



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A010700025

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On July 2, 2001, we received an allegation that a chemical engineer (Subject<sup>1</sup>) submitted substantially similar proposals to multiple NSF programs and failed to disclose all current and pending support, in violation of grant proposal guidelines. In the course of our inquiry, we identified five areas of concern: (1) submission of similar proposals to multiple NSF programs; (2) submission of similar proposals to NSF and another Federal agency; (3) failure to disclose all current awards and pending proposals; (4) failure to disclose extent of time commitment on current awards and pending proposals; and (5) excessive summer salary.

With respect to the first allegation, we determined that Subject submitted to a program and to a special competition, rather than submitting duplicate proposals to multiple programs. Both proposals were declined. We decided not to pursue this matter further. With respect to the second allegation, Subject allegedly submitted overlapping proposals to NSF and NIH, in violation of a requirement specific to NSF's Biological Sciences directorate. The NSF proposal was declined. We decided that this matter did not rise to a level which would merit further inquiry.

The third and fourth allegations concern statements of Current and Pending Support (CPS). After a records review uncovered CPS inaccuracies in three of four proposals submitted by Subject in 2001, we requested an accurate and complete statement of all support for the period. Subject promptly furnished this information and apologized for errors in his CPS forms. Although Subject failed to submit any revisions to his pending NSF proposal, we note that the proposal was declined. We also note that Subject subsequently submitted a new proposal, in which the statement of current and pending support appears to be accurate and complete.

The fifth allegation was generated by our review of Subject's NSF awards. Specifically, we found that Subject's total summer salary on three active awards<sup>2</sup> exceeds NSF's limit of 2/9 of academic year salary by .5 months for Summer 2002. In response to a letter bringing the issue to his attention, Subject stated that he would rebudget the unallowable salary. In consultation with the NSF grants officer on the relevant award<sup>3</sup>, we determined that this is an acceptable solution.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

<sup>1</sup> [redacted]

<sup>2</sup> [redacted]

<sup>3</sup> [redacted]

	Agent	Attorney	Supervisor	AIGI
Sign / date				