



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A04040020

Page 1 of 1

We received an allegation of plagiarism involving former collaborators. Specifically, the Complainant alleged that an NSF proposal¹ submitted by the Subject contains text authored by the Complainant, which he provided to the Subject for an earlier collaborative proposal.²

Our review indicated that the text in question is a single paragraph in the Facilities & Equipment section of the proposal. The text was part of a proposal on which the Subject and the Complainant were co-PIs; with slight modifications, the text was reused in a proposal on which the Subject is the sole PI. As discussed in our September 2001 Semiannual Report to Congress (p. 41), "Without a specific prohibition, we generally conclude that it is accepted practice for former colleagues to make subsequent use of materials and ideas shared within a collaboration."

Accordingly, this case is closed.

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