



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A05050027

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An allegation was received¹ that a reference in an NSF proposal², which was cited several times in the text of the proposal as support for the proposed experimental work, was incorrect and perhaps fabricated. The citation given in the proposal³ was confirmed to be inaccurate, and database inquiry revealed a best fit to the putative reference.⁴

The subject⁵ responded to our letter asking for clarification in a timely fashion, and admitted the appearance of the incorrect citation (characterizing it as inadvertent). The subject identified the correct citation as that identified as the best-fit choice. The subject enclosed a preprint of a manuscript now in review that represents the completed work. The preprint describes work in the same area of research as the abstract cited in the proposal.

The allegation of a fabricated reference was not substantiated. No issues in this case remain unresolved.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

¹ Redacted.

² Redacted.

³ Redacted.

⁴ Redacted.

⁵ Redacted.