

Addressing Academic Integrity in the Era of Artificial Intelligence

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Your Thoughts:

How do you define academic integrity?



Academic Integrity is not limited to students and assessments:

- Academic integrity applies to all institutional community members
- Academic integrity is developed and maintained at all levels of an institution
- Academic integrity is a culture at an institution

So, what does 'academic integrity' mean for institutions in the age of AI?



Let's consider the concept of “post-plagiarism”, a concept coined by Canadian academic integrity researchers Sarah Elaine Eaton and Rahul Kumar:

“Post-plagiarism refers to an era in human society in which advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence and neurotechnology, including brain-computer interfaces (BCIs), are a normal part of life, including how we teach, learn, and interact daily.” (Eaton, 2024)

6 Tenets of Postplagiarism: Writing in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Sarah Elaine Eaton

In [*Plagiarism in Higher Education: Tackling Tough Topics in Academic Integrity*](#) (2021) I introduced the idea of life in a postplagiarism world. Here, I expand on those ideas.

Hybrid Human-AI Writing Will Become Normal

Hybrid writing, co-created by human and artificial intelligence together is becoming prevalent. Soon it will be the norm. Trying to determine where the human ends and where the artificial intelligence begins is pointless and futile.

Human Creativity is Enhanced

Human creativity is enhanced, not threatened by artificial intelligence. Humans can be inspired and inspire others. Humans may even be inspired by artificial intelligence, but our ability to imagine, inspire, and create remains boundless and inexhaustible.

Language Barriers Disappear

One's first language will begin to matter less and less as tools become available for humans to understand each other in countless languages.

Humans can Relinquish Control, but not Responsibility

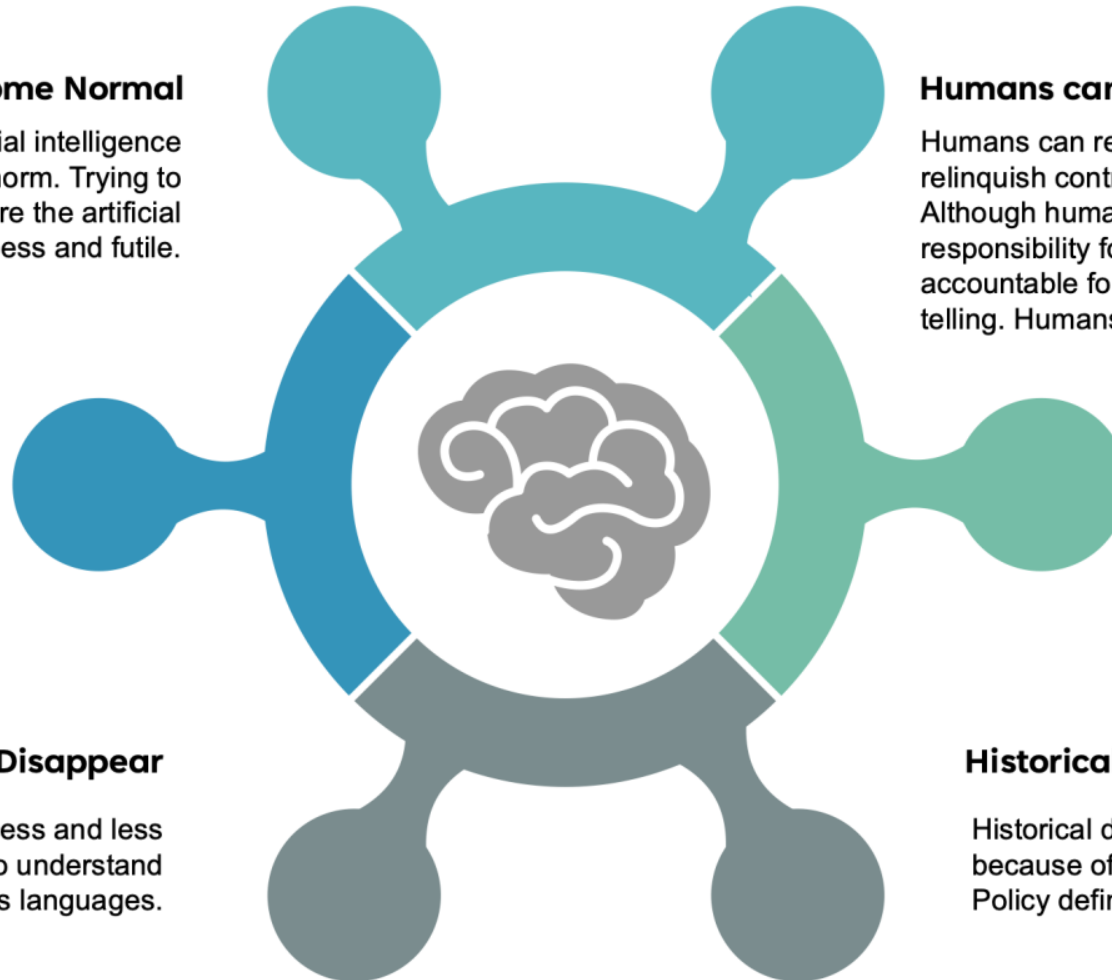
Humans can retain control over what they write, but they can also relinquish control to artificial intelligence tools if they choose. Although humans can relinquish control, they do not relinquish responsibility for what is written. Humans can – and must – remain accountable for fact-checking, verification procedures, and truth-telling. Humans are also responsible for how AI-tools are developed.

Attribution Remains Important

It always has been, and always will be, appropriate and desirable to appreciate, admire, and respect our teachers, mentors, and guides. Humans learn in community with one another, even when they are learning alone. Citing, referencing, and attribution remain important skills.

Historical Definitions of Plagiarism No Longer Apply

Historical definitions of plagiarism will not be rewritten because of artificial intelligence; they will be *transcended*. Policy definitions can – and must – adapt.



Post-plagiarism education is not a current reality (yet).

Post-secondary is in a transformative phase.

What can our institutions do to still encourage academic integrity?

Give professors the tools to align their courses appropriately with academic integrity and artificial intelligence tools

- Support professional development opportunities focusing on Artificial Intelligence Literacy.
- Review course outcomes and assessments.
- Allow room in curricula for experimentation with artificial intelligence tools and novel assessments.

Example Educator Journey:

Professor Lovelace notices her student submissions have suspiciously similar tone and content. She is concerned her students may be heavily relying on GPT tools.

Professor Lovelace approaches her dean with her concerns, and they suggest that she enroll in an exploratory Generative AI course.

Professor Lovelace changes her assignment schedule so that students are supported by Generative AI in the first half of her course, but are expected to complete a summative task with no GPT assistance

Professor Lovelace finds great ideas on how she can both support student learning and allow for some GPT usage in her assessments.

She returns to her dean with a request to alter course outcomes and assessments to better meet student needs.

Why traditional approaches to academic integrity are not effective:

They are not inclusive

They don't account for different modalities (online)

They can be needlessly punitive

Algorithmic detection doesn't work

Why algorithmic detection won't work

- Too many false negatives/ false positives
- Too many GPTs to depend on forensic patterns
- Token cost at an institutional level
- Evasion techniques are easy and easily shared

Discussion:

**What questions do
you still have?**



References

Eaton, S, E. (2024, August 4). A brief introduction to post-plagiarism.
<https://postplagiarism.com/2024/08/21/intro/>