AALL Economic Status of Law Librarian’s Committee 2012 Annual Report

The members of the Economic Status of Law Librarian’s Committee during 2011-2012 were Chad Brown, Chair; Lisa Junghahn, Vice Chair; Melissa Bernstein; Joseph Custer; Julie Lim; Patricia Scott; and Barbara Traub.

One charge of the Committee is to serve in an advisory role to the Director of Publications for the compilation of the AALL Biennial Salary Survey. Subsequent to feedback from various sources, the Committee sought to explore various ways in which the Salary Survey might be improved. To that end, discussions were had and a report was obtained from a contingent of the Private Law Libraries SIS. Additionally, the Committee sent out two member surveys; one survey was developed for law library Directors, and the other was developed for members in general. In addition to the Committee members’ own personal observations and the report by the private law librarians, the responses to these two surveys provided the basis of the feedback that the Committee continues to review.

While this project will extend at least into the next year, likely culminating in a report to the Board, the Committee has already identified and explored several issues. These discussions have focused both on making the survey easier to complete and on making the results more useful to the members. While the Committee is dedicated to AALL’s culture of continuous improvement of the Biennial Salary Survey, it also recognizes that current opinions of AALL members span the entire spectrum of satisfaction with the Survey, and as such, it will be impossible to take all suggestions from all sources. The Committee is dedicated to doing the best that it can for the membership as a whole.

The Committee would also like to extend its gratitude to all of the members that provided Salary Survey feedback this year. Their willingness to donate their time, effort, and insight is the foundation for any improvements that will ultimately be made to the Biennial Salary Survey.

Chad Brown
Committee Chair, 2011-2012