

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

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We received a complaint that there may be an irregularity concerning a consultant on a proposal. Specifically, the listed consultant had not been asked to participate in the proposed research. We interviewed the proposed consultant, who correctly pointed out that the proposal itself stated the consultant: "will be invited" to participate and nowhere in the proposal did it indicate that the consultant had agreed to participate. Consequently, although the PI had perhaps failed to observe the proper formalities of requesting the consultant's participation prior to submitting the proposal; the PI had not violated any NSF rule or submitted a false statement.

This case is *closed* with no further action taken.