



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-16-0077-O

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We investigated an allegation of plagiarism in an NSF Proposal (Proposal). We wrote to the sole PI, who stated an unnamed postdoctoral fellow (Postdoc) wrote the Proposal. We referred the matter to the PI's university, which formed a committee (Committee) to review the matter. The Committee neither talked to the Postdoc nor addressed the fact that the PI did not acknowledge the Postdoc as an author on the Proposal. The Committee did not proceed to an investigation. We found the Committee's report inadequate and did not accept it.

After conducting our own investigation, we concluded the PI plagiarized when he did not provide appropriate credit to the Postdoc as the Proposal author. NSF concluded the PI's intent in not crediting the Postdoc was careless, below the requisite threshold for a research misconduct finding.

This case is **closed** with no further action taken.