

A01100035
CLOSEOUT FOR A01110035-

On October 2, 2001, we received an allegation of unethical practices in the preparation of an NSF proposal¹. Complainants² alleged that Subject had met with them to discuss possible collaborations, and that Subject subsequently submitted an NSF proposal incorporating their ideas without acknowledging their contribution. Complainants were not responsive to our requests for additional information. Accordingly, we evaluated the available evidence.

We reviewed Subject's proposal to form an assessment of whether the proposal represented his own original work. We found the proposed research to be consistent with Subject's research record and with his previous publications. We reviewed publications on which Subject was author or co-author, and found them to be stylistically similar to the proposal. We also conducted an Internet search using distinctive phrases in the proposal and failed to find any evidence of plagiarism from Internet sources. Finally, we note that Subject recommended Complainant-1 as a reviewer for his proposal, indicating no attempt to conceal his research plans.

OIG concluded there is no substantive evidence that misconduct occurred. This inquiry is closed and no further action will be taken.

cc: Investigations, IG

¹ [redacted]

² [redacted]