Responsible Conduct of Research Workshop Series, 2015-2016

Crediting the Work of Others
Avoiding Plagiarism

--October 28, 2015
Expectations

- **Read the Syllabus for each Workshop**
  - Pre-Workshop Readings and completing the Pre-Workshop Tasks are important for identifying the issues and questions that are most important to your interests.

- Because these sessions are designed to promote discussions, **no cell phones or laptops will be allowed on desks or be used during the workshops.**

Adapted from: Ebert-May and Hodder (2008) Pathways to Scientific Teaching (Chapter 1)
Resources

- Terry May (slide theme is his)
- Gail Dummer ("Plagiarism" presentation)
  - [http://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity/resources/plagiarism.aspx](http://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity/resources/plagiarism.aspx)
- Miguel Roig (Stjohns.edu)
  - [http://facpub.stjohns.edu/~roigm/plagiarism/](http://facpub.stjohns.edu/~roigm/plagiarism/)
- MSU, The Graduate School
  - [http://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity/resources/](http://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity/resources/)
- Internet Pages and Search Engines
Last Time

- We asked:

- Has your advisor or PI discussed authorship and rights to data within your research or scholarly group? Is there a plan for publications? If not, discuss why with your research integrity consultant and what routinely happens in your department/program.
Has your advisor or PI discussed authorship and rights to data within your research/scholar group?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don’t know
Allegations & Retractions

- The National Science Foundation Office of the Inspector General receives 12-15 allegations of misdeeds every week
- The majority involve allegations of Plagiarism
Retraction: colon and rectal surgery for cancer without mechanical bowel preparation: one-center randomized prospective trial

Stefano Scabini, Edoardo Rimini, Emanuele Romairone, Renato Scordamaglia, Giampiero Damiani, Davide Pertile and Valter Ferrando

For all author emails, please log on.

Published: 20 September 2012

Abstract (provisional)

The authors have retracted this article (Scabini et al) because it contains large portions of text that have been duplicated from another article previously published in Annals of Surgery (Zmora et al). The authors apologise to the Editors and readers as well as the authors of the original article.

The complete article is available as a provisional PDF. The fully formatted PDF and HTML versions are in production.
Misdeeds, Not Mistakes, Behind Most Scientific Retractions

by DAVID SCHULTZ

October 1, 2012

04:03 pm

When there's something really wrong with a published study, the journal can retract it, much like a carmaker recalling a flawed automobile.

But are the errors that lead to retractions honest mistakes or something more problematic?

A newly published analysis finds that more than two-thirds of biomedical papers retracted over the past four decades were the result of misconduct, not error. That's much higher than previous studies of retractions had found.

"We found something that is very

http://www.npr.org/blogs/health/2012/10/01/162100029/misdeeds-not-mistakes-behind-most-scientific-retractions
Common Understandings

- Common Knowledge – Why?
  - How is this defined?

- Original Work
  - Requires what?

- Plagiarism*
  - Idea
  - Results
  - Word
  - Process/Method

WHAT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE?

Let’s discuss....
What is the most important criteria for a piece of information to be common knowledge?

1. Information is posted all over the web.
2. Your mother knows it.
3. Numerous people know it.
4. The information can be found in many places.
5. The President says it so it must be so.
6. The information is published in 12 textbooks.
Examples of Common Knowledge

- Earth orbits around the Sun
- Stephanie Watts is short
- Barack Obama is President
- Mitochondria make ATP
You do not have to cite an Internet Source

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don’t know
Rule of thumb for Common Knowledge

- Fact/idea can be found in numerous places.
- Fact/idea is known by numerous people.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN all data on the Internet are free for use and from citation or is Common Knowledge!!

http://library.csusm.edu/plagiarism/howtoavoid/how_avoid_common.htm
When is knowledge ‘uncommon’?

- It is genuine, original

- HOW do you judge what is genuine, original?

TALK to your faculty about the specifics of your discipline; don’t presume what’s common.
Plagiarism - ORI

- “In this new regulation plagiarism is defined as ‘the appropriation of another person’s ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit.’

Plagiarism means “the appropriation of another person’s ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit”

Source: MSU’s Procedures Concerning Allegations of Misconduct in Research and Creative Activities
Appropriation is the act of taking possession of or assigning purpose to properties or ideas and is important in many topics.

THIS IS STEALING!!!
Examples of Plagiarism

- Discovery of the Antibiotic Streptomycin
  - Albert Schatz was first author
  - Worked under Selman Waksman (Rutgers)
  - Waksman got the Nobel Prize in 1952.

http://www.bmartin.cc/pubs/97cr.html
http://facpub.stjohns.edu/~roigm/plagiarism/Acknowledging%20the%20source.html
Ohio State Ph.D. recipient plagiarized doctoral dissertation

OSU graduate Elisabeth Nixon had her diploma revoked and agreed to pay Bowling Green assistant professor Montana C. Miller for plagiarizing her doctoral dissertation. **Here are two examples:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bowling Green assistant professor Montana C. Miller’s “Every 15 minutes”</th>
<th>OSU Ph.D. recipient Elisabeth Nixon’s “Devil’s Advocate”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“In conducting my fieldwork, I adopted an ethnographic approach that included participant observation, naturalistic observation, formal and informal interviews, and archival research.”</td>
<td>“In conducting my fieldwork, I have adopted an ethnographic approach that has included naturalistic observation, formal and informal interviews, and archival research.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“In Bill Ellis’ studies of the camp mock-ordeals like the ‘Majaska Hunt’ and the ‘Real Snipe Hunt,’...”</td>
<td>“Ellis (1981) has emphasized the importance in folk drama of participants’ recognition of the fictional nature of events (as in camp mock-ordeals like the ‘Majaska Hunt’ and the ‘Real Snipe Hunt’).”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Go to thelantern.com to read the complete document.

Source: Legal documents

EMILY COLLARD / Lantern designer
What happened?

- “Miller, who earned her Ph.D. in folklore and mythology at UCLA in 2003, then sued Nixon in August of 2010 for "damages and any profit Nixon might have earned from the copied material." The complaint also asked that any and all material containing unauthorized excerpts be destroyed. She also requested that Nixon stop copying her work.

- In federal court, Nixon agreed to pay $15,000 to the plaintiff, Miller. It was decided that she pay the amount of $222.22 every month, for 44 months, and another $222.32 before Sept. 1, 2014. If all payments are made on time, Nixon will not have to pay the remaining agreement of $5,000, according to court documents. If these guidelines are not met, Miller has the right to request the full amount immediately.

- "This whole experience has been hard on me both professionally and personally," Miller said.

- After Nixon's lawyer told her to contact The Lantern, she choose not to comment.

- OSU's Committee on Academic Conduct has a Code of Student Conduct handbook. Section 3335-23-04 says, "Any student found to have engaged, or attempted to engage in submitting plagiarized work for an academic requirement, will be subject to disciplinary action by the university."

- OSU found Nixon guilty under these guidelines and revoked her degree May 14.

http://www.thelantern.com/campus/woman-plagiarized-by-osu-graduate-speaks-out-1.1977657#.TpAsCE8s0ZM
“In 2008, when her scientific publication, the *Journal of Zhejiang University-Science*, became the first in China to use CrossCheck text analysis software to spot plagiarism, Zhang was pleased to be a trailblazer. But when the first set of results came in, she was upset and horrified.

"In almost two years, we find about 31 percent of papers with unreasonable copy[ing] and plagiarism," she says, shaking her head. "This is true."
Where do people mess up?

• The Internet is NOT free!!

• It is not the WHERE you find a source, but WHAT the source is that matters.
  - abstract
  - paper
  - presentation

• Using a series of quotes and paraphrasing, alone, is not original work. YOUR ideas, thoughts and words are what make it YOUR original work.
Is English your Native language?

1. Yes.
2. No
For persons whose native language is not English

- You have an additional challenge.
- Be vigilant – careful.
- Find a colleague, native in English, to be a checker for you.
- If it is unclear – ASK QUESTIONS

Resources on MSU campus

http://writing.msu.edu/resources/

The Writing Center at MSU
Michigan State University
434 Farm Lane Room 300
Bessey Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
Phone: 517-432-3610
Email: writing@msu.edu
PH.D. IN "COPY-AND-PASTE"?

Addressing the Rise of Plagiarism in Graduate Programs

Overview

1. **Direct plagiarism**: Verbatim lifting of passages without enclosing the borrowed material in quotation marks and crediting the original author.

2. **Mosaic**: Borrowing the ideas and opinions from an original source and a few verbatim words or phrases without crediting the original author. In this case, the plagiarist intertwines his or her own ideas and opinions with those of the original author, creating a "confused, plagiarized mass."

3. **Paraphrase**: Restating a phrase or passage, providing the same meaning but in a different form WITHOUT attribution to the original author.

4. **Insufficient Acknowledgement**: Noting the original source of only part of what is borrowed or failing to cite the source material in a way that allows the reader to know what is original and what is borrowed.”
WHAT IS SELF-PLAGIARISM?
Roig and Self-Plagiarism

“When authors reuse their own previously written work or data in a ‘new’ written product without letting the reader know that this material has appeared elsewhere”

Self-Plagiarism may commit copyright infringement (author signed rights to publisher)

- Not just text is copyrighted. According to the U.S. Copyright Office (2010), a “work is under copyright protection the moment it is created and fixed in a tangible form that is perceptible either directly or with the aid of a machine or device.”

How to Avoid Plagiarism
How do you keep track of original sources?

- EndNote?
- Post-its?
- Notebook?
- Different electronic log?
- 4x6 cards?
- In your head?
- Great big pile all around you?
Citations – when?

**Need to cite when**

- Paraphrasing the ideas, opinions or theories of others.
- Copying EXACT words (quotation)
- Copying elements of a work (diagrams, pictures)
- Using ideas from others that were communicated to you.

**No need to cite when**

- The ideas you put forward are original to you.
- Communicating your own experimental results.
- Sharing your own creations.
- Sharing anecdotes about people who remain anonymous.
- Using common knowledge.

(adapted from Avoiding Plagiarism by Purdue University’s Online Writing Lab),
http://library.csusm.edu/plagiarism/howtocredit/)
Guidelines from Miguel Roig, PhD

• An ethical writer ALWAYS acknowledges the contributions of others and the source of his/her ideas.

• Any verbatim text taken from another author MUST be enclosed in quotation marks.

• We must always acknowledge every source that we use in our writing; whether we paraphrase it, summarize it, or enclose it quotations

• When we summarize, we condense, in our own words, a substantial amount of material into a short paragraph or perhaps even into a sentence. Whether we are paraphrasing or summarizing we must always identify the source of our information

http://facpub.stjohns.edu/~roigm/plagiarism/Plagiarism%20of%20text.html
Guidelines from Miguel Roig, PhD

• When paraphrasing and/or summarizing others’ work we must reproduce the exact meaning of the other author’s ideas or facts using our words and sentence structure.

When in doubt as to whether a concept or fact is common knowledge, provide a citation.

http://facpub.stjohns.edu/~roigm/plagiarism/Plagiarism%20of%20text.html
Epigeum Plagiarism Module – Exercise II
Module 4 (Flow chart)
Other Suggestions

- Remove primary sources from your place of immediate work; rely on how you THINK about it; double check accuracy and words.

- Those non-native in English: Consider writing in your native language, then translating to English. This way, you capture YOUR thought and ideas, not someone else’s.
HOW DO YOU CHECK YOUR WORK?

Let’s discuss...
Plagiarism Websites

- Use software to compare your document against others
- Examples (Access is provided for a fee)
  - Scanmyessay.com
  - Turnitin®
  - Ithenticate.com
  - Plagiarism-Detector....
  - Grammarly.com
  - Duplichecker.com
  - Academicplagiarism.com
  - Plagiarism.com

AND THE LIST GOES ON, and ON, and ON!
Turnitin is a helpful tool for instructors to see what kind of resources students are using in their writing. It can help reveal where the content is coming from so that the student and the instructor can assess if it is properly cited. While the program will not be able to highlight if something is properly cited, it will highlight all matched source material for a quick visual overview.

Instructors are able to get a quick look at the submitted material for how much of the information comes from source material. This allows instructors and students to more efficiently evaluate the extent of source material being used in a draft by highlighting the content instead of having to manually hunt for each item through the paper.

Turnitin is also a platform designed for giving feedback on writing from the instructor and from peers. Criteria and outcomes can be compared with the writing itself so that the student can elaborate, revise and enhance the writing as needed or to get reinforcement on aspects of the writing they are unsure of.

What is it not good for?

Although this is dubbed a plagiarism detector, Turnitin does not discern properly cited material. Just because there is a high report number of unoriginal content does not necessarily mean that plagiarism has occurred.
iThenticate

Who: faculty and graduate students

What: check manuscripts prior to submission

Why:

- Ensure proper citation of sources
- Check for Accidental Self-Plagiarism

Request iThenticate

- MSU faculty, staff, and graduate students can request to be part of the iThenticate pilot by completing this form.
- If you have questions, contact the Distance Learning Services Help Desk at (517) 355-2345 or (800) 500-1554.
iThenticate

- Same base algorithms as TurnItIn
- Designed and presented differently for:
  - Pre-publication self-checks
  - e.g. Prevent Accidental Self-plagiarism
  - Search against published journals

Full list of indexed sources available at:
http://www.ithenticate.com/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Report</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Processed</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-HT in SMV</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Stephanie Watts</td>
<td>April 9, 2014 10:32:51 AM EDT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R21 Cervix</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>Stephanie Watts</td>
<td>October 10, 2013 2:06:05 PM EDT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Serotonin relaxes the superior mesenteric vein: implications for blood pressure control

Stephanie W. Watts, Emma Darios, Bridget M. Seitz, Robert Burnett, and Janice M. Thompson
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824
Top offender – MY PAPER!

**Introduction**

5-HT was initially described as a vasoconstrictor, given that it elevated the tone of isolated blood vessels in vitro (Page and McCubbin 1953). We discovered that when given chronically (over one week to one month) to the conscious rat, 5-HT caused a dose-dependent reduction in blood pressure (Diaz et al, 2008; Tan et al, 2011). The hypotensive actions of 5-

http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2210/12/4

Western blot validated the presence of the 5-HT2B, 5- HT1B and 5-HT7 receptor protein in sham and DOCA-salt superior mesenteric artery. Isometric contractile force was measured in endothelium-intact superior mesenteric artery and mesenteric resistance arteries in which the contractile 5- HT2A receptor was antagonized. Maximum concentrations of BW-723C86 (5- HT2B agonist), CP 93129 (5-HT1B agonist) or LP-44 (5-HT7 agonist) did not relax the superior mesenteric...
2% overlap investigation – chemical names!
Google as a Checker

- Type in the phrase about which you are concerned.
- Does it present in already published papers?
- If so, is this common knowledge?
An author should always read original papers cited in a publication. Why?

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neutral
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree
I feel prepared to avoid plagiarism, including self-plagiarism.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neutral
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree
Pre-Workshop Task

- On Being a Scientist
  - Authorship and Allocation of Credit
  - Key Points?
- MSU Research & Scholarly Integrity
  - Plagiarism
  - Avoiding Unintentional Plagiarism
Take Home Discussion

- Discuss with your research integrity consultant the meaning of plagiarism, self-plagiarism and his/her recommendation(s) for how to avoid unintentional plagiarism.

- Consider for yourself when and how you should properly credit others for their ideas and research/scholarly work AND when and how YOU wish to be credited for your work.
Research/Scholarly Integrity Resources

- The Graduate School
  - [http://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity/resources/](http://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity/resources/)

  - *Guidelines for Graduate Student Advising and Mentoring Relationships*
  - *Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Creative Activities*
How do we Verify RCR Education?

https://www.egr.msu.edu/rcr/

https://www.egr.msu.edu/secureresearchcourses/
NEXT WORKSHOP

- Record Keeping, Data Management and Sharing of Information
  - Wednesday, November 11, 2015
  - [http://grad.msu.edu/rcr/career.aspx](http://grad.msu.edu/rcr/career.aspx)

- Workshop Series Syllabus
  - [http://grad.msu.edu/rcr/docs/syllabus.pdf](http://grad.msu.edu/rcr/docs/syllabus.pdf)

- PLEASE TURN IN YOUR RESPONSE CARDS
On your ‘box’ for tonights session

True or False

Plagiarism is always intentional