
Scholarly Communication

Michael Hemenway, Iliff School of Theology, Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Michael Hemenway, Iliff School of Theology, Chair
- Clifford Anderson, Vanderbilt University
- Melody Diehl Detar, Duquesne University
- Barbara Jenkins, University of Oregon
- Andrew Keck, Southern Methodist University
- Christine Fruin, Atla Staff Liaison

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Scholarly Communication Committee welcomed two new members for the 2019–20 year: Melody Diehl Detar and Barbara Jenkins. Melody and Barbara have made significant contributions to the committee this year. During the 2019–20 year, the committee wanted to build off of momentum from the 2019 annual meeting in two directions: open educational resources (OERs) and digital humanities.

OERs

In October of 2019, the committee released a survey on understanding and utilization of OERs. The survey had 44 responses and gave us some good information about the status of members with respect to OERs. In December of 2019, Melody Diehl Detar hosted an Atla webinar on “Open Educational Resources: From the Beginning.” The committee helped to organize two sessions on OERs at Atla Annual 2020, “Now More Than Ever: The Need to Build Open Scholarship in Theological Libraries” and “The Role of Librarians in Supporting Textbook Affordability Initiatives at Theological Colleges.” These initiatives are increasing the understanding of OERs and their potential utilization in Atla member schools.

Digital Humanities

The committee spent considerable time this past year crafting a proposal to partner with a smaller member library to run a Wikidata workshop with the goal of getting all of the school's faculty publications into Wikidata. This workshop was intended to help develop a process and a toolkit that could be shared with other libraries to make their own publications more visible in Wikidata. Unfortunately, for logistical reasons, the committee was unable to schedule this workshop. In the spring, the committee released a LibGuide focused on digital humanities for theological and religions studies. Committee members facilitated digital humanities sessions at Atla Annual 2020, including "Proposing a TEI-Encoding Project for Wesley Works," "Copyright Best Practices for Digitization Projects," and "Better-Casting: Best Practices for High-impact Screencast Tutorial Development."

Two committee members will end their terms this year. Thank you to Andrew Keck and Clifford Anderson for your service to the committee these past years.