

## A Forum on Electronic Journals: Change, Challenge, Opportunity: *Introduction*

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The following papers, which have not previously appeared in print, were originally presented on September 27, 2008, as part of a panel discussion organized by the *Anglican Theological Review*. The theme of that event related to the pros and cons of e-publishing, and the prose style of the pieces reflect the conversational tone of the event. The original audience was comprised of the *ATR* board of directors, who determined the format and order of the presentations. They selected a longer presentation by Jeffrey Garrett, Associate University Librarian for Special Libraries at Northwestern University, and invited responses to Mr. Garrett's paper by a trio of panelists. These included Christine Wenderoth (JKM Library), Beth Sheppard (United Library, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary), and James Dunkly (University of the South School of Theology). Together, all four participants represented areas of expertise upon which *ATR* was anxious to draw as it pondered questions regarding the viability of electronic formats for journal publication.

We are pleased to present three of the works in *Theological Librarianship* (the fourth response was an oral commentary rather than a written one), not only because their subject matter is timely, but also to demonstrate that librarians can and do take an active part in the academy beyond the confines of the usual professional library conferences and the normal round of meetings within the field specialties of religious studies. Librarians have much to contribute, and these three pieces demonstrate insightful thinking and an active and engaged dialogue.

Thanks must be tendered to Mr. Newland F. Smith, current president of the *ATR* executive committee, and to Ellen K. Wondra, Editor in Chief of *ATR*, for consenting to allow the publication of these pieces in *Theological Librarianship*.