c.   Plagiarism text for Graduate Catalog

> Dixie Thompson submitted to APC the plagiarism text that was discussed at the February 2nd Graduate Council meeting for discussion.
>
> VOTE: The wording was discussed and APC voted and unanimously approved the plagiarism text be added to the Graduate Catalog. The approved text is below. The proposal is moving forward with recommendation for approval to the Graduate Council.

Proposal for plagiarism text in Graduate Catalog:

All theses and dissertations must be scanned with university-approved plagiarism detection software prior to thesis or dissertation defense. Major professors must confirm, at the time the thesis or dissertation is submitted to the Graduate School, that documents have been analyzed using the university-approved plagiarism detection software. Additional information on this process can be found in The Guide to the Preparation of Theses and Dissertations (http://web.utk.edu/~thesis/Guide.shtml).

   i.   A member of Council asked Dr. Thompson for clarification on how the Graduate School will help departments meet this requirement.
  ii.   Dr. Thompson communicated that the Graduate School will publish information to both students and faculty. And, we will also provide training for a smooth rollout of this policy.
 iii.   There are many units that already use this software – Nursing, Chemistry, some departments in Engineering. At the DGS Workshop on March 8, the staff member in Chemistry who runs all the theses and dissertations for Chemistry talked about how easy and simply the process is and that it is not very time consuming. So with these case studies we feel hopeful that we can provide information for a smooth roll out.
  iv.   The only area that is undecided at this point is the number of licenses we are going to extend. At this time there is not enough to give every faculty member one. But, we have ample licenses and this will not slow down the process.
   v.   Robert Nobles communicated that when the licenses were distributed they were given to the deans and department heads. Then, based on the infrastructure of the department, they made the decisions of the individuals to run the report. Each department can determine the best individual(s) to perform this task.
  vi.   In terms of staff training, the instruction sheet will probably be less than one page.
 vii.   Graduate students can self-check and pre-scan their documents as they currently have access through Canvas to use in advance of taking their document to their major professor for scanning.
viii.   Also, understand that graduate students can use this scanning process in stages. They can use it after completing a couple of chapters. They do not have to wait until the document is finished to scan it.

ix. Robert Nobles shared that UT is looking at having a broad staff license that would include all faculty and graduate students to have open access to use the software.

x. It was requested we make changes to the Thesis/Dissertation Approval Form to reinforce the idea that the student is taking responsibility for the document.

Chair, Marian Roman called for a vote of Graduate Council on the proposal as stated. Votes for = 14. Votes against = 7. Proposal passes. The Graduate Council approved the plagiarism wording be added to the Graduate Catalog.

Dr. Thompson thanked everyone for the good discussion and the support of Graduate Council. And understands and appreciates the concerns and will continue to alleviate those concerns as we roll this out. I pledge to work with all of you – your departments and your staff to do what we can to make this work well. For all of you that still have reservations, please reach out to us because we want to make sure that you have the tools you need to make sure this new process functions well for your department and your students.