Law Library Journal and AALL Spectrum Committee
Annual Report 2013-14

Amanda Runyon, Chair 2013-14
Deborah Dennison, Vice-Chair 2013-14

The principal committee responsibility is the reading and selection of articles for the Law Library Journal and Spectrum magazine articles of the year. While the chair and co-chair have various administrative reporting throughout the year, the entire committee steps into action sometime around the beginning of February with first reading assignments. In the past our committee has used various reading procedures. Most recently chairs have assigned subsets of readings from both publications to designated committee members for the first reading. The top articles from each reader are then gathered and disseminated to the entire committee for a second reading, with each member selecting their choices for top articles. The chair then tallies the choices for top articles. Although our committee had many excellent articles to choose from this year, selections for this year’s best articles were unanimous.

2014 article winners are:

**Law Library Journal Article of the Year Award**

**AALL Spectrum Article of the Year Award**

Our annual committee meeting was held on Saturday, July 12. Part of the discussion included a past goal, the indexing of Law Library Journal. It is hard to gauge the interest or justify the expense of pursuing further indexing, especially given the availability of LLJ on HeinOnline. However, as Amanda Runyon pointed out, since vols1-75 are complete and indexed (indexing has been done in 25 year blocks) it might be a good idea to reconsider this issue. The price tag would be somewhere around 10,000 (roughly 400/issue).

Katherine Lemmer, Editorial Director for Spectrum, presented Spectrum’s annual report. The report includes statistics about articles that indicate a broader range of authors by library type, and plans to redesign the publication with a focus on improving electronic distribution as well. Katherine also attended Conell this year to actively promote Spectrum and encourage author contributions to Spectrum.

This year’s reception on Monday, July 14th, held at San Antonio’s Marriott Rivercenter Hotel, was one of the committee’s most successful authors’ receptions to date judging from the number of enthusiastic attendees and post reception comments. We were also very pleased at the number of past committee members (including past Spectrum and LLJ editors), and many AALL officials attending.
Once again, the committee wishes to acknowledge and thank Kluwer Law & Business for their ongoing support to our committee and AALL. Kluwer provides a $500 cash prize for each award and sponsors the authors’ reception.

Special thanks to chair Amanda Runyon for guiding the committee throughout the year and Ashley St. John, AALL’s Marketing and Communication Manager, for special support throughout as well.

Deborah Dennison, Chair 2014-2015
July 29, 2014