



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
Elections & Appointments (E&A) Meeting
UCF Charge On Chamber
11/30/22
TIME 12:30 PM

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 12:32 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 5/5

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Senator Guel	sga_ea@ucf.edu	P	P
Chair Almenar	sga_sci1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Brenner	sga_und1@ucf.edu	A	A
Senator Domino	sga_grst1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Damarla	sga_med1@ucf.edu	P	E
Pro Tempore Representative	sga_pro@ucf.edu	P	P
LJR Representative	sgacreol1@ucf.edu	A	E

3. Approval of the [Minutes](#): Approved by GC
4. Approval of the Agenda: Approved by GC
5. Announcements from the Chair-
 - a. Hello All!!
 - b. I will be meeting with Supervisor McGregor to discuss funding for the election commission + check in on how everything is running. It is super important for us as a committee to assist the election commission! There are statutory requirements that must be met by election commissioners. [Each commissioner](#) must attend E&A once a semester.
 - i. I have a list of all supervisors and will ensure this happens accordingly. If the commissioners emailed me stating they could not make it + why, I have excused them. (Chapter 601.4U)
 - c. **IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES**

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- i. *Candidate Packet: Jan 6th- Feb 10th @ 5pm*
 - ii. *DOC + Active Campaign: Feb 6th*
 - iii. *Presidential Debate: Feb 22nd*
 - iv. *Senate Forum: Feb 28th*
 - v. *Election: March 6th - 8th*
 - d. We will go through confirmations then move to chair elections as I want to respect the time of non sg agents before we get to internal business.
 - e. It's a bitter-sweet ending, but I want to say I appreciate you all so much. I tried making E&A as relaxed as possible & that was thanks to you all. I am really sad to be leaving, but I know you all will do amazing/wonderful things here!!! Most of you should have my personal number, but I will drop it in our group me if anyone ever needs it or wants to send me some E&A pictures next semester. I have so much love for you all here, and please know you all have impacted and shaped my time here at UCF!!!
 - f. With that, let's have a great meeting & questions?
 - g. Mexico game... :)
- 6. Announcements from the Vice Chair-
 - a. Hello everyone, welcome back to the committee.
 - b. Today at 1:30 there will be a World Cup watch party in MSC lounge for Argentina v. Poland.
 - c. USA
- 7. Announcements from Committee Members-
 - a. None.
- 8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members-
 - a. None
- 9. Old Business-
 - a. [Senate Questions](#)
 - i. Damarla: Can we PPI early?
 - ii. Guel: we have email receipts but want to hold out due to him apologizing for lack of response. Before thanks break he said he was interested, has not respond since break has started.
 - iii. Foster: When do you think we should PPI it?
 - iv. Guel: if you have not heard back since the 18th of january.
 - b. Hunter Oldenski - COS 6
 - i. Speech

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- ii. Question
- iii. Debate
- iv. Vote

10. New Business-

a. Elle Campbell - CECS 11

- i. Speech: I am trying to join the senate on behalf of CECS, I am a junior but will take an extra year due to double major. Is an advocate for disabled people, has been trying to increase decision making power through rso seats in caucus.
- ii. Question
 - 1. Damarla: When you come into the senate what is your first initiative?
 - a. I Want to join the disability caucus and become chair and continue advocacy.
 - 2. Guel: Can you tell me 2 statutory requirements?
 - a. Joining one committee and attending dean meetings.
 - 3. Guel: Can you tell me why you want to be here?
 - a. I said it before but it is disability advocacy. In all other colleges and organizations on caucus.
- iii. Debate
 - 1. Foster: met him last week when he came to speak with jade. I can tell he really wants to be here, not just hold a seat. I Have heard that CECS is a difficult college in ucf for disables individuals auditory wise.
- iv. Vote: 3-0-2 confirmed.
 - 1. Pronouns are They/Them

b. [Madeline McNutt](#) - CHPS 1

- i. Speech: Is a second year student. Certification in victim advocacy. Was a previous member of the northwest florida college senate. Is experienced in advocacy. Is passionate about environmentalism and recycling. Is a RA in tower 3. I Want to help educate students on how to recycle better. Many people don't know boxes have to be broken down in Orange county.
- ii. Question
 - 1. Foster: What are two requirements to be a senator?
 - a. Attend senate and dean meetings?
 - 2. Guel: what pillar of UCF creed do you identify with?

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- a. Excellence
- 3. Guel: what committees would you join?
 - a. LJR
- 4. Almenar: How would you bring your experience as a senator at a smaller institution over to ucf?
 - a. Would like to destigmatize the Senate being distant from the student body.
- 5. Domino: How could you apply your certificate to the senate and student body?
 - a. Am currently working on it 60% through. It's more for crisis intervention. Obviously advocating for victims. Lots of avenues for applying this.
- iii. Debate
 - 1. Foster: Will be abstaining, knows her from working in the summer, is a hard worker with 60 hrs a week. Encourages everyone to vote in favor.
 - 2. Guel: will be debating in favor as well. A fellow RA will be a great addition to our senate body.
 - 3. Domino: will be voting in favor. likes speak and how she is involved. Likes all her responses.
- iv. Vote: 3-0-2 confirmed
- c. [Grant Donovan](#) - COBA 4
 - i. Speech: Moved across the country to join UCF last year as a part of SGLC was somewhat unimpressed.
 - ii. Question:
 - 1. Foster: how do you feel that your internship with rep eskamani affects your work at UCF senate?
 - a. Tried to soak up as many things as I could in the office from the team to apply in the UCF senate.
 - 2. Guel: can you name 2 statutory requirements?
 - a. Attending senate meetings being a part of 2 committees.
 - 3. Guel: what is what you want to accomplish in your first 100 days.
 - a. Corporate responsibility in college of business.
 - 4. Almenar: How would you apply political public advocacy + what committees would you want to join?

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- a. GAP - DATC was his fav as policy makers in Tallahassee were good. Able to engage people who don't agree with me and people who sometimes think very hostile. I can find common ground and get people on the same page.
 - 5. Guel: do you think it is important to be political within student government?
 - a. No, not necessarily. Has been at UCF for 3 semesters and been at ydsa for a semester. Students come first.
 - 6. Almenar: Do you work for any advocacy groups outside of UCF?
 - a. My bandwidth is extensive
- iii. Debate
 - 1. Foster: very well spoken, knows exactly what he wants. Conflict of interest would not play a role.
 - 2. Almenar: I will be debating in favor, I work with Eskami + Smith. Great people to learn from, no doubt he learned a lot about representation. In SG we need people who have experience working with those people and constituents.
- iv. Vote: 4-0-1 CONFIRMED.
- d. [Rianna Duke](#) - COS 9
 - i. Speech: Majoring in political science and economics. Last year was appointed to the election commission, while in EC working with senators and tabled for sg elections, SG is allocated certain powers from UCF. Members of SG serve as a direct line of communication of the student body to administration. I Want to work to improve funding for CAPS. Academics can be a severe catalyst for mental health issues. Hurricane IAN has severely affected students. CAPS is severely underfunded. Initiative to have University wide day off for election days. As previously mentioned has experience with sg before in EC, is outreach chair for law and legal society on campus.
 - ii. Question
 - 1. Guel: can you tell me two statutory requirements of senators?
 - a. Attend weekly senate meetings, attend retreat. Diversity training.
 - 2. Guel: What committees would you join
 - a. GAP and FAO.

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3. Damarla: Which one of your experiences best prepared you for the Senate?
 - a. Definitely being a part of EC. thought about joining the judicial but rather joining the senate after looking into the branches.

iii. Debate

1. Damarla: Will be voting in favor, likes how I can reflect on previous experiences.
2. Foster: agrees with all the sentiments of ELA Damarla. Will vote in favor.

iv. Vote: 4-0-1 Confirmed.

v. Election Commission [Memorandum](#)

1. Guel working with ELA for senate and new E&A Chair. Tabling with senators will be good.
2. DLEG: wanted to ask about advertising, I know you had an information session this semester, want to know if you want to work with senators to spread information.
 - a. Will I start with this in the spring semester?
3. Foster: will you have the memorandum for senate tmr? People will want to hear it.
 - a. Yes, I can come.
 - b. Foster: you can have someone like Dylan read it for you.
 - c. Guel: you do not have to go in depth.
4. EC: will reopen applications with 2 seats open.

vi. Under Chapter 601 of the election statues, the Supervisor of Elections must submit a memorandum of what the commission did during non election semesters!

11. Member Discussion-

- a. Foster- Chair Almenar we have a lot of new senators that might qualify for VC. We should get new senators involved. Would you be down to talk to new senators to join.
- b. Almenar- yes, I will do that. I noticed a big thing we ask is what committees you may want to join but nobody says E&A. I think we will see higher participation in Spring closer to elections.
- c. Guel- I think that recruiting would be great with letting them know VC is open. Letting them know joining closer to the election gives them more say.

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- d.
12. Miscellaneous Business-
- a. Chair Guel Resign :
 - b. Chair Elections
 - i. Speech
 - 1. Almenar- You know who I am. I have been a VC since April. We have had our ups and downs. I am a COS and polisci major. I have been working with former Chair Guel on initiatives for a while now. I have learned a lot from CHair Guel about what E&A does and how it works. Unless anyone else in the future wants to run, I believe it is fitting for me to step up to the role.
 - ii. Question
 - 1. Guel- What is your WHY for SG? This Position?
 - a. Almenar- I want it to be more than just a place to just be here for. We are not here to just add this to their resume. We aren't here to sit in the chamber for 5 hrs and abstain every vote. That is why I went for VC and am trying to move up. To make sure people joining are doing so for the right reasons. We have seen instances of wrong reasons and those have been settled.
 - 2. Domino- How will you maintain the integrity of E&A?
 - a. I feel like we have had great integrity under Chair Guel. I interpret integrity as respect. I will not not allow others to speak on confirmations.
 - 3. Guel- assuming you become chair, how will you support EC and ensure they are supported by us?
 - a. It is essential to work with EC and not doing so would NC me. I have to work with them. I will reach out to them since that communication is up to me. I will keep them accountable, I like the space theme they are heading towards. I had a lot of grievances with last year's election so I have a lot of thoughts for this year. Tabling with Senators and collaborating.
 - 4. Guel- what leadership style will you implement and how will you deal with any biases you may have?

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- a. I shouldn't have any issues with Biases with new senators, I knew one in the past from a class. I will continue your style Chair Guel, and allow zoom for people who cannot make it in person. We will try to have fun while we are here while fulfilling our statutory requirements.

iii. Debate

- 1. Damarla- i will vote in favor, he has been VC for a while and will do a good job.
- 2. Guel- Almenar is a very special person, and will do a great job with such great background and heart to help and support EC.

iv. Vote **Almenar elected as Chair** 3-0-2

- c. Brodie- It just occurred to me that i spoke to LJR and McClellan this week about something. IB 54-25 changes reapportionment. Becuase that one is being seen as IB 54-29 about apportionment is that we have to make a final decision about 25 before we can see 29. That bill from Senator Mole changes it from 1,000 per senator to 2,000 and it was originally stricken. We rediscussed it with LJR this morning and leaned towards changing apportionment to 1,500. If you wanted to discuss this now or later would be fine. I believe lowering the amount of seats has varying benefits, in my opinion.
- d. Foster- why were people hesitant?
- e. Brodie- one thing I presented, you can also refer to the minutes, there is a chart that lays out the potential numbers. 1,500 lowers it to 46 senators. Various people will have varying opinions and that us fine.
- f. Guel- both are in the agenda or LJR minutes.
- g. Brodie- 54-25 is in the drive and minutes, the chart is only in the minutes. I can put it in these minutes:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1d5MErRs2gxyat7xKQc1EonPQXE9QSy7g46tTWKqjbsE/edit>
- h. Guel- are we talking about this now?
- i. Foster- is this something that will have contention? We have a loaded agenda so should it be seen very early on? It will probably take some time.
- j. Brodie- yeah, I am not sure. The OG change was amended out of LJR. Most people do not probably know about how it looked originally so this may cause some stirring. There is a decent cause for both sides. There doesn't need to be made but it has to

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be passed before 54-29 and that one HAS to be passed this week. It is near the top of the priority list, not sure how far up though.

- k. Guel- looking at the chart, smaller colleges will be highly impacted. I definitely think 1,250 is a good compromise. I would be against 1,500 but for 1,250. This would lower Senate by 15 seats. That is my opinion.
- l. Damarla- I think I disagree with this. The issue is that if you are in a political RSO you are more likely to get in with the people more involved on campus. It can skew the body into that. I think reducing the number doesn't promote a wide variety of views.
- m. Almenar- it feels like a concentration of power so I do not like this. We are a big school so it makes sense that our senate is big. It is not our fault we have empty seats.
- n. SOE- I am working on getting more participation
- o. Brodie- I am good either way and that is fine. I think that one main argument in favor is that if you make it a little harder to get in, now we are more motivated and engaged. Ryan wrote in and he got in and is excellent, but he could have been bad. With little cost. There are potential fallacies in it but there is the potential. Also, Tache mentioned that a smaller body can be more efficient and collaborating. There is more potential to know each other. I think 70 people is hard to manage and is very large to see discuss contentious matters. I think it does give the speaker more opportunities to work 1:1. Also it adds value to the seats and would make E&A more selective on who they approve because the seats are values higher with the scarcity. I rarely see dismissed senators NOT get reappointed. I think it would be better to have more engaged and initiative driven senators join. If you accept that premise, this would also lead to fewer "sheep," I don't like that phrase, but people wouldn't follow others votes so easily without critical thinking.
- p. Foster- I 100% with that, but I do not know how I feel. I think this should be brought up. My perspectives is that if you lower the seats then caucus participation would be hurt. We need more engagement over there. Also, I don't know if these seats are vacant due to ignorance or culture. We had so many senators and then resigned but there were some that maybe felt they weren't valued? I am unsure how I feel.
- q. Almenar- I will say I think this is a bad idea and will increase polarization and one group could possible take over senate either politically or Greek. We struggle with caucuses like PT Foster said. E&A is already small so this may really hurt us. Committees are statutory and they will be hurt.

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- r. Urea- So, I thought the same thing but what me and Tache spoke about is that if there are less warm bodies and more active senators, then caucus involvement would go up. We have all seen that within 2-3 weeks of the session beginning, people already resign because it is a commitment. This could lead to less resignation. COS is already going down.
- s. Guel- From you opinion do you think are in our chamber that may be 'sheep?' I would say only 10-15% are 'sheep.'
- t. Urea- everyone can have their own type of advocacy but how much legislation have you seen?
- u. Damarla- Shane says that's a lot can be done outside of legislation.
- v. Foster- are you and Ajay both COM?
- w. Damarla- yes. I also see more now. I would say the issues brought up, is that we are actually getting more senators so I wouldn't like to stop that growth. Especially post-covid. I feel more people are learning about us and finding out about us. I feel like in a few years we can fill senate. I, as ELA, want to do a weekly SG update to let people know what we do. We should focus on advertisement.
- x. Guel- I feel like as a committee we have said similar things, from an E&A POV it would be silly to raise to 2,000. If we cut COM to 1 seat then it is picking Damarla, Patel, or some other person. I don't want to throw shade on Exec, but we do only see bulk appointments. I am against this change. I would be ok with 1,250 maybe.
- y. Urea- I will move for either 1,250 or 1,500. I see both sides. Our first vote was to keep it at 1,000.
- z. Brodie- So quickly, as far as committees, the caps go to 9 so it would be fine or make things better like Spaulding's bill would have. This is also an old topic but never made it to legislation. So right now senate has been 60% full. Some colleges will go from 2-1 or stay at 1, but we will never have more than 3 grads, so we might still have around the same numbers.
- aa. Ice Breaker: World cup?? Who is your team?
 - i. Damarla- Brazil
 - ii. Brodie- USA, but would also be Ireland if they were there
 - iii. Urea- USA
 - iv. Castillo- USA
 - v. McClellan- USA
 - vi. Soto- USA
 - vii. SOE- USA


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- viii. Guel- USA, Mexico but not really, Spain, and Gauna
- ix. Domino- I don't have one, (USA default)
- x. Foster- I bleed red white and blue 
- xi. Almenar- USA

13. Final Roll Call: 4/5

14. Adjournment: 2:15 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

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