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Faculty Senate Resolution 12-11

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 12–11

“A Task Force to Consider and Compare Anti-Plagiarism Services”

Sponsored by Gundela Hachmann

Whereas it is the responsibility of every faculty member and teaching assistant at LSU to educate students towards abstaining from academic dishonesty and to proceed against violations of the LSU Code of Student Conduct; and

Whereas specialized internet services as well as a growing number of original works that are available for electronic download have significantly increased the opportunities for plagiarism and the accessibility of intellectual property; and

Whereas faculty members and teaching assistants often face insurmountable challenges when trying to ensure that all students always adhere to principles of academic conduct; and

Whereas comparable institutions such as the University of Florida in Gainesville, Tulane, Indiana University, Pennsylvania State University, and the University of Maryland subscribe to the anti-plagiarism service TurnItIn.com; and

Whereas anti-plagiarism service providers such as iParadigms, LLC (offering the services TurnItIn, iThenticate, WriteCheck), All Answers Limited (offering the services Viper and ScanMyEssay), Blackboard (offering the service SafeAssign), as well as the service DupliChecker promise to scan essay submissions quickly and effectively for plagiarized content ; and

Whereas anti-plagiarism services enable students to check their own submission for potential problems with plagiarized content and thereby allow them to preempt violations; and

Whereas actively protecting and enforcing the Code of Student Conduct could quite feasibly raise LSU’s academic reputation,

Therefore, be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate appoint a task force to compare products offered by different anti-plagiarism service providers and to study the feasibility, costs, and effectiveness of purchasing an institutional subscription to an anti-plagiarism service for LSU.