



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-20-0046-O

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A university notified us it was initiating a research misconduct (RM) investigation related to an NSF proposal. Specifically, it was alleged that a PI falsified the research record through submission of an NSF proposal that did not list salary from an outside source as required and through omission of collaborators in the relevant NSF proposal section. The university found the PI's omission of collaborators was honest error. However, it concluded he knowingly committed RM through omission of outside support.

Our review found the PI disclosed his work with the outside source in his biographical sketch. Due to his explicit disclosure, we concluded the matter warranted neither an RM finding nor a government-wide debarment recommendation. The matter also did not warrant opening a civil/criminal case to pursue action. However, we sent a warning letter to the PI, reminding him of the importance of full disclosure in NSF submissions.

This case is closed with no further action taken.