

CLOSEOUT OF M92030013

This case was brought to the attention of OIG by [REDACTED] a program officer in NSF's Directorate for Biological Sciences, on March 30, 1992. [REDACTED], the complainant, informed [REDACTED] of an apparent violation of a sample-sharing agreement between the subject, [REDACTED] and her. Following her instructions, her graduate student, [REDACTED] had provided the subject with a sample of [REDACTED]. According to the agreement that accompanied the [REDACTED] the sample was to be used only in the sequencing of specific [REDACTED]. Further, use of the [REDACTED] for any other purpose or providing samples to other individuals was to be preapproved by the complainant. This agreement also informed the subject that the sequencing of other specific [REDACTED] strands was already underway in the complainant's lab.

The complainant subsequently discovered that the subject had submitted a manuscript containing a partial sequence for one of the [REDACTED] strands she had sequenced, without credit to her. The complainant informed OIG that when she confronted the subject, he had stated that he had forgotten the stipulation about not sequencing that [REDACTED] strand. Their comparison of their independently derived [REDACTED] sequences found several errors in the subject's, based on his inaccurate reading of the sequencing gel. He corrected the sequence reported in the manuscript and agreed to attribute that sequence to the complainant and her graduate student. The complainant informed OIG that she would be satisfied if the paper did indeed attribute the sequence to her graduate student and her. OIG obtained a copy of the published article and found that it attributed the [REDACTED] sequence in question to her graduate student and her three times. When contacted by OIG, the complainant stated her satisfaction with the attribution in the published paper.

By correcting the manuscript before publication, the subject complied with the terms of the agreement letter. This case is closed without a finding of misconduct.

[REDACTED] 11-2-92
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