



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

UCF Student Government
LGBTQ+ Caucus Meeting
Charge on Chamber
04/13/2022
3:30 PM

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 3:32 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 10/11

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Yalamanchili	sglgbtqcaucus@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice-Chair	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
Senator Anderson	sga_sci2@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Bertram	sga_ba1@ucf.edu	A	A
Senator Borges	sga_hm1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Domino	sga_grst1@ucf.edu	P	P
Speaker Kehoe	sga_cah1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Martinez	sga_ba4@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Maroto	sga_cah2@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Rolle	sga_hm2@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Salerno	sgasci11@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Tache	sgsci13@ucf.edu	P	P
Director Fletcher	sga_comm@ucf.edu	P	P

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3. Approval of the Minutes: [03/17/22 LGBTQ+ Caucus Agenda](#) ; Approved by GC
4. Approval of the Agenda: Approved by GC
5. Open Forum-
6. Announcements from the Chair-
 - a. Thanks
 - b. Excited to work with all of you, and advance the cause for LGBTQ+ students.
7. Announcements from the Vice-Chair-
 - a. None
8. Announcements from Committee Members-
 - a. Pro-Temp Ciresi
 - i. Hello Everyone!
 - ii. I have concluded interviews for the Deputy Positions and will be appointing them to be confirmed this Thursday.
 - 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. Caucus Chairs
 1. Vice-Chair elections will be held next week
 2. You're responsible for submitting your minutes this week
 3. Schedule a 1:1 with me
9. Announcements from Non-Committee Members-
 - a. None
10. Old Business-
 - a. None

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11. New Business-

- a. None

12. Member Discussion-

- a. Martinez -
 - i. PSA Meeting 7 PM today
 - ii. Take back the night event, memory mall 27th 6:30 PM
- b. Tache - We may have spent too much time focusing on those who are against the Queer community, as opposed to the good work for the community
- c. Maroto - We should consider how the rest of the campus will respond to our work, but we shouldn't let that become a wall that prevents us from advocating for LGBTQ+ students.

13. Miscellaneous Business-

- a. Chair Elections
 - i. Nominations
 - 1. Sen. Martinez
 - 2. Sen. Yalamanchili
 - ii. Speeches
 - 1. Sen. Martinez - Econ + Poli Sci Major, bi and a part of PSA. Protested against the Don't Say Gay Bill. Want to get experience organizing events and advocating for the LGBTQ+ community. I want to improve the quality of life for these students. UCF is a very good campus for LGBTQ students, but we can do better. I want to push for pronouns on ID cards. It will make many students more comfortable, and we can make it available for all students, and free. Want updates to be free for ID cards, as names on pronouns change. Bringing back all of the events from last year. I want feedback from Caucus and Senators for ideas and suggestions. Didn't feel like I had a voice in college, and I want to help students feel involved.
 - 2. Sen. Yalamanchili - Queer student, member of the PSA. Want to help fellow queer students. We have laws in our state that hurt students. We want UCF to be the most welcoming place for queer students. Want to work with RSOs and student groups, supporting their events. Want to work with Lavender Council and SJA to support advocacy for queer students. Focus on discrimination that LGBTQ students face.

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Want to open dialogue with RSOs that may not be accepting so they can help understand queer perspectives. Want to advocated for Pride Commons to be open all summer. Many students take classes all summer and rely upon Pride Commons for support and resources.

iii. Questioning

1. Salerno - How do you intend to lead this Caucus?
 - a. Martinez - Bottom up structure. I want everyone in the room to be able to get involved, meet people where they are at. We all also have lives and other priorities. Want to meet with people who may need support or time. Want to be a friend and a leader.
 - b. Yalamanchili - Democratic Leadership style. Want everyone to be open and free with ideas. All ideas should be able to be discussed. Diversity of ideas as we are making plans and making decisions. I will hold myself accountable, and I want the whole Caucus to keep me and the VC accountable. Want to include non-Caucus members as often as possible. Want to work with RSOs as often as possible so they know we support them and have their back.
2. Tache - How will you serve on campus and off?
 - a. Yalamanchili - Ideas are not mutually exclusive, we should be working for both. Want to connect and support RSOs, but also create info sessions for anyone to learn about Queer rights and issues that LGBTQ students face. Should be open to expand services that are offered. Want to make sure free speech rights of LGBTQ students are protected and supported by SG.
 - b. Martinez - Agree with Yalamanchili, focused on internal initiatives, but any Queer RSO can express a concern and we will go to bat for them. Want to support the whole caucus's initiatives.
3. Salerno - LGBTQ issues can be divisive and partison, how will you address this?
 - a. Martinez - Regardless of divisiveness, I will stand up for my principles, which includes LGBTQ rights across the board.

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- We can use controversial moments to bring people to our side.
- b. Yalamanchili - This Caucus is designed to serve LGBTQ students, regardless of divisiveness. We want to support equality and accessibility regardless of gender and sexuality. SG has moderated a debate recently that included LGBTQ rights. That was unfair, because it allowed the existence and humanity of LGBTQ students to be debated, and we should make sure that doesn't happen.
4. Anderson - How will you handle conversations with those that don't agree?
 - a. Yalamanchili - Meeting people where they are at. Ostracizing people doesn't make progress. All conversations should be civil and non-hostile. Most people on campus are here in good faith. Everyone should be able to express their opinions. That is the key in pushing for acceptance.
 - b. Martinez - Also believe in meeting people where they are at. At the end of the day, we must be civil and professional. People who are trying to escalate and conversation are frequently not debating in good faith. I will be a fierce advocate, while still being respectful and kind. We need to address the system, and not blame the individual.
 5. Domino - What is one thing you will do to bridge the gap between the community and others?
 - a. Martinez - My goal is to be LGBTQ inclusive, not Non-LGBTQ exclusive. Bridging the gap is a big question and not one that we have an answer for yet. Continuing to meet people where they are.
 - b. Yalamanchili - Tricky question, but we have to continue to try. We must work to continue to close the gap. Areas like Pride Commons are open to all, and those that use the space are generally open and warm. Sometimes it can be an interaction with a LGBTQ person for the first time, and their perspective may change.

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6. Salerno - There are also gaps within the LGBTQ community. How will you ensure that every identity within the community is being heard?
 - a. Yalamanchili - I believe that people have the right to identify however they identify, and we should not be gatekeeping resources to some identities to others. We want to find unity, not division. Queer community already faces discrimination and oppression.
 - b. Martinez - No one here can solve everything, but we can make progress. Don't want to prioritize one community over another. Focus on intersectionality. We are all people. The more we do, the more we can do.

iv. Debate

1. Salerno - Worked with PSA President Ana, speaks very highly of both candidates. They both stated that they are members, but that is an understatement.
2. Maroto - One thing that I value in both candidates is their dedication to the community, regardless of partisanship

v. Voting

1. 3-5-2, Sen. Yalamanchili elected Chair.

14. Final Roll Call: 10/11

15. Adjournment: 4:14 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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