MEMORANDUM

TO: Graduate Faculty

DATE: October 23, 2023

RE: Ithenticate for dissertations/thesis

Florida International University is dedicated to upholding and promoting research integrity. Effective the start of Spring 2024 semester, FIU will be using the plagiarism detection software **iThenticate** (https://www.ithenticate.com/) as a tool for research integrity.

Turnitin will still be available for submission of student coursework through CANVAS. Different than Turnitin, **iThenticate** compares documents to the published literature. We encourage faculty to use **iThenticate** to check similarity of proposals, manuscripts and graduate student dissertation and thesis.

The University Graduate School (UGS) will require faculty mentors to use iThenticate for reviewing graduate student dissertations and theses before students proceed with their oral request. We will ask graduate faculty to investigate the **iThenticate** similarity results for:

- Blocks of similar text, such as entire paragraphs and/or multiple paragraphs that are not cited, nor co-authored by the graduate student
- Sections of tables or entire tables that are similar to published works without citiation, nor co-authored by the graduate student
- Figure captions that are similar to published works without citation, nor co-authored by the graduate student

UGS understands that some programs encourage graduate students to publish their research before graduation. As such there may be strong similarity of chapters or sections of grauate student's dissertation or thesis to their published work. In cases where students have published their work, faculty mentors are asked to include a written statement that Chapters X, Y, and Z of the Dissertation or Thesis were previously published and include the citations of those publications. That written statement should be attached to the beginning of the **iThenticate** report**.**

All graduate faculty will have access to Ithenticate using your Panthersoft credentials through the website https://research.fiu.edu/cyberinfrastructure/applications/ithenticate/. Students will not have access to iThenticate. We will have a detailed training for all GPDs by the end of the Fall semester which will be communicated in the upcoming days. Additional training for graduate faculty will begin in January 2024.

Best wishes,

René Price, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, University Graduate School
Associate Vice President, Research and Economic Development

cc: Andres Gil, Senior Vice President for Research and Economic Development
        Dean of the University Graduate School