



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-18-0018-O

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We received an allegation of plagiarism in an NSF proposal. Our investigation determined that the author of the questioned text was a post-doctoral researcher (the Researcher) in the lab of the PI, who contributed to the development of the proposal, and was intended to serve as co-PI on the proposal. However, the Researcher returned to his home country prior to submission of the proposal. Upon the departure of the Researcher, however, the PI submitted the proposal without properly attributing the now-questioned text, as was at that point required because the Researcher was no longer the intended co-PI. We determined that the PI's use of the Researcher's text in this circumstance does not rise to the level of research misconduct. We will, however, send the PI a questionable research practice (QRP) warning letter.

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