



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A14100060

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We received an allegation that a Subject<sup>1</sup> used experimental ideas contained in another researcher's NSF proposal<sup>2</sup> in his own publication.<sup>3</sup> Specifically, it was alleged that a figure in the publication was similar to a figure and its related text in the proposal. We reviewed relevant documents and discussed the matter with the Program Officer.<sup>4</sup> We determined research misconduct did not occur; the publication acknowledged the contribution of data from a collaborator<sup>5</sup> on the proposal, and the involved parties are competitors who (one can reasonably conclude) work on similar matters. Accordingly, this case is closed with no further action taken.

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