



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-19-0021-O

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Our office reviewed an allegation of plagiarism in a pair of collaborative proposals. A small amount of unattributed copied text was found in the proposals. We wrote to the PIs asking them to address the allegation. PI1 responded that she only contributed text in one specific section of the proposal, which did not contain any of the unattributed text. PI2 confirmed PI1's account and stated that there were two published articles that contained the same or similar text. PI2 also stated that at the time he created the proposal, he was under strong medications, which may have altered his ability to recognize the text.

We compared the unattributed text with the two publications PI2 provided. We found none of the unattributed text in those publications. Therefore, PI2's explanation did not dispel the allegation. However, the amount of plagiarism did not rise to the level of research misconduct and we sent a Questionable Research Practice letter to PI2.

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