

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

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NSF OIG received notification that a University¹ conducted an inquiry into allegations of research misconduct and had determined an investigation was warranted. Specifically, the University received allegations alleging that a faculty member (Subject)² used questionable methods to analyze data, conducted experiments without keeping appropriate documentation, used questionable cell culture practices, submitted a misleading abstract, submitted questionable data in a grant application, and inappropriately submitted a paper without allowing all authors to review the paper. NSF-funded research was implicated in the allegation.³ Subsequently, we referred the investigation to the University.

The University's investigation committee conducted an investigation and found no evidence for the allegations of research misconduct. It found that many of the allegations stemmed from communication breakdowns or disagreements between the Subject and his lab members or dealt with internal lab practices. It also established that the Subject had relied on members of his lab to maintain lab records, but that, in response to the investigation, the Subject would begin maintaining his own records.

We concurred with the results of the University's investigation. We sent the Subject a letter reminding him about his responsibilities regarding maintaining appropriate lab records. Accordingly, this case is *closed*.

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