



## INFORMATION CIRCULAR

Spring, 2019

2017-2019 Executive Committee

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**TO:** LAI Fellows  
**FM:** Jim Fawcett/Ian Lord  
**RE:** Procedure for the Nomination of Fellows to LAI

In response to an expressed desire to codify the Fellows recommendation process, having canvassed all current Fellows for comment and having received same, herewith is provided a process for consistent and well understood recommendations for the consideration of the LAI Board of Governors (BOG) of candidate Fellow nominations.

This procedure, as well, is based on comments from President McBride and others on the Executive Committee. In considering the LAI By-Law, it appears that the Fellows can constitute a special purpose committee to recommend nominations for future Fellows. The LAI President has recommended that the Fellows make a recommendation to the President for consideration by the BOG for adoption and ratification within a time frame that will give the Board an opportunity to consider and vote on that recommendation well in advance of the presentation of any such honor.

With those matters as guiding principles, the following protocol is advanced. The objective is an enduring process for LAI into the future.

### **Nominations:**

A Fellow, being the first to volunteer for the post in any calendar year, shall be designated as 'Fellows Secretary'. In the absence of a Fellow volunteer, the Fellows Secretary shall be the most recent Fellow elected by the BOG by alphabetical surname reference.

The Fellows Secretary shall early in the calendar year, solicit nominations for Fellows for the ensuing year. While the request for candidates is public, all actual nominations forwarded for consideration by the Fellows for recommendation to the BOG shall be on a confidential basis.

In any given year, there may be multiple nominations, or none, as appropriate. An early solicitation for eligible candidates provides time to consider and recommend worthy nominees with the intent that they be decided upon by the BOG in the spring meeting, with presentation(s) at the fall Land Economics Weekend (LEW) closing gala dinner.

Under the LAI By-law, no more than two (2) "Fellow" nominations may be considered by the BOG in any one year. The decision is that of the BOG alone. Traditionally, the President tenders the names for the advice and support of the Executive Committee beforehand.

Nothing in this protocol is intended to fetter the discretion of the President, the Executive Committee or the BOG in selecting candidate Fellows.

The Fellows nominated would not exceed the number of recommendations permitted by the LAI By-law.

**Source of Nominations:**

By way of a KeyNotes invitation or by direct communication, each local Chapter, Members-at-Large and the Executive Committee will receive instructions on making nominations **consistent with the *Criteria for Fellow Designation* noted below.**

Nominations may be made by an individual member of LAI, a group of LAI members, a local Chapter or by resolution of the Executive Committee.

The invitation to forward a nomination for Fellow consideration shall have a **closing date** for submissions.

**Format:**

The confidential nominations for consideration should be written and not more than two (2) pages in length. They should be sent to the LAI Executive Director for the attention of the Fellows Secretary.

The Fellows Secretary, acting administratively, shall distribute candidate nominations received by the closing date to the Fellows for consideration and voting. The Fellows Secretary shall tabulate the Fellows votes and send around a report of the Fellows for approval prior to forwarding a recommendation to the LAI President.

The LAI Executive Director shall retain a confidential record of all candidate nominations received by name, local Chapter and year of receipt and as well shall publish on the LAI website the names of all Fellows elected by the BOG. The President and the Fellows Secretary shall have access to the confidential record held by the LAI Executive Director.

The candidate nomination(s) for the year shall *be sent 60 days prior to the spring BOG meeting*. This will provide ample time for the Fellows to evaluate nominations and make a recommendation to the BOG. After a spring BOG vote, the LAI Executive Director can arrange for documents to be created and signed and Fellow pin(s) ordered.

**Presentation:**

The LAI Fellow membership honors and insignia shall be presented by the President only at the fall LEW meeting.

**Criteria for Fellow Designation:**

The designation of new Fellows is limited by the By-law to two (2) per year. Candidates for nomination consideration can be drawn from any member of the Society.

Such a designation should reflect years of substantive dedication and service to the Society whether at the local Chapter or international level and would honor only those whose dedication is noteworthy, advancing the goals of LAI within the framework of its organization, including that of the Land Economics Foundation, as set forth by Richard T. Ely and the LAI and LEF By-laws.

Candidates for Fellow membership class status in LAI are distinctive, honorific and differ from recommendations for emeritus status recognition under the LAI By-law.

The nomination of a candidate member for designation as a Fellow would be considered for all who satisfy the qualifications for such designation without discrimination on the basis of gender identification, sexual orientation, racial identification, age, ethnicity, spoken language, religious affiliation, citizenship or national origin.

**Decision Process:**

The dossiers of nominees will be sent by email and reviewed by the entire body of Fellows who will be asked to rank the nominees. A plurality of votes as of a deadline set by the Fellows Secretary will determine the top two (2) candidates to be recommended to the BOG. In the case of a tie, the tied candidates' names will be subject to a second and, if needed, subsequent votes until two (2) candidates receiving the largest number of votes have been identified.

The Fellows Secretary shall submit the recommendation(s) to the President, with a copy to the Executive Director for BOG agenda consideration purposes, and to the Fellows.

**Evidence of Fellow Honor:**

The evidence of being voted a Fellow shall be: 1) a distinctive pin noting the honor; and 2) a framed document containing the Executive Committee recommendation and BOG Resolution/By-law ratifying, certifying the election including privileges attendant thereto and adopting the honor, all as signed by the President and Secretary of LAI, and 3) use of the insignia, "Fellow," "Fellow of Lambda Alpha International," or "FLAI," all as provided by the LAI By-law.

Until otherwise directed by the LAI Executive Committee or BOG, the Executive Director shall post this **Information Circular** on the Documents section of the LAI website.