
Follow-up to your concerns regarding plagiarisms in SRBS (10.1002/sres.3076) - IACR-1363

5 messages

Williams, Max <mwillia3@wiley.com>

Wed, Oct 16, 2024 at 11:48 PM

To: "shafaq.aftab@gmail.com" <shafaq.aftab@gmail.com>, "irfan541@gmail.com" <irfan541@gmail.com>

Cc: "dean.foms@ucp.edu.pk" <dean.foms@ucp.edu.pk>, "Shafaq.aftab83@ucp.edu.pk" <Shafaq.aftab83@ucp.edu.pk>

Dear Ms. Shafaq Aftab and Dr. Irfan Saleem,

I am writing from the Integrity Assurance and Case Resolution (IACR) department at Wiley. I wanted to let you know that the concerns you have shared with the Editorial Office of the journal *Systems Research and Behavioral Science* (SRBS) regarding potential plagiarism of your unpublished manuscript have now been brought to our attention. I have copied in contacts at your institution for awareness and their support in resolving the concerns raised.

We take seriously all concerns raised regarding research integrity and publishing ethics. Independent members of Wiley's IACR have been carefully investigating the concerns you raise in line with our "Complaints Procedure" outlined here: <https://authorservices.wiley.com/ethics-guidelines/retractions-and-expressions-of-concern.html>.

We note that you have provided evidence for the precedence of your manuscript with the following:

- Submission confirmation from the journal *Management Decision*, dated 08 October 2023;
- Submission confirmation from the journal *Information Development*, dated 28 November 2023;
- A copy of the submission PDF for the submission to *Information Development*.

We have also confirmed that there is indeed a large degree of overlap between the text and the figures presented in the two manuscripts. However, the authors of the article published in SRBS, Ghorbanzadeh et al. (<https://doi.org/10.1002/sres.3076>), claim that their manuscript was originally drafted before your submission to *Management Decision* on 08 October 2023.

At this stage, we would like to request from you a copy of all the original data from your research that was used in your article, and the earliest drafts of the manuscript document (as Word files) that you have available. We would also welcome your detailed comments on the claims of Ghorbanzadeh et al., including how you believe they came to be in possession of a manuscript

that is substantially similar to your own — although with data relating to Iran rather than to Pakistan.

We would be grateful for your explanation and any supporting documentation by 31 October 2024.

Thank you for your assistance and for your patience while we take the necessary next steps in our investigation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Max Owen Williams

Associate Research Integrity Auditor

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