



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A02030020

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In March 2002, we received an allegation that a group of American researchers had committed plagiarism by publishing data<sup>1</sup> collected by other researchers. The American researchers received courtesy access to unpublished data collected by an international group of researchers (IGOR).<sup>2</sup> Although IGOR shared its data with the Americans, it did so with the understanding that the data not be discussed in print until IGOR had published its own results. It was alleged the Americans' publication not only presented the confidential data, but did so without proper attribution. Although several of the Americans have received NSF funding, NSF did not fund any of them for the research described in their publication. Therefore, we lack jurisdiction to pursue this allegation. Although we lacked jurisdiction, we forwarded the allegation to the appropriate institutional authority for evaluation. Accordingly, this case is closed.

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<sup>1</sup> (footnote redacted)

<sup>2</sup> There were international collaborators from France and Japan.

	Agent	Attorney	Supervisor	AIGI
Sign / date				