



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-24-0041-O

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We received notification that a University conducted an inquiry into an allegation of falsification, and that it was initiating an investigation. Specifically, it was alleged that a former graduate student (Subject), an NSF fellowship recipient, falsified figures in a manuscript by altering the peaks of those figures. The lab director was supported by another federal agency, and the Subject was supported by NSF.

The University conducted an investigation and concluded eight figures in the manuscript were falsified. However, because of poor laboratory management, it could not determine who falsified the figures or exactly when they were falsified. The University recommended that the lab director and Subject review and incorporate data integrity and management practices into their laboratories and train all current students working in their labs.

The investigation committee could not determine exactly when the falsification occurred, but it estimated it occurred approximately 6 months after the Subject graduated and the NSF fellowship ended. Therefore, the Subject would have no longer been an NSF fellowship recipient, and NSF would not have jurisdiction over this matter. Accordingly, this case is **closed** with no further action taken.