2009 - 2011 Report

TURNITIN@HKU

Agenda
- Progress report
  - Usage
  - Training and support
  - 2011 survey
- New developments

Usage
36% increase in instructor accounts in 2010-2011
Adopted across all Faculties

Cumulative number of instructors

![Cumulative number of instructors chart]

Over 60,000 reports generated during the two-year review period!

Distribution of instructors

![Distribution of instructors chart]

No. of originality reports

![No. of originality reports chart]
Red and Orange originality reports has declined since 2008.

Distribution of Originality Reports (2006 - 2011)

- No Match: 8% 7% 9% 8% 7%
- < 24% Match: 68% 57% 65% 64% 65%
- 25-49% Match: 19% 22% 19% 20% 20%
- 50-74% Match: 5% 5% 5% 5% 4%
- 75-100% Match: 4% 8% 4% 3% 4%

Training and Support

Graduate School policy of random check of RPG theses (1 January 2009)
Graduate School policy of compulsory check of RPG theses and research proposals (1 January 2011)

Total number of enquiries

- 2006-2007: 240
- 2007-2008: 144
- 2008-2009: 480
- 2009-2010: 338
- 2010-2011: 855

2011 Survey

- Biennial survey on Turnitin@HKU covering 2009-2011
- Administered in 7 to 23 July 2011
Profile of Respondents (72)

Respondents by status

- IT staff: 4%
- Administrative staff: 11%
- Teaching Assistant/Demonstrator: 18%
- Faculty member: 54%
- Others: 13%

Respondents by Faculty/Department

- Architecture: 8%
- Arts: 13%
- Business and Economics: 4%
- Dentistry: 7%
- Social Sciences: 28%
- Education: 8%
- Law: 1%
- Medicine: 26%
- Engineering: 6%
- Science: 7%
- Economics: 4%
- Dentistry: 7%
- Social Sciences: 28%
- Faculty member: 54%
- Administrative staff: 11%
- Teaching Assistant/Demonstrator: 18%
- Others: 13%

Years of teaching

- < 1 year: 12%
- 1 to 3 years: 20%
- > 3 years: 78%

Years with a Turnitin account

- > 10 years: 26%
- 5 to 10 years: 47%
- 1 to 5 years: 20%
- < 1 year: 5%
- Not applicable: 2%
- > 10 years: 14%

How is it used?

Do you use Turnitin on undergraduates or postgraduates?

- Undergraduates: 34%
- Postgraduates (Research): 34%
- Postgraduates (Course-based): 32%

Did you arrange your RPG students perform a Turnitin pre-check before theses submission?

- Yes: 62%
- No: 38%

How useful...

Rating by Instructors

- The Originality Reports were useful: 4.4
- Detect plagiarism in student assignments with more confidence: 4.1
- Do you want to use Turnitin in the future? Yes: 4
- Would you recommend this software to your colleagues? Yes: 9
- The Statistical Reports were useful: 3.7
- Foster a better understanding of plagiarism and how to avoid it among students: 3.5
- Turnitin is easy to use: 3.4
- Decide on student grades? Yes: 3

Some written comments...

The Turnitin is **no longer as effective** as in the past because students learn how to beat the system.

While the system may not be perfect, it **does deter plagiarism** to some extent.
I find the Turnitin pretty user-friendly. The report generated is although complicated but in general useful.

Can the Library suggest other simpler software to check plagiarism? ... Turnitin required me to create class and make many other procedure to check a single paper.

Interpretation of originality reports is very important and not simple. The single figure originality score can be extremely misleading.

It should NOT be the duty of supervisors and teachers to be catching students about plagiarism. I think this is yet another waste of time thing imposed on faculty. The computer or library staff should be the ones responsible for catching plagiarism. So do not bother faculty with Turn-It-In!

Recent Developments

- Joint renewal with HKU SPACE (2011-2014)
  - Independent Turnitin Administrator at HKU SPACE
  - Training to be provided by HKUL

- Originality check for research fund proposals (October 2011)
  - Concerns that the research proposals be disclosed
  - Interpretation of originality reports