



# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

**UCF Student Government**  
GAP Committee Meeting  
SG Conference Room  
05/25/2022  
2:00PM

## MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 2:03 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 12/13

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	A	A
Senator Caldwell	sgacie2@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Castelin	sga_sci3@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Darmala	sga_med1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Domino	sga_grst1@ucf.edu	P	P
ELA Galloway	sga_grst3@ucf.edu	P (2:29 PM)	P
Senator Kostis	sga_sci8@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Martinez	sga_ba4@ucf.edu	A	A
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	P	P
GAC	sgagovaffairs@ucf.edu	V	

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3. Approval of the Minutes: [05/18/2022](#)
4. Approval of the Agenda: [Approved by GC]
5. Announcements from the Chair
  - a. Hello everyone! Welcome back!
  - b. I hope everyone is having a great week as the Summer semester kicks into gear.
  - c. Just as a reminder to everyone to please let me know when you will not be able to attend a GAP meeting. Some committees have been struggling to reach quorum due to lack of attendance and I will not allow that to happen in GAP if I can avoid it.
  - d. Jimmy Carter Fact of the Week:
    - i. Jimmy Carter's brother, Billy Carter, created his own brand of beer called [Billy Beer](#) during Jimmy Carter's presidency. The beer was created in 1977 and was discontinued in 1978. Billy Carter was described as a "professional redneck" by the Associated Press.
  - e. Acknowledgement of Tragedy in Ulvade, Texas
    - i. 18 elementary school students and 2 teachers were killed by a gunman yesterday.
    - ii. 72% of the town's population are Hispanic. Around 90% of the students at Robb Elementary School are Hispanic.
    - iii. This tragedy follows multiple recent mass shootings in Buffalo against African Americans and in Laguna Woods, California against Asian Americans.
    - iv. Moment of Silence
6. Announcements from the Vice-Chair
  - a. Good afternoon all! Welcome back! I am very excited to begin our work in earnest!
  - b. OTD:
    - i. In Recent Events: In 2020, an African American man named George Floyd died after a white Minneapolis police officer asphyxiated him by placing his knee on Floyd's neck and continued to maintain such pressure despite Floyd saying "I can't breathe." This act sparked nation-wide protests that have given rise to a campaign against police brutality and a lack of police accountability that ultimately developed into a broader awareness campaign of racism within American society that is still being waged today.

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- ii. In Sports: In 2005, Liverpool came back against AC Milan in the UEFA Champions League Final from a 3 goal deficit in the first half, when Reds captain Steven Gerrard rallied his team to tie the game and forcing a penalty shootout, ultimately winning 2-3 in penalties, becoming what is now known as the *Miracle of Istanbul* (#YNWA).
  - iii. In Culture: Today is Geek Pride Day!
7. Announcements from Committee Members
- a. Pro-Temps Office
    - i. If you have not yet had a New Senate Orientation I will be sending out an email shortly with three available dates and times please let me know if none of them work for you.
    - ii. RSO Assignments for this session have been made, you can find the ones you will be representing on this spreadsheet [54th Session RSO Distribution](#). Use this [RSO Email Template](#) as a guide to send your emails. These will be due on **Thursday, June 2nd at 5 pm**. Please get these done before the deadline, or you will be held in non-compliance. CC both PT Ciresi and DSR Foster as proof of completion, if you have already sent them out you can forward them instead.
    - iii. Held an Internal, Fiscal, and Caucus Leadership meetings last week, which went very well and will be continuing. If you're in any of those leadership groups and don't know when you're next meeting or aren't in the group chat, please reach out.
    - iv. If you filled out the form to get a mentor or be a mentor, those pairings were sent out Sunday! Please, if you are a mentor, reach out to your mentee and figure out how you'll be making the most of your partnership! If you did not fill out the form, unfortunately, the deadline has passed and you will not be part of the mentorship program over the summer. The request form will likely open back up in the fall if you would like to request a mentor or be a mentor then.
    - v. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to me or anyone in the PT's Office
  - b. VC McClellan:

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- i. Sitting in as LJR Rep. Hopefully we can get someone new. No business in LJR but next week hopefully we can get GAP, SBA reps. We can hopefully get someone to help with anything related to statutes.
- 8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members-
  - a. None.
- 9. Old Business-
  - a. Student Interest Survey Creation and Promotional Materials Discussion.
    - i. Last week we discussed specifically potential collaboration w/ SBA.
    - ii. We also did not seek new promo items for the time being. Since we have no GAC to speak with, we don't want to buy anything we may not need later on.
- 10. New Business-
  - a. Student Interest Survey Creation Update
    - i. Will set our timeline for completion for **June 1st**.
      - 1. Still need to meet with Chair Salerno since it will give us a broader timetable.
      - 2. We can work with new Coordinators upon their confirmations.
      - 3. TL;DR: Necessary delay.
  - b. Campus Voter Registration Initiative Update
    - i. Spoke with VP Martinez today about summer voter registration plans.
    - ii. VP Martinez has been communicating with Orange County Supervisor of Elections Bill Cowles about collaboration.
      - 1. There will be SG tabling to aid in facilitating voter registration.
      - 2. A sign up sheet will be released soon to gauge interest in volunteering for this program.
      - 3. This tabling will be at set times, not all-day.
    - iii. UCF Orientation **WILL** have voter registration for incoming students in partnership with the Orange County Supervisor of Elections and potential other organizations.
      - 1. Note: This will be a student orientation, not SG.
      - 2. Challenge: Orange County Supervisor of Elections has issues registering people outside of Orange County.
        - a. What other organizations can SG work with to maximize voter registration? (EX: People Power FL, FL NAACP, FL PIRG, etc.)

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- c. SG Collaborative Midterm Committee
  - i. Spoke to VP Martinez today about setting up a committee dedicated to SG-wide voter registration and midterm initiatives.
    - 1. Aim is to have all branches be involved, including incorporating Judicial Branch.
  - ii. GAP will work with the Executive Branch to set up a committee/task force, along with hopefully other branches, to set up a SG-wide campaign.
  - iii. I will have more information as time goes on that can be relayed to the GAP Committee but this idea is in its infancy,
  - iv. We are still waiting for a GAC to help coordinate this idea, among others.
  - v. GAP will work to consolidate Legislative Branch initiatives underneath an umbrella SG-wide initiative.
    - 1. Respect the enthusiasm of some Senators to set up events of their own but it is counterproductive if we are trying to work collectively. We will do everything in our power to incorporate individual ideas into a wider campaign.
  - vi. Happy to see genuine interest from the Executive Branch about this idea.
    - 1. Vice Chair McClellan: Do you think it is beneficial to reach out to RSOs?
      - a. Yes. We want to make sure that SG is in the loop but long term is to ensure that as many entities are looped in as well into a wider push for voter registration. The VP is working with Janet (Gov't Relations) to push initiatives like this. Idea is to incorporate as much of UCF as possible, but this must begin with SG. We can't seem discombobulated.
- d. Legislative Reports
  - i. With the new session now fully underway and with new ideas already springing up, we can begin developing our legislative reports moreso in earnest.
  - ii. As a reminder, these reports are to be used as resources for us when drafting our legislative priorities for Day At The Capitol and any policy-related legislation in the long term.
  - iii. You can draft these reports at your pace. However, for them to be approved and published into the GAP folders, they need to be submitted to myself or Chair Hall before Tuesday at 5:00 PM.

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- iv. It is expected that these reports be treated with the same importance as advocacy legislation.
- v. If you need help with these reports, please reach out to me and I can walk you through the process in a 1:1.
  - 1. Chair Hall: This is an aspect of GAP we would like to see more of. I will be requesting certain reports but you have the latitude to decide for what you see is interesting or important.
  - 2. Senator Kostis: When will the expectations go into effect?
    - a. As soon as the first one is turned in.
  - 3. Senator Castelin: What can we do these reports on?
    - a. Anything so long as it supports the student body. I highly encourage communication so we don't step on each other's toes.
  - 4. Chair Hall: There is a lot of freedom with these reports. The more information we have, regardless, the better. There will be specific topics that will be broader and will require more attention due to high interest. My immediate priority is getting squared away for the midterms, but I will establish a list of topics within the next two weeks that will be delegated.

## 11. Member Discussion-

- a. Senator Almenar: Resolution on Gun Reform
  - i. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cTBNOSpZe-Dd7VImiNutmMkPat0OJk12gNtnsiw64c/edit?usp=sharing>
  - ii. Almenar:
    - 1. Given the recent events, I felt compelled to draft this piece of legislation in order to address the sheer importance of this event. This is my first piece of legislation so bear with me. The Florida Constitution does stipulate regulations are allowed, so I am trying to draft a statement in order to use for a later time (ie Day At The Capitol). Currently trying to reach out to State Reps and hope to get this released to the State Legislature. Whether they care enough to look at it is at their discretion, but we care. There is no politics behind this, I wanted to draft this to point out how much death has occurred.
  - iii. Chair Hall:

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1. This bill will be seen in SBA, not GAP. Moreover, this has not been submitted yet, so things can change as time moves on.
- iv. Senator Kostis:
  1. I like the idea, I think it can be more specific. Narrowing it down to what we would want and list how popular this policy. Be sure to reach out to Rep Eskamani to sponsor.
- v. Chair Hall:
  1. Regardless of your opinion, when we do make these, we need to tie them back to UCF, and this does definitely have that mindset, but keep in mind going forward to directly tie this back to the Student Body. At day's end, we're not in the US Congress, we are at UCF. Reach out to Chair Salerno since they are more than willing to help out. We want everything coming out of SG to be of the highest quality.
- vi. Senator Domino:
  1. Doing more to ensure that the legislation is enacted, there was a conversation about gun reform. I worked in a gun store, and when talks of gun reform occurred, there was a massive buy out of guns. We wouldn't definitely want a spike in gun purchases. Ensuring that our legislation is more concise would be a boon going forward. Would be happy to work with Almenar.
- vii. Senator Almenar:
  1. Foresees backlash from this legislation. A pro-gun advocate did come to campus. The issue isn't to stop people from buying guns outright but I seek to limit who has access to them (ie red flag laws). As I did research, I found that most county officers find these laws ineffective. The process of removing arms from people labeled as a threat takes weeks. This isn't to stop the sale of guns, people have the right, but the intent is to ensure that people don't buy machine guns.
- viii. Senator Domino:
  1. Similar conversations and legislation has still contributed to a spike in gun purchases. I agree that reform needs to be implemented.
- b. VC Temple: Stop The Bleed Campaign

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- i. In light of recent events, I figured it would be a good idea to bring up a program that I find that it might be a good idea to bring attention to. Stop The Bleed is a program that trains civilians to use on-site medical equipment in response to violence that results in bloodshed, such as for example a shooting. Due to the recent shootings that have occurred effectively back to back, it would be perhaps a good idea to teach students about how to use such emergency medical equipment out of an abundance of caution and safety for the student body as a whole. This is a very new idea so feel free to ask questions or make suggestions to gauge whether this would be a good idea or not.
- ii. Questions:
  - 1. Senator Caldwell:
    - a. Love the idea, and I think I would add a few things to that. Add a TCCC, which is a full three casualty class. STB is injury to externalities, not lungs, moving casualties, etc. STB is more basic, so using more in-depth methods would make it more quality. I know a TCCC instructor who might do it for free, not sure what the rate would be. I think we could move away from using UCFPD since they have a spotty record and people still are uncomfortable in approaching officers. I think it would be a good idea to reach out to an outside body.

## 12. Miscellaneous Business

- a. Chair Hall: Things have happened in the past few weeks and they have been difficult to say the least. The feelings present are valid. The Uvalde shooting occurred very close to Sandy Hook. The deaths of 10 African Americans in Buffalo. We need to balance our feelings with our offices. Channel these feelings into initiatives. I.e. STB/TCCC, town halls. Use the time now to use these passions toward change. We are resources for each other.
- b. Senator Almenar: I feel like I am at a loss for words over what has happened. And it takes a mental toll for the cycle that continues. If you need a mental break from this, don't feel like you need to bottle up your feelings over this. This extends beyond SG. Mental Health is critical to this discussion. I am open to talking about this, so will a lot of others.

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13. Final Roll Call: 13/13

14. Adjournment: 3:01 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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