

# Association of American Law Schools

## Bylaws of the Section on Disability Law

### Article I. Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name. This section shall be known as the Section on Disability Law.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to promote the communication and dissemination of ideas, interests, and activities among its members; to foster scholarship in disability law, policy, and disability studies theory; to enrich the legal profession through greater awareness of disability-related issues; to promote a greater diversity of perspectives within legal education; and to make recommendations to the Association on matters concerning disability law.

### Article II. Membership

Section 1. Membership.

(a) Membership in the section is open to faculty members and professional staff of a law school that is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

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

Section 2. Privileges of Members.

(a) Regular members may be officers of the section and may vote in a section election.

(b) Associate members may participate in the programs, meetings, and activities of the section, but may not vote nor hold office in the section.

### Article III. Officers, Executive Committee and Other Committees & Positions

Section 1. Officers.

(a) The officers of this section are the chair and the chair-elect. These positions may be occupied by co-chairs. References in these bylaws to "chair" or "chair-elect" encompass "co-chairs" and "co-chairs-elect." The chair-elect shall be elected at each

annual meeting of the Association, shall qualify by acceptance and shall succeed to the office of chair at the close of the next annual meeting. An officer shall serve until a successor has been elected and qualified.

Section 2. The Executive Committee.

(a) The executive committee of the section comprises the section chair, chair-elect, and three or more members elected annually.

Section 3. Other Positions. To promote broad inclusion and involvement, the chair may appoint persons to select or standing committees or other positions as they deem appropriate, including, but limited to, mentoring coordinator, secretary, newsletter editor, program coordinator, webmaster or list administrator.

Section 4. Filling Vacancies. If any member of the executive committee resigns, becomes ineligible to serve or dies, the position shall be promptly filled. If the position of chair becomes vacant, the chair-elect becomes the chair. If the position of chair-elect becomes vacant, the chair, with the advice and consent of the other members of the executive committee, shall appoint a person to serve as chair-elect. This chair-elect will serve until the next annual meeting of AALS, at which time both a chair and a chair-elect shall be elected. If the position of a member of the executive committee becomes vacant, the chair, with the advice and consent of the other members of the executive committee, shall appoint a person to the position to serve until the next annual meeting of the AALS. If a position appointed by the chair becomes vacant, the chair may, at her discretion, appoint another person.

**Article IV. Nominations and Elections**

Section 1. Nominations. At least two months before the AALS annual meeting, the chair shall ask the members of the section to nominate persons to serve as officers and members of the executive committee. The chair will refer these nominees to a nominating committee that comprises the chair-elect, executive committee members and persons occupying any appointed positions. The nominating committee shall report a slate of nominees to the section for the election to be held at the next annual meeting of the AALS.

Section 2. Elections. The officers and other member of the executive committee 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 chair determines.

**Article V. Duties**

Section 1. Chair.

(a) The chair shall preside at all meetings of the section and of its executive committee. At each annual meeting of the AALS, the chair shall report on the section activities during the prior year.

(b) The chair is responsible for the programs of the section.

(c) The chair may create and fill section positions other than chair, chair-elect and members of the executive committee.

2. Chair-Elect. The chair-elect of the section shall assist the chair and perform the duties of the chair during the absence of the chair.

3. Executive Committee. The executive committee shall act on behalf of the section between annual meetings.

#### **Article VI. Income**

Section 1. Authorized Expenditures of Section Dues and Other Section Income.

(a) In addition to the purposes described in Association Executive Committee Regulation 1.6(d), section dues and other section income may be spent for (i) a reception for section members at an Association annual meeting, workshop, or teaching or recruiting conference; (ii) deficiency in a meal guarantee made to a hotel; or (iii) a section survey, directory or enhanced newsletter.

(b) The section chair must determine that any particular expenditure is for an approved activity and is consistent with the section's bylaws and Association policies, and the section's executive committee must approve the expenditure of dues or other income for any activity. The section chair must notify the Association's National Office no later than one month before the funds are to be expended.

#### **Article VII. Policy Statements**

Section 1. Policy Statements. As a component of the AALS, the section may adopt a public statement or similar position only after it has been adopted by the AALS Executive Committee.

#### **Article VIII. 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.