

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

Bylaws For The
Section On
Agricultural and Food Law

Article I. Name And Purpose

Section 1. Name. This Section shall be known as the Section on Agricultural and Food Law.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Section is to provide for the development and sharing of research, teaching methods, and materials in legislative process, legislative drafting and interpretation.

Article II. Membership

Section 1. Membership

(a) Membership in the section is open to a faculty member of a law school that is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (hereinafter referred to as AALS) and to Canadian Associates.

(b) Associate membership is open to any other person who is concerned with the teaching, administration and improvement of legal education in the area of agriculture.

Section 2. Privileges of Members.

(a) Regular members may vote in person at a section meeting.

(b) Associate members may participate in the programs, meetings and activities of the section, but may not vote or hold office in the section.

Article III. Officers, Committees

Section 1. Officers.

The officers of this section are the chairperson, the chairperson-elect and secretary. The chairperson-elect shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Association, shall qualify by acceptance and shall succeed to the office of chairperson at the close of the next annual meeting. An officer shall serve until his successor has been elected and qualified.

Section 2. The Executive Committee.

(a) The Executive Committee of the section is the chairperson of the section, chairperson-elect and at least three other members elected annually.

(b) The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the section in the interval between annual meetings and may create standing and special committees.

Section 3. Filling Vacancies. If an officer or other member of the Executive Committee resigns, becomes ineligible to serve or dies, the position shall be promptly filled. If the position of chairperson becomes vacant, the chairperson-elect becomes the chairperson. If the position of chairperson-elect becomes vacant, the chairperson, with the advice and consent of the other members of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a person to serve as chairperson-elect until the next annual meeting of AALS at which time both a chairperson and chairperson-elect shall be elected. If the position of a member of the Executive Committee becomes vacant, the chairperson, with the advice and consent of the other members of the Executive Committee, shall appoint the person to the position to serve until the next annual meeting of the AALS.

Article IV. Nomination and Elections

Section 1. Nominations. The Nominating Committee for the subsequent year shall be appointed at or immediately following the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three members of the section and shall include at least one past chairperson of the section. The Nominating Committee shall receive and consider suggestions of persons to serve as officers for the section and shall report a slate of nominees to the section for election at the business meeting of the section at the next annual meeting of the AALS.

Section 2. Elections. The officers of the section shall be elected at the annual meeting. Nominations shall be received from the Nominating Committee and from the floor. Elections may be by voice vote or secret ballot, as the chairperson determines.

Article V. Duties of Officers

Section 1. Chairperson. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the section and of the executive committee. The chairperson shall present at each annual meeting of the AALS a report of the section for the prior year and shall be responsible for the program of the section. The chairperson shall appoint the members of standing and special committees.

Section 2. Chairperson-Elect. The Chairperson-Elect of the section shall assist the chairperson, as the chairperson may request, and shall perform the duties of the chairperson during absence or disability of the chairperson.

Section 3. Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer of the section shall assist the chair with communications and other responsibilities and shall perform the duties of the chairperson-elect during absence or disability of the chairperson-elect.

Section 4. Authorized Expenditures of Section Dues and Other Section Income. In addition to the purposes described in Association Executive Committee Regulation 12.6(d), section dues and other section income may be spent for a reception for section members at an Association annual meeting, workshop or teaching conference, any deficiency in a meal guarantee, section survey, section directory, and enhanced newsletter. Before the activity is undertaken, the section's Executive Committee must authorize the expenditure of dues or other income for the activity. In approving payment of an expenditure the section chairperson must determine that particular expenditure was for the activity authorized by the Executive Committee of the section and is consistent with the section's bylaws and Association policies. The chairperson shall notify the Association's National Office one month before the activity of the Section's Executive Committee decision to authorize the expenditure.

Article VI. Policy Statements

Section 1. Policy Statements. Because sections are part of the AALS, statements of policy adopted by a section or similar positions may be made public only after they are approved by the Executive Committee of the AALS.

Article VII. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. These bylaws may be amended at the annual meeting of the section by a majority of the regular members of the section present and voting. The amendment takes effect when it is approved by the AALS.