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Aan The Central Student Council of the University of Amsterdam

Datum	25th of January 2022	Ons kenmerk	U.22.01
Contactpersoon	A.E. Spil	E-mail	studentenraad@amc.uva.nl
Bijlage(n)	Letter to the FSRs, RTL article		
Betreft	Actions of the CSR chair in regards to the Proctorio leak		

Dear members of the Central Student Council,

We are writing this letter to you all because of the incident concerning the chair of the Central Student Council (CSR) that occurred recently, where it came to light that information about the safety of Proctorio had not been shared with the Faculty Student Councils (FSRs).

Ethical hackers found a weakness in the software of Proctorio which gave access to the information of thousands of students' computers in June and they shared this with RTL. At the start of the academic year, the chair of the CSR was approached by RTL in regards to this leak. All faculty councils were then asked by the CSR's chair to share how Proctorio was being used at their faculty. When several chairs inquired why this information was needed, the chair of the CSR reported that this was confidential, stating in a later meeting that this was at the behest of the Executive Board (CvB) of the University of Amsterdam (UvA). However, this request for confidentiality came from a commercial party, RTL, who did not want their scoop to leak before the article had been published, and not from the CvB. This was a direct contradiction of the testimony of the CSR's chair.

Faculty councils did provide, following the request of the chair of the CSR, information about the usage of Proctorio, under the impression that this information would not be shared with external parties. This information, however, was shared with RTL for the purpose of their article. Subsequently, when asked by the FSRs about the safety of using Proctorio, the chair stated that the plug-in for Proctorio did not need to be removed by students. The leak had been dealt with at this point and both Proctorio and the UvA now deem Proctorio safe to use

again. Contrary to the answer of the chair, the article recommends deleting the plug-in for Proctorio since the plug-in is considered unsafe and hackable by the authors of the article. So, in conclusion, the chair of the CSR, aware or unaware, misinformed the FSRs. The withholding of the information by the CSR's chair caused a delay of three months, until the RTL article was published, before the FSRs were accurately informed.

All faculty councils were also sent a letter, which is enclosed. The CSR asked all faculty councils to cosign this letter, which amongst other things encourages the usage of Proctorio. This was sent before any of the councils were informed about the leak that had been found. The chair should have known that information about the leak was, and is, essential in the decision whether to cosign this letter. The withholding of this information is considered a serious infringement of our confidence, trust and of the chair's legal duties, one of which is improving transparency.

We acknowledge the apology letter that has been sent by the chair of the CSR and we do hope that the points mentioned will be implemented successfully, but we nevertheless feel the urge to write this letter to you. Asking for information under false pretenses, withholding information and lying repeatedly to the chairs of the FSRs violates the legal duties of a chair of the CSR, the highest student representative of the UvA. This is a breach of the student-voter's right of good and trustworthy representation. Thus, because of the mentioned infringements, we feel it is necessary to formally condemn these actions and express our discontent with the course of events.

If you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

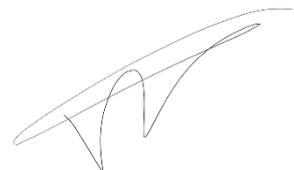
Aniek Spil  
*Voorzitter*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aniek Spil', written in a cursive style.

Stan de Ronde  
*Vicevoorzitter*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stan de Ronde', written in a cursive style.

Tosca Manrique Hehl  
*Secretaris*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tosca Manrique Hehl', written in a cursive style.

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CC: College van Bestuur, Raad van Bestuur, Saskia Peerdeman, Facultaire Studentenraden van de Universiteit van Amsterdam