Academic Honesty Policy

Purpose: This policy sets out the expectations of the EIT with regard to academic integrity and the consequences of failing to adhere to these standards.

Scope: This Policy applies to all students and to staff of the EIT involved in learning and teaching.

Definition: Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner.

1. Overview

The nature of scholarly endeavour, dependent as it is on the work of others, binds all members of the EIT community to abide by the principles of academic honesty. Academic honesty is an integral part of the core values and principles contained in the EIT’s Code of Ethics and Ethic Statement. Its fundamental principle is that all staff and students act with integrity in the creation, development, application and use of ideas and information.

This means that:

- all academic work claimed as original is the work of the author making the claim
- all academic collaborations are acknowledged academic work is not falsified in any way when the ideas of others are used, these ideas are acknowledged appropriately.
all academic and professional staff involved in learning, teaching and research are expected to display leadership in this area.

One of the EIT’s objectives is to produce ethically and socially aware graduates, capable of applying the skills and knowledge they have developed at EIT to all aspects of their lives, as well as to their academic work. Academic dishonesty undermines the integrity of the EIT’s academic awards and assessment processes, and damages the EIT’s reputation. It also reduces the effectiveness of a student’s time at the EIT.

The key principles of this policy are that the EIT will:

1. Require all students and staff to undertake their academic work honestly
2. Use a range of approaches to educate students and staff to practise honesty in their academic work and raise awareness of the importance of ensuring ethical behaviour with respect to research
3. Take consistent and equitable action to manage dishonest student behaviours by:
   a. communicating to students that any piece of academic work can be checked at any time using an appropriate process
   b. implementing a common remedial and penalty framework across the EIT.
   c. establishing and applying appropriate, consistent procedures for detecting and investigating alleged academic dishonesty, including plagiarism
   d. providing and communicating the appeal process
4. Apply the appropriate processes of the EIT’s staff contract agreements to manage alleged academic dishonesty by staff.

2. Implementation
The EIT will engage staff and students by:

- using appropriate mechanisms to advise staff and students of the Policy
- developing educational strategies to promote academic honesty
- developing strategies that reduce opportunities for academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism
- designing strategies to increase student engagement with their study, and their ability to submit their own work
- reviewing these strategies at appropriate intervals.

3. Assessment and Plagiarism
To minimise plagiarism and academic dishonesty, EIT requires students to place and sign a statement on the front of each piece of assessment, that declares that the work is their own. Further details on dealing with plagiarism is found in the Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Detection and Software Guidelines.