

Closeout Memorandum for Case No. M98020006

On 3 February 1998 we received an allegation from [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] had engaged in a "conspiracy . . . to plagiarize [REDACTED] M.S. thesis, which was done under an NSF grant."¹ [REDACTED] also claimed that [REDACTED] was retaliated against in relation to this matter. After reviewing the complaint and such other information as we were able to obtain, we concluded that the matter should be closed without further inquiry. This determination is based on the extreme age of the case (the alleged plagiarism occurred over 16 years ago). Because of the case's age, we were unable to obtain the NSF grant file or other complete, reliable information. This led to an inability to make reliable factual determinations. Finally, we were unable to establish NSF's jurisdiction in the matter, because it is impossible to determine whether and to what extent the relevant research was supported by NSF. For these reasons, this case is closed.

cc: Legal
Assistant Inspector General for Oversight
Inspector General

¹ NSF award no. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Principal Investigator.