



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-21-0060-O

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We investigated an allegation that a Principal Investigator (PI) at an awardee institution failed to disclose foreign research funding and affiliations with foreign institutions in three NSF grant proposals. We reviewed award documents and open-source information, subpoenaed and reviewed information from two U.S. universities, and reviewed the faculty member's publications and travel history. The PI was also interviewed, after which she departed the United States. To date, she has not returned. Our investigation substantiated the allegation. Additionally, the PI failed to comply with an Inspector General subpoena. The matter was referred to the United States Attorney's Office, which ultimately declined to move forward with a criminal prosecution. Based on our recommendation, NSF debarred the PI for three years and prohibited her from serving as a peer reviewer at NSF for three years.

This case is closed with no further action taken.