Memo to: All GCSU Faculty, Department Chairs and Deans

From: Dr. Anne Gormly

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Re: Use of Plagiarism Prevention Service

Date: July 23, 2007

The University System of Georgia Board of Regents' Office of Legal Affairs recommends that students be notified of the use in a course of any plagiarism prevention technology such as Turnitin. The failure to notify students prior to registration of the required use of plagiarism detection technology has led to legal action in other states. As you know, GCSU has a site license for Turnitin, and we encourage you to make use of this service.

The USG Legal Affairs Office also recommends that students be provided a choice, prior to registration, among course sections with or without the use of the technology. The new BOR policy is to be implemented primarily through the Banner Self-Service registration process, which the university will be doing, effective with the spring 2008 schedule. In the meantime, GCSU recommends that instructors include a notice in course syllabi when such technology is used, beginning this fall.

The notice can simply say:

This course (or section) uses plagiarism prevention technology. Students have the option of submitting papers online through a plagiarism prevention service or allowing the instructor to submit hard copies of these papers.

The papers may be retained by the service for the sole purpose of checking for plagiarized content in future student submissions.

If you do not use plagiarism prevention technology, you do not need to include a notice. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Roy Moore, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.