AI and Academic Integrity Response to Faculty Senate Constituent Concern

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We thank the member of Faculty Senate who raised the concerns about AI platforms like ChatGPT, Bard, DALL-E, and Stable Diffusion and the profound implications these tools will have on WSU's academic community standards now and into the foreseeable future.

The Provost's Office and the WSU Center for Community Standards has reviewed the constituent concern and we would like to provide the following guidance to instructors at WSU.

- 1. There is no national or local consensus on whether the use of ChatGPT or other AI text generation platforms should be allowed or outlawed writ large in classrooms. At WSU, there are several instructors known to our offices who have already chosen to incorporate the use of these AI tools as a part of their pedagogy in brainstorming, to inform revisions, or for the generative steps of a particular assignment. Others may allow students to use ChatGPT only if they disclose their use of such tools. There are other instructors who wish to ban its use on all their class assignments. In all cases, the instructors are well within their rights to choose the best pedagogy for their discipline and specific course context.
- 2. There are existing avenues available to instructors who wish to disallow the use of AI Text generation platforms within their courses. If an instructor states within their syllabus that these tools are not allowed to complete assignments, then, with evidence that indicates it is more likely than not that an academic integrity violation occurred (please see the next point) then a conduct case could be submitted for a student who used one of these platforms. This is consistent with WAC 504-26-010 under Section 2(b) "Use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments" or Section 2(d)(i) "Plagiarism". Therefore, it's important to be clear what the policies are for any class or for any specific assignment or activity if the guidelines will vary. After an instructor meets with a student to discuss the concern, a report can be submitted here. Faculty can apply here if they are interested in volunteering to serve on the Academic Integrity Hearing Board, which is the board that makes the final university decision regarding a student's responsibility for an academic integrity violation.
- 3. The AI-detection platform in Turnitin is available to all WSU instructors, via our site license, when they set up assignment submissions through their course Canvas space. Guidance on the use of Turnitin can be found at this site-https://confluence.esg.wsu.edu/display/KB/Canvas+-+Turnitin. Additional information about the Turnitin AI Detection process is available here-https://help.turnitin.com/ai-writing-detection.htm.

- 4. If instructors would like to discuss concerns related to ChatGPT and how it may interact with the university academic integrity process for their specific class, the Center for Community Standards would be happy to set up a meeting with individual instructors. Additionally, the Center would be happy to participate in training for academic units. Please contact the Center for Community Standards at community.standards@wsu.edu to arrange a training.
- 5. The Provost's Office and Center for Community Standards will work with partners across the WSU system to establish a site that outlines details about policies and procedures around AI Text generation platforms in academic contexts.