



DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICS

DIALOGUE 177

The Complicated Ethics of Text Recycling

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Noon, Friday, May 12, 2017
Mailman Center for Child Development, Room 5003
Lunch provided — first come, first served.

Text recycling (often called “self-plagiarism”) is the reuse of textual material from existing documents in a new text without the use of quotation marks or other means of identifying the reused material as such. Some argue that text recycling is inherently unethical, yet organizations including the American Psychological Association and the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) state that in *some* situations it is acceptable and even desirable. This presentation will examine ethical and practical issues that text recycling poses for both professional and student researchers: When is it acceptable to recycle text? Which authors of a multi-authored paper have the right to recycle which material? How do/should expectations for students differ from professional researchers? The presentation will include as-yet unpublished data from recent surveys of expert and novice STEM researchers on text recycling.

Dr. Moskowitz is Director of Writing in the Disciplines at Duke University’s Thompson Writing Program. His articles and essays related to text recycling and the teaching of writing have appeared in such publications as *Science*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Bioscience*, and *Research Integrity and Peer Review*. He has served as a consultant on writing pedagogy and writing in the undergraduate curriculum for a number of U.S. colleges and universities.

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