

Regional Transit System Advisory Board

Applicant Package - Member

Regional Transit System Advisory Board - Member

Term 18 Jan 2024 - 30 Sep 2027

Positions Available 1

Number of applicants in this package 1

- Lim, Michael

Name: Lim, Michael

Address: 2D-203A, 3900 Southwest 27th Street, Gainesville / Florida, 32608

Email: LimMichael@ufl.edu

Board Name: Regional Transit System Advisory Board

Please confirm Full Name, including middle initial, prefix, and physical mailing address:

Full Name: Michael Joseph Lim

Physical Mailing Address: 3900 Southwest 27th Street

Apartment Number: 2D-203A

Apartment Name: Lexington Crossing Apartments

In what city district do you live?:

District 4

Employer:

University of Florida

Phone Number:

321-317-5229

Occupation:

Student

Why are you interested in serving on this board? (Please answer separately for each board you are applying to.):

I am interested on serving on this board because I want to contribute to the development of a comprehensive long-term funding plan for the Regional Transit System. I'm not privvy to the logistics behind running an entire bus system with regularly scheduled routes, live trackers installed on each bus, and drivers paid to drive said buses, but if I had to take a guess, I would guess that the whole endeavor is hemorrhaging money, and the cost to pay for the system's upkeep is probably greater than the amount of funding that is pumped into the system.

Once a sustainable funding model is established that can carry the RTS into the long-run, only then can we look at EXPANDING the current services. People talk a lot about how they wish the bus system would run later, or have more buses running on weekends, but I don't believe that with the current funding model that is even possible.

I believe my work in Student Government at the University of Florida shows that, at bare minimum, I have the sufficient experience and qualifications necessary to serve effectively on this board. I am assertive, yes, but I am also good at working with a team and taking in everyone's ideas to produce the best possible solution.

I take a pragmatic and realistic approach to finances, and I'm okay with playing the long game. I understand that money isn't easy to come by for projects as large as the RTS, but that doesn't mean that securing additional funding is an impossibility with so many federal, state, and private entities for us to reach out to and lobby for support.

I'm going to be in Gainesville for a long time (at least until 2030), and I want to see this through to the end, so if you'll have me, I'll do my best to secure additional recurring sources of funding to back the RTS, and I want to (eventually) extend the operational hours on weekends so that they are the same as the weekday hours.

How many terms have you served on this board previously?:

N/A

Disclaimer:

Under Florida law, all information, including e-mail, written letters, documents and phone messages, sent to the Gainesville City Commission are subject to Public Records law. This includes the sender's e-mail address, home address or phone number if shown in the message, the content of the message and any associated attachments to the mail.

Do you claim any exemption to public record disclosure pursuant to FLA. STAT. Section 119?:

No

If yes, it is required that you submit a detailed explanation of exemption.:

N/A

Have you been removed from any advisory board for attendance, behaviour or another reason?:

No

If you answered yes to the question above, please explain:

N/A

Upload an additional file to support your application (Optional):

- AUTHORIZATION ORDERING SENATE BUDGETARY FUNDS TOWARDS
ESTABLISHING THE EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTIVE VENDING MACHINE

PROJECT.docx.pdf

Upload an additional file to support your application (Optional):

- AUTHORIZATION ORDERING SENATE BUDGETARY FUNDS TOWARDS
ESTABLISHING THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM
APPLICATION PROJECT.docx.pdf

What is your gender identity?:

Male

If you have chosen to self-describe in the question above, you can add your information here:

N/A

Optional: Ethnicity:

Asian or Pacific Islander;Other

Are you a City of Gainesville Employee?:

No

Are you a City of Gainesville Intern?:

No

Are you currently on a City Advisory Board/Committee?:

No

If yes, which City Advisory Board/Committee?:

N/A

Some of the boards and committees appointed by the City Commission are required to comply with Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, the Financial Disclosure Law. If applicable, would you be willing to file the required financial statement?:

Yes

Do you affirm that your personal and business (if applicable) affairs within the City of Gainesville and Alachua County are in substantial compliance with all city and county regulatory and taxing authorities rules and regulations? *:

Yes

Do you agree with the following statement? Appointees to advisory board/committees are required to attend scheduled meetings as specified in the "Advisory Board Handbook." *:

Yes

Do you agree with the following statement? I understand that this completed application is the property of the City of Gainesville, is subject to public record requests and I hereby certify that the statements made on this application are true and correct. :

Yes

Time of Submission: 11/01/23 4:53:14 PM

Attachments

- MichaelLimResume.pdf

MICHAEL LIM

CONTACT

 Gainesville, FL 32608

 3213175229

 limmichael@ufl.edu

SKILLS

- Verbal and Written Communication
- Team Collaboration
- Activity-Based Learning
- Flexible
- Organization and Planning Skills
- Critical Thinking

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- AP Scholar with Distinction
- All State Concert Chorus 21-22
- Rejected from Harvard University



Reliable employee seeking an entry-level position. Team player at heart and seeks to energize the workplace with passion and wit.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

January 2019 - January 2022

Parliamentarian Student Government, Orlando, FL

- Acted as a team leader in group projects, learned to delegate tasks and trust in others
- Gained strong leadership skills by managing blood drives from start to finish
- Demonstrated respect, positive attitude, and willingness to help wherever needed
- Proficient in all Microsoft Office programs
- Ability to type 180+ WPM (Words Per Minute)

EDUCATION

Expected in May 2026

Bachelor of Arts Political Science

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Expected in May 2026

Bachelor of Arts Voice Performance

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

May 2022

High School Diploma

Ocoee High School, Ocoee, FL

- National Honor Society Member
- Awarded Cambridge AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education) Diploma with Merit
- Bright Futures (Florida Academic Scholars) Scholarship Recipient
- Unweighted 4.0 GPA
- Ranked in Top 4% of class

(EDITOR’S NOTE: Michael Lim (me!) authored this bill, but since I was not a Senator at the time of submission, I had my friend Isabella Scramoncin submit this piece of legislation on my behalf. It is my hope that this legislation will show you what my thought process and problem solving skills look like in action, in the real world, with real funds.)

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-XXXX

TITLE: AUTHORIZATION ORDERING SENATE BUDGETARY FUNDS TOWARDS ESTABLISHING THE EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTIVE VENDING MACHINE PROJECT

AUTHOR(S): Senator Isabella Scramoncin

SPONSOR(S): Mental Health Co-Chairperson Wavid Bowman, Senator Asif Islam, Senator Anamika Naidu, Senator Anghello Gangano, Senator Christian Rodriguez

WHEREAS, students at the University of Florida have demanded for many years that a contraceptive vending machine be installed on campus for the express purpose of supporting students’ reproductive rights; and,

WHEREAS, according to statistics collected by the Office of the Chief Diversity Officer, for the academic year 21-22, which is the latest data available to students, 57% of undergraduate students are females [1]; and,

WHEREAS, according to a study published in the National Library of Medicine, 72% college students have had sexual intercourse [2]; and,

WHEREAS, according to the same study, condoms are the most commonly used type of contraceptive, followed by oral contraceptives (pills) [2]; and,

WHEREAS, on June 24th, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States of America overturned decades of precedent (*Roe* and *Casey*) by ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* that the right to abortion was not constitutionally protected under the 14th amendment, leaving the issue for the individual states to legislate on [3]; and,

WHEREAS, on March 3rd, 2022, the Florida State Legislature passed HB 5, a 15-week ban on abortion, [4]; and,

WHEREAS, on April 3rd, 2023, the Florida State Legislature passed SB 300, a 6-week ban on abortion, which would effectively ban abortion in the State of Florida, because by that point in their pregnancy, many women are unaware of their pregnancy [5]; and,

WHEREAS, the passage of SB 300 is the latest in an onslaught of legislation by the Florida legislature which attacks LGBTQ+ rights, women’s rights, and reproductive rights; and,

WHEREAS, the Morning After Pill (MAP) is an over-the-counter drug which is taken to prevent pregnancy after sexual intercourse, with peak effectiveness within 12-24 hours of intercourse, and decreasing effectiveness within 72-120 hours of intercourse [6]; and,

WHEREAS, when choosing the location for the installation of a contraceptive vending machine, easy accessibility is of the utmost importance if it is to serve the student body effectively, taking into account the fact that the longer a student waits after having intercourse to use oral contraceptives, the less effective the medication becomes; and,

WHEREAS, when a meeting was held between members of Student Government and UF Pharmacy on August 9th, 2018, Newell Hall was identified as a potential location for the contraceptive vending machine due to its centralized position on campus and its hours of operation (runs 24 hours a day) [7]; and,

WHEREAS, according to data collected by GatorWell, at the University of Florida, only 34.7% of students who engaged in sexual intercourse used birth control pills [8]; and,

WHEREAS, based on the same data, only 25.8% of students who engaged in sexual intercourse used condoms [8]; and,

WHEREAS, based on the same data, only 21.3% of students who engaged in sexual intercourse used both condoms and birth control pills [8]; and,

WHEREAS, based on the same data, 88.3% of sexually active students reported using a birth control method either “most of the time” or “always” [8]; and,

WHEREAS, based on the same data, 16.0% of sexually active students reported having used, or having had a partner who used, emergency contraception (i.e., the Morning After Pill) within the last 12 months [8]; and,

WHEREAS, a clear and present demand by students attending the University of Florida for accessible forms of birth control has been established; and,

WHEREAS, this project would establish a contraceptive vending machine specifically at an on campus location, so as to avoid all the travel impediments one might face when going off campus; and,

WHEREAS, this project would increase the affordability of the emergency contraceptives for students, as the prices at pharmacies can oftentimes be prohibitive for students; and,

WHEREAS, contraceptive vending machines increase privacy for students compared to 24/7 pharmacies because there is no need to interact with anyone; and,

WHEREAS, there is a social stigma associated with publicly purchasing contraceptives, especially for women, and this contraceptive vending machine can serve to mitigate the number of women being harassed, shamed, and judged for seeking out reproductive care; and,

WHEREAS, according to a recent report by USA Today, at least 39 colleges and universities across 17 states have implemented emergency contraceptive vending machines on their campuses [9]; and,

WHEREAS, reports from AP News and Self have shown that contraceptive vending machines at universities are legal and fiscally responsible [10,11]; and,

WHEREAS, the recommended budget for the implementation of this project is similar to those provided at other universities, such as Boston University, where their report indicates they spent: \$5,075.00 on stocking product and maintenance fees combined, \$2,688.00 on the vending machine itself, for a grand total of \$7,763.00, not including cost of shipping or emergency repairs (i.e., in the event of a hurricane, or other unforeseen circumstances) [12]; and,

WHEREAS, on July 5th, 2022, the Student Senate of the University of Florida passed SSB2022-1023, “Resolution Recognizing and Supporting Sexual and Reproductive Health Resources and Opportunities” [13,14]; and,

WHEREAS, on July 19th, 2022, the Student Senate of the University of Florida passed SSB2022-1027, “Student Body Resolution Addressing the Need for 24/7 Access to Emergency Contraception on the University of Florida Campus” [15,16]; and,

WHEREAS, the passage of these resolutions featuring authors and sponsors from both caucuses shows that, even across the passage of time, the sentiment of the Student Senate has consistently been in favor of expanding access to reproductive healthcare on campus at the University of Florida; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article III, Section 5 of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, the Senate President shall serve as the chief administrative officer of the Student Body [17]; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article III, Section 6(j) of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, the Student Senate has the power and duty to “provide for the control and disbursement of Student Body funds” [17]; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article IV, Section 4(e) of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, a power of the Student Body President is to “create and appoint committees or commissions not provided in this Constitution, if deemed necessary, provided that these bodies do not contravene Student Body law” [17]; and,

WHEREAS, Student Senate Bill 2022-1026 allocated \$138,000.00 USD into the line item entitled “SG Projects Line” under “Administrative Account-602” under the Student Body President’s control [18]; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ORDERED THAT the Student Body President disburses \$10,000.00 USD from the FY23-24 Budget line entitled “SG Projects Line” under “Administrative Account-602” to create the ***Emergency Contraceptive Vending Machine*** project, which will be responsible for: setting a location for the installation of the vending machine, finding a suitable vendor to purchase the vending machine from, acquiring permits and authorizations from the appropriate university entities, purchasing the contraceptives to stock the vending machine with, restocking the vending machine on a regular basis, and collaborating with other campus entities such as GatorWell to find affordable, fiscally responsible methods in order to provide contraceptives via the vending machine at affordable prices for students; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ORDERED THAT the Student Body President shall convene a special commission that is tasked with overseeing the ***Emergency Contraceptive Vending Machine*** project and the operation of the \$10,000.00 allocated funds (named at the discretion of the Student Body President), with Reproductive Rights Chairwoman Faith Corbett as the Chair of the commission.

Proviso: A copy of this authorization will be sent to the following people: Student Body President Olivia Green, Student Body Treasurer Nyla Pierre, Senate President Oscar Santiago Perez, Senator Isabella Scramoncin, Reproductive Rights Chairwoman Faith Corbett, Women’s Student Association President Padme Adimula, Graduate Assistants United Co-Presidents Eva Garcia Ferres and Bryn Taylor, Inter-Residence Hall Association President Justine Tryon, Her Campus Chapter Leaders Marinna Stopa and Sara Ismail, Hispanic Student Association President Maria Karla Leon, Black Student Union President Laura Thomas, Asian American Student Union President Chloe Choi

All excess funds not utilized by the project shall return to the FY23-24 Budget Line item entitled “SG Projects Line” under “Administrative Account-602”.

1. <https://data-apps.ir.aa.ufl.edu/public/diversity/UF%20Equity%20Report%202022.pdf>
2. [https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/10551664/#:~:text=In%20the%20results%2C%20levels%20of,%25\)%20were%20currently%20sexually%20active.](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/10551664/#:~:text=In%20the%20results%2C%20levels%20of,%25)%20were%20currently%20sexually%20active.)
3. https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/19-1392_6j37.pdf
4. <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2022/5/ByCategory>
5. <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2023/300>
6. <https://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/morning-after-pill/about/pac-20394730#:~:text=The%20morning%20after%20pill%20is,primary%20method%20of%20birth%20control.>

7. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WVMyZckXbXqqxcqyXO_-TCNfD9X9KYnV/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114391069193047243757&rtpof=true&sd=true
8. <https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/health-data/uf-student-survey-reports/>
9. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2023/07/22/emergency-contraception-vending-machines-on-college-campuses/70402459007/>
10. <https://www.self.com/story/emergency-contraception-vending-machine>
11. <https://apnews.com/article/plan-b-emergency-contraceptive-vending-machine-abortion-00ee797529a855b116a538575790098f>
12. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nQyWVQqEfOaNZOn5rDTFqLGte6hSxoLq/view?usp=sharing>
13. https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/R2022-1023_Resolution_Recognizing_and_Supporting_Sexual_and_Reproductive_Health_Resources_and_Opport.pdf
14. <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/07-05-2022.pdf>
15. <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2022-1027-Student-Body-Resolution-Addressing-the-Need-for-24.pdf>
16. <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/07-19-2022.pdf>
17. <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Constitution-as-of-2016.pdf>
18. <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SSB-2022-1026-Funding-for-Fiscal-Year-2023-2024-Activity-Service-Fee-Budget.pdf>

(EDITOR’S NOTE: Michael Lim (me!) authored this bill, but since I was not a Senator at the time of submission, I had my friend Asif Islam submit this piece of legislation on my behalf. It is my hope that this legislation will show you what my thought process and problem solving skills look like in action, in the real world, with real funds.)

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-XXXX

TITLE: AUTHORIZATION ORDERING SENATE BUDGETARY FUNDS TOWARDS ESTABLISHING THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM APPLICATION PROJECT

AUTHOR(S): Senator Asif Islam

SPONSOR(S): Judiciary Chair Jonathan C. Stephens, Majority Party Leader Simone Liang, Senator Raj Mia, Senator Nima Aria, Senator Christian Rodriguez, Senator Anghelo Gangano, Senator Danielle Hadad, Mental Health Committee Co-Chair Wavid Bowman, Senator Anamika Naidu

WHEREAS, many students at the University of Florida, and many residents who reside in Gainesville at large, have leveled complaints about the RTS (Regional Transit System) app for a number of reasons, including but not limited to: the fact that it is poorly optimized, it tends to crash a lot, and it is not functional on all devices; and,

WHEREAS, a lone student at the University of Florida, Jonathan Wukitsch, has made a more user-friendly, more accessible, more functional app to follow the schedule of RTS buses’ arrivals at given stops, as well as real-time tracking of the buses’ live positions, in his spare time [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the app developed by Jonathan Wukitsch only works on devices running the operating system iOS 16 and later, and as such, still holds major barriers of entry for the approximately 45% of the American phone-using population that are on Android devices [2]; and,

WHEREAS, even amongst iPhone users or devices that utilize iOS as the operating system, over 13% of users are still utilizing versions of iOS that are below iOS 16.0 [3]; and,

WHEREAS, at least 77% of students attending the University of Florida reside in off-campus residences, meaning that if those students lack a car, bicycle, scooter, or other form of transportation, they may be forced to exclusively rely on riding the bus to attend classes on campus [4,5]; and,

WHEREAS, even if students are living on-campus, this does not disbar the possibility that they may still utilize the RTS buses for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to: getting to class, going to the gym (i.e., Southwest Rec), or receiving subsidized transportation around Gainesville at large (i.e., Butler Plaza); and,

WHEREAS, data collected by the RTS shows that, over the course of the past fiscal year, the RTS serviced over 3.8 million unique rides without even having yet collected data for the months of July, August, and September [6]; and,

WHEREAS, a resolution co-authored by Budget and Appropriations Chairman Cox and former Senator Shoemaker shows that there has been bipartisan support for an SG initiative aimed at addressing the failures of the current RTS app since at least 2022 [7]; and,

WHEREAS, students at the University of Florida have shown their resilience and initiative when it comes to addressing problems being faced by the student body at large, even when there are no tangible rewards involved; and,

WHEREAS, we, the Student Senate of the University of Florida, are called on to serve as responsible financial stewards of the A&S fees collected from our fellow students; and,

WHEREAS, keeping in line with the aforementioned responsibilities, and in order to provide the best possible service at an affordable price, the Student Senate of the University of Florida believes it best to employ students to create this SG-sponsored RTS app; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article III, Section 5 of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, the Senate President shall serve as the chief administrative officer of the Student Body [8]; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article III, Section 6(j) of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, the Student Senate has the power and duty to “provide for the control and disbursement of Student Body funds” [8]; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article IV, Section 4(e) of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, a power of the Student Body President is to “create and appoint committees or commissions not provided in this Constitution, if deemed necessary, provided that these bodies do not contravene Student Body law” [8]; and,

WHEREAS, Student Senate Bill 2022-1026 allocated \$7,500.00 USD into the line item entitled “Senate” under “Administrative Account-602” under the Senate President’s control [9]; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ORDERED THAT the Senate President disburses \$2,000.00 USD from the FY23-24 Budget line entitled “Senate” under “Administrative Account-602” to create the ***SG RTS App*** project, in the name of creating an app that is capable of functioning on a variety of devices and operating systems, does not crash as frequently as the current RTS app, is regularly updated, features faster refresh times to provide more accurate real-time tracking of the buses, and features a more user-friendly interface; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ORDERED THAT the Student Body President shall convene a special commission, upon being notified by Senator Asif Islam that suitable student candidates

have been identified for the team, that is tasked with overseeing the **SG RTS App** project and the operation of the \$2,000.00 allocated funds (with the app named at the discretion of the Senate President), with Senator Asif Islam as the Chair of the commission.

Proviso: A copy of this authorization will be sent to the following people: Student Body President Olivia Green, Student Body Vice President Clara Calavia, Student Body Treasurer Nyla Pierre, Senate President Oscar Santiago Perez, Senate President Pro-Tempore Nathan McGinnis, Budget and Appropriations Committee Chairman Blake Cox, Senator Asif Islam, and Jonathan Wukitsch.

All excess funds not utilized by the project shall return to the FY23-24 Budget Line item entitled “SG Projects Line” under “Administrative Account-602”.

- [1] https://www.reddit.com/r/ufl/comments/14se2wr/i_just_released_navigator_a_better_rts_bus/
- [2] <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1045192/share-of-mobile-operating-systems-in-north-america-by-month/>
- [3] <https://gs.statcounter.com/ios-version-market-share/mobile-tablet/united-states-of-america/#monthly-202306-202306-bar>
- [4] <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/university-of-florida-1535/student-life#:~:text=University%20of%20Florida%20has%20a,of%20students%20live%20off%20campus.>
- [5] <https://facilities.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/plan/2020-2030/data/Housing%20DandA%202020.pdf>
- [6] http://go-rts.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/June_23_-_Ridership.pdf
- [7] https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pZDKyJE1k2gph9JZggQ4uo_Vt73z57JW/edit
- [8] <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Constitution-as-of-2016.pdf>
- [9] <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SSB-2022-1026-Funding-for-Fiscal-Year-2023-2024-Activity-Service-Fee-Budget.pdf>