Bylaws Committee 2007-08

The Bylaws Committee charge includes reviewing all Chapter and SIS bylaws documents when adopted or amended to avoid conflict or inconsistency with AALL Bylaws. The committee also serves as a resource for the Association, Special Interest Sections and Chapters on questions relating to bylaws and parliamentary procedure.

During the 2007-08 term, the committee reviewed proposed changes to the bylaws of the following chapters: Law Librarians Society of Washington, D.C., Dallas Association of Law Librarians, Chicago Association of Law Libraries, Minnesota Association of Law Libraries, Southern California Association of Law Libraries, and the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. The committee also considered changes to the bylaws of the Academic Law Libraries, Legal Information Services to the Public, Social Responsibilities, Online Bibliographic Services and Computing Services Special Interest Sections.

The committee offered advisory opinions on bylaws issues and interpretation to the AALL Executive Board, the Law Library Association of Greater New York chapter, the Social Responsibilities SIS and the SIS Council chair.

This year amendments to the AALL Bylaws became necessary because of a new committee structure recommended by the Special Committee on Committee Structure and approved by the AALL Executive Board. The Bylaws Committee drafted an amendment to implement the new committee structure. The committee also proposed revisions to allow future votes on bylaws amendments to be conducted by electronic or other means instead of by mail ballot, the only method allowed under the existing bylaws. The membership voted on and approved the proposed amendments. This is the first revision of the Association Bylaws since 2003.

The committee began work on a revision of the Model Chapter Bylaws, last updated in 1987. The project will continue into the next term.

2007-08 Bylaws Committee members were Johanna Bizub, Hays Butler, Timothy Chinaris, Marie Hamm, D.R. Jones, Jeanne Korman and Melissa Serfass.

Melissa Serfass, Chair
2007-08