

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS
TEACHER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Email 'plea' sent on 04 April 2011

Dear wonderful TDC faculty and staff,

Realizing how very fortunate we are to work and play here and there, I decided to make a conscious effort to help make this planet a better place for all of us to live together. It was easy, free, and feels great! So, I challenge you to do the same this Earth Month... not because I teach online, but because it's the right thing to do.

Please join me in pledging to **Teach Paperless** this year - every 'little' change matters. Trust me, it's a win-win for all now that we have the capabilities literally at our fingertips! Along with our fearless leader (Scherry Johnson), our friends in eLearning (Darren Crone) and Student AccessAbility (Kerry Tate) fully endorse this approach and WILL HELP us improve our practice, so start the conversation if needed. Among other benefits, I've seen how implementing an electronic activity:

- can leverage the value of a major **university resource**, eLearning (Assessments, Assignments, Discussions, Gradebook, and more!)
- can free-up **faculty time and effort** (for assigning, scoring, returning individualized feedback, and reporting) once designed and created
- can facilitate **student accessibility** by eliminating tedious adaptations and time-consuming rework (required by law) in most cases
- can provide **thorough documentation** of student work with plagiarism prevention software (turnitin is fully integrated with our eLearning system)
- can reduce the amount of paper used while creating **secure archives** of faculty content and student submissions.

I know many of us do already take advantage of many resources to teach effectively and efficiently, but we can probably always do more.

Sharing that success within and beyond TDC is equally important too. To that end, I've started a discussion at <https://elearning.utdallas.edu/webct/logon/334356168002>; **please please please** post your ideas and experiences there by Earth Day - **April 22, 2011** - and help us continue to write a good story for TDC's advances in teaching and learning.

Sincerely - and with many thanks in advance,

Rebekah Nix

rnix@utdallas.edu



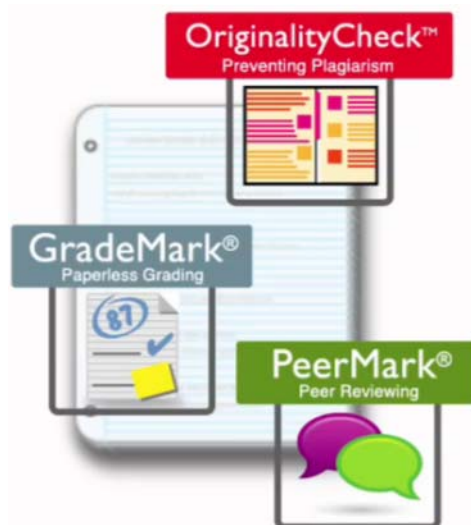
It's easy to go **green** at UTD!

Just click and learn – and make a **REAL difference** in our future... right now!

Inspired by discussions at a recent School meeting, I challenge you to figure out how you can help support our mother Earth – and our future teachers and their future students – by updating at least one of your class assignments or activities! If just the Teacher Development Center made a concerted effort to utilize the long-established and well-integrated plagiarism prevention system available to faculty, staff, and students, we could significantly impact multiple concerns facing everyone on our campus by:

- minimizing expense at a departmental level by reducing paper purchase,
- increasing value at a university level by leveraging a valuable existing tool, and
- promoting integrity and individuality in all work by fostering academic honesty proactively.

See www.utdallas.edu/elearning for a practical guide on using *TurnItIn* within our online eLearning system or independently... *and the remainder of this plea for more ways to support the betterment of our global community today.*



Find out what all you can do with *TurnItIn* at <http://www.turnitin.com/static/products/index.php>

It's simply the right thing to do.

Will you share your idea(s) for streamlining our practices and advancing our students' experiences by Earth Day, April 22, 2011?

Add your replies to the *earTh Day Challenge! Paperless Teaching and Research* thread in the



Teaching Tips, Techniques, Strategies, and Discussions

Post any teaching topics (i.e. teaching and learning tips and techniques or university issues)

area of the UTD eLearning Faculty Forum at

eLearning - Academic

Subject: earTh Day Challenge! Paperless Teaching and Research **Topic:** Teaching Tips, Techniques, Strategies, and Discussion
Author: Rebekah Nix **Date:** April 4, 2011 2:46 PM

It's easy to go green at UTD! Realizing many advantages as an online instructor, I have challenged the **Teacher Development Center** faculty and staff to join me in modeling more 'paperless' teaching. This discussion is dedicated to extending our pledges beyond this month and our department.



Please feel free to add your tips for taking advantage of our many resources to teach more effectively and efficiently - and with less paper - here!

Sincerely and with many thanks in advance, Rebekah Nix (rnix)

Read more at <http://www.utdallas.edu/~rnix>

Reply

Subject: Ten Reasons to Have a Paperless Classroom **Topic:** Teaching Tips, Techniques, Strategies, and Discussion
Author: Rebekah Nix **Date:** April 4, 2011 2:40 PM

Here's a little incentive to jump-start our list!

<http://teachpaperless.blogspot.com/2011/01/ten-reasons-to-have-paperless-classroom.html>

Reply

Find out more ways to help at www.earthday.org



Pledge to update a process at teachpaperless.blogspot.com



Calculate your ecological footprint at files.earthday.net/footprint

