



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A03 68

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As part of a review of NSF conference, workshop, and symposia grants, we collected a stratified random sampling of relevant FY01 NSF awards and wrote to each institution requesting documentation of expenditures for the award. In this case, the University's documentation for the expenditures under the NSF award,<sup>1</sup> which is still open, included information related to several different awards and contained several handwritten notations and changes. In addition to the original award, the program officer had approved a supplement for printing workshop results for distribution to interested members of the scientific community.<sup>2</sup>

Our review of the information showed that the *primary* purpose of the award was to develop a new science initiative.<sup>3</sup> To achieve this, the award funded numerous workshops with specific attendees invited to attend.

We noted that a subcontract, not part of the original award, was paid out of participant support funds.<sup>4</sup> We learned that the NSF program officer had approved, in advance, the shifting of funds from participant support to the subcontract.

Numerous scientists were invited to attend these development workshops supported by the award. The development of the initiative via these workshops involved no registration fees or any other evidence of possible program income.

We concluded that there was nothing that appeared unusual with the expenditures under the active award. This case is closed and no further action will be taken.

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