

PRESIDENT'S NEWS DIGEST

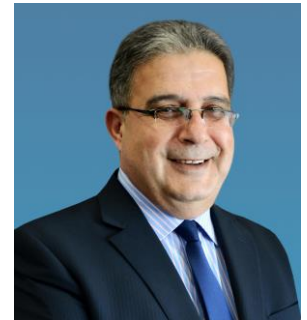
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 44th issue of the 4th volume of the President's News Digest. In this issue of the News Digest, I will address the subject of **“Plagiarised Research”**.



The Oxford English Dictionary defines plagiarism as the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. Plagiarism is the therefore unethical use of previous research or ideas whether planned or accidental of other people or your own without proper acknowledgment and referencing.

There are many documented cases where academic staff and scholars including senior people lost their jobs because of plagiarising their PhD work or publications. There is zero tolerance when it comes to plagiarism, but similarities of work through proper referencing is allowed up to a small percentage especially in the use of quotes that are referenced properly.

Plagiarism is considered as a serious academic offence and can lead to serious consequences including reputational damage which is beyond repair. It is currently considered as one of the biggest problems facing universities across the globe.

Writing papers involves comprehensive literature reviews and conducting experiments or other means to collect data. We have to be mega careful not to cut and paste previous research work or to manipulate data collection to get intended results.

In some cultures, academic traditions assume that it is acceptable to plagiarise research work. This is in part related



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to a lack of awareness of the consequences of such a serious academic offence. Training is therefore required to educate researchers and scholars about plagiarism and its serious consequences.

The problem of plagiarism is bigger if English is not the mother tongue where researchers face the difficulty to communicate their ideas and they assume that it is acceptable to use other people's work and ideas and written text. In addition, the easy access to the internet and digital content has made it easier to plagiarise other researchers' work. These two problems need to be addressed through additional support and training required.

In conclusion, here are some tips to avoid plagiarism:

- Do not copy–paste text from other papers but paraphrase and reference the work.
- Use quotes to indicate that the text has been taken from another paper.
- Use Turnitin or other software to ensure that the research work is not plagiarized.
- Cite your previous work with the proper reference or paper.
- If English is not your mother tongue and you find difficulties in communicating some research ideas, please seek help from colleagues.
- Attend training workshops on plagiarism and the use of Turnitin or other appropriate software.

References:-

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.enago.com/academy/amp/how-to-avoid-plagiarism-in-research-papers>

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Borrowed thoughts, like borrowed money, only show the poverty of the borrower."

Lady Marguerite Blessington

Happy Reading!