

Methodist

Lynn Berg, Interim Secretary

PRESENT

- Brian Shetler, Drew University, Convener
- Christopher Anderson, Yale University
- Katie Benjamin, Duke University
- Lynn Berg, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Interim Secretary
- Matthew Davis, Roberts Wesleyan College / Northeastern Seminary
- Jane Elder, Southern Methodist University
- Ellen Frost, Southern Methodist University
- Andy Keck, Southern Methodist University
- Amy Limpitlaw, Boston University
- Seth Miskimins, Southern Methodist University
- Steve Perisho, Seattle Pacific University
- Tom Phillips, Claremont School of Theology
- David Schmersal, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- Helen Stocker, Nazarene Theological College (UK)
- Jay Wise, Indiana Wesleyan University

The Methodist Librarians' Fellowship met at Atla Annual 2019 in Vancouver, BC on Thursday, June 13, 2019, from 5:00 to 5:50 pm.

AGENDA

Approval of 2018 Minutes

Special Session of the General Conference (February 23–26, 2019)

United Methodist Conference Journal Collection

Round Robin Reports

APPROVAL OF 2018 MINUTES

The minutes of the 2018 meeting of the Methodist Librarians' Fellowship were approved with no changes.

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (FEBRUARY 23–26, 2019 – ST. LOUIS, MO)

The group briefly shared local reactions to the decisions made by the special session that was called to act on a report of the Commission on a Way Forward regarding issues of human sexuality in *The Book of Discipline*. Some expressed anxiety and uncertainty, and we are waiting to see what will happen at the General Conference scheduled for May 5–15, 2020, in Minneapolis, MN.

UNITED METHODIST CONFERENCE JOURNAL COLLECTION

In response to an inquiry about which conference journals our institutions collect, a couple of libraries indicated that they only keep the conference journals for their own jurisdictions. Drew University keeps a running list of which journals they have on their website. It was noted that some of the journals come on flash drives, and PDFs have been made (some have been printed out, but not all). None are digitized. *The Book of Discipline* specifies that two copies of the conference reports are to be sent to the Methodist Archives and one to Drew Methodist Library.

ROUND ROBIN REPORTS

Brian Shetler, Drew University

The library is still without a cataloger. The backlog is growing. They have more interaction with classes. They are branching out into pop culture.

Andy Keck, Southern Methodist University

Andy expressed sadness at the loss of the Methodists who have passed away, mentioning John Baker-Batsel and Don Haymes.

Katie Benjamin, Duke University

They have a new Dean. They are replacing a circulation staff person and losing a reference person. But they are keeping things afloat. The Wesley Works project is ongoing.

Jay Wise, Indiana Wesleyan University

Their director is retiring. He noted the importance of having tech people who are also project managers. He stressed the importance

of knowing your institutional culture. They are dealing with copy-right issues.

Matthew Davis, Northeastern Seminary

They will be down to four librarians.

Tom Phillips, Claremont School of Theology

They have sold their campus. The director reports directly to the Board of Trustees. They are moving 50,000 books; the rest they are not sure what they will do with yet. They have lots of e-books. What will the faculty do? The faculty will move, embed, relocate. Student numbers have doubled. The digital library will be their main library.

Amy Limpitlaw, Boston University

They are the recipients of stained-glass windows that celebrate the Women's Foreign Missionary Society. The staff made an online exhibit of them. They have hired some new faculty.

Helen Stocker, Nazarene Theological College (UK)

She is a solo librarian. She shared information with the group about their Visiting Fellows program. Church of the Nazarene is funding the library management system.

Chris Anderson, Yale University

He spoke about their Methodist Studies program. They are working on a United Methodist studies bibliography, which they hope to finish soon. Predecessors digitized magazines and journal annual reports.

Steve Perisho, Seattle Pacific University

No news to report.

Jane Elder, Southern Methodist University

They are entering phase two of the building renovation. There is demolition and reconstruction in the library, but they will eventually be ADA-compliant

Lynn Berg, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

The seminary passed its ATS accreditation and is good for another ten years. The library has two new staff members, Daniel Smith (Research, Instruction, & Digital Services Librarian) and Edzen Lebita (Acquisitions & Serials Specialist).