
Roman Catholic

By David Kriegh, Chair

GROUP MEMBERSHIP IN ATTENDANCE

- Sister Rebecca Abel, Catholic Distance University
- Jennie Bartholomew, Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology
- Vlatka Božičević, Catholic Faculty of Theology (Croatia)
- Kerrie Burn, Catholic Theological College (Australia)
- Matina Ćurić, International Catholic Mission Society (Germany)
- Clay-Edward Dixon, Graduate Theological Union
- Connor Flatz, St. Joseph's Seminary
- Lois Guebert, University of St. Mary of the Lake
- Kathy Harty, Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology (recording secretary)
- Ann Heinrichs, Catholic Theological Union
- Barnaby Hughes
- James Humble, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
- Daniel Kolb, St. Meinrad School of Theology
- Brother Andrew Kosmowski, University of Dayton
- Alan Krieger, University of Notre Dame
- David Kriegh, St. Patrick's Seminary & University (group convener)
- Patricia O'Callaghan
- Ann Owen, Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology
- Derek Rieckens, St. Michael's Abbey
- Connie Song, Athenaeum of Ohio
- Stephen Sweeney, St. John Vianney Theological Seminary
- Kris Veldheer, Catholic Theological Union
- Magdaline Mungai Wanjiru
- Deb Winarski, Catholic Theological Union

ANNUAL REPORT

The ATLA Roman Catholic denominational group held their annual meeting on Friday, June 15, 2018, in the Discovery conference room at the Hyatt Regency in Indianapolis. As has been the case in meetings past, this was truly a global gathering, with members hailing from countries including Croatia and Australia.

After brief introductions, we began the meeting by revisiting our old business. Last year in Atlanta, I exhorted the group to seek out opportunities for Catholic-centered presentations that could be of value to the entire Association. I am happy to report that the group responded strongly, with poster sessions, discussion groups, and panels. Hopefully, the other members will be inspired to move to the front of the room next year and that the topics we explored this year will serve as a launching pad for new research and presentations. Brother Andrew Kosmowski provided the group with an update on the activities of the Catholic Library Association (CLA), which will hold their fall conference in October with the theme “The Vocation of Librarianship”. We also continued to explore difficulties in the accessibility of *l’Osservatore Romano*, which lacks a comprehensive online presence. Alan Krieger updated us on the latest news from the Catholic Research Resources Alliance (CRRRA). Finally, we revisited the idea of a shared subject guide for Catholic resources, which could benefit the common needs of our group’s members.

Our new business was primarily directed toward questions and concerns about the merging of the Catholic Periodical and Literature Index (CPLI) into the ATLA Religion Database (RDB). To help with this process, we invited ATLA Executive Director Brenda Bailey-Hainer and Director of Business Development Margot Lyon to the meeting. The major issues raised were about the metadata differing between the two resources, particularly the vocabularies. It was feared that Catholic research would be adversely impacted by the change. Suggestions for enhancements included adopting a “Catholic content” search facet to promote Catholic results for Catholic research, as well as the retention and inclusion of Catholic vocabulary in the metadata to keep Catholic articles from being “buried” under literature from other traditions. In response to this, Brenda and Margot proposed a consistent reporting form to document instances of wide variation in search results between the databases. A task force of our members, in



[First Row, left to right] Patricia O'Callaghan, Magdaline Mungai Wanjiru, Sr. Rebecca Abel, Vlatka Božičević, Kerrie Burn, Lois Guebert, [Second Row, left to right] Connie Song, Stephen Sweeney, Clay-Edward Dixon, Kris Veldheer, Kathy Harty, Jennie Bartholomew, David Kriegh, Ann Owen, [Third Row, left to right] Deb Winarski, Matina Curic, Ann Heinrichs, James Humble, Alan Krieger, Connor Flatz, Barnaby Hughes, Derek Rieckens, Bro. Andrew Kosmowski

consultation with CLA leadership, was formed to receive input from all interested members of our group through these forms and relay them to ATLA for analysis.

In other new business, a concern was raised that the Official Catholic Directory was moving content to a website, and it was unclear about how that information would be archived. Also, the group expressed little interest in a possible consortium subscription to the Vatican Library Study Testi e-book collection, with most members noting that most of their student populations could not read the foreign languages and the topics extended beyond a typical seminary curriculum. Other individual members, however, indicated that they may adopt it as individual subscribers.

Finally, we shared brief news and updates from our institutions. Since this is the group's only face-to-face meeting for the year, this is a great opportunity for us to learn about the transitions of our members and the things our institutions are doing to raise our profiles that may work well for others.

Following the meeting, we posed for a badly-needed new group photo, which has since been posted to our group's website, and then made our way to the Granite City Food and Brewery for our traditional post-meeting dinner. I look forward to seeing both new and familiar faces when we reconvene in Vancouver in 2019!

Below are the minutes of our meeting, as recorded by Ms. Kathy Harty, our recording secretary.

ROMAN CATHOLIC DENOMINATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Opening prayer: Connor Flatz

Welcome: David Kriegh (chair)

I. Approval of 2017 Minutes

II. Introductions and Roll Call

III. Old Business

A. Catholic-led presentations

- Many members of the Catholic group stepped up in response to last year's desire to have a more Catholic presence at ATLA – thank you to all!

B. CLA Report (Br. Andrew Kosmowski)

- CLA will be hosting at session at ALA on June 23, from 5-7 pm. All are welcome to attend
- The spring virtual conference consisted of award presentations.
- The fall conference will be either Oct. 18 or 19; theme is “The Vocation of Librarianship”. If anyone has an idea for conference presentation, please contact Br. Andrew.
- The CPLI/RDB merger will be discussed in further detail later at this meeting.

C. l'Ossveratore Romano (David Kriegh)

- Has anyone heard anything about updating the availability of the back issues, since the CD-ROMS are now too out of date to use?
- People just seem to be resigned to not having them available, since the group responsible is unresponsive to questions or requests.

D. CRRA Update (Alan Krieger)

- Website: Catholicresearch.org
- Check out the “Links and Resources” tab, which includes highlighted collections, by and about CRRA subject guides.

E. Catholic Subject Guide Update (David Kriegh)

- This has been envisioned as a way to share the Catholic subject-area LibGuide that libraries have created, or to create new ones.
- The initial idea came from Brian Morin at Mt. Angel Abbey Library.
- Connor Flatz will coordinate two or three volunteers working on particular topics.
- Br. Andrew Kosmowski, James Humble, and Sr. Rebecca Abel will look into ways to host such a resource, perhaps CRRA?

IV. New Business

A. Official Catholic Directory issues (Kathy Harty)

- Recently, the indexes have been moved to an online-only format. However, it seems that only the current year's information will be available, not the historic content, according to phone calls/emails received. This may make research difficult in the future.
- Kathy will forward any email correspondence to Brenda Bailey-Hainer to see if there is anything ATLA could do.

B. Vatican Library "Studi e Testi" e-book collection

- It seems that this collection is very specialized and is mainly Medieval in scope, based on the Vatican microfilm library.
- There is a question about its usability and necessity for the cost.
- Notre Dame was the only school that expressed some interest in it.

C. *CPLI* / *ATLA RDB* Merger Discussion

- Brenda Bailey-Hainer and Margot Lyon were present at the discussion to hear the concerns of the group. *CPLI* will exist as a separate entity until December 31. It will continue on EBSCOHost as an individual entity there. *ATLA* is currently working on getting the *CPLI* content into the *RDB*.
- Papal and church document types will continue in *RDB*, although perhaps not arranged as conveniently as they had been in *CPLI* (papal document first by date, immediately followed by commentaries).

- Some concerns have been expressed by CLA members (passed along by Br. Andrew) as to the results from comparative searched in CPLI and RDB. It's often found in areas such as the Eucharist (as opposed to the Lord's Supper) or the Immaculate Conception. Results seem to be wildly different.
- There was extensive discussion about possible options to improve results (check-box in facets for Catholic journals or content? CPLI filter? Recoding?). ATLA will need to see what some results are in order to develop some sort of solution.
- CLA and ATLA RC members are asked to put CPLI and ATLA through some intensive searching and testing to gather results for comparison.
- A task force consisting of Connor Flatz, Daniel Kolb, and someone from CLA will gather the results of searches to pass them along to ATLA. This task force will work with Margot Lyon on this.
- Requests for titles and indexes can be sent to Support at ATLA.
- Brenda is willing to meet virtually with CLA to discuss solutions.

V. News From Members

University of St. Mary of the Lake (Mundelein): Chris Rogers is the new library director.

St. John Vianney, Denver: Their cataloger has retired; have started a book club.

Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology: They are hosting an international symposium on the intellectual "chops" of Pope Francis Oct 8-11.

Closing Prayer: Connie Song