

JISC iPAS conference asks the question “Are online essay sites exploiting students? ”

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Barclay Littlewood managing director of UK Essays has agreed to participate in a debate which asks “Is the growing business in student support sites a valid or an exploitative response to a traditional education system trying to cope with a changing pedagogical and technical landscape?”

The debate will take place at the 2008 Plagiarism Conference sponsored by the QCA between the 23-25th of June see www.plagiarismconference.com

Will Murray, Director of JISC iPAS, explains: “The event will offer delegates the opportunity to listen to experts in the field as well as hearing case studies from their own sector. Barclay’s view is that he is supporting education and that his services have a positive influence. We are providing an open forum for both sides to debate the issues surrounding the growing trade in essays which many academics feel is unsound.”

“The JISC iPAS has been providing advice and guidance on plagiarism prevention and detection to further and higher education institutions since 2002 and has made a significant impact on raising the issues of plagiarism within the sector. Currently nearly all Universities, the unitary awarding bodies, a large number of FE colleges and a growing number of schools use the world leading, and JISC endorsed, verification solution ‘Turnitin’ to help address plagiarism both formatively and as a deterrent in final assessment”

Barclay Littlewood (owner of UK Essays) commented "Contrary to popular belief I am a great supporter of education and welcome the opportunity to demonstrate that my services have a positive influence on the sector. We need to move on from traditional approaches and maximise the benefits that the Internet provides for all students."

Barclay went on to say "We welcome open debate about how we can participate in a modern learning process, neither we nor the Internet is going to go away. "

Editors Notes

About JISC iPAS

www.jiscpas.ac.uk

www.plagiarismconference.com

The JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee) Internet Plagiarism Advisory Service (PAS) provides generic advice and guidance on all aspects of plagiarism prevention and detection for academics and students to around 700 further and higher education institutions in the UK. The service promotes a holistic approach to plagiarism prevention incorporating the consideration of institutional policies and procedures, teaching practice and study skills. The JISC iPAS is managed by Northumbria Learning.

About QCA

www.qca.org.uk

The Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) is the regulator for qualifications and public examinations in England. QCA is committed to building a world-class education and training framework and regulates examinations and qualifications to ensure that suitable qualifications are available to meet the needs of learners, employers and the economy. QCA is a non-departmental public body.

About iParadigms LLC

www.turnitin.com

iParadigms LLC is the leading provider of web-based solutions to check documents for originality, plagiarism, and for misappropriation. The company's products include: Turnitin[®], an internet service used by millions of students and faculty in over 90 countries to vet academic work for originality, enable web-based student collaboration, and provide cutting-edge tools for digital assessment of academic work; and iThenticate[™] (www.ithenticate.com), an internet service which enables publishers, news agencies, corporations, law firms, and government agencies to detect piracy or misuse of proprietary information and to conduct document originality due diligence. iParadigms is headquartered in Oakland, CA.

About N-Learning

www.nlearning.co.uk

Northumbria Learning is a spin-out from the University of Northumbria and specialises in providing plagiarism prevention and detection products to a range of academic bodies throughout the UK and Europe. As well as managing the JISC PAS, Northumbria Learning provides Turnitin to the education sector across Europe and are currently offering any school concerned about plagiarism a free trial of Turnitin.

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