

Loyola University Chicago School of Law
HEALTH LAW SOCIETY
CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

Last revised: September 2010

We, the members of the Health Law Society of Loyola University Chicago School of Law, pledged to assist in the continued betterment of legal education and to the attainment of professional and ethical standards commensurate with the dignity of the Law, hereby establish this Constitution to enable the Health Law Society to fulfill this pledge in an orderly and expedient manner while promoting the welfare of the student body.

ARTICLE I
NAME

The name of the organization shall be the “Loyola University Chicago School of Law Health Law Society” (“HLS”).

ARTICLE II
OBJECTIVES

The objectives of HLS are to (1) represent and promote the activities of the Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy (“Beazley Institute”) to the student body; (2) raise awareness of health-related legal issues; (3) generate student interest in health law; (4) facilitate an ongoing dialogue regarding health law and related legal issues; and (5) act as a liaison between students interested in health law and professionals practicing in the field of health law.

ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP

1. HLS will not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, ethnic origin, age, physical handicap, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or educational background for membership or election of officers.
2. To be a member in good standing, a person is required to be a law student, fill out and submit an “HLS Membership Intent Form,” and attend four HLS meetings and/or events a year (two per semester unless excused by one of the Executive Board members). All members shall be voting members.

ARTICLE IV
GOVERNING BODY

The governing body of the organization, the Executive Board, shall be composed of the officers: President or Co-Presidents, Executive Director(s) of Events, Executive Director(s) of the Newsletter, and Executive Director(s) of HLS Initiatives.

PRESIDENT

The President or Co-Presidents shall be responsible for supervision of all activities of HLS. It shall be the duty of the President(s) to:

- Preside at HLS meetings;
- Call special meetings whenever necessary;
- Serve as Chair(s) of the Executive Board of HLS;
- Appoint chairpersons and members of all committees not otherwise provided;
- Set up and publish a written agenda prior to any regular meeting;
- Recommend to the Executive Board what committees need to be established and be an ex-officio member of all committees;
- Not be required to vote at any meetings of the Executive Board except in a tie vote;
- Work with staff and faculty in the Beazley Institute on an continual basis to coordinate HLS and Beazley initiatives;
- Communicate regularly with the faculty advisor regarding all HLS fiscal matters;
- Take any other action necessary and proper to performance of the organization following the bylaws.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EVENTS

It shall be the duty of the Executive Director(s) of Events to:

- Plan, organize, and promote HLS events;
- Appoint chairperson(s) and members of the HLS Events Committee (as needed);
- Serve as a member of the Executive Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEWSLETTER

It shall be the duty of the Executive Director(s) of the Newsletter to:

- Coordinate the publication of the HLS newsletter once monthly during the academic year, which shall include soliciting student article submissions, overseeing the editing process, and collaborating with the faculty and staff of the Beazley Institute to publish the newsletter in electronic format;
- Appoint chairperson(s) and members of the HLS Newsletter Committee (as needed);
- Serve as a member of the Executive Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HLS INITIATIVES

It shall be the duty of the Executive Director(s) of HLS Initiatives to:

- Work to achieve HLS goals through planning specific initiatives and activities;
- Serve as a member of the Executive Board.
- *Note:* This position may be further defined on an annual basis as desired by the Executive Board based on the needs of HLS.

ARTICLE V ELECTION AND TERMS FOR OFFICERS

I. Election

Officers will be elected annually by HLS members near the second week of April. At least fourteen (14) days before the election date, HLS members interested in becoming a Board member will inform the current Board of that intention. Officers are elected through a process that combines voting by at-large members and Board voting. HLS at-large members are invited to cast ballots electronically for the full slate of officers. Ballots completed by at-large members are tallied to constitute the at-large membership vote for the election process. HLS Board members each also cast votes for the complete slate of officers.

To determine the election of officers, the selections of the HLS at-large membership vote carry a weight of four "final votes," while each HLS Board member vote carries a weight of one "final vote." Final votes are then tallied to determine the individuals elected to each post. In the event of a tie, the Board shall have full discretion to appoint more than one candidate to the position or to decide the tiebreaker in any manner that is fair and just.

The Executive Board-elect will take office on May 1.

II. Term of Office

Terms of office for the Executive Board will be for one (1) academic year commencing May 1 of the current year and concluding May 1 of the following academic year. During the time from the elections until assuming office, incoming Officers may prepare for the upcoming year and make binding appointments.

III. Vacancy

If a vacancy occurs in any office other than the office of the President(s), the vacancy shall be filled by nomination by the President(s) subject to approval by a majority of members who attend a meeting following the nomination.

If a vacancy in the office of the President occurs, and there is a Co-President already in office, then the Co-President will assume the responsibilities of both Presidents for the duration of the term of office. If a vacancy in the office of the President occurs and there is not a Co-President in office, then the Executive Director of Events will assume the responsibilities of the President for the duration of the term.

IV. Removal

Any elected officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the members in good standing present at a special meeting called for such purpose, at which a quorum is present. Such action may be taken for personal misconduct or for any action deemed to be harmful to the reputation of HLS.

**ARTICLE VI
COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Committees may be established on an ad hoc basis as the Executive Board feels they are needed. Standing committees shall include, but are not limited to, the HLS Events Committee, Newsletter Committee, and Healthy Loyola Committee. The Board may appoint up to three (3) chairpersons of each committee. Replacement of ad hoc and standing committee chairpersons may be done by the President(s) on an as-needed basis. The length of these committees shall be the duration of the academic year, or for a shorter time period as determined by the Executive Board based on the needs of HLS.

**ARTICLE VII
MEETINGS**

Meetings will be held at least two times yearly, once per semester. A general meeting shall be held at the earliest convenient date in the fall semester to solicit new members and present the agenda for the coming year. Special meetings may be held as called by the Executive Board. Members of HLS shall be given notice of a meeting no less than five (5) days prior to the meeting.

Meetings shall be presided over by the highest-ranking member of the Executive Board present. If no member of the governing body is present than a faculty advisor or a designated student member may preside over the meeting. Decisions shall be determined by majority vote of members present at a meeting. One more than one-half (1/2) of the members present shall constitute a quorum.

**ARTICLE VIII
EVENTS**

Events (in addition to the meetings described in Article VII) will be held at least three times per semester. These events may include, but are not limited to, service projects, social events, career panels, and speakers on topics of interest to HLS. Events held each year shall be determined by the HLS Executive Board, in cooperation with the Beazley Institute, for the purpose of promoting the objectives of HLS.

**ARTICLE IX
FISCAL MATTERS**

The Executive Board shall work with the faculty advisor and the Beazley Institute in order to meet the financial operating needs of HLS. The President(s) shall be responsible communicating regularly with the faculty advisor regarding all HLS fiscal matters.

**ARTICLE X
AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution & Bylaws may be amended, from time to time, by a resolution in writing, presented to the HLS Executive Board prior to a meeting of the Board. Approval of amendments requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board.