



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-18-0094-O

Page 1 of 1

Our office received an allegation of plagiarism in a declined NSF proposal submitted by a PI. We contacted the PI about the allegation. His response did not dispel the allegation because he did not dispute his use of uncited text and did not provide documentary evidence corroborating his assertions that he co-authored some of the copied material. We also identified additional plagiarism in a second declined NSF proposal the PI submitted.

We referred the investigation to the PI's University, which declined the referral because it no longer employed the Subject.

Our investigation determined, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the Subject knowingly committed plagiarism in both proposals and that the acts were a significant departure from accepted practices of his relevant research community.

We recommended that NSF make a finding of research misconduct against the Subject; send him a letter of reprimand; require he complete responsible conduct of research training; and require he submit certifications for one year.

NSF's Chief Operating Officer (COO) concurred with our recommendations and added the requirement that the Subject submit assurances for one year and be prohibited from serving as an NSF reviewer, advisor, or consultant for one year.

Accordingly, this case is **closed**.