Committee Name: Law Library Journal and AALL Spectrum Committee

Committee Charge:
Committee charge: This committee is charged to work with editors of both publications to ensure that the publications forward the interests and goals of the Association and its members and:
- Advises on long-range editorial content and direction for the publications
- Suggests feature articles or other types of articles
- Assists the editors in identifying authors and other contributors
- Assists the editors in meeting the short-term and long-term needs and interests of law librarians
- Identifies potential readers and studies and recommends ways to effectively reach the targeted audiences
- Recommends to the Executive Board editorial policies relating to the contents and formats of the Law Library Journal and AALL Spectrum

The Committee will select one or more recipients every year for the best article for the Law Library Journal Article of the Year Award, or no recipient if it deems none of the nominees sufficiently qualified, and will submit the winning recipient's name(s) to the Awards Committee. The Committee will also select one or more recipients every year for the AALL Spectrum Article of the Year Award, or no recipient if it deems none of the nominees sufficiently qualified, and will submit the winning recipient's name(s) to the Awards Committee.

Major Activities for 2008-2009:
Met at AALL annual meeting and addressed various issues, including lengthy discussion on use of AALL Universal Citation Guide for Law Library Journal which will carry over into 2009-10.

Posted a newly designed and updated web page thanks in large part to the efforts of committee member Jason Sowards.

Discussed via e-mail several issues/questions, including:
- Blog for AALL Spectrum (provided suggestions and support);
- Placing AALL Spectrum in the EBSCO database (approved);
- Offering covers for reprints of Law Library Journal articles as is done for most law reviews (approved);
- Cumulative index for Law Library Journal (approved);
- Whether there should be awards for articles that finish in the runner up slot (no);
- Providing corrected language for AALL web pages concerning awards for article of the year;
- Whether it is appropriate for the committee charge to indicate that no awards may be given (yes);
- New cover design for Law Library Journal, including an alternative layout of colors, and the committee's role in providing input;

Selected Law Library Journal and AALL Spectrum Articles of the Year:


Proposed Activities for 2009-2010:
In addition to meeting in Washington, if Executive Board and Committee Chair approve, plan a day-long meeting in Chicago to discuss the future of AALL publications in light of the new Strategic Directions, Marketing plans, trends in electronic media, etc.

Provide input on use of the AALL Universal Citation Guide for AALL publications.

Select Law Library Journal and AALL Spectrum Articles of the Year.

Submitted by:
John Edwards, LLJ & AALL Spectrum Committee Chair 2008-09