TURNITIN – THE PLAGIARISM DETECTION SERVICE

As a student you might be aware that there is increasing concern in Higher Education about plagiarism – the submission of others' academic work as one's own. There is particular concern about the role of the internet in this regard. Consequently, the United Kingdom's Higher Education agencies initiated the JISC Plagiarism Detection Service. This is now available to all UK Higher Education institutions, enabling tutors, if they wish, to check work suspected of plagiarism, against a database of 800 million websites and related materials.

University of Wales Trinity Saint David uses this service and as part of your registration to study for a course or programme offered by University of Wales Trinity Saint David, you are *required* to sign a declaration on your registration form authorising your work to be checked against the Plagiarism Detection Service database as outlined in the 'Plagiarism – Student Collection Notice' below.

It is the policy of University of Wales Trinity Saint David that it is not possible for you to undertake a course or programme unless this declaration is signed.

The use of this service by University of Wales Trinity Saint David is not intended in any way to suggest that you, or any of the University's students, will engage in plagiarism. The overwhelming majority of students carry out their work with integrity and diligence. The University must ensure, however, that the honest efforts of the majority of students are not compromised by the small minority of students who engage in dishonest work. The Plagiarism Detection Service is, therefore, for your protection and the protection of your work's integrity.

PLAGIARISM - Student Collection Notice

What is the Plagiarism Detection Service?

The Plagiarism Detection Service Turnitin ("the service") is a JISC approved service which searches the World Wide Web and extensive databases of reference material and content submitted by other students to identify any duplication with your work. The Service is operated by iParadigms, in conjunction with Northumbria Learning. The software makes **no** decisions as to whether a student has plagiarised, it simply highlights sections of text that have been found in other sources. In most cases this text will have been correctly cited. All work will continue to be reviewed by the module tutor.

What is the Benefit of being Part of the Plagiarism Detection Service?

Plagiarism is a serious offence and something your institution wishes actively to identify and prevent. The use of this system will allow the University and others around the country to systematically check for plagiarism, thus ensuring that all students' work is original and graded accordingly. In this way we can minimise the risk of other students being unfairly rewarded for work that is not original to them.

How will my data be used?

In order for this service to work you will be required to submit your assignments to the service where they will be stored together with your name, email address, course details and institution. Once your material has been uploaded it will be stored electronically in a database and compared against work submitted from this or any other department(s) within this institution or from other UK institutions using the service.

In the event of the service detecting a high degree of similarity between content within the service this will be reported back to the University and we *may* decide to undertake further investigation which may ultimately lead to disciplinary actions, should instances of plagiarism be detected. Such decisions are entirely at the discretion of the University and in no way involve the Plagiarism Detection Service. In this circumstance it is possible that your personal data may need to be disclosed to academic staff within the other institution(s) from where matching content has been submitted. By signing this agreement you are giving your consent for your data to be transferred and used in this way.

The University is the recognised Data Controller (being the person who controls the extent and use of data) for the data held or processed by or on behalf of the Service. iParadigms are the Data Processor. In order for the University to make use of the Service it will be necessary for personal data relating to you to be transferred to countries not governed by EU Data Protection legislation. However, it should be noted that iParadigms, the company processing your data on the University's behalf, is bound by terms of contract to abide at all times by the Data Protection principles.

How long will my data be kept by the service?

The service will seek to retain content submitted to it and associated personal data until the termination of this service or its successor, thus helping to accumulate as large a corpus of knowledge as possible against which to compare submitted content.

What if I want my data to be removed from the service before this?

If you do wish to remove your data from the Service at any time you should contact the University TurnitinUK administrator who can make the necessary arrangements with Northumbria Learning. You will receive written confirmation when this has been completed.

What if I want to find out what personal data the service holds on me?

If you wish to find out exactly what personal data the Service holds about you please contact the University Data Protection Officer (via email: dpa@tsd.ac.uk) You will be required to prove your identity before any personal information is disclosed to you. The process will involve the Data Protection Officer contacting Northumbria Learning and iParadigms on your behalf.
It is possible that the University also holds personal data on you in relation to plagiarism which it has received from the Service or elsewhere. For details of how to obtain access to such data please contact the University Data Protection Officer.

Who owns the copyright to the work I have submitted to the service?

The service has no interest in acquiring the intellectual property rights for the content submitted by you. The copyright for such content will continue to reside with either yourself or your institution, whichever is currently the case. Please refer to the: *Institutional Terms & Conditions* below for further details as to how this is managed within your institution.

However, the service will need the permission of the rights holder to maintain an electronic copy of your content on a database and to use such material for the purposes outlined above.

Please note that neither Northumbria Learning, the service or its data processors will seek to exploit the content submitted to this service for any further commercial gain outside the remit of this service.

Institutional Terms & Conditions

Full details of the University's regulations and procedures regarding plagiarism can be found in the *Academic Quality Handbook* and the *University Regulations – Student Guide*. Details of the University's regulations in relation to Intellectual Property Rights can be found in the *Academic Quality Handbook*.

Agreement

By signing the plagiarism agreement you are indicating consent for your personal data to be used by the service for the purposes outlined above and according to the processes outlined above.

Student Regulations on Intellectual Property Rights
By signing this agreement you are also indicating that you accept the University regulations set out in the *Academic Quality Handbook* dealing with the issue of Intellectual Property Rights, that is the ownership of any copyright, design rights, invention, discovery or improvement produced by a student or students in the course of their studies. They aim to protect the interests of both the student and the University and are to be interpreted in a spirit of reasonableness.

In the majority of cases, the University will not wish to retain the Intellectual Property Rights and will assign these rights back to the student concerned. In addition much of the time the University will agree to publication by the student and generally each Head of School will routinely issue the necessary consents. Naturally if the University does decide to retain and exploit certain Intellectual Property Rights then the student(s) concerned will be entitled to a share of any profits made pursuant. These regulations have been agreed with representatives of the Students' Union.