PROFS: Allowing concealed carry at the university makes the university less safe

PROFS – the Public Representation Organization of the Faculty Senate – represents the faculty at UW-Madison. PROFS is linked to the governance structure on campus; the University Committee, the executive committee of the Faculty Senate, serves as the PROFS Board of Directors.

PROFS is currently reviewing proposed legislation (LRB-2653/1) in the Wisconsin Legislature. LRB-2653/1 would: 1) Exempt any college or university in the University of Wisconsin System and any technical college from the law that allows a university or college to prohibit a person from carrying a firearm in any building on its grounds if the person holds a license to carry a concealed weapon; 2) Repeal the provision in the administrative code in which the University of Wisconsin System generally prohibits persons from carrying, possessing, or using any dangerous weapon on university lands or in university buildings or facilities.

In light of this proposal, PROFS strongly reiterates its position that allowing concealed carry at the university makes the university less safe. This position is consistent with 2003 Faculty Document 1751, registering opposition to legislation permitting concealed carry of firearms; and 2011 Faculty Document 2291, supporting the policy that no university employee should carry or go armed with a firearm or other weapon in the course of their employment, with exceptions for law enforcement and in cases approved in advance.

We believe that making it easier for people to carry firearms and bring them onto university property would make it more dangerous for the faculty, staff and students of the University of Wisconsin.

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