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5 **A RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF STATE RETENTION OF**
6 **CURRENT UW REGULATION OF FIREARMS ON UW CAMPUSES**
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10 **WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Wyoming is considering a bill that would allow
11 conceal-carry permit holders, including administrators, staff, faculty, students and visitors,
12 the right to carry firearms at the University of Wyoming, including at athletic events,
13 without needing written consent from the University of Wyoming Police Department,
14 preempting UW Regulation 2-178 Section VI (G) regarding firearms at the University of
15 Wyoming,
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17 **AND WHEREAS**, there are aspects of a university setting that are not conducive to students,
18 educators and visitors carrying firearms, including, but not limited to:

- 19 • UW facilities include the Early Care and Education Center (ECEC) educating children
20 between 3 months to 9 years of age and the UW Lab School educating students in
21 grades K-8, both of which are subject to the 1990 Gun-Free School Zones Act (18
22 U.S.C. § 922) and the 1994 Gun-Free Schools Act (20 U.S.C. §7961). Allowing
23 concealed carry firearms on campus would cause the ECEC to no longer be in
24 compliance with its accrediting standards and federal law.
- 25 • Firearms in classrooms will be perceived as a threat of violence by many students
26 and educators,
- 27 • The dynamics of college life include tremendous stress, social obstacles, alcohol and
28 drug abuse, and other questionable behaviors, and these dynamics can have
29 potentially lethal consequences when firearms are readily available,
- 30 • The suicide rate in Wyoming is among the highest in the nation, and increased
31 availability of firearms may increase the risk of suicide, and
- 32 • The presence of firearms at the university means there is a chance of accidental
33 discharge or misuse by the carrier or another student, employee, or visitor.

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35 **AND WHEREAS**, students and UW employees who believe they are threatened can apply to
36 obtain a permit to carry a gun on campus for personal protection through UW's police
37 department;
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39 **AND WHEREAS**, the Faculty Senate acknowledges the need and right for a safe academic
40 environment, but believes the above risks associated with armed students and educators
41 greatly outweigh the deterrence benefits from the small chance that firearm carriers could
42 prevent a tragedy; therefore,
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44 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming strongly
45 encourages the state to consider carefully the consequences, intended and unintended, of
46 allowing firearms on campuses and uphold firearms-free campuses.

***AUTHENTICATION:** The foregoing Faculty Senate Resolution 335, as amended, duly
adopted by the Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming under date of January 30, 2017,
is hereby transmitted to the President of the University of Wyoming for review in accordance
with UW Regulations.*

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Date Jan 30, 2017

Donal O'Toole
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Secretary of the Faculty Senate