

Italian-American Law Student Association – Charter

2011-2012

The Italian American Law Student Association's (IALSA) purpose is to educate and celebrate members' heritage through various activities and events.

IALSA's membership, meetings, activities, and services are open to all students at Albany Law School. IALSA hereby promises and affirms to regularly advertise its meetings and activities. IALSA does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status or sexual orientation.

General membership is open to the Albany Law School community. General membership meetings will occur approximately twice a semester (additional meeting may be held as necessary to coordinate events and activities). An individual will only be asked not to attend club meetings if his/her prior conduct at a club meeting was inappropriate, offensive or harmful to the other members of the organization.

The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Social Chair(s). The office of the Secretary may be added to the Executive Board if the need arises. The Executive Board will meet as frequently as necessary to coordinate group activities/events. Elections for Executive Board officers will be determined by election of current club members at the end of the academic year, in a manner consistent with the IALSA By-laws.

Additionally, IALSA maintains and shall continue to maintain a relationship with the National Italian American Bar Association. IALSA shall strive to foster strong relationships, both professionally and socially, among the club members and the members of the national bar association.

IALSA hereby promises to timely turn in its budget to the Student Bar Association (SBA). Should IALSA not timely turn in its budget, IALSA hereby affirms that it understands that this may adversely affect the amount of funding it receives.

IALSA EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 2011-2012

President – Oriana Carravetta '12

Vice President/Treasurer- Katelyn Primomo '12

Italian-American Law Student Association – By-Laws 2011-2012

1. IALSA is a validly chartered SBA group
2. A member of the Albany Law School community becomes a general member of IALSA by signing the new membership list, manually or by e-mail; and/or attending club meetings; and/or volunteering for club events/activities.
3. A member of IALSA becomes an active member by joining the membership lists, attending club meetings, and volunteering for club events and/or activities. Active members are invited to attend the end of the year IALSA dinner.
4. IALSA holds meetings for general/active members twice a semester (more frequently if the need arises). The Executive Board shall meet more frequently.
5. IALSA shall hold elections for the Executive Board at the end of the academic year in which all club members are welcome to vote. The new Executive Board shall assume leadership of the organization after the final executive meeting, held at the end of the academic year, consisting of the current Executive Board members and the incumbent Executive Board members.
6. Elections for IALSA Executive Board positions shall occur in the following manner:
 - a. Elections for Executive Board officers will be determined by election of current club members at the end of the academic year,
 - b. Nominations for officer positions will be submitted, by e-mail, to the current club president (nominations for officer positions may be made by an individual, or a party on an individual's behalf),
 - c. Once nominations have been collected, an election on contested position only will be held. All candidates of contested positions shall submit a personal statement by e-mail to the current president. The president shall then forward the candidates' personal statement by e-mail to the current club member, who will then vote on their favorite candidate,
 - d. Votes will be submitted by e-mail to the president (who shall keep voters' identities and vote anonymous); club members are not required to vote; each club member who does vote, may only vote once, per candidate, per position;
 - e. Once votes have been tallied, the majority of votes collected will determine who shall assume that officer position for the next academic year.

7. If a club member protests an election or appointment as invalid/unfair, a grievance may be filed to the president by the protestor, stating his/her grievance with specificity. Grievances will be taken very seriously, and should not be filed unless an actual issue has arisen.
 - a. Once the grievance is filed, the current Executive Board will be called to consider the grievance and investigate its merits.
 - b. If a grievance is found to have merit, a new election will be held on the protested appointment; votes submitted by club members by e-mail to the president (voters and votes to remain anonymous); the majority of votes will determine the results.

8. An IALSA Executive Board member may be impeached for failing to uphold his/her duties. A group member may call for the impeachment of an officer, and an emergency meeting will be held whereby the group member must orally voice his/her reasons for requesting said impeachment. Thereafter, a vote to impeach will be held in the following manner:
 - a. Only attendees of the emergency meeting may vote,
 - b. Voting will take place by anonymous paper votes, to be collected by an Executive Board member not nominated for impeachment.
 - c. The Executive Board members not nominated for impeachment shall tally votes during an emergency meeting.
 - d. If three-quarters of the votes tallied are in favor of impeachment, then the Executive Board member shall step down, and a vote for the vacant position shall immediately thereafter be held, at the emergency meeting, by anonymous paper votes,
 - e. The majority of votes shall determine the new officer, who shall assume the position's duties, effective immediately.

9. Duties of the Executive Board members are as follows:
 - a. **President** – shall call meetings, alert the Albany Law School community and IALSA group members of club meetings; lead meetings; designate Executive Board Member roles in organizing and holding group activities/events.
 - b. **Vice- President** – shall aid the president in all his/her future duties; shall aid in organizing group activities/events.
 - c. **Treasurer** – shall keep track of funds; help organize fundraisers, disburse group money accordingly for group activities/events; must keep receipts of all disbursements of funds.
 - d. **Social Chair(s)** – shall conduct outreach for innovative group activities/events; organize activities/events.
 - e. **Secretary** – if a secretary position is created, the secretary shall take notes at group meetings and administer those notes to other Executive Board members.