

AALL Committee Activities and Action Plan

Name: Paul Howard

ID #: 148

Title: Chair

Submitted: 2/27/2014

Email: phoward@pacific.edu

Committee Name: Indexing of Periodical Literature Committee

Committee Charge: The Indexing of Periodical Literature Committee reviews newly published legal periodicals and online companions and makes recommendations to TGG editorial staff concerning inclusion of those titles in the Legal Resources Index/Current Law Index/LegalTrac.

The Committee is also charged with monitoring the guidelines used in determining which publications are included in the indexing. 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, and develops and adopts revised guidelines as needed.

The Committee is also charged with making recommendations concerning various publishing details to the TGG editorial staff that may reflect the concerns of the AALL membership.

**Major Activities
for 2013-2014:**

The Committee has been exploring ways of enhancing the index by expanding its coverage. In furtherance of this goal, the Committee considered whether it would be appropriate to index legal blogs. After consulting with TGG's representative and the Committee's Executive Board liaison, the Committee determined that blogs that are ancillary or companion to an already indexed periodical could be indexed under the current Committee charge and guidelines. The Committee decided to include such legal blogs in its review of publications for addition to the index. The Committee postponed consideration of whether to include a broader range of legal blogs until after it had more experience evaluating blogs.

The Committee has been proactively identifying new publications throughout the year. The Committee is systematically checking the websites of ABA-approved law schools in order to identify new journals, online companions and blogs. The Committee is also reviewing publisher websites to identify privately published journals. The Committee submits a list of approved titles to TGG at regular intervals, and as of February 26, 2014, the Committee has approved thirty-nine titles and rejected three titles.

**Proposed Activities
for 2014-2015:**

The Committee will continue to evaluate titles submitted to the Committee and proactively identify publications for possible inclusion in the index.

The Committee will consider whether the charge and guidelines should be expanded to allow a broader range of legal blogs to be indexed.