This Motion Is Coming From District #352

Resolution Concerning the Carrying of Dangerous Weapons to Campus:

Whereas the right to defend one's self is a natural right, and not legitimately subject to revocation by a government agency or any other entity, and

whereas for people not trained in the martial arts, hand-to-hand combat, or other forms of self defense, or those who may be impeded from those forms of self defense by circumstance or other limitation, carrying a firearm, "electric weapon," or other form of personal weapon may be the only realistic means of self-defense, or "back-up" self defense (e.g. in addition to carrying something such as pepper spray), and

whereas the choice of method of self-defense is most appropriately made by an individual who has evaluated his own circumstance, and

whereas the State of Wisconsin, after an effort of many years' duration on the part of many citizens to bring this about, now allows citizens to carry arms on their persons and -- with a permit obtained after training -- to carry certain classes of weapons on their persons in a concealed manner, and

whereas those most likely to have a need to carry weapons for self-defense are those who come to the University campus on foot or by bicycle, and who therefore do not have vehicles parked on campus, and

whereas the current blanket policy disallowing the carrying of firearms and other "dangerous weapons" effectively prevents pedestrian and bicycle commuters to campus from exercising their judgement to take steps, allowed under law, to provide for their own protection during their commutes without violating University policy and risking disciplinary action,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Academic Staff Assembly herewith supports an alteration to the current policy such as to allow those who have been issued "concealed carry" permits by the state to carry weapons they are permitted to carry by state law into, out of, and within University buildings when transiting the weapons to and from secure storage in those buildings.

"Secure storage" would mean a locked enclosure, such as a locked desk drawer, a locked filing cabinet, a "locker", a locked cabinet, or locked safe, as may be available within a building to a particular employee or student.

The Assembly herewith also states that if such authorization is given not as a blanket policy, but by way of exception, that the following stipulations hold:

1. Authorization will be given promptly, with the only concern being that a secure place or places do indeed exist, or are made to exist, for the storage of weapons.
2. Conditions will not be imposed which have the effect of rendering the authorization moot.
3. Such authorization may be presumed by those individuals who have obtained temporary "concealed carry" authorization by court order, for the duration of the order (30 days in current statutes).