

May 22, 2020

Dear UW Bothell Faculty,

The Executive Council of the UW Bothell General Faculty Organization strongly urges all UW Bothell faculty to **avoid the use of online proctoring tools**, such as Proctorio, and instead use alternative means to guard against academic misconduct.

You all recently received an email from Chancellor Yeigh about concerns regarding the use of any type of online proctoring tools in our courses at UW Bothell. This includes concerns with the Proctorio system that UW IT recently deployed to Canvas. UW IT purchased a six-month license for Proctorio that includes all three campuses and automatically made Proctorio available to all UW instructors through Canvas. Chancellor Yeigh's email enumerated a wide variety of concerns with online proctoring tools such as Proctorio, foremost among them student privacy and equity.

While Proctorio was vetted to some degree by the Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning of the UW Senate, student, faculty, and staff at UW Bothell have raised a wide range of serious concerns about using such tools. As Chancellor Yeigh noted in his email, after UW Bothell faculty leaders, student leaders, and deans consulted with their stakeholder groups, they found very broad consensus "strongly against the use of online exam proctoring services during the remote instruction period, with exceptions made for fully online programs students intentionally signed up to take" (emphasis in original).

We also recently found out that the UW Tacoma faculty have taken a strong stance against the use of online proctoring tools; such tools are only being used in 4 courses at UW Tacoma. UW Seattle is using such tools for 66 courses this term.

The GFO is in the process of establishing a policy prohibiting the use of online proctoring tools such as Proctorio at UW Bothell. The next step is a campus-wide faculty vote later this quarter. The GFO will host a discussion on this proposed policy at our spring meeting on Wednesday, May 27. In the meantime, we strongly urge all faculty to use alternative means to guard against academic misconduct.

Sincerely,

The Executive Council of the UWB GFO

Keith Nitta, EC Chair

David Socha, GFO Chair

SeungKeun Choi, STEM

Nora Kenworthy, Nursing and Health Studies

Minda Martin, IAS

Jason Naranjo, Educational Studies

Surya Pathak, Business

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