Bylaws and Resolutions Committee 2008-09

The Bylaws Committee got a new name and an additional charge in 2008-09. Now known as the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, it has the added responsibility of reviewing resolutions submitted by AALL members or entities and forwarding those resolutions to the AALL executive director and secretary for consideration at the AALL Business Meeting.

At the request of Ann Fessenden, chair of the Executive Board Administration Committee, the committee provided a review and commented on proposed resolutions procedures. A final version of the committee review process for resolutions was passed at the April AALL Executive Board meeting.

The continuing charge of the committee includes reviewing all chapter and special interest section 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 2008-09 term the committee reviewed proposed changes to the bylaws of the following chapters: Arizona Association of Law Libraries, Colorado Association of Law Libraries, Law Library Association of Maryland, New Jersey Law Librarians Association, Northern California Association of Law Libraries, South Florida Association of Law Libraries, Southern New England Law Librarians Association, and Western Pacific Association of Law Libraries. Special interest sections requesting bylaws amendment reviews were Academic Law libraries, Legal History and Rare Books, and Technical Services. The average time for a committee review was less than a week.

Webmaster Matthew Steinke completed an extensive update of the committee website. The redesigned site provides links to bylaws of the Association, all chapters and special interest sections, and some caucus and consortia bylaws.

Committee members in 2008-09 were Melissa Serfass, chair; Marie Summerlin Hamm, vice chair; A. Hays Butler; D.R. Jones; Matthew Steinke; Caroline Osborn; and Frosty Owen. Executive Board liaison was Ruth Hill.

Submitted by Melissa Serfass
Chair, 2008-09