



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 3:04 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 8/12 (7)

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Escobar	sga_ea@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice Chair Chau	sgaci1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Rodriguez	sgachps4@ucf.edu	P (3:06 PM)	P
Senator Matthews	sga_sci7@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Rickett	sga_grst4@ucf.edu	A	A
Senator Roehrkasse	sgaecs10@ucf.edu	P (3:20 PM)	P
Senator Beneche	sga_sci2@ucf.edu	P (4:01 PM)	P
Senator Candiloro	sga_sci3@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Trejo-Hernandez	sgaecs13@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Gaudio	sga_ecs3@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Metellus	sgaecs8@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Lipner	sga_ugst1@ucf.edu	A	A
Pro Tempore Representative Kapos	sga_pro@ucf.edu	P	P
LJR Representative Sherman	sgacie3@ucf.edu	P	P

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*

Chair Escobar: sga_ea@ucf.edu



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

3. Approval of the Minutes: [06.05.25](#)
 - a. **Approved by GC.**
4. Approval of the Agenda:
 - a. **Approved by GC.**
5. Announcements from the Chair
 - a. Escobar: Good afternoon. Today, the committee is hearing the confirmations for Chief Justice as well as the first round of Election Commissioners. Two were not able to make it today so we will be seeing their confirmation hearings next week.
[E&A Questioning Diary](#)
6. Announcements from the Vice Chair
 - a. Chau: Remember to be germane, efficient, and relevant during questioning and debate! Let's keep staying strong with appointments!
7. Announcements from Committee Members
 - a. None.
8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members
 - a. None.
9. Old Business
 - a. None.
10. New Business
 - a. Confirmations – [Materials](#)
 - i. Chief Justice: Bella Pazera
 1. Speech
 - a. I am majoring in International Global Studies, and I am honored to be an appointee for the Chief Justice position. I have had 2 years in SG. Last year I was appointed in Seat #11, and throughout this journey, SG has shaped my professional and personal goals. I never thought that I would find such a transformative space on campus, and it ignited passions for advocacy. This position is a dream and an honor, and I would love to serve as a Justice. I would love to prioritize internal clarity, and I want to enhance transparency and efficiency. I plan on the SCAICT initiative which would streamline cases. I want to reform the parking services form on KnightConnect to ensure that will improve time management and enhance accessibility. I want to work with other Justices and agents to create a training manual. I also want to have compensation for Judicial

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

Committee Chairs and have had discussions with Comptroller. I want to develop a better SG retreat which will bring all SG agents for training, team building, and orientation- so SG agents are able to understand each other's day-to-day work and tasks. I want to express my gratitude to you all, I would love to serve as a Chief Justice and I want to say that I will devote all my time and dedication for this position.

2. Question

- a. Gaudio: What do you envision that you, Justices, AG, and Judicial advising will look like?
 - i. Last year, there wasn't that much outreach between those positions- would love to work on it that year and the current AG has already reached out. The Judicial Branch is not an advisory court. With these considerations and with judicial advising, it would keep the collaboration going.
- b. Gaudio: What qualities will you be looking for your Assistant Chief Justices?
 - i. For myself, I look for strong and passionate individuals- most of the position are very broad. I also will look for great time management skills and passion, being a coordinator myself- I know how much it can take to handle 70 passionate students. With internal, I will look for someone who is administrative and knows how to handle files. With external, look for ...
- c. Gaudio: When it comes to prior experiences of those Justices, how will you balance how much they stayed in the council compared to the new Justices with their lack of experience?
 - i. I was a brand-new Associate Justice when I was appointed in Internal. I obviously also would value the previous experience that the Justices have brought in the previous years- though it's always great to see outside experience to have freshness.
- d. Sherman: How many hours would you want to dedicate for your compensation initiative for the Judicial Committee Chair positions?
 - i. Within my current proposal, there are 5 chairs- there are 5 hours a week to have them on the same level as the Internal

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

Legislative Chairs. With \$13,000 on the budget, I would like to start this discussion because it is important to look over.

- e. Gaudio: How do you plan on communicating with the other branch heads and being transparent while neutral for the Judicial branch and yourself?
 - i. The branch heads used to have bi-weekly meetings to update each other's procedures. I would also install my own office hours so any SG agents can ask any questions and with our Sunshine Laws- our meetings and minutes are public. With branch heads, I would keep the communication as key to update them with our internal procedures especially since we are a reactionary branch.

3. Debate

- a. Gaudio: MTV.

4. Vote

- a. 9-0-0
 - i. Confirmed by E&A Committee.
- ii. Election Commissioner Seat 4: Andrew Collazo Borges
 - 1. Speech
 - a. I am the former DLEG, E&A Vice-Chair and Acting Chair. I have extensive knowledge of how SG works. This is why I applied for this position, being on the E&A Committee and leadership- I wanted to see if I could be appointed. In my proposal and goal sheet, they are more focused on the internal workings of the committee. The ERP, last session we passed this Bill, and this would be a huge resource and other internal committees.
 - 2. Question
 - a. Gaudio: You mentioned your time as a Justice, your time as DLEG, you did mention in Debate that you did not serve your full term as a Justice. The E&A Commission has a similar role as Judicial; can you state the similarities?
 - i. In regards similarities in these positions, the neutrality and impartiality of it is the same- maintaining the facts and not the person itself and seeing what has been provided by the complainants and respondents. I resigned from being a

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

Justice so that is why my position was cut short. I couldn't necessarily apply them as DLEG because the experience wasn't as relevant because it was involved and handled legislation. Justices look at the Constitution and reviews the hearing.

- b. Candiloro: How does the Election Commission work with other branches?
 - i. With Senate, E&A is the oversight body of the Commission to see if they are within our governing documents- we are also involved in changing the Election Statutes. In terms of Judicial, they contest violation hearings when they want to appeal on any terms of basis. With the Executive Branch, the AG advises when needed and the body is working with the President and VP to ensure that the election is upheld with integrity. We also have those branch head meetings with EC and branch leaderships.
- c. Roehrkasse: How do you plan on staying unbiased and giving everyone impartial treatment?
 - i. When it comes to impartiality, it focuses on the facts and not the person, as LJR Vice-Chair and Deputy- when we had a censure hearing, we focus on the facts rather than feelings. If there are personal sentiments, you will be swayed nonetheless. But also understanding another Commissioner's perspective is essential.

3. Debate

- a. Gaudio: I worked with Collazo in the last session and his knowledge of statutes is phenomenal and he has reflected that in his speech. I have utter confidence in bringing that into violation hearings and also because he noted the LJR censure- he had handled it so professionally. In that censure, he brought out Black's Law and we can see organization and logical method.
- b. Matthews: Had the pleasure of having this individual as a mentor, this person has numerous experiences and thus, I will be voting in favor and urge everyone else to.
- c. Trejo-Hernandez: MTV.

4. Vote

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

- a. 10-0-0
 - i. Confirmed by E&A Committee.
- iii. Election Commissioner Seat 6: Camryn Nejaime
 - 1. Speech
 - a. I am here today because I believe in protecting fairness and equality on UCF. I am a 3rd year Political Science major and want to uphold the democratic process. I want to ensure that all students have a voice on campus. During the election session, I saw Election Commissioners. I learned the importance of nonpartisan members like EC. As an aspiring lawyer, I understand the importance of reducing barriers and helping communities. Under Title 5, the branch must be neutral- I learned the importance of precedence rather than personal experiences and beliefs. I have also been involved in Strike Magazine; I am an Events Coordinator- I have worked under pressure and handled disagreements. I believe that these skills will serve me in this position that requires impartiality. I have also worked in retail outlets and restaurants, which taught me how to work with others in all environments. I bring the same empathy to students to bring out their voices and so that they trust elections to promote UCF's democratic processes. Thank you for your time and I yield the rest of my time.
 - 2. Question
 - a. Gaudio: What is the standard of evidence for a violation hearing?
 - i. The accused and the filer have the opportunity to collect evidence; they can collect different things- with witnesses they can compile this and send it to the Supervisor of Elections to have a hearing.
 - b. Gaudio: That is with evidence but with a violation hearing, what is the standard of proof to come to a decision?
 - i. I do not have an answer.
 - c. Gaudio: What is your definition of active campaigning?
 - i. That is the materials that the candidate or ticket holders submit to E&A like merchandise, the things that they are posting on social media to spread their initiatives. They can stand outside the Student Union and try to get their votes.
 - d. Matthews: For the EC, what are the statutory duties?

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

- i. As an EC, they must be nonpartisan and are not allowed to align themselves with a candidate. During the voting period, they are required to work 10 hours.
 - e. Gaudio: Let's say that the EC elects their Supervisor of Elections, if they are not upholding statutes and what would you do in that situation?
 - i. If they are not upholding their duties, it would be important to receive a check from the Chief Justice to have an evaluation on them because they hear appeals and know how it is like to evaluate a case. I would have an external branch or the President or VP and express my concerns to get a check on the Supervisor.
 - 3. Debate
 - a. Gaudio: I will be voting in negation for this candidate; there were a few things that made me concerned. The standard of evidence question- we had some controversial hearings last year, and we may have more this year- the standard of evidence is the preponderance of evidence. For an EC to not understand the fundamental part of the position, that really concerns me. In addition, for the Supervisor of Elections question, the Judicial and Executive branch was mentioned but they have no power outside of issuing a noncompliance. It would be best to go to the Legislative Branch or the E&A Chair. They have a lack of understanding for Title 6.
 - b. Rodriguez: MTV.
 - 4. Vote
 - a. 5-5-0
 - i. Not confirmed by E&A Committee.
 - iv. Election Commissioner Seat 8: Marcia Orellena
 - 1. Speech
 - a. Hi, thank you for having me here today. I am a Biomedical Science major. Outside of the classroom, I am involved in leadership outside and inside campus. I want to become a physician and advocate on a larger scale. I want to serve through SG. I am from Venezuela, where elections do not reflect the will of the people. I didn't grow up seeing people excited about Election Day or for their vote. So, everyone knew the outcome before it even happened. When I came

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

to the U.S. and seeing their voices and excitement- it was a moment of realization, I want to see something that was the opposite of how I grew up, so this became my calling. My living experience can help contribute to fairness and transparency and bring my voice into SG. I want to make sure that every voice is heard and protected- it is proving to myself where I can stand what is right. It is to preserve my career and future goals. I want to protect fairness and impartiality and improve turnout in all campuses. I want to make voting more accessible. Making students understand that SG is not just a title and improving the access and resources that they can have. I hope I can create a process where students feel like their voices matter, and I am open to any questions.

2. Question

- a. Gaudio: How much votes are needed for the Senate college elections? Do they need a majority or plurality?
 - i. I believe it is more than 2/3rds
- b. Gaudio: Where are candidates not allowed to distribute campaign materials?
 - i. They are not allowed to do it in classrooms, libraries, or inside the Student Union.
- c. Candiloro: What are some of the statutory duties of an Election Commissioner?
 - i. Need to be nonpartisan and need to work for 10 hours for the Declaration weeks- we need to notify media of Election results and remove improper campaign materials.
- d. Gaudio: Let's say that you have a candidate and the run-off election, a violation hearing for them after the election has happened and the EC decides that it has happened. How would you envision the EC acting in that situation?
 - i. As an EC, when a violation is submitted to ensure that it was submitted within the deadline. Also collect evidence for the accuser, after seeing all the facts if there is a violation- and apply proper sanctions.
- e. Gaudio: My question was geared to after the elections have happened, you are very limited in sanctioning someone that has

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

already won? What would you push for the EC to do. How would you sanction a candidate that has already won an election?

- i. I would definitely approach the Supervisor of Elections, if I don't have the right approach to deal with the situation, I would be happy to look into it and follow up.
- f. Candiloro: Are you able to explain any basic knowledge that you have on Title 6?
 - i. Not any kind of bribe or blackmail is allowed, it talks about the types of Elections that are not primary, what could happen in terms of an emergency- how the President or the Supervisor of Elections contacts each other. Where there are suitable campaigning locations.

3. Debate

- a. Gaudio; Leaning more in favor of negating, but for the questions they had the majority/plurality questions technically wrong. I also noticed that they would defer to authority or the Supervisor of Elections. The Commission as a whole makes these decisions together, so I have concerns.
- b. Chair Escobar: I will say, the hypothetical situations presented to the appointee were difficult and worded weirdly.
- c. Chau: I will say that I am leaning more in favor, I will say that the appointee was presented with difficult hypotheticals. In terms of deferring to authority, I would rather see someone defer to authority and learn than have their information completely wrong.
- d. Kapinos: I wanted to say that I love this individual's passion and want to be in the EC and see their values. I can see some of the concerns that they have on the EC, I can see the concerns on some of the knowledge, but they are passionate about learning more about these things and if not, defer to authority to then understand the procedures. I will vote in favor of this candidate.

- e. Trejo Hernandez: MTV

4. Vote

- a. 10-0-0
 - i. Confirmed by E&A Committee.

11. Member Discussion

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
Charge on Chamber
06/11/2025

- a. Kapinos: Wanted to remind everyone that we will have the first event announced tomorrow. Please complete the form for what events will happen. It takes less than 10 minutes and hopefully I will be able to announce it tomorrow.
- 12. Miscellaneous Business
 - a. Trejo-Hernandez: **MTIF**
 - b. Icebreaker: If you could have your ideal lunch, what would it be?
 - i. Kapinos: Pasta bowl with vegetables, sausage and chicken.
 - ii. Escobar: Pesto chicken pasta with a side of salmon.
 - iii. Chau: Instant ramen with Dr. Pepper.
 - iv. Rodriguez: Pasta with fennel and garlic. Mango passionfruit smoothie.
 - v. Matthews: My cava bowl: spinach, white rice, crazy feta, corn, broccoli, etc.
 - vi. Roehrkasse: Thin crust pizza with ham, etc. with espresso.
 - vii. Beneche: Go to Dos Bros- get a bowl with white rice, spicy chicken, gauc, cheese, lettuce, tomato, etc. chips on the side, desert would be Italian ice from Jeremiah's.
 - viii. Candiloro: Chiptole/Cava bowl.
 - ix. Trejo Hernandez: Sopes with Jamaica
 - x. Gaudio: Homemade, day old turkey noodle soup with sourdough bread and an ice-cold sweet tea or German beer.
 - xi. Sherman: Club sub from Jersey Mikes.
 - xii. Trejo Hernandez: **MTF**
- 13. Final Roll Call: 11/12
- 14. Adjournment: 4:13 PM

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

*This meeting is held in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee through the UCF Student Government.*