

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

Proposed ByLaws of the Section on
Law and Religion
as approved by vote of Section members
at January 2007 Annual Meeting

Article I. Name and Purpose

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

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Section is to promote the communication of ideas, interests, and activities among members and to provide discussion, information, and recommendations in regard to the interaction of law and Religion.

Article II. Membership

Section 1. Membership.

(a) Membership in the Section is open to any faculty person 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 others who are concerned with scholarship relating to the interaction of law and religion.

Section 2. Privileges of Members.

(a) Regular members may vote in person at all Section meetings.

(b) Associate members may participate in the programs, meetings and activities of the Section but may not vote nor, except to the extent permitted by AALS regulations, hold office in the Section.

Article III. Officers, Committees

Section 1. Officers.

(a) The officers of this Section are the chairperson of the Section, the chairperson-elect of the Section (who shall also serve as vice chairperson), the chairperson of the Section Program Committee, and the chairperson of the Section Nominating Committee. Officers (other than the chairperson of the Section) shall be elected at the business meeting during each AALS annual meeting and shall qualify for office by acceptance. At the conclusion of the Section business meeting, the chairperson-elect of the Section shall become chairperson of the Section, the officers elected at the business meeting shall take office, and the two at-large Executive Committee members

elected at the business meeting shall take their positions; provided that the existing officers will continue to have responsibility for any Section program or event that may occur at the annual meeting after conclusion of the business meeting. An officer shall serve until his or her successor has been elected and qualified.

(b) Each Section office may be held by one individual or by two individuals (but not more than two) as co-chairs. The term "chairperson" and "chairperson-elect" as used in these Bylaws shall include co-chairpersons and co-chairpersons-elect, respectively.

Section 2. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of the Section shall consist of the officers of the Section, the immediate past chairperson, and two at-large members elected at the business meeting during each AALS annual meeting (who shall qualify by acceptance and serve until his or her successor has been elected and qualified).

The Executive Committee shall act in the interval between annual meetings and shall appoint the members of standing committees and the chairpersons and members of special committees.

Section 3. Standing Committees.

(a) The standing committees of the Section shall be (1) the Nominating Committee, and (2) the Program Committee.

(b) The standing committees shall have such duties as are prescribed by the Executive Committee and these Bylaws.

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 annual meeting of the AALS.

Section 2. Elections. The officers of the Section (other than the chairperson) and two at-large Executive Committee members shall be elected at the business meeting during the AALS annual meeting. Nominations shall be received from the Nominating Committee and from the floor. Beginning with the January 2008 annual meeting, nominations for the two at-large positions on the Executive Committee may come only from the floor. Without limitation on the right of section members to make nominations from the floor as described in the preceding two sentences, should the Nominating Committee choose to nominate one individual for an office, then, with or without the invitation of the Nominating Committee, a second individual agreeable to the nominated person may be

nominated from the floor at the business meeting to serve with the nominated person as co-chairperson-elect of the Section or co-chairperson of the Nominating or Program Committee, as the case may be. Elections may be by voice vote or secret ballot, as the chairperson of the Section determines.

Article V. Duties of Officers

Section 1. Chairperson. The Chairperson of the Section shall preside at all meetings of the Section and 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.

Section 2. Vice-Chairperson. The chairperson-elect of the Section shall serve as vice-chairperson. The vice-chairperson 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. If the office of the chairperson becomes vacant, the vice-chairperson shall succeed to the office of chairperson. As described in Article III, section 1, clause (a) of these Bylaws, the chairperson-elect shall succeed the chairperson at the close of the business meeting during the AALS annual meeting, subject to any continuing responsibilities the existing chairperson may have under that clause of these Bylaws.

Article VI. Policy Statements

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

Article VII. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended at the annual business meeting of the Section by a majority of the regular members of the Section present and voting. The amendment takes effect after it has been approved by the AALS Executive Committee or the AALS Executive Director, as determined by the AALS.