AALL Committee Activities and Action Plan

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Committee Name: AALL LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee  
Committee Charge: The Committee shall promote the writing of scholarly papers and coordinate a program at the Association's annual meeting offering an opportunity for the winners of the prize to present their work highlighting various aspects of their writing process. To this end, the Committee shall establish categories or divisions of eligibility of the appropriate criteria for selection of winning works; review and set the number of creative works which will be selected as winners; administer any financial award which may be available for distribution to winners; and review papers or creative works and select winners. The Committee shall recommend to the editor of the Law Library Journal those papers which are suitable for publication.

Major Activities for 2011-2012:  
Annual Paper Competition: The primary purpose for the Call for Papers Committee (CFPC) is to promote, administer and judge our annual paper competition. Submissions for the New, Open and Short Form Divisions are due on March 1; Student Division submissions are due April 15. Once the submissions have arrived, the CFPC will read them and select the winning papers. Winners in the Open, New Member, and Student Divisions will receive $650; the Short Form Division winner will receive $300. Winning papers in the Open, New Member and Student Divisions will be considered for publication in Law Library Journal.

Educational Session at Annual Meeting: Winners in all Divisions will have the opportunity to present their winning paper at a program during the 2012 AALL Annual Meeting. Traditionally a featured speaker is also invited to speak about the writing process. We will continue to plan and develop this session as the winners of the writing competition are selected.

New Category: Last year the AALL Board approved the Short Form category as a provisional category. This year the CFPC will evaluate the Short Form category and determine whether the Committee should recommend to the Board that the Short Form become a permanent category for the CFP. The CFPC had specifically hoped that this category would allow the recognition of quality writing that would be appropriate for publication in AALL Spectrum, a national or local bar journal, a Chapter or SIS newsletter, or a similar type of publication.

AALL Strategic Directions: The activities of the CFPC promote "lifelong learning and intellectual growth," a core value of AALL. The writing competition enhances "the development of law librarians at all experience levels as leaders in their professional environment" and helps law librarians "meet and leverage the challenges of the changing information environment in a global world."

Proposed Activities for 2012-2013:  
Continue to successfully offer the paper competition and present the winners at the 2012 Annual Meeting. Continue to offer learning opportunities that promote writing skills.