



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A04050031

Page 1 of 1

We received an allegation that two PIs<sup>1</sup> had falsely claimed to be, to employ or that their research impacted "underrepresented minorities." A review of the proposals revealed that only one of the PIs<sup>2</sup> was responsible for the use of the term. We wrote the PI to determine if he was falsely claiming the status of an underrepresented minority. In his response, he indicated he had not fully understood NSF's definition of underrepresented minorities, that he has since researched and understood the definition, and that he will not incorrectly use the term again.

We wrote to the PI directing him to take adequate care in all aspects of his proposals. No further action is required in this case. Accordingly, this case is closed.

[REDACTED] and  
[REDACTED] is the PI on all but one of the proposals in question. The term underrepresented minority appears in only one of [REDACTED] proposals, the one in which [REDACTED] is a co-PI. The phrasing is identical to other of [REDACTED] proposals; consequently it appears that he, not [REDACTED] is responsible for the use of the term.