Education Technology Committee

Monday, November 18, 2013
Location: discussion conducted via email

ETC Members: Beth Childress, Ela Kaye Eley, Chad Guilliams, Thomas Murphy, Clifford Padgett, Stephen Primatic, Michael Tiemeyer

Request from Sandy Hart, ITS for input on the plan to add Turnitin to D2L as 3rd party application effective spring 2014. Turnitin will continue to be available outside of D2L for those with accounts. ETC asked provide comments on: will there need to be any changes in the current policy on Turnitin’s use and how should faculty be notified of the training requirement and notice in syllabus for courses using Turnitin.

Current policy on use of Turnitin
http://www.armstrong.edu/Departments/cis_training/cis_training_turnitin_use_policy
Faculty wishing to use Turnitin must go through training before being given an account. Faculty using Turnitin should have a notice in their syllabus about the use of Turnitin.

Committee Comments Summarized
The ETC does not see any problems with ITS being unable to enforce training prior to using Turnitin. Many faculty currently using Turnitin have not had formal training in its use. Faculty on the ETC using Turnitin feel that Turnitin is straightforward to use and has a low learning curve and faculty do not necessarily need training in its use. Training in Turnitin’s use could be provided via OLBL workshops/training as well as being part of ITS provided training. A demonstration of Turnitin’s use could be required as a competency in lieu of training if the mandatory training requirement is kept.

Faculty need to be aware of the syllabus notification requirement if using Turnitin in a course so that faculty and students are aware of the legal issues related to copyright and ownership of material. Making the notification requirement more prominent on the Turnitin policy web page and either sending out a reminder at the start of each semester to faculty teaching online courses or having a popup in D2L about the Turnitin notification requirement should be sufficient.

Comment cutoff at 9:00 AM, Friday November 22, 2013

Respectfully submitted
Thomas Murphy