



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-22-0043-O

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Our office received an allegation of plagiarism following the retraction of an article acknowledging NSF support. We reviewed the retracted article, the retraction notice, and the acknowledged NSF award. One of the paper's co-authors was the PI supported by the NSF award. We contacted the PI's University, which conducted an inquiry. The inquiry concluded there was no evidence the PI committed research misconduct and determined the first author wrote the questioned section of the article. The University also verified that none of the NSF award funds had been used to support the first author. The first author was at a different institution and did not receive NSF funding for the retracted paper's research.

We reviewed the University's Inquiry Report and concurred with its conclusion that the PI was not responsible for the copied text. There is no NSF jurisdiction regarding the first author's research described in the retracted article.

Accordingly, this case is closed.