Student Senate Resolution 2015-105

TITLE: Resolution Commending the Protection of On-Campus First Amendment Rights

AUTHORS: Senator Hammaad Saber, Max Klein

SPONSOR: Senator Keith Saint

WHEREAS, individuals have used the grounds of the University of Florida to freely express their opinions; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida allows for demonstrations utilizing any outdoor area on campus so long as groups or individuals adhere to legal statutes and avoid infringing upon the rights of others or interrupting normal university operations; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida abides by the US Constitutional Protections regarding prior restraint that prevent administrators from restricting speech deemed acceptable or unacceptable beforehand; and,

WHEREAS, the exemplary and enduring work of the Dean of Students Office (DSO) has earned the University of Florida the highest available rating in freedom of expression at higher education institutions by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE); and,

WHEREAS, the protection by the University of Florida of freedom of expression has placed it among 18 other universities recognized by FIRE as having most favorable speech policies nationwide; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate commends Dr. Jen Day Shaw, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students, and all acting university administrators for working to ensure that the University of Florida is recognized as an institution of higher learning that supports the rights of all individuals to free expression.

2 http://www.thefire.org/university-florida-earns-fires-highest-rating-free-speech/
3 http://www.thefire.org/spotlight/?x=&y=&speech_code=Green&submit=GO
Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Dr. Jen Day Shaw, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students; Dave Kratzer, Vice President of Student Affairs; and Dr. W. Kent Fuchs, President.

Davis Bean
Senate President

Date: 4-2-15