Plagiarism Detection Software and Academic Integrity:

The Canadian Perspective

Lorie Kloda & Karen Nicholson
McGill University Libraries
LILAC 2005

McGill

Canadian Students & Plagiarism

# of Canadian students who admit to plagiarizing at least once before graduating[1]	**1 / 3**
# of Canadian students who admit to submitting a paper they had purchased online as their own[1]	**1 / 20**
# of Canadian universities and colleges that subscribe to Turnitin™[2]	**28**

[1] Sokoloff, H. 2003, "One in three students admits to plagiarizing: Linked to teacher's skill", *National Post*, 30 August, p.A6.

[2] Brown, L. 2004, "Toronto teen wins battle against McGill University over plagiarism-detector", *Canadian Press Newswire Toronto*, 16 January.

http://turnitin.com - Sample Originality Report - Mozilla Firefox

Turnitin.com Originality Report (Side-by-Side V

http://dev1:5002/or_sidebyside_master.asp?r=51.3190663988333&svr

Google

Turnitin Originality Report

version: # 1 (04-04-03)

Use the tabs to navigate through all matching sources

links (% match): 13% 11% 8% 7% 7% 6% 4% 2% 2% 2% next 10

author: Ed

title: Is S

submitted: 04-

paper ID: 1123054

similarity index: (75% matching text)

View different versions of each report, based on custom analysis

Print version shows list of links with paper text

url: http://www.computerworld.com/mobiletopics/mobile/story/0,108 01,74321,00.html

info: This is an Internet source. For all Internet sources, we first try to display the "live" web page linked to above. If the page has chang moved, we display a text version stored in our database.

Exclude and re-analyze selected sources to custom-ize your report

print version   help

Report text:

Similarity index indicates percentage of a paper for which we found matching sources

Source:

Link opens a new window directly to the source; info distinguishes between current and expired Web pages, student database matches, and commercial database content

hop onto their net
offices, and other
completely unprotected.

und banks, law
networks that were

Home > Bro   reless > Story

It is the process of looking for wireless computer networks and making cha marks to indicate their locations so that others can more easily find them. Their mission is a helpful service to assist people in finding something they need (an Internet connection). They also propose that people use it to connect to their Internet connection, and then they can surf the web and check email from anywhere in their house or nearby. If the network is "open", then other people nearby can access and also get Internet access.

There are several organization to access to the wireless network around t city area. They are based stand IEEE 801.11b AS to test it.

War Driving - Wireless LAN war drivers routinely cruise their immediate are in cars equipped with laptops loaded with a wireless LAN card, an external high-gain antenna and a GPS receiver. The wireless LAN card and GPS receiver feed signals into freeware, such as NetStumbler, which detects APs and their identifiers along with their GPS-derived locations. NetStumbler also automatically d or not built-in Wi-Fi Wired Equivalent Protocol (WEP) is tu malevolent war-drivers may use Kismet, a tool designed crack WEP. The term war-driving is derived from the "wa a teenage hacker in the 1983 movie WarGames who has computer randomly dial hundreds of numbers and eventu tapping into a nuclear command and control system.

Sniffing, war-chalking and more: A wireless vocabulary evolves

By BOB BREWIN
SEPTEMBER 17, 2002

War-driving

Wireless LAN war drivers routinely cruise their immediate areas in equipped with laptops loaded with a wireless LAN card, an nal high-gain antenna and a GPS receiver. The wireless LAN and GPS receiver feed signals into freeware, such as tumbler, which detects APs and their identifiers along with their -derived locations. NetStumbler also automatically detects

Color-coded text indicates matches to a given source. The left window contains the text of the submitted paper; the right window contains the source content

whet

Display a menu

Turnitin. (n.d.). *Sample originality report.* Available from: <http://turnitin.com/static/popups/sample_ report.html> [30 March 2005].

Done

CBC News

WIRELESS   FREE

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McGill student wins fight over anti-cheating website

Last Updated Fri, 16 Jan 2004 11:11:57 EST
CBC News

TORONTO - A student at McGill University has won the right to have his assignments marked without first submitting them to an American, anti-plagiarism website.

Jesse Rosenfeld refused to submit three assignments for his second-year economics class to Turnitin.com, a website that compares submitted works to other student essays in its database, as well as to documents on the web and published research papers.

CBC News. (16 January 2005). *McGill student wins fight over anti-cheating website.* Available from: <http://www.cbc.ca/story/canada/national/2004 /01/16/mcgill_turnitin030116.html> [30 March 2005].

G10

- McGill University
- McMaster University
- Queen's University
- Université Laval
- Université de Montréal
- University of Alberta
- University of British Columbia
- University of Toronto
- University of Waterloo
- University of Western Ontario

Research Findings

Policy

Collaboration

Promotion

Instruction
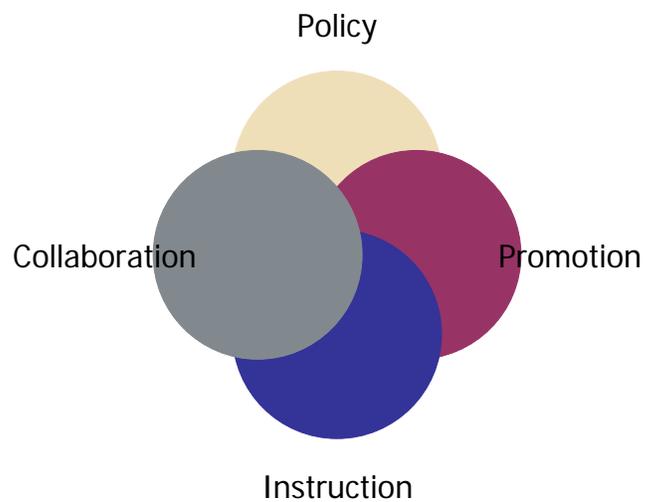
Academic Integrity Policy

	Yes	Don't Know	No
Formal **university body** responsible for monitoring AI	**3**	2	1

- Truth*In*Education

- Academic Integrity Subcommittee of the Committee on Student Affairs

- Office of Academic Integrity

University of Alberta Libraries. (2005). *Truth in education.* Available from: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE/> [30 March 2005].

Academic integrity at McGill University

Home > Academic integrity > Text-matching software

All students
Graduate students
Instructors, TAs and graders
In the media
Researchers
Strategies to reduce cheating and plagiarism
Student guide to avoid plagiarism
Text-matching software

Comments and suggestions are welcome.

Associate Dean of Students
Linda Jacobs Starkey, Chair
Academic Integrity
Subcommittee of
Committee on
Student Affairs

Policy for use of text-matching software at McGill

Following a trial use of one text-matching software during the winter and fall terms of 2003, and numerous consultations, the Academic Integrity Subcommittee, a Subcommittee of the Committee on Student Affairs (CSA), advised (a) that McGill adopt a formal policy affirming that it may take all reasonable means to verify the originality of students' submitted work and (b) that McGill permit the use of text-matching software under certain conditions. Moreover, the Subcommittee recommended a clear distinction between the possible use of text-matching software as a means of investigating suspected plagiarism and its routine use in courses.

On December 13, 2004, the Board of Governors of McGill University approved a policy on the use of text-matching software as well as two accompanying policies regarding implementation.*

Policy for the use of text-matching software
Excerpt from Senate Document # D04-32

A. McGill University should obtain an institutional license for the use of text-matching software that meets the approval of the CSA. In selecting the software, McGill University shall assure itself that the intellectual property rights of users are protected.

B. The Policy and Procedures for Use of Text-matching Software as a Means of Investigating Suspected Plagiarism shall be followed at McGill (D04-33).

C. The Policy and Procedur[es ...] Courses shall be followed a[...]

D. The University shall not oblige instructors to ask their students to submit written work to text-matching software.

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See all McGill events

McGill University Academic Integrity Subcommittee on Student Affairs. (7 February 2005). *Text-matching software*. Available from: <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity/textmatching/> [30 March 2005].

McMaster University
Inspiring Innovation and Discovery

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

SEARCH: GO
EXPLORE: McMaster Quick Links

Turnitin.com >

Turnitin.com

Letter from Provost and AVP (Academic)
Language for Course Outlines
Suggestions to Prevent Academic Dishonesty
Internet Plagiarism

Turnitin.com

McMaster has purchased an institutional membership with Turnitin.com, a web-based service that detects internet plagiarism. Turnitin is a technological response to a plagiarism problem that is getting worse because of the technology of the web. Turnitin has three advantages over other services:

1. The students submit their own work to Turnitin, saving the instructor and/or TA the time of doing a Google search;
2. As students are submitting their own work, they are aware a detection service is in use and may decide not to plagiarize; and
3. Turnitin searches the entire assignment for plagiarism rather than selected passages.

How does Turnitin work?

The instructor notifies students that Turnitin will be used in the course outline (see section Language for Course Outlines). Students submit their assignments/work electronically to Turnitin.com where it is checked against the Internet, published works and Turnitin's database for similar or identical work. If Turnitin finds similar or identical work, a report is sent to the instructor showing the student's work and the original source. The instructor reviews what Turnitin has found and then determines if s/he thinks there is a problem with the work.

McMaster University Office of Academic Integrity. (n.d.). *Turnitin.com*. Available from: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/iturnitin.cfm> [30 March 2005].

Academic Integrity Promotion

	Yes	Don't Know	No
Discussion of AI included into **librarian training**	**3**	0	3
Statement on AI included in **library materials**	**3**	1	2
Regular **announcements** about AI from the library (e.g. press, handouts, website)	**2**	1	3

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AI Instruction Offered by the Library

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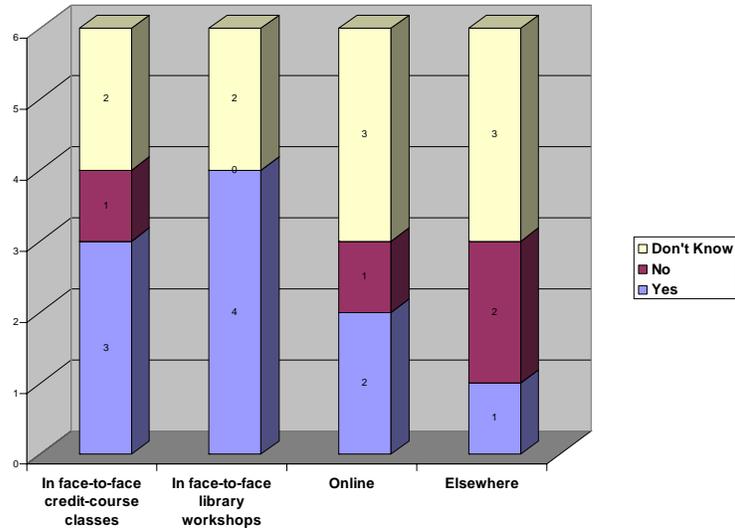
Instruction Related to AI

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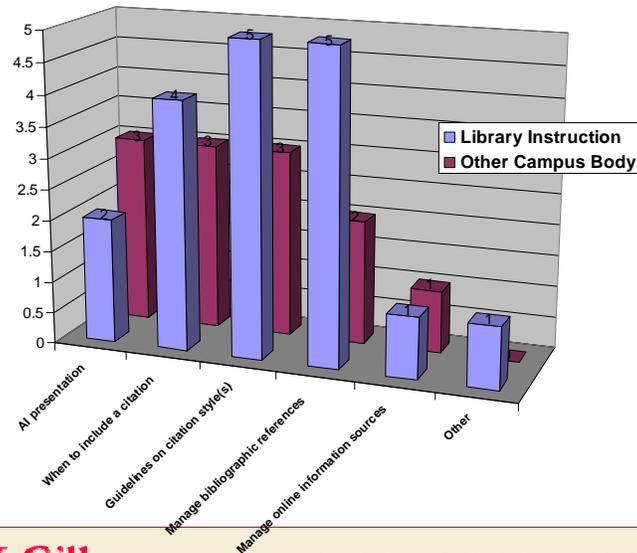
Comments re: Instruction

- "When there is a requirement in a specific course that plagiarism detecting software is used, Information Literacy sessions facilitated for the course will include information about using it. Responsible use of information is typically always included in IL sessions."

- "U of A offers an annual Academic Integrity Week, with relevant instruction and workshops open to faculty, staff, and students."

- "Library maintains a comprehensive website on plagiarism, cyberplagiarism, and academic integrity."

- "Librarians teach sessions in whole or in part on cyberplagiarism, citation guides, how to structure assignments (for faculty), how to research papers (for students), and bibliographic management software."

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Guide to Plagiarism and Cyber-Plagiarism

Although plagiarism has been around as long as students have, the Internet has dramatically increased the ease of and opportunities for plagiarism. "Cyber-plagiarism" is the term used to describe the process by which students either copy ideas found on the Web without giving proper attribution, or the process by which students download research papers from the Web, in whole or in part, and submit the paper as original work. The phenomenon of cyber-plagiarism is affecting Universities around the globe.

- In a 1999 survey of American students conducted by the Center of Academic Integrity at Duke University, 68% of the 2,100 students polled said that they had committed at least one academic offence such as plagiarizing (Quan F1).
- Larry McKill, the Associate Dean of Arts, Student Programs at the University of Alberta, estimates about 70 people were proven to have plagiarized during the academic year 2000 in the Faculty of Arts (Gold F1).
- During the same year, at the University of Ottawa, 18 students in the faculty of arts and sciences were disciplined for plagiarism; Carleton University reported 50 cases of plagiarism; and at the University of Toronto over 200 cases of plagiarism are reported each year (Quan F1).
- Most university administrators believe that the number of unreported cases of plagiarism far exceeds reported numbers (Quan F1).

The purpose of this web site is to examine the issues of plagiarism and cyber-plagiarism and what faculty can do to prevent, detect, and report plagiarism.

Please email any comments or questions to: anna.bombak@ualberta.ca

Why Students Plagiarize >>

University of Alberta Libraries. (January 2004). *Guide to plagiarism and cyber-plagiarism.* Available from: <http://www.library.ualberta.ca/guides/plagiarism/> [30 March 2005].

Librarian Collaboration

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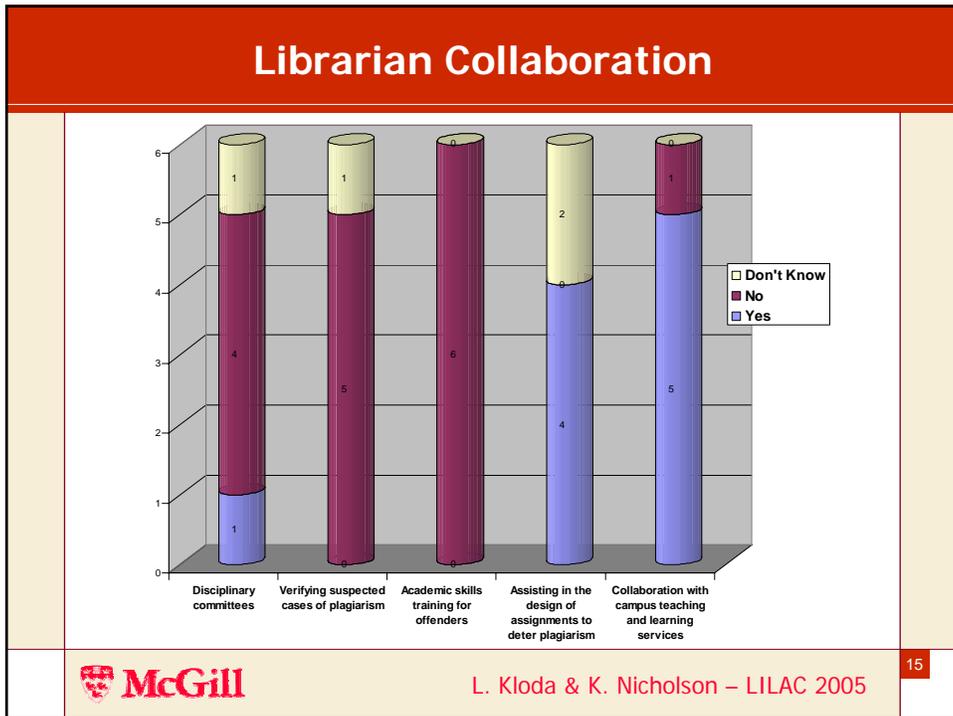
Comments re: Collaboration

- "We present a workshop for the Teaching Assistant Training Programme on supporting undergraduate research. In this workshop, one of the topics we touch on is plagiarism, why students do it, and strategies to prevent it. We also present a workshop for the Office of Teaching Advancement for Faculty on similar themes."

- "Disciplinary committee members are members of the academic staff so librarians could be members (in fact, there is one right now). A position for a librarian is not 'reserved', however."

- "I think librarians would be happy to help professors design better assignments but I don't know if any are actually doing this at the moment."

- "We hope to work collaboratively in the future."

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Academic integrity at McGill University

Home > Academic integrity > Strategies to reduce cheating and plagiarism

All students
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Researchers
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Prevention of cheating on midterm examinations
Reducing plagiarism on lab reports, assignments etc.
Prevention of plagiarism on term papers
What to do when a student of yours cheats or plagiarizes
Student guide to avoid plagiarism
Text-matching software

Strategies to reduce cheating and plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism by any student hurts all students, because anything that undermines the evaluation process undermines the integrity of our degrees. Therefore, it is important for instructors and TAs to take measures to promote academic integrity and to deal appropriately with instances of academic dishonesty.

By the direction of Senate (January 29, 2003), all course outlines must include the following statement:

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information).

For other specific suggestions, see the following:

- Prevention of cheating on multiple-choice and midterm examinations

- Reducing plagiarism on lab reports, assignments, and term papers

- Prevention of plagiarism on term papers

- What to do wh[...]

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Student to Scholar
Research and Writing Tutorial

What is the Student to Scholar Program?

It is a collaborative project of the UBC Library and the UBC Writing Centre. The goal of the program is to help students avoid plagiarism - both intentional and unintentional - by providing them with the conceptual knowledge and practical skills for scholarly writing and research.

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Designed by Kaye Martin

University of British Columbia Writing Centre. (2003). *Student to scholar online writing tutorial*. Available from: <http://www.library.ubc.ca/hss/instruction/sts/Whole_page.htm> [30 March 2005].

Is Turnitin™ the Solution?

Some would say that it's the sign of a mature technology to generate as many problems as it solves.

Theodore Roszak, 2004

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