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Fellowships are sponsored by J. Armand Bombardier Foundation, a private foundation created in 1965 to perpetuate the memory of the life, achievements and social and humanitarian work of Joseph Armand Bombardier. The program is managed by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE).

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McGill Plagiarism con't.
 defiance, Rosenfeld garnered widespread media attention and public support, as well as zero percent and failing grades.

After Rosenfeld challenged his failed assignments in his Economic Development class, administration conceded that they would reinstate his papers and allow them to be marked, but only under the condition that he write a ten-page essay on research methods. Last week, after flatly refusing this offer and preparing to rebut, he was informed that administration was backing down and that a committee had allowed for his assignments to be graded. Upon being informed of their decision, Rosenfeld called the victory bittersweet, saying "I'm obviously happy that the university has decided to mark my work, but they still haven't acknowledged student concerns with Turnitin.com."

Rosenfeld doubts that McGill is seriously involving student concerns in their discussion.

He is not alone in his criticism. Many students are offended by this policy and are anxious to show solidarity with his plight. The Canadian Federation of Students released a statement last week, condemning the use of Turnitin.com by Canadian universities, arguing that the website's practice of adding all submitted works to its database is a violation of the intellectual property of students. "Many students consider this to be an issue of copyright and resented having to allow a private company to profit from their original academic work," said CFS chairperson Ian Boyko.

For his part Morton

Mendelson, dean of academic and student affairs for the Faculty of Science at McGill, refuted the claim that the use of the software presupposed student guilt and that it was simply a precautionary measure. "It's not an issue of guilt any more than asking students to write an exam with an invigilator present," he was quoted as saying. He asserts that a wide range of policies is necessary to effectively combat plagiarism and to protect academic integrity.

As for the continuation of the program at McGill, the Academic Integrity Sub-Committee, responsible for the interim Turnitin.com program at the school, will soon present their report to the Senate Committee on Student Affairs.

The influential body, which will include the input of professors and students alike in their report, will play a vital role in determining whether the continuation of the online anti-plagiarism program would be beneficial for the Montreal university.

Despite the claim that the Sub-Committee is considering both faculty and student feedback, Rosenfeld doubts that McGill is seriously involving student concerns in their discussion. "From past actions on this issue, it's clear that they don't actually care about student input, about what student concerns are."

Pending the release of the report, a permanent program with Turnitin.com could be implemented at McGill for the beginning of the 2004 fall semester.

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