



ENHANCING THE CAPACITIES OF EMERGING RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE

Research Ethics and Intellectual Property Rights

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Outline

Introduction

➤ Research Ethics

➤ Respecting Scientific Writing Norms

- Use of Citation Systems and their Guidelines
- Proper Use of Citation Styles and Referencing
- Watching Out for Plagiarism

➤ Respect of Intellectual Property Rights

- What are the possible rights that can be infringed
- Plagiarism and consequences
- How to Ensure that Rights are not infringed
 - ❖ Check for Plagiarism- Use of Plagiarism Software
 - ❖ **The Case of UB-TURNITIN Plagiarism Check Software**

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Introduction

- The use of information is guided by Rules and Regulations which enable one to use information ethically.
- There are grievous consequences if information is not used ethically
- Some of the aspects of using information that must be considered and given particular attention under these rules include scientific writing norms and standards
- When these norms and standards are not respected plagiarism can occur
- These have been put in place by the world information body that deals with intellectual property issues called World Intellectual Property Organization(WIPO)

Research Ethics

- ▶ Research ethics involves the application of fundamental ethical principles to research activities which include the design and implementation of research, respect of society, the use of resources, research output, scientific conduct and regulations governing research (<https://www.stir.ac.uk/research/>)
- ▶ Research ethics entails respecting standard norms in using resources such as information resources and in the case of humans, going through the process of obtaining consent
- ▶ One of the key activity of research ethics is respecting scientific writing norms and standards that include but is not limited to:
 - ▶ The use of citation system guidelines,
 - ▶ Proper use of citation styles and referencing
 - ▶ Watching out for plagiarism

Respect of Intellectual Property Rights

- The possible rights that can be infringed include:
 - ❖ Copy Right
 - ❖ Intellectual Property Right,
 - ❖ Creative Commons
 - ❖ Patent Rights
 - ❖ Trade Marks
 - ❖ Industrial Property Rights, Neighboring Rights, to name just these
(Shafack, 2020)
- When any of the above is infringed or disrespected this ushers in intellectual dishonesty and this is punishable by law
- The infringement is what is referred to a plagiarism

Consequences of Not Using Information Ethically

- When information is not used ethically this leads to what is called plagiarism which is considered as intellectual theft, steal and pass off, Literary theft, an act of fraud, ([Merriam Webster Online Dictionary](#)).

Ways of Plagiarizing

- **Full or Direct Plagiarism:** This has to do with transcribing one's work word for word without attributing it to the author or respecting the scientific writing norms
- **Partial Plagiarism:** Has to do with paraphrasing and manipulating ones ideas as if they were your without any attribution
- **Minimalistic Plagiarism:** Here the sentence structures are changed and the content paraphrased giving a new structure different from the original version but the ideas are unchanged

Ways of Plagiarizing Cont'd.

- ▶ **Mosaic Plagiarism:** Here the structure of the sentences are changed leading to a change in the original flow of the plagiarized work but the original words are not changed
- ▶ **Accidental Plagiarism:** This occurs when a writer intentionally misquotes an author's work and deliberately or intentionally does not cite the sources used
- ▶ **Personal Plagiarism:** Here the writer uses his /her previous work partially or fully to come up with a new work without any attributions ([Shafack, 2020](#))
- ▶ **Note that plagiarism equally applies to images, videos and music**

Consequences of Plagiarism

- Generally speaking, plagiarism is punishable by law and one can spend up to 15 years in jail
- Depending on where plagiarism occurs, one can face varying sanctions
- If plagiarism occurs on a school campus for example:
 - One's certificate can be withdrawn,
 - One can be suspended for a period , and
 - One can be dismissed out rightly and litigated

How to Escape Plagiarism

1. Respect Citation System and Scientific Writing Guidelines
2. Turning in ones work for a similarity check using a plagiarism software
3. Plagiarism check or content similarity detection is a process of identifying the occurrence of plagiarism or copyright infringement within a written work (<https://www.duplichecker.com>)



Plagiarism Check Software

Why Plagiarism Check Software?

- **Plagiarism has a very negative effect on the reputation of an institution**
- **Preventing plagiarism has been successfully done through the use of a similarity check software**
- **We talk of similarity check because there is no software on earth that checks plagiarism, even if they are called antiplagiarism software**
- **It is the human being that determines if there is plagiarism or not.**
- **All plagiarism softwares work using the same principle of receiving a written document and comparing it with a database of information resources online**

Why Plagiarism Check Software Cont'd?

- Every plagiarism software can bring out the similarity of information resources and through these a human can then be able to determine if a work has been plagiarized or not
- Note should be taken that all plagiarism comes from similarity but not all similarity is plagiarism
- For example, all thumbs are fingers but not all fingers are thumbs

What is Similarity?

- This is the state of being similar
- Something resembling another
- Something matching another ([Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary & Thesaurus](#))
- Example, a piece of work copied from William's article and inserted in Martin's article which is more current than that of William without any allusion to the fact that it was copied from William, when turned in using a plagiarism check software will show that these two are similar like identical twins
- Thus similarity check is important to ensure that people's works have not been cut and pasted claiming fraudulent ownership

An Example of a Plagiarism Check Software- The Case of the University of Buea-Turnitin Software

- Turnitin is an Internet-Based Similarity Detection Service run by the American Company, Turnitin LLC.

How Does Turnitin Work?

- Turnitin uses a matching algorithm to find strings of words within written pieces of work (such as assignments, articles, theses, dissertations, just to name these) that are identical to those in works consulted and used during the process of crafting the work
- This refers to basically works consulted electronically

(Turnitin, LLC, 1997)

Why Turnitin and What Makes it Different from Other Similarity Check Softwares?

- Turnitin Database coverage is simply great and awesome more than any so far
 - This database holds 91 billion web pages
 - 1.4 billion student papers
 - 82 million journals, articles and other publications
 - Turnitin, provides academics with an interactive means of understanding and applying citation and referencing techniques in written works and provides online grading in academic institutions (<https://services.anu.edu.au/turnitin>)

Makes it Different from Software? Cont'd.

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Why Turnitin and What Makes it Different from Other Similarity Check Software? Cont'd.

- It contains nearly any information resources that a student or researcher for example is likely to use online in a write up.
- With Turnitin institutions' reputation is protected completely because of its large database and subject coverage
- With the use of Turnitin students, researchers and academics are empowered to do their best in producing original work or work free of plagiarism

Using Turnitin

- To use Turnitin, every one needs an account
- The good news for UB is that the Vice-Chancellor has ensured the purchased of this similarity check software already
- A workshop on it attended by representatives of all establishments took place already
- We received the administrative account since March and trials have been on going
- We are putting the needed work environment in place that will make establishments tutors and then accounts can be given to respective users by the administrator

Determination and Use of Turnitin

- Establishments will be the ones to determine the percentages of similarities and above these percentages, a worked can be considered as plagiarized
- This will respect the different subject backgrounds and Vice Deans in-charge of research were given this responsibility already after the workshop
- It is worth noting that there are 5000 accounts that can cover supervisors, and all officials implicated in research and academic matters in UB
- When once these are received the proposals will be put together in a report on this software and sent to the university authority
- When all is set and finished with, the Vice Chancellor will officially launch the use of the software across the entire university



Conclusion

It is very primordial to use information ethically not just to protect the reputation of your institution but most importantly not to ruin your integrity and fall prey to sanctions that can take legal steps.

Thanks for Your Time



Questions??