

# YCC GUIDE TO THE ASCL

The Younger Comparativists Committee (YCC) is a committee of younger comparative scholars affiliated with the [American Society of Comparative Law](#) (ASCL), which is the preeminent organization in the United States for promoting the comparative study of law. The ASCL publishes [The American Journal of Comparative Law](#) and holds annual meetings at which comparative law scholars present research and critically examine important legal issues from a comparative perspective.

## **Membership in the ASCL**

The ASCL offers three categories of membership for academic or professional institutions and one type of membership for individuals. Law schools and other institutions may join the ASCL as a Sponsor, Sustaining, or Corresponding Member.

**Sponsor member.** This is the main category of membership. It is open to law schools, not to individuals. The fee is \$700 per year. Foreign law schools are also eligible.

*Sponsor member Directors, Editors, & Delegates.* Each Sponsor member may appoint a Director and an Editor. The Director votes at the annual meeting of the Society's board of directors, and the Editor votes at the annual meeting of the board of editors of the Journal. Sponsor members may also appoint Delegates (in addition to the Director and the Editor) for an additional \$50 per year per colleague who can attend meetings but cannot vote (though they can be appointed on committees). If, however, only the Editor from a Sponsor member attends the Annual Meeting of the Society, the custom is to allow the Editor to cast the vote of the Sponsor member's Director, and vice versa. In the absence of either the Director or Editor from a Sponsor member, the custom is to allow a Delegate from the Sponsor member to cast that member's Director's and Editor's votes.

Visit the Society's [website](#) to confirm the Director, Editor, and Delegate designated for your institution, if it is already a Sponsor member. To become the designated Director, Editor, or Delegate, the Sponsor member's dean should send an email indicating the designation, or replacement, if any, to Laurie Schnitzer at [lschnitzer@ubalt.edu](mailto:lschnitzer@ubalt.edu).

*Annual Meeting expense reimbursement.* If your institution is a Sponsor member, the ASCL will reimburse up to \$600 in expenses for the member's Director to attend the Annual Meeting as long as the institutional membership is current (*Note:* This means, essentially, that a sponsor member is able to recoup most of its annual membership fee if one of its faculty attends the annual meeting).

**Sustaining member.** This category is open to any individual, law firm, corporation, or association. Sustaining members pay \$500 annually, receive recognition in and a subscription to the Journal, and an invitation to the annual meeting and program. This type of membership may be a good fit for institutions other than law schools.

**Corresponding institutional member.** This category is open to any legal research institution or comparative law society in a country other than the United States. Corresponding institutional members pay no dues but are elected with the expectation that they will otherwise contribute to the ASCL's purposes.

**Associate member.** An Associate member is an individual member who pays a fee of \$90 per year. An Associate member receives an annual subscription to the Journal and the right to attend and participate (but not vote) in all meetings of the board of directors and of the Journal editors. The ASCL President may appoint Associate members to serve on any committee except the Executive Committee. This type of membership is most appropriate for those outside of an educational institution, such as private or government lawyers, or for scholars in departments other than law faculties or schools, if their institutions are not willing or able to pay the fee to become a Sustaining member (or in the case of a law school, a Sponsor member).

### **How to Become a Member**

YCC members are encouraged to become involved with the ASCL and to assist their institutions in becoming an institutional member if they have not already done so. For more information on becoming a Sponsor, Sustaining, or Corresponding institutional member, please contact the secretary of the ASCL, Professor Franklin Gevurtz at [fgevurtz@pacific.edu](mailto:fgevurtz@pacific.edu). To apply for an Associate membership as an individual scholar, please send a letter requesting membership and a CV to Professor Gevurtz at [fgevurtz@pacific.edu](mailto:fgevurtz@pacific.edu). and copy Laurie Schnitzer at [lschnitzer@ubalt.edu](mailto:lschnitzer@ubalt.edu). New memberships are effective once they have been approved by a vote of the current Society membership at the Annual Meeting (see below).

All membership dues are payable by September 1 of each year. Dues received afterward are subject to a late fee of \$25. Payment can be made [here](#).

### **ASCL Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting is the Society's flagship event. In the fall (typically in October), one Sponsor member will host the conference, which typically features panels on themes designated by the Society, a presentation by the Younger Comparativists Committee (usually of 1-2 papers selected by competition) and the annual business meeting. The annual business meeting is open to faculty at Sponsor member schools and to Associate members, but only the former may cast a vote. The event also typically involves an opening reception, a dinner, and other opportunities to engage with other comparative scholars and to learn about the work of the Society. Every four years (next in 2018), the ASCL does not convene a separate Annual Meeting but participates in the Congress of Comparative Law organized by the International Academy of Comparative Law (IACL).

### **How to Get Involved in the ASCL**

The best ways to get involved in the ASCL are to attend the Annual Meeting and to become involved in one of the YCC's Advisory Groups (Linkages & Engagements Advisory Group, Affiliates Advisory Group, and the Scholarship Advisory Group). Each summer the YCC circulates a call for new Advisory Group members, and in the fall, conducts elections to fill any YCC Board vacancies.