



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-19-0019-O

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We received an allegation that a PI was attempting to obtain funding for research he already completed. Nearly half of the PI's proposal was reproduced from a paper the PI recently published, including several sections of verbatim text, data, and figures. Problematically, the PI did not cite his paper in the project description when proposing that research.

We discussed this situation with the Program Director (PD), who shared the complainant's concerns. The PD contacted the PI to ask about the missing citation, but the PI did not provide a convincing explanation. The PI provided a written follow-up to the PD to better clarify his reasoning. Ultimately, the result of NSF's review process was that the proposal was declined.

We confirmed the overlap of material in the proposal and in the PI's paper. We sent the PI a warning letter cautioning him to exercise more care when preparing his proposals and to clearly distinguish proposed from accomplished research.

This case is **closed** and no further action will be taken.