



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A14110062

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NSF OIG received an allegation that a Subject¹ was conducting research, at an NSF-funded facility,² that exceeded the scope of a collaboration agreement he had with the individual who provided him with research materials.

During our review, in which we unsuccessfully attempted to obtain a copy of the collaboration agreement, we were informed that the Subject's University³ received the same allegation and initiated a research misconduct inquiry. We deferred our review of the matter pending conclusion of the University's inquiry.

The University's inquiry focused on three allegations: 1) the Subject misappropriating the research materials by misrepresenting the work to be completed; 2) the Subject plagiarizing the ideas of the individual who provided the research materials and 3) the Subject falsifying an abstract by falsely representing the authors involved in the work. The University determined the allegations were unsubstantiated and took no action against the Subject. It found no evidence of a formal collaboration agreement and concluded that the allegations stemmed from a failed collaboration between researchers.

We reviewed the University's inquiry report and concurred with its assessment. Accordingly, this case is *closed with no further action taken.*

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