

Legal Information Preservation Alliance Governance Agreement

Adopted July 11, 2004 at the Boston meeting

I. Name and Purpose.

The Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA) is an independent, fee-paid member organization. LIPA's primary purpose is to provide the leadership, the necessary organizational framework, and the professional commitment necessary to preserve vital paper and electronic legal information by defining objectives, developing and/or adopting appropriate standards and models, creating networks, and fostering financial and political support for long term stability.

II. Membership Fees.

Fees are established by the current contributing members and may vary by size or type of library.¹

III. Governance and Voting.

The contributing members of LIPA form a Voting Board that provides direction and makes policy decisions. Each member institution is entitled to one vote by a designated representative, with decisions made by a majority vote.

The Voting Board elects an Executive Committee of five members to implement policy decisions, provide oversight, handle administrative issues, and supervise ongoing programs. Executive Committee members serve staggered 2-year terms.² The Executive Committee elects a chair of the group.

IV. Conducting Business.

LIPA participants conduct business during the Annual Meeting and Conference of the American Association of Law Libraries and via e-mail between conferences. If called by the Executive Committee or by the membership, they may also meet at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools.

¹ As of June 2003, fees were voluntary contributions ranging from \$5,000 for most academic libraries to \$1,000 for most smaller libraries, such as state court or county libraries.

² Upon approval of this document, the voting board will elect the first Executive Committee. Two members will serve a 3-year term and three members will serve a 2-year term. After two years, there will be an election each year for the appropriate number of open member slots.