



U.S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
Office of Inspector General

Case Closeout Memorandum

OIG Case Number I-23-0048-O | February 27, 2025

We received an allegation that a former graduate student included falsified and/or fabricated data and plagiarized material in his NSF-funded dissertation. Specifically, the academic honesty committee at the graduate student's university reviewed the allegation and required the graduate student to remove the plagiarized material from his draft dissertation, suspended him for two semesters, and recommended his experiments be repeated. The graduate student removed the plagiarized material but included the questioned data in his final dissertation.

We contacted the university's research integrity officer, who was unaware of the allegation, and referred the investigation to the university. The university concluded that the graduate student's final dissertation did not contain falsified/fabricated data but did not document its evidence.

We requested evidence from the university. Our independent analysis of the documentation confirmed that the graduate student did not falsify/fabricate data.

This case is closed with no further action taken.