ACROSS THE AISLE

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

To promote respectful conversation on divisive matters of political and social importance, we as faculty and students at Iowa Law establish Across the Aisle. This civil discourse initiative is housed within the programming subcommittee of the University of Iowa College of Law Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee.

ARTICLE II

SECTION 1: Across the Aisle shall have three classes of members: Faculty advisor, student organizers, and participants. Student organizers in conjunction with the faculty advisor make up a board that organizes and executes Across the Aisle events. No other student organization is permitted to co sponsor an Across the Aisle event or write any portion of the discussion pamphlets passed out during an event.

SECTION 2: So long as event resources are available, any Iowa Law faculty, staff, or student interested in attending an event shall be admitted as a participant. Should a participant’s behavior significantly disrupt an event, they may be removed from the event by the faculty advisor. Following a unanimous vote from both the faculty advisor and student organizers, the participant’s privilege to engage in future events can be revoked.

SECTION 3: In no aspect of its programs shall there be any difference in the treatment of persons on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, disability, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran, service in the U.S. military, sexual orientation, gender identity, associational preferences, or any other classification which would deprive the person of consideration as an individual. The organization will guarantee that equal opportunity and equal access to membership, programming, facilities, and benefits shall be open to all persons.

ARTICLE III

SECTION 1: Student organizers, at the time of recruitment, shall be made up of two second-year law students and two third-year law students. Student organizers will communicate to select discussion and subtopics as well as divide work amongst themselves to complete discussion pamphlets based on student survey submissions. On the day of an Across the Aisle event, student organizers are responsible for event set up and take down. At least one student organizer will be present for all Diversity, Equity and Inclusion monthly meetings.

SECTION 2: Among the organizers, there shall be a public relations officer. The public relations officer will create advertisements to promote Across the Aisle events and share them with the other student organizers for review. The public relations officer will communicate with Iowa Law staff to publish both physical and electronic advertisements.

SECTION 3: Among the organizers, there shall be a food officer. The food officer will communicate with Iowa staff to ensure that the event has catering as well as book the room for the event. The food officer will also keep track of previous order receipts.

SECTION 4: Among the organizers, there shall be a coordinating officer. The coordinating officer will communicate and work with the other officers to manage deadlines and track progress across the team to ensure the event is properly executed. The coordinating officer will serve as the liaison between the organizers and the faculty advisor for purposes of organizing group meetings. At the end of each school year, the coordinating officer will update the event procedure guideline.

SECTION 4: Among the organizers, there shall be a secretary. The secretary will ensure that all previous discussion pamphlets, sign up lists, advertisements, and food order receipts are neatly stored. In regard to discussion pamphlets, the secretary will also publish the student survey and distribute the collected responses to the rest of the organizers.

SECTION 5: The faculty advisor shall ensure that all Across the Aisle events are carried out in the spirit of these bylaws. The faculty advisor shall also, from time to time, communicate with student organizers during event preparation phases to confirm reasonable progress towards event execution; approve topic and subtopic selections and; review discussion pamphlets.

SECTION 6: A student organizer who is not contributing adequately to Across the Aisle’s mission may be removed by unanimous vote of the faculty advisor and the other student organizers.

ARTICLE IV

Two or three Across the events will be held each semester. Organizers will keep in communication with each other and arrange meetings from time to time in preparation for events.

ARTICLE V

SECTION 1: Future Across the Aisle organizers will be appointed by a procedure crafted by current student organizers.

SECTION 2: In the event a student organizer is removed or steps down, a special appointment following a procedure crafted by remaining student organizers will be held to fill the position.

ARTICLE VI

Any amendments to these bylaws will, ideally, be adopted through consensus of the faculty advisor and all student organizers. If consensus is not possible, a date for a special amendment vote may be set by a majority vote by student organizers and faculty advisor. After deliberation, the amendment will be adopted with a ⅘ vote.

ARTICLE VIII

Bylaws ratified and established on [date]