

CONSTITUTION
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION
[as Amended 26 August 2011]

ARTICLE I. NAME

- 1.1 The name of this organization shall be: Asian Pacific American Law Student Association (“APALSA”).

ARTICLE II. PREAMBLE

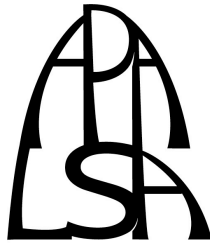
- 2.1 APALSA shall represent and articulate the needs of Asian Pacific American law students at Albany Law School and the surrounding area before the school administration and the legal community through support, advocacy, and professional development.

ARTICLE III. PURPOSE

- 3.1 The purpose of the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association shall be to:
- A. To assist Asian Pacific American law students in completing their program of study at Albany Law School by providing peer support, advocacy, and professional development;
 - B. To educate, represent and advocate the interests of APA law students and Asian Pacific Americans at Albany Law School and the surrounding area;
 - C. To foster the exchange of ideas while promoting a deeper understanding of the legal, political, and social status of Asian Pacific Americans in society;
 - D. To encourage leadership, participation, cooperation, and involvement with other minority student organizations in and around the surrounding Albany Law School area and the greater Asian Pacific American community;
 - E. To inspire Albany Law students and legal professionals to serve the interests and aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans and other diverse minorities.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 Any student who supports APALSA and the concerns of the Asian Pacific American community and advocates diversity by attending general meetings and/or participating in the activities of the organization shall be considered a member of APALSA.
- 4.2 APALSA will admit any student into its membership without regard to age, race, sex, gender identity, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, citizenship status, disability, or veteran status.



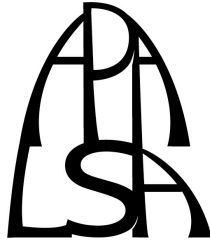
4.3 Any Albany Law Student who holds interest in the purpose of APALSA.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

- 5.1 Steering Committees shall meet or discuss General membership meeting issues prior to each General Membership meeting held.
- 5.2 General membership meetings will involve the sharing of individual committee reports and budget updates as well as impending projects and activities as supported by the Steering Committee in effort to maintain efficient coordination among and within individual APALSA projects.
- 5.3 Committee representatives may elicit help on projects, as well as discussion and constructive criticism from the general membership in attendance.
- 5.4 The general membership meeting shall also address issues of major importance submitted by individual APALSA members or the working committees. All committee decisions are subject to review by the general membership upon a motion seconded from the floor and the Steering Committee.
- 5.5 General announcements will be made during the general membership meetings. General announcement may also be made with the use of electronic mail (e-mail).
- 5.6 General membership meetings will be held monthly during the academic school year as schedules permit.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTED OFFICERS

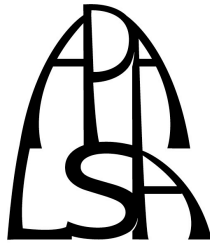
- 6.1 Nominations by members of APALSA may be made in an open or closed fashion to establish candidates for office. Majority vote by secret ballot shall be sufficient to elect a candidate into office.
- 6.2 Individuals shall be elected annually by the general membership for the following positions:
 - A. Steering Committee. Five active members of APALSA shall be elected to lead APALSA. The Steering Committee shall carry out and fulfill the following duties and responsibilities in a fair, objective, and non-partisan manner:
 - 1. Arrange and call general membership meetings
 - 2. Set agendas for general membership meetings
 - 3. Chair general membership meetings
 - 4. Aid in the planning, coordination, and implementation of activities within and among working committees and other APALSA officers, and



5. Act as the official contact persons for the organization and spokesperson on positions of the general membership or committees.
- B. Chair. The Chair of the Steering Committee shall be a member of the Steering Committee and shall carry out and fulfill the following duties and responsibilities in a fair, objective, and non-partisan manner:
1. Act as APALSA's liaison with the Student Bar Association and other student organizations
 2. Arrange and call for Steering Committee meetings
 3. Set agendas for Steering Committee meetings
 4. Chair and conduct Steering Committee meetings
 5. Maintain close communications with other members of the Steering Committee
- C. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Steering Committee and shall carry out and fulfill the following duties and responsibilities in a fair, objective, and non-partisan manner:
1. Adhere to and uphold all established budgetary policies,
 2. Disburse funds and collect and record income as called upon to do so by the general membership and committees,
 3. Maintain current records of all APALSA financial transactions,
 4. Draft and have approved by the general membership all budget and funding proposals and requests to the law school or Student Bar Association, and
 5. Aid in the planning, coordination, and implementation of activities within and among working committees and other APALSA officers.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

- 7.1 Committees and the specific topics and projects of focus shall be established by the general membership under approval of the Steering Committee.
- 7.2 Each committee shall be an independent unit which decides, according to internally promulgated bylaws, courses of action around issues of concern peculiar to that committee.
- 7.3 Planning, coordination, and implementation of activities shall take place within designated committees unless otherwise agreed upon by the general membership.
- 7.4 Committee issues of major importance must be submitted to the general membership for resolution. The majority of any issue is to be determined by each committee. All committee decisions are subject to review by the general membership upon a motion seconded from the floor.



- 7.5 Committees must abide by all budgetary policies and maintain channels of communication with the Treasurer at all times.
- 7.6 Committees must maintain close contact with all APALSA officers to insure coordinated effort around individual committee projects.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

- 8.1 Any changes or amendments to this Constitution shall be made at a general membership meeting where a quorum is present.
- 8.2 Committees may be created or abolished by majority vote at general membership meetings.
- 8.3 Shifts in responsibilities and duties amongst the Steering Committee may be made at the discretion of the elected officers.

ARTICLE IX. DUES

- 9.1 Term. APALSA Membership Term runs annually from the first day of the Albany Law School calendar year to the last day of the Albany Law School calendar year. APALSA accepts dues on an annual basis. Whether or not to require dues is at the discretion of the Steering Committee for each term.
- 9.2 Amount. Dues will be set by the Steering Committee prior to the first general meeting of each term.

ARTICLE X. RESIGNATION & REMOVAL

- 10.1 If at any time an elected officer wishes to resign from his/her position, he/she may do so by presenting a written, dated, and signed statement to the Chair setting forth the reason for such action. Resignation shall be effective only in writing, and shall become effective upon tender.
- 10.2 An elected officer or committee leader may be removed from his/her position for failure to adhere to the vision of APALSA at the majority discretion and approval of the general membership and elected officers.