

- Karla Grafton
- Ellen Frost
- Chris Benda

Meeting Details

SPRING MEETING

Mon, Apr 16, via Go to Meeting

Reviewed upcoming meetings and sponsored programs at ATLA in June

Assessed monthly ATLAntis discussion posts

Introduced podcast initiative, including goals, potential partnerships, scope, and production schedule

Introduced WRIG documentation clean-up initiative

Business Meeting Minutes

Fri, Jun 15, Studio 6, ATLA Conference

Reviewed major annual accomplishments

Introduced ATLA HQ contact, Roger Morales

Discussed WRIG documentation, including pending new website redesign

Introduced new steering committee members and called for volunteers to serve

Discussed podcast initiative

Brainstormed advertising and engagement ideas, including swag and partnerships with DEI

Brainstormed ideas for next year's conference, including a panel: "So you're institution/library is becoming more ecumenical"

Summary of Activities (hosted programs)

ATLA CONFERENCE SESSION: INTERFAITH AT THE HEARTH:

FOCOLARE AND BEYOND

Presenter: Michael Saahir

Engage with Michael Saahir, Imam of the Nur-Allah Islamic Center, a founding member of the Center for Interfaith Cooperation, and active participant in Focolare, an international movement focused on

unity and universal brotherhood. Michael will discuss the interfaith efforts in which he is involved in Indianapolis and beyond.

ATLA CONFERENCE SESSION: CHANGING SEMINARIES, CHANGING LIBRARIES, CHANGING SELVES

Presenters: Patrick Milas, Megan E. Welsh

Religious identities and practices are changing. Religious studies and theological educators are adapting curricula and services to support increasingly diverse student populations. On an institutional level, some religious studies departments and seminaries' priorities are changing, too. For example, Princeton Theological Seminary (PTS) remains one of ten seminaries of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Yet currently, only 28% of students identify as PCUSA and over fifty Christian traditions are represented, reflecting a trend toward ecumenism. ATS-accredited institutions have faculty and students whose faiths are outside of Judeo-Christian traditions, principal traditions that comprise the ATLA membership. Additionally, there is increased representation from secular institutions such as University of Colorado Boulder and organizations not affiliated with specific denominations within ATLA membership.

It's time for librarians to share with each other their perceptions of their institutions' relationships with students, administrations, and denominations, as well as where they fit within ATLA personally. Conversation questions may include:

- What is your understanding of why ATLA was founded?
- What is the relationship between personal religious belief and the affiliation with our institutions? With our students?
- What are the relationships between members' personal religious identities and ATLA denominational groups?
- How can our personal identities strengthen the community in which we work?