



# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

**UCF Student Government**  
GAP Committee Meeting  
Charge On Chambers  
04/18/22  
2:00PM

## MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 2:03 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 10/14

Name	Email	Initial	Final
Chair Hall	sgagap@ucf.edu	P	P
Vice-Chair Temple	sga_ba8@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Almenar	sga_sci1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Bursey	sgacie1@ucf.edu	E	E
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 (2:06 PM)	P
Senator Galloway	sga_grst3@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Kostis	sga_sci8@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Martinez	sga_ba4@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Morey	sga_ecs5@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Simko	sgaecs8@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Urea	sgasci14@ucf.edu	E	E
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: [04/11/22](#), Approved by GC
4. Approval of the Agenda: 04/18/22, Approved by GC
5. Announcements from the Chair:
  - a. Hello everyone! So glad to see everyone here today!
  - b. New when2meet for the Summer Semester
    - i. Please fill out this [link](#) to determine the best time.
    - ii. Hybrid options will be available throughout Summer.
  - c. Jimmy Carter Fact of the Week:
    - i. Jimmy Carter served in the U.S. Navy within the newly-formed U.S. nuclear submarine program. He helped prevent a nuclear catastrophe at a major nuclear power plant in Canada in 1952.
      1. Martinez:
        - a. Possibility Senators may not know when they are open?
      2. PT Ciresi:
        - a. Have first meeting scheduled with above link, evaluate from there
      3. Almenar:
        - a. Weekly or Biweekly?
      4. Hall:
        - a. Life happens, but do appreciate it if the link is filled out.
6. Announcements from the Vice-Chair:
  - a. Hope everyone had a great weekend and Happy belated Easter/Passover!
  - b. New Tradition! On This Day (Roman History Edition!):
    - i. OTD in the year 359 CE, the Roman Emperor Gratian was born to Valentinian The Great.
7. Announcements from Committee Members:
  - a. Pro-Temp Ciresi
    - i. Hello everyone!
    - ii. I called a Special Session for this evening. We will be seeing Deputy Appointments and the Fiscal Policy Updates so its important to be there and Attendance is mandatory
      1. if you cannot attend submit an Absence Request through Knight Connect asap!
    - iii. I'll be Virtual Tuesday and Friday this week

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- iv. Link to schedule 1:1's with me listed below
  - 1. <https://calendly.com/pro-temp/1-1-with-pro-temp-ciresi>
  - 2. Unavailable Wednesday for 1:1's
- v. Working on the legislation I discussed in Senate exec to change how we use Robert's Rules of Order. When this does eventually get seen, please ask questions as this will also impact the Committees.
  - i. Please stay respectful and ensure we're upholding Decorum
- 8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members:
  - a. Brodie:
    - i. Probably will not be through the whole meeting.
    - ii. No set deadline, but must be confirmed before the Senate before taking a seat. Refer to Speaker's File in Drive for application, must be signed by President.
- 9. Old Business:
  - a. Broad outline of priorities for GAP Committee 2022-2023.
    - i. Chair Hall:
      - 1. Recap of last week's meeting. Focus on policy advocacy, research.
- 10. New Business:
  - a. Excused Absences
    - i. Refer to [Senate Rule 7.04](#).
      - 1. Policy of excused absences for committee chairs.
    - ii. Email [sgagap@ucf.edu](mailto:sgagap@ucf.edu) 24 hours prior to meeting for excused absence. Please outline the reason for the excused absence if possible.
    - iii. Will try to work with people should something arise within 24 hour people of the Committee meeting.
    - iv. I will work to accommodate individuals as much as I can. If this system is inefficient due to too many absences, I will create a set amount of excused absences per semester for all members.
  - b. Decorum in Committee
    - i. Refer to [Senate Rule 3.04](#).
      - 1. Refers to decorum in the Senate, official behavior, etc.
    - ii. Respect for all in committee and those attending.
    - iii. Many Senators are new to the Senate and the Committee process. Have grace for one another while in the Committee as we all learn procedures and statutes during the year.

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1. Limit phone usage as much as possible. If it is an emergency, see to it immediately. If it is Clash of Clans, ESPN, “anime-stuff,” refrain from it. If repeated, then it will be taken up to a higher capacity.
- c. Committee Expectations
  - i. Committee Engagement:
    1. Please work to participate within the Committee when possible. Our Committee is strongest when everyone’s voice is heard.
      - a. If you have something to say, don’t be afraid to speak up. Be engaged. We seek smooth, efficient operations in the committee.
    2. Committee will work collaboratively with one another on various projects, initiatives, and goals.
      - a. Get to know each other and bond. Don’t be robots.
  - ii. Conflict within Committee:
    1. If a potential conflict arises between members, please speak with the Chair or Vice Chair.
      - a. Divisiveness is inherent to committee collaboration. First step: talk and work out a peaceful resolution.
    2. If a potential conflict arises between the Chair and a member, please feel free to voice concerns to the Chair or to the Vice Chair if you’d rather speak to someone else.
    3. If conflict creates an untenable situation for all those involved and mediation options within the Committee have been exhausted, please reach out to the Pro Tempore, the Speaker, or the OSI Coordinator (Brodie).
- d. Comprehensive Contact Information Database
  - i. [GAP Political Contact Database](#) (Work in Progress)
  - ii. Goals throughout year:
    1. Complete Political & Non-Partisan Databases
    2. Periodic Updates to Reflect Changes
      - a. Take advantage of when drafting legislation that pertains to government and policy. If you need advice on a policy issue or sponsors, use this.
      - b. Legislative aides are more likely to look at legislation than the legislator in themselves. Use this to your advantage.
        - i. Senator Damarla:

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1. Only for Government/Authority figures or for people in general?
- ii. Chair Hall:
  1. More common government depts, agencies, which are inherently political. We will be finding non-partisan entities to plug, including UCF
- iii. Senator Martinez:
  1. After midterms, should we update the list over winter in the event certain individuals are no longer in office?
- iv. Chair Hall:
  1. Periodic updating. State Reps are still State Reps. Makes sense to maintain the status quo. When midterms take place, larger overhaul is needed due to redistricting. It will be updated periodically, massive overhaul
- v. VC Almenar:
  1. We should look at list via an activist perspective. If they are a UCF student that lives in a different district, we can refer them.
- vi. PT Ciresi:
  1. We can refer students, but it needs to be known what the office can/cannot do. We need to be more aware of what they are capable of.
- vii. Chair Hall:
  1. Databases are multi-functional. Not just for resolution building. Must build relationships within and without UCF and make our names known. Great way to branch out and establish avenues for assistance. Will work with GAC to incorporate their own contacts, but Senate ought to have their own list.
- viii. Senator Damarla:
  1. Say we do know individuals? Should we ask if they're comfortable?
- ix. Chair Hall:

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1. Database is public, refraining from publishing private information. All information presented is public knowledge. Survey will also be developed to collect contact information from among the Senate to consolidate contacts and network. Simplifies process.
- x. Senator Caldwell:
  1. Great things about this is that it is institutionalized and sets into stone the information from a number of sessions back
- xi. Senator Damarla:
  1. Writing down who knows whom would be easier, perhaps?
- xii. Chair Hall:
  1. Internally, it is feasible. We can develop a list, but refrain from phone numbers. Biggest goal is that we don't put people on blast. Hopefully all branches use this.
- e. [Legislative Report](#) and [Expectations](#)
  - i. Objective: Draft reports for long-term research and advocacy
  - ii. Begin thinking of subjects you think would be pertinent to Student Body
    1. Martinez:
      - a. Where will this be published?
    2. VC Temple:
      - a. In GAP Folder. Whole process behind it.
    3. Chair Hall:
      - a. Expect certain topics to be reported on. It will be an undertaking, but it must be emphasized we are the GAP Committee, this is what we do.
    4. VC Temple:
      - a. Work w/ SBA would be good for both parties.
    5. PT Ciresi:
      - a. Work with SBA Chair to get a liaison
    6. VC Temple:
      - a. Talked with Chair Salerno, open to GAP/SBA Reps.
    7. Senator Martinez:

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a. Would love to volunteer for GAP Representative

## 11. Member Discussion-

a. Senator Simko: Lobbying for Orange County

i. In GAP our priority is DATC, something of a grace period in the State Legislature, perhaps we can lobby in Orange County. We can practice ahead of DATC and we can get our initiatives out to a local level. Housing and Transportation are two big initiatives currently and Orange County would be perfect.

1. Senator Almenar:

a. Agrees with Senator Simko. Knows of Day At City Hall, we can work on similar, more proactive events.

2. Senator Morey:

a. Agrees but we can also have the greatest effect at the local level. State, Federal legislators have greater concerns, city officials would be more practical to lobby towards.

3. Senator Simko:

a. UCF is unincorporated, so most of what is done here is in Orange County. UCF Downtown is an opportunity.

4. Chair Hall:

a. New GAC would be the go-to. Overhaul Day At City Hall to help lobby for Downtown. Would be better since DATC is in March. Another possibility is Day At City Hall in Oviedo, since students live there. GAC coordinates these events, GAP is the one who does the back door legislating. Less stressful than DATC (no 5 hour drive). We can be more effective at a local level than at state level due to more concerns at the latter level than the former. This lobbying will be more nonpartisan, since we talk to Councilors, department heads, etc vs officials.

b. Pro-Temp Ciresi: Voting Rights Event for Constitution Day

i. Preface for preparation for incoming GAC; an idea for voter registration: Constitution Day voter registration. Universities are required to register voters Educate students on difficulties for certain groups to get the right to vote.

1. Kostis:

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- a. Lots of marginalized communities have difficulty registering to vote, shifts power balance. Would love to work
- 2. Temple:
  - a. Agrees, did you reach out to caucuses?
- 3. Ciresi:
  - a. Waiting for GAC, but did bring this up in 53rd
- 4. Temple:
  - a. Understood, would love to assist
- 5. Hall:
  - a. Coordination with Branches, Caucuses, Election Commission, SBA Committee. Continuing to promote throughout the year, this is an affair that needs constant attention. Colleges are targets for removal of early voting. Focus on historical, current voting barriers. Current legislation impacts Americans today. Voting basics (where is precinct, how to register) will allow for a more engaged, informed body. We need to have a coordinated, amiable relationship with GAC. We have the advantage in time to set the foundation for future initiatives.

## 12. Miscellaneous Business

- a. None.

## 13. Final Roll Call: 11/14

## 14. Adjournment: 2:53 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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