

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MOTION

Submit this form to the Faculty Senate President

SUBJECT: Policy Regarding Video Surveillance in Instructional Spaces

SENATOR PROPOSING MOTION: Anita Brown

SENATOR SECONDING MOTION:

MOTION (this section alone will be recorded in the minutes):

The Faculty Senate (FS) President will charge the Academic Policy Committee (APC) to review the 9 Feb 2026 proposed Salisbury University Policy Regarding Video Surveillance in Instructional Spaces and to submit to the FS a policy regarding the use of video surveillance in instructional spaces. At least one week prior to the 2nd Faculty Senate meeting in Spring 2027, the APC will submit a report to the FS President regarding a policy for video surveillance in instructional spaces. A justification will be included for the policy proposed by the APC including for any deviations/revisions from the 9 Feb 2026 proposed policy. Prior to submitting a proposed policy to the FS, the APC should consult appropriate groups, including the General Counsel, SUPD, and the Office of Access and Accountability (OAA).

The FS President will provide the draft policy to the Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) and the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee (AFT) and ask them to identify, by 14 May 2026, via email to the FS President, whether they desire to review and provide input regarding a proposed policy on video surveillance in instructional spaces. The FS President will notify the APC of the decisions of FWC and of AFT regarding video surveillance policy and determine, and share with the FS, a course of action for FWC and AFT regarding a policy on the use of video surveillance in instructional spaces.

JUSTIFICATION:

At least one department, after consultation with their Dean and SUPD, has installed cameras in labs where lab exams are given, but it is difficult to monitor all students for academic misconduct (multiple pieces of equipment, drawers, and cabinets are present and faculty must continually monitor students for safety considerations). The cameras are not currently being used to monitor academic misconduct. Unlike standard practice for cameras in the Office of Access and Accommodations (OAA) testing center, the cameras will not be continually monitored. A policy is needed to govern the operation of these cameras and the use of the footage collected from them. Dean Scott and the SUPD have developed a draft policy for consideration. Because the footage from these cameras will be monitoring students in instructional spaces and might be used as evidence in consideration of academic misconduct, the APC should review the proposed policy and submit a policy to the FS. Given that OAA cameras can record footage, and are used in an instructional setting, APC will need to consult with OAA before putting forth any recommendations. Given legal concerns regarding recordings, APC must consult with the General Counsel and SUPD. The APC includes student members, and the APC is able to consult with any other groups APC deems appropriate.

The 9 Feb 2026 proposed policy indicates that the cameras may not be used to evaluate faculty performance or to police curriculum content, or to monitor teaching styles or student participation.

However, given the concern that cameras could be used for such, FWC and AFT should be given the opportunity to be involved in establishment of such policy.

ANTICIPATED IMPACT:

Negative: If APC is not involved in the establishment of policy for video surveillance in instructional spaces, considerations related to academic misconduct and/or other academic matters or faculty concerns may be overlooked. It will take time for APC to review the proposed policy, consult with other groups, and report back to FS, which will mean a policy will not be in place for a while although the cameras are installed.

Positive: A policy regarding video surveillance in instructional spaces must be established. A policy that impacts multiple academic concerns will be reviewed by the faculty committee that establishes academic policies and reviews the adherence to those policies, including the Academic Misconduct Policy (which the footage from the cameras could impact). In addition, for practice and policy that may impact faculty and instruction, the Faculty Welfare and the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committees will have opportunity to be involved.

Is this a recommendation to the Provost? Yes _____ No X

Is this a recommendation to someone else? No _____ Yes, to _____

VOTE: Number of Senators Present:

Motion Passes or Fails: