

RESOLUTION TO HALT INVASIVE MONITORING OF FACULTY COMPUTERS

Adopted by the Assembly of the Irvine Division of the Academic Senate at the May 13, 2025 Meeting

WHEREAS, academic freedom, privacy, and autonomy are foundational principles upon which the integrity and excellence of scholarship, research, and teaching at the University of California depend;

WHEREAS, the deployment of Trellix monitoring software permits extensive surveillance capabilities, including scanning all accessed and executed files, logging detailed metadata (such as filenames, paths, alleged threat names, and hashes), quarantining files, and potentially uploading files deemed suspicious, thus severely compromising faculty privacy and autonomy;

WHEREAS, Trellix's predecessor, FireEye, was hacked in 2020 in the SolarWinds cyberattack, which was determined by intelligence agencies to be carried out by Russian state-sponsored hackers and exposed over 250 federal agencies, including the Departments of State, Treasury, Commerce, Energy, and Homeland Security, as well as the National Institutes of Health;

WHEREAS, the unchecked capacity of such software to monitor, upload, and alter files without explicit consent poses a significant threat to intellectual freedom, confidentiality of sensitive research data, and the ethical standards expected within our scholarly community;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Irvine demands the immediate suspension of the implementation and use of Trellix or any similarly invasive monitoring software on faculty and researcher computer systems;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any future monitoring software considered for deployment must undergo a transparent and inclusive evaluation process involving faculty representation to ensure the safeguarding of privacy, academic freedom, and research integrity.