

BYLAWS OF THE SECTION ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Article I. NAME, PURPOSE, AND SCOPE OF INTEREST

Section 1. Name.

This Section shall be known as the Section on Criminal Justice (hereinafter the Section).

Section 2. Purpose.

The purpose of this Section is to promote the communication of ideas, interests, and activities among members and to facilitate and promote the development of the scholarly, pedagogic and public service efforts of Section members.

Section 3. Scope of Interest.

The scope of interest of this Section shall be matters pertaining to Criminal Justice. Criminal Justice is defined to include the following: (a) Substantive Criminal Law; (b) Criminal Procedure; (c) Criminal Justice Administration; (d) Juvenile Justice; and (e) Corrections (including sentencing and prisons).

Article II. MEMBERSHIP AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Membership.

- (a) Regular membership in the Section is open to faculty members and professional staff of members of the Association of American Law Schools (hereinafter the AALS).
- (b) Associate membership is open to others who are 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 vote in person at all Section meetings, hold office, and participate in the programs, meetings, and activities of the Section.
- (b) Associate members may participate in the programs, meetings, and activities of the Section, but may neither vote nor hold office in the Section.

Article III. OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SPECIAL COMMITTEES, AND FILLING VACANCIES

Section 1. Officers.

The officers of this Section are the Chairperson, the Chairperson-elect, and the Secretary.

The Chairperson, the Chairperson-elect, and the Secretary shall serve for a term of one year, provided, however, that an officer shall serve until that officer's successor has been elected and qualified.

Section 2. Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee of the Section shall consist of the Chairperson, the Chairperson-elect, the Secretary, the immediate past Chairperson, and two additional members of the Section to be elected annually. The members of the Executive Committee shall serve for a term of one year.

The Executive Committee shall advise the officers of the Section and discharge such other functions as it may, from time to time, upon majority vote, undertake.

Section 3. Special Committees.

Special Committees may be created by majority vote of the Executive Committee. The Chairperson shall appoint the membership of any such Committee, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The Special Committees shall have such duties as are assigned to them by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Filling Vacancies.

If an officer resigns, becomes ineligible to serve or dies, the position shall be promptly filled. If the position of Chairperson becomes vacant, the Chairperson-elect shall become the Chairperson. If the position of Chairperson-elect becomes vacant, the Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall appoint the Secretary to serve as Chairperson-elect until the next annual meeting of the AALS. If the position of Secretary becomes vacant, the Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a member of the Section's regular membership to serve as Secretary until the next annual meeting of the AALS.

Article IV. ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS

Section 1. Elections.

The Chairperson-elect and the Secretary shall be elected at the AALS annual meeting by a simple majority of those qualified regular members in attendance. The election may be by voice vote or secret ballot, as the Chairperson of the Section determines. The Chairperson-elect shall become the Chairperson upon the expiration of the Chairperson's term in office.

Section 2. Nominations.

Nominations for the Chairperson-elect, Secretary, and additional Executive Committee members shall be received from the floor at the AALS annual meeting.

Article V. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Duties of Chairperson.

The Chairperson of the Section 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(s) of the Section at the AALS annual meeting.

Section 2. Duties of Chairperson-elect.

The Chairperson-elect shall assist the Chairperson, as the Chairperson may request. The Chairperson-elect shall perform the duties of the Chairperson during the absence or disability of the Chairperson.

Section 3. Duties of Secretary.

The Secretary shall assist the Chairperson, as the Chairperson may request. The Secretary of the Section will prepare the Section newsletter in the Spring and Fall of each academic year.

Article VI. POLICY STATEMENTS

Section 1. Policy Statements.

Sections are components of the AALS. Thus, any statements of policy adopted by a Section or similar policy positions may be made public only after the AALS Executive Committee has formally adopted the policy statement.

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. An amendment takes effect when it is approved by the AALS.

Article VIII. NEWSLETTER, WEB SITE, AND “JUNIOR SCHOLARS PAPER COMPETITION”

Section 1. Newsletter.

The Section will create and make available a newsletter in the Spring and Fall of each academic year. Each issue of the newsletter shall contain a disclaimer stating, in substance, the following: “This newsletter is a forum for the exchange of information and points of view. Any opinions expressed herein are not necessarily the opinions of the Criminal Justice Section, its members or officers, or of the Association of American Law Schools.” The newsletter will be distributed electronically to Section members and posted on the Section’s web site.

Section 2. Web Site.

The Section shall create and maintain an Internet web site that will transmit and maintain an archive of Section newsletters, announce and report on Section activities, and otherwise contain and communicate information relevant to the Section membership.

### Section 3. “Junior Scholars Paper Competition”

At the discretion of the officers, the Section will stage a Junior Scholars Paper Competition and the winner of such award shall be publicly acknowledged at the annual meeting. Any regular member of the Section who has been a full-time faculty member for six years or less as of the July 1 preceding the competition deadline is eligible to enter the competition. Submissions will be evaluated anonymously by the Section’s officers or by another panel of individuals designated by the Chairperson. Commencement of the competition will be announced in the Section’s Spring newsletter as well as on the Section’s web site.

Pursuant to AALS procedures and best practices the following additional guidelines are in effect:

- A. AALS Sections must announce the award and solicit nominations at a minimum from the AALS communications platform announcement listserv. The Section is encouraged to announce the award widely to other places that would reach Section members. Nominations come only from those qualified to be Section members, who are faculty or professional staff at AALS member law schools.
- B. The selection committee for the award winner must be defined in advance of the announcements and the committee should include a minimum of three Section members.
- C. Eligible award winners would be Section members and any other individuals. Law schools, institutions or organizations cannot receive an award. Prior year or current year Section officers would be excluded from being selected as an award winner.
- D. It is recommended that the Section consider carrying over nominees from prior years and include with the current years’ nominees.
- E. It is recommended that Sections consider not giving an award every year.
- F. It is recommended that those nominated include one or two paragraphs explaining why the nominee is deserving of the award.
- G. Sections are to inform AALS Managing Director by March 15 if the Section that has an approved award criteria and procedures will be giving an award at the upcoming Annual Meeting
- H. By November 1, Sections are to write AALS Managing Director to explain how they followed the award criteria and procedures in the selection of their award winner and provide the name and school of the winner.
- I. It is up to the Section if there is more than one award winner for an award. The purchase of a plaque for one or more people cannot exceed \$100.
- J. If the Section has a meal event, the Section can use that venue for a talk by the award winner. Given the high cost of meal events, it is recommended that the Section also recognize the award winner at its program.
- K. AALS may issue a press release announcing AALS award winners and the AALS Section award winners.