

CLOSEOUT FOR M93040028

This case came to OIG in an anonymous letter dated [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. The allegation is that twenty-four researchers, named in the letter, illegally help one another win NSF grants. These researchers also allegedly help one another's former students win grants.

This letter provides no specific information that would allow OIG to identify whether the allegation has substance. It is normal scientific practice to develop collegial relationships with likeminded researchers. It is unclear from the anonymous letter what, if anything, these researchers are alleged to have done that goes beyond this normal and legitimate scientific practice. Because the letter is anonymous, we have no way to ask the complainant to clarify or elaborate on the complaint.

This case is closed and no further action will be taken.

[REDACTED]

Concurrence:

Donald E. Buzzelli 10/22/93

Donald E. Buzzelli
Deputy Assistant Inspector General,
Oversight

noted

James J. Zwolenik

James J. Zwolenik
Assistant Inspector General for Oversight

Montgomery K. Fisher

Montgomery K. Fisher
Counsel to the Inspector General

cc: Signatories
Inspector General.

M93-28