



Boulder Faculty Assembly

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

November 29, 2021

Dear Provost Moore,

Please find attached the summary memorandum and report of the BFA subcommittee on the use of Proctorio exam software. The subcommittee recommends further study of the issue given complex considerations of impact. However, I would highlight a few major points:

- 1) The use of the software is concentrated in courses in Arts and Sciences and Leeds, though these serve students from across the campus.
- 2) Objections to Proctorio and other surveillance software appear to be largely anecdotal, from faculty as well as students.
- 3) Surveillance per se is a normal part of testing in an academic setting.

Given the widespread use of Proctorio and the cost to students from across campus, it would be simplest to continue the campus wide subscription. Further study, however, could take place in spring with Aisha Jackson's team conducting focus groups with students and perhaps faculty (addressing the bullet points in the report), while BFA could ask its resident ethicist (Alastair Norcross, Philosophy) to consider and evaluate the ethical questions.

The BFA requests to be updated on your office's decision and rationale regarding the Proctorio subscription.

In the spirit of shared governance,

Tiffany Beechy
Chair, Boulder Faculty Assembly

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