Middle Eastern Law School Association
By-Laws

Article I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1.1 This association shall be known as the Middle Eastern Law School Association. (MELSA).

Section 1.2 The purpose of MELSA is to provide a supportive, pro-active environment to address the legal issues facing the Middle Eastern community.

Section 1.3 Goals:
1. To assist the Middle Eastern law students (or any other MELSA member) and provide support in their legal education.
2. To promote academic excellence and create an intellectually stimulating environment.
3. To enable the law students an opportunity in getting in touch with their ethnicity and bring to light the origins of their respective countries legal systems.
4. To have the Middle Eastern law students an opportunity to be represented.

Article II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 2.1 Membership is open to all law students who agree with the goals and purposes of MELSA.

Section 2.2 Members may not represent themselves or the ideas of MELSA in any event without prior written consent of all members.

Article III. DUES

Section 3.1 Each member is assessed a non-refundable due in the amount of $15.00 per year.

Section 3.2 Dues will be collected at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semester to ensure adequate funding for MELSA events.

Section 3.3 Dues may be raised once a year by majority vote and depending if there is a need for funds.
Article IV. GOVERNING BODY

Section 4.1  MELSA will consist of five officers; 1 President, 1 Vice-President, 1 Secretary, 1 Treasurer, and 1 Student Bar Association (SBA) Representative.

Section 4.2  Each elected officer may serve for one year.

Article V. DUTIES

Section 5.1  The President shall be responsible for presiding over all meetings. The President may appoint committees as necessary to fulfill the objectives of MELSA.

Section 5.2  The Vice-President shall conduct the meetings in the absence of the President and all other duties assigned by the President.

Section 5.3  The Secretary shall be responsible for recording the meetings and for all correspondence of MELSA.

Section 5.4  The Treasurer shall be responsible for collection of dues and maintaining the financial integrity of MELSA.

Section 5.5  The MELSA representative is responsible for attending the SBA meetings and reporting the topics and activities to MELSA.

Article VI. MEETINGS

Section 6.1  MELSA shall have 1 regular meeting each month or as required.

Section 6.2  Notification will be given through postings, or stuffing of mailboxes one week prior to the meeting.

Section 6.3  A General Election meeting shall be held once a year for election of MELSA officers.

Article VII. ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Section 7.1  Only those members in good standing are eligible to run and hold any office.

Section 7.2  “Good Standing” is defined as: all dues paid, good academic standing, and freedom from all disciplinary action by Whittier Law School standards.
Section 7.3  Nominations for elective office will come from the floor at the General Election meeting.

Article VIII. EXPENDITURES

Section 8.1  All expenditures shall require two signatures: President/or/Vice-President AND Treasurer.

Section 8.2  All expenditures shall be voted on by the members of MELSA.

Article IX. AMENDMENTS

Section 9.1  This Constitution may be amended at the General Election meeting by 75% of members or % of members present, whichever is less.

Section 9.2  An amendment must be proposed to the President or the Secretary in writing not less than 1 month prior to the General Election meeting and be circulated among general membership 14 days prior to the meeting in written form.