

Division of Academic Affairs  
Technology Fee - Project Proposal  
2014

*Proposal Deadline: Tuesday, January 21, 2014*

*Project Proposal Type Systemic*

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*Project*

*Projects proposed by operational units of the university (e.g., colleges, academic departments, Library, etc.) for instructional technology enhancements of unit-wide or university-wide scope.*

*Project Title*

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Promoting Academic Integrity for Graduate and Advanced-level Scholarship via iThenticate

*Total Amount of Funding Requested*

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\$22,000

*Primary Project Coordinator*

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Richard S. Podemski, Associate Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School.  
Dr. Claudia Stanny, Director, Center for University Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, will  
serve as co-coordinator.

Division of Academic Affairs  
Systemic Project  
Proposal Template 2014

Systemic proposals must provide the following information:

1. Description of initiative/investment to enhance instructional technology.

UWF is strongly committed to academic integrity, including comprehensive instruction about plagiarism and aggressive monitoring of student work for originality. Almost a decade ago UWF contracted with Turnitin, the most widely used commercial program for assessing the originality of student work, to provide a tool for UWF faculty to monitor plagiarism. Turnitin is designed primarily for the undergraduate classroom setting whereby faculty require students to submit papers via Turnitin. Turnitin compares these submissions against sources on the Web, scholarly publications, and more than 150 million student papers that have been previously submitted. Faculty receive a report for each submission describing potentially plagiarized content. Currently UWF has 101 active Turnitin faculty accounts. In 2012-13 over 8,300 papers were submitted by approximately 2,204 individual students.

Unlike Turnitin, iThenticate is uniquely designed to assess graduate-level and advanced scholarship and research. It provides a richer database against which faculty and students can check their work for originality. In addition to the data bases available in Turnitin, the iThenticate data base includes over 300,000 dissertations and theses available in the ProQuest repository. This data source is especially important for the review of UWF theses and dissertation as they are in process and finalized. Another important feature of iThenticate is that submissions are not included in the iThenticate data base as they are in Turnitin, so faculty and students can submit a single work several times without affecting the report of the work's originality. Moreover, a submission through UWF accounts will not impact the originality report that will be generated when a journal editor or grant agency submits the work to iThenticate as part of the peer review process. (In contrast, a submission to Turnitin will produce an originality report that indicates that a work duplicates a work in the Turnitin data base because the second submission duplicates an early submission, either through the same account or through a different account.)

We anticipate four distinct uses for iThenticate at UWF: 1) faculty in graduate courses can require students to submit course papers for review; 2) faculty can use iThenticate to review theses and dissertations; 3) faculty and graduate students can submit scholarly papers for review by iThenticate prior to submission to scholarly journals; and 4) faculty can review research proposals via iThenticate prior to submission to funding agencies.

Access to iThenticate supports several current national advisories and uses. The Council of Graduate School recommends that faculty and students verify that student theses and dissertations are original and free of intellectual misconduct. Additionally, many scholarly journals, including Elsevier, Taylor & Francis, Wolters Kluwer Health, Nature, BMG Group, and Wiley-Blackwell now process scholarly papers via iThenticate as part of their review process. Government agencies such as the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the World Health Organization also use iThenticate to check for the originality of proposals submitted for funding.

Both the Graduate Council and the Ed.D. Coordinating Committee have reviewed the uses of iThenticate and endorsed this request.

Please review the attached iThenticate brochure for detailed information (We purposely didn't include much of the brochure information so as to keep this proposal brief).

**2. Description of how initiative has a college/unit-wide or university-wide scope.**

The iThenticate license will be a university-wide license. It will permit all faculty teaching graduate courses or supervising theses and dissertations, all graduate students and faculty who have written papers for scholarly publication, and all faculty members who prepare proposals to a funding agency to submit their works for review. There is no limit on the number of submissions.

The ITS Review asked for clarification of the anticipated student use and whether specific faculty have indicated they will begin using the software. As mentioned above, The Ed.D. Coordinating Committee and the Graduate Council have reviewed iThenticate and endorsed this request. Initial anticipated use is as follows:

- a. In December, 2013 the Ed.D. Committee indicated that they would immediately begin requiring all dissertations to be reviewed in iThenticate as soon as the software is available. The Graduate School typically reviews about 55 dissertations each year and each would be submitted to iThenticate before final Graduate School approval and submission to the ProQuest database. UWF has approximately 50 or more doctoral students working on their dissertations at any one time. However, it is anticipated that individual dissertations would be submitted for iThenticate review several times during the research/writing process as the student and advisor review drafts and make revisions.
- b. The Graduate School reviews about 35 theses annually. As Graduate Dean I

will require all theses to be reviewed via iThenticate prior to final Graduate School approval and submission to the ProQuest database. Thesis advisors might require the thesis students to have their drafts reviewed via iThenticate at different stages in the process.

- c. Faculty submit approximately 160 proposals to state and federal agencies annually. The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will require all these proposals to be reviewed via iThenticate. Since NSF, NIH and other federal agencies now use iThenticate to review proposals submitted to them, our internal review will identify potential issues prior to submission.
- d. The Scholarly and Creative Activities Committee (SCAC) reviews approximately 40 faculty and 35 graduate student proposals each year for small grants that are funded by Research and Sponsored Programs. Currently, SCAC reviews the proposal via Turnitin. However, Dr. Gougeon, the current SCAC chair, indicates that they would begin using iThenticate because the database is more appropriate for advanced, professional research projects. He stated that it will be good to get faculty and graduate students accustomed to this type of review since many of them will use the SCAC proposal as the basis for subsequent submissions to federal or state agencies.
- e. Since many scholarly journals now require an iThenticate review of articles submitted for publication, it is anticipated that faculty will want to conduct a "self-check" prior to sending an article for review. An advantage of the iThenticate process over the Turnitin process is that iThenticate does not record submissions in its database, thus preventing false-positive results based on prior submissions. We have no firm data about the number of articles submitted for review each year, but the requirement for scholarly publication is well established across all academic divisions.
- f. It is unknown at this time how many faculty will require graduate students to submit course papers via iThenticate. Currently faculty who teach graduate courses use Turnitin. Once iThenticate is available and faculty become aware of the fact that the database is more appropriate for graduate-level research papers, one would assume that they will transition from Turnitin to iThenticate. As was the case with Turnitin, use increased over the years as more faculty became aware of it and had experience with using it.

### 3. Description of project alignment with UWF Strategic Plan.

UWF is strongly committed to academic integrity. Integrity is one of UWF's core values. This proposal addresses strategic priority 2.1 in the current UWF strategic plan in that it provides a university-wide tool that supports "innovative instruction and high quality, relevant, and distinctive academic and research programs" and strategic priority 4.1, "support and sustain high-quality services and infrastructure needed to achieve identified UWF priorities" because iThenticate will enhance the academic



integrity infrastructure at UWF. The proposal will help monitoring of the new UWF Honor Code which states that, "As Argonauts, we act with integrity. We do not lie, cheat, steal or tolerate those who do." UWF is also committed to support the Federal Office of Research Integrity's principles of Responsible Conduct of Research regarding peer review and publication practices and responsible authorship (a component of Strategic Priority 2.1).

#### **4. Description of benefits provided.**

Faculty now rely on Turnitin to help validate the originality of undergraduate class assignments and in some cases graduate assignments, but have been reluctant to use Turnitin for graduate theses, and dissertations because of Turnitin's limited database and its format whereby all submissions are collected in the database. Even in cases when faculty use Turnitin to assess graduate class assignments, the review is not as comprehensive as it would be via iThenticate. Thus, iThenticate provides a powerful tool to monitor originality at the graduate and advanced scholarship level in graduate classes, for theses and dissertations and for scholarly publications and research proposals. Its structure permits multiple submission of a work without compromising the database against which the work is being compared. The fact that research journals and federal funding agencies are using iThenticate to monitor submissions underscores the relevance of this tool for monitoring the originality of advanced scholarship. UWF faculty are handicapped by not have access to this state-of-the art technology to support their own scholarship.

#### **5. Description of how success/impact will be measured.**

The impact of adopting iThenticate will be measured by documenting use of the software and developing direct and indirect measures of the quality of originality reports provided by iThenticate.

##### *Metrics for use of iThenticate*

Number of submissions for an iThenticate review, including the number of different types of submissions (class papers submitted in graduate classes, faculty grant submissions, scholarly manuscripts (faculty and student) that will be submitted to peer reviewed journals, internal grants (e.g., SCAC), theses and dissertations) and source of the submission (number of student authors, number of faculty authors).

##### *Metrics for quality of originality reports*

Faculty survey (indirect measure) to evaluate faculty perceptions of the value of reviews obtained from iThenticate and Turnitin. A sample of work will be submitted to both iThenticate and Turnitin and faculty will evaluate and document the quality of the originality report produced by each system. iThenticate includes sources in its database (e.g., contents of electronic scholarly journals) that are not included in the Turnitin

database. A direct comparison of originality reports produced by the two systems will document the quality and relevance of the information in originality reports produced by iThenticate for the types of scholarly work produced by graduate students.

**6. Detailed description of resources required including hardware and software requirements and personnel costs (faculty compensation is not an allowed cost).**

iThenticate is a standalone web-based product. It does not require university IT server space. The only cost for the product is the license fee. Faculty who currently use Turnitin should require little or no assistance in becoming familiar with procedures for iThenticate in that they are similar to those already in place for Turnitin. Faculty accounts will be established in the same manner as Turnitin. Information will be provided to the Information Technology help desk staff regarding FAQ's.

The ITS review inquired whether there would be authentication/integration needs beyond those already provided for Turnitin. To the best of our knowledge, iThenticate is a standalone web based product and no additional authentication/integration issues are involved.

**7. Proposed timeline.**

iThenticate can be added to UWF's existing Turnitin contract via a purchase order. If funding is authorized before the end of this semester we can implement the purchase order and notify faculty about the availability of this new service before the end of the Spring 2014. The Graduate School and CUTLA will facilitate distributing information to faculty and training during Summer and Fall 2014. Faculty will set up user accounts on an ongoing basis. It is anticipated that faculty will begin to use iThenticate actively during Fall 2014. iThenticate has web-based tutorials to help faculty learn how to use the tool.

**8. Plan for sustainability beyond conclusion of funding from technology fee, if applicable.**

The Tech Fee funds requested will provide for a three year site license to add iThenticate to the UWF Turnitin contract. During that time permanent funding for iThenticate will be sought through the SPARA. The data collected in during this three year trial will help support the SPARA request.

The ITS review asked for confirmation that the \$22,000 request is the full cost for three years. This is correct. The review also asked for clarification of the basis for the iThenticate license cost. The cost of iThenticate is 30% of the university's cost for Turnitin with a discount of 10% off Year 3 and 5 % off year 2 when we purchase a multiple year license. The Turnitin cost is based on 500 faculty FTE. We should not go over that threshold in the near term.

Further, the ITS review asked for clarification about ongoing maintenance of the license if the university does not provide funding. As mentioned above, the plan is to request permanent funding via the SPARA process. Having three years of Tech Fee funding will allow us to launch iThenticate and collect data regarding use of and satisfaction with iThenticate to support the SPARA request. The three year timeframe will also allow for initial submission of the SPARA request in year two with resubmission in year three if necessary. However, if funding is not provided via SPARA we will have to discontinue our contract for iThenticate after the initial three years.

**9. Resource matching commitments from other organizations/sources (identify organization and amounts), if applicable.**

UWF funds approximately \$103,000 for the current three-year Turnitin license. Because UWF has the Turnitin license in place, the cost for iThenticate is reduced from the price for a standalone iThenticate license.

**10. Individual responsible for reporting and accountability, along with contact information.**

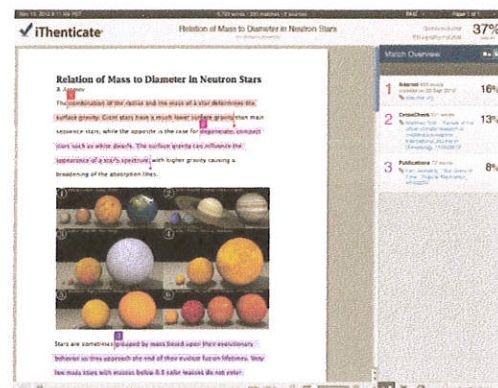
Richard S. Podemski, AVP for Research and Dean of the Graduate School Bldg. 11, Rm 213. (850) 473-7713.

Claudia Stanny, Director, Center for University Teaching, Learning, and Assessment. Bldg. 53, Rm 201. (850) 473-4735.

# ACADEMIC PUBLISHING

## Plagiarism Detection & Prevention Solution

iThenticate serves leading research institutions such as Duke University, Central Michigan University, Clemson University, University of Virginia, Texas Tech University, Purdue University, and University of Michigan. iThenticate delivers a solution developed to meet the specific demands of academic publishers.



### Summary

- Ensure due diligence, prevent misconduct before it occurs
- Reduce time spent investigating, adjudicating misconduct cases
- Protect the reputation of institution, researcher or research advisor, writer and publisher

### Highlights

- Easy to use: Web-based interface and requires little to no training
- Quick results: Upload and examine documents in minutes
- Share documents and collaborate in groups

## Largest Scholarly Comparison Database

### Scholarly PUBLISHERS:

**37+ MILLION** scholarly articles, books and conference proceedings from nearly 80,000 scientific, technical and medical publications (as a result of CrossCheck in partnership with CrossRef.org\*)



### Content PARTNERS:

**92+ MILLION** online and offline subscription content items from leading aggregators, databases and content providers



### Internet:

**37+ BILLION** archived and current web pages

### Custom DATABASES:

Private comparison databases can be created based on institutions' needs and allows for document-to-document comparison

*We can now reassure our community that we are doing all we can to preserve the integrity of our journals and to protect our authors' work against future plagiarism.*

Rosemary Grimes | Professional Engineering Publishers

See how it works at [WWW.ITHENTICATE.COM/VIEW-DEMO](http://WWW.ITHENTICATE.COM/VIEW-DEMO)



## Comprehensive Reporting

- 'Match overview' shows the most relevant sources found to match the document by the iThenticate algorithm or view a list of all the sources found to match the document within the system.
- 'Summary' report provides a high-level overview of matched content in the document.
- 'Largest matches' shows where the sources and text of the largest content matches in the document (only available in the Text-only mode).

Effective 2013, customers have the unique benefit of viewing results in two different modes: Document Viewer and Text-Only. The Document Viewer mode displays matches within the document's original format, including images, tables and graphs. In both modes, users get a side-by-side comparison of the document to matched sources in the database and in-depth analytics that provide visibility into content submissions and levels of originality over time.

## Compare iThenticate to Turnitin

While iThenticate and Turnitin share the same underlying technology and database contents, the design, user experience and outcome are designed to meet the needs of two very different types of users.

Turnitin is designed for students in a classroom setting. iThenticate is designed for academics and researchers who need to organize and share their work in a folder-based system similar to Google Docs. This design strips away many of the controls implemented to meet the needs of the classroom experience. In short, iThenticate helps academic and professional researchers collaborate and check their work quickly and effectively.

|                           | <i>Turnitin</i>            | <i>iThenticate</i>                          |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Audience</b>           | Students in the Classroom  | Faculty; researchers; corporate; government |
| <b>Outcome</b>            | Graded papers              | Published works                             |
| <b>Interface</b>          | Course Management          | Document Management                         |
| <b>Display of Results</b> | Document Viewer            | Document Viewer                             |
| <b>Databases</b>          | 37 Billion web pages       | 37 Billion web pages                        |
|                           | 129 Million content items  | 129 Million content items                   |
|                           | 300 Million student papers | ProQuest dissertations                      |
|                           |                            | Internal Documents                          |
| <b>Sharing</b>            | Not standard               | Shared with multiple people                 |
| <b>Document Size</b>      | Up to 100 pages            | Up to 400 pages                             |
| <b>Submission Storage</b> | Default opt-in to database | Not added to database                       |

### About iThenticate

iThenticate is the leading provider of professional plagiarism detection and prevention technology used worldwide by scholarly publishers and research departments to ensure the originality of written work before publication. iThenticate helps editors, authors and researchers prevent misconduct by comparing manuscripts against its database of over 37 billion web pages and 129 million content items, including 37 million published works from over 500 scholarly publisher participants of CrossCheck, a service offered by CrossRef and powered by iThenticate software. iThenticate is developed by Turnitin, the leader in plagiarism and originality checking for educational institutions worldwide. The company is headquartered in Oakland, California with international offices in Newcastle, United Kingdom.

\*CrossCheck™ powered by iThenticate is an initiative between iThenticate and CrossRef®, a not-for-profit membership association of publishers, established to help publishers prevent professional plagiarism and other forms of scholarly misconduct.