



# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government  
LJR Committee Meeting  
Conference Room  
01/08/2025  
1:00 PM

## MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 1:02 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 5/6 (3)

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Courts	sga_ljr@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice Chair Collazo	sga_sci4@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Naguib	sgachps4@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Gaudio	sgaec9@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Benwick	sga_sci7@ucf.edu	P	P
Pro Tempore Representative Morissette	sga_pro@ucf.edu	P	E

3. Approval of the Minutes: [11.20.24](#) **Approved by GC**
4. Approval of the Agenda: **Approved by GC**
5. Announcements from the Chair Courts-
  - a. Happy first meeting LJR!! Today we will be seeing one absence and three internal bills. We will also be reviewing the absence precedent sheet and talking about how we will be going about absences.
  - b. Decorum and Efficiency
6. Announcements from the Vice Chair Collazo-
  - a. Welcome Back! Here is the Absence Tracking report from last semester.
    - Fall 2024
      1. Approved: (85)
        - a. Reasoning
          - i. Prior engagements or events of a similar nature. (46)
          - ii. Any other reasons the committee deems applicable. (26)
          - iii. Infectious/Contagious Illness. (6)
          - iv. Medical Appointments/Emergencies (5)
          - v. Religious Reason; Title XI: The Code of Ethics (2)

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1. Total: 85
2. Denied: (5)
  - a. Reasoning
    - i. Any other reasons the committee deems applicable. (2)
    - ii. Prioritizing personal activities or leisure over work commitments. (3)
  1. Total: 5
7. Announcements from Committee Members-
  - a. LJR (GAP) Rep: None.
  - b. LJR (E&A) Rep: We saw one confirmation and internal bill, both of which passed. For the rest of the meeting, we discussed possible Title VI changes.
  - c. LJR (SBA) Rep: None.
8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members-
  - a. SG Advisor: I'm back!
9. Old Business-
  - a. Bills
    - None.
  - b. Resolutions
    - None.
  - c. Absences
    - None.
  - d. Blanket Excuse
    - None.
10. New Business-
  - a. Bills – MSQD, 5-5-5, **Approved by GC**
    - [Internal Bill 56-22](#) [Updates to Title XIV: Establishing the Caucus Leadership Committee] [MVC Chair Collazo]
      - Speech
        - Chair Collazo: New draft of a bill I submitted previously, initially, I submitted this bill because i was worried about the way caucuses were going to be handled for the new term. I did not like the way they were currently being managed according to Title XIV. I believed it made more sense for caucuses to have decisions in what was happening with them while having branch head oversight. In the bill, I have taken off the Chief justice and the Supervisor of Elections from their oversight. Chief justice has shown no interest and Supervisor of Elections has no purview/relation to

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events/advocacy. Only standing caucus chairs/vice chairs have voting power and not ad hoc caucus leadership as their positions are temporary. Duties and powers of the caucus leadership committee are just ensuring they abide by everything in Title XIV. They can deny projects/events in concurrence with the Student Body President and Senate President. Senate President Pro Tempore will be the acting chair. The committee has standing rules, similar to the Senate Executive Leadership Committee.

- Questioning
  - Senator Gaudio: Why shift announcements and resignations from the caucuses to the branch head?
    - Chair Collazo: Because the branch head makes appointments for their directs, which is currently the procedure we have right now. Just writing it down so it is in statues.
  - Senator Benwick: Why didn't the first draft pass?
    - Chair Collazo: First bill had a lot more detail. Pushback was due to the bill being too specific and giving the committee too much power. Additionally, a lot of people, mostly caucus leadership, had issues with verbiage. Pushback also occurred in regard to the governing body. In terms of having advisors on the board, there was a disagreement.
  - Chair Courts: 1403.1: Caucus Leadership Caucus, is that a typo?
    - Chair Collazo: Yes
  - Senator Gaudio: Clarification, currently as caucuses stand, anyone in SG can be on a caucus, correct? If someone from the EC wants to be in a caucus, how would these changes affect those who are not a part of the Legislative Branch or Executive Branch?
    - Chair Collazo: Yes. Not removing appointment power, just revising caucus oversight
  - Senator Benwick: MTD, **Approved by GC**
- Debate
  - Senator Gaudio: Well thought out, current status of caucuses just being their own thing without a single arching authority, having a leadership committee would be helpful. Voting in favor.
  - Pro Tempore Morissette: I think this is well needed. Caucuses want to share sentiments with each other.
  - Senator Gaudio: MTV, **Approved by GC**

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- Vote
  - **3-0-2, Passes on First Reading**
- [Internal Bill 56-23](#) [Updates to Title XII: Establishing the Executive, Judicial, Senate Committee] [LJR Vice Chair Collazo]
  - Speech
    - Originally saw a similar bill in the Fall, it was called the Executive, Judicial, and Senate Committee. But I changed the name due to the election commission. Left the duties and responsibilities of the committee broad as possible due to push back from the original bill. Essentially, it is going to be the monthly branch head meeting that happens but makes it a more mandated thing now. My worry about why I introduced this in the first place is because of how the meetings were held originally. They are not public, no minutes, and we don't know when they are held, and they are just branch heads. Previous years, Heads and their vices were involved. Nothing here mandates what they must talk about. The chair would be the SG advisor/designee, and they will not be an active member. The chair can also appoint an acting secretary. Bill mandates that the secretary releases minutes to all SG agents. Committee Staff would be mandated to provide guidance and make the standard changes to the rules of procedure. Staff would be the comptroller and attorney general. They only have to attend by request, and they do not have voting or debating rights.
  - Questioning
    - Senator Gaudio: 1202.7, VC has all duties of Statues and Roberts Rules but also duties are defined in Title III. Do you believe the same duties would apply? What duties would they have if Title III did not apply?
      - Chair Collazo: No. Advise the Chair and be prepared to take the chair whenever necessary.
    - Senator Gaudio: How would attendance be taken and how would the committee be enforced as a general body?
      - Chair Collazo: It is in statues; committee has to convene at least once a month so can be held in non-compliance otherwise. In terms of attendance, attendance is usually under the discretion of the chair, but amendments are welcome.
    - Chair Courts: Why is the external assistant chief justice not on the committee?
      - Chair Collazo: IACJ is the representative whenever the chief justice is absent.
    - Senator Gaudio: What would this committee be sent to accomplish that is not already expected by statues?

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- Chair Collazo: Transparency. Branch heads can meet behind closed doors and have no record or accountability for decisions that they make. If an SG agent would disagree with their decisions, there is no evidence that the decision/agreement occurred. Some of this also comes from caucus leadership and how they have been managed. This also comes from past judicial review cases.
- Debate
  - Senator Gaudio: Voting against, believe it was written with the best of intentions. However, I also believe it fails to accomplish anything meaningful or encourage activity that doesn't already exist in statutes. If branch heads are not communicating, an obligatory committee would not solve those issues. While the closed doors issue is valid, I do not believe this bill serves as an effective solution.
  - Pro Tempore Morissette: I will be voting in favor of this bill. Not knowing what is going on sometimes is a problem. As a vice I think it's important to be included in this conversation. I think it's important to know what the other branches are doing.
  - Student Government Advisor Taylor: Adding Student Government advisor in a leadership role would be setting a precedent. To give an opinion, I feel like this is a lot of structure for a specific problem.
  - Chair Collazo: Motion to see my amendments
    - Senator Benwick: It would be valuable to provide some form of requirement for the branch heads to be at the meetings. Can't be transparent without accountability.
    - Pro Tempore Morissette: Voting in favor, like to see more clarification of the secretary position.
    - Senator Benwick: Voting in favor, would like to see in the future something about a required attendance policy.
  - Senator Benwick: Voting in favor, it really is important that a bill like this in introduced so other meetings happening behind closed doors can follow this precedent.
  - Chair Collazo: This bill will establish precedence within UCF SG but this is a standard at USF SG. Their committee does have a little bit more power, but I think it is super important. The justices at USF think this committee is important because it provides them with an avenue of address. I encourage everyone here to vote in favor of this bill. Other meetings do happen behind closed doors, but this committee is different. Branch Heads are responsible for leading us and should be held to the same standard as regular SG Agents.
  - Senator Gaudio: Motion to see my amendments

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- Senator Gaudio: Primarily adding an absence thing of notifying the chair or vice chair ahead of time. This just adds an avenue of non-compliance should an individual not show up.
- Chair Courts: What do you mean by the means of needing quorum if the committee isn't voting on anything?
  - Gaudi: My bad, quorum is not needed
  - Collazo: It is needed, by roberts rules.
- Pro Tempore Morissette: voting in favor of the amendment, absence clarification is needed
- **Vote for amendment is 4-0-1, Approved**
- Vote
  - **3-1-1, Passes first reading**
- [Internal Bill 56-25](#) [Updates to Title III: Removal of Sergeant-at-Arms Replacement Timeline] [Chair DiChiara]
  - Speech
    - Chair DiChiara: This was a response to the 3 bills to establish timelines to fill vacancies. It made sense to remove this part as someone said it was arbitrary.
  - Questioning
    - Senator Gaudio: MTD, **Approved by GC**
  - Debate
    - Pro Tempore Morissette: I agree with taking it out to be consistent with the other timelines.
    - Senator Benwick: MTV, **Approved by GC**
  - Vote
    - 4-0-1, **Passes on First Reading**
- b. Resolutions
  - None.
- c. Absences ([Supporting Documentation](#)): MSQD – 2-3-3, **Approved by GC**
  - [Absences request SPR-25-001](#): Joshua Hendry
    1. Speech
      - a. Chair Courts: Currently in North Carolina on the way to Delaware, helping my Girlfriend move, will be flying back into Orlando on the 11th. I mean I can take pics and show them at the meeting for the documentation. Hope you guys had an amazing break!
    2. **Questioning**
      - a. Senator Gaudio: MTD, **Approved**
    3. Debate

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- a. VC Collazo: To go off of precedent, I think we should postpone until we have photos because that's what we've always done regardless of the absence request. PP to 1/15,
  - i. Senator Gaudio: Objection:
    1. Gaudio: I object the motion because there are comments i would like to make about the absence requests so I would want the motion to wait until after.
    2. Collazo: I don't think the objection is because the member wants to make a comment about the request, they could make their comments during the next meeting where we see the absence request.
    3. Voting on the Objection: **2-3-0, Original Motion Stands**

4. Vote

a. N/A.

d. Blanket Excuse

- None.

11. Miscellaneous Business-

a. Elections – LJR Representatives for E&A, GAP, and SBA

- E&A Rep. Nominations:
  1. TBD
- GAP Rep. Nominations:
  1. Senator Gaudio will serve temporarily.
- SBA Rep. Nominations:
  1. TBD

12. Member Discussion- MTIF: **Approved by GC**

a. [Precedent Sheet](#)

b. MTF: **Approved by**

13. Final Roll Call: 4/6 (4)

14. Adjournment: 2:15 PM

Key:

P - Present

A - Absent

MTD - Move to Debate

MTV - Move to Vote

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MTA- Move to Amend  
MSQD – Motion for Speech, Questioning, & Debate Time  
MTIF – Move to Informal  
MTF – Move to Formal  
PP - Postpone  
PPI - Postpone Indefinitely  
GC - General Consent

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