

# ForATL News

*Newsletter of the Forum of Asian Theological Librarians*

Volume 7: Issue 1

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## ForATL News

is published twice a year (June and December) by the Forum of Asian Theological Librarians as a channel for updates on ForATL activities, as well as a forum for discussion and exchange in the field of Asian theological librarianship.

**Subscription :** Free

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**ForATL News** welcomes contributions related to theological librarianship and the development of theological resources in Asia. All manuscripts or correspondence should be sent to the Editor, who reserves the right to determine suitability for publication.

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## NOTICE

**We apologize for the late release of this newsletter. We regret for the inconvenience caused due to this delay.**

## 5<sup>TH</sup> ForATL CONSULTATION & WORKSHOP



*Participants and resource persons of the 5<sup>th</sup> consultation, TTC, Singapore*

The 5<sup>th</sup> ForATL consultation and workshop was held at Trinity Theological College, Singapore, during March 13-15, 2009, under the theme:

***“Asian theological librarians moving on and reaching out: professional development and collaboration in the light of emerging technologies”.***

The For-ATL Consultation had eight resource persons and 36 participants coming from different countries all over Asia: two participants from China, three from Hong Kong, three from India, three from Indonesia, seven from Malaysia, five participants from Myanmar, six from the Philippines, two from Singapore, and one from Taiwan.

### Resource persons:

#### 1. Seminar

- Dr. Paul F. Stuehrenberg, Yale University Divinity Librarian, American Theologia Library Association (ATLA) representative  
Keynote Address: Theological Libraries and International Collaboration;
- Rosemary Watts, Trinity Theological College, Perth, Australia and New Zealand Theological Library Association ( ANZTLA) representative;
- Odile Dupont, Head Librarian of Institute Chatolique de Paris, European Theological Libraries/Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie (BETH) representative;
- Alan Linfield, London School of Theology, Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries (ABTAPL) representative;
- Martha L. Smalley, Foundation for Theological Education in Southeast Asia (FTESEA) representative;
- Dr. Michael Poon, Documentation of Christianity in Asia and Documentation, Archives, Bibliography and Oral History Study Group (DABOH) of IAMS.

#### 2. Training Workshops

- Workshop 1: Library Automation by Yesan Sellan, Chief Librarian of South Asia Institute of Advanced Christian Studies (SAIACS), Bangalore, India;
- Workshop 2: Website Design by Hilda V. Putong, Head Librarian of Theological Seminary of Eastern Indonesia, Makassar, Indonesia;
- Workshop 3: Digital Librarianship and Emerging Technologies by Aditya Nugraha, Head Librarian of Petra Christian University, Indonesia.

### Highlights of the Consultation

- Creation of Databases for Theses and Dissertations
- Indexing of Asian Journals
- Online directory of ForATL
- Expanded Courses on Theological Librarianship
- Networking with International Library Associations
- Active Collaboration of Theological Librarians
- Theological Librarians Exchange programme

### 5<sup>th</sup> ForATL Consultation ... *(Continued from page 1)*

#### Major issues discussed:

1. International Collaboration;
2. The need for active collaboration between theological librarians, archivists and scholars in the documentation of databases on Asian journals and compiling of theses and dissertations;
3. Much wider networking of theological libraries through exchange, partnerships and publications – nationally, regionally and with supporting ecumenical associations;
4. Accreditation requirements and library standard;
5. Enlarged courses in Theological Librarianship; and
6. Fundraising for the different projects and activities of the For-ATL.

#### Specific plans:

1. Preparing Database for Articles from Asian Theological Journals and Postgraduate Theses and Dissertations;
2. Online Directory of Asian Theological Libraries as part of the ForATL website ([www.foratl.org](http://www.foratl.org));
3. Continuity and consistency in the publication of the For-ATL newsletter;
4. Collaboration among institutions offering courses in theological librarianship;
5. Regional or localized short-term courses and workshops; and
6. Wider networking with national and international library associations;

### INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES IN THE 5<sup>TH</sup> CONSULTATION



Dr. Paul F. Stuehrenberg, "ATLA"



Mrs. Martha L. Smalley, "FTESEA"



Mr. Allan Linfield, "ABTAPL"



Mrs. Odile Dupont, "BETH"



Delegates of the consultation



Task Force: Theses and Dissertations



Worship led by Malaysian delegates



Report by Miss Hilda of Indonesia



Report from the Philippines, Mrs. Beth P.

## Executive Committee 2009-2012

### Convener:

Ms. Elizabeth T. Pulanco, Librarian,  
Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary, Baguio City, Philippines  
Email: [bethpulanco@gmail.com](mailto:bethpulanco@gmail.com)

### **Area representative for Philippines**

### Secretary:

Mr. Yesan Sellan, Chief Librarian  
SAIACS, Kothanur PO, Bangalore – 560077, India  
Email: [yesans@gmail.com](mailto:yesans@gmail.com) or [library@saiacs.org](mailto:library@saiacs.org)

### **Area representative for India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh**

### Treasurer:

Miss Hilda V. Putong, Librarian, Sekolah Tinggi Theologia,  
INTIM Makassar, Indonesia.  
Email: [hildakorpala@yahoo.com](mailto:hildakorpala@yahoo.com)

### **Area representative for Indonesia**

### Auditor:

Miss Jitra Samsa, Librarian, Dewald Memorial Library,  
Payab University, Chiangmai, Thailand  
Email: [jitra.samsa@gmail.com](mailto:jitra.samsa@gmail.com)

### **Area representative for Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Myanmar**

### Task force coordinator:

Mr. Tang Sui-Tung, Librarian, Lutheran Theological Seminary,  
Hong Kong. Email: [tslib@hotmail.com](mailto:tslib@hotmail.com)

### **Area representative for China and Hong Kong**

Mr. David Woei Ren Chen, Librarian  
Yu Shan Theological Seminary, Taiwan  
Email: [libdwc@emory.edu](mailto:libdwc@emory.edu)

### **Area representative for Taiwan**

Area representative for Japan & Korea - to be appointed

Area representative for Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific -  
to be appointed

## ForATL Executive Committee for 2009-2012



**Left:** Mrs. Beth Pulanco, Miss. Hilda Putong, and Mr. Tang Sui-Tung  
**Right:** Mr. Yesan, Mr. David, and Miss. Jitra Samsa

*Reported by Hilda Putong*



## Thank you note to



Miss. Christabel



Mrs. Rita Wesley

**Miss. Christabel Wong**, Librarian, STM, Malaysia and the outgoing Treasurer, newsletter editor and Publications task force and area representative for Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

**Mrs. Rita Wesley**, Librarian of the United Theological College, Bangalore and the area representative for India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

We appreciate their valuable contribution and support to the ForATL over the years.

## Financial Report - prepared by Ms. Christabel Wong (outgoing treasurer) and Ms. Hilda Putong, the new treasurer



### Forum of Asian Theological Librarians (ForATL)

http://www.foratl.org  
 Convenor : Ms. Elizabeth T. Polanco  
 c/o Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary  
 P.O. Box 7, 2600 Baguio City  
 Philippines

#### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE: 5th ForATL Consultation & Executive Committee Meeting 2009

Particulars	USD	USD
<b>Income</b>		
Fees collected	3450.90	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>3450.90</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
1) Consultation:		
Accommodation	4086.65	
Meals	1038.75	
Travel claims	5640.00	
Love gift	414.90	
Admin: photocopy, stationery, bank charges	43.00	
2) Executive Committee Meeting:		
Accommodation	196.50	
Meals	342.27	
Travel	3743.45	
Administration	11.21	
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>15516.73</b>
<b>Balance of income over expenditure</b>		<b>(12065.83)</b>
<b>Amount lost due to forex changes*</b>		<b>(1041.10)</b>
<b>ACTUAL DEFICIT</b>		<b>US\$ (13106.93)</b>

#### Note:

- Exchange rate calculated at US\$1.00 = RM3.73; SGD1.50
- \*Forex losses caused by:
  - conversion of currencies -- fees and claims paid in USD, RM and SGD
  - outgoing ForATL treasurer having a local currency bank account, instead of an USD account
  - substantial difference in forex rate when grant was received (USD1=RM3.3) and when subsequently disbursed (USD1=RM3.73)
- United Board grant of US\$10,000.00 will be applied to the deficit and the remaining deficit of US\$3106.93 will be absorbed by ForATL.

Prepared by:

Christabel Wong  
 (Outgoing ForATL Treasurer)

Noted by:

Hilda V. Putong  
 (ForATL Treasurer)

Chitra Samsa  
 (ForATL Internal Auditor)



Report from India, by Mrs. Rita Wesley



Task Force: Articles from Asian Journals



ExeCom with International Representatives

## ForATL Executive Committee Meeting



**Left:** Mr. Yesan, Miss. Jitra Samsa, Mrs. Beth Pulanco,  
**Right:** Miss. Hilda Putong, Mr. Tang Sui-Tung and Mr. David

The ForATL Executive Committee met from May 25-28 2009 in Kuta-Bali, Indonesia. The meeting was sponsored by the United Board for Christian Higher Education.

The agenda of the meeting included the following:

### 1. ForATL Consultation and Workshop

- a) Evaluation of the 5th Consultation 2009 and
- b) Planning for the 6th Consultation in 2012.

### 2. Reports:

- a) Area representatives' reports and
- b) Treasurer's report from March until May 2009

### 3. Projects:

- a) Database Projects
  - progress of journal index database and theses database and
- b) Directory of Asian Theological Libraries,
  - online publication format in ForATL website.

### 4. Business:

- a) Elections for next ForATL Executive Committee members and area representatives; and
- b) Budget

## Useful Information

The ICC invites proposals for projects between ATLA institutions/ members and partner institutions abroad that foster international collaboration that is mutually beneficial. Projects might include, but are not limited to, improving the documentation of world Christianity or world religions (collection development, exchanges, archives, etc.), professional development, improving the tools of scholarship, and the like. The proposal deemed to have the most potential impact will be awarded up to \$2000. The recipient will be asked to write a report after the project is completed.

More information can be had from

[http://www.atla.com/international\\_collab/grantpage.html](http://www.atla.com/international_collab/grantpage.html)

The Publications Committee of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) awards publication grants each year to one or more recipients to aid in the development of a scholarly work that advances some aspect of theological librarianship or provides bibliographic access to a significant body of literature within theological or religious studies. The committee especially encourages proposals from persons undertaking their first major project in this area. The goal of projects proposed should be peer-reviewed publication (e.g., in the ATLA journal, *Theological Librarianship*, or in one of the book series it publishes with Scarecrow Press). ATLA reserves first right of refusal of publication for all projects receiving grants.

More information can be had from

[http://www.atla.com/pub\\_com/grant.html](http://www.atla.com/pub_com/grant.html)

## Future issues of ForATL Newsletter

### Vol. 7.2 Dec 2009:

Special Issue on Taiwan, PTLA conference

### Vol. 8.1 June 2010:

News on theological seminaries in the area of Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia

### Vol. 8.2 December 2010:

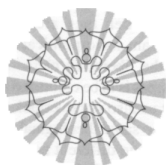
News about theological libraries in Hong Kong, China

### Vol. 9.1 June 2011:

News from Korean theological librarians

### Vol 9.2 Dec 2011:

Upcoming 6th Consultation in Manila in March 2012 and on best practices in the libraries.



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