

Closeout of M93010001

This case was brought to OIG on January 5, 1993 by [REDACTED], a program officer in [REDACTED]. It is based on an anonymous letter she received that makes allegations against [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] at the University [REDACTED], the subject.

The allegations are that the subject steals his "research aims" from others and takes credit for the contributions of others to his research projects. He allegedly regularly breaks promises he makes to these collaborators. Further, he plans to use the funds from his pending proposal to NSF for a year's sabbatical in Europe.

The description given of the subject's actions is too vague to allow them to be investigated. Since the letter is anonymous, it is not possible to get more information from the complainant. Much of this alleged misbehavior, in any case, would not fall under misconduct in science. Moreover, since the subject has never had an NSF grant, much of the activity complained about would probably not be within NSF's jurisdiction.

The anonymous letter implies that the subject has had NIH support. OIG determined that the Public Health Service has made no finding of misconduct in science against him. Hence NSF has no basis for taking action against him for any misconduct he may have committed with PHS funds.

The subject has a pending NSF proposal. However, since it requests no salary for him, it is unlikely that he plans to use any funding he obtains for a sabbatical.

OIG concludes that there is no misconduct in science issue or other serious issue involving NSF in this case, and therefore the matter can be closed. The case will be offered to the Public Health Service for consideration under its misconduct in science policy.

[REDACTED]

*James J. Zwick*

March 30, 1993

*[Handwritten signature]*

Copy: Inspector General  
AIG-Oversight  
IXIG

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