



## Terms of Office

Chair: 2 years (non-renewable)

Section Representatives: 3 years (renewable once)

## Committee Makeup

*The Committee shall consist of at least one member from each of the Association's Sections. All Section appointments to the Committee shall be staggered terms of three years each (renewable once), from among the Section's Active or Senior Members. Of those members, the President shall appoint a Chair to serve a two-year term. (AUA Bylaws, Article V, Section 1.3.1, April 2025).*

## Mission/Vision/Purpose

*The Committee is responsible for: developing and recommending to the Board policies and procedures that the Committee deems appropriate for the consideration and adjudication of disciplinary matters; consulting, monitoring, mediating, advising, and making recommendations about questions pertaining to AUA and its members, ethics of medical practice, education and research, and member discipline; regularly reviewing and recommending changes to the AUA's conflict of interest policies and the AUA Code of Ethics for consideration and approval by the Board of Directors; publishing occasional advisories to the membership on legal and ethical issues of concern; and considering potential disciplinary matters and recommending to the Board of Directors imposition of discipline under Article IX of the Bylaws. (AUA Bylaws, Article V, Section 1.3.2 April 2025)*

*The scope of the Committee's disciplinary jurisdiction is limited to review of complaints regarding matters that have been fully and finally adjudicated or otherwise decided by a court, agency, or other authority, except that complaints involving the following types of matters may be reviewed and/or administratively investigated by the Committee: questions of membership and standing in the association; conflicts of interest; allegations of inappropriate expert testimony; alleged infringement of AUA intellectual property; plagiarism; and breach of confidentiality.*

## Reporting

The J&E Committee reports to the AUA Board of Directors. The Chair may make disciplinary recommendations to the Board of Directors.

## Committee Meetings

The committee meets by videoconference as required by the level of cases received (usually fall and spring). An in-person meeting may occur at Annual Meeting if a disciplinary case is being heard. The J&E Executive Committee meets periodically via videoconference.

## Time Commitment

*Chair:* 4-6 hours per month

*Exec. Com.* 20 hours a year

*Member:* 10 hours per year



## Qualifications/ Responsibilities

**Chair:** The Chair and all its members should have integrity, honesty, and fairness. The Chair shares information pertinent to the Committee's area of responsibility and leads the discussion among committee members during meetings. The Chair works closely with AUA General Counsel in reviewing complaints from and/or about AUA members, and legal matters involving the Association and/or its members within the jurisdiction provided in the AUA Bylaws. The Chair (and Chair-elect) review all Guideline Panels (new and amendments) to ensure compliance with Level 1A of the AUA's COI Disclosure policy. The Chair ensures that due process is followed per AUA's disciplinary procedures relating to appeals, sanctions, rebukes and expulsions, and communicates such to the membership. The Chair also reviews AUA policies and Bylaws language pertinent to current issues and discussion items brought before the committee. The committee is charged with communicating issues, concerns and policies with the members of the AUA. The Chair will report to the Board of Directors as needed and as requested.

The J&E Chair is considered Level 1 COI Disclosure Policy and may not have relationships with pharmaceutical & device manufacturers as outlined in the policy. The chair is not permitted to serve as an expert witness in medical liability cases. This applies to new cases after the Chair's term commences and does not apply to providing medical testimony for the Chair's own patients.

**JEEC:** The J&E Executive committee (JEEC) is comprised of the J&E Chair and four members of the J&E Committee (preferably two junior and two senior members). Past J&E Chairs may also serve on the Executive Committee provided they are still committee members. AUA Legal Counsel and the AUA staff liaison for the J&E Committee serve as non-voting members. Members of the Executive Committee are selected at the discretion of the Chair and are renewed on an annual basis. The composition of the JEEC is periodically evaluated to determine if any term exceptions are warranted to maintain sufficient expertise on JEEC.

JEEC members review all materials, draft case summaries, and develop options for the full Committee's approval. The JEEC is not empowered to make disciplinary decisions independent of the J&E but serves to expedite materials for ratification or rejection by the full committee. Future J&E chairs are selected from the JEEC members.

**Members:** Members review relevant materials involving activities of other AUA members (such as Expert Witness Testimony) and make recommendations to the AUA Board on disciplinary matters. Members are responsible for bringing to the Committee any Section issues or requests pertaining to the Committee's area of responsibility. Likewise, members are responsible for reporting back to the Section, including the Report to the Sections prepared for them by the Chair. All J&E deliberations are confidential and members are responsible for that confidentiality in all venues and at all times. Members must be willing to demonstrate the courage of their convictions. All J&E Members must annually sign a confidentiality attestation.



## Compliance

Positions on Councils, Committees, Editorial Boards and Practice Guidelines Panels are open to AUA members in good standing. All members must agree to abide by *AUA's Committee Policies & Procedures* (see *AUA Participation Terms & Conditions* documents located under My Committees Section of the [myAUA](#) webpage). These documents include the requirement to abide by [AUA's Civility Policy](#) and annually complete a Conflicts of Interest (COI) Disclosure Form in accordance with [AUA's COI Disclosure Policy](#). The AUA reserves the right to suspend or remove a member from participation in any AUA activity while the individual is under investigation for a policy violation.

## Criteria for Selecting New Members

- Experience in participating on their hospital/institution's medical ethics committee or review board, and/or a similar entity within their state.
- General awareness of the types of ethical, legal and risk management issues Association members face.
- Members typically serve concurrently on their AUA Section ethics committees

## Criteria for Selecting Next Chair

The chair is selected by Presidential appointment. Future chairs are selected from the J&E Executive Committee members and should have a minimum of two years of service on the J&E committee.

## Recent Accomplishments 2025

- Revised and approved new Judicial and Ethics Committee Policies and Procedures.
- Reviewed and acted on an expert witness testimony complaint.