

## **RESOLUTION**

### **OPPOSING SB 234, HB 0517 AND OTHER LEGISLATION THAT PREEMPTS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS' RIGHTS TO REGULATE FIREARMS ON CAMPUS**

Adopted by the FGCU Faculty Senate, February 25, 2011

WHEREAS, after deadly shootings at Virginia Tech (2007) and Northern Illinois University (2008), political pressure has increased to prohibit colleges and universities across the country from regulating firearms on college and university campuses and to allow students to possess and carry concealed firearms; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in at least 18 states that would prohibit colleges and universities from adopting policies that regulate possession of firearms on campus; and

WHEREAS, pending legislation in the Florida legislature (Senate Bill 234 and companion House Bill 0517) “provides a person in compliance with the terms of a concealed carry license may carry a concealed weapon or firearm into a career center or college or university facility” and “also allows for firearms to be stored in vehicles on campus if they follow all other existing state laws”; and

WHEREAS, colleges and universities have a legal duty to adopt policies to promote a safe environment for students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS the vast majority of educational and law enforcement professionals believe that prohibiting firearms on college campuses, except by law enforcement officers and other university recognized academic, research, and training personnel, is an essential element of an overall school safety plan; therefore

THE FACULTY RESOLVES its opposition to SB 234, HB 0517, and any other legislation that would preempt an educational institution's right to prohibit or adopt policies to regulate possession of firearms on campus.