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Subject: Possible Fraudulent Student Enrollments at Crafton Hills College

Dear Roadrunners,

Some of you may be aware that California Community Colleges have experienced systematic hacking of the registration process via the CCC Apply system. This hacking has affected numerous California community colleges and involves identity theft, fraud, and false applications. As a result of this scam, seats for our real students may have been taken by bots / fraudulent enrollments. In addition, fraudulent students enrolling in classes are starting to submit work through automated chat artificial intelligence (AI) platforms. **To date, we are only aware of some fraudulent students affecting online classes at Crafton Hills College.**

To combat this problem, TESS, Financial Aid, and Admission and Records have been working together to implement rigorous screening protocols to identify fraudulent activity.

What to look for in your online classes?

- Students who give the same or similar answers on discussion posts with a possible 'same format.'
- Student comments where there may be a [bracket] as a placeholder for key words that would identify the institution.
- The comments appear to be 'machine generated.'
- Any work that is a required assignment the student does not complete.

How You Can Help

We are asking for help from our faculty. There are a few simple steps you can take to eliminate or minimize these bots in your online courses:

- assign a low-stakes participation activity or discussion post early in the semester
- check in with each student early in the semester
- make sure all students are participating in the course by checking their time spent in Canvas

What to do if you think one of your students is a fraudulent student?

- Contact Larry Aycock (laycock@craftonhills.edu), Director of Admissions and Records, and cc your dean.
- Admissions and Records and TESS will work together to verify the students.
- **Do not drop** the student at this time.

Dropping Inactive Students (More information to come)

- This is a reminder to drop any inactive students in your sections prior to the census date
- Inactive students include those that have not signed in, those who have not recently signed in, those who have never completed an assignment, and those who have not recently completed an assignment
- Dropping inactive students helps to combat fraud

Thank you!

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Meridyth and Keith



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