



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-16-0097-O

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We received an allegation that a former PI and his former student may be withholding data to cover up falsified or fabricated data. Due to the complexities of the case, we referred the matter to the university. The university determined that there were plausible explanations for the apparent inconsistencies that led to the allegations of falsification and fabrication. Therefore, they concluded that further investigation was not warranted. We concur, but conclude that the entire matter could have been averted if the former PI and former student had shared their data as encouraged by NSF policy. We sent the former PI and the former student Questionable Research Practice letters reminding them of NSF's data sharing policies. This case is closed with no further action taken.