

**UHD FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION**  
**REGARDING: Campus Carry**  
**March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**

*“The blade itself incites to deeds of violence.” – Homer, The Odyssey*

**WHEREAS:** the declaration that all UHD classrooms and faculty offices be gun-free would protect the learning environment by continuing to allow the open exchange of ideas, necessary at a University, without the fear of violence or death; the presence of firearms in classrooms and faculty offices would stifle constructive but controversial conversations, reduce the coverage of emotionally charged topics, and otherwise have negative effects on the quality of education our students receive; the current law allows for University presidents to “establish reasonable rules” regarding the carry of concealed handguns on campus, and it is most reasonable to not allow concealed handguns in classrooms and faculty offices; there is a long tradition in this country, dating back to 1824 (Thomas Jefferson, University of Virginia code of conduct), of banning weapons from University campuses, and we do not feel that the purported evidence for the claim, that allowing guns in classrooms and faculty offices will increase the safety of our students, is sufficient to justify overturning such a deeply rooted tradition, which was itself established because of the much more obvious fact that the presence of weapons increases violence, and the threat of violence, and thereby decreases the ability to learn and teach – which are the primary goals of a university.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the UHD Faculty Senate urges Interim President Olivas to declare as gun-free all classrooms and faculty offices at UHD, in addition to the gun-free zones delineated by the Campus Carry Workgroup.