

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

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A preliminary investigation¹ involving the proactive review of various Conference Grants identified a couple of concerns regarding an NSF Award² and on August 19, 2004 the investigation was converted to an I-Case.

The first issue identified a potential conflict of interest between one of the Co-P.I.s³ and the company⁴ hosting the conference. The second issue identified a potential violation of A110 Procurement Standards based on all participants being directed to utilize a specific travel agency to obtain airline tickets to attend the conference.

On December 22, 2003 we requested additional documentation from the Grantee⁵ and subsequently received their reply⁶ on February 18, 2004. Included in their response was a detailed listing of all the conference participants that received support from the award and the nature of the support. They also identified the amounts paid to both the travel agency and the host company and the purpose of the payments.

A review of this information failed to identify any violations of either the Grant Conditions or Federal Statutes and therefore does not require any further action by our office.

Accordingly, this case is *closed*.

