



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
GAP Committee Meeting
Charge On Chambers
04/11/22
2:00PM

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 2:07 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 13/14

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Hall	sgagap@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice-Chair Temple	Vacant	P	P
Senator Almenar	sga_sci1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Bursey	sgacie1@ucf.edu	A	A
Senator Caldwell	sgacie2@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Castelin	sga_sci3@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Darmala	sga_med1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Domino	sga_grst1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Galloway	sga_grst3@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Kostis	sga_sci8@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Martinez	sga_ba4@ucf.edu	P	E
Senator Morey	sga_ecs5@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Simko	sgaecs8@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Urea	sgasci14@ucf.edu	P	P
Pro Temp Rep.	sga_pro@ucf.edu	P	P
LJR Rep Vacant	Vacant	V	V
GAC	sgagovaffairs@ucf.edu	A	A

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3. Approval of the Minutes: [04/06/22](#): Approved GC
4. Approval of the Agenda: Approved by GC
5. Announcements from the Chair
 - a. Hello everyone! Happy to be here with everyone!
 - b. Excited to have an awesome year with you all!
 - c. Jimmy Carter Fact of the Week
 - i. Jimmy Carter was the 39th President of the United States from 1977 to 1981.
6. Announcements from the Vice-Chair
 - a. Thank you, humbled that you have chosen me to lead alongside Chair Hall. Door is always open for those who want to learn more
7. Announcements from Committee Members
 - a. Pro-Temp Ciresi
 - i. Hello Everyone!
 - ii. I'll be hosting interviews for the Deputy Positions and appointing them Thursday to be confirmed.
 - iii. The deadline to submit legislation to me is Wednesday at 5 pm, give me a notice in advance if you think you might be late.
 - iv. 1:1's will only be available on Friday this week due to my busy schedule but if you have any questions or need assistance feel free to reach out to me through Group Me or my email
 1. Calenderly Link to Schedule 1:1's: <https://calendly.com/pro-temp/1-1-with-pro-temp-ciresi>
 - v. If you still haven't had a New Member Orientation yet, those won't be offered until the beginning of the Summer Session.
 - vi. Committee Leadership
 1. If you have not scheduled a 1:1 with me please do so
 2. Ensure your Vice-Chairs are submitting your minutes
 3. Decorum
 - b. Kostis
 - i. Congrats to Vice-Chair Temple! Excited to see the combination and the proceedings of the committee this year.
8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members-
 - a. Brodie

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- i. Congrats to Chair Temple! Make sure you're prepared for Senate Exec on Thursday.
- 9. Old Business-
 - a. None.
- 10. New Business-
 - a. Overview of the Upcoming Year in GAP
 - i. Focus on Government Advocacy & Research.
 - ii. Strategize best ways to expand voter registration on campus.
 - iii. Begin long-term planning of DATC.
 - iv. Prepare for the arrival of the new GAC in May.
 - v. Prepare to work collaboratively with entities across Student Government.
 - b. Senator Morey
 - i. What is the GAC?
 - ii. The Governmental Affairs Coordinator
 - c. Senator Galloway
 - i. Encourage all of you to read the statutes for the GAP Committee as well as the GAC so you have a good understanding of our powers and the powers of the GAC.
- 11. Member Discussion-
 - a. None.
- 12. Miscellaneous Business
 - a. Vice Chair Elections
 - i. Nominations
 - 1. Senator Temple
 - 2. Senator Almenar
 - ii. Speech
 - 1. Senator Temple
 - a. Have recognized that he tried to run for Chair and everything he said still stands. Have a passion for government and Civic engagement, can not only fulfill the requirement of taking minutes but can go further then just being a glorified secretary. Will serve alongside Chair Hall and can provide unique assistance as a partner.
 - 2. Senator Almenar

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- a. Senator for the College of Sciences from Orlando, Florida.
Decided to run for this position as he is greatly passionate in government and politics. New to the senate so this is a new experience, but from what he has gathered this is a committee that seeks to educate the student body on government. Wants to learn about the process of being a Vice-Chair however had experience working in actual government, internship for a state representative and working for multiple outside organizations.
- iii. Questioning
 - 1. Simko
 - a. Do you have any prior commitments that may conflict with your position?
 - i. Temple
 - 1. No conflicts, there is possible future opportunities but has proper time management skills
 - ii. Almenar
 - 1. No prior commitments, stepped away from one to focus on senate
 - 2. Kostis
 - a. How do you plan on making Voter Registration more engaging?
 - i. Almenar
 - 1. From his experience it can be difficult, a part of Chair Hall's initiative's is having it be readily available. The way he would implement it would be through Orientations or tabling events through SG. Every possible instance of SG interaction we should always have Voter Registration available.
 - ii. Temple
 - 1. Voter Registration is very difficult especially due to others attitudes. People are naturally curious and those who do not know will not participate. What he intends to do is make

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Voter Registration Events more interactive so it can be something students can learn from and engage with. Working with Senator Holmes to create a fair for candidates participating in the midterm elections to speak with the student body and use it as a way to promote GAP and Voter Registration. Show students the nuances of Government and the Committee as a whole through other events. A means of research and advocacy.

3. Domino

a. What unique change can you bring to the committee?

i. Temple

1. Want to see the Vice-Chair position to be more than a glorified secretary, have lots of notes from former Vice-Chair Boisson who did this and more. She created multiple initiatives through GAP that really helped the student body. Would be a proactive Vice-Chair in terms of research, which is stated within statutes that we must provide non-partisan research to the student body. May not have as much outside experience as Senator Almenar but can really bring something to the table in this regard.

ii. Almenar

1. Agree with Senator Temple that this position should not be a secretary. Mostly because this committee is about politics which is a constantly changing thing. We must be proactive for our students. Would not know what to do differently as he is not familiar with what was done in the past but can learn

4. Senator Caldwell

- a. Our Main focus is Day at the capitol. How can we best represent the student body issues?

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i. Almenar

1. Went to DATC and found that lobbying wasn't particularly effective. It doesn't matter what specifically the initiatives areas are, if we don't choose the right lobby makers it won't change anything. Identifying their stances on the issues, finding those on the committees, etc. To give students the right information ahead of time, it also didn't help that we attended halfway through the session. The reason we go to DATC is not lobbying whereas its more interacting would change this.

ii. Senator Temple

1. Worked a lot behind the scenes even before being senate in helping create the legislative priorities and scheduling with legislators. It can be a difficult process, I agree we should be understanding of all these issues. But the main problem was it being so last minute especially because we were coming out of a covid year which put everyone in a bind. Did the best they could and still got alot done and lobby for all our initiative. We do need to find a way to make it more worthwhile for students and prepare them more. Wants to organize Lobbying workshops alongside the GAC to give students an advantage when lobbying on these issues. We can't determine what the student body wants and that can only be done through our survey. If we were to want to make proper changes we must get the feedback from the students on what they want to see. Main priority would be getting this survey out there.

5. Senator Morey

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- a. How do both of you intend to make up for those shortcomings in your experience?
 - i. Senator Temple
 - 1. A senate fiend, more than happy to talk about senate, statues, and the proceedings to tutor people regarding this. Did state he does not have as much political experience as he never campaigned for any outside individuals. He has always wanted to do this so if he was free he would want to meet with Senator Almenar to effectively work with one another. I Want to focus on strengthening bonds rather than being jealous over losing a position and improving. Will always share knowledge
 - ii. Senator Almenar
 - 1. Would greatly assist Senator Temple if he were elected and invite him to join campaign events if he has time. Both have the same goals in making DATC more efficient and assist students in being more aware of governmental affairs. Whichever one of us you vote for we will have a good foundation and support group to learn from.
- 6. Senator Caldwell
 - a. You both talked about making DATC more efficient. But, the best advocate doesn't come from understanding the student body, what issues do you see a problem with now?
 - i. Senator Almenar
 - 1. This sounds like we should be more proactive or not? Issues that are not specific to UCF but those that relate to the whole nation regarding laws passed in Florida that other states are looking at that discriminate against others. Diversity is what makes America great and sees a lot of laws that turn people against the community. UCF is also a diverse place and

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these laws have negative effects against them like Florida Voter Registration Laws, the Don't Say Gay Bill, etc. These are big things we should be thinking about and making UCF an appropriate place by taking action.

ii. Senator Temple

1. The most pressing issue is a difficult question, we're diverse in almost everything. This also comes with a diversity of issues for what people want, like the concerns for the LGBTQ+ community, but also issues that are far broader like civil rights, homelessness crisis, etc. We are becoming one of the most expensive states to live in and this severely impacts a lot of people especially college students. These are all serious issues and rather than focusing on mainstream issues we should focus on what the students are having issues with. We need that outreach to really attain this and it could tend to overlap, but its the underlying issues that may not be known that students are also struggling with. It is up to us to determine what is an important issue based on the students, not ourselves.

iv. Debate

1. Senator Morey

- a. In support of Senator Almenar, there are differences between senate knowledge and politics. Gaining political knowledge takes experience whereas Senate seems easier therefore voting in favor of Senator Almenar

2. Senator Caldwell

- a. Will also be voting in favor of Senator Almenar, as stated thinks it's important to understand what effects the student body the most, therefore will be voting for Senator Almenar

3. Senator Urea

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- a. Will be voting in favor of Senator Temple he will be great at all aspects of the job.
- 4. Senator Kostis
 - a. Will also be voting in favor of Senator Temple. He has been of great assistance to GAP as a whole and several other issues including abortion. Both will be great but encourage all of you to vote for Senator Temple
- 5. Senator Martinex
 - a. Also agrees that both will be great but will be voting in favor of Senator Temple as he will be a fantastic asset to the committee.
- 6. Senator Caldwell
 - a. Will be changing my vote to Senator Temple as a point was made of who would work best with Chair Hall
- 7. Senator Morey
 - a. Will also be changing my vote to Senator Temple
- v. Vote
 - 1. 10-0-2 Senator Temple
- 13. Final Roll Call: 12/14
- 14. Adjournment: 3:02 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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