

# Constitution of Lambda Law Alliance

## Loyola University College of Law – New Orleans

### **Date adopted:**

### **Article I: Name**

- The name of this organization shall be Lambda Law Alliance.

### **Article II: Purpose**

- The Lambda Law Alliance shall be a private, non-partisan student organization designed to foster a welcoming environment to all students regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preference. In accordance with Ignatian and Jesuit tradition, the Lambda Law Alliance affirms the goodness, worth and dignity of every person. Lambda Law Alliance strives to support diversity in the law school, to support gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and intersexed law students and prospective law students, to increase knowledge and awareness of legal issues that are unique to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and intersexed community, and to serve the greater community as a source of information about gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and intersexed legal issues. As a corollary, Lambda Law Alliance will create a community of LGBT and LGBT allies at Loyola College of Law through formal and informal social events.

### **Article III: Membership**

- Membership is open to all Loyola University students, faculty, and staff regardless of race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, physical impairment, national or ethnic origin or age.

### **Article IV: Executive Officers**

#### **Section 1. Elections**

- Lambda Law Alliance shall elect from its student membership an *Executive Board* consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, up to two First Year Social Chairs, and other Officer and/or Committee Chairs as deemed necessary by the current Executive Board. Elections will be held at the end of the spring semester. Follow-up elections may be held in the fall of the academic year, pending openings in the Executive Board, which remain open to first-year students. A majority vote of present members is required to win each position.

#### **Section 2. Executive Board Officers and Duties**

The President shall

- (a) Be the presiding officer at all meetings.
- (b) Have the power, with the advice of the Executive Board, to appoint or remove all Committee Chairs and Committee members.
- (c) Have the power to call special meetings of the organization or the Executive Board at his/her discretion
- (d) Be an *ex officio* member of all appointed committees and delegations.
- (e) Have necessary powers and authority to delegate organizational and procedural matters.
- (f) Maintain a cordial relationship with law school administration, faculty, and other student organizations.

The Vice President shall

- (a) Assist the President in any way necessary to conduct the business of the organization.
- (b) In the absence of the President, perform all functions and duties of the office.
- (c) Coordinate and supervise publicity of group events and meetings.
- (d) Perform all duties assigned to him/her by the Executive Board or President.

The Secretary shall

- (a) Record and keep accurate minutes of all meetings.
- (b) Conduct all internal correspondence relating to the organization.
- (c) Maintain a membership list/database.
- (d) Perform all duties assigned to him/her by the Executive Board or President.

The Treasurer shall

- (a) Receive all monies payable to the organization, and shall make all payments necessary on behalf of the organization.
- (b) Be responsible for all funds of the organization, of whatever source.
- (c) Keep accurate statements and disbursements, which shall be available upon request of the President.
- (d) Prepare a year organizational budget to be approved by the Executive Board.
- (e) Perform all duties assigned to him/her by the Executive Board or President.

The Social Chair(s) shall

- (a) Be responsible for all planning, coordination, and execution of all Lambda Law events.
- (b) Perform all duties assigned to him/her by the Executive Board or President.

### Section 3. Terms of Office

- (a) Terms of office for all Executive Board Officers shall be one academic year, from election period to election period, subject to possible re-election.
- (b) The term of office of the Treasurer shall end with the academic year, not with the election. The Treasurer shall assist the incoming treasurer with the maintenance and proposal of a budget. Accordingly, the office of the Treasurer shall not be filled by any student that will not be enrolled at Loyola College of Law the following academic year.

## **Article V: Additional Officers**

### **Section 1. Appointments**

- There shall also be appointed additional officers to complete tasks as the President sees fit. These may include, but are in no way limited to a Roundtable Chair, an Internship Database Coordinator, a Website Coordinator, and an Executive Advisory Board. These additional officers will work with each other to achieve their assigned goals and other tasks required by the President. These officers shall be appointed at the discretion of the President with the consent of a majority of the Executive Board, and shall serve within the limits of the appointing Board. These officers shall attend all meetings of the Executive Board.

## **Article VI: Relationship**

- Lambda Law Alliance will support in its actions and programs the goals, purposes, and values of Loyola University (cf. Loyola Goals, Character and Commitment Statement) and abide by university policies and procedures (cf. Student Handbook).
- While the Lambda Legal Alliance will from time to time host guest speakers representing various organizations and interests and inform its members of various off-campus events and meetings that represent the purpose of Lambda Law Alliance, the Lambda Legal Alliance shall have no official affiliation with any such organization.

## **Article VII: Faculty Advisors**

### **Section 1. Selection**

- (a) The Lambda Law Alliance Executive Board Officers will designate one or more faculty members as Faculty Advisors.
- (b) Faculty Advisors must be affirmed by three-fourths vote of the Executive Board Officers.
- (c) There is no limit to the number of terms the faculty member(s) may serve.

### **Section 2. Removal**

- (1) The Faculty Advisor(s) will be removed if
  - (a) he or she ceases to serve as faculty member at Loyola College of Law.
  - (b) he or she provides written notice to any member of the Executive Board expressing his or her intent to terminate his or her position as Faculty Advisor.
  - (c) he or she is removed by three-fourths vote of the Executive Board Officers.

### **Article VII: Meetings**

- Open general body meetings shall be held at least twice a semester, on dates to be determined by the Executive Board. Executive Board meetings shall be held once a month, or more frequently, at the request of the President. Attendance at general body meetings is *not* required to maintain active membership. Attendance at Executive Board meetings is mandatory, unless excused or waived by the President.

### **Article VIII: Ratification and Amendments**

#### **Section 1. Procedure for Amendments**

All proposed amendments to this Constitution must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board, and emailed to all Board members once received. Each amendment must be reviewed and voted on at the following Executive Board meeting.

#### **Section 2. Ratification**

- (1) This Constitution shall be ratified following
  - (a) its approval by the Executive Board in office at the time of its construction,
  - (b) its approval by the general membership in attendance with notice given to all members via email at least one week prior to the scheduled date of the general body meeting.
- (2) Every amendment to this Constitution must be ratified by a majority vote of active members to be added to this Constitution.