



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-16-0086-O

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We received an allegation of plagiarism in an NSF Proposal.<sup>1</sup> We reviewed the proposal and found several lines and figures inappropriately copied from one source.

Because the technical content appeared very similar, we also had an expert in the field compare the intellectual content in the proposal with the research discussed in the article. The expert concluded that the proposal was an extension of the existing research, not a proposal for work that had already been completed; in addition to his conclusion about the copying of ideas, he noticed the copied material on his own and thought it should have been better cited to the source article.

We concluded the amount of inappropriately copied material did not warrant a full investigation. Accordingly, we sent a warning letter to the authors of the proposal, advising them to give appropriate attribution for all copied material.

This case is closed with no further action taken.

[REDACTED]