

AALL Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section Three Proposed Bylaws Amendments

- Approved by AALL Bylaws Committee March 22, 2005 (via email with David Mao, Chair (dmao@cov.com))
- Drafted by: Alison Alifano, Prano Amjadi and Ann Hemmens
- Contact: Ann Hemmens, SR-SIS Chair (hemmens@u.washington.edu | 206-543-7672)
- This notice will be distributed via: SR-SIS email list, SR-SIS Newsletter, and SR-SIS website. Paper ballots for both the officer election and the bylaws amendments will be mailed to SR-SIS members in April 2005.

SR-SIS Proposed Bylaws Amendments

- (1) Electronic Elections**
- (2) Only One Candidate required per office**

Background:

AALL successfully implemented electronic voting for AALL Executive Board positions in Fall 2004. Beginning in March 2005, AALL has offered to host electronic elections for Special Interest Sections. To utilize this service the SR-SIS needs to amend its Bylaws to allow for electronic elections. Currently they require the use of paper ballots sent through the US Postal Service.

The SR-SIS Bylaws currently require that the Nominating Committee present two candidates for each office to be voted on, the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect every year and the Secretary/Treasurer every other year. SR-SIS members may also petition for additional nominees. It is sometimes difficult to locate two members willing to be nominees for each position. In an effort to streamline the process and still provide opportunities for members to gain leadership experience, we would like to reduce the required number of nominees for each position from two to one, as selected by the Nominating Committee. We will continue to allow members to petition for additional nominees in each election.

Current Bylaw:

(http://www.aallnet.org/sis/social_responsibilities.asp)

Article VI: NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Immediate Past Chair shall serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee and shall appoint two others to serve until the next annual meeting.

Two candidates shall be presented for each office to be voted on, the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect every year and the Secretary/Treasurer every other year.

Further nominations may be made upon written petition of five voting members. Such petitions, with the written consent of the nominees, shall be filed with the Secretary/Treasurer not later than April 1st.

The Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare the ballot, including nominations by petition, and mail a copy of the ballot to each member of the Section. Ballots shall be marked, sealed in plain envelopes, and returned to the Secretary/Treasurer for a tabulation by the first week in May or two months prior to the AALL Annual Meeting, whichever is earlier. The candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected and this shall be reported to AALL Headquarters, in the CSP Newsletter, and at the Annual Meeting by the Chair of the SIS. All candidates shall be notified of the results of the election by the Chair of the SIS at the earliest possible time. In case of a tie-vote, the successful candidates shall be determined by lot conducted by the Nominating Committee.

The Secretary/Treasurer shall mail a copy of the ballots to each member of the Section. Ballots shall be marked, sealed in plain envelopes, and returned to the Secretary/Treasurer for a tabulation. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected, and shall be so reported at the annual meeting by the Committee on Election, or Chair of the SIS. All candidates shall be notified of the results of the election by the Committee on elections, or Chair of the SIS, at the earliest possible time. In case of a tie vote, the successful candidates shall be determined by lot conducted by the Committee on Elections.

Proposed Bylaw:

Article VI: NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Nominating Committee

The Immediate Past Chair of the Section shall serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee and shall appoint two others to serve until the next annual meeting.

Section 2. Election Procedures.

(a.) The election of officers will be conducted every year by mail or electronic ballot, to be completed not later than two months prior to the annual meeting.

(b) The Nominating Committee shall present at least one candidate(s) for each office to be voted on, the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect every year and the Secretary/Treasurer every other year. Further nominations may be made upon written petition of five voting members. Such petitions, with the written consent of the nominees, shall be filed with the Secretary/Treasurer not later than April 1st.

(c.) In the event paper ballots are used, the Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare the ballot, including nominations by petition, and mail a copy of the ballot to each member of the Section. Ballots shall be marked, sealed in plain envelopes, and returned to the Secretary/Treasurer for tabulation by the first week in May or two months prior to the AALL annual meeting, whichever is earlier.

(d.) In the event electronic ballots are used, the details of conducting the election shall first be approved by the Executive Committee. The Committee shall ensure that an election conducted by electronic balloting is fundamentally fair and preserves the right of secret ballot.

(e.) The candidates receiving the largest number of votes for each office shall be elected and this shall be reported to AALL Headquarters, in the Section Newsletter, and at the annual meeting by the Chair of the SIS. All candidates shall be notified of the results of the election by the Chair of the SIS at the earliest possible time. In case of a tie-vote, the successful candidates shall be determined by lot conducted by the Nominating Committee.

Section 3. Vacancies

(a.) If a Chair leaves office, the Vice-Chair will assume that position's duties.

(b.) All vacancies in other offices shall be filled by the Executive Committee for an interim term until the next Section Business Meeting at which an election would be held or the next regular election cycle, whichever is sooner.

(3) Amendments to Bylaws

Background:

We have no specific language detailing the procedure for amending the SR-SIS Bylaws. Instead we defer to the procedures in the AALL Bylaws. It would be more efficient to incorporate such language in our Bylaws.

Current Bylaw:

http://www.aallnet.org/sis/social_responsibilities.asp

Article II: OBJECT

The object of the Social Responsibilities SIS shall be to act as a stimulus to the Association and its members by focusing attention on, providing a forum for discussion of, exchange information about, and proposing resolutions on critical social issues that affect library workers as members of the profession and as

members of the human family. ***It shall conduct its affairs in conformity with the constitution and Bylaws of the American Association of Law Libraries.***
(emphasis added)

Proposed Bylaw (a new Article added, with no changes to Article II required):

Article VII: AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended at the annual business meeting of the Section by a majority of the members present and voting, or by a majority of the votes cast by a mail or electronic ballot conducted by the Secretary/Treasurer. Any amendment must be presented to the AALL Bylaws Committee for review before it is submitted to the Section membership for vote.

Section 2. Notice of proposed amendments shall be mailed to the Section members, or be published in the Section's newsletter, or be sent by electronic mail to the members' electronic mail addresses of record with AALL, thirty days in advance of the annual meeting, or of the mailing of ballots, or of the conducting of an election by electronic ballot. Members may request a paper copy of the proposed amendments upon request to the Secretary/Treasurer.