# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

## **UCF Student Government**

Military and Veteran Caucus Meeting Charge On Chamber & Zoom xx/xx/2023

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# **MEETING AGENDA**

1. Call to Order: 16:04

2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum (5): 5/8

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Collazo	sgmvcaucus@ucf.edu	Р	Р
Vice Chair Caringal	sgacie3@ucf.edu	Р	Р
Speaker Holmes	sga_spkr@ucf.edu	E (4:19)	Р
ELA Richmond	sgaela@ucf.edu	E (4:19)	Р
Senator Cimillo	sga crt@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Contti	sga_ecs3@ucf.edu	А	Α
Senator DiChiara	sglatinxcaucus@ucf.edu	Р	Р
Senator Yalamanchili	sga ljr@ucf.edu	А	Α
Senator Yera	sgaecs12@ucf.edu	А	Α
AG Moore	sga ag@ucf.edu	E	E
GAC Martin	sgagovaffairs@ucf.edu	А	Α
Army ROTC Rep.	fa008002@ucf.edu	А	Α
Air Force ROTC Rep.	an375465@ucf.edu	Р	Р
SVA President	michael.richardson@ucf.edu	Р	Р

- 3. Approval of Minutes: Approved by gc
- 4. Approval of the Agenda: Approved by gc
- 5. Open Forum:
  - a. None.
- 6. Announcements from the Chair Collazo:
  - a. Good afternoon, everyone!



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- c. Please fill out this RSVP Form immediately if you plan to attend. If you are attending, please be in business causal I.e. no jeans. I will be sending out a Student Government-wide email to make sure all agents are aware of the dress code.
- d. Veteran Week:

b.

- i. Nov. 6: Flag Planting at Memory Mall @7:30 a.m.
  - 1. <a href="https://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV">https://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV</a> 5jqcGTnUdLs4X1I
- ii. Nov. 8: Veteran's Salute
- iii. Nov. 9: Picking up flags from memory mall @5 p.m.
- e. Absences:
  - i. In accordance with Senate Rule 7.05 Caucus Meeting Absences
    - 1. A. Caucus members shall be allowed a maximum of two (2) unexcused absences from each Senate Caucus per semester.
    - 2. B. Caucus Meeting Absences may be expunged at the discretion of the Caucus Chair as outlined in Title III.

This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act. Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.

Chair Collazo: sga\_jc7@ucf.edu



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- ii. In accordance with Senate Rule 7.12 Exceeding Maximum Allowed Caucus Absences
  - 1. A. In exceeding the maximum allowed number of Caucus absences (as defined in Section 7.05), a Caucus Member is dismissed from the respective Caucus.
    - a. The dismissed Caucus member shall have until the end of the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting to appeal their absences from caucus to the Senate Executive Committee.
    - b. When a majority vote of the Senate Executive Committee causes a Caucus member who had been dismissed from a Caucus, to have, at most, the maximum number of allowed absences, as defined in 7.05, the member shall be reinstated to the Caucus.
    - c. c. During the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting following the decision of the Senate Executive Committee, a majority vote can overturn said decision.
- iii. In accordance with Title III Section 304.9 Duties and Powers of the Caucus Chair, Subsection D, Expunging Caucus Absences: The Chair shall have the power to expunge Caucus absence(s) of a Caucus member from their respective Caucus, upon written petition. The written petition must be turned in to the Caucus Chair within two (2) weeks following the absence in question or else said absence. A majority vote of the Caucus or Senate can overturn the decision of the Chair
- iv. Current Absences:
  - 1. Senator Cairos (2)
    - a. Dismissed
  - 2. Senator Temple (2)
    - a. Dismissed
  - 3. SVA President (1)\
  - 4. Senator Yera (1)
- v. Please fill out the contact information now:)
- vi. Thank you Senator DiChiara for writing and introduction the proclamations!
- 7. Announcements from the Vice-Chair Caringal:
  - a. Live, Laugh, Love DiChiara. Ty for the proclamations.
- 8. Announcements from Caucus Members:



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- a. Attorney General Moore: Thank you Senator DiChaira for writing and introducing the proclamations! And thank you to every to everyone has attended the meeting so far.
- 9. Announcements from Non-Caucus Members:
  - a. None.
- 10. Old Business
  - a. Proclamations
    - i. 55-08; 30-1-2
    - ii. 55-09; 30-1-2
- 11. New Business
  - a. Proclamations
    - i. Fall:
      - 1. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day; December 7<sup>th</sup>
      - 2. National Guard Birthday; December 13th
      - 3. National Wreaths Across America Day; December 16<sup>th</sup>
      - 4. Space Force Birthday: December 20th
    - ii. Spring:
      - 1. April- Month of the Military Child
      - May- National Military Appreciation Month; Month of the Military Caregiver
      - 3. Four Chaplains Day; Feb. 3rd
      - 4. Coast Guard Reserve Birthday; Feb. 19th
      - 5. Navy Reserve Birthday; March 3rd
      - 6. K-9 Veterans Day; March 13<sup>th</sup>
      - 7. Medal of Honor Day; March 25th
      - 8. Vietnam Veterans Day; March 29th
      - 9. Gold Star Spouses Day; April 5th
      - 10. Air Force Reserve Birthday; April 14th
      - 11. Army Reserve Birthday; April 23rd
      - 12. Silver Star Banner Day; May 1st
      - 13. Military Spouse Appreciation Day; May 10th
      - 14. Children of Fallen Patriots; May 13th
      - 15. Armed Forces Day; May 18th
      - 16. Memorial Day; May 27th
  - b. Semester Projects
    - i. Fall: Media: Flyer, Reel, and Story



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- Reel: Introducing the caucus or showcasing the resources on campus. Get in contact with digital media coordinator to post for Veteran's Week and include the caucus. Local student media (MSN) could also cover these events.
- Flyer: Used for tabling to have resources and what are caucus is about. Could be used for advocacy too, complaint/comment form in collab with SBA.
- Veterans Week: Proclamations from Collazo, Moore is pledge of allegiance, Michael doing a speech. Make sure you're engaged and attending events.
- ii. Spring: DiChiara: Transfer time, focusing on local high schools and showcasing ROTC there to incentivize enrollment. Being able to see the programs before applying is super helpful for them and gets students involved with UCF.
  - Michael: Head of Veterans Legacy and at Veterans Salute, they have JROTC help with flag planting, setup, etc. So, we do have some ins for that.
  - You need VA benefits certified through the school and transfers need this as well. Their orientation process involves this but it isn't covered very well and isn't the most broadcasted thing.
  - Holmes: They can even use an extra day to be able to do their things. If they are coming early and staying late, they should be able to have and intermingle with the other students during orientation.
  - 4. Collazo: Maybe dedicating that extra day for students to come in to get verified here at SU.
  - Homles: We can create a resolution with FYE to get that extra day to prevent confusion or staying for verification while orientation is happening.
  - 6. Michael: This is a great initiative. I saw this firsthand when I was meeting with dependents, veterans, guardsman. As I was walking them around, I felt like I shorthanded them leaving early and not being able to help. Campus is complex and cutting out that time can cause problems. It takes away from the experience of campus. An extra day can generate so much more benefit than we may think.



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- 7. DiChiara: 0730 is a required meeting for veterans and 1530 is for dependents. But normal students can come later and leave earlier. Hearing about this and how parents don't know how to help, this can all be avoided with an extra day. Not knowing where those extra resources are and where they miss those times, it lessens their experience. Making sure you are set with funds and forms is more important than some free shirts.
- 8. Michael: Discharge form is what gives you access to everything. It's just one form but it unlocks all VA benefits. If you don't have that then you can't redeem benefits and if students don't know that and can't get that help, it prevents tuition being given, classes to be enrolled, etc. One extra day can make that transition efficient.
- iii. DiChiara: Lots of colleges have information sessions on what to bring in when applying, do we have something for this for military students? Even something virtual to teach incoming students what each form is and how to fill it out would make processes much smoother and easier.
  - Collazo: I agree, when I first got here, my dad just handed me forms and I went to the center. No one sat me down to tell me what to bring, how to fill it out, etc. Something like this would be greatly beneficial.

#### c. Website:

- i. FAQs: Each caucus has a set of FAQs on their website page. Any ideas on what may be asked?
  - DiChiara: On every caucus one, it says how do we become a member to where it responds about becoming an SG agent or that meetings are public. Having a when and how can I join would be good.
  - 2. DiChiara: Also having an event calendar would be good.
  - 3. DiChiara: One thing on Latin/Hispanic caucus is a list of RSOs that fall under the caucus. Here we can tell RSOs how they are represented.
  - 4. Fick: What benefits are available to Veterans/Military Students?
  - 5. Holmes: How do I get involved as a student?
  - 6. Michael: Why does this caucus exist?
  - 7. DiChiara: We can have on the page what proclamations we've passed or other legislation.



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- 8. DiChiara: We can also clarify the definition of military students and include that even if you are not Military afiliated, you can still support us and our cuase.
  - a. Caringal: Tie this in to #1 on joining and how to help.
- 9. Holmes: Also show like this is a temp caucus so that students/others can start to advocate for this to be permanent.
- 10. Michael: Patriots are the answer for #8. No one is outside the veterans community. Everyone is a part of what we fought for. Those American rights that we have and defend are why everyone is part of this community.
- 11. Fick: How do I get in contact with Military Resources? (RSOs, VSWB, ROTC, SVA, etc.)

12.

#### 12. Member Discussion

- a. DiChiara: UCF Restoresis for first reponsers behavioral health on things like PTSD. We should support these services/programs as well.
  - i. Richmond: Gabby Polera is working on legistlation for UCF Restores.
  - ii. Michael: I met with the director and she laid out how she can help and how RESTORES works. This is a huge resource for all service members.
- b. Collazo: Thank you SGLCers for being here <3.
- c. Collazo: I will be sending out a when2meet to change meeting dates/times for Spring semester. I plan to meet more weekly then too.
- d. Michael: Anything is possible here and so much can happen when we don't meet so we need every opportunity to build and get better. Keeping track of our achievements is evidence of how well we did. We should come together more and I'm excited to see y'all out at events during Salute.

#### 13. Miscellaneous Business

- a. Question of the Day: What is the best branch of the military?
  - i. Richmond: Navy
  - ii. Holmes: Army
  - iii. Caringal: Air Force
  - iv. DiChiara: Air Force
  - v. Fick: Air Force
  - vi. Michael: Navy
  - vii. Collazo: Air Force
  - viii. Audience: Air Force, Air Force, Air Force
  - ix. (Moore's Ghost): Marines



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14. Final Roll Call (5): 7/1015. Adjournment: 16:46

# 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