SUPERIOR BUSINESS WRITING, INTEGRITY AND ANTIPLAGIARISM
INTRODUCTION

This course, developed in workshop format consists of five (5) different academic study and research skills delivered back to back over a period of two days. The skills taught on the course are the followings;

1. Business Writing and Originality
2. Types of Report and their Presentation
3. Using Turnitin to prevent or detect Plagiarism
4. Grammar and Sentences: Styles, Formatting & Software
5. Punishing Plagiarism

The Centre for Academic Integrity, Research & Anti-plagiarism (CAIRA) provides a series of information and innovative supports for both business and scholarship in the area of qualitative knowledge creation and dissemination. The Centre encourages respect for individual creative abilities, mutual recognition and respect for the work of mates and colleagues. The object of CAIRA is the creation and support of a culture of academic research and integrity that is able to create qualitative studies and innovations that will affect both the professional and social lives of the people. Academic writing and integrity as a concept in education is the foundation of the objectives and core values of the Centre for Academic Integrity Research & Anti-plagiarism (CAIRA). Therefore, CAIRA is continuously involved in the processes of information, learning, research, academic writing, publication and discussion that will enhance quality learning, excellent studies, innovative research and honest practices across academic communities.

This business and academic skills course will help professionals and scholars alike to recognize the importance of original business writing, academic writing, research reports, and integrity in their academic and career pursuits. It will enable them to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty and other unethical widespread practices in the Nigerian business and academic communities. It will uncover the basics of original writing, integrity and anti-plagiarism, detailing specific academic offences and explaining ways that businesses and authorities of institutions could detect and may deal with such offences. The programme which is taught as five different modules within two full days adopts a series of interactive classes, practical exercises, assignments and case studies in syndicate groups and discussions amongst delegates from the same or different institutions.

The course is taught by a mix of local and foreign academics who have combined decades of academic integrity research and teaching experiences with rich cultural diversity, vast international exposure and excellent information technology skills.

Finally, this programme which is the first business and academic learning of its kind will also provide delegates with some additional resources that should be useful for further personal study and research. There are many resources and opportunities available to the delegates; and the mode of delivery for this course is designed to create a rich learning and sharing experience for both the students and professionals.
LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, delegates will be able to:

1. Develop the skills for constructive or critical thinking and writing
2. Understand established rules and guidelines for citation and referencing
3. Become familiar with the different scenarios based on different sources of information
4. Understand and practice some common styles such as the Harvard referencing
5. Create a “healthy” skepticism without this skepticism leading to the stifling of creative and innovative report writing.
6. Adopt creative tools for information gathering, usage and sharing
7. Gain a historical perspective of the current state of business writing and reporting
8. Use skills and knowledge acquired in the course to evaluate the quality of publishable write-ups, speeches, addresses and reports.
9. Define academic integrity and understand its fundamental values and principles
10. Demonstrate an understanding of the specific actions and behaviors that constitute academic dishonesty or plagiarism in both business and academic writings.
11. Recognize the standards, policies, and procedures to abide with in exhibiting and supporting originality in business writing and academic integrity practices.
12. Identify their roles and responsibilities in maintaining originality and integrity in their business and report writing duties.
13. Access additional information and resources regarding originality and integrity issues in information gathering and usage.
14. Apply their knowledge of originality in business writing and academic integrity to real-life scenarios by evaluating examples of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors in the use and dissemination of information and ideas.
15. Become more familiar with the use and functionality of TURNITIN and other antiplagiarism systems.
1.1 – What is Academic Integrity?

Academic integrity, which is also often referred to as academic honesty, refers to the ability of scholars and professionals to observe the set of guidelines required for proper citation and referencing of the writings or the studies or reports undertaken by other people or perhaps by themselves but for a separate purpose, all with the aim of acknowledging true ownership of specific facts, figures, charts, images and expressions.

Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity

The International Center for Academic Integrity (ICAI) describes the followings as the five fundamental values of academic integrity:

1. Honesty
2. Trust
3. Fairness
4. Respect
5. Responsibility

In the academic body of knowledge, those who create and share unique information are expected to adhere to these principles and use them to guide their work. By following high standards of academic integrity, individuals show respect for their own work, the work of others, their educational institutions, and the body of knowledge in general.

The opposite of academic integrity is academic dishonesty or academic misconduct, which happens when scholars and professionals engage in various offences against the school, individuals, constituted authorities, institutions and the body of knowledge such as violating specific rules and regulations, forging documents, misrepresenting facts or figures, cheating, plagiarism and colluding with an offender to deceive or gain undue advantage of other people or circumstances of academic and economic relevance. While academic integrity helps to preserve the values associated with academic pursuits; academic dishonesty undermines the fairness, honesty, and respect that are the virtues and pride of the academe and professionalism.

The University of California, Berkeley defines academic misconduct as, “any action or attempted action that may result in creating an unfair academic advantage for oneself or an unfair academic advantage or disadvantage for any other member or members of the academic community. This includes a wide variety of behaviors such as cheating, plagiarism, altering academic documents or transcripts, gaining access to materials before they are intended to be available, and helping a friend to gain an unfair academic advantage” (http://campuslife.berkeley.edu/conduct/integrity/definition).

1.2 – Faculty

All persons teaching on this programme are respected authorities in academic integrity studies. They have earned global recognitions through their outstanding contributions to the development of academic integrity and anti-plagiarism. The faculty also includes respected members of the TURNITIN academic network. TURNITIN which is the global leader in evaluating and improving student writing is one of the most widely distributed educational applications in the world. It is used by more than 10,000 institutions in 126 countries to manage the submission, tracking and evaluation of student papers.

1.3 – Recommended Text

There is a compulsory textbook recommended for this workshop. This is to be used along with several peer reviewed journal articles on a variety of subjects and different methodologies. The recommended text is a pan-African publication reviewed and recommended by the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC).

The book Academic Integrity: Study & Guide (Oyekan, O., 2013; Xlibris UK) is available for sale through ISM Lagos or CAIRA offices, Amazon online bookstore, Havillah Bookshops in Nigerian universities, Barnes & Noble online amongst others. A copy of the book and a current review on it are hereby included for your perusal.
Author Presents Seminal, Game-Changing Rules for Academic Integrity and Progress

Highly respected Nigerian scholar and academic leader Olugbenro Oyekan paves an important path to the academic wave of the future with his new book.

Lagos, Nigeria (PRWEB) November 11, 2013

Variations in cultural values and integrity constraints across different geographies have made academic integrity more popular in some societies than the others. However, it is compulsory to overcome these inconsistencies in order for the graduates and faculty of the less-informed societies to uphold their pride and reputation of creating, sharing, and certifying credible knowledge which contributes to the global academic body of integrity.

From respected and prolific scholar Olugbenro Oyekan comes “Academic Integrity: Study & Guides,” a book of knowledge that will help entire cultures overcome academic inconsistencies challenging them today. Oyekan reminds his readers how there is an increasing need for integrity in academic institutions. This is important in creating a body of academic writing and achievements that reflect originality, faithfulness to culture, and true progress that are wholly acceptable in the general global fund of academic knowledge. Within the pages of Oyekan’s highly relevant volume, readers will find game-changing rules that foster the preceding goals.

With this new book, Olugbenro Oyekan shows how he is among the most enlightened and progressive scholars and authors in the academic field. His concentrations, expertise and concerns are entirely relevant to the most advanced methods in the academic field. In the service of social transformation and a new way of utilizing knowledge to achieve this transformation, holistic integrity in the academe is a must. This major work on academic integrity and cultural sensitivity will slowly and surely help in defining the academic wave of the future.

For more information on this book, interested parties may log on to http://www.XlibrisPublishing.co.uk.

About the Author

Olugbenro Oyekan is a current doctoral candidate with the University of Liverpool, England. He studied finance and management at Masters of Science (MSc) level at the Cranfield University, England, after his MBA at the Lagos State University. Olugbenro is a respected writer and prolific scholar practitioner. He has authored several articles and advanced noteworthy positions in support of academic integrity and educational development in general. One of his major works is the seminal and popular article on academic integrity and culture sensitivity. The author is the Executive Vice President of the International School of Management, Lagos, and Member of the Board of Trustees, Centre for Academic Integrity, Research and Anti-plagiarism (CAIRA) in Nigeria. For more information, please contact Mr. Oyekan at the following address; olugbenro(dot)oyekan(at)ism(dot)edu(dot)ng.(olugbenro.oyekan@ism.edu.ng)

Academic Integrity: Study & Guides * by Olugbenro Oyekan
Essential Guidelines For Academic Writing & Anti-plagiarism With Topical Discussions
Publication Date: September 19, 2013
Trade Paperback; £9.99; 107 pages; 978-1-4836-7165-9
Trade Hardback; £19.99; 107 pages; 978-1-4836-7166-6
e-book; £3.99; 978-1-4836-7167-3
http://www.prweb.com/releases/OlugbenroOyekan/AcademicIntegrity/prweb11311450.htm
REGISTRATION & ENQUIRIES

Date: 29 - 30 June, 2016
Registration: N10,000 (non-refundable)
Tuition: N120,000

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