

## Faculty Senate Resolution Opposing Firearms on College Campuses

### Northwestern Oklahoma State University

February 1, 2024

**WHEREAS**, the indefinite and unproven benefits of the carrying of firearms by faculty or college students can be clearly contrasted with the potential risks for accidental and intentional misuse of firearms on college campuses; and

**WHEREAS**, the safety and security of an entire campus community outweigh the need of the individual implicit in the definition of self-defense; and

**WHEREAS**, the policies of the university that provide safety to all of its constituencies, and the specific actions of its security team could be severely compromised by untrained and uncoordinated individual action for which the institution would bear ultimate responsibility; and

**WHEREAS**, campus police officers and security personnel have voiced strong oppositions to allowing firearms on college campuses, and furthermore, numerous professional associations, including the American College Personnel Association, Association of Student Conduct Administration, National Orientation Directors Association, and the Association of College and University Housing, have all voiced unanimous opposition to firearms on campus; and

**WHEREAS**, the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators has stated its opposition to allowing firearms on university campuses and that there is no credible evidence that allowing firearms on campuses will make campuses safer;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the Faculty Senate at Northwestern Oklahoma State University support maintaining the current law regarding weapons on campus, in which the President has the discretion to allow individuals to carry weapons on campus when the individual circumstances warrant it. We strongly oppose any changes to state law regarding weapons on college and university campuses.



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*Mary J. Riegel, Ph.D.*  
*Faculty Senate President*