In the last few days some of you may have heard of "Zoom Trolls or Zoom Party Crashers". Forbes, New York Times, and Yahoo News are some of the sources reporting on how Zoom meetings and webinars have been interrupted lately by internet trolls. These public meetings and webinars have been disturbed by random people joining them and sharing camera, playing music and in some cases sharing their screens with pornography to the attendees and host.

Zoom has different options to combat these types of party crashers. Options like manage screen sharing, manage participants, waiting room and meeting or webinar passwords. All options will help, but restrict functionality and require more user interaction.

Options

Manage Screen Sharing

- Only the host or co-host has the ability to restrict access to sharing screens
- Does not stop party crashers from joining the meetings and sharing camera and audio
- It has to be done for each individual meeting or webinar

Manage Participants

- Only the host or co-host have the ability to manage participants
- Does not stop party crashers from joining the meetings or webinars prior to the host or co-host
- If a meeting or webinar is locked, it will not allow other participants to join
- It has to be done for each individual meeting or webinar

Waiting Room

- Only the host or co-host have the ability to waiting room
- Each individual participant has to be granted access to the meeting or webinar
- Does not stop party crashers from entering your waiting room

Meeting or Webinar Passwords

- Diminishes the amount of unwelcome people joining an Emory meeting/webinar
- It creates a more secure environment for remote learning, telemedicine, training, day-to-day operations and support meetings/webinars.
- All new meeting/webinar links will have a password embedded.
- Users will have to change their Zoom account setting for new meetings/webinars to include a password
- If the new links with embedded passwords are shared the possibility of party crashers still exist but risk is very low because they would have to have the link with the embedded password.

Recommendation

If we see an uptick in Zoom Bombing over the course of the next few weeks, your Zoom Administrators recommend enabling features for a meeting or webinar password. Zoom administrators will create user instructions for enabling the meeting and webinar password features that will be posted on the Emory's Zoom website.

Note: *All meeting and webinar hosts can add a password to their current meetings and webinars but they will have to reshare their links with the password embedded in it. Participants without the password will not to be able to join the meetings or webinars.*