



# SYLLABUS

American Bar Association Section of  
Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar

## Winter 2022 VOLUME 53 NUMBER 2

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## From the Chair: Gratitude for Capable Volunteers



**Leo P. Martinez**  
**Dean Emeritus & Albert Abramson Professor of Law Emeritus**  
**University of California Hastings College of the Law**  
**2021-2022 Council Chair**

Late last month the Council hosted the fourth of our current iteration of Roundtables. The first such Roundtable took place in October 2020 via Zoom – the pandemic was unquestionably the mother of this invention. One of the silver linings of Zoom is that it works well for small meetings in which people are interested and engaged. The Zoom Roundtables allow for the frank and in-depth discussion of changes to the Standards as part of the ongoing task of formulation and refinement. Perhaps not surprisingly, the Roundtables have proven to be a great tool to gather information from a diverse set of knowledgeable and experienced participants. We expect to continue the Roundtables as means of gathering valuable input.

In introductory remarks to last month's Roundtable, I remarked that it was good to see many old friends. Without any role in the selection of participants, I discovered that I knew about half of them and I'd visited seven of the law schools represented as a speaker, a site visitor, or as a retreat facilitator. We live in a small world and one of the pleasures of being in the academy is the relationships we develop in the course of our careers. It was also gratifying to see so many capable and accomplished people help us in our work.

The preceding informs my concluding observation that I continue to be amazed by how the system of law school accreditation is so heavily dependent on literally hundreds of volunteers. The members of the Council are all volunteers, the members of site teams are all volunteers, and Roundtable participants are all volunteers. We are all guided by a small but capable staff and we are all dedicated to the improvement of legal education. It is an honor that so many are willing to give of their valuable time. I end by once again thanking all of you who give of your valuable time in the cause of law students and legal education.

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## From the Managing Director: Updates From the Office and Council



**William E. Adams**  
**Managing Director of Accreditation and Legal Education**

Despite hope that everyone could move beyond problems caused by the COVID pandemic, new variants continue to pose challenges to the schools and the work of the Council. Nevertheless, the Council and office continue to conduct business and this column will summarize those efforts.

Posted on the [website](#) is the call from the Section Nominating Committee for the 2022-2023 Council. Elections will be held for Chair-Elect, Vice Chair and four at-large positions. Three of the at-large positions are held by current members eligible to be elected to a second term. The fourth position is currently held by a public member completing his second and final term. Pursuant to Section Bylaws and Department of Education regulations, one of the four at-large positions up for election must therefore be held by a new public member. The election will take place at the Section's business meeting during the ABA Annual Meeting in August. The specific day and time have not yet been scheduled, but will be announced on our [website](#) and in this publication in the future. The deadline for nominations is March 11, 2022, and must be submitted through the [online Council Nominations process](#).

Nominations are also being sought for the [2022 Robert J. Kutak Award](#). Established in 1985 by the Section and the national Kutak Rock law firm, the award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to the collaboration of the academy, the bench, and the bar. The award is in memory of Mr. Kutak, a distinguished Omaha lawyer, champion of legal reform, and advocate for legal education. Nominations can be sent to Carl Brambrink in the office. Instructions are also on the website for this honor.

The Council's proposed amendments to Standards 205, 303, 507, and 508 described in the Fall 2021 edition of this column and on the [Section website](#) will go to the ABA House of Delegates at the ABA Midyear Meeting.

At its November meeting, the Council discussed several additional changes proposed by the Standards Committee. The Committee recommended an amendment to Article VI, Section 2 of the Council's Bylaws in order to comport with Rule 29 and the Council's current practice of having the Council's Executive Committee approve or deny teach-out plans that are submitted between Council meetings. The Bylaw amendment was approved as recommended. While not requiring action at this meeting, the Council discussed amending the Bylaws to include a young lawyer representative as a member of the Council – a request submitted by the ABA Young Lawyers Division (YLD). The Standards Committee also recommended a provision to allow the existing YLD liaison to attend closed sessions of Council meetings that involve accreditation matters, which was approved by the Council.

In addition, the Council approved several proposed changes to Standards and Rules that it recommended be sent pursuant to its Notice and Comment process. It approved recommended changes from the Standards Committee to the Diversity and Inclusion Standard, Standard 206. This was the second attempt to revise this Standard, and the new revisions attempt to address the critical comments submitted to the first attempt. The Council also approved for Notice and Comment changes to the Council's definition of "Distance Education Course." Finally, it approved other more technical changes to the Distance Education Standard as well as to other Rules, the descriptions of which are on our [website](#).

As noted by the Chair in his column, the office hosted another set of roundtables, this group dealing with the collection of financial data from the schools. I agree with Leo's observations and thank the attendees who provided helpful recommendations.

I will close by thanking the Council for its support and work and the staff in the office, whose dedication and efforts continue to inspire me.

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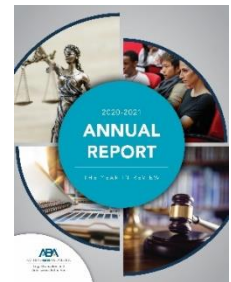
## From the Section Director: Section Spotlight – New Publications, Upcoming Programs, and Call for Nominations



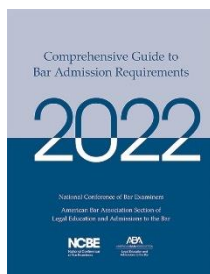
**Erin Winters**  
Section Director

### **Annual Report**

The Section's *2020-2021 Annual Report* is available on the [Section's website](#). The *Annual Report* includes reports from the Section's staff and leadership, and covers topics including accreditation, site visits, enrollment statistics, Section activities, special events, and more.



Visit the [Annual Publications Archive](#) webpage to view past editions.



### **2022 Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admission Requirements**

Each year the Section collaborates with the National Conference of Bar Examiners on this publication. The 2022 edition has published and will soon be available [here](#).

### **Deans' Workshop**

An in-person Deans' Workshop has been rescheduled for March 18-19, 2022 at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law in Chicago. Registration will be opening soon.

### **New Deans' Workshop, Deans' Workshop, and Law School Development Conference**

These events will be held consecutively July 18-23 at the Marriott St. Louis Grand in St. Louis. The new deans will meet July 18-20, the deans will meet July 20-21, and the Law School Development Conference will be held July 21-23. More details to come.

### **Nominations Sought for Council, Kutak Award, and ABA Presidential Appointments**

Later in this newsletter, you will find announcements for nominations sought for the 2022-23 Council, 2022 Kutak Award, and 2022-23 ABA Presidential Appointments. With the deadlines fast approaching, I encourage you to read more about these opportunities and to submit a nomination.

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## Nominating Committee Seeks Names for 2022-2023 Council Slate

The Section's Nominating Committee invites suggestions for at-large positions on the 2022-2023 [Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar](#). There are four such positions, each for a three-year term, one being a public member. Three of these positions are currently occupied by members eligible to be re-elected to a second term. Nominees are sought in the categories of judges, academics, practitioners, and public members.

Additionally, there are two leadership positions to be filled, chair-elect and vice chair, each for a one-year term.

Nominations are requested by no later than the close of business on **Friday, March 11, 2022**.

The slate of Section officers and Council members will be presented for election at the Section's business meeting during the ABA Annual Meeting in August.

The deadline for nominations is **March 11, 2022**. All nominations must be submitted through the online [Council Nominations](#) process.

### 2021-2022 Nominating Committee

**Chair:**

Diane F. Bosse  
Special Counsel  
Hurwitz & Fine, P.C.

Honorable Scott Bales  
Chief Justice (Retired)  
Arizona Supreme Court

Honorable Gordon B. Burns  
Associate Justice  
California First District Court of Appeal

Sarah Correll  
Associate  
Ice Miller LLP

Cynthia E. Nance  
Dean Emeritus & Professor  
University of Arkansas School of Law

Daniel B. Rodriguez  
Dean Emeritus & Professor  
Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

Honorable Phyllis D. Thompson  
Judge  
D.C. Court of Appeals

Adrien K. Wing  
Associate Dean for International and  
Comparative Law Programs & Professor  
University of Iowa College of Law

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## Nominations Sought for 2022 Kutak Award



Nominations are sought for the 2022 Robert J. Kutak Award. Established in 1985 by the Section and the national Kutak Rock law firm, the award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to the collaboration of the academy, the bench, and the bar. The award is in memory of Mr. Kutak, a distinguished Omaha lawyer, champion of legal reform, and advocate for legal education.

Nominations can be sent via email to [carl.brambrink@americanbar.org](mailto:carl.brambrink@americanbar.org).

**The deadline for submitting nominations is March 11, 2022.**

For more information about Robert J. Kutak and the list of past recipients, visit the [Kutak Award page](#).

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# **ABA Announcements: Presidential Committee Appointments, Goal III Appointments, and the Legal Education Police Practices Consortium**

## **ABA Presidential Committee Appointments**

The ABA presidential committee appointments process for the Association year beginning September 1, 2022, launched on December 31, 2021. The ABA has approximately 100 standing and special committees, commissions, and task forces focused on the Association's core goals:

- 1) serving our members;
- 2) improving the profession;
- 3) eliminating bias and enhancing diversity; and
- 4) advancing the rule of law.

Each year, terms expire for approximately one-third of the committee members. The online application can be found at <http://ambar.org/appointments>. We invite you to self-nominate or nominate someone else. The website includes a list of committees along with links to more information about each entity. Nominations must be received by **February 18, 2022**, for consideration. Please note that ABA membership is required for service on ABA entities. The only exception is membership on commissions where non-lawyer experts are allowed to serve.

Applicants can join the ABA by going to <https://www.americanbar.org/membership>.

If you have any questions about the committees, the appointments process, or what serving on a committee entails, please contact Katy Englehart, [katy.englehart@americanbar.org](mailto:katy.englehart@americanbar.org), in the Office of the President.

## **Goal III Appointments**

In furtherance of ABA Goal III, the Diversity and Inclusion Center is seeking to help strengthen diversity and inclusion in ABA leadership by creating a diverse presidential nominee list that it will support and share with the Appointments Committee. Diverse nominees should also provide their names, demographic, and other relevant information via the confidential [Goal III Presidential Appointments Form](#). As indicated earlier, the Diversity and Inclusion Center will include this information on a diverse presidential nominee list that it will support and share with the Appointments Committee.

## **Legal Education Police Practices Consortium**

In January 2022, the [Legal Education Police Practices Consortium](#) launched its inaugural Fellowship program. [Member law schools](#) of the Consortium have been invited to identify student Fellows who will be working with the Consortium Director to research their campus, local, and state policing organization and obtain existing policies and procedures. All material will

later be uploaded to a public database. Fellows will also conduct a police organizational survey to determine local policing contacts and their chain of command as well as which local agencies (to include government and non-governmental agencies, non-profits, civil society organizations, and faith-based institutions) are currently working with and/or on policing issues. The Consortium will use this information to advance the adoption of model police practices and initiate other projects designed to support effective policing, promote racial equity in the criminal justice system, and eliminate tactics that are racially motivated or have a disparate impact based on race. The Fellowship will run from late-January through May 2022. It is currently anticipated that the Fellowship will be an annual opportunity for law students at Consortium member law schools, with shorter placements offered for summer semesters.

Fellows will be meeting virtually every other week to discuss their progress and to hear from experts currently engaged in policing research and reform efforts. Fellows are accepted from member schools on a rolling basis. Check the Consortium's website for the current list of Fellows. For additional information regarding Consortium membership or the Fellowship program, please contact Jessalyn Walker at [Jessalyn.Walker@americanbar.org](mailto:Jessalyn.Walker@americanbar.org).

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