



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I13030013

Page 1 of 1

This matter originated from a proactive review¹ of awards made to former NSF rotatoirs (IPAs) within a short period of time after returning to their home institutions. Upon review of the award² information along with the former IPA's dates of employment, it appeared that the IPA had taken over as PI before the applicable "cooling-off" period had elapsed. Correspondence also indicated the decision to fund the project may have been made before the proposal was submitted.

Subsequent investigation, which included reviewing further correspondence, interviewing relevant program officials, interviewing the current and former PIs, and reviewing the financial records, revealed that the decision to fund this award was not made prior to the solicited submission of the proposal, and that the former IPA did not violate any NSF regulations when he was approved as the substitute PI. However, for approximately one year there was no oversight of the project by the named PI because he had moved overseas. We recommended to the university³ that it ensure all NSF awards have proper oversight by the named PI, as required by NSF rules.

Accordingly, this investigation is closed.

1
2
3