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Guns on Campus

Submitted by: Michelle Haberland

10/4/2011

Discussion:

The faculty members of the Georgia Southern University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors respectfully request an open discussion about the construction of a shooting range on campus. As faculty, we consider the safety of our students and university community to be of the utmost importance. We ask that the following questions be considered at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate:

1. Was the Faculty Senate or any other body with faculty representation consulted or notified as the Department for Natural Resources grant was developed?
2. What safety measures were included as part of the Department of Natural Resources grant proposal?
3. How will the university avoid confusion among students, faculty and staff about the existing provision in the Student Conduct Code that prohibits weapons on campus?
4. Will members of the public be allowed to bring weapons on to campus in order to use the shooting range?
5. In March of this year during a meeting of the Faculty Senate, President Keel expressed his opposition to ongoing legislation which would allow individuals to carry concealed weapons on campus. He said, “We, of course, are adamantly opposed to that, the opportunity for anyone to carry a gun on campus. Those two things are just about as antithetical as you could possibly get.” Has the administration’s position on this point changed in the intervening months?
6. Where do the University and BOR stand on the House Bill 55, which has been carried over to the 2012 legislative session?
7. Who will be solicited to donate the additional $750,000 in funding required beyond the $3.2 million grant?
Rationale:

The administration and faculty agree that the safety of our university community is paramount. The construction of a shooting range and the resulting increase in the number of weapons brought onto our campus affects us all.

Response:

no response posted, resubmitted 10/12/2011