



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
LJR Committee Meeting
Charge on Chamber
01/29/2024
1:00 PM

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 1:00 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 4/6 (4)

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Courts	sga_ljr@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice Chair Gaudio	sgaec9@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Naguib	sgachps4@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Benwick	sga_sci7@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Trejo-Hernandez	sga_ecs1@ucf.edu	E	E
ELA Richmond	sgaela@ucf.edu	E (1:17 PM)	E
Pro Tempore Representative Collazo	sga_pro@ucf.edu	P	P

3. Approval of the Minutes: [01.22.25](#) **Approved by GC**
4. Approval of the Agenda: **Approved by GC**
5. Announcements from the Chair Courts-
 - a. Hellllloooo LJR. Today we will be seeing two bills, three absence requests, a blanket excuse request, as well as talking about a few housekeeping and transparency details.
6. Announcements from the Vice Chair Vacant-
 - a. None.
7. Announcements from Committee Members-
 - a. LJR (GAP) Rep: Good afternoon LJR, last meeting we continued to work on research for the DATC. We also received the link for the launched Qualtrics Survey [DATC Legislative Priority Survey](#) . Please take the time to fill out the survey if you have not already, it is 100% anonymous and it is meant to get the student body's opinion on what legislation we should be lobbying for on the Capitol. Also, GAP has begun tabling for this event, so if you see them in the union or anywhere else on campus, feel free to stop by and say hi.

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Chair Courts: sga_ljr@ucf.edu



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- b. LJR (E&A) Rep: We elected new E&A leadership so congratulations to them. We also saw two senate confirmations, they will be seen Thursday.
 - c. LJR (SBA) Rep: Last meeting was dedicated to working on initiatives in the committee, not much in terms of moving on the whole as a committee happened. We are also considering rescheduling our time!
 - d. DLEG Collazo:
8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members-
- a. Brodie – Thank you for willing to hear mine and Andrew’s request about rehearing 56-22 and 23. I have various thoughts and ideas on how caucus leadership should work. I appreciate you hearing me out.
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] [DLEG Collazo]
 1. Speech
 - a. Collazo: Upon conversations with Brodie, I wanted to remand this bill back to LJR because I liked his ideas and I think the committee should hear them. If we approve of these ideas, I think the body as a whole will approve them, and I believe that it will be more efficient than the current system and that caucuses should remain independent rather than being folded back under caucuses. I yield to Brodie.
 - b. Brodie: I’ve had some conversations with caucus leadership and it seems to me like there is two schools of thought – one on where the caucuses should lie be it independent or be placed back under legislative. I think that caucuses remaining independent is probably the better idea, but the other piece of that is that assuming they stay independent, I think that having the Caucus Leadership Committee

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is a good idea and the right path. I think the structure could be a lot simpler than where the bill started, so I've added a bunch of amendments that one of you could pick up but I think the key to them is that the caucus leadership committee should exist of the chairs and vice chairs of the caucuses who then elect a Chair and Vice Chair among themselves. The two important things for success are I believe that the committee should be responsible for allocating the budget for the caucuses from each branch head rather than needing to introduce a bill to produce that budget. Adding a requirement for money makes the process a lot more complicated, and I think that having this simpler process will make it easier for the caucuses to get that money and know how much money they have to work with. The branch heads will have the freedom to decide how they want to allocate that money. The other piece is I felt like branch heads should provide money themselves rather than it being from the Branch Head leadership committee in the next belt, so that other branch heads cannot strike down the allocations provided by one another. This is more in the next bill than the current, that being I think the Caucus Leadership Committee Chair should have an ex officio seat in the branch head committee so that the Caucus Leadership can keep the other branch heads accountable without needing to wait for answers. Go ahead and look through and see the amendments that I've suggested, as I believe they will make things easier later down the line. If you would like to hear my thoughts on why I think caucuses should remain outside any particular branch, feel free to ask me.

2. Questioning

- a. Benwick: Could the ad hoc caucus chairs and vice chairs have a tiebreaking vote if there is a tie within the committee?
 - i. Brodie: The answer would be no, they would either have a vote or not have a vote depending on if the amendment was approved or not. It would be fairly unprecedented to have a tiebreaking go to a group rather than an individual.
- b. Gaudio: So, for the budget that is allocated to this leadership committee, would it just be each of the branch heads basically coming forward and saying, "I'm offering you guys this much money, divide it among yourselves?"

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- c. Richmond: I'm not a caucus chair, but I think that caucuses are planning things for that coming year, and that this avenue is so that caucuses can collaborate for that coming year, so I think ad hocs should have a say on the vote, as they should be able to lobby for their own budget from the allocations which were given.
 - d. Gaudio: I second what Richmond is saying, now that the committee has a direct say on how the budget is split, ad hocs absolutely deserve a say on how much money they are being allocated, because even if they're a temporary caucus, they are still a caucus and should be able to push for the money they need.
 - e. Collazo: MTA. **Approved by GC.**
 - i. Speech: I support the amendment now, I see your perspectives and completely forgot about the budget. I do think it's important that ad hocs have a say in that matter.
 - ii. Questioning: **MTD, Approved by GC**
 - iii. Debate: **MTV, Approved by GC**
 - iv. Vote
 - 1. 4-0-1, amendment is approved
 - f. Richmond: MTV, **Approved by GC**
4. Vote
- a. 4-0-1, **passes on First Reading**
- [Internal Bill 56-23](#) [Updates to Title XII: Establishing the Executive, Judicial, Senate Committee] [DLEG Collazo]
 - 1. Speech
 - a. Collazo: Hi everyone, same circumstances, I am in complete agreement with Brodie's amendments, so I'll be picking them all up. This is to restructure the committee and to help it run better, as well as including ex officio members such as the A&SF Chair, Scholarship Committee Chair & Caucus Leadership Committee Chair. I am removing the part that says "committee staff" as we are adding it within the duties of the committee. The language was also made more concise.
 - 2. Questioning
 - a. Richmond: With this committee, do you want the VP and Pro Temp & Assistant Chief Justice or just the three branch heads and Supervisor of Elections? This seems like a lot of people.
 - i. Collazo: I don't think it's a lot of people, these meetings are happening anyway, and I think that all of these people should be included, including the Vice President, Pro Tempore and Supervisor of Elections. I also believe this

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committee to be very necessary as this committee will now officially help designate a budget for the caucus leadership committee which we just approved. As for the ex officio members, I think they are important for discussions involving money.

- b. Benwick: The Chief Justice has two assistant chief justices, why is only one included or not a specific assistant chief justice?
 - i. Collazo: The Chief Justice requested it be *an* Assistant Chief Justice in case one is not present. The Chief Justice has that luxury by having two Assistants rather than a single second in command.

3. Debate

- a. Gaudio: When this bill first came through, I was in staunch opposition to it because I felt as though it did not serve a real purpose, however now that it has a distinct role in managing the budget of the caucuses as a whole, assuming the caucuses stay independent, this committee now has a reason to exist and so I will be voting in favor.
- b. Richmond: I will be voting in favor; however I want to hear more debate on the floor about the Pro Tempore or the Assistant Chief Justices being included, especially when there is no attendance requirement.
- c. Brodie: I want to clarify something, there is no budget being managed by this entity, each branch head is allocating budget independently rather than by the committee. This is so that a branch head can't vote against the budget being provided by another branch head. The value of this committee is that Caucus Leadership Chair has that seat and can now express this in front of the branch heads in a meeting and press them for that allocation rather than just sending emails or trying to convince the branch heads individually to get money.
- d. Richmond: So, this is more or less what we saw before, just promoting conversation?
- e. Brodie: Yes, my proposed changes were to add those ex officio seats so they can get support where needed, everywhere else is simplification and making the committee able to function more efficiently by removing extra language.
- f. Collazo: MTA. **Approved by GC.**
 - i. Speech:
 - 1. Collazo: These are the proposed changes, I will say this bill did pass favorably on the floor and in LJR last time, but I do think these changes are necessary to help clarify things.

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- ii. Questioning:
 1. Benwick: MTD, **Approved by GC**
- iii. Speech:
 1. Richmond: MTV, **Approved by GC**
- iv. Vote:
 1. 4-0-1, amendment is approved
- g. Collazo: Elaborate further on your thoughts, ELA.
- h. Richmond: I just think that there's too many people, as these people are all super busy and having this many people could make discussions difficult.
4. Vote
 - a. 3-0-2, **passes on First Reading**
- b. Resolutions
 - [Resolution 56-12](#) [Updates to Senate Rule #7: Adjusting Dean Meeting Policy] [Senator Gaudio]
 1. Speech
 - a. Gaudio: This resolution was made in collaboration with the ELA after a personal incident outside of my control in which I missed the dean meeting. This amendment makes it to where the ELA is able to acknowledge reasons without stepping on LJR's role.
 2. Questioning
 - a. Richmond: MTD, **Approved by GC**
 3. Debate
 - a. Richmond: Last semester there was an incident, and I thought it was an LJR issue.
 - b. Benwick: MTV, **Approved by GC**
 4. Vote: 2-0-3, **passes on First Reading**
- c. Absences ([Supporting Documentation](#)): MSQD: 3-3-3, **Approved by GC**
 - Isha Patel
 1. Speech
 - a. Patel: I was late to the last senate meeting.
 2. Questioning
 - a. Benwick: Did you pass your exam?
 - i. I do not know yet.
 3. Debate
 - a. Gaudio: MTV, **Approved by GC**
 4. Vote
 - a. 2-0-2, **Approved by LJR**
 - Katrina Wangen

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1. Speech
 - a. Wangen: I will be competing at the 2025 NCWA Eastern Regional Duals Championships. The meet is on January 31st, and we are flying out midday on January 30th, as the meet is in Virginia. I am one of the starting lineup for our women's team and need to be there in order for us to be as competitive as possible. I have attached screenshots of both the meet's lackluster description on the official NCWA website, as well as the official UCF Wrestling Calendar, which shows that we will be traveling to Newport on January 30th, though it shows the National Duals because both the men's National Duals and women's Regional Duals are in the same location.
2. Questioning
 - a.
3. Debate
 - a. DLEG: Didn't LJR approve a blanket excuse for you?
 - i. Yes, however that is for initial roll call.
4. Vote
 - a. 3-0-1, **Approved by LJR**
- Meriam Neguib
 1. Speech
 - a. Chair Courts: For tomorrow's Senate meeting. Hi LJR, apologizes for not being there in person to talk about my absence. I cannot attend this week's senate due to caring for a sick family member again. Unfortunately, other family members are not able to help.
 2. Questioning
 - a. Benwick: MTD, **Approved by GC**
 3. Debate
 - a. Benwick: I will be voting in negation. Simply for consistency purposes. I believe she took an unexcused.
 - i. DLEG: We approved
 - b. Collazo: I will be voting in favor, it is important for family to be present.
 - c. Gaudio: I will be voting in favor, however tentative. We did see it in the fall. And now we are seeing it again in the spring. I can see it affecting her responsibility, and if it keeps happening then she should be dedicating her time to her family over senate.
 - d. Benwick: MTV, **Approved by GC**
 4. Vote

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- a. 3-0-1, **Approved by LJR**
 - d. Blanket Excuse
 - Jaci Lim
 - 1. Speech
 - a. Chair Courts: I am a part of Knight-Thon's Accounting Analytics committee, where we are in charge of tracking all the donations that come through. This semester is our busy semester as Knight-Thon's main event is in April, hence why we have more committee meetings and events. It's required I attend these meetings to understand how operations will work during the main event, understand what is expected of my role, and help the team in any way I can. Our all-committee meetings are always biweekly on Thursday at 7pm and roughly will end around 9 to 10. She attached documentation.
 - 2. Questioning
 - a. Benwick: MTD, **Approved by GC**
 - 3. Debate
 - a. DLEG Collazo: MTV, **Approved by GC**
 - 4. Vote
 - a. 3-0-1, **Approved by LJR**
11. Miscellaneous Business-
- a. Vice Chair Elections
 - Nominations
 - 1. Zachary Gaudio
 - Election – MSQD: 5-5-5, **Approved by GC**
 - 1. Speech:
 - a. I didn't prepare any materials because I wanted to speak from the heart. I got appointed halfway through the fall semester. LJR is a great committee. Chair Courts and DLEG Collazo did a fantastic job. I want to step into this role to support the committee just as DLEG Collazo did.
 - 2. Questioning:
 - a. Benwick: Any goals as Vice Chair?
 - i. Gaudio: I want to make sure those opinions are robust and available to Agents. The status quo is kept.
 - b. Benwick: MTD, **Approved by GC**
 - 3. Debate:

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- a. Benwick: I will be voting for this candidate. He is very involved.
- 4. Vote
 - a. 2-0-2, Elected as LJR Vice Chair.
 - b. [Precedent Sheet Tracker](#)
- 12. Member Discussion - MTIF: **Approved by GC**
 - a. LJR Opinions
 - b. MTF: **Approved by GC**
- 13. Final Roll Call: 4/6 (4)
- 14. Adjournment: 2:10 PM

Key:

- P - Present
- A - Absent
- MTD - Move to Debate
- MTV - Move to Vote
- 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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