

Role of Senate in Approving Proctoring Software

- At the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and shift to online instruction, a video exam proctoring service called Proctorio was made available to De Anza instructors.
- On March 15, 2021 the Academic Senate heard a presentation explaining the decision of the Online Education Center and the Associate Vice President of Instruction to cease their support of and withhold funding for Proctorio.

- During the summer discussions over access to Proctorio took place between faculty, administrators, and Academic Senate officers.
- It has been asserted that Academic Senate maintains purview over instructional assessment methods such as Proctorio.

- The pros and cons of video proctoring have ardent supporters on either side of the issue.
- We are not here today to debate the merits of Proctorio but to establish the purview of the Academic Senate in decisions to allow or prohibit specific assessment tools.

Academic Senate Policy on Academic Freedom

<https://www.deanza.edu/gov/academicsenate/academicfreedom>

- Academic freedom encompasses the freedom to study, teach and express ideas and viewpoints, including unpopular and controversial ones, without censorship, political restraint or retribution. Academic freedom allows for the free exchange of ideas in the conscientious pursuit of truth. This freedom exists in all service areas, including but not limited to teaching, librarianship, counseling, coordinating and all faculty-student interactions. Academic Freedom is the bedrock principle of all institutions of learning and must be extended to all faculty regardless of their status as full-time, part-time, or probationary.
- Faculty members have the principal right and responsibility to determine the content, pedagogy, methods of instruction, the selection, planning and presentation of course materials, and the fair and equitable methods of assessment in their assignment in accordance with the approved curriculum and course outline and the educational mission of the District, and in accordance with state laws and regulations. These rights and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the faculty member's choice of textbooks and other course materials, assignments and assessment methods, teaching practices, grading and evaluation of student work, and teaching methods and practices.
- Approved:
Foothill Academic Senate: 01 June 2009
De Anza Academic Senate: 08 June 2009

- The status quo appears to be that individual instructors have the right to determine the appropriate assessment methods for their assignment.
- The Academic Senate has made no effort to prohibit any specific assessment practices or technologies.

- In the future, a comprehensive review of academic integrity at De Anza, driven by the Academic Senate, may include an appraisal of assessment strategies and best practices.