

## **Resolution Objecting to Allowing Concealed Weapons on Wichita State University Campuses February 6, 2017**

The Faculty Senate of the Wichita State University (WSU) is comprised of the elected representatives of faculty at the University and is charged with acting in behalf of faculty.

We present you this resolution to:

- a. express our recognition of recent university committee efforts to address how to implement the impending changes to the Kansas concealed carry legislation while seeking to limit the potential adverse effects of the impending expiration of the current campus exemption to this legislation.
- b. express our concern that the current efforts to address the expiration of the campus exemption to the Kansas concealed carry legislation going into effect starting July 1, 2017, has failed to reconcile the outspoken and well-documented concerns related to the introduction of legalized concealed carry on our campus.
- c. express our opposition to the legalization of weapons/guns on campus.
- d. call for a continuance of the current campus exemption as a means of preserving the spirit of an open academic and educational framework on our campus where speech, thought and personal growth through learning and addressing challenges in a positive manner can be encouraged without inhibitions.
- e. call to your attention to the results of the 2015-2016 state employee gun survey (Docking Institute of Public Affairs) where 77% of a total of 10,886 university faculty and staff responders opposed guns on campus and called for an extension of the campus exemption past July 1, 2017.
- f. call to your attention to the results subset of the 2015-2016 state employee gun survey (Docking Institute of Public Affairs) specific to Wichita State University. The results mirror those of the state-wide survey and speaks to the local concern and opposition to the expiration of the current campus exemption to the Kansas concealed carry legislation. A total of 73% of faculty and staff responding to the survey opposed legalizing guns on campus and favored keeping the Wichita State University campus exempt.

- g. call your attention research to social research that raises concerns about the net effect legalization of guns on campus will have the on the safety of college students, faculty, and staff<sup>1</sup>.

Therefore, the Faculty Senate expresses its opposition, in the strongest possible terms, to legalizing concealed weapons on Wichita State University campuses. We call most adamantly for the continuation of the campus exemption currently afforded our campus.

On behalf of our constituencies, we urge the Kansas State Legislature 1) to respect local control by continuing the exemption to the Personal and Family Protection Act and 2) to allow our campus communities to choose whether or not weapons are allowed on our WSU campuses.

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<sup>1</sup> Webster, Daniel W., et al. 2016. Firearms on Campus: Research Evidence and Policy Implications. Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research. Retrieved 11/15/16:  
[http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/johns-hopkins-center-for-gun-policy-and-research/\\_pdfs/GunsOnCampus.pdf](http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/johns-hopkins-center-for-gun-policy-and-research/_pdfs/GunsOnCampus.pdf)