Indexing of Periodical Literature Committee Annual Report, 2012-2013

The members of the committee during 2012-2013 were Paula Doty, Chair; Paul Howard, Vice Chair; Edward Hart; Francis Norton; Ellen Quinn; Kelly Reynolds; Christopher Thomas; and Stephanie Ziegler. Kathleen Brown served as Board liaison and Ashley St. John as staff liaison.

The committee’s primary activity for the year involved identifying publications for possible addition to LegalTrac/LRI/Current Law Index and voting on whether to recommend these materials for inclusion. Of these publications, 63 were approved and 6 rejected. An additional 22 publications were under active consideration by the committee during the year. The committee either did not have a consensus as to these titles or additional information was deemed to be needed. These publications will be reconsidered by the committee during 2013-2014.

The committee placed most of its focus on identifying and selecting two types of publications: online companions to indexed periodicals and privately published journals (e.g., Hart Publishing, Wolters Kluwer, etc.). This year was the first year that online companions were considered for indexing, as the revision to the journal submission guidelines that allowed their inclusion was approved during the latter part of the 2011-2012 committee year. Privately published journals were emphasized in 2012-2013 because the committee had completed an extensive search for U.S. and non-U.S. law school journals during 2011-2012, and this type of publication had not recently been the focus of a systematic search. The committee plans to undertake another search for U.S. law school journals during 2013-2014.

The committee also took steps to promote awareness of its role. Messages were sent to law librarian listservs soliciting the submission of journals for review by the committee. The committee also participated in the CONELL Marketplace during the AALL Annual Meeting.

Submitted by Paul Howard, Vice Chair, 2012-2013.