



# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government  
LJR Committee Meeting  
Charge on Chamber  
03/05/2024  
1:00 PM

## MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 1:01 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 7/7 (4)

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Courts	sga_ljr@ucf.edu	P	
Vice Chair Gaudio	sgaecs9@ucf.edu	P	
Senator Naguib	sgachps4@ucf.edu	P	
Senator Benwick	sga_sci7@ucf.edu	P	
Senator Trejo-Hernandez	sga_ecs1@ucf.edu	P	
Senator Jolicoeur	sga_ba5@ucf.edu	P	
ELA Richmond	sgaela@ucf.edu	E	
Pro Tempore Representative Collazo	sga_dleg@ucf.edu	P	

3. Approval of the Minutes: [02.26.25](#) **Approved by GC**
4. Approval of the Agenda: **Approved by GC**
5. Announcements from the Chair Courts-
  - i. Hey guys!! I hope your week has been well, and I hope we are all ready to get to work

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and disciplinary proceedings so if anyone wants to help out with that, feel free to reach out to either of us.

7. Announcements from Committee Members-

- i. LJR (GAP) Rep: Good afternoon LJR, last week we saw 3 Resolutions that we ended up seeing on the Senate floor the same night, and we continued to work on DATC Legislative Research, we should be voting on topics/legislation to officially take this week. That is all, thank you!
- ii. LJR (E&A) Rep: We went over an apportionment model that was pretty unpopular so probably won't be used, along with 2 justice confirmations but they were not there.
- iii. LJR (SBA) Rep: SBA finished their update to Senate Rule 2 clarifying their purpose and duties, as well as seeing two proclamations.
- iv. DLEG Collazo: Hello, I am receiving a lot of internal legislation which has been great, I am remanding and reviewing it. Chair Courts receives an email prior to the meeting if she will be seeing any legislation, to provide a bit more insight into the E&A committee, we were supposed to see two Justice confirmations of which neither showed up. When the Pro Tempore was informed, she spoke to the Senate President who said that they had changed their minds. When asked why that was not communicated, the decision had been made last week. While I am not sure why this was not communicated to the committee and we are looking into why this was not communicated, as there was a lot of uncertainty when we found out that the justices were in the office but not in the committee.
  1. Benwick: Weren't both Justices incumbent?
    - i. Collazo: Correct, they were attempting to move seats to try and shift around term limits. I assume that discussion with Senate leadership is why it was dropped, however it was not communicated with the E&A committee.

8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members-

- i. Kapinos: Banquet for SGLC is coming up, you all are welcome to attend! We have our Disney Springs coming up as well this Saturday.

9. Old Business-

- i. Bills
  1. None.
- ii. Resolutions
  1. None.
- iii. Absences
  1. None
- iv. Blanket Excuse
  1. None.

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## 10. New Business- S-Q-D: 5-5-5

### i. Bills

#### 1. [Internal Bill 56-37](#) [Updates to Title III: General Updates and Revisions] [LJR Committee]

##### i. Speech

i. Courts: This is what we discussed in committee prior to the censure process. I have officially submitted this bill, the only changes that have really been made are for the Sergeant-at-Arms by moving it under the Senate President due to it being their job to maintain decorum in Senate meetings. There have been questions raised because it was placed as a “check” by the Pro Tempore against the Speaker. We have also changed it from elections & appointments for committees to just appointments as it makes the process more expedient. We also made it so that the LJR & E&A committees also submit their minutes to the Attorney General as much of their business pertains to legislation. I yield to Senator Benwick.

ii. Benwick: This was discussed when we first went over this bill in committee, it expands the number of committees a Senator may sit on, however it restricts them to two internal or two fiscal committees as Vice Chair Gaudio raised a concern that I saw as valid where one Senator would have an outsized impact on one area of the Senate’s proceedings, as well as encouraging Senators to bring internal knowledge into fiscal committees and vice versa.

##### ii. Questioning

i. Trejo-Hernandez: MTD

##### iii. Debate

i. Courts: Motion to see my amendments.

##### i. Speech

1. Courts: This is just removing the B subsection where it states where the duties of the Legislative Assistant are given, as the stated section is immediately under this section and is redundant.

##### ii. Questioning

1. Benwick: MTD

##### iii. Debate

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1. Benwick: This amendment makes everything very concise and less confusing. MTV
- iv. Voting
  1. 5-0-2
- ii. Benwick: On the floor, do we have to abstain on the bill?
- iii. Courts: No
- iv. Collazo: Move to see my amendments.
  - i. Speech:
    1. Collazo: For conciseness, I believe this should be one sentence rather than two.
  - ii. Questioning:
    1. Courts; I understand wanting to be concise, but the way it reads makes it sounds like they could be on four committees. Could you please elaborate?
      - a. Collazo: I do see that concern, however my concern is conciseness as it repeats the same thing twice and I believe there is a better way of wording it.
    2. Benwick: Shouldn't it be "or" instead of "and"?
    3. Courts: Will you see my amendment as a friendly?
      - a. Collazo: Yes.
    4. Trejo-Hernandez- MTD
  - iii. Debate:
    1. Benwick: We love conciseness.
    2. Benwick: Does the current wording not only make it sound like they can sit on fiscal or internal, not both?
    3. Collazo: No, this is a subclause of the clause acting as clarification
    4. Benwick: MTV
  - iv. Voting
    1. 6-0-1, amendments pass
  - v. Benwick: MTV
  - iv. Vote
    - i. 5-0-2, bill passes on First Reading
  2. [Internal Bill 56-38](#) [Updates to Title III] [Chair Vasquez]

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i. Speech

- i. Vazquez: If you look at the bill without the present amendments, since I have been chair of GAP, we have had a spot for the Government Affairs Coordinator. However, when I went through Statutes, this did not actually exist, and so I thought it courteous to include the DATC Coordinator in GAP. I wrote it so that the DATC Coordinator may have full debating rights on all business pertaining to DATC as well as include the Student Body President as while the current cabinet has a Government Affairs Coordinator, there is no requirement to have this Coordinator, and so the Student Body President would be able to fill this slot.

ii. Questioning

- i. Gaudio: You mentioned that Statutorily it falls under the Student Body President which it does, but it says that the President shall designate. GAC is not statutorily defined, so why the distinction?
- i. Courts: POI, DATC Coordinator is defined. Can give question to Vasquez but what she is saying is that that that is how the bill was originally written.

1. Vasquez: Chair Courts is correct.

- ii. Collazo: Why make them a debating member rather than an ex-officio member?

- i. Vazquez: In statutes, it says that their responsibility is to collaborate with GAP, so I believe they should have the ability to speak, I do not think they should have the ability to vote though.

- iii. Collazo: Does the Coordinator not do that now?

- i. Vazquez: It is not statutorily required that they even attend. They have been in and out, but GAP members did not find out about applications opening until the rest of the student body found out. Sometimes the GAC gives me courtesy of knowing they won't be attending, but it can be troublesome if committee members have questions.

- iv. Gaudio: You mentioned that GAP members didn't find out about the applications until everyone else did, why do you think that they should be finding out before everyone else?

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- i. Vazquez: I didn't say that they should be, I was the one to make the announcement that they were opening and I do think they should be giving updates regarding elements of planning so we know they're doing their jobs.
  - v. Collazo: Why not just mandate that Coordinator to give announcements during GAP rather than debating rights?
    - i. Vazquez: I would be in favor of mandating announcements, could you clarify your question further?
    - ii. Collazo: Instead of mandating that they attend, why not mandate that they give announcements?
    - iii. Vazquez: I would be in favor of mandating they both be given announcements and debate on the matters.
  - vi. Benwick: Just answering the Vice Chair's question from my perspective, if the committee as a whole is doing all the research, they owe us the courtesy of knowing when the applications open rather than coming from the Chair.
  - vii. Collazo: MTD
- iii. Debate
  - i. Benwick: Motion to see all amendments as a block.
    - i. Speech
      - 1. Gaudio: I disagree that the coordinator should only given debating rights and not voting rights. My example is the Supervisor of elections, who has voting rights on things related to SG elections. I also added the part for DATC or their designee because SBP, DATC coordinator, or designee is redundant.
    - ii. Questioning
      - 1. None. MTD
    - iii. Debate:
      - 1. Benwick: I will be voting in negation
      - 2. Collazo: I will be voting in negation in the amendments. I don't think anyone outside of senate should have voting rights, even the supervisor of elections. Based on the conversations I think that it

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would be more efficient to make these positions ex-officio seats. I think that we are giving Non senators our jobs.

3. Vasquez: SBP can delegate it to whomever but it is their jurisdiction, I feel like for cohesion the bill should stay as it stands. DATC coordinator's job isn't to delegate. Also i disagree with giving voting rights because statutes and rules say that it is GAP's job to pass the agenda. I don't think they should have any say over what we take to DATC.

iv. Vote: 1-5-1

- ii. Benwick: Being the GAP representative, it has opened my eyes to what is expected of the executive members and their responsibilities. It is frustrating whenever the GAC is not there and my experience is not necessarily the most positive, but I do think them being there would alleviate many of the tensions.
- iii. Collazo: I will not be voting in favor, as I said I do not agree that Non legislators should have legislative responsibilities, but I would be in favor of an ex-officio seat for them to speak. I think that it is more appropriate that they are not mandated to attend. While we see a problem, we must keep in mind they are not Senators. They do not have to be here. Granting an ex-officio seat would allow them to attend if they so desire, and not showing up would make them look poorly. While I agree with the core idea, I think it should be in a different way, as I am not in favor of granting legislative duties to non-legislators.
- iv. Gaudio: Seeing as the amendments have failed, I will be voting in negation as I now see this bill as a sort of half-measure. I believe that Collazo worded it very well, and I just think that we should be either going all the way or leaving it as it is.

v. Joliceour: MTV

iv. Vote:

- i. 2-4-1, this bill is not recommended by LJR.

ii. Resolutions

1. [Resolution 56-16](#) [Updates to Senate Rule 4: Caucus Report Update] [Vice Chair Gaudio]

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i. Speech

- i. Gaudio: This is an adjustment to the agenda of the senate, seeing as we now have a lot of ad hoc caucuses, they are on track to becoming permanent caucuses, since they are no longer under senate, i dont think that each individual caucus should be allotted 5 minutes of speaking time, meetings have been going on too long, now that we have caucus leadership committee, they can speak on behalf of the caucuses, they can give speeches that is pertinent to the senate. They have a chance to talk about what is going on, and it will take up less time.

ii. Questioning

- i. Courts: You are attempting to enact this resolution, this session, when the caucus leadership committee, will not start until next session?
  - i. Hameed: You could just write it to say that it passes in conjunction with the other bill.
  - ii. Collazo: writing it in conjunction with ICTC caucus bill, and 56-22
- ii. Jolicoeur: What if the caucuses do want to speak?
  - i. Gaudio: Under current senate rules, you may yield for someone to speak.

iii. Debate

- i. Courts: Seeing some amendments as technicals
- ii. Collazo: Upon enacted, not upon conjunction
- iii. Benwick: MT See VC Gaudio's amendments
- iv. Speech:
  - i. Gaudio: Consulted with DLEG, advised to make this amendment.
- v. Questioning: None
- vi. Debate:
  - i. Collazo: My original suggestion was is if this is so far behind, the other bills will probably be enacted once this is passed and signed, but no harm to add this.
- vii. Vote: 6/0/1 Amendments Passed Committee
- viii. Collazo: See my amendments
- ix. Speech:

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- i. Collazo: In this instance, i think it is better if caucus committee chair give announcements, i think caucus chairs should reserve their right to give their respective announcements, removing it will not force them to give announcements if they do not have any.
  - x. Questioning: None
  - xi. Debate:
    - i. Gaudio: These changes are cleaner than what the bill originally had.
  - xii. Vote: 6/0/2 Amendments Pass
- iv. Vote
  - i. **6-0-1 Resolution Passes First Reading**
- 2. [Resolution 56-17](#) [Updates to Senate Rule 2: Duties and Responsibilities of the GAP Committee] [Chair Vasquez]
  - i. Speech
    - i. This changes the 60 day timeline to a 10 academic day timeline to allow the committee to make more informed decisions on the advocacy agenda and what policies are seen on it. The reason this was made is because for example right now, the GAP committee could be held in noncompliance for not meeting the 60 day timeline. This decision was made because we could not meet this timeline due to the election moving the month in which DATC takes place. Because of this, we were unable to do research over during the fall semester winter break as we could last year. The legislative priorities survey had not been published until after winter break, and I did not feel comfortable advocating for issues which may be ill-informed. An expanded timeline gives us more time to schedule and aligns more with the actual Florida session timeline in terms of when their deadline is to submit legislation. This year's session started yesterday, and the deadline to submit was on Monday. I believe that we should not be writing agendas until that deadline has passed and all legislation is submitted.
  - ii. Questioning
    - i. Collazo: Would you be more inclined towards 20 days?
      - i. Vazquez: No, as these are academic days.

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- ii. Collazo: Doesn't the session start on different days every year?
  - i. Vazquez: They do, but this ensures that your timeline will always be after the deadline to submit legislation. I did consider changing it to be dependent on the Florida submission deadline, however that makes it less clear compared to a hard, informed deadline.
- iii. Collazo: MTD
- iii. Debate
  - i. Collazo: I think that my worry is that it says "introduce," and so based on our timelines, I do not know if 10 academic days is sufficient for it to go through Senate.
  - ii. Vazquez: Ten academic days is exactly enough time to go through the Senate, for instance this year we would have until the 25<sup>th</sup> of March to submit.
  - iii. Collazo: Resolutions require three readings, so I don't know if this would still be in timeline.
  - iv. Courts: If the resolution is being introduced in GAP, it will be seen the same day as Senate meets due to GAP meeting Thursdays at 5PM. Even if it were not, ten days would be exactly enough time to pass through.
  - v. Collazo: But what about the signatory process? It must also be signed by the Senate President and Pro Tempore. While this could be done, the precedent that's set could cause issues. I am leaning towards fifteen (15) academic days. You don't know what could happen, such as the Senate President not being available, and so we should prepare for anything.
  - vi. Vazquez: In the past, we have moved to see the Resolutions on second and third reading in the same night.
  - vii. Collazo: Move to see my amendments.
    - i. Speech
      - 1. Collazo: I am more comfortable with amending it to fifteen (15) days. It also gives the Senate more time to review the legislative priorities rather than having to speed through it and trust GAP. While we do trust GAP, there should still be that time for more conversations to be held.

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- ii. Questioning:
  - 1. Benwick: MTD
- iii. Speech:
  - 1. Benwick: I do agree with the fifteen day timeline, while ten is sufficient for this year, I do foresee that future sessions may not be as time-efficient and that they should not have to go through that process in the future when we could address it now.
  - 2. Vazquez: If this were to be enacted now, we would have to introduce our legislation before spring break. While this wouldn't actually affect us due to time to enact, I do want to put this point across.
  - 3. Collazo: I think it's also good to consider that the current session started just this week, but the next session will start in January. I think that fifteen is still sufficient.
  - 4. Joliceour: MTV
- iv. Voting
  - 1. 6-0-1, these amendments pass in committee.
- viii. Benwick: MTV
- iv. Vote
  - i. 6-0-1, this resolution passes in committee.
- iii. Absences ([Supporting Documentation](#)):
  - 1. Tyler Borges
    - i. Speech
      - i. I have to work at 5:30 AM Friday and need more than 4 hours of sleep. I'm not supposed to work Fridays that early, but yet again, the person who works those shifts has called out. To get the needed 8 hours of sleep, I'd have to leave latest 8:30 PM, but I plan to leave around 9 since I have a bill I need to present.
    - ii. Questioning
      - i. Benwick: MTD
    - iii. Debate
      - i. Benwick: I will be voting in favor, but would like to note this is the second time we have seen an absence of this nature from Senator Borges.

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- ii. Collazo: MTV
  - iv. Vote
    - i. 6-0-1
- 2. Haleema Al-Qudah
  - i. Speech
    - i. Good afternoon LJR Committee, I am kindly requesting an excusal for final roll call on the Senate meeting of 2/20. This was the day of my mother's birthday and I wanted to ensure I was able to celebrate with her at a reasonable hour, so I was not present for final roll call. I do not have my own vehicle, so my parents drove up to pick me up and we went to dinner. These were plans that were previously arranged and out of my control. During this meeting, was also a censure hearing that was very hard for me and even if it was not my mother's birthday, I think I would have found it most appropriate to recuse myself because I was going through a lot that week and probably would not have had the capacity to continue on. The hearing during Senate took a toll on me in and of itself, and so I am requesting that my half absence is excused due to the above aforementioned circumstances. Thank you kindly for your consideration.
  - ii. Questioning
    - i. Collazo: MTD
  - iii. Debate
    - i. Gaudio: I will be voting in negation on this absence, as there are two reasons that have really been given. The first is of her mother's birthday, which we have already seen an absence request this semester for a birthday which we denied, and so there is precedent to deny on that reason. As for the other reason that being the duress of the censure process, I believe that it is our role and duty and responsibility to be able to go through these processes and while I understand the toll they can take, I do not think that it is an excuse to get out of other responsibilities.
    - ii. Collazo: MTV
  - iv. Vote
    - i. 0-5-2, this absence does not pass LJR
- 3. Amanda Lazo

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- i. Speech
      - i. I have my flight for my teaching in Costa Rica at 2:41 PM at MCO and will not be able to attend Senate.
    - ii. Questioning
      - i. Neguib: MTD
    - iii. Debate
      - i. Collazo: I will be voting in favor, MTV
    - iv. Vote
      - i. 6-0-1
  - iv. Blanket Excuse
    - 1. None.
  - 11. Miscellaneous Business-
    - i. None
  - 12. Member Discussion- MTIF: **Approved by GC**
    - i. Statutes and Rules
      - 1. Title IX
        - i. [Non-Compliances](#)
          - i. When introduced, remember to address formatting
        - ii. [Censures](#)
          - i. Specify when evidence should be submitted, evidence sent to LJR must match evidence the Senate floor sees, if new substantial evidence comes to light then LJR should rehear the censure. Conversation will be continued in later meetings.
          - ii. Splitting LJR and Senate procedure into two chapters is good, leave as-is
      - 2. [Title X, XI, XII](#)
    - ii. MTF: **Approved by GC**
13. Final Roll Call: 7/7 (4)
14. Adjournment: 2:24 PM

Key:

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

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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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**Chair Courts: [sga\\_ljr@ucf.edu](mailto:sga_ljr@ucf.edu)**