



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A15070044

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A University<sup>1</sup> informed our office that it was conducting an inquiry into an allegation that a former graduate student (Subject)<sup>2</sup> falsified research records related to an NSF Award<sup>3</sup> by deleting research data or results and/or by adding and deleting research data, such that the research was not accurately reflected in the research record. Specifically, it said the Subject admitted to deleting data, but that she said she had done so simply to clean her account when leaving the University and that the laboratory's shared files contained all of the group's data. We referred the inquiry to the University.

The University's inquiry determined that the allegations warranted an investigation, and the University initiated an investigation. We referred the investigation to the University.

The University investigation concluded that a preponderance of the evidence did not indicate that the Subject falsified the research record, that her actions constituted a significant departure from accepted practices of the relevant research community, or that her actions were committed intentionally, knowingly or recklessly.

The University recommended no action be taken against the Subject.

We reviewed the University's report and concurred with its conclusions. Accordingly, this case is closed with no further action taken.

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