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To: A.A.L.S.
From: 6-24-85

PROPOSED BYLAWS

Bylaws of the Section on
LAW AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Article I. Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name. This Section shall be known as the Section on Law and the Social Sciences.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to promote communication among those persons who are interested in using the empirical techniques of the social sciences to study legal problems and institutions.

Article II. Membership

Section 1. Membership.

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

(b) Associate membership is open to any person who is interested in law and the social sciences.

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 and the chairperson-elect. The chairperson-elect is to be elected at each annual meeting of the Association. The chairperson-elect succeeds to the office of chairperson at the close of the next annual meeting. An officer shall serve until his or her successor has assumed office.

Section 2. The Executive Committee.

(a) The Executive Committee of the section consists of the following persons: the chairperson of the section, chairperson-elect and three other members elected annually.

(b) The Executive Committee is empowered to act in the interval between annual meetings and may create standing and special committees.

Article IV. Nomination and Elections.

Section 1. Nominations. At each annual meeting the Executive Committee will appoint members to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is to consist of three members of the section and will include at least one past chairperson of that section, where possible. The Nominating Committee will receive and consider suggestions of persons to serve as officers for the section and will report a slate of nominees to the section for election at the business meeting of the section at the annual meeting of the AALS.

Section 2. Elections. The officers of the section will 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 will preside at all meetings of the section and of the executive committee. At each annual meeting of the AALS, the chairperson will present a report outlining the activities of the section for the prior year and will also be responsible for the program of the section. The chairperson will appoint the members of standing and special committees.

Section 2. Chairperson-elect. The chairperson-elect of the section will assist the chairperson, as the chairperson may request, and will perform the duties of the chairperson during absence or disability of the chairperson. If the office of chairperson becomes vacant, the chairperson-elect will succeed to the office of chairperson.

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 if 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 Executive Committee of the AALS.