



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A14090051

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We learned that the PI¹ an active NSF award (Award)² took an unpaid leave of absence, following the university's internal investigation into improper use of graduate students to support his private consulting efforts.

Based on our initial investigation, we recommended that NSF suspend the Award pending further investigation; which NSF did. Upon further investigation, we determined that the PI had been absent for nine of the first twelve months of the Award. We also learned that the university had failed to notify NSF of the PI's absence (as required by NSF rules) or the PI's subsequent resignation.

Given the university's lack of candor about The PI's absence and resignation, and the resulting lack of oversight of award-related activity, we recommended NSF terminate the award. NSF concurred, resulting in nearly \$300,000 being put to better use.

This case is closed with no further action taken.

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