

4 October 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: The File  
FROM: REDACTED  
THROUGH: REDACTED  
SUBJECT: Closeout Case I-00080013

On 1 June 2000, a post-doctoral researcher<sup>1</sup> (complainant) sent a letter to OIG containing several allegations of misconduct in science and misappropriation of federal grant funds. A majority of the misconduct in science allegations involved a lengthy, acrimonious personal dispute between the complainant and a supervising professor<sup>2</sup> (subject) and did not qualify as misconduct in science. The misconduct case<sup>3</sup> closed on 14 August 2000. However, as the complainant's letter contained two allegations of possible misappropriation of personnel salary and publications costs, our office opened an I-case file to investigate these allegations. According to the complainant, the subject received duplicate summer salary funding from NSF and NASA EPSCoR and spent NSF-funded publication costs to publish an old project not covered by his current NSF grant.<sup>4</sup>

On 27 July 2000, we wrote the subject requesting a complete accounting of summer salary from 1998-2000 and publication costs charged to his current NSF grant. The subject provided this information on 3 September 2000. In a review of the response, it did not appear that there was any evidence of duplicate federal funding for salary expenses. The subject admitted to charging publication costs to his current NSF grant on a reprint of a paper funded by an earlier NSF grant, but requested that the university correct the account against which the costs were claimed. These reprint publication costs will be removed from his current NSF grant. Accordingly, as there appears to be no evidence of misappropriation of federal grant funds, this case is closed.

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<sup>1</sup> redacted.

<sup>2</sup> redacted.

<sup>3</sup> M00060027.

<sup>4</sup> redacted