



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
GAP Committee Meeting
Charge On Chamber
03/27/2025
5:00 PM

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 5:04PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum (7): 10/12

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Vasquez	Sgagap@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice-Chair Varela	Sgsci15@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Al-Qudah	Sga_sci1@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Candiloro	Sga_sci3@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Chauhan	Sgachps2@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Corelli	Sga_ba1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Greene	Sga_nur1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Johnson	Sgachps6@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Muratov	Sga_ecs1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Reed	Sga_cah4@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Rodriguez	Sga_sci6@ucf.edu	A	A
Senator Thoss	Sga_ba2@ucf.edu	A	A
LJR Representative	Sga_ljr@ucf.edu	E	E
Pro Tempore Representative	Sga_pro@ucf.edu	P	P

- 1) Approval of last meeting's minutes: [03/13/25](#)
 - a. Approved by GC

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- 2) Approval of the agenda:
 - a) Approved by GC
- 3) Open Forum:
 - a) Introductions
 - i) Austin Wilson: Im not here to say much> I would in the Office of Governmental Relations. We are partnering with you all for DATC. Here to answer any questions
 - ii) Chris Carmody: Good Afternoon! Looking foward to hearing what you all are working on as we gear up for DATC.
 - iii) Brawley: Here to see how this goes
- 4) Announcements from the Chair:
 - a) Hello GAP! I hope everyone had a restful Spring break!
 - b) I wanted to offer my congratulations to VC Varela for winning the runoff election, and I know we haven't seen the last of Senator Benwick in senate!
 - c) Welcome to our guests
 - d) Big day! We are adopting our Advocacy Agenda Resolutions today, and discussing them, to be seen on the floor tonight! The resolutions are introduced by the GAP Committee as a whole, but everyone will have a chance to speak during speech time, on the section/bill they wrote about, by yielding to each other. Example.
 - e) Great work to everyone who worked on research the past months, I know it's been a lot of changing, we even saw a bill die 2 days ago that we removed from our agenda, it may happen before we go to DATC or even while we are there, so we must be on our feet, on the lookout, and prepared for any change!
 - i) Varela: Bill that died was the bill about allowing fire arms on college campuses. Also notable, bill lowering firearm sale age from 21-18 passes the House and is now in the Senate. Likely will pass
 - f) Reminder to those attending DATC, there is a mandatory prep session tomorrow, at 2PM, please make sure you RSVP.
 - g) As always, I am here to help and let me know if you have any questions about anything!
- 5) Announcements from the Vice Chair:
 - a) Hello all! I hope you've had a restful Spring Break.

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- b) As we near DATC, please do not hesitate to reach out to me with questions about legislation or really anything related to Florida politics.
- 6) Announcements from Committee Members:
 - a) LJR Rep: Hi GAP, sorry I couldn't make it today, getting ready to move! Yesterday was a productive day in LJR, we saw 2 internal Bills, 1 Resolution and 1 Special Act. We also retained an additional internal bill for another week in committee. In addition to that we reviewed senate rules 1,2,3 and 7. Lastly, we saw 6 absences all approved by 6/0/1. Have a great meeting.
 - b) Muratov: About DATC, I just registered two bills that gives more clarification that make it clear the reasoning for denial and ability to appeal a decision for DATC admissions. 2nd bill is similar but for all student funded events
- 7) Announcements from Non-Committee Members:
 - a) None
- 8) Old Business:
 - a) Bills:
 - i) None
 - b) Resolutions:
 - i) None
 - c) Proclamations:
 - i) None
- 9) New Business:
 - a) Bills:
 - i) None
 - b) Resolutions: 9/0/1 S/Q/D 5/5/5
 - i) [Resolution 56-23](#) [Resolution Addressing Florida Legislation that Affects the UCF Student Body's Education] [The GAP Committee] (ADOPTED IN COMMITTEE 9-0-1)
 - (1) Speech: Johnson & Vasquez
 - (a) This first part is for HB 78 requires a mentorship program for Bright Futures, we should advocate for this, according to UCF Fact Sheet our FTIC receive 100% BF. Having students be aware of this process would provide more students who can achieve 100%.
 - (b) Vasquez: Based on data from survey, the bills I have written about, SB244/HB855, Post Secondary Education aims to prohibit undocumented students from applying or attending higher education locations as well as

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receiving financial aid. Specifically targets Florida Schools by eliminating out of state fee waiver which already has limiting requirements. The next bills are SB1710 (Prohibitions on DEI on Medical Institutions) aims to prohibit states from receiving funds for medical institutions by defining DEI, impacting our UCF College of Medicine and its active DEI initiatives. COM students hail from over 20 different countries.

(2) Questioning:

- (a) Wilson: HB731, committee substitute version that was approved and renames the bill as Standardized Testing nomenclature and removes any mention of DEI, implements standardized testing system for admission to medical school in the state.
- (b) Green: To Wilson. The standardized test, separate from MCAT?
 - (i) Yes, brought up in committee.
- (c) Varela: Would that mean a student in another state would have to take different tests if they sought admission to Florida med schools?

Wilson: I'd have to get back to you, its a relatively new change.

 - (i) Carmody: If this bill was to pass, there would be a conflict as to what tests can be used for admission to Florida med schools. I would rate 731 + Senate as low on chances of passing, still can speak on it, but advocate for students and preventing disadvantages. 855, Postsecondary education, that bill has not moved and I don't expect them to move but a lot can change before DATC.
 - (ii) Varela; Follow-up: Do you think it would be fair during Congressional meetings that if a bill isn't moving can we ask our representatives to move the language to a moving bill or repackaging for the next session? For example the BF 167 bill.
 - 1. Since that's not moving in chambers, it is appropriate to ask in your meetings and to point to the values in bills that are stuck. As you're viewing any of the bills, I would also point out the difference between industry/sector issues and political issues. For example, we're the higher education and bleed into k-12 space and workforce space. Political issues can be organized on liberal/conservative bend or democrat/republican bend and those are difficult to make changes in people's belief or opinions.
 - (iii) Greene: Going back to standardized test, would that be an additional cost?

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1. Great question, it's not addressed but I would assume someone would have to pay the cost, I would tie that back to students and ask who pays for this additional cost? Is the state going to help cover the costs? Ask how these changes or unanswered questions affect those COM students.
- (3) Debate:
 - (a) Brawley: All these look great, one of FSA's priorities.
- (4) Vote: 7/0/3
- ii) [Resolution 56-24](#) [Resolution Addressing Florida Legislation that Affects the UCF Student Body's Healthcare] [The GAP Committee] (ADOPTED IN COMMITTEE 9-0-1)
 - (1) Speech:
 - (a) Greene/Chauhan: Healthcare was highly voted on in the legislative priority survey. SB 288 seeks to revise Florida's abortion law by changing Florida's abortion definition by replacing the word imminently with shortly in the viability of a fetus. Greene: I wanted to add that the reduction of 2 physicians having to sign off on abortion is still tough because it needs to be. A physician and not a PA. The bills I was working on had the main purpose of decreasing disparities in access to mental health care for communities of color. Certain minority groups are more exposed to certain conditions (sickle cell) and also includes mental health and substance abuse care. I figured that since UCF is designated as a HSI with over half of our student body identifying with a racial group as non-white.
 - (2) Questioning:
 - (a) None
 - (3) Debate:
 - (a) Reed: Well researched and well written. No need to vote in negation. MTV
 - (4) Vote: 9-0-1 PASSED
- iii) [Resolution 56-25](#) [Resolution Addressing Florida Legislation that Affects the UCF Student Body's Civil Liberties] [The GAP Committee] (ADOPTED IN COMMITTEE 9-0-1)
 - (1) Speech:
 - (a) Candiloro: In terms of firearm legislation, the minimum age for firearm purchase or transfer, bill aims to reduce minimum age for purchase/transfer from 21 to 18, allowing 18 and up to purchase firearms from gun shows and more. Allowing firearms to be easily available to younger adults, like the UCF student population, is dangerous as there is data that shows higher rates of injury, homicide, and suicide amongst younger adults.

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- (b) Reed: I will be going over SB100, Display of Flags by Governmental Entities, prohibits the display of flags on any government entities, local government agencies, schools, public universities and colleges, and attempts to cause “political neutrality” but prohibits any mention of race, gender, sexuality, or any flag that can be viewed as political, including LGBTQ Pride Flags, BLM flags, and infringes on UCFs right to display these flags.
- (c) Corelli: Florida Statute changes to repeal Florida Legislation line that prohibits same-sex language. Obergefell v. Hodgens supersedes this language, but is more symbolic in protecting our LGBTQ students and community.

(2) Questioning:

- (a) Varela: Fine’s college campus firearm bill?
 - (i) I do not believe it is coming back.
 - (ii)
- (b) Greene: TO corelli that current law is a trigger law?
- (c) Lazo: I can speak on this. That law is currently superseded by SCOTUS so it won’t take affect unless Obergefell is overturned so this bill would be getting rid of that pre-emptively
- (d) Brawley: For SB100, I know that in Florida that student fees cannot be touched, will this bill affect what students can do with those fees for flags?
 - (i) Carmody: I would need to look at the bill language to see if it applies.
 - (ii) Kylee: There is verbage that says it would apply.
- (e) Polera: Two if I may, at the bottom it mentions only certain representatives, what is the reasoning?
 - (i) Vasquez: We can add more in Senate.
- (f) Polera: Who sends out the resolution?
 - (i) The GAP Committee or the author of the bill.
- (g) Greene: Follow-up on Brawley’s question, would that affect what groups we fund?
 - (i) Reed: Since it directly relates to flags, no.
 - (ii) Varela: Unless they wanted us to pay for a flag that includes their symbol or anything DEI, no.
- (h) Varela: What constitutes as a flag?
 - (i) Wilson: I interpret it that way, there’s no specific mention or definition, but I defer to Carmody.
- (i) Brawley: Whereas clause about UCF, is it UCF or UCF SG?
 - (i) Reed: Made that distinction.

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(3) Debate:

(a) Reed: Motion to see my amendment as a friendly.

(i) Vasquez: I will see those as technicals.

(b) Varela: As for the whereas clauses, it would be smart to send the in person advocacy agenda in case anything changes by the time we get there.

(4) Vote: 9/0/1

c) Proclamations

i)

d) Day at the Capitol:

i) [Advocacy Agenda Breakdown](#): Briefs, Resolutions, and Bill Links.

ii) [UCF SG Legislative Brief Template.docx](#)

iii) [DATC Summary Presentation](#)

(1) For new GAP members, please check this out ^

10) Member Discussion:

Example of 2024 Resolutions Written:

[Civil Rights Legislative Priority.docx](#)

[Education Legislative Priority.docx](#)

[Environmental Concerns Legislative Priority.docx](#)

[Public Welfare Legislative Priority.docx](#)

Miscellaneous Business:

a) SBA Donation Drive: Give Some, Get Some: Strength in Diversity

i) TOMORROW! Friday, March 28th 11AM-3PM

ii) SU Patio

iii) Knightro Appearance, DJ, food, tabling!

iv) Collecting clothing, non-perishable food items, and monetary donations in the office! Please consider donating or helping/attending the event!

b) Ice Breaker:

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11) Final Roll Call Quorum (6): /12

12) Adjournment 6:07PM

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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