



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I02060018

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On June 6, 2002, we received an allegation that a bioengineer¹ failed to disclose a financial conflict of interest² in his NSF proposal³. We determined that the allegation reflected a misunderstanding of NSF policy: investigators are neither required nor expected to disclose financial conflicts of interest to NSF. Rather, financial disclosures are made to institutions. In the event that a proposal is funded, the institution must satisfactorily manage, reduce or eliminate any identified conflicts of interest prior to the expenditure of any funds under the award, or else disclose the conflicts to NSF.

In the event of an award, the institution is required to review the PI's financial disclosures, determine whether conflicts exist, and take appropriate action. We have no reason to believe that the institution will fail to do so. Accordingly, this case is closed.

¹ [redacted]

² [redacted]

³ [redacted]

	Agent	Attorney	Supervisor	AIGI
Sign / date				