

# ATS welcomes director of design and data science

BY *MARISSA DECHANT*

*The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) is pleased to announce that Michael Hemenway has been named director of design and data science. In this new role, he will seek opportunities to integrate design and data science to ask new questions and explore possibilities in support of strategic decision-making within institutions as well as across theological education.*

“I am looking forward to learning from and with the wonderful collaborative teams at ATS to explore ways that the intersection of design and data can continue to cultivate curiosity and creativity in the Association and its membership,” said Hemenway.

Hemenway will be asked to design data models, practices, and pipelines, increasing the Association’s already emerging capacity to create quality educational and engagement experiences for a variety of internal and external audiences. In addition, he will expand the growing data and research capacity of the Association through his extensive knowledge and practice with data interrogation techniques that draw on the robust data repository maintained by the Association.

“Michael has partnered with us in developing and expanding the Association’s design capabilities over the last few years. He has been a member of our core design team, and we are delighted that he will now serve ATS and its membership on a full-time basis to help expand



our staff capacities in both design and data,” said Chris Meinzer, ATS senior director and COO.

Hemenway has spent the past nearly 15 years working at Iliff School of Theology, most recently as chief information officer, library director, and socio-technical engineer in Iliff’s Artificial Intelligence Institute. He has served as a member of the steering committee for the ATS Technology in Theological Education Group, as chair of Atla’s Scholarly Communications Task Force, as a lead investigator for Case Western Reserve’s h.lab, as founder of Iliff’s Digital Humanities Lab, and as a consultant for several local and global religious organizations.

Designer, collaborator, educator, technologist, machine enthusiast (ask him about it!), administrator, and transformer, Hemenway holds an MA in biblical studies from Denver Seminary and a PhD in religious studies from the University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology Joint Doctoral Program. He will continue to reside in Denver, Colorado when he begins his work with ATS in July 2022.

The ATS Board of Directors continues its commitment to four strategic priorities in fulfillment of its mission to:

(1) equip leaders for effective change, (2) explore and encourage innovative financial and organizational models, (3) enhance adaptive work in schools' educational missions, and (4) engage the membership in its broad diversity. The hiring of Hemenway and other staff

changes announced in the February issue of *Colloquy Online* help to strengthen the staff of the Association and better position it to accomplish these priorities in service to its membership.



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