

CLOSEOUT FOR M92080032

This case was brought to the attention of OIG by [REDACTED] a program officer [REDACTED] on August 7, 1992. It was alleged that the subject's proposal [REDACTED] and its revision [REDACTED] (both entitled [REDACTED]) contained material plagiarized from [REDACTED] review article, [REDACTED]. The subject, [REDACTED] is a [REDACTED] faculty member in the [REDACTED]. OIG compared the subject's proposals with the review article and found that both proposals contained one paragraph and one additional sentence that appeared to be verbatim transcriptions from [REDACTED] article; however, the material was not indented or enclosed by quotation marks and it was not followed by a citation. The article was not referenced in either proposal.

When contacted by OIG the subject stated that he both had transcribed the material and had not provided a citation. Because the material was from a review article and did not, in the subject's opinion, contain new ideas, he did not view such transcription as plagiarism. He stated that he had never intended to plagiarize anyone's work. OIG explained the concept of plagiarism and provided the subject with a copy of "On Being a Scientist," (a publication of the National Academy of Sciences). This publication contains a brief, but clear, discussion of plagiarism and other forms of misconduct in science. The subject reviewed the material and agreed with our interpretation. At OIG's request he revised the text in question from both proposals, enclosing the material in quotation marks, provided a citation, and inserted the appropriate reference in the proposal bibliography. OIG reviewed and approved these changes. The subject then amended his proposals by forwarding, to the NSF program, copies of the corrected pages to replace the original pages.

OIG feels that this young investigator has developed a greater understanding of plagiarism, and misconduct in science, and that he had taken the appropriate remedial action. This case is closed without further action.

[REDACTED] 3/25/93
[REDACTED]
Staff Scientist, Oversight

Concurrence:

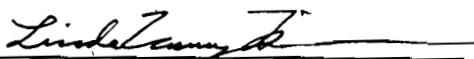
Donald E. Buzzelli 3/30/93
Donald E. Buzzelli
Deputy Assistant Inspector General,
Oversight

James J. Zwolenik 3/25/93
James J. Zwolenik
Assistant Inspector General for Oversight

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Concurrence:

 3/25/97

Linda Nancy Birnbaum
Assistant Counsel to the Inspector General

cc: Assistant Inspector General for Oversight
Inspector General

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