

April 5, 2012 #wcchat

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This week's #wcchat takes on plagiarism.

“ What protocol do you ask your tutors to follow when they suspect a student's draft is plagiarized? #wcchat

9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ At Daytona State College, we ask our tutors to try to emphasize when there "appears to be a language shift." #wcchat

9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ Our procedure for suspected plagiarism is to be direct with the student and ask "did you take this from some other source." #wcchat

9 days ago

StudentWritingCenter



“ #wcchat depends on the suspicious part. Clearly different writing style? no citation? Tutors ask, "Where did this come from?"

9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ @CwG_NSF We likewise avoid accusatory language but rather speak in "instructional hints." #wcchat

9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ Yes, I think it not only depends what the "suspicious part" is, but what kind of student you're dealing with. #wcchat

9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @SLCCSWC We use a version of that: "This seems to have come from a source. Do you remember where you found this info.?" #wcchat

“ At DSC, we have a large non-traditional student pop as well as numerous Asian exchange students. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @LamarWC #wcchat me, too. I'm listening to the archive of another one: Plagiarism and the Web. pages.turnitin.com/Plagiar...

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ In some cultures, there is no concept of plagiarism so it can be an innocent error requiring specific instruction. We have... #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @KUWC Us, too. Be we encounter professors who say, "any paper with more than 5% quotation/sum/para is plagiarism and will fail." #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF




“ I think, not only within Writing Centers, but within higher ed in general, there are wide ranging ideas on what constitutes plag. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ ...a lot of international graduate students taking freshman-level ESL writing classes, so we encounter the problem with this pop. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ #wcchat I like the templates in They Say, I Say, to show students how to incorporate others' ideas. Many profs have latched onto them.

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ @RollinsSource Agreed. That's a good source. I've found the Writing About Writing book to be an excellent resources. too. #wcchat

“ @CwG_NSF If non-direct confr. doesn't work, the S will likely turn in a plag. paper for the instructor to deal with. We note... #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ ...on our session form the suspicion & what the tutor said in case the trail leads back to us. Can be direct w/out being accusatory. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ It is key to educate faculty and tutors on the different cultural understandings of using the words of others. #wcchat

 9 days ago

KUWC



“ @CwG_NSF My research showed this - but I've also found a lot to suggest that most cultures *do* have a concept of #plagiarism. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @LamarWC #wcchat Jason Stevens of UConn mentioned some ESL students' home culture norms of not citing others b/c common knowledge? honoring?

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ @LamarWC I like that. We employ a similar model. We will never call someone out directly. In our thinking, we do this because... #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @LamarWC ...it is the student's paper. And they should have agency. But... where we question this approach is with students.... #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @LamarWC ...who might not know what plagiarism is when the walk

“ Cultures vary in textual, referencing and citation conventions, but most have clear taboos about cheating and representation of work #wchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ What are your tutor training strategies on plagiarism? Role-play? #wchat

 9 days ago

Judy Weaver



“ Tutors instruct accordingly even if the S swears the info. is his/hers. This instruc. is noted on the form so we're covered. #wchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @LamarWC One can be direct without being accusatory. #wchat

 9 days ago

StudentWritingCenter



“ @Kurt Bouman - Yes very important to understand the many nuances of different cultures and the idea of plagiarism. #wchat

 9 days ago

KUWC



“ @littleboli At DSC, we have full-time writing tutors and faculty volunteers. We make sure our message is consistent. #wchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @Kurt Bouman - Yes very important to understand the many nuances of different cultures and the idea of plagiarism. #wchat

 9 days ago

KUWC



“ @littleboli At DSC, we have full-time writing tutors and faculty volunteers. We make sure our message is consistent. #wchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @littleboli We do role play and read/talk about different notions of plagiarism as well as various assumptions. #wcchat

 9 days ago

StudentWritingCenter



“ @KUWC I agree. Does anyone have any articles/references for studies on different cultural approaches to plagiarism? #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @CwG_NSF Exactly! When students truly don't know, they become immediately worried and are open to instruction. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @littleboli I urge tutors to address their concerns directly with writers. IMHO, directness leads to better clarity than discretion #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @LamarWC Yes. When student truly doesn't know what plag is, then we fall into instructor mode and teach them. ... #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @CwG_NSF forgot to mention: with these students the lack of knowledge and subsequent instruction are detailed on the session form. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @LamarWC But when a S swear they what know what Plag is and that they haven't done it, the we generally opt to 'trust' them. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ Yes, like most Centers (I'm assuming) we document everything that happens in sessions. #wcchat

“ Does anyone have any good plagiarism tutorials that they share with faculty or students? #wcchat

 9 days ago

KUWC



“ @CwG_NSF If not tacky to plug my own chapter in it, ESL Writers: A Guide for Writing Center Tutors gives an accessible start. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ What do you do if a student is so paralyzed by the fear of committing plagiarism that he or she can't write? #wcchat

 9 days ago

KUWC



“ As others said, we use these situations as an opportunity to talk about proper citation and unintentional plag. It's about learning. #wcchat

 9 days ago

M Link Ward



“ @littleboli We role-play & create appropriate responses for diff. situations. All tutors use these responses so there's consistency. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ I think clarification on what we all mean by 'direct' and 'indirect' confrontation of plagiarism concerns. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @CwG_NSF See, the std may well be both right and wrong at the same time. But when a writer won't budge, I think we note and move on #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @rhetorikurt So glad you did! Thanks for the source. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ By direct, do we mean, "I think you plagiarized this. Did you?" Or a gentler, "This seems like different language to me?" #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @LamarWC Who's here? #wcchat

 9 days ago

Valerie



“ @vbalester Lots--and a few new chatters! This is a lively chat so join in! #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @KUWC Ooooh, good one. "The Anxiety of Influence"! A strategy I've heard is to NOT compose with sources open beside you. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @LamarWC Exactly. So often I see students confused and overwhelmed. I try to remember what it was like and not assume intent. #wcchat

 9 days ago

M Link Ward



“ @LamarWC Mostly what we see is unintentional P, that's why a direct question of "Did you take this from somewhere else?" works. #wcchat

 9 days ago

StudentWritingCenter



“ @CwG_NSF I vote for the latter, which is similar to our response. It lets them know that the plag. (intent. or not) is obvious. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @vbalester Re who's here? Rhetorkurt = Kurt Bouman (Madison Area Tech Coll). The egghead photo is surprisingly accurate! #wcchat



9 days ago



“ in other words, beating around the bush isn't always the best thing for unintentional P. Someone may not know it is a problem. #wcchat

 9 days ago

StudentWritingCenter



“ What I find interesting is that some S will bring us bring us intentionally Plaged work.... to see if they can "get it passed us"? #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ #wcchat In my workshop I have students summarize from an original source (w/out looking), then find problems w/ others. Take temptation away

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ @vbalester Chris Gebhardt - Daytona State College. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @SLCCSWC when we need to be a bit more direct: "Do you still have the source for this info. because you forgot to cite it." + #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ Do yr WCs have a centralized internal procedure/process for dealing w/plagiarism suspicions? #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ #wcchat unintentional. Our Honor Council finds 1st years highest in plagiarism; "I thought only quotes had to be cited!"

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ Does anyone see faculty expecting tutors to catch all instances of plagiarism? #wcchat



“ "...forgot to cite it" is quite direct without using the "P word"! Then they can pretend it was unintentional (an obvious act!) & fix it. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ Couls intent plag b seen b/c Ss are trying slip it by us w/ the thought that they can then get it passed their prof? #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @vbalester Absolutely. Which is so difficult, b/c we aren't familiar with student's work, etc. #wcchat

 9 days ago

M Link Ward



“ @vbalester Oh my lords, yes! But we have a strong Fac volunteer group at our WC that squashes that for us - or at least helps squash #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @vbalester I haven't run in to that, but we make specific notes on our session report forms in case. Ss have blamed us when their... #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ How do those who conduct asynchronous online tutoring handle responding to plagiarism? #wcchat

 9 days ago

StudentWritingCenter



“ @CwG_NSF Ooo, we should recruit faculty to volunteer here for that reason (and more) @vbalester #wcchat

 9 days ago

M Link Ward



“ @vbalester I worry about that--how the WC will look if an instr gets a "Your std visited us" note and then finds the ppr online. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @vbalester ...profs catch them. Usually the profs don't blame us but we have documentation to prove we pointed it out to the student #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @TurtleKnitta Fac vols are LIFESAVERS. And they help our center run very smoothly. Plus, they get to see things from our side! :) #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @RollinsSource Like it! #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ Do students learn enough about how to take notes and organize research? This seems to cause a lot of the trouble I see. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Valerie



“ @rhetorikurt That is a tough situation, but since when is the WC the writing police? :) #wcchat

 9 days ago

StudentWritingCenter



“ @vbalester Better question: Do fac. have enough time to teach them all these things? Fac our overloaded to begin with.... #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ I'm also concerned abt protecting tutors when plag comes up, eg in a school w/honor code requiring turning in names. What shd WC do? #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @vbalester ...and some school keep added classes to fac members and non-teaching duties. This is prob a double-edged sword. #wcchat

“ @rhetorikurt #wchat We discuss how to deal w/ it but don't have a protocol; I'm getting great ideas here. Form goes to profs, students, me.

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ @vbalester Catching plagiarism seems to be a general expectation of WCs. Question is, is it an obligation we want to embrace? #wchat

 9 days ago

UTEP Writing Center



“ @rhetorikurt This is where WCs as 'sanctuaries' could work to WCs' advantage. We're not reqrd to 'turn in' students for plag. #wchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @rhetorikurt We can't be expected to be as familiar w/Ss writing voices as their profs are, so they can't expect us to catch it all. #wchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ The head of the English dept. will be a guest speaker to train my tutors about plagiarism. That way the profs have input. #wchat

 9 days ago

Judy Weaver



“ I'm thinking about holding a workshop for faculty on how to prevent plagiarism. "An ounce of prevention..." #wchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ #wchat Tutors make notes on 8 1/2 x 11 form; they can write they discussed and practiced citing sources but do not turn students in.

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ @UTEP_UWC As std advocates, I say NO to WC as police, but YES! to helping stds detect plag so we can help w/rewrite to avoid it. #wchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @CwG_NSF Yes! We're the safety zone to test ideas & work out bugs before Ss enter the grading zone. We should capitalize on that.
#wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ I agree the WC is a place to come and draft and share ideas. We are clear with our faculty we are not a plagiarism detection service
#wcchat

 9 days ago

KUWC




“ #wcchat @rhetorikurt WC tutors cannot recognize a famous source's ideas as well as profs and content tutors can. WC has to ask more Q.

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ Good idea --> MT @LamarWC: I'm thinking about holding a workshop for faculty on how to prevent plagiarism. #wcchat

 9 days ago

UTEP Writing Center



“ @Lamar Yes, I love it when the WC can emphasize the positive of what we do. #wcchat

 9 days ago

KUWC



“ @RollinsSource That's what we do too. Instruction and grave warning but no policing. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ Plus, there's a fine line we have to walk. It can become plag on our part if we offer "too much help." #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @UTEP_UWC Thank you! #wcchat



Lamar Writing Center



“ I've thought abt WC subscribing to the vile (d'oh, tipped my hand) Turnitin, to allow stds to scan pprs with us there to help #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @vbalester Awesome! #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ <http://writingcenter.tamu.edu/2010/news/cheating-hearts-pt-1/> and writingcenter.tamu.edu/201... for faculty wkshops #wcchat

 9 days ago

Valerie




“ @rhetorikurt Turnitin CAN be useful if used as teaching tool for S. Not when it's a "Ah-HA. Gotcha!" system. We've seen that at DSC #wcchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @rhetorikurt I use Safeassign (Blackboard) as a revision and editing tool in my classes. Great idea to make use of it in the wc. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @LamarWC Does anyone else think that "working out bugs" may include a preventive turnitin scan, just like we sometimes grammarcheck? #wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ <http://writingcenter.tamu.edu/2009/news/new-video-their-cheating-hearts-why-students-plagiarize-and-what-you-can-do-about-it/> Also included Honors Office at wks hop #wcchat


 9 days ago

Valerie



“ RT Yes! Were the safety zone to test ideas & work out bugs before Ss enter the grading zone. We should capitalize on that. #wcchat

“ Wd moderator post archive retrieval instructions for this chat?
#wchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @rhetorikurt I think it could. We've toyed w/ the idea of setting up a
WC Turnitin account for that reason. #wchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ @CwG_NSF insidehighered.com "False Positives on Plagiarism" A
report on a study of turnitin and safeassign #wchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @CwG_NSF Great point! I have heard this fear expressed.#wchat

 9 days ago

Valerie



“ @rhetorikurt @LamarWC We do this on request at our center--a
scan with discussion of results. #wchat Also recommend this use of
Turnitin.

 9 days ago

Valerie



“ @rhetorikurt @laglowzenski handles the archive. She usually tweets
the link. When she does I'll post it to wcenter listserv. #wchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @CwG_NSF Problem is turnitin remembers papers it's seen, so the
classroom instructor's originality report might say "Seen it b4!"
#wchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @rhetorikurt Exactly. Which is primarily why we haven't opted into
using Turnitin as a learning tool. #wchat



Chris G - NSF



“ #wchat Good ideas here! Thanks, you all, for non-accusatory ways to approach client in those teachable moments.

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ @CwG_NSF @rhetorikurt You can set it so the student papers are not added to the DB. #wchat

 9 days ago

Valerie



“ @CwG_NSF That's why I said "vile" service: Turnitin seems to prefer the policing/surveillance function to its writer-improving one. #wchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @vbalester You can? How? #wchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ Before too many sign off, should we finish the semester with chats every other week? It's a busy time for us all! #wchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @vbalester Glad to hear that. I know they've worked on it a lot, to adapt to our evolving demands and concerns. #wchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @LamarWC I'm good either way. I can participate from here on out. And I had fun! Excellent discussion. #wchat

 9 days ago

Chris G - NSF



“ I don't find turnitin reliable enough as a plag detector to have confidence in its ability to fulfill that function definitively. #wchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman



“ @LamarWC we will be slammed for the next few weeks, but I don't see why you can't try to have them weekly. #wcchat

 9 days ago

StudentWritingCenter



“ @LamarWC #wcchat Every two weeks sounds good to me.

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ Me, too, fun & useful. Off now to wrtg wkshp for MATH class! Maybe we'll create equation to express requirements for good paper!
#wcchat

 9 days ago

Kurt Bouman




“ I've been trying to respond to your tweets for the last few minutes but the reply function in tweetchat isn't responding. #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ @rhetorikurt If you create that equation please share it! #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ This has been fantastic. Remember: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Faculty training on plag. prevention! #wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center



“ #wcchat Twitter wouldn't let me see just this tweetchat session; had to follow it on our homepage. Something's happening in their cloud?

 9 days ago

RollinsSource



“ Bye everyone! Happy tutoring, teaching, directing, nurturing, . . .
#wcchat

 9 days ago

Lamar Writing Center

