

The Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws for the Academic Law Libraries Section are presented below. The committee was asked by the Executive Committee of the Academic Law Libraries Section to bring the current bylaws into conformity with the American Association of Law Libraries bylaws. Specifically the committee was asked to examine the current election process and add a member at large. The additions to the bylaws are indicated in red. The deletions are indicated by ~~striketrough~~. The following articles and sections are being proposed for amendment.

Article II deals with the object of the section. The committee's proposed language is to change object to purpose with no substantive change.

Article V, Section 3 deals with the addition to the executive committee of an elected member, who will serve a 2 (two) year term. It also attempts to clarify when the officers assume office and their duties.

Article VI, Sections 1-7 deals with nominations and the electoral process. Under the current bylaws, the electoral process was out of synch with the American Association of Law Libraries which requires that election results be communicated to by May 15. Thus the proposed changes in the nomination procedures. Rather than have the process tied to when the annual meeting is held it is now date specific. With the addition of Section 2 on notification which permits the notification to be by mail, broadcast email or newsletter at the Executive Committee's discretion, all of the sections needed to be renumbered. The Bylaws Committee thought permitting notification by mail, broadcast email or newsletter at the Executive Committee's discretion would give the Executive Committee the widest latitude. Adding specific dates and not being dependent upon when the annual meeting is held also assists in planning.

Article VII on Amendments was changed to look like the other Articles. Other than stylistic changes, there are no substantive changes to Article VII.

Article VIII on Parliamentary Authority substitutes Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure for Roberts Rules of Order. This brings the Academic Law Libraries Section in line with AALL's bylaws.

Respectfully Submitted,

ALL Section Committee on Bylaws
Janice Anderson
James Duggan
Mary Hood, Chair

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Article I: NAME

The name of this special interest section of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) shall be the Academic Law Libraries Section.

Article II: OBJECT

~~The object of t~~ The Academic Law Libraries Section **is established:** ~~shall be:~~

1. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on Academic Law Libraries; and
2. To represent its members' interests and concerns within the American Association of Law Libraries.

It shall conduct its affairs in conformity with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Association of Law Libraries.

Article III: MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to any AALL member requesting affiliation with the Academic Law Libraries Section as provided in the AALL bylaws.

Article IV: MEETINGS

There shall be an annual meeting of the Academic Law Libraries Section, held in connection with, or during, the annual meeting of the AALL.

Article V: OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. Officers.

The officers shall consist of a Chair, a Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and a Secretary/Treasurer. The Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect shall automatically become chair one year after being elected Vice-Chair, and shall serve as Chair during the second year following that election. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected biennially.

Section 2. Duties of Officers.

The Chair, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices, and such other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee of the membership.

Section 3. Executive Committee.

There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the Officers named above, the immediate past Chair and one (1) elected member. The elected member shall serve a term of two (2) years. All officers and members of the Executive Committee shall serve until the adjournment of the annual meeting at which their successors are announced. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be those usually assigned to such committees in similar associations.

Section 4. Committees.

There shall be such standing or special committees as the Executive Committee, or the membership of the section, shall create. There shall be a standing Nominating Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee, to consist of three members, no one of whom shall be a member of the Executive Committee, and no one of whom shall be a candidate for office at the succeeding election. Each member of the Committee shall serve for a term of one year.

Article VI: NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee shall submit the names of candidates for the office of Vice- Chair/Chair-elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and the elected member, together with their written acceptances, to the Chair by January 30. ~~in sufficient time to enable the Chair to inform the members of the Section of the nominations prior to April 1, either by publication in the AALL Newsletter, the SIS newsletter, or by mail.~~

In the event that the Vice-Chair/Chair-elect cannot assume the duties of Chair, and such fact is known prior to January 15 ~~March 1~~, the Committee shall also submit the names of candidates for the office of Chair for the term of one year.

Section 2. Notification.

The Executive Committee shall notify membership of the candidates proposed by the nominating committee by February 28. Notification to the membership can be by mail, ALL SIS newsletter or broadcast email as the Executive Committee decides.

Section 3. Nomination by Petition

Additional nominations may be made upon written petition of five (5) members of the Section. Such petitions, accompanied by written acceptance of the nominees, must be filed with the Chair by March 20.

~~Section 2. Nomination by Petition.~~

~~Further nominations may be made upon written petition of five (5) members of the Section. Such petitions, accompanied by written acceptance of the nominees, must be filed with the Chair not later than May 1.~~

Section 4 ~~3~~. Ballots.

The Secretary shall prepare an official ballot, including nominations by petition. The professional position of each nominee shall appear on the ballot.

Section 5 ~~4~~. Election.

The Officers of the Section shall be elected by mail ballot. The Secretary shall mail ballots to each member of the Section **by April 1** ~~prior to May 15~~. Ballots shall be marked and returned to the Secretary **by April 25** ~~prior to June 10~~. The candidates receiving the largest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected, and shall be reported by the Secretary at the annual meeting of the Section. All candidates shall be notified of the results of election **by May 5** ~~at the earliest possible time~~.

Section 6 ~~5~~. Tie Votes.

In case of a tie vote, a run-off election shall be held at the business meeting of the Section at the annual AALL convention. Run-off elections shall be by secret ballot. The ballots shall be immediately counted, and the candidate with the largest number of votes **shall be** declared elected.

Section 7 ~~6~~. Destruction of Ballots.

If there are no challenges to the results of the election, the ballots may be destroyed by the Secretary after the annual meeting.

Article VII: AMENDMENTS.

Section 1. **Bylaws.**

Bylaws of the Section may be adopted, amended or suspended at the annual meeting of the Section by a majority vote of the members present and voting. Or, bylaws may be adopted, amended, or suspended through a mail ballot.

Whenever the by-laws are to be changed by mail vote, the Secretary shall mail ballots to every member in good standing of the Section. Such ballots shall state the text of the proposed change, the purpose of the change, and the date by which ballots must be returned to the Secretary. Proposed changes in the bylaws by mail must receive a majority vote of the ballots returned to the Secretary in order to pass. Tie votes shall be considered failure to pass.

Section 2. **Effect.**

Any amendment shall take effect after it has been approved by the AALL Executive Board.

Article VIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

~~Robert's Rules of Order~~ **Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure**, in the latest edition, shall govern all deliberations of the Section when not in conflict with the bylaws of the Section.