

# **Association for Politics and the Life Sciences Bi-Laws**

## **Article I: Membership**

### **Section I: Members of the Association**

Members of the Association consist of all persons who are interested in the study of politics in the context of the life sciences and who pay annual dues, as provided in this Article, Section 3.

### **Section 2: Meeting of Members**

Annual meetings of the Association normally are held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association. Announcements of the panels at the annual meetings are included in the printed program of the American Political Science Association.

### **Section 3: Annual Dues**

Annual dues are established at the annual meeting of the Association. The amount of dues is recommended by the Council of the Association.

## **Article II: Officers**

### **Section 1: Council of the Association**

The Council is delegated to act for the Association during the interim between annual meetings. The Council consists of twelve members of the Association, half of whom shall be elected every two years for four year terms. The executive director of the Association serves as an ex officio member of the Council. The Council selects for a period of two years a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and a recording secretary from its own membership. The Council also selects the Executive Director of the Association, the Editor of Politics and the Life Sciences, the Program Chairperson(s), and the Nominating Committee, which selects its own chairperson.

### **Section 2: Duties of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Recording Secretary of the Council**

The chairperson of the Council presides at meetings of the Council and at the annual meeting of the Association. The vice-chairperson presides in the absence of the chairperson. The recording secretary keeps the minutes of the Council and of the annual meeting.

### **Section 3: Duties of the Executive Director**

The executive director coordinates and implements the activities of the Association. The executive director is responsible for the financial affairs of the Association and renders a report on these affairs to the Council and to the annual meeting.

### **Section 4: Duties of the program Chairperson(s)**

It is the responsibility of the program chairperson(s) to organize and direct the annual program of the Association.

### **Section 5: Duties of the Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee nominates from the individual membership of the association up to twice the number of members of the Council to be elected. With the assistance of the executive director and within the month following the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee shall publish a listing of official nominees. A period of 60 days shall be allowed for nomination from the general membership. Any nomination from the general membership shall be accompanied by the signatures of 10 percent of the general membership. At the close of the 60 day period, the Nominating Committee

shall mail ballots listing all nominees to individual members of the Association. Ballots are returned to the Nominating Committee for counting and publishing results. Each individual member has as many votes as there are positions to be filled on the Council, and the nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected.

### **Article III: Scholarly Journal**

The Association regards Politics and the Life Sciences as the medium of scholarly publication and of communications concerning professional activities of its members. It encourages its members to contribute and subscribe to Politics and the Life Sciences as the scholarly journal most oriented toward the substantive interest of the Association.

### **Article IV: Programs of the Association**

The Association establishes panels, workshops, symposia, and social gatherings at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association and at regional and other professional meetings.

### **Article V: Amendments to the Constitution**

All matters not treated in this Constitution are accommodated at the annual meeting of the Association in accordance with Sturgis' Manual of Parliamentary Procedure.

### **Article VI: Transition Procedures**

The steering committee that existed under the Constitution adopted in 1983 is empowered to perform the functions of the Council under Article II as amended until the first Council has been elected. At the first election under Article II as amended, the Association shall elect six persons for two year terms and six persons for four year terms.

### **Additional Rules from the APLS Business Meeting, 1988**

1. A motion was passed to approve the proposed process for selecting the annual chair for the APSA Organized Section and APLS officers. The Council recommended a two-stage process:
  - a. The outgoing chair will head a three-person nominating committee, the other two members to be selected from the APLS membership. They will nominate twice the number of vacancies.
  - b. The results will be decided by plurality vote and will be announced at the next APLS business meeting.

### **Decisions from the APLS Special Fall Council Meeting, 1990**

1. Position of the Executive Director has a five year term.

Duties includes: budgeting, maintaining regular administrative duties, implementing suggestions of membership committee, publication of the Newsletter, development of an executive office with the capacity to undertake additional programs.
2. Position of Editor has a three year term. The new Editor will appoint a new editorial advisory board and organize his operations as he sees fit without necessity of Council approval.