UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
Information Technology Services

July 11, 2025

Steven W. Cheung
Chair, Academic Council

Dear Chair Cheung,

President Drake asked me to respond on his behalf to your letter dated June 18, 2025, containing the Assembly of the Academic Senate resolution on the use of Trellix EDR (Endpoint Detection and Response) software. Thank you for sharing the note and I am pleased to address faculty concerns.

The president remains committed to the full implementation of the cybersecurity investment plan. As you are aware, UC is under a set of continuous and increasing cyber-attacks. Attackers are unrelenting and have increased the frequency and sophistication of attacks on UC faculty identities and UC research.
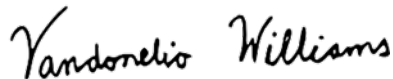
Trellix EDR software is in place at over 600 colleges and universities. As stated in previous communications, EDR is designed to detect and respond to threats to the University's systems, networks, and data. It focuses on identifying indicators of compromise and malicious activity, such as malware or unauthorized access. The system logs metadata about files and processes, and flags suspicious activity. It does *not* monitor the content of academic work, personal communications, or web browser history for purposes unrelated to cybersecurity threats.

We are committed to our ongoing engagement with the Academic Senate and our monthly meetings with the University Committee on Academic Computing and Communications (UCACC) regarding cybersecurity matters, including EDR.

We have prepared a [public FAQ](#) that provides detailed information on what data is collected and what is not. Furthermore, all University personnel and our EDR solution partners are strictly bound by UC's Electronic Communications Policy (ECP). Moving forward with implementation in no way precludes or diminishes our standing expectation for engagement and meaningful consultation among the Academic Senate, UCACC, campus and systemwide leadership.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly at vpit@ucop.edu if you have any questions or wish to discuss this issue.

Sincerely,

Van Williams
Vice President and Chief Information Officer

cc: President Drake
        Provost and Executive Vice President Newman

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava
Vice President and Chief of Staff Kao
Academic Council Chair Cheung
Chief Information Security Officer Ratzlaff
Senate Executive Director Lin