



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-18-0056-O

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NSF OIG received an allegation of plagiarism in an NSF proposal submitted by a PI. Specifically, it was alleged that the PI submitted a proposal identical to a proposal that his post-doctoral advisor previously submitted to NSF.

Our review determined that the PI was one of the primary authors on the previously submitted proposal, but neither the PI nor his post-doctoral advisor acknowledged the others' contributions in their respective proposals, in violation of NSF policy. Our review further determined that the PI submitted two contemporaneous NSF proposals to two different programs and did not report the other proposal in the respective current and pending support sections. This is also in violation of NSF policy.

We sent the PI a questionable research practice letter reminding him about the importance of appropriate citation and NSF policy regarding proposal submissions. We sent the post-doctoral advisor a questionable research practice letter reminding him about the importance of appropriate acknowledgment of all authors.

Accordingly, this case is closed with no further action taken.