



# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

**UCF Student Government**  
GAP Committee Meeting  
Charge On Chambers  
07/27/2022  
2:00PM  
[ZOOM](#)

## MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 2:07 PM
2. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum: 8/11

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 Caldwell	sgacie2@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Castelin	sga_sci3@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Damarla	sga_med1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Domino	sga_grst1@ucf.edu	P	P
Senator Galloway	sga_grst3@ucf.edu	E	E
Senator Kostis	sga_sci8@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	A	A
LJR Rep	sgachps4@ucf.edu	V	V
GAC	sgagovaffairs@ucf.edu	E	E

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3. Approval of the Minutes: [07/20/22](#) [Approved by GC]
4. Approval of the Agenda: [Approved by GC]
5. Announcements from the Chair
  - a. Hey everyone! Happy Wednesday!
  - b. I hope that everyone enjoys our upcoming break for the next couple of weeks!
    - i. GAP will still be sending the occasional message to everyone in our GroupMe about new developments as we near the Fall so be sure to be paying attention during the break!
  - c. Jimmy Carter Fact of the Week:
    - i. Jimmy Carter received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002 for his work with the Carter Center and humanitarian efforts around the globe.
    - ii. He is one of four presidents to receive the Nobel Peace Prize (T. Roosevelt, Wilson, and Obama) and the only one to receive one after his presidency.
    - iii. Jimmy Carter is one of two Georgians to receive the Nobel Peace Prize with the other being Martin Luther King Jr. in 1964.
6. Announcements from the Vice-Chair
  - a. Good afternoon, everyone!
  - b. As we approach the three-week break heading into Fall, do not forget that if you need help with any reports or resolutions, feel free to reach out to me through GroupMe or my number if you have it!
  - c. I discussed a potential GAP/APIA Caucus collaboration to advocate for expanding voter registration and education efforts amongst the APIA community and advocating for their policy interests heading into the Fall, with Chair Patel being open to such collaboration. My intention is to expand this to other caucuses and begin this effort ahead of the midterms.
  - d. OTD:
    - i. In 1789, the first agency of the federal government, the Department of Foreign Affairs, was established under legislation passed by the First Congress of the United States and signed by President George Washington. In September of that year, another piece of legislation would alter that name into its modern rendition, the Department of State.

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- ii. The Geneva Convention of 1929 is signed by 53 member nations, which defines who is considered a lawful combatant and, thus, a prisoner of war. The treaty also specified that all POWs are considered prisoners of the state that captured them, and thus would be subjected to stately protections, rather than individual soldiers; moreover, certain civilians and women captured as POWs are to be treated with respect and humanity.
  - iii. In 1921, insulin was proven to be a blood sugar regulator by a team of researchers, led by Canadian Frederick Banting, paving the way for its development as a medicinal agent to treat diabetes. Fun fact: the patent for insulin as a medical instrument was sold for only \$1, the intent being that the original researchers wanted it to be a tool for healing, not for profit.
- 7. Announcements from Committee Members
  - a. None.
- 8. Announcements from Non-Committee Members-
  - a. None.
- 9. Old Business-
  - a. UCF Orientation Voter Registration Update, IgKnight Your Vote 2022 Update, Student Priorities Survey Dispersal Update, and Student Priorities Survey Trends Update.
- 10. New Business-
  - a. Student Priorities Survey 2022-2023 Update
    - i. The [Student Priorities Survey 2022-2023](#) currently has **98** responses!
      - 1. As was discussed prior to the meeting, this survey benefits everyone in SG, not just GAP/SBA. This is extremely important to distribute. There's a lot of benefit to be had, so seeing this volume is very uplifting. Matters of civil rights, economic issues (worker's rights. etc), it is a good gauge for where students lie.
    - ii. GAP will be working with Senators that have political/advocacy-oriented RSOs underneath them to get the survey sent out over the next week or so.
      - 1. Reason for this focus is because apolitical RSOs are not as active as politically active ones in the summer. Once the fall convenes, cultural

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RSOs can be more the priority in order to get a greater volume of responses going forward.

- iii. We will prioritize political/advocacy-oriented RSOs first but the goal will be to have all Senators sending out this survey to their respective RSOs by the second week of the Fall semester.

- 1. We do have more flexibility since this year's session is in March, not in January (a luxury the prior GAP Committee unfortunately did not have).

- b. IgKnight Your Vote 2022 Voter Guides

- i. Voter Guides will be an important component of the IgKnight Your Vote Campaign.

- 1. While EC is taking point on this, the aim is to have all other organs of SG to be involved equally in order to make this more of a collaborative effort. Having GAP take on a direct role is a major priority.
    - 2. Our actions will be focused on creating a Voter's Guide *for the general midterm elections in November*. Primary Season is getting very close, and not as much interest vs. the actual midterm. Using the Guide to discuss ballot initiatives in Orange, Seminole Counties will be helpful.

- ii. What races and initiatives do we want to make guides for? Do we want to make guides for other races happening around the state? Do we want to make guides for races happening in other parts of the country?

- 1. Discussion:

- a. Temple: Start at the legislative level, with state and national candidates being a priority. Include links to platforms, social media as well as a fundamental overview of what they are running on, where they are running, etc.

- b. Damarla: Concurs; focus on Florida.

- c. Simko: Put some emphasis on the ballot measures.

- Researched some initiatives, there are three initiatives that are rather vague, so informing students can help them understand them. It would be interesting to provide information on initiatives on areas outside Orange County (ie

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- Hillsborough, South Florida, etc). Provide information on those areas' races.
- d. Caldwell: Including basically campaign finance information can be of use to detail where they are getting their funds. We should include scandals in order to get a fuller picture of candidates. Using OpenSecrets for campaign finance can help
  - e. Kostis: Echoes Caldwell; putting information about how they get their funding (corporate vs. grassroots) is important. I don't think we should focus on races outside Orange County. Some elections within the state can be of help.
  - f. Yalamanchili (Non-Committee Member): Wanted to echo the sentiments of Caldwell, Kostis; guides should be transparent to discuss the good and bad of the candidates. We should refrain from making judgements based on these candidates from their actions.
  - g. Hall: I love the idea of campaign finance disclosure so it is very helpful, providing a better sense of the candidate's interests. When it comes to scandals, I am supportive of the matter, but we would need to discuss with Governmental Affairs in Admin to navigate. However, it would be important to disclose such actions. To discuss the bulk of the Guide, I am envisioning it being focused on Orange, Seminole and partially Osceola. What could be done is that we could focus on larger races (ie federal races). We will definitely focus on statewide races (AG, Agriculture Commissioner, Governor, etc). Different ballot initiatives at the county, state levels are also priority. A ballot initiative almost turned Florida into a jungle primary which would've been bad. So making sure these initiatives are clearly defined will benefit especially younger voters. Races outside Florida would be a good idea, but it would not be a good use of time. We could link websites, news outlets to discuss matters outside Florida. We could even start working on these first Wednesday back.

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## 11. Member Discussion-

- a. Chair Hall - [When2Meet](#) GAP Fall 2022
  - i. Ideal modality: Hybrid.
- b. Domino: Getting more African Americans to expand voter registration efforts through Black Caucus.
  - i. Hall: A portion of that was engaging with the Caucuses (they were nascent since the 52nd). Having registration events with the Caucuses can help students engage with caucuses and get more students to register. Not sure how involved GAP will be. I can reach out to GAC McLain to organize the logistics.
- c. Hall: Compiling discussions from last week to include Caucuses in order to develop a master manifesto on the IgKnight Your Vote campaign. Once the EC is formalized we can send it over to them.
- d.

## 12. Miscellaneous Business

- a. Icebreaker: Favorite Book?
  - i. Damarla: Great Gatsby (the American Dream and how different it is between her life and the story); Being Mortal (not technically medical aspects of getting older but the psychological aspects of growing older).
  - ii. Kostis: [The Shock Doctrine](#) (how the economic means of production are altered during a period of crisis and how it was manipulated to favor the elite).
  - iii. Simko: Strong Towns (rebuilding American prosperity; how suburbia is destroying welfare).
  - iv. Caldwell: His camera's working!!! Two recommendations: [How Europe Underdeveloped Africa](#) (how Europe and Africa went from equal parity in material gains to a sheer disproportionality) and Foundations (Roman Empire's collapse in space! Show is bad though)
  - v. Almenar: Three Books: The Hobbit (I rate books based off how it makes me feel). The Promised Land (by Barack Obama! Loved to get his perspective of his life and the geopolitics of his presidency was fascinating). Kafka On The Shore (a trip to read).

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- vi. Temple: First Principles (how Founding Fathers were inspired by the Ancient Romans), All The King's Men (based off Huey Long's Rise and Fall), The Miernik Dossier (a Cold War epistolary)
- vii. Domino: The Great Gatsby (last book I read cause being a Grad student is hard)
- viii. Vihan: To Kill a Mockingbird, Holes, The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich, Every Man a King
- ix. Hall: The Sneetches (childhood favorite), Camelot's End (about the 1980 primary between Carter and Kennedy and how two very stubborn people gave Reagan the White House), The Power Broker (Robert Moses' construction of New York in a very racist manner (ie public transit would cut African American neighborhoods)) The Jungle (Upton Sinclair's expose of the meat industry during the Progressive Era; it created social change and a poignant critique of the time), The Confessions (ST AUGUSTINE!!!), It Can Happen Here (a political commentary/satire of how a populist stoked racist messages that resulted in reshaping America into an autocratic dictatorship).
- x. Senator Holmes: The Neptune Project (science fiction (sorry! Not relating to history) focused on a girl's mother who is taken by the government and fights it using water breathing powers to prevent them from using children as weapons).
- b. Senator Holmes:
  - i. I am aware that GAP is trying to table in the fall, and trying to get students informed about the penny sales tax regarding transportation, since it would help students' transportation efforts.
    - 1. Hall: We will make sure as many ballot initiatives are included.
    - 2. Holmes: The general election is in November?
    - 3. Hall: Yes
    - 4. Holmes: Simko and I are working together on a resolution compiling research on the penny tax and met with Central Floridians for Public Transportation. If you want me to invite them that would go a long way.
    - 5. Hall: Have you met with Coordinator Lane?
    - 6. Holmes: Not sure how to go about that, but good idea!
    - 7. Simko: I actually sent an email out prior to GAP to Coordinator Lane

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8. Hall: We can definitely work on this, we will provide updates over the three week break.

13. Final Roll Call: 8/11

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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