Plagiarism Detection Technology Procedures

Policy Sponsor:	Provost and Vice-President, Academic
Name of Parent Policy:	[Plagiarism Detection Technology Policy](#)
Policy Contact:	Associate Vice-President, Student and Academic Services
Procedure Contact:	Associate Vice-President, Student and Academic Services
Effective Date of Procedures:	March 22, 2017
Review Date:	Biennially.

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Purpose

To guide staff and students in the use of Plagiarism Detection Technology at Athabasca University (AU).

Definitions

Instructors	AU academic staff members, clinical instructors, academic experts, coaches or tutors.
Plagiarism Detection Technology (PDT)	A product or service authorized at AU for the purpose of reviewing student work for originality.

Procedures

1. **Choice of PDT**

   1. Instructors or other AU staff interested in using a PDT prepare a proposal that describes functionality and budget implications for discussion at the Information Technology Services (ITS) Learning and Teaching Service Advisory Group and Academic Learning Environment Committee.

   2. Recommendations made by these committees for an authorized PDT are forwarded to the Associate Vice President, Student and Academic Services and a decision is made in

consultation with the Vice President Information Technology, subject to the approval of the Executive Group.

2. **Integration (Technological and Pedagogical)**

   1. ITS oversees the integration of any new plagiarism detection technology (PDT) into the AU learning management system and ensures its functionality.

   2. Deans (or designates) ensure that expectations for students and Instructors, instructions and method for the use of PDT, are clearly communicated in all courses.

   3. Adoption of PDT for an AU course normally occurs when the course is being revised.

   4. Course Coordinators who decide to use PDT adapt assignments as necessary to make effective use of its pedagogical aspects.

3. **Training and Orientation**

   1. The Dean (or designate) will identify an appropriate office to coordinate the training design and schedule to ensure that Instructors take the training prior to the operationalization of PDT.

   2. The Dean (or designate) will identify an appropriate office to design and develop a consistent set of instructions to orient students to the PDT.

4. **Use**

   1. Students employ the PDT according to the instructions provided in their courses, unless they communicate an objection to their Instructor as per Item 6 in the Plagiarism Detection Technology Policy.

   2. Instructors employ the PDT according to the method determined by the Course Coordinator.

   3. Students may and should use a PDT originality report to verify and if necessary revise assignments prior to final submission.

   4. In courses where PDT use is required, students submit final originality reports according to the relevant instructions.

   5. Instructors may verify the student's originality report.

5. **Academic Integrity**

   - If the Instructor's interpretation of the originality report leads to concerns about academic integrity, the AU Student Academic Misconduct Policy will be followed.

Applicable Legislation and Regulations

Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. F-25
Alberta Post-Secondary Learning Act
Copyright Act of Canada

Related References, Policies, Procedures and Forms

Plagiarism Detection Technology Policy
Student Academic Misconduct Policy
Student Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Procedures
Student Confidentiality Policy
Student Confidentiality Procedures

History

General Faculties Council, March 22, 2017, Motion # 37-06 (associated policy revised)
Governors of Athabasca University, June 7, 2013, Motion # 183-14 (associated policy approved)