**By-Laws of the Younger Comparativists Committee of the
American Society of Comparative Law**

***Adopted on November 25, 2014***

***Amended on June 11, 2016***

**Article I**

**Mission and Membership**

**Section 1.1 (Mission).** The Younger Comparativists Committee (YCC) is a committee of the American Society of Comparative Law (ASCL). The mission of the YCC is to assist younger comparative law scholars with their scholarship and teaching. To fulfill that mission, YCC aims to identify younger comparative law scholars in the ASCL and worldwide, develop opportunities for younger comparative law scholars to engage in scholarly exchanges both within the ASCL and in cooperation with other organizations, cultivate mentorship opportunities between junior and senior scholars to promote professional development, and compile and maintain teaching materials to enhance the teaching of younger comparativists.

**Section 1.2 (Membership).** Membership in the YCC is open to scholars who have been engaged as law teachers, lecturers, fellows, or in another academic capacity for no more than ten years.

**Article II**

**Board**

**Section 2.1 (Board Composition; Quorum).** The affairs of the YCC shall be managed and its powers exercised by the YCC Board. The Board shall consist of five voting positions, including three officers (Chair, Vice-Chair/Secretary, and Treasurer) and two other members. Four Board members shall constitute a quorum. Except as herein otherwise provided, action shall be taken by the YCC Board by a simple majority of the members present.

**Section 2.2 (Vacancies).** Any unexpected vacancy in the Board, whether by death, resignation, or disqualification, shall be filled by the President of ASCL. Any person so selected shall serve until the expiration of the unexpired term and until the election of his or her successor by the YCC Membership as described in Article IV.

**Section 2.3 (Meetings).** The Board may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and the management of the affairs of the YCC as it may deem proper in compliance with these By-Laws.

**Section 2.4 (Notice).** Meetings of the Board may be called at any time by the Chair or a majority of the Board members upon not less than two days’ written notice provided by e-mail to each Board member.

**Article III**

**Officers**

**Section 3.1 (Officers).** The officers of the YCC shall consist of a Chair, a Vice Chair/Secretary, and a Treasurer.

**Section 3.2 (Powers).** The officers shall have the powers vested in them respectively by these By-Laws, and those which usually attach or pertain to their respective offices.

**Section 3.3 (Chair).** The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the YCC Board and shall have primary responsibility for generating, evaluating, and proposing new areas of activity for the YCC. The Chair shall also submit reports, at least once a year, to the ASCL Executive Committee on the activities of the YCC.

**Section 3.4 (Vice-Chair/Secretary).** The Vice-Chair/Secretary shall preside at YCC Board meetings in the absence of the Chair, accept other responsibilities and assignments such as the Chair or the YCC Board may request, record the minutes of all meetings, and maintain the general records of the YCC.

**Section 3.5 (Treasurer).** The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the financial affairs of the YCC, maintaining financial records, disbursing funds for the payment of obligations in accordance with the directions of the YCC Board, and applying to the ASCL for funding. The Treasurer shall render a written report each year to the YCC Board, reflecting the income and expenses for the past year. The Treasurer shall award travel stipends in accordance with the following order of precedence: (1) younger faculty at ASCL-member institutions; (2) graduate students at ASCL-member institutions; (3) younger faculty at non-ASCL-member institutions; and (4) graduate students at non-ASCL-member institutions. Members of the YCC Board are not eligible to receive travel stipends.

**Article IV**

**Election and Term of the Board**

**Section 4.1 (Voting Eligibility).** All individuals who qualify for membership in the YCC are eligible to vote in any election for the YCC Board if they fulfill one of the following criteria:

(1) The individual is affiliated with an ASCL-member institution; or

(2) The individual currently serves or has previously served on a YCC advisory group; or

(3) The individual attended the YCC annual global conference during the year in which the elections take place (e.g., if the individual attended the YCC annual global conference in April 2016, he or she is eligible to vote in the October 2016 elections).

Voters must affirm in writing when they submit their vote that they fulfill the voting eligibility criteria.

**Section 4.2 (Candidate Eligibility).** All individuals from ASCL-member institutions who would qualify for membership in the YCC at the end of the prospective Board term are eligible to become candidates for election to the YCC Board. At least thirty days before any election, candidates for the YCC Board shall submit an affirmation of their eligibility for office, declaration of the type of comparative law they study (primarily public vs. primarily private), and a short statement stating their qualifications and interest in the position.

**Section 4.3 (Election Date).** Elections shall take place in October of each calendar year to coincide with the month in which the ASCL Annual Meeting ordinarily takes place.

**Section 4.4 (Notice).** The slate of candidates and instructions for voting shall be circulated to the YCC membership via e-mail at least 15 days before each election.

**Section 4.5 (Board Diversity).** The composition of the YCC Board should reflect the diversity in scholarship and teaching in comparative private and public law, diversity in terms of the types of ASCL-member institutions represented (including, but not limited to, geography, rank, and size of institution), and personal diversity (including, but not limited to, diversity based on racial/ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation, and national origin). There shall be no more than three Board members who self-identify as a scholar of either private or public comparative law at one time.

**Section 4.6 (Officer Elections).** Elections for the Board shall be for Board membership only. After the Board is duly constituted, the YCC Board shall select the Vice-Chair/Secretary and Treasurer from among the existing Board members. The Vice-Chair/Secretary shall succeed to the position of Chair on a biennial basis. YCC Board members running for the position of Vice-Chair/Secretary must affirm Board eligibility for four years.

**Section 4.7 (Term Limits).** The term limit for each Board position shall be as follows:

1. Each Board member, except for those elected to the office of Chair and Vice-Chair/Secretary, shall serve a two-year term, with a term limit of four years (two terms).

2. The Treasurer shall serve a renewable one-year term.

3. The Chair and the Vice-Chair/Secretary shall each serve a non-renewable two-year term.

4. After a Board member has served as Chair for a full term, that individual shall no longer be eligible for a position on the YCC Board.

**Article V
Annual Global Conference**

**Section 5.1 (Purpose).** The YCC shall host an annual global conference for younger scholars in all areas of comparative law, both public and private.

**Section 5.2 (Date).** The conference shall take place in April of each calendar year. The date of the conference can be modified by a simple majority of the YCC Board.

**Section 5.3 (Location and Host).** The location and host institution for the annual global conference shall be selected by the YCC Board, upon the recommendation of the Chair, at least by the month of August two calendar years before the conference date.

**Section 5.4 (Program Committee).** The Chair shall appoint a Program Committee for each annual global conference. The number of Committee members shall be determined by the Chair. The Program Committee shall include a Program Committee Chair and a Program Committee Vice-Chair. The Program Committee Chair shall be a member of the host institution and shall oversee all matters related to the planning and execution of the conference. The Program Committee Vice-Chair position shall be occupied by the Program Committee Chair for the previous year’s conference and serve as a resource for the Program Committee. The Chair for the subsequent year’s conference shall serve on the Program Committee for the current year’s conference.

**Section 5.5 (Prizes).** During each annual global conference, the following prizes shall be awarded: (1) Colin B. Picker Graduate Student Prize for the best paper submitted to the conference by a graduate student; (2) Phanor J. Eder J.D. Prize in Comparative Law for the best paper submitted to the conference by a J.D. or LL.B. student; and (3) Richard M. Buxbaum Prize for Teaching in Comparative Law in recognition of teaching excellence in any subject of comparative public or private law by an untenured scholar in a tenure-track position at an ASCL-member institution. The YCC Board may establish and award additional prizes at its discretion.

**Article VI**

**Advisory Groups**

**Section 6.1 (Composition).** Three advisory groups shall assist the Board in managing the affairs of the YCC: Scholarship Advisory Group, Affiliates Advisory Group, and Linkages and Engagement Advisory Group. All three advisory groups shall report to the YCC Board.

**Section 6.2 (Director of Advisory Groups).** Upon the recommendation of the YCC Chair, the YCC Board shall appoint a Director of Advisory Groups to serve a renewable one-year term to ensure coordination among the three advisory groups. The Director shall also be responsible for administering the Richard M. Buxbaum Prize for Teaching in Comparative Law. The Director’s term shall begin and end in October of each calendar year to coincide with the month in which the ASCL Annual Meeting ordinarily takes place.

**Section 6.3 (Selection of Members and Chair).** Upon the recommendation of the YCC Chair, the YCC Board shall appoint the members and chair of each Advisory Group to serve renewable one-year terms with some consideration to continuity in the membership. The number of members in each Advisory Group shall be determined by the Board. The chair of each Advisory Group shall be appointed from among the existing members of the Advisory Group. In the selection process, the Board shall give preference to scholars at ASCL-member institutions.

**Section 6.4 (Terms of Members and Chair).** The terms of the members and chair of each Advisory Group shall begin and end in October of each calendar year to coincide with the month in which the ASCL Annual Meeting ordinarily takes place.

**Section 6.5 (Additional Advisory Groups).** The YCC Board may appoint additional advisory groups as the Board deems necessary or appropriate in connection with the affairs of the YCC. Such advisory groups shall have those duties and authorities vested in them by the Board.

**Article VII**

**Scholarship Advisory Group**

**Section 7.1 (Mission).** The mission of the Scholarship Advisory Group is to identify and support the scholarship of younger comparative law scholars in the ASCL and worldwide, and to facilitate the scholarly exchange of ideas and research in all areas of comparative law.

**Section 7.2 (Responsibilities).** To this end, the Scholarship Advisory Group shall:

1. Serve as the body responsible for selecting, subject to the approval of the YCC Board, the submissions to fill any YCC panel at the ASCL Annual Meeting.

2. Compile, archive, and circulate by email twice annually to the YCC distribution list the “New Scholarship Bulletin,” which shall consist of a collection of new comparative law scholarship by scholars whose scholarly experience does not exceed ten years as of July of the current calendar year.

3. Communicate information on new scholarship in the area of comparative law of interest to younger comparativists.

4. Select the recipient, subject to the approval of the YCC Board, of the Colin B. Picker Graduate Student Prize.

5. Undertake such other activities necessary to promote its mission.

**Article VIII**

**Affiliates Advisory Group**

**Section 8.1 (Mission).** The mission of the Affiliates Advisory Group is to identify younger comparative law scholars in the ASCL and worldwide, and to facilitate the scholarly exchange of ideas and research in all areas of comparative law.

**Section 8.2 (Responsibilities).** To this end, the Affiliates Advisory Group shall:

1. Compile and maintain a database of comparative law scholars worldwide whose scholarly experience does not exceed ten years as of July of the current calendar year (“YCC affiliates”).

2. Invite the participation of current YCC affiliates and other interested younger scholars in the Society’s activities in coordination with the Linkages and Engagement Advisory Group.

3. Develop connections to other organizations globally that are focused on comparative law.

4. Develop programs and outreach to future YCC affiliates by expanding the visibility of the YCC and ASCL among future members of the bar and the academy.

5. Administer the Phanor J. Eder J.D. Prize in Comparative Law.

6. Undertake such other activities necessary to promote its mission.

**Article IX**

**Linkages and Engagement Advisory Group**

**Section 9.1 (Mission).** The mission of the Linkages and Engagement Advisory Group is to identify and develop opportunities for younger comparative law scholars in the Society to engage in scholarly exchanges both within the Society and in cooperation with other organizations that involve younger scholars engaged in the study of comparative law.

**Section 9.2 (Responsibilities).** To this end, the Linkages and Engagement Advisory Group shall:

1. Establish liaisons to other organizations involved in the study of comparative law to identify opportunities for younger comparativists.

2. Communicate those opportunities to younger comparativists in the ASCL in coordination with the Affiliates Advisory Group.

3. Compile and maintain teaching materials on comparative law, including course syllabi and textbooks, in view of enhancing the teaching of younger comparativists.

4. Establish and maintain a mentorship program to promote professional development, scholarly collaboration, and stronger relationships across the field of comparative law.

5. Organize informal networking opportunities at academic conferences.

6. Administer the YCC scholarship exchange, which provides opportunities for YCC members to obtain feedback on a draft paper from other comparative law scholars.

7. Undertake such other activities as necessary to promote its mission.

**Article X**

**Effective Date, Expiration, and Amendments**

**Section 10.1 (Effective Date; Expiration).** These By-Laws shall take effect on December 1, 2014, and automatically expire on October 1, 2017, unless re-enacted by an absolute majority of the YCC Board.

**Section 10.2 (Amendments).** These By-Laws may be altered, amended, or added to by an absolute majority of the YCC Board.