NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

ODI BULLETIN NO. 18-01

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

February 8, 2018

SUBJECT: Sexual Harassment Reporting

The National Science Foundation (NSF) does not tolerate sexual harassment, or any kind of harassment, at grantee organizations, field sites, or anywhere NSF-funded science and education are conducted.

As the primary funding agency of fundamental science and engineering research in the United States, NSF is committed to promoting safe, productive research environments for current and future scientists and engineers. Funded institutions must comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive Federal financial assistance, including NSF grants and cooperative agreements. NSF's Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) is responsible for handling all Title IX sex discrimination complaints filed by NSF-funded program participants, including complaints involving sexual misconduct or harassment. Today, NSF published an Important Notice for Presidents of Universities and Colleges and Heads of Other National Science Foundation Grantee Institutions alerting the community to NSF policies and expectations on this matter. (See Important Notice No. 144, NSF.gov/harassment).

Internally at NSF, ODI receives and addresses sexual harassment complaints filed by NSF employees. Such complaints are covered under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended in 1991, which prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex and national origin.

As an NSF employee you must inform ODI immediately if you become aware of a harassment issue in an NSF-funded program, project, or institution, including a complaint of sexual harassment, whether the issue occurred on campus, in the field, at a conference, at a facility, or elsewhere. If you receive a complaint from NSF staff or want to make a complaint, you should contact ODI immediately. After you convey a complaint to ODI, if you do not receive an acknowledgement within 48 hours, please follow up to ensure ODI has received your communication. Also, please provide the ODI contact information below to the person who reported the information.

If in doubt, reach out. And do not be afraid to speak up.

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