
Professional Development

By Wesley D. Custer, Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Wesley Custer, Asbury Theological Seminary, Chair
- Yasmine Abou-El-Kheir, Chicago Theological Seminary
- Martha Adkins, University of San Diego, Secretary
- Michael Bradford, Harvard University
- James Estes, Wesley Theological Seminary
- Warren Watson, Payne Theological Seminary
- Gillian Harrison Can, ATLA Staff Liaison

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS:

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) endeavors each year to provide programming and information relevant to the membership of ATLA. One of the most significant contributions to date is the webinars hosted by ATLA and sponsored by the PDC. We were able to plan nine webinars during the past year:

- *Sustainable Collection Services (SCS): A Brief Introduction* by OCLC
- *Small Libraries Collaborating to Create Information Literacy Videos* by Susan Ebertz, Karl Stutzman, and Vance M. Thomas
- *The (Virtual) Human Touch: Promoting the Spirit of Inquiry Through (Distance) Research* by Melody Diehl Detar and David E. Schmersal
- *OCLC QuestionPoint* by OCLC
- *Kicking Off the ATLA SACO Funnel* by Richard Lammert
- *Demystifying Digital Humanities: How Librarians Can Get Involved* by Michael P. Hemenway and Micah D. Saxton
- *Faculty Open Access Policies* by Christine Fruin, Andrew Keck, and Craig R. Koester

- *User Experience Research Outcomes* by Tim Gallati
- *Fair Use for Libraries* by Christine Fruin

MEETING MINUTES

Conference Call—Sept. 14, 2017

1:05pm (Central Time)

PRESENT: Gillian Cain, Martha Adkins, Wes Custer (Chair), Yasmine Abou-El-Kheir, Michael Bradford, James Estes

ABSENT: Warren Watson

Martha Adkins will serve as secretary for the year.

FALL WEBINAR DISCUSSION: ideas from ATLA Annual Conference or other speakers or topics of interest, in combination with consultation of post-conference survey. Starred items are either in the works or Gillian will pursue for fall:

- *Anti-racism digital library—Anita Coleman
- Broad competencies for theological librarianship
 - Pick up at face-to-face meeting for development
- *New ATLA digital library
 - Andy will do something
- Scholarly plagiarism
 - Develop further
- Racial/ethnic diversity
- ATS
- Theological schools in a time of crisis
- Business planning
- *Virtual/human touch
- Ithaca
- *Information literacy videos
- Open educational resources
 - Develop further

- Terminal degree for theological librarianship
- Linked data
- Interpreting learning outcomes

To discuss at face-to-face meeting in Denver:

- Competencies—what are the next steps to make this idea more tangible?
- Wabash—preconference in 2018 and Colloquy
- Creating Leaders of Tomorrow update
- NACO/CONSER funnels
- Spring webinars
- Promoting regional grants

FACE-TO-FACE MEETING SEPTEMBER 27-28

Wednesday, September 27, 1:00-4:30pm

- The meeting began with introductions and the collection of some parking lot issues, including tenure/promotion and EBSCO EDS (member relationships, ranking algorithms).
- The committee reviewed the charge and responsibilities, and they agreed that the charge accurately reflects the committee's goals.

CHARGE: The Professional Development Committee (PDC) fosters development of librarians and related information professionals who serve theological and religious studies scholarship and study.

We define the infrastructure needed to deliver professional development opportunities to members throughout the year by:

- determining member needs
- identifying expert resources
- utilizing a variety of methods and delivery mechanisms

In doing so, we facilitate the exchange of ideas and support members at every point in their careers.

- Review of ATLA's Strategic Plan, including Core Purpose, Core Values, Goals, and Objectives, confirms that the charge of the committee reflects the organizational goals.

- Review of the last year's activities.
 - Regional Grants: awarded to FTLA, SEPTLA, MTLA, but still did not award all the allocated funds. FTLA is a regular group; SEPTLA was a first-time recipient group. MTLA is also a regular recipient, but received more money this year, supporting a robust program. Grants will continue to be promoted over the next year.
 - Webinars: On-demand numbers are very good. Topics were selected from high attendance conference presentations or from survey results. Good turnout reinforces this methodology for topic selection.
 - Idea for funnel webinar (registration down from 16 to 17) to make a more attractive title. Linked data title (5/16) had a big draw, may be good to do another.
 - Survey: It has only been two years since the last big survey, so smaller surveys more focused on specific topics may be good in the near future. Survey results are in the 15-16 shared drive folder.

Discussion of ideas for future activities:

- Ithaca—committee might look at the report and think about programming, tool kits, things to overcome challenges identified in the study. The report reflects that the issue of engaging with faculty is a pervasive one.
- Newsletter—discussion about prominence on ATLA website. New CRM system will include an upgrade to the newsletter. Committee members agree that it would be nice to see more member- and committee-driven content. Suggestion to include little bits of information, rather than full news stories, on PDC-related items. Different subject areas for each quarter would highlight different areas of interest for members. Suggested topics: faculty collaboration, libguides (suggestion for a philosophy/theology/religion user group in libguides. Possible correlation of programming and support materials), data, funnels, accreditation/reporting, library research resources for members, working with consortia (leveraging membership power), negotiating with vendors.
- Review of conference survey suggestions

- Listserv—should we be more deliberate about sharing on ATLANTIS? Michael volunteered to send things to atlantis on behalf of the committee. Gillian will share with Michael.
- Could we list professional development opportunities in the newsletter? ATLA staff will implement
- Shared Google doc would be ideal for collecting links to then place in the newsletter; atlantis posting would link back to newsletter
- Open textbooks
 - Discussions with Wabash re: syllabus database; discussion about leveraging the new digital platform to host
 - Could we use the information in these syllabi to identify an open textbook or create an open textbook to support a course in religion/theology/etc?
- Discussion about liaison roles for PDC members to other areas of the organization
 - Competencies conversation—expanding the international grants to attend conferences to allow folks to spend more time in the country and also have a liaison from the PDC to help coordinate competency-based programs
- Scholarly plagiarism—what are publishers doing? Gillian will investigate a publisher panel
- Ebooks—being developed
- Information lit/tutorials—easy button
- Supporting distance learning—library services for online students
- Basic marketing and promotion
- Institutional repositories and libraries' roles
- Tenure/promotion
- Capacity audit—to measure the work that needs to be done / ROI calculator
- ROI for discovery services
- Digital humanities
- Dissertations



[Left to right] James Estes, Yasmine Abou-El-Kheir, Wesley Custer, Warren Watson, Michael Bradford, Martha Adkins

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2017, 8:30AM-12:30PM

Continued discussion of possible programming ideas and organization of ideas into methods of program delivery and dissemination, as well as a timeline for development and implementation/presentation.

YEAR 1

Webinars

- Fall
 - Anti-racism digital library
 - Instruction videos
 - Distance learners/virtual human touch
 - Course-embedded information literacy
 - Digital humanities
- Spring
 - Web design (Tim)
 - Ithaka
 - SACO (January)
 - Funnel update (May)

Newsletter

- Ithaka
- Faculty collaboration
- Metadata funnels, linked data
- Library for online students

Market research

- Competencies—gathering players
- Tenure/promotion—research/brainstorm

Other

- Analytics—“To ED” start task force

YEAR 2

Webinar

- Working with consortia
- Negotiating with vendors
- Funnel update

Workshop

- Preparing for accreditation (multi-part online workshop)
- Discovery services
- Faculty collaboration

Training/Templates/Examples/Toolkits

- Web design (training and templates)
- UX (U of Michigan) (training)
- Dissertations (templates/examples)
- Accreditation (toolkit)

Newsletter

- Information literacy videos

Regular program

- Library for online students (Start year one; leverage Wabash preconference)
- Assessment (Start year one)

Market research

- Competencies survey
- Tenure/promotion survey

Other

- Big data (Collaborate with TL; Grant RFP)

YEAR 3

Podcast/short videos

- New models of theological librarianship

Toolkits

- Discovery services ROI
- ROI calculator
- Library for online students
- Dissertations

Webinar

- Funnel update

Market research

- Competencies—implement
- Tenure/promotion—implement