



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A15010001

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Closeout

Our office reviewed three allegations against a PI¹ (Subject) on two NSF Proposals.²

First, it was alleged that the Subject improperly listed conference paper presentations on his NSF Biographical Sketches as journal "proceedings" when such proceedings do not exist. Second, it was alleged that other entries on the Biographical Sketches were fabricated. Third, it was alleged that non-academic publications were listed on Biographical Sketches in order to inflate the impression of the Subject's research history for reviewers.

In the first allegation, the Subject admitted that the papers were presented, but not subsequently published in a proceedings. For the second allegation, the Subject provided acceptable evidence for every publication in question. For the third, the Subject explained that the items were listed on the Biographical Sketch because they were relevant to his proposal and he wanted reviewers to understand his prior experience in the area.

We found that the first allegation had substance, but did not warrant a full investigation. We concluded the second allegation was unsubstantiated and found the Subject's explanation for the third reasonable.

We sent the PI a warning letter, cautioning him to avoid imprudent practices and to ensure fully accurate references, so that interested parties may readily find materials when possible.

This case is closed with no further action taken.

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[REDACTED]