A High Percentage of Fear? Using Turnitin to Deter Plagiarism without Increasing Student Anxiety

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ICAi
International Center for Academic Integrity

2020 ICAI Southeast Regional Sharing Conference: Integrity in the Time of COVID-19
Fearful of Flags

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<th>Academic Library Product</th>
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- **Blue:** No matching text
- **Green:** One word to 24% matching text
- **Yellow:** 25-49% matching text
- **Orange:** 50-74% matching text
- **Red:** 75-100% matching text
Two Variations...

• “Dr. Bright, I’m concerned about the Turnitin score for the last assignment. It shows a percentage of X and I know that I didn’t plagiarize. What should I do?”

• Dr. B, my plagiarism report was X%! Do I need to rewrite my assignment? I’m not sure what I did wrong!
Using Turnitin to Teach Rather than Terrorize

• Include an example of a Turnitin Report with the grading rubric and instructions, so students know what to look for.

• Share their report with their grade, pointing out areas of concern or emphasizing why there is no concern.

• Cite aspects of their Turnitin report that show correct and incorrect use of sources.
Teaching Students to Read a Turnitin Report

Academic Library Profile Part 1: Bunker Hill Community College

Bunker Hill Community College is in Boston, Massachusetts. The college is a community college in the state (Bunker Hill Community College) with 10,000 students enrolled. The college was founded in 1973 and is accredited through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) (para. 1). The college shares Boston with some of the most prestigious institutions in the world, including Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The college has two campuses: the Charleston campus and the Chelsea campus. The college also has several satellite locations (Bunker Hill
Final Suggestions

• Leave Turnitin “On” for students to view, but offer a “no questions asked” option to submit the assignment again.
  – This also encourages students to not wait until the last minute to submit.

• Include Turnitin reports with grade comments.

• Create a “how to read your Turnitin report” module or video in your course.

• Teach plagiarism avoidance or teach “how to cite in...” – but don’t try to do both!
Thank You!

Questions?

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