



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-23-0005-O

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We received an allegation that a PI and co-PI committed plagiarism in a declined NSF proposal. Our inquiry did not dispel the allegation and we referred an investigation to their University.

The University conducted a preliminary assessment and an inquiry in response to our referral. The inquiry remained ongoing significantly past our deadline for their investigative results. We informed the University we would no longer defer our investigation and requested its complete evidentiary record.

Our review of the University-provided materials established that no investigation was warranted into the PI because the PI did not author the proposal section containing the inadequately cited material. It, however, determined investigation was warranted into the co-PI who authored those sections.

We determined that material within the Proposal that the co-PI authored was inadequately cited. However, based on the totality of circumstances, we conclude no further investigative action is warranted. We will send both the PI and the co-PI detrimental research practice letters reminding them to adequately cite material in NSF proposals they submit.

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