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SEAALL Bylaw Revision Materials, 1994

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Proposed Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws.
Draft
3/22/94

Strikeout text indicates text to be deleted. Underlined text indicates text to be added.

Proposal 1: Amend Article IV of the Articles to more explicitly reserve to the Bylaws the power to create classes of members

Comment: It is arguable that the existing language of the Articles already allows the Bylaws to define classes of members. The committee feels the Executive Committee should review this issue and take the action it feels is appropriate.

Article IV: Members
Membership of the corporation shall be open to any persons or institutions residing in the Southeastern region of the United States interested in law libraries and desiring to promote the goals of the corporation.

Any person, company or institution with an interest in supporting the activities of the corporation located or residing outside the Southeastern region may become an associate member.

The Southeastern region include Puerto Rico and the following states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia and such other states as may be added.

Members shall be admitted to the corporation upon application to the Board of Trustees in the manner prescribed in the Bylaws. The Bylaws may provide for classes of members and may use affiliation with a law library as a factor in defining such classes. All individuals named as officers or trustees of the corporation shall be entitled to become members in the manner provided in the Bylaws.

This corporation is organized upon a nonstock basis and shall not issue shares of stock.
Proposal 2: Amend Article I of the Bylaws to conform to the provisions of the AALL Bylaws, by clearly specifying a 7-year grace period for employment affiliation with a law library, state library, law division of a general library, or person or firm providing services to law libraries. This proposal also deletes the word "active" as an adjective for members, because that term is nowhere defined. Instead, the bylaws will clearly state that suspension for failure to pay dues disqualifies one from holding office. Other language is altered for improved syntax.

Article I: Membership

Section 1. Membership Categories

a. Individual Members

Any person officially connected with a law library, or with a separately maintained law section in any library and currently or within the last seven years, employed at least 30% of full time may become an active who resides in the Southeastern region and is interested in law librarianship and currently is, or within the last 7 years was, employed at least 30% of full time to perform professional work by either:

1. a law library, a state library, or a general library having a separately maintained law section; or

2. an individual or organization providing professional librarian services to law libraries may become an individual member upon determination of eligibility by the Membership Committee and payment of annual dues. The Membership Committee's ruling may be appealed to the Executive Committee.

b. Student Members

Any person officially enrolled at least half-time in a degree program related to law librarianship shall become a student member upon payment of annual dues provided that membership in this category is limited to 5 consecutive years. The Executive Committee is empowered to adopt procedures for verifying student status.

c. Institutional Members

Any law library may become an institutional member upon payment of annual dues. The Executive Committee is empowered to determine whether the institution applying for membership is a law library. Such persons on the staff of an institutional member as are
designated by the librarian and for whom the institutional member has paid its annual dues in accordance with bylaws Section 2,(b)2 shall be entitled to individual membership in the Chapter without the payment of additional dues.

d. Associate Members

Persons, companies and institutions not connected with law libraries, residing in or outside of the Southeastern region, or connected with law libraries but residing outside the region. Any person not eligible to be an individual or student member may be selected to granted associate membership by the Executive Committee and shall pay annual dues upon payment of annual dues.

e. Life Members

The Chapter may at any regular meeting by a vote of two thirds of those present elect to life membership those who have been members of the Chapter for at least 10 years, but who have retires from active fulltime library work, and any life member of A.A.L.L. who resides in the Southeastern Chapter area.

f. Honorary Members

The Chapter may at any regular meeting by a vote of two thirds of those present elect non-members as honorary members.

Section 2. Attributes of Membership

a. Rights and Privileges

1. All members have the right to vote.

2. The right to hold office shall be restricted to active members in the following membership categories: individual, institutional and life. individual members (including those who hold such status by virtue of an institutional membership) and life members. A member suspended for nonpayment of dues may not hold office while suspended.

3. The right to receive Chapter publications shall be shared by all members.
b. Dues

1. The annual dues for individual membership and associate members shall be $20.00. The annual dues for student memberships shall be $10.00. Life members and honorary members shall not be assessed dues.

2. The institutional membership dues shall be at the rate of $20.00 per designated member, and no library shall be required to pay annual dues in excess of $200.00.

3. All dues, individual, associate, and institutional shall be paid no later than three months after the due date appearing on the dues notice. The treasurer shall suspend the membership of any person who has not paid within the time allotted. A suspended membership shall be restored upon payment of dues for the current year.

4. The fiscal year shall coincide with that of the American Association of Law Libraries.
Proposal 3: Amend Article II Meetings and Article III Nominations and Elections to provide for correct syntax and to provide section headings.

ARTICLE II. MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual

An annual meeting of the Chapter shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall determine. A Chapter meeting shall be held at AALL National Conventions, when the Convention schedule permits, for the purpose of discussing future programs and projects and submitting progress reports on Chapter activities. The Executive Committee shall be charged with the duty of scheduling and making arrangements for such meetings; and attendance at these meetings shall not be confined to the Executive Committee, but extended to the entire membership.

Section 2. Other

The president shall call other meetings of the Chapter as deemed necessary or when requested to do so by the Executive Committee. The president shall provide reasonable notice of such meetings to each member of the Chapter.

Section 3. Presiding Officer

In the event of the absence of the president and vice-president -- president elect from any Chapter meeting, one of the members shall be elected to preside.

Section 4. Quorum

A majority of members attending a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE III. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Method of Nominating Candidates

a. Nominating Committee

The president shall appoint a nominating committee who shall submit the names of the candidate or candidates for each of the following offices by March 1 in the year which the officer is elected.

Vice-President -- President Elect
Secretary
Treasurer
The nominating Committee shall not submit, for election to the office of vice-president/president elect, the name of any member who is not in good standing of the American Association of Law Libraries.

b. Additional Nominations

Additional nominations may be made by any member by communicating in writing such nomination to the president.

Section 2. Method of Election

The vice-president -- president elect shall be elected by mail ballot in May of each year. The secretary shall be elected by mail ballot in May of each even numbered year. The treasurer shall be elected by mail ballot in May of each odd-numbered year. The candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected. The membership is to be notified by the secretary of the outcome of the election by mail or at a meeting of the Chapter.
Bylaws Article IV. Amendments and Bylaws.

Section 1.

Any proposed amendments to the Constitution Articles or Bylaws shall be filed with the secretary. Notice shall be given to members in one of the following ways:

a. notice shall be published in the Chapter newsletter Southeastern Law Librarian or its successor, at least 90 days prior to balloting, or

b. notice shall be sent by the secretary to all members through the mail at least 30 days prior to balloting.

Section 2.

Mail ballots may be conducted for the purpose of changing the Constitution Articles provided...

Section 4.

Meetings of the Chapter and Executive Committee shall be conducted with Roberts Rules of Order except as otherwise specified by the Chapter Constitution Articles or Bylaws.

Membership Status

Bylaws Article 1

Section 1.

a. Any person officially connected with a law library, or with a separately maintained law section in any library and currently or within the last seven years, employed at least 30% of full time may become...

Section 2.

a. Rights and Privileges

1. all members have the right to vote

2. The right to hold office shall be restricted to active members in the following membership categories: individual, institutional and life. individuals and institutionally designated members and to life members.