

CLOSEOUT FOR M93030015

On March 23, 1993, [REDACTED], a program director in the [REDACTED] Section of the Directorate [REDACTED], provided OIG with a copy of a [REDACTED] letter he had received from the complainant, [REDACTED] an assistant professor at the [REDACTED]. In his letter the complainant alleged that the subject, [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED], had published an article describing a new [REDACTED] without properly acknowledging the complainant's ongoing work on an [REDACTED]. The complainant asserted that the [REDACTED] identified by the subject was the same as the [REDACTED] the complainant was working on. The complainant alleged that he had discussed his work with the subject and provided documents that suggested that the subject could have substantially benefited from his discussions with the complainant in the subject's [REDACTED].

In response to OIG's request for information the subject stated that the [REDACTED] he had identified and the one the complainant was researching were [REDACTED] distinct. The subject provided copies of letters from several [REDACTED] familiar with both the subject's and complainant's work which indicated that they considered the complainant's allegations to be without merit. No substance could be found to the complainant's allegation of intellectual theft.

OIG reviewed the subject's article and did not find a citation to NSF support. OIG found that the subject had received three grants from NSF over the period when the research on the [REDACTED] was conducted. None of these grants appeared relevant to that work. Program officers contacted by NSF agreed with this conclusion. In his response, the subject stated that NSF funds were not used in the research on or the reporting of the identification of the [REDACTED].

For OIG to consider an allegation of misconduct it must be related to activities funded by NSF or to an NSF employee. On the basis of OIG's review of the subject's NSF grants and statements from the subject and relevant NSF program officers, OIG concluded that NSF funds had not been used to perform the subject's research on the mammal. Therefore OIG lacked jurisdiction and closed this case without further action.

[REDACTED]

4/9/93

Staff Scientist, Oversight

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Concurrence:

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