Resolution on the Prevention of Device-Enabled Cheating During Exams

Sponsored by the University Faculty Committee (9/13)

Background

Technology has created new opportunities for cheating during exams, e.g.,

- Earpiece+bluetooth pen sets
- Earpiece+ spyglass set
- A cheating smart watch with proctor panic button

For demonstrations, get into YouTube and enter “smart watch exam cheating”. The testing agencies have caught on: ACT, SAT, etc. For background here is a recent article and another recent article. The point of this resolution is to call attention to the problem and to offer a framework for instructors that would make device-enabled cheating much more difficult.

The Resolution

Whereas the Code of Academic Integrity specifies that “during in-class examinations no student may use, give, or receive any assistance or information not given in the examination or by the proctor.”

Whereas instructors, proctors, and exam-takers have a responsibility to prevent exam-related Code violations,

Be it resolved that students may not handle or access a cell phone or electronic device at any time during an exam. This includes smart watches, smart clothing, fitness bands, earpieces, or any device that has a recording, internet, or communication capability.

Be it further resolved that during an exam all such devices shall be turned off or disabled and placed out of sight if so requested by the proctor;

Be it further resolved that all ordinary watches shall be placed out of sight if so requested by the proctor and there is wall clock (or equivalent);

Be it further resolved that the use of ordinary writing instruments can be disallowed if alternative writing instruments are supplied by the proctor.