

## **Celebrate Constitution Day September 17**

Senator Robert C. Byrd, a West Virginia Democrat and the United States Congress' unofficial constitutional scholar, believed that American primary, secondary, and post-secondary students lack significant knowledge regarding the United States Constitution. In December 2004, Senator Byrd offered an amendment that was passed by both the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate in an attempt to increase students' knowledge about the Constitution.

The legislation requires that all educational institutions that receive federal funds implement educational programs related to the United States Constitution on September 17 of each year. September 17th was selected as the date for the celebration due to the fact that on September 17, 1787, the delegates to the Constitutional Convention met for the last time to sign the United States Constitution and present it to the American public. Click here to visit the official [Constitution Day](#) website.

Florida National University observes this day in September as Congress intended.

In commemoration of Constitution Day, the Florida National University Library along with the Student Service Department sponsor various educational activities. A prominently displayed exhibit is created which includes copies of the US Constitution, as well as, books and other educational materials which serve to help students, faculty, staff, and our wider community, learn about and appreciate the US Constitution and its special place among the world's great achievements. To commemorate Constitution Day, the library also especially encourages the faculty and their students to participate in workshops which offer additional assistance in researching the US Constitution and its unique role in human history and culture and how to use books, databases, and other tools to accomplish this. Moreover, during these workshops participants are encouraged and assisted in borrowing books and other materials in furtherance of this learning process. In this process, students and other members of the FNU community are also assisted in obtaining the questions and answers for examinations related to US citizenship. They are helped to better understand the US Constitution, as well as the rule of law it stimulates, in harmony with Florida National University's mission statement as it supports our curriculum and provides a cultural service to our entire community.

