



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A15050033

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An NSF-supported postdoctoral fellow at a university fabricated and falsified data in four publications and three unpublished manuscripts. After denying the allegations during the university's inquiry, the postdoctoral fellow admitted to data fabrication in his response to the inquiry report. Based on an investigation into additional alleged acts of research misconduct, the Investigation Committee determined, by a preponderance of evidence, that the postdoctoral fellow intentionally engaged in multiple acts of data falsification and his actions constituted a significant departure from accepted practices of the research community. As the postdoctoral fellow departed the university prior to initiation of the university's inquiry, the university did not impose any disciplinary or corrective actions. Three out of the four publications were, however, retracted.

We concurred with the university's findings. We concluded the postdoctoral fellow's acts were intentional, met the definition of data fabrication and falsification, and constituted a significant departure from accepted practices of the research community. We recommended that NSF debar him and take additional administrative actions. NSF made a finding of research misconduct and took appropriate actions.

Accordingly, this case is closed with no further action taken.