



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-19-0061-O

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We received an allegation that a proposal contained copied text and, in one section of the proposal, the PI appeared to claim credit for the work of another group. In response to our inquiry about the matter, the PI explained he was collaborating with the other group leader on the proposal, and the other group leader was not a co-PI on the proposal because he is based at a foreign institute. The PI stated the other group leader wrote the section of the proposal that contained the copied text and the section where it appeared the PI was taking credit for the other group's work. The PI provided documentation that supported his claims, and we confirmed the collaboration with the other group leader. The source of the copied text was a paper on which the other group leader was a co-author, and hence acceptable reuse of material on the part of the other group leader. We concluded that the matter did not warrant further investigation. However, we wrote the PI a questionable research practices letter reminding him to declare all his collaborations and contributors to his proposal. We advised him to consult with his program officer on how to correctly do so if he is unsure.

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