Resolution of the Stephen F. Austin State University Faculty Senate

October 1, 2020

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate of Stephen F. Austin State University approves the following statement:

Based on the information we currently have, the SFA Faculty Senate is deeply concerned about the September 14 incident where campus police, responding to a false report, entered a sleeping SFA student's dorm room at 3:00 AM and questioned her.

We share the concern expressed by many others that it took several days for the President and Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities to be informed about the incident.

Many details of the incident are still not publicly known as the investigation is still ongoing. Faculty members at SFA have a deep care and concern for our students, and we know that students cannot be expected to learn if they do not feel safe on campus. SFA serves a diverse student population. Regardless of the specific findings eventually reached in this case, we are committed to an environment in which everyone is treated with dignity and respect. We need to continue to dialogue with our students of color and listen to their concerns and needs.

We, the Faculty Senate, call for a swift and thorough investigation into this incident and for appropriate actions to be taken against anyone found to have endangered the welfare of our students. We support President Gordon's decision to bring in an independent outside investigator to determine how to prevent such a situation from occurring again.