



MEMORANDUM

**To:** Donna E. Shalala, President  
**From:** Mary Coombs *MC*  
Chair, Faculty Senate  
**Date:** February 2, 2006

**Subject:** Faculty Senate Legislation #2005-06(D) – Resolution regarding the presentation of professional boxing at the University’s BankUnited Center

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The Faculty Senate, at its January 25, 2006 meeting, voted unanimously as follows regarding professional boxing at the University’s BankUnited Center.

Without necessarily subscribing to every detail of the proposed resolution, the Faculty Senate votes in favor of its general approach, and in particular, adopts the final paragraph condemning in the strongest terms the decision to have this event on the University campus and urging the administration to take all necessary steps immediately to ensure that it is never repeated. The full text of the resolution is copied below for your reference.

Given that the very purpose of professional boxing is physical violence and that its necessary and foreseeable effects include brain damage to the participants;

Given that sponsorship of such a dangerous and degrading event is inconsistent with the University’s mission and image, including its role as a major provider of medical services and research devoted, *inter alia*, to dealing with the tragic consequences of such activities;

Given that the BankUnited Center was and should be understood as a venue for events and activities whose audiences include our students and families in the surrounding community;

Given that professional boxing is not an event the University should wish to promote as “entertainment” for these or any audience;

Given that, to our knowledge, the University of Miami stands almost alone among universities in promoting such activities on its campus;

And given our particular concern that this event was referred to in eVeritas as the Center’s “first live championship boxing event;”

We condemn in the strongest terms the decision to have this event on the University campus and urge the administration to take all necessary steps immediately to ensure that it is never repeated.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your information.

MC/kl

cc: Thomas LeBlanc, Executive Vice President and Provost  
Faculty Senate  
1252 Memorial Drive, 325 Ashe Admin. Bldg.  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146  
Phone: (305) 284-3721 • Fax: (305) 284-5515  
<http://www.miami.edu/FacultySenate>  
email: [facsen@miami.edu](mailto:facsen@miami.edu)