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Agenda note for the Senate regarding the issue of curbing 'Plagiarism' by amending Clause D.3.2 of Student Rules & Regulations 2012 and Clause 5.5 (Disciplinary Procedure and Penalties) of Academic Manual 2003-11.

Scope:

The deliberate, substantial and unacknowledged incorporation in a student's work of material derived from the work (published or unpublished) of another is plagiarism. The agenda seeks to place before the Senate of NIFT for perusal and approval of amendments in clause D.3.2 on "Plagiarism" of Student Rules & Regulations 2012 and to include the quantum of content that a student can copy with or without referencing while undertaking a study based on design and research. This further seeks to amend sub section 5.5.2 Penalties of Academic Manual 2003-11 for including rules to control Plagiarism.

Genesis:

It has been noticed that many a times students submit the work of another claiming it to be entirely his/her own work with intention to gain an unfair advantage. Some Examples of plagiarism as mentioned under section **D.3.2 of Student Rules & Regulations 2012** are:-

- a) *The inclusion in a candidate's work of more than a single phrase from another person's work without the use of quotation marks and acknowledgement of the sources;*
- b) *The summarizing of another person's work by simply changing words or altering the order of presentation, without acknowledgements;*
- c) *Copying the work of another candidate, without that student's knowledge or agreement in this case the party copying is guilty of plagiarism. In case of copying with the knowledge or agreement of another student. Both the parties are guilty of plagiarism.*

The penalty for Plagiarism is given under D 5.4 (e) dealing with "Penalty for Academic Irregularity" which reads as *"In case students are found indulging in plagiarism, the students will be debarred for one year from the Institute and will have to repeat the entire semester"* .

Proposal:

Section D 3.2 (Student Rule Book) defines what plagiarism is, but do not specify the quantum of content that a student can copy with or without referencing while undertaking a study on design & research which is causing difficulty in deciding on the penalty for such case. Therefore Senate is requested to peruse and discuss the clause **D.3.2 of the Student rule & Regulation 2012**. It is proposed to include a provision which clearly specific the quantum of material that can be copied. Therefore, the inclusion of the following point at 3.2 (d) is proposed "The similarity index of the work presented by the student should have a between his/her work and the referencing work should not be more than 15%". In case it is found that the work submitted by the student is more than the prescribed limit then in that case, the penalty as mentioned in the clause D.5.4 (e) which states that "In case students are found indulging in plagiarism, the students will be debarred

for one year from the Institute and will have to repeat the entire semester” will be imposed upon the student.

Academic Manual is silent on this matter hence it is proposed that the amendment may be made in the Academic Manual’s clause **5.5 ‘Disciplinary Procedure and Penalties** sub section **5.5.2 Penalties** by adding another sub topic on Plagiarism.

Plagiarism

a) The inclusion in a students work of more than a single phrase from another person’s work without the use of quotation marks and acknowledgement of the sources;

b) The summarizing of another person’s work by simply changing words or altering the order of presentation, without acknowledgements, in that case the similarity index between the two works should not be more than 15%

c) Copying the work of another candidate, without that student’s knowledge or agreement in this case the party copying is guilty of plagiarism. In case of copying with the knowledge or agreement of another student, both the parties are guilty of plagiarism.

In case student (s) is/are found in collusion as described above, the entire work submitted stands null and void. Further, there in addition to that the students will be debarred for one year from the Institute and will have to repeat the entire semester.

DG’s Recommendation:

The agenda may be placed before the Senate of NIFT for consideration and approval.

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE:

The Senate may kindly consider and approve the proposal.