

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

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A reviewer alleged plagiarism after observing that a figure in the proposal was copied from a Wikipedia article, which cites someone other than the PI as the source of the figure. We reviewed the figures and concluded the PI copied the figure without appropriate credit. Our plagiarism software found negligible copied text. While there is one figure copied without attribution, the PI properly cited other figures he copied, so it appears this is an oversight. We concluded no further inquiry is warranted, and the PI's failure to cite one figure does not rise to the level of research misconduct. Accordingly, this case is closed. We sent the PI a letter reminding him to cite all figures.