

PROPOSED BYLAWS,
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

Bylaws of the Section on Law Libraries and Legal Information

Article I. Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name. This Section shall be known as the Section on Law Libraries and Legal Information

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Section is to promote the communication of ideas, interests and activities among members of the Section, to provide a forum for the presentation of research reports and scholarly papers relating to law libraries, and to make recommendations to the Association on matters concerning academic law libraries.

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, the administration of law libraries, development of law collections and access to legal information.

Section 2. Privileges of Members.

(a) Regular members may be an officer 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 or hold office in the Section.

Article III. Officers, Executive and Other Committees

Section 1. Officers. The officers of this Section are the chair and the chair-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 chairperson at the close of the next annual meeting. An officer shall serve until her successor has been elected and qualified.

Section 2. The Executive Committee.

(a) The Executive Committee of the Section consists of the chair of the Section, the immediate past chair, chair-elect and three other executive board members serving three years terms with one board member elected each year.

(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 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 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 the person to the position to serve until the next annual meeting of the AALS.

Article IV. Nomination and Elections

Section 1. Nominations. At or immediately following the annual meeting the chairperson shall appoint the Nomination Committee for the subsequent year. The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least one past chairperson of the Section. The Nominating Committee shall receive and consider suggestions of persons to serve as officers and members of the Executive Committee of 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 and other members of the Executive Committee of the Section shall be elected at the annual meeting or by electronic ballot prior to the annual meeting. Nominations from the Nominating Committee shall be circulated to members of the Section at least one month before the election is held. Elections can be at the meeting or by electronic ballot.

Article V. Duties of Officers

Section 1. Chair. 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 and is responsible for the program of the Section. The chair shall appoint the members of standing and special committees.

Section 2. Chair-Elect. The chair-elect of the Section shall assist the chair, as the chair may request, and shall perform the duties of the chair during absence or disability of the chair.

Article VI. Income

Section 1. Authorized Expenditures of Section Dues and Other Section Income. Section dues and other Section income may be spent in accordance with AALS ByLaws and Executive Committee Regulations.

Article VII. Policy Statements

Section 1. Policy Statements. Sections are components of the AALS. Thus, any statement of policy adopted by a Section or similar positions may be made public only in accordance with the Bylaws and Executive Committee Regulations of the AALS.

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.

Article IX. The AALS Section on Law Libraries and Legal Information Award

Section 1. Full Name. The AALS Section on Law Libraries and Legal Information Award

Section 2. Introduction. The purpose of the award is to honor those who have made outstanding contributions to teaching and scholarship in the areas of legal information and academic law librarianship. Contributions may also include outstanding service, mentoring, leadership, or any combination of these contributions.

Section 3. Frequency. The award shall be made from time to time as the Officers and Executive Committee of the Section determine.

Section 4. Selection Process. The chair of the Section on Law Libraries and Legal Information shall seek nominations from the Section through its listserv, along with other venues that may be appropriate, including websites and email. Only those qualified to be Section members may make nominations. Only Section members and other individuals are eligible for the award; law schools, institutions or organizations are not eligible.

Section 5. Selection Committee. The Selection Committee shall consist of the Section Officers and Executive Committee. They shall discuss the nominees by e-mail or conference call, as the chair shall arrange, and then vote. The nominee receiving the most votes (after run-off between the top two nominees, in the event no nominee receives a majority on the initial polling) shall receive the award.

Section 6. Notification to AALS. After voting, the chair shall inform the AALS Managing Director to verify that the award criteria and procedures were followed and to provide the name and affiliation of the winner. Notification shall occur by November 1 to AALS.

Section 7. Announcement and Ceremony. The chair shall announce the recipient of the Award after receiving approval from the AALS Managing Director. Awards will be announced at the Section's annual meeting program and business meeting. The Selection Committee may also decide to purchase a plaque for the recipient, whose cost shall not exceed \$100.