

# University of Central Florida Student Government Association



Elections and Appointments Committee (E&A)  
Student Government Association  
University of Central Florida

UCF Student Union – Senate Workroom  
Thursday, January 16th, 2020  
3:00 PM

## MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 3:10 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum:

<u>Name</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Final</u>
Chair Moscol	sga_ea@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice Chair St. Preux	sga_ba7@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Alhaddad	sgachps1@ucf.edu	P	A
Senator Appline	sgachps2@ucf.edu	3:16PM	A
Senator Cruz	sga_sci3@ucf.edu	A	A
ILA Foster	sgaila@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice Chair Lopez	sgacie2@ucf.edu	P	A
Senator Lytle	sga_med2@ucf.edu	A	A

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<b>Senator Rutledge</b>	<b>sgaec9@ucf.edu</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>R</b>
<b>Chair Correa-Ferro</b>	<b>sga_fao@ucf.edu</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Senator O'Blenis</b>	<b>sga_grst4@ucf.edu</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Senator Besirevic</b>	<b>sga_sci2@ucf.edu</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>LJR Rep</b>	<b>sga_ljr@ucf.edu</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Pro Tempore Representative</b>	<b>sga_pro@ucf.edu</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>

Quorum Verified: 10/14

3. Approval of the Minutes: approved
4. Approval of the Agenda: approved
5. Announcements from the Chair:
  - a. Good morning, upper east siders. So we have a few confirmations to see today. I expected more, however, some of the appointments have not reached back to me, so I can't guarantee they are waiting outside for us.
  - b. So far there is 1 confirmed to caucus tonight.
  - c. Welcome to our new members! I am excited for you all to be a part of this committee, ready to interview incoming candidates for student government.
  - d. Today is the only meeting that I have not brought treats, I am so sorry. I have been studying for my orgo exam tomorrow.
  - e. Lastly, make sure to look over resumes and prepare questions. Typing at the same time can be hectic sometimes, ESPECIALLY if you mess up the format. Try to be consistent.
  - f. I hereby resign Senator Rutledge from E&A
6. Announcements from Committee Members:
  - a. Correa-Ferro: Ashley said to send the PowerPoints presentation to her by 5 P.M. today
  - b. Selma: I am just going to be observing today since I am a new member. Thank you for being patient with me
  - c. Davis: Who's available for FAO?
7. Announcements from Non-Committee Members:

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- a. Trittin: We will be meeting on Thursdays at 4 P.M. I have already vetted them on title 6 and I will be holding a workshop of what is expected of them, so please keep that in mind
8. Old Business: none
9. New Business:
  - a. Confirmations
    - i. Ryan Regan - College of Sciences Seat 9
      1. Speech: I am a junior now majoring in Psychology. I have spent three years at UCF being involved in different organizations on campus such as Late Knights and Student Government. I am looking to continue updating the statutes and serve the student body.
      2. Questioning
        - a. Joseph Davis: Can you describe your jurisprudence?
          - i. There will always be situations where something written may not be applicable. So having a holistic approach would be best.
        - b. Natalia Correa-Ferro: If you could be a Star Wars Character, which one would you choose and how does that describe your leadership style?
          - i. Baby Yoda, because he is open to new things
        - c. Appline: What made you want to become a senator?
          - i. I enjoy serving the student body
        - d. Moscol: If there was a book written about your life, what would the title be?
          - i. It would be "Determined" because even if there has been setbacks and things that are not ideal, I will still keep going
        - e. Appline: What are some initiatives you have for the session
          - i. I'd like to clean up the finance code, impeachment, and advocating for psychology students
        - f. Besirevic: How are you going to allow yourself to grow and step out of your comfort zone for the benefit of the student body?
          - i. I think that being a senator does not mean you just represent yourself. I am going to listen to other people's perspectives and make decisions that benefit everyone
        - g. Moscol: If you were a furniture or an appliance what would you be and why?
          - i. I would be a refrigerator because it can hold many things and still stay cool
        - h. Appline: If you had a magic wand, what is one thing you'd fix at UCF?
          - i. Transparency between what students see and what happens behind the curtains
  3. Debate
    - a. Alhaddad: I think this guy knows what he's talking about and I am highly in favor
  4. Vote Count: 7-0-1

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- ii. Alex Rutledge - Election Commission Seat 7
  1. Speech: I am trying to be confirmed because of the need for commissioners specifically because of the presidential elections coming up. I have worked with EC a lot in the fall semester regarding their budgets for the upcoming year. Going into it, I am very up to date with the inner details of EC and ready to take on that role
  2. Questioning
    - a. Appline: What are your goals as an Election Commissioner
      - i. Increase voter turnout and quality. UCF elections are not always ideal. There is definitely a dominance in the demographics of voters. I intend on expanding that so that everyone can have a voice. Increase the quality of voters by having pamphlets and also including candidates' platforms on the SGA website. Violation information. I want to make sure that they know which violations are most common so that they can avoid falling into them. And also keeping a detailed record for the commission. Work on having a unified database for the commission.
    - b. Appline: Why did you want to become an election commissioner
      - i. EC is the backbone of UCF SGA as a whole. It is completely independent from a branch and it works to make sure that everyone has a voice. I am already familiar with title 6 just by reading it for E&A.
    - c. Correa-Ferro: Since EC usually has the most turnover and leadership changes. What will you do as an Election Commissioner to help retain others for the future?
      - i. One thing that I have communicated to Emma is making sure that all commissioners have as much information as they need about the process. So that if there's a need for a change in leadership, they would be ready to step up.
    - d. St Preux: Describe one instance in your life where you have been unbiased and how do you plan on maintaining unbiasedness in your daily role as a commissioner?
      - i. Back in high school when I was in SGA, running elections for the next election was a process that required unbiasedness because those running were my friends and such. I did not show any biases towards them, I treated them like I treat everyone else.
    - e. O'Blenis: How will you engage Downtown students into Senate and Presidential elections other than social media?
      - i. One of the ways that EC is set up is that there are three places where we can set up to promote elections.. In order to include the DT campus, we would expand the opportunities that are given to

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the main campus students will be given to the DT students as well to ensure that students from both campuses get access to equal information.

- f. Besirevic: It is known that being apart of social Greek Life (non-academic fraternities and sororities) is a major factor in increasing possibility of gaining votes and I want to know how would you get those freshmen specifically, (being that they are new to UCF) that are not apart of social Greek Life, involved to learn about elections and vote?
    - i. Discussed during budget hearings, the work that is put on the EC's end will not always correlate to voter turnout. As a commission, we need to find the need and desire in the students to vote. Unless students see a need to have their voices, the voting turnouts won't change. We are going to have voter merchandise, etc., but that won't change from the side of EC alone.
  - g. O'Blenis: How will you engage graduate students into elections when historical graduate students do not partake in student government elections
    - i. For graduate students, in order to appeal to them, we have to make sure that they understand the fact that the effects of the presidential elections still matter to them and still affect their lives on campus. When we do that, they will be more inclined to take approaches to be more involved in that process.
  - h. St Preux: If someone could write a book about your life, what would the title be and why?
    - i. "Just Go with It" because I am pretty laid back person, but when it comes to a business setting, I am a pretty detailed person and I like to make sure that things are done the way they need to be done. I understand the difference between just hanging out with friends and being in a casual setting, but when it comes to business, it involves seriousness and responsibility and I understand that.
3. Debate
    - a. Alhaddad: He seems to be pretty knowledgeable and passionate, he did not drop senate for no reason. I am in favor.
  4. Vote Count: 7-0-0
- iii. Laura Green - Election Commission Seat 1
    1. Speech: I am currently a junior here. I am studying Public Administration. I was previously involved with knighton so I got to learn about the structure and the way things work. I am a downtown campus student, I hope to bring a presence to that campus by campaigning and having a debate there. I also want to bring up a

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survey so that we can have a strategic view that is going to help our cause in the future.

## 2. Questioning

- a. Appline: What are your goals as an Election Commissioner and why do you want to become an election commissioner?
  - i. I love ethics and rules, I want to make sure that things are being followed.
- b. Correa-Ferro: How do violations work in the election process?
  - i. There are 4 strike systems. Every violation is different. Examples like passing out food or social media use.
- c. O'Blenis: How will you engage graduate students into elections when historical graduate students do not partake in student government elections?
  - i. Working with graduate studies and trying to email them about what is going on, invite them to the forums and such.
- d. Besirevic: If you were to not be apart of the Election Commission, would you, personally, now be honest, push for election involvement from fellow Knights, again with a personal interest, and if so, how?
  - i. Prevent students from being bombarded by all the campaigning going on. If people vote here, they will be likely to vote in real life.
- e. Moscol: How has PLC prepare you for this position?
  - i. I was put in a lot of uncomfortable positions. Learned how to stand up and speak up. I am very prone to calling things out and I learned how to do that the professional way.
- f. Moscol: I'm glad about your ambition towards Downtown Campus. What is your favorite initiative?
  - i. Working with the RAs. If we go there and let students know about what is going on will make them feel like they are a part of what is going on.
- g. Appline: How do you plan on managing your time in EC while being so involved?
  - i. I have pretty free days like Thursdays and Fridays. After 4 I don't work so I have free evenings.

## 3. Debate

- a. Appline: You seem very driven, I look forward to seeing you on the floor
- b. Davis: She is prepared and very well established, I urge you all to vote in favor
- c. Correa- Ferro: I have respect for anyone who can navigate the Disney program, I am in favor.

## 4. Vote Count 8-0-0

- iv. Victoria Chin - Election Commission Seat 5

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1. Speech: I am from Miami, Florida. This is my first year at UCF. I wanted to be a part of SGA, but also not be in it. In High School, I was in student government, I liked it but I didn't like the politics of it. I think EC is a good way to change things and make elections more efficient around campus. During fall term, I didn't see any news about elections going on, I think EC needs to do a better job advertising the elections.
2. Questioning
  - a. O'Blenis: How will you engage graduate students into elections when historical graduate students do not partake in student government elections?
    - i. I would speak to some of the grad students that we have in SGA and ask them how their college promotes stuff and from there I would use these procedures and make sure that the grad students know about what is going on.
  - b. Foster: As a freshman, how will you balance your new life in college with the responsibilities of an election commissioner?
    - i. I have a planner, I have my stuff worked out. I have different planners for different things and that is how I keep organized.
  - c. Moscol: What previous experience has prepared you for this position?
    - i. I was a part of my High School student government for three years and I helped promote the elections, I also saw how things were run last semester.
  - d. Besirevic: Will you push yourself to step out of your comfort zone to increase involvement with elections, and how so?
    - i. Yes, I will. I will talk more around the housing and campuses and be at the tents and try to get people more involved
  - e. Appline: Why did you want to become an election commissioner?
    - i. I wanted to be a part of SGA while not being a part of it, I want to make a change and difference within UCF.
  - f. Appline: What changes did you want to make within UCF?
    - i. For students to know what is EC and how we help SGA, what their vote means.
3. Debate
  - a. Correa-Ferro: You are doing a really great job. Student Government is a learning lab, you will learn a lot from being here. Do not worry everything gets better, you will get to know many people while being a part of student government. I will be voting in favor.
  - b. Besirevic: I am in favor of you because I was once in your shoes and everything will be fine
  - c. Davis: I want to see some of the goals more flushed out but I will not be voting against for now.

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- d. O'Brien: I share the same issues that Pro Temp Davis does but as long as you are passionate and willing to seek that knowledge, you have my vote.
4. Vote Count: 5-0-2
- v. Liliana Ramos - Election Commission Seat 2
  1. Speech: I am an international Global Studies major. I was in the leadership council and that is where I heard about EC. I love campaigning and educating the public about how to and where to vote. I know that voting turnout is not so great with our generation, I want to work to change that.
  2. Questioning:
    - a. Correa-Ferro: What are your statutory requirements to be a Commissioner?
      - i. Be unbiased, have the ten hours during the declaration of candidacy after that and so on.
    - b. Moscol: How has your high school voting experience helped you for this position?
      - i. It was a double edged sword, I learned about educating people on the upcoming primaries, and in this position, it would be a larger scale in regards to teaching people about voting.
    - c. O'Brien: How will you engage graduate students into elections when historical graduate students do not partake in student government elections
      - i. One way we can do that is through cognitive dissonance. Educate them, make them understand that it is going to affect them even though they are leaving early.
    - d. Besirevic: Can you please give me an instance where you were unbiased?
      - i. I had friends in student government but i always maintained professionalism. I never gave anyone a prize nor campaigned for them.
    - e. Foster: You mentioned that you would like to change voting turnout, do you have any ideas of how you would like to do that on our campus?
      - i. What I did there was a lot smaller than what I will be doing here. Showing people that what we do here is important and the decisions we make affect them
  3. Debate:
    - a. Davis: I have no problem sending this candidate through, her ideas are very flushed out. She seems to have given a lot of thought into this, I will be in favor.
    - b. Selma: I can tell that you have a lot of passion for this. I am in favor.
  4. Vote Count: 6-0-0
  - vi. Serenity Anderson - Election Commission Seat 8

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1. Speech: Political science major. I want to get involved in SGA because in High School I knew I wanted to get involved in college. DOing EC would be a good way to get involved and learn the branches in an inside but outside perspective. In my free time I work in a law firm as a legal clerk. This is something I knew I wanted to get involved with.
2. Questioning:
  - a. Correa-Ferro: What are your statutory requirements to be a Commissioner?
    - i. Unbiased, work 10 hours per week during elections, week after, and during another week. Keep an eye on where people are distributing campaign materials.
  - b. Correa-Ferro: How will you manage and dedicate your time to the Election Commission with all your other positions?
    - i. I can make my own hours at my job luckily. They know I want to be involved on campus too. My sorority position is also very flexible. My classes are also mostly online, and I practice time management a lot.
  - c. O'Blenis: How will you engage graduate students into elections when historical graduate students do not partake in student government elections?
    - i. Even though it's difficult because they may not feel as involved, I think that showing them how much it affects them as well. Providing a perspective of importance and influence will help with this.
  - d. Moscol: How has your work in a law firm prepare you for this position?
    - i. Family and criminal law firm. I started working there at 17. I learned how to handle professionalism and confidentiality, as well as learning how to be unbiased at all times.
  - e. Besirevic: Can you please give me an instance where you were unbiased, different from your employment?
    - i. During high school, I was on varsity speech and debate. A friend of mine were running to be captain, so I had to be unbiased and disregard the close relationship I have with them
3. Debate:
  - a. O'Blenis: She shows great professional ethics, and knows when to draw a line in between school and personal relationships. I appreciate the answer in regards to helping connect grad students to vote.
  - b. Davis: I had the opportunity of working with her during the day at the capitol, great work ethic.
4. Vote Count 6-0-0
- vii. Erving Rodriguez - CCIE Seat 1

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1. Speech: I was raised in Orlando, Florida but I was born in Puerto Rico. I have been involved in a fraternity since I have been on this campus. I love being active and doing my part to help out.
2. Questioning:
  - a. Correa-Ferro: What are two of your statutory requirements?
    - i. Attend retreat and diversity training.
  - b. Moscol: How has your previous experience prepare you for this position?
    - i. I have two internships on my resume. I want to make sure that things run efficiently by being involved. In high school, I led my group of young men to be the best they can be.
  - c. O'Blenis: Name two solutions you will be advocating for to improve the university website?
    - i. As an undergrad, I had trouble finding certain offices on campus, I wanna help make addresses more known, because they are not the clearest. I want to help out with the website, making links clearer on the home page and all.
  - d. Moscol: What initiative are you most excited about?
    - i. Mental health goal #4. Everyone can use some form of mental health, do something to deal with the stress when it comes to it
  - e. Besirevic: Being that you seem to be comfortable with new adventures and care about mental health, are you prepared for the amount of effort and mental strength your position will take and are you willing to play an exemplary role, and how?
    - i. I want to be doing this throughout my career in college so that I can leave my impact on this school.
  - f. Appline: Why do you want to be a Senator?
    - i. My love for the school. I have a lot of history with it and I want to give back to the school.
  - g. Appline: What is your greatest weakness and how can SGA help fix that?
    - i. I don't value people's opinions as much so I want to work on that.
  - h. Moscol: If someone wrote a book about your life, what would the title be and why?
    - i. "Young and Determined" I have a lot of goals and I want to do my best to make them become fruitful
  - i. Alhaddad: How did you hear about this position?
    - i. I was in a research position and I saw a lot of empty seats in Senate. And President Gray also helped me out with that.
3. Debate
  - a. O'blenis: I think that you are young and we need that in senate. I will be voting in favor

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- b. Correa-Ferro: The fact that you brought up mental health is a very good thing because everyone has stress although we may not see it
  - c. Selma: I love your humbling experience with the Real Estate agency, I find it really nice that you did that.
  - d. Alhaddad: Lots of passion, I am in favor.
4. Vote Count: 6-0-1
10. Member Discussion:
  11. Miscellaneous Business: none
  12. Final Roll Call: Same as initial minus 4
  13. Adjournment: 4:55 PM

## Key:

P - Present

A - Absent

MTD - Move to debate

MTV - Move to vote

MTA- Move to amend

PP - Postpone

PPI - Postpone indefinitely

GC - general consent

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