

# AALL Committee Activities and Action Plan

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**Committee Name:** Indexing of Periodical Literature Committee

**Committee Charge:** The Indexing of Periodical Literature Committee reviews newly published legal periodicals and makes recommendations to The Gale Group ("TGG") editorial staff concerning inclusion of those titles in the Legal Resources Index/Current Law Index. Where the scope of periodical titles presently indexed does not adequately reflect the needs of the AALL membership, the Committee makes recommendations to the TGG editorial staff concerning the adjustment of that scope.

The Committee is also charged with monitoring the guidelines used in determining which periodical titles are included in the indexing, and with making recommendations concerning various publishing details to the TGG editorial staff that may reflect the concerns of the AALL membership.

**Major Activities  
for 2011-2012:**

The Committee continued the work of previous Committees to investigate and develop guidelines for indexing legal blogs and online companions. This year's Committee drafted a new charge and guidelines to enable the committee to index online companions and submitted them to the Executive Board for approval in March 2012.

The Committee continued to proactively identify new law school journals by completing the project started last year to check the website of each ABA-accredited law school for new journals and review any new journals for inclusion in the index.

The Committee started to proactively identify and review new law school journals published by law schools outside the United States, but in a jurisdiction included in the Guidelines (U.S. possessions, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand). The Committee will complete this project by the Annual Meeting.

The Committee began an initiative to proactively identify new journals published by private publishers. The Committee completed an initial review of journals published by large private publishers, but the Committee decided to table the project until the Annual Meeting in order to discuss how to best compile a list of these journals--many of which are quasi-legal in nature--for review.

The Committee encouraged members of the AALL community to submit new journal titles for review by (1) adding content to the Committee's website in AALL Communities, (2) sending out messages to law librarian listservs, and (3) sending a message to the Committee of Newsletter Editors asking that editors consider including information about recommending journals for indexing in their newsletters.

The Committee continues to review new journal titles throughout the year and submits a list of approved/rejected titles to TGG at regular intervals. As of February 27, 2012, the Committee has approved thirty-three titles and rejected six titles.

**Proposed Activities  
for 2012-2013:**

The Committee will continue to evaluate titles submitted to the Committee for inclusion in the index.

Pending approval of the new charge and guidelines by the Executive Board and TGG, the Committee will identify and review online companions for indexing. When the indexing of online companions is completed, the Committee will consider expanding the charge and guidelines further to include the indexing of legal blogs.

The Committee will finalize the strategy for proactively identifying privately published journals and review the titles for inclusion in the index.