1996. The EC, comprised of Roberta Schaafsma, Chair; Eileen Saner; Mary Martin; and James Pakala, was very industrious! Not only did the EC make some great plans for pre-conference continuing education, but they considered plans for an “EC link” on the ATLA web site, and initiated a liaison relationship between EC members and Interest Groups. Our thanks to this group for all its hard work!

The Annual Conference Committee (ACC) met in Boston on October 18–19, 1996. A tentative preliminary program was drafted by committee members Christine Wenderoth, Chair; Mitzi Budde, Bill Hook, Mary Martin, Sara Myers, and Myra Siegenthaler. I will make every effort to communicate salient conference information to the membership as soon as it is available. Check the home page regularly for updates.

ATLA Mentoring Program

What goes on at ATLA? How do you meet people, network, and generally get oriented to the association? Whom can you talk to about public services issues if you’re brand new to theological librarianship? These are some of the questions new and student members may be asking themselves as they join ATLA. To better serve our new and student members, I should like to begin a mentoring program. The idea is that a new/student member could be paired with a volunteer mentor: someone who is familiar with ATLA and has experience in the field of theological librarianship. If the new or student member attends the annual conference, the mentor could be there to introduce the person to others and be a resource concerning questions about theological librarianship.

Most ATLA members I’ve asked, both informally and through our User Group Survey, have indicated that a mentoring program is a good idea. In fact, the Annual Conference Committee has scheduled a time right before the opening reception for new members and mentors to gather and meet each other.

Included in the centerfold of this issue of the newsletter is a form for volunteers to return indicating their willingness to serve as a mentor for a new member for one year. Please read the guidelines on the mentoring program form and consider helping a new or student member feel like a part of ATLA. If you cannot be a mentor, you need not return the form. As a new benefit of ATLA membership, the proposed mentoring program is in process. As always, if you have suggestions on how we can make it better, please feel free to let me know.

Membership Survey

Also included in the centerfold of this issue of the newsletter is a brief membership survey. Please take a moment to return it to me. This survey will help me assess the membership needs and satisfaction with our services in general. One objective for member services in the ATLA strategic plan is for us to increase ATLA’s individual and institutional membership. A needs assessment/member satisfaction survey will provide me with necessary data and background market research to inform a membership drive. Additionally, and importantly, your responses will assist me in improving the quality of our services to you, the member. Your help, as always, is greatly appreciated.

Membership Application on the Web Site

To facilitate ease of application for ATLA membership, beginning November 15, 1996, both the individual and institutional membership brochures and applications will be available on the ATLA web site. There are two versions of the application forms: one for printout and one form that can be submitted electronically. The form for electronic submission will be posted on a trial basis until December 15. After we assess the viability of the electronic form within the one month trial period, we will determine whether or not to keep that particular form on the web site indefinitely. The printout version will be on the web site indefinitely.

Statistical Report Form

Non-ATS members of ATLA should be receiving their statistical report forms before the end of this calendar year. Please return the form to ATLA, not to ATS. I encourage you to call with questions should the need arise.

Finally . . .

Karen Anderson, who worked diligently with me for a year and a half, has left ATLA to work at the University of Chicago Regenstein Library in special collections. Her enthusiasm and good work will be missed and we wish her well.

As always, I consider myself fortunate to be in the company of so many good people: both members who work so hard to make the association what it is, and staff who make working in Evanston a pleasure. 📖

Melody S. Chartier
Director of Member Services

Interest Groups

In order to ensure a slot on this year's conference program, interest groups are reminded and encouraged to forward program ideas to the Director of Member Services by December 15, 1996.

JOURNALS ACCEPTED FOR INDEXING

The Religion Indexes are pleased to announce the acceptance of the following periodical titles for indexing in our print volumes and the Religion Database on CD-ROM.

For full indexing in *RIO* and *IBRR*:

Josephinum Journal of Theology
Logia: A Journal of Lutheran Theology
European Journal of Theology

For selective indexing in *RIO* and *IBRR*:

Seven: An Anglo-American Literary Review
Skeptic

For selective indexing in *RIO*:

Liturgy Digest

We continue to harvest titles for evaluation. To suggest names of titles for consideration, please contact Ric Hudgens, (847) 869-7788, rhudgens@atla.atla.com 📖

Joel R. Schorn
Senior Editor and Co-Editor, Religion Index
One: Periodicals

ATLA ANNUAL CONFERENCES

June 11-14, 1997 Boston, MA
June 17-21, 1998 Leesburg, VA
June 1999 Evanston, IL

**MESSAGE FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

When I accepted the offer of the Board to become the Executive Director of ATLA June 25, 1996, I asked each of the Board members to give me one piece of advice to take with me into this new and daunting position. I received excellent counsel in the initial meeting with the board and, although I continue to get valued advice and support from the board, I've taken these imperatives as my daily counsel. They reflect the wisdom and integrity of the Board and ATLA's membership, and I would like to share them with you:

Keep your eye on the ball; the ball is the membership

Visit as many libraries as you can

Keep your pastoral role in mind - for the staff, for the board, and for the membership

The majority of ATLA's members are from small institutions; don't forget them

Follow the directive of liberation theology—preferential treatment for the poor—and be aware of the have-nots in the association

Work hard to include new members: they are a source of constant renewal

Leadership means giving co-workers the freedom to be creative; trusting staff and the membership multiplies the effectiveness of the association

Don't isolate yourself from the board or the membership; the association is supportive and forgiving

Make the products better; we depend upon you for the tools we need

Get a feel for the whole, but don't try to do everything yourself; be a cheerleader for the association

There is a fine line between visionary leader and facilitator; relax and enjoy your role and don't intimidate people

Keep the same level of energy and enthusiasm when things are not going well, and keep your sense of humor

An attitude of openness and trust will elicit trust and cooperation from others

For the duration of my tenure as ATLA's Executive Director I will try to follow this excellent advice. 📖

*Dennis A. Norlin
Executive Director*

**NACO FUNNEL PROJECT
Revised Proposal (11/8/96)**

ATLA has decided to offer the NACO Funnel Project as a member service and has revised the costs accordingly. Please reconsider your participation. *Deadline for application: January 15, 1997.*

Program

Training session in the Boston area prior to the ATLA annual conference, June 8–10, 1997 (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday prior to the Wednesday pre-conferences) and a 1–2 hr. seminar each day of the conference.

- Day 1: Introduction to Name Authority work, Structure and form of an authority record, Beginning of personal name creation
- Day 2: Personal name creation. Hands on practice. Beginning of Corporate/Conference/Geographic name creation
- Day 3: Corporate/Conference/Geographic name creation, Uniform title creation
- Seminars during conference: Review of homework and hand out of next day's homework, Answer questions

Follow-Up

- Upon returning home, each participant would be expected to create and submit a minimum of 20 records, of varying complexity, per month. The records submitted would be reviewed, critiqued and added to the NAF. When a participant had achieved a 95% error free rate, s/he would be made independent. Average time to achieve independence expected to be six months.
- Thereafter, an independent participant could ask for assistance at any time.
- Continuing documentation from LC would be duplicated and sent to all participants.

Cost

- Three day training session: \$50.00 tuition (travel, room and board up to the individual)
- Minimum number of individuals required for training to take place: 5
- Maximum number of individuals to be accommodated 10

Requirements for participation

- Minimum 2-years full-time cataloging experience.
- Institutional committment of 5-10 hrs. per week release time for working on name authority generation.
- Must be an institutional or personal member of ATLA.

Application Process

Please submit a written statement indicating the range of cataloging experience and giving evidence of institutional committment to participation.

To assist catalogers in convincing their supervisors to allow participation in this program, we suggest the following:

Benefits of Participation to ATLA Libraries

- Provides continuing education to catalogers.
- Makes a significant contribution to the national database.
- Enhances the image of the library. There is a lot of respect for members of NACO and CONSER programs among technical services librarians.
- Increases productivity. When the name authorities as you establish them become the national standard, there is much less catalog maintenance to be done.
- Makes available the considerable resources of the Library of Congress. Questions concerning unfamiliar languages and complicated entries can be resolved much faster by relying on the experts at LC.

Send application to Judy Knop, Preservation Coordinator, ATLA, 820 Church Street, Suite 400, Evanston, IL 60201. FAX: (847) 869-8513. E-mail: jknop@atla.atla.com.

Deadline for application: January 15, 1997

*Judy Knop
ATLA Preservation Coordinator
jknop@atla.atla.com*

PUBLICATIONS


**Bugenhagen's Funeral Sermon
for Martin Luther**

This is to announce the publication of a facsimile of Johann Bugenhagen's funeral sermon for Martin Luther (Eine Christliche Predigt Wittemberg, G. Rhau, 1546) with introduction and English translation by Prof. Kurt K. Hendel (Christ Seminary—Seminary Professor of Reformation History, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago). The sermon is issued by the Pitts Theology Library in connection with the 1996 Kessler Reformation Concert (Oct. 29, 1996) and its commemoration of the 450th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther.


The electronic version of the facsimile is accessible at:

http://chaucer.library.emory.edu/luther/luther_sitse/luther_frame.html.


Print copies of the lecture are available at no charge for the addition to library collections. Requests with mailing label may be sent to:

M. Patrick Graham
Pitts Theology Library
Emory University
Atlanta, GA 30322 


Theological Context for Pastoral Caregiving

This book provides helpful information for parish pastors, people in training to be parish pastors, and specialists in the field of pastoral care and counseling. As one of the easiest-to-read books on this subject, it can also be used as a text for graduate-level classes in courses such as theology and pastoral care, pastoral theology, and practical theology. With this book seminary students will finally be able to relate the practical things learned in pastoral counseling classes with what is learned in theology classes. Published August 1996; \$29.95 hard; ISBN 0-7890-0072-5; 190 pp. with Index. Order from Haworth Press, Inc., 10 Alice Street, Binghamton, NY 13904-1580; toll free 800-HAWORTH or by e-mail: getinfo@haworth.com. 

News for Bibliophiles

The Used Book Lover's Guide to the Central States, has just been released by Book Hunter Press. The new 464-page guide features more than 1,250 open shops, by appointment and mail order dealers in the Rocky Mountain, Prairie, Southwestern, and South-central states. Like the previously published books in the series, the Central States guide is the only guide to used book dealers that includes comments about open shops based on the authors' actual visits and state, regional, and city maps that identify clusters of shops located near each other. For a free catalog or to place an order, contact Book Hunter Press, P.O. Box 193, Yorktown Heights, New York, NY 10598, (914) 245-6608, (914) 245-2630 FAX. 

Furniture for Sale

As a result of our recent headquarters move, ATLA has a significant amount of Herman Miller furniture that we would like to sell. We have an assortment of three-, five-, and eight-foot panels that can be used to build cubicles. (The majority are five-foot.) We also have many two-foot, four-foot, and six-foot shelves and tabletops. If you are interested in purchasing Herman Miller furniture for your institution, please contact MaryJo Johnson, Office/Personnel Manager, ATLA, 820 Church St., Ste. 400, Evanston, IL 60201. 847-869-7788 or e-mail: mjohnson@atla.atla.com. 

DIKTUON

The name *Diktuon* is the Koine word for “net”
as in fisherman’s net
Edited by Duane Harbin
and Gilles Poitras

A *Diktuon* Retrospective

This quarter, we’ll take a look back at previous columns and get some brief updates to the information contained in them:

1. Vol. 42, no. 3 (February 1995) The premiere of *Diktuon*: **Connecting to the Internet: Starting Points and Resources**

Besides introducing *Diktuon* and its editors, this column covered the basics of Internet connectivity and finding service. The content is still quite current. The major change is that connections are now faster and potential Internauts have many more choices for Internet service providers (ISPs). For up-to-the-minute ratings of ISPs, check out CNET’s review of providers:

<http://www.cnet.com/Content/Reviews/Compare/ISP/>

Keep in mind that this information is geared to individual access and not institutional access.

2. Vol. 42, no. 4 (May 1995): **Netiquette—On-line Etiquette Tips**

While this article deals primarily with e-mail and newsgroup etiquette, it applies equally well to chat rooms. Like most etiquette, “netiquette” is chiefly informed common sense. This simple guide will be worthwhile for newbies and as a refresher for experienced users for some time to come.

3. Vol. 43, no. 1 (August 1995): **Weaving a Web Site**

Although still a good introduction to the workings the Worldwide Web and Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), this article is out-of-date on new Web editors and useful instructional sites for Web-weavers. *The Art of HTML* site (a.k.a. *TAO of HTML*) has moved to:

<http://www.taoh.com/>

TAOH remains an excellent compilation of the best resources for Web-site construction.

Web editors proliferate far beyond the ability of a quarterly column to cover. *Netscape Gold* is available free of charge for educational use. Commercial products such as Adobe *Pagemill* and Anaware Software’s *HotDog Pro* strive to make Web editing easier, but nothing is providing true WYSIWYG (What-You-See-Is-What-You-Get) functionality. They work well with simple Web pages, but do not yet handle forms and tables very well. The next generation of standard office applications is touted as being “net-aware,” but just how successful they will be remains to be seen.

4. Vol. 43, no. 2 (November 1995): **Tips for Getting On-line: Dial-Up Connections**

Only the modem speeds have changed. Or is it the modem prices?

5. Vol. 43, no. 3 (February 1996): **Planning Web Content**

Careful planning enhances any publication, print or electronic. To take the next step, see *The Art of HTML*’s “Style” section:

<http://www.taoh.com/style.htm>

6. Vol. 43, no. 4 (May 1996): **Web Search Engines**

Although still useful, this is probably the most dated *Diktuon* so far. Web search resources are developing too rapidly for any review to stay current very long. Even the Web listings of search tools get behind. The InterNIC Scout Toolkit site has a good listing of indexes, subject guides and catalogs, and directories:

<http://rs.internic.net/scout/toolkit/search.html>

7. Vol. 44, no. 1 (August 1996): **Why Won't This Page Look Right?**

Whether it's careless coding or version incompatibility, Murphy's Law applies to Web pages too. HTML itself is a rapidly developing standard, and not all browsers can utilize the latest and greatest features. It pays to check your work in several browsers, particularly if you want to accommodate text-only users. Validating your HTML code will help ensure that your pages don't "break" when new browser versions come along.

And so it goes. As the second year of *Diktuon* draws to a close, its contents have stood the test of time better than might be expected. There's no shortage of material in sight. As an experiment, the rest of this article will take a departure from the usual concentration on the Internet and Web to cover a separate but related technology: teleconferencing. It's hard to say if this digression will be a one-time event, or will become a habit. A lot depends on what ATLA members want to read. Let us know what you think, either directly to the e-mail address listed below or through the ATLA staff in Evanston.

Teleconferencing: A brief overview

The word "teleconferencing" covers a range of models that use basic video technology in combination with various telecommunications media to provide connections between distant sites for interactive meetings. The models vary in how broadly they can be distributed, how interactive they are, and the quality of the video and sound. The following is not an exhaustive list of all possible variations, but it covers most of what is now available or is anticipated in the near future.

Satellite Links

Most satellite conferences are extensions of traditional conferences. The activities at the central site are transmitted by satellite to remote stations with downlink capabilities. Participants at remote stations can view the activities at the originating site. Anyone making a presentation at the conference must still go to the originating site. The originating site may offer telephone links for remote participants to submit questions or comments. Otherwise remote participation is passive. The video and sound quality is high, and programs can be taped for later viewing.

Interactive Teleconferencing

Interactive teleconferencing is the most rapidly developing form of teleconferencing, and the form of greatest interest to distance educators. In interactive teleconferencing, two or more sites are linked for sound and video by a high-speed telecommunications link. The conferences take place in rooms that are specially equipped with video cameras, monitors, and microphones. People at different sites can see and interact with each other, almost as if they were together in the same room. Computer data displays and prerecorded video can be included in the transmission. Systems also now include sophisticated, portable control consoles that manage the interaction and are simple to use.

The costs of interactive teleconferencing are beginning to drop off. Some components, such as video monitors and cameras, are readily available off the shelf. The costly components are primarily the controls, the signal processors that compress and transceive the multimedia data, and the telecommunications connections. Interactive teleconferencing requires considerable bandwidth. That used to mean expensive dedicated digital lines. Current technology utilizes

standard ISDN lines, which are becoming readily available. The number of ISDN lines required depends upon the quality of image that's acceptable for the conference. For conferences that involve many sites, costs can be lowered by routing the communications through a hub. A simple setup that can accommodate groups of up to ten can be created for less than \$40,000. The larger the group to be accommodated on the site, and the more flexible the interaction, the more expensive the setup. All interactive teleconferences also require two fully equipped sites.

Interactive teleconferencing facilities are available for lease. Kinko's has begun installing small-to-medium size facilities at many of its urban locations. Facilities can be shared between institutions, providing scheduling conflicts can be worked out.

Desktop Teleconferencing

Desktop teleconferencing utilizes a multimedia computer, a tiny video camera and microphone, and a data network connection. Any two computer users on the network can see and talk to each other via their computers. The concept has been demonstrated by Cornell University (CU-SeeMe), Apple and others. The principal problem with the concept is that few data networks support the necessary bandwidth for high quality video. Currently, the functionality is akin to video telephones.

Progress has been made in improving compression algorithms and processing of the compressed data for display. Another interesting capability of this technology is scheduled and on-demand viewing. Desktop teleconferencing allows scheduling a broadcast that any suitably equipped workstation on the net can tune into. Video clips can also be posted as part of Web sites and viewed on demand. At the present level of functionality, desktop teleconferencing is more curious than useful. However, significant breakthroughs here will mean deep reductions in the cost of interactive teleconferencing.



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ATLANTIS HIGHLIGHTS

ATLANTIS is the ATLA listserv. To subscribe send the following message: Subscribe ATLANTIS first name last name to listserv@harvarda.harvard.edu

October Reference Review

Bray, Gerald. *Biblical Interpretation, Past and Present*. Leicester, U.K.: Apollos, 1996. 608 pp. \$48.00

The volume and variety of works on the history of biblical interpretation is such that there would not seem to be a lot of room for improvement or innovation. However, with *Biblical Interpretation, Past and Present*, Gerald Bray has done exactly that, in two ways that make this new work well worth our attention. First, and simplest, he brings the discussion of the subject pretty well up to date, giving about one-third of its pages to modern and recent developments. (Bray writes as a conservative: conservative works in this field have tended to pay too much attention to what happened up to Schleiermacher, and not enough to what followed. In this, the present work is a welcome exception).

Second, and more importantly, the *structure* of this book is quite brilliant, taking a wealth of historical material and offering it up in a form that is highly engaging and eminently useable. (There are a lot of dull books in this field). Bray divides the material into three major Parts: Before Historical Criticism, The Historical Method, and The Contemporary Scene. Within each of

the book's thirteen chapters he proceeds as follows:

- summary of issues and developments within the period
- brief profiles of the major figures of the period, by region, where applicable
- outline of prevailing methodology(s)
- bibliography (general)
- case study: a “snapshot” of how leading figures interpreted a part of the canon that was of primary interest during this period.
- Comparison/contrast of different methodologies.
- supplementary bibliography from the case study.

To cite one fascinating example, Bray's treatment of the Medieval period, chapter four, pp. 129-64) briefly charts the ascendancy of Latin as the language of scholarship. The case study discusses the period's unparalleled fascination with the “Song of Songs”(at least *sixty-four* commentaries were written between Hippolytus and Luther).

The bibliographies are extensive, with a good mix of periodical and monographic citations, and their placement at the end of each chapter, rather than at the conclusion of the book, means that they are more likely to be used. Hence *Biblical Interpretation, Past and Present* is going to be an exceptionally useful resource, even if only read or referred to in sections.

Taken as a whole, however, this volume has something more to offer. Gerald Bray is quite bullish on the recovery of the Bible by the *church*: “the church needs to reflect again on the whole process of biblical interpretation, and particularly on the way it has shaped Christian doctrine and Christian life over the centuries”(8). We are provided throughout with a rich sense of how many trends and issues in the history of interpretation were anything but abstract, and of how (in the author's view) biblical interpretation in future generations will be enriched if the scholarly community gives greater heed to the Bible as “the book of the church.”

Biblical interpretation has been and always will be a hotbed of controversy—so much is at stake, after all—so it is just as well that the author of a work such as this not be bland, or flinch from

giving some sense of his own opinions: Bray does not hesitate to do so. “Social trends” (chapter eleven) in interpretation, especially Feminist interpretations, come in for some harsh evaluation; conversely, he foresees a growing role for conservatives in the next generation, and is especially passionate in pressing the need for a new synthesis between academic schools of interpretation and the Church, whose book the Bible was in the first place. Not so long ago I read a newspaper review of yet another book on the Royal family: the exasperated reviewer found the work tiresome, and concluded by saying that “once you put it down, you can't pick it up.” Once in awhile it is pleasant to be surprised in the exact opposite way.

Not all survey works are created equal: at worst, they engender a false sense of actually knowing the field that has been surveyed. In happier instances, they present the facts and nuances in broad outline, and point the reader directly to more complete treatments of the subject, should the reader wish or need to know more.

I expect that *Biblical Interpretation, Past and Present* will prove to be highly useful as an introductory survey to students, as well as a guidebook to what has happened, is happening, and will be happening in this foundational sector of theological studies. 📖

David Stewart
Assistant Librarian
Regent College, Vancouver

September Reference Review

Dictionary of Ethics, Theology, and Society. Edited by Paul Barry Clarke and Andrew Linzey. London and New York: Routledge, 1996. Pp. xxxiii +926. \$125. ISBN: 0-415-06212-8.

Recent years have been good to librarians and their patrons in the production of some remarkably useful reference works in ethics and related fields. In addition to the issuing and updating of dictionaries of Christian ethics, such as the *New Dictionary of Christian Ethics & Pastoral Theology*, edited by David J. Atkinson and David H. Field (IVP, 1995), and *The Westminster Dictionary of Christian Ethics*, edited by James F. Childress and John Macquarrie (Westminster, 1986), publishers have also given us some more wide-ranging, less traditional tools. For example, *Encyclopedia of Ethics*, edited by Lawrence C. Becker (Garland, 1992), is a two-volume philosophical dictionary that is of great usefulness to theological ethicists, not least for its article "Christian ethics" by James Gustafson. More unusual in format is *A bibliographic guide to the comparative study of ethics*, edited by John Carman and Mark Juergensmeyer (Cambridge University Press, 1991), which provides fifteen bibliographic essays on such broad areas as ancient Greek religious ethics, Jewish ethics, Christian ethics in each of four periods, and modern philosophical ethics as well as ethics in other major religious traditions today.

Taking its place on the shelf with these volumes, Clarke and Linzey's *Dictionary of Ethics, Theology and Society*: (hereinafter abbreviated DETS) provides articles on traditional ethical topics and on recent social and theological issues. Clarke on free will, for example, falls alphabetically between Rosemary Ruether on feminism and Martin Marty on fundamentalism. One sees major figures writing throughout the book: Jose Míguez Bonino, Lisa Sowle Cahill, Charles Curran, Stanley Hauerwas, John Macquarrie, Philip Wogaman, and John Yoder. One also finds a broad range of orientations and ideologies. If the preceding list isn't enough to make that point, try these: Don Cupitt, Michael Novak, Daphne Hampson, E. R. Norman, Kenneth Leech. While most of the authors are British or North American, there are authors from Argentina, Australia, South Africa, France, and Germany. It would have been helpful to have a list of the articles by each contributor.

The dictionary was conceived in the interfaith and interdisciplinary environment of the Centre for the Study of Theology at the University of Essex, in England, which is concerned specifically with the relationship between theology and society. Clarke is now Lecturer in the Department of Government at the University of Essex, while Linzey is both Senior Research Fellow at Mansfield College, Oxford, and special Professor in Theology at the University of Nottingham.

The excellence of the authors' list notwithstanding, one is struck by the absence of some topics: nothing on Bible or Scripture, for example, or on Moses or Jesus or Paul. Denominational treatments are included, helpfully: Stephen Sykes on Anglicanism, Todd David Whitmore on Catholicism, James Atkinson on Lutheranism, Fisher Humphreys on the Baptist perspective. There are articles on Black Muslims and Black Theology but none on Jews or Judaism. Fortunately, the index leads the user to sections of articles that do deal with these "omitted" topics. One is pleased to find articles on topics one might not expect, too--on farming, for example, or clergy.

Overall, the quality of the work is remarkably high. The articles are of the length and level to recommend to students, and their teachers will find them useful stimulants to tired thinking (particularly so given their interdisciplinary cast and their bibliographies). If one has to work up a subject quickly in which one is not a specialist, this volume will often provide excellent assistance. Like all such tools, it must never be used by itself; teaching students to lay two or three treatments of a subject alongside each other is surely one of the most important parts of the librarian's response to the question, "Do you have anything on—?" Certainly no theological library should be without it. 📖

James Dunkly
Associate University Librarian
and Librarian of the School of Theology
University of the South

**NEWS OF ATLA MEMBERS
AND MEMBER LIBRARIES**

Herman Peterson Moves to Purdue

Herman Peterson, who has recently left the monastery and library at St. Meinrad School of Theology, is now the Public Services Librarian at the North Central campus of Purdue University. In addition to his responsibilities in the library, he will begin teaching religion next fall. He can be reached at:

Herman A. Peterson
Purdue University North Central Library
1401 South U.S. Highway 421
Westville, IN 46391-9528
(219) 785-5290

John Bulow Campbell Library

I've just returned from the dedication ceremony for the addition to and the renovation of The John Bulow Campbell Library (Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur GA). Their old building was erected in 1953 and (before the recent renovation) had 27,000 sq. ft. and room for ca. 100,000 volumes. The new addition to the library added 25,000 sq. ft. and increases the space for books to 250,000 vols. They have also added 170 data outlets, spacious circulation and reference areas, and a special collections room with its own HVAC system and FM200 fire suppression system. The builder did such a magnificent job matching the brick & limestone of the new structure to those of the old building that it is extremely difficult to see where the old structure ended and the new one begins. Tim Browning, his staff, and Columbia Theological Seminary will be blessed by many seminarians in Atlanta in the years to come for this achievement. 📖

*M. Patrick Graham
Pitts Theology Library
libmpg@emory.edu*

ATLA RECEIVES NEW MEMBERS

The American Theological Library Association welcomes the following new members:

Individuals

Dr. William F. Abernathy
Director of Library Services
Ozark Christian College
1111 N. Main Street
Joplin, MO 64801

Ms. Carol J. Branscomb
123 A Georgetown Drive
Columbus, OH 43214

Mrs. Martha Lund Smalley
Research Services Librarian
Yale Divinity School
409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511

Mr. Mick R. Williams
5510 Whig Street
Salamanca, NY 14779

Students

Rev. Jon Arvid Aho
GSLIS
University of Texas at Austin
mailing address:
7504B Southgate Lane
Austin, TX 78744

Ms. Beth Bidlack
Boston University
mailing address:
121 Tremont St., Apt. 221
Brighton, MA 02135

Rev. H. Leron Bradway
GSLIS
University of Iowa
mailing address:
P.O. Box 53
Ely, IA 52227

Mrs. Tatyana B. Miller
Queens College
mailing address:
26 Pondfield Rd. West, Apt. 4C
Bronxville, NY 10708

Rev. Kevin Moroney
Rutgers University
mailing address:
213 Madison Ave.
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Mr. Michael Stauffer
GSLIS
Indiana University
Bloomington, IN 47405-1801

POSITIONS OPEN

Director

The Graduate Theological Union announces that the position of Director of the Flora Lamson Hewlett Library will be open as of July 1, 1997. The GTU Common Library serves six Protestant seminaries, three Roman Catholic Theologates, the Center for Jewish Studies, eleven affiliates/centers, and builds its collection in concert with the University of California, Berkeley.

Individuals desiring additional information, or making nominations, or considering applications for the position, should write to Dean Margaret R. Miles, co-chair of the Search Committee, c/o John Dillenberger, the Search Committee's executive secretary, GTU, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley, CA 94709; (510) 649-2440; (510) 649-1417 FAX. A detailed description of the position will be available by November 10, 1996. The deadline for receipt of all application documents is February 1, 1997. EOE.

Library Director

The Archdiocese of Denver seeks a full-time Library Director for the Archbishop Vehr Theological Library. This former seminary library features 140,000 volumes specializing in theology and philosophy. Plans are to make the Library an academic hub for adult and higher education for northern Colorado Catholics, housed in the same beautiful grounds and buildings as the Chancery. We will be developing a specialized children's section, and a multimedia center for parish access.

Responsibilities

Direct and implement all aspects of the Library's operations: staffing, acquisitions, cataloging, library use, interaction with the Pastoral Center. Supervise two professional staff plus volunteers; lead the Library into the next century by maintaining people/service orientation, while aggressively working with the archdiocesan grant writer to find funds for making the necessary transition to automation.

Qualifications

Minimum qualifications are an ALA-MLS or equivalent degree with three years of effective service in a theological library using LC classification and OCLC. Expertise on both personal computers (including CD-ROM technology and the internet) and standard library computer systems. Must possess superior people and organizational skills, flexibility, and a sense of humor. Highly desirable qualifications are a second graduate degree in Catholic theology or cognate field and experience in automating manual cataloging and circulation systems.

Send resume, letter of interest, and three professional recommendations to David B. Warner, Director of Catholic Adult Education, 200 Josephine St., Denver, CO 80206. Starting date: February 1, 1997 or as negotiated. Review of applications begins December 1, 1996, and continues until the position is filled. EOE.

Librarian

Central Baptist Theological Seminary, a professional graduate school of theology affiliated with the American Baptist Churches in the USA and in full support of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, invites applications for a possible tenure-track faculty position as Librarian and Professor of Learning Resources. Central stands within the free church tradition, with a devotion to the redemptive gospel, the evangelistic mission of the church, and to the spirit of intellectual inquiry which encourages open-mindedness to the best insights of biblical and theological studies.

Qualifications/Responsibilities

MLS or Ph.D. in Library Science from an ALA-accredited school or equivalent; additional degree in theology or related field strongly preferred; minimum of 5 years preferred in: administrative experience in an academic library; an electronic environment, specifically library automation; collection development experience; and OCLC.

Application Instructions

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. To guarantee consideration applicants must submit by November 30, 1996: 1) a letter describing library interests and experience with specific reference to the applicant's qualifications for the position, scholarly plans and commitment to ethnic/cultural/gender diversity; 2) vitae; and 3) the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three references. Send to Dr. James F. Hines, Academic Dean, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, 741 N. 31st Street, Kansas City, KS 66102-3964.

Assistant Librarian for Reference and Systems Management

The Philip Schaff Library of Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA, invites applications for the full-time position of assistant librarian for reference and systems management.

Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the Director of Library Services, responsibilities comprise two major areas: 1) reference, including interpretation of the reference collection, public catalog, ATLA Religion Indexes and Old Testament Abstracts on CD, helping patrons identify and obtain materials within the library collections and through interlibrary loan, and development of computer applications to library functions and bibliographic instruction.

Qualifications

Required: ALA-accredited MLS. Knowledge of library electronic resources and telecommunications systems; knowledge of the internet, knowledge of network technology. Training in and/or experience in planning for, implementing, and overseeing an automated library system. Excellent knowledge of computers; library experience in public service; experience with OCLC (including ILL); strong interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills required. Desir-

able: Knowledge of theological terminology; graduate degree in relevant field.

Salary

\$22,000–\$30,000 depending on qualifications and excellent benefits.

Lancaster Theological Seminary is a closely related seminary of the United Church of Christ. Degree programs include M.Div., M.A.R., and D.Min. serving a student population of 125 FTE taught and administered by 12 full-time faculty members. The library is an OCLC member through Palinet; a member of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Theological Library Association (SEPTLA), an active consortium of 17 theological libraries; and a member of ATLA. The library collection numbers 122,000 items, has a full-time staff of 3 (two professional librarians, one paraprofessional) plus student workers, and active volunteers. The library serves the students, faculty, and staff of the seminary, students and faculty from other area colleges, area clergy, and lay people. This position offers the exciting opportunity to guide a mid-sized, vibrant library in the development and use of electronic technology to better serve the information needs of all its patrons.

Applications submitted before December 30, 1996 will be given priority. Send letter of application and resume with names, addresses and phone numbers of three references to: Rev. Richard R. Berg, Director of Library Services, Philip Schaff Library, Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA 17603. EOE.

Assistant Librarian

St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, CA is seeking an Assistant Librarian (religious preferred) to direct the day-to-day operations of its theology library. Reporting to the Director of Libraries, and assisted by 1 full-time staff member and several students, the Assistant Librarian will oversee all technical services (acquisitions, cataloging, periodicals) and public services (reference, circulation, ILL), with particular emphasis on the latter. Substantial recent library experience is required. An MLS is preferred. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience.

The Edward Laurence Doheny Memorial Library holds approximately 60,000 volumes and 300 current periodicals, and supports a graduate-

level theology curriculum. St. John's is the archdiocesan seminary for Los Angeles, and is primarily dedicated to forming candidates for the diocesan priesthood in parochial ministry within the Southwestern United States.

The seminary is surrounded by citrus groves and grounds of rare, beautiful landscaping which overlook the fertile coastal plains of Ventura County. Send cover letter and resume, with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three current references to: Ron Hastings, Director of Libraries, St. John's Seminary, 5012 Seminary Road, Camarillo, CA 93012, fax: 805-987-0885.



Assistant Librarian

Methodist Theological School in Ohio is seeking an assistant librarian. Responsible for reference work, some cataloging, online searching, and bibliographic instruction. Also supervises cataloging and audio visual departments. Qualifications: M.L.S. and a graduate degree in a theological discipline, experience with OCLC, online searching, opacs, and all phases of library work. Job description available. Resumes/vitas to: President Norman E. Dewire, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, P.O. Box 1204, 3081 Columbus Pike, Delaware, OH 43015-0931. Search begins in January 1997; position to start July 1, 1997.

Member Services Associate

ATLA headquarters seeks accurate, dependable worker for Member Services Division to process membership requests; track dues; assemble brochures and publications; plus office support. Requires 1 year general office experience, working knowledge of Word and Lotus; Page-Maker a plus. Attention to detail and excellent communication skills to interact with members, both verbal and written, are required. 20 to 25 hours weekly, flexible schedule. Competitive wage, paid vacation, sick leave, and retirement benefits available. Pleasant working environment. Position begins immediately or by December 2. Send resume and cover letter to Melody Chartier, Director of Member Services, American Theological Library Association, 820 Church St., #400, Evanston, IL 60201-5613. 847-869-7788; E-mail: chartier@atla.atla.com. EOE.

PUBLICATION DATES FOR ATLA NEWSLETTER

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Copy Deadline</u>
Vol. 44, No. 3	February 1, 1997
Vol. 44, No. 4	May 1, 1997