

MEETING AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order: 1:00 PM
- 2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 6/7 (4)

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Courts	sga_ljr@ucf.edu	Р	Р
Vice Chair Gaudio	sgaecs9@ucf.edu	Р	Р
Senator Naguib	sgachps4@ucf.edu	Р	Р
Senator Trejo-Hernandez	sga_ecs1@ucf.edu	Р	Р
Senator Jolicoeur	sga_ba5@ucf.edu	Р	Р
ELA Richmond	sgaela@ucf.edu	Е	Е
Senator Escobar	sgachps3@ucf.edu	Р	Е
Pro Tempore Representative Collazo	sga_dleg@ucf.edu	Е	Е

- 3. Approval of the Minutes: <u>03.26.25</u> Approved by GC
- 4. Approval of the Agenda: Approved by GC
- 5. Open Forum
 - i. Senator Greene: Good afternoon members of the LJR committee. I speak to voice my concerns regarding internal bill 56-52. I fear that this legislation will inadvertently stifle free and open discussion regarding the merits of a no confidence vote on the Senate floor. Furthermore, I am concerned that this bill means to force accountability of leadership at the cost of disempowering individual senators. While I agree with the author that it is the responsibility of the senate to hold our elected and appointed leaders accountable, it should not nullify any contesting of a no confidence motion as that decision should ultimately rest with the body.



- Chair Vazquez: I wanted to touch on the legislation that Senator Muratov wrote, as they would impact the work of the GAP Committee. I wanted to speak in favor of these bills, I am looking forward to the LJR Committee's thoughts on them and making slight improvements.
- 6. Announcements from the Chair Courts
 - i. Hello LJR! Today we will be seeing 3 internal bills, 9 absences, and checking over the rest of the Senate Rules. Our GAP Rep position is open if anybody is interested in being nominated for that.
 - ii. Final meetings and transition binder
- 7. Announcements from the Vice Chair
 - i. None.
- 8. Announcements from Committee Members
 - i. LJR (GAP) Rep: None.
 - ii. LJR (E&A) Rep: Saw two bills this morning
 - iii. LJR (SBA) Rep: A couple proclamations, no news to speak of beyond that. Donation drive went well!
 - iv. Escobar: I am interested in becoming the GAP Representative.
- 9. Announcements from Non-Committee Members
 - i. None.
- 10. Old Business
 - i. Bills
 - 1. None
 - ii. Resolutions
 - 1. None.
 - iii. Absences
 - 1. None
 - iv. Blanket Excuse
 - 1. None.
- 11. New Business
 - a. Bills S-Q-D: 5-5-5
 - i. <u>Internal Bill 56-52</u> [Updates to Title III: Unobjectionable Vote of No Confidence] [CRT Chair Caringal]
 - 1. Speech
 - a. Courts: In regards to the no confidence in Title III, provision to change to negate any abuse that could occur



- b. Caringal: The reason I wanted to introduce this bill to begin with was to avoid the solution for someone being able to bring up evidence but everyone else not wanting to see that evidence. I think a no confidence should be seen no matter what and should be called under good faith, hence the 3 month counter is in place. I am amendable to the requiring a second or third to the motion, as it would be a quick addition to the Senate Rules. Even if other motions require a second, I think it would be a fine.
- 2. Questioning

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- a. Escobar: For section 1, would this apply to any other punitive measure?
 - i. Courts: The way it is measure, it would make it so you could only move for ANY motion of no confidence one every 3 months.
 - ii. Escobar: Do we have anything similar for any other actions?
 - iii. Courts: We do not simply because the no confidence procedure is one that is wholly internal to the Senate and specific in itself.
- b. Jolicoeur: Is this saying that a Senator can send a motion for a vote of no confidence once every 3 months, or can the Senate Body only see one motion every 3 months.
 - i. Courts: The second.
- c. Escobar: Say this were to pass and a vote of no confidence were to happen. The officer is removed, and a new officer is instated who we also have no confidence. We would not be able to move for that?
 - i. Courts: We would not.
- d. Escobar: For the unobjectionable motion, do we have that for any other motion?
 - i. Brodie: Not that I know of.
- e. Jolicoquer: MTD
- 3. Debate
 - a. Gaudio: I think this measure is suboptimal, the whole point behind being able to object to a motion is the body clearly does not want to see it. Any member of the Senate can move for a vote of no



confidence and they have the right to do so, however that also opens up a potential lane of abuse where someone could move for it when very clearly nobody wants it, as is their right. The point of the objection is the floor canc ome forward and say they do not want to move forward with that process, as is THEIR right. Removing that avenue would effectively lock us into a motion that we may not even want to go forward with. This is nothing to even say of the 3 month requirement, because as was voiced during questioning, what if we elect a new officer that we also have no confidence in? I just believe that overall this measure is poorly thought out, poorly written, and should not be passed.

- b. Courts: Motion to see my amendments.
 - i. Speech
 - 1. Courts: This would help to clarify language, and the provision for a motion of no confidence is specified to three calendar months. This would change it so that an individual may only have a motion against them once every three months.
 - ii. Questioning
 - 1. Escobar: MTD
 - iii. Debate
 - 1. Jolicoeur: MTV
 - iv. Vote
 - 1. 5-0-1
- c. Gaudio: I still don't like this bill because let's say a vote of no confidence is moved against the Speaker in January. If this vote were to not pass, the Speaker would have no incentive to actually do their job for the next three months because a motion of no confidence failed and so another motion cannot be made against them, so I still see this as attacking a problem that doesn't exist and generating new problems in its place.
- d. Escobar: To that point, I'm not in favor of the bill but as for teh Senate President, they would still be removable if neglecting their duties.
- e. Jolicoeur: I am not in favor of this bill either, for one limiting us as a Senate body to have that motion once every three months is



essentially opening us up to a very neglectful officership. A vote of no confidence is one of the best ways we have to enforce checks and balances on other members of the Senate body and limiting it to only once every 3 months essentially says we can only enforce that four times a year, which sounds suboptimal to put it nicely. Even if that were removed, the entire body of this bill would be one sentence that being the motion is unobjectable. I am not opposed to hearing out making it unobjectable, but that would have to be a conversation for another day. I am strongly opposed to this bill.

- f. Courts: For the first time I shall speak in debate in LJR, I want to make sure there is no confusion. So we have adjusted the language to where it is instead every three months for that person, so it would only be limited for that specific person. I don't think we would be doing that, but to speak on this bill, I think that my mindset is moreso whenever I see someone object to a motion of no confidence, to me it inherently feels like a conflict of interest. Even in the "hypothetical" mentioned earlier, all the objections were due to that person being treated nicely. I do not think that is a fair statement.
- g. Escobar: After that clarification, it makes sense for an individual to only be no confidence once every three months and there are other actions that could be taken, for the unobjectable motion that also makes sense as LJR must also hear impeachments and cannot just not see a censure. I feel as though it should be heard out, and the Senator can still vote for the reasoning.
- h. Gaudio: While an argument has been made that other disciplinary proceedings cannot just not be seen, if there is a procedural problem with them, which has happened in the past such as censures being filed for invalid reason, there are methods by which those processes can be invalidated, namely by the Attorney General. There are checks on these other processes to ensure that spurious motions are not being made and that accountability can be continually enforced. I raise another hypothetical, say a vote of no confidence is made and the person is not removed. However, two weeks later, something comes to light that the person did which would very much deserve them being removed. There is nothing that could be done under this.



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As for an not being able to object, again, if something is clearly unpopular, then the Senate should reserve the right to not see it because that is the check and balance on that procedure.

- i. Brodie: This is a bit tangential, but a lot of these things might be solved if you just removed the requirement to second a motion in the Senate Rules.
- j. Jolicoeur: This is more of a procedural question, if a Senator motioned for a vote of no confidence, would it then immediately be seen?
 - i. Courts: No, you hear the motion and it is voted on in the next Senate or committee meeting. What happens is there is speech time, questioning, debate, and then we vote.
 - ii. Jolicoeur: I am willing to hear this out more, I may be voting in favor of it now and we can adjust it later for the reason that we stated earlier. I think it makes sense if it is only for one individual every three months, as if in the hypothetical that someone has a vendetta against another member, without this in place, they could absolutely abuse that and constantly be trying to make that motion.
 - iii. Trejo-Hernandez: Having gone through a no confidence, I think it should be objectionable due to the extreme length of time which it requires, as an entire Senate meeting was taken for just that motion. I feel like the objection is our check on whether that motion has any sort of substance to it, because for the hypothetical no confidence vote, a lot of Senators were asking the question of "why is this happening?" Many would only be hearing of this for the first time, and so this serves as a way for them to catch up to speed.
 - iv. Jolicoeur: To add on, could we rework this so it is not objectionable but we could have a vote on the motion whether to see the vote of no confidence at a later date?
 - v. Gaudio: Motion to PPI this measure.
 - vi. Trejo-Hernandez: I object.
 - 1. Gaudio: I beleive that this motion should be PPI'd because we have been talking about this for a long



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time and it would need to be an update to senate rules. If it is this contentious in committee, it's going to take way more time in committee when we as a committee could be finding alternative solutions to address the concerns

- 2. Trejo-Hernandez: I believe that changes could be made and that any changes would have to be in the new session, so I say let it be seen and if the whole floor does not agree with it then we motion to PPI it on the floor or deny it.
- 3. Jolicoeur: The way I see it, if we do send it on to the Senate floor its just going to be more of the same, and it will just be remanded again so I think we should either shoot it down now or push it forward. I will be voting with the objection.
- 4. Naguib: I agree with Senator Jolicoeur's statements, I think that it should just be fixed and looked at so that we can move forward with this.
- 5. Gaudio: Addressing the idea that it should be fixed, committee is the place to fix it.
- 6. Vote: 3-1-1, motion does not stand.
- vii. Courts: MTIF
- viii. Courts: MTF
- ix. Gaudio: Move to postpone until the next regularly scheduled LJR meeting. Approved by GC
- 4. Vote
- ii. Internal Bill 56-55 [Updates to Title IV] [Senator Muratov]
 - 1. Speech
 - a. This bill is addressing the issues that arised recently in the GAP Committee that Chair Vazquez has mentioned on the Senate floor. Long story short, a lot of people in the GAP Committee that submitted applications to DATC got denied without being given a reasoning, I believe that this is not fair especially that without proper measures to appeal as many of the candidates were qualified. With that, this bill is proposing that they publish clear eligibility criteria and provide notice of denial to all denied applicants. It also



UCF Student Government LJR Committee Meeting Charge on Chamber 04/02/2024 1:00 PM

establishes an appeal process for denial to the Student Body President or Senate committees.

2. Questioning

LEGISLATIVE

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- a. Courts: When you say an appeals process for allowing denied applicants to petition, what would that look like?
 - i. Muratov: Documents submitted to the person in charge of deciding who would be admitted.
 - ii. Courts: How would this work if the bus was full?
 - iii. Muratov: That would be a reason for denial.
 - b. Escobar: Section 3 states "a Senate-designated committee." What would that look like, and when it comes to appeals, usually judicial handles appellate procedures outside Senate, and LJR handles them within Senate. Could Judicial also see this appeals process or possibly just petitioning the Student Body President?
 - i. Muratov: Judicial Branch could be helpful but since final decision is reserved in Executive Branh I think that should be retained there.
- 3. Debate
 - a. Naguib: I am in favor of this bill, I think it is very important due to what happened.
 - b. Escobar: I agree strongly with the previous statements, this bill is not particularly controversial by adding onto the process that is already stated. As a previous member of GAP, there was a lot of struggle in how DATC would be planned this year, and this better outlines that process and provides transparency without having to take additional action.
 - c. Gaudio: Motion to see my amendments.
 - i. Speech:
 - So this amendment removes the provision for a Senate-designated committee, I do not believe that this should be incorporated as the planning of the logistics for the Day at the Capitol event is squarely in the hands of the executive and there are a lot of moving parts with regards to that coordination that Senate may not necessarily be aware of when seeing a denial, and I also kind of see it as a



separation of powers problem, and so this addresses this. The actual designation of a committee handling that could also get messy.

- ii. Questioning:
 - 1. Naguib: MTD, approved by GC
- iii. Debate:
 - Escobar: I am in favor of this amendment as teh purpose of a senate-designated committee was not really explained. I also agree with the Vice Chair as it is an executive hosted event and the Student Body President should be petitioned. I could see designee, but the Student Body President could take that upon themselves.
 - 2. Naguib: MTV
- iv. Vote
 - 1. 5-0-1, amendment passes LJR.
- d. Jolicoeur: I think this is a good idea, MTV. Approved by GC
- 4. Vote
 - a. 4-1-1, bill passes LJR favorably
- iii. Internal Bill 56-56 [Updates to Title XII] [Senator Muratov]
 - 1. Speech
 - a. This bill is a continuation of 56-55 to update Title XII. I am proposing a new chapter that states all decisions affecting Student Government events or activities that require an application process & funded by A&SF funds shall be documented in writing and be retained for at least 1 academic year. In my vision, this really helps to futureproof any future events such as DATC. There is also one other event, Downtown Day, which would fall under this. All other events that may be created in the future would also fall under this and I believe this is an ethically correct way of handling denials and approvals, as if you were denied then you ought to know the criteria behind that denial. It is frustrating when you apply for something and get denied with no knowledge on why you were denied.
 - 2. Questioning
 - a. Trejo-Hernandez: Isn't Sunshine Law supposed to be Student Government Transparency?



- i. Courts: I'll see that as a technical.
- b. Gaudio: So part of the bill is activities that require an application process and funded by the A&SF wouldn't this also be any RSO?
 - i. Muratov: No, because it is Student Government Events
 - 1. Gaudio: It says or
 - a. Muratov: It should say and
- c. Jolicoquer: MTD
- 3. Debate

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- a. Escobar: I am in favor because Student Government hosted events, which are open to students and paid for by the students, should have applications which are transparent and open to those students.
- b. Trejo-Hernandez: Motion to see the amendments on the bill.
 - Approved by GC
 - i. Speech:
 - 1. Trejo-Hernandez: I believe this clears up the language and removes any potential confusion.
 - ii. Questioning:
 - 1. Naguib: MTD
 - iii. Debate:
 - 1. Naguib: The amendments make this more clear and I will be voting in favor. MTV
 - iv. Vote
 - 1. 5-0-1, amendments pass in LJR
- c. Brodie: Based on the new definition of "Student Government Agents," I think there could be an interpretation that this would apply to all events including CAB or Late Knights.
- d. Gaudio: I will be voting against this internal bill for all of the concerns that have been brought up, I think that it opens an entire can of worms that could bring a lot more trouble than resolving the problem that it seeks to resolve. I believe that the previous legislation that we have already seen addresses that concern enough and that with all of the activities that we handle, this would very quickly become an interpretative and clerical nightmare.
- e. Trejo-Hernandez: We do have to see this today?
- f. Courts: Not necessarily.
- g. Brodie: In theory it would have another week.



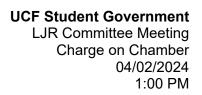
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- h. Escobar: I disagree, it's a Student Government event and the bill doesn't say anything about agencies. If we wanted to we could specify Student Government hosted events.
- Gaudio: With regards to the previous statements that were made, because these agencies and departments are under Student Government and directly overseen hy Student Government, I would argue that these events fall under Student Government hosted.
- j. Courts: If we are seeing problems, we should be coming up with solutions.
- k. Trejo-Hernandez: I feel the solution would be to write a new bill with regards to the new definition of Student Government Agents, but there would be timeline concerns.
- 1. Vazquez: What if it was amended to specify "hosted by the Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches?"
- m. Jolicoquer: I think we should go back and ask what the specific intended goal of this is. I don't think you need to rewrite the bill in its entirety, just make some well thought out specific amendments. I don't think this is a bad idea, it's just complicated in its current wording.
- n. Gaudio: Hearing those previous statements, I believe that as was stated the primary driving force behind this was Day at the Capitol, which the previous legislation already addresses. Downtown Day was also mentioned but it seemed as though it was a bit of an afterthought as "it would also apply to this," and so I think that just we should say this legislation is unfavorable and move on.
- Brodie: I think that, after another reading, "all decisions" would include a decision such as when applications open or when interviews happen, do you want all of those to be appealable? Again, just asking some questions that could lead to better knowledge.
- p. Trejo-Hernandez: Motion to postpone this measure until the next regularly scheduled LJR meeting. Approved by GC
- b. Resolutions
 - i. None.
- c. Absences (Documentation)
 - i. Kieran Connolly



- 1. Speech
 - a. I was on the way to campus from home with my friend and she got a flat tire
- 2. Questioning
 - a. Trejo-Hernandez: MTD, Approved by GC
- 3. Debate
 - a. Naguib: MTV, Approved by GC
- 4. Vote
 - a. 5-0-1, absence is approved by LJR
- ii. Isha Patel
 - 1. Speech
 - a. Lately, I've been feeling a bit mentally drained due to the demands of school and some personal matters, and I realize that in order to continue contributing effectively, I need an evening to step back and recharge. I truly value my role and the work we do, but I also recognize the importance of taking care of my well-being so I can show up as my best self. Thank you for your consideration.
 - 2. Questioning
 - a. Jolicoeur: Is this the first time they have requested this type of absence?
 - i. Courts: Yes
 - b. Escobar: How many absences is this Senator at?
 - i. Courts: We have 2.5 absences for this senator, mental health requests are taken on a case-by-base basis.
 - c. Trejo-Hernandez: MTD, Approved by GC
 - 3. Debate
 - Gaudio: We've seen absences like this before, it's the first time this
 particular Senator has asked for an absence of this nature and so I
 will be voting in favor to maintain the standard we've sort of
 already set.
 - b. Escobar: I understand the need to take mental health breaks, but I have concern with the pattern of absences from this Senator from both the Senate and committee, it has been a continuing issue. I will nonetheless be voting in favor.
 - c. Naguib: MTV, Approved by GC
 - 4. Vote





- a. 5-0-1, absence is approved by LJR
- iii. Danishka Morissette

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- 1. Speech
 - a. I will be working a shift starting at 8am on March 28th at a school across town from UCF. Due to financial reasons, I had to schedule this shift for Friday which I typically don't do in order to stay for the entirety of Senate. The school is 41 minutes away and I will need to leave by 7:00am in order to check in on time and beat traffic. I implore the committee to accept this absence request, as it will help personal matters and is not a consistent behavior of mine to leave early.
- 2. Questioning
 - a. Trejo-Hernandez: MTD, Approved by GC
- 3. Debate
 - a. Jolicoeur: As someone who is starting to face some financial pressure myself, I sympathize with this especially as a first-time offense. I will be voting in favor as sometimes these things are out of your control.
 - b. Trejo-Hernandez: MTV, Approved by GC
- 4. Vote
 - a. 5-0-1, absence is approved by LJR
- iv. Ella Widerburg
 - 1. Speech
 - a. Hello! I unfortunately had to miss the senate meeting last week due to still recovering from a medical procedure I had the week before. I was still in a lot of pain and it was difficult to sit for long periods of time, so I unfortunately could not be there. I also had an exam moved due to this and I attached the note I was given for that.
 - 2. Questioning
 - a. Escobar: MTD, Approved by GC
 - 3. Debate
 - a. Naguib: It's a medical procedure so we have to be very forgiving, with that MTV. Approved by GC
 - 4. Vote
 - a. 5-0-1, absence is approved by LJR
- v. Jordan Lipner



- 1. Speech
 - a. On Thursday, April 10th, I cannot attend the Senate meeting as I will be driving north to attend a regional tournament in Atlanta, Georgia, from April 11th through April 13th (see screenshot for proof). In the past, I would fly up on Friday morning. But with the recent changes in FAA hiring practices (and the social media fearmongering that has followed), my family has requested I drive. This means I have to leave on Thursday in order to make it in reasonable time.
- 2. Questioning
 - a. Jolicoeur: MTD, Approved by GC
- 3. Debate
 - a. Trejo-Hernandez: MTV, Approved by GC
- 4. Vote
 - a. 5-0-1, absence is approved by LJR
- vi. Jaci Lim
 - 1. Speech
 - a. For my sorority, Chi Omega, we are required to attend prelude, which is two days to become initiated into the sorority. Prelude night 1 on Wednesday, and Prelude night 2 is on Thursday starting at 6:30pm. They did not inform us how long prelude is, but if it ends early I plan on going to Senate straight after. I must attend Prelude as it's required to become initiated into the sorority.
 - 2. Questioning
 - a. Jolicoeur: MTD, Approved by GC
 - 3. Debate
 - a. Naguib: This is a commitment that she must attend to, so I will be voting in favor, MTV. Approved by GC
 - 4. Vote
 - a. 5-0-1, absence is approved by LJR
- vii. Ryan Kaufman
 - 1. Speech
 - a. Hey everyone, I'm part of an RSO called Project Spotlight and I was part of a performance at 7PM so I missed initial roll call. I provided a copy of the calendar in the supporting documentation, thank you.



- 2. Questioning
 - a. Naguib: MTD, Approved by GC
- 3. Debate
 - a. Jolicoeur: MTV, Approved by GC
- 4. Vote
 - a. 5-0-1, absence is approved by LJR
- viii. Isha Patel

BRANCH

- 1. Speech
 - A. Hi LJR, I'm requesting an absence for the beginning of last weeks' meeting because I was taking an orgo exam. Thank you!"
- 2. Questioning
 - a. Escobar: Apologies if I'm unfamiliar, where is the documentation?
 - i. Courts: It is linked in the agenda at the top of the absences section.
 - b. Jolicoeur: MTD, Approved by GC
- 3. Debate
 - a. Jolicoeur: Good luck, MTV. Approved by GC
- 4. Vote
 - a. 5-0-1, absence request is approved by LJR
- d. Blanket Excuse
 - i. None.
- 12. Miscellaneous Business
 - i. GAP Rep Elections
 - 1. Nominations
 - i. Gaudio: I nominate Senator Escobar.
- 13. Member Discussion
 - i. <u>Pre-Submitted Rules 2, 3, and 7 Resolution</u>
 - ii. Senate Rules 4, 5, and 6
- 14. Final Roll Call: 5/7 (4)
- 15. Adjournment: 2:41 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