University Faculty Senate Florida Atlantic University

Resolution on Opposition to Concealed Weapons or Firearms on State University Systems Campuses or Facilities.

Whereas: the University Faculty Senate (UFS) works towards better and higher quality educational opportunities at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) and serves as a mechanism to discuss issues of importance to higher education and provides input from a faculty perspective,

Whereas: the UFS is concerned about the safety and welfare of students, faculty, staff and visitors to FAU campuses and/or facilities and has a duty to adopt policies promoting a safe environment,

Whereas: there have been approximately thirty (30) instances of unauthorized firearms use for either assault or suicidal purposes at American universities in the past two years, including at the University of Central Florida (2013) and Florida State University (2014),

Whereas: Florida legislature is considering (Senate Bill 176 and companion House Bill 4005) which would delete a provision prohibiting concealed carry licensees from openly carrying a handgun or carrying a concealed weapon or firearm into a college or university facility,

CONCURS with the position of the vast majority of education and law enforcement professionals, that as an essential element of an overall school safety plan, firearms on campus should be carried only by trained security or police.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UFS strongly opposes SB 176, HB 4005, or any legislation that enables individuals other than sworn law enforcement officers to carry concealed weapons or firearms on any State University System campuses and/or facilities.