



# Awards and Recognition

## Honorary Life Membership

ANZTLA Honorary Life Membership is awarded to an individual who has made a contribution of outstanding and lasting importance to theological libraries and has a record of active involvement in the Association. The individual has made an impact to theological libraries in Australia and/or New Zealand.



Figure 1: Annette McGrath & Stephen Morton

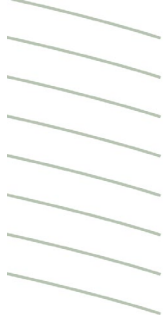


## Stephen Morton

Stephen Morton celebrates his silver anniversary as a member of ANZTLA in 2025. He first attended ANZTLA Queensland Chapter meetings in 2001 after graduating as a Librarian from the Queensland University of Technology. Over the last 25 years with ANZTLA, Steve has worked in a number of theological libraries and contributed to theological librarianship. He started his theological librarian career as a theological librarian at Garden City College of Ministries. He also navigated the transition of Garden City College of Ministries to Harvest Theological College and continued as Librarian until 2009. Steve then moved to the Bible College of Queensland (which also became known as Crossway College and is now known as Brisbane School of Theology) in 2010 where he served until 2013. Steve's last move was to Christian Heritage College where he was appointed Librarian in 2014. Here he has remained until now, and he will retire from the position of Senior Librarian in January 2026. During his time in all three institutions, Steve has promoted the role and image of the profession by his faithfulness to theological education, generous support of his colleagues, and by guiding the development of fine collections of theological and related resources, a lasting legacy on which others can build. A knowledgeable, approachable and experienced librarian, Steve's commitment to information literacy and patron assistance has been of benefit to many theological students in Queensland and the wider theological library community. He is a librarian who consistently goes above and beyond to help people find the information they seek.

During his time with ANZTLA Steve has been an integral part of the Queensland Chapter, attending his first meeting in November 2001 and quickly becoming involved with all aspects of the group. Steve has served as ANZTLA Queensland Chapter Chair for over a decade as well as fulfilling the role of Queensland Chapter Treasurer since 2011. At the national level, Steve served on the ANZTLA Board as Treasurer from 2015-2017 and has been conference representative/liaison on the Board in 2018 and 2025. Steve has also significantly contributed to the updating of the ANZTLA Conference Guidelines in 2018.

Steve first attended an ANZTLA Conference circa 2004, and the majority of conferences since then. Steve has taken a leading role as part of the organising committee for all of the Queensland-based conferences since 2004. He has enthusiastically brought and executed great ideas, offered his detailed organisational and financial skills, and led innovative planning. He has also brought a spirit of fun and friendliness to all the Brisbane conferences. His help with IT and tech at various conferences has also been appreciated.



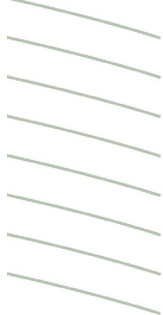
Steve's commitment to welcoming newcomers and building relationships with fellow ANZTLA Librarians has been a wonderful contribution to the association. Many ANZTLA Members have been encouraged by their conversations with Steve through the ANZTLA Forum, at Conferences over dinner and lunch breaks, or whilst watching the World Cup or State of Origin, playing pool, or in a local café or bar 'networking' with colleagues at ANZTLA Conferences all over Australia and New Zealand!

- Member since 2001
- Integral part of the Organising Committee of ANZTLA Conferences in Brisbane in 2004, 2011, 2018 and 2025.
- Board member 2015-2018, 2025
- ANZTLA Treasurer 2015-2017
- Conference Representative on the ANZTLA Board 2018, 2025.
- Queensland Chapter President/Chair for many years
- Queensland Chapter Treasurer since 2011 (15 years)

## Annette McGrath

Annette McGrath started as a Theological Librarian in March 1998 with the then named Queensland Presbyterian Theological Hall. In early 2000's the Hall changed its name to be the Reformed College of Ministries and is now called the Queensland Theological College. Throughout the changes and developments, Annette has faithfully served as Librarian for this College for 27 years and counting! She was a solo Librarian for QTC for 10 years until 2008, managing all aspects of the Library, and now serves as the Librarian and IT Support Coordinator for QTC supervising a team of six. Alongside her role at QTC, Annette was engaged as Consulting Librarian to the Westminster Theological College Library in Brisbane from 2003-2006 helping to develop that Library's collection, cataloguing practices and staff development. During her time as an ANZTLA member, Annette has also been involved as a volunteer with the Presbyterian Church of Queensland Archives, giving her time to learn about Archival policy and procedures, working to develop the PCQ Archives policy, and leading a team to record, digitise and relocate the holdings of the Archives.

Soon after commencing with the QTC Library, Annette became a member of ANZTLA Qld Chapter, attending her first ANZTLA Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1998. In 1998 Annette also submitted her first ANZTLA Statistical Return for the year 1997 and has been a member, contributor and champion of ANZTLA ever since! Annette became Secretary of the ANZTLA Queensland Chapter in 2001 and has



served continuously in this role for the last 24 years and ongoing. She first attended an ANZTLA conference in 2004 in Brisbane and has participated in the majority of conferences since then. Annette's workload of Secretary has been particularly time-consuming and a significant gift to the Queensland Chapter during the planning of four ANZTLA Conferences held in Brisbane (2004, 2011, 2018 and 2025). As a team player, Annette has assisted wherever there was a need, before and during these events. She has contributed by organising ANZTLA conference sponsorship, conference speakers, conference publications and more.

At the national level, Annette served on the ANZTLA Board as Vice-President of ANZTLA from 2017-2018 and as an Australasian Religion Index (ARI) indexer from 2008-2014.

Apart from her outstanding service to the ANZTLA Queensland Chapter, during her time as a Theological Librarian, Annette has promoted the role and image of the profession by particularly focusing on information literacy, adopting and endorsing new technologies within the library environment, encouraging Faculty-Librarian relations, and developing the QTC Library collection from just over 8000 print resources in 1998 to over 33,000 resources in 2025. She has managed two QTC Library relocations and renovations, played a key role in creating and refining library policy and guidelines for theological libraries in Australia, and has been involved in mentoring Librarians across multiple States in areas including leadership, library management and transitions to a new library management systems. Since 2012 Annette has invested her passion for theological libraries by serving four three-year terms as the Australian College of Theology (ACT)/Australian University of Theology (AUT) Representative Librarian on the AUT Academic Board.