



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A14110063

Page 1 of 1

A graduate student,¹ who submitted an NSF fellowship application, received an email purportedly from NSF stating that her application was rejected due to self-plagiarism. NSF reviewed the matter, confirmed the email was fake, ensured no security breach occurred, and referred the matter to our office.

Our investigation found that another student (Subject)² sent his colleague the email as a prank. The Subject accepted responsibility for sending the email and expressed remorse. NSF and NSF OIG jointly sent the Subject a stern warning letter about the consequences of impersonating a federal official and informed him that any future allegations would result in more substantive action against him.

Accordingly, this case is closed with no further action taken.

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2