



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A06050019

Page 1 of 1

As part of a proactive investigative review of REU site awards for compliance with NSF regulations and policies on the use of living organisms (*i.e.*, humans and vertebrate animals) in research, we identified an award¹ which failed to identify both human subjects and vertebrate animals on the proposal coverpage. The university² demonstrated that the project had received preliminary Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for the human subjects components, and although approvals for some of the components had lapsed during the project, current approvals had been obtained. The university also determined that vertebrate animal work, primarily observational in the laboratory, had been conducted without the requisite Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) review and approval. The university took corrective action and notified the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare of the incident.³ The university reviewed its complete NSF award and pending proposal portfolio to ensure that it was in compliance, finding only a single award with a lapsed IRB approval. However, that project maintains its status under an exemption. No further action is necessary.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

1

2

³ The Animal Welfare Assurance covering the project was issued by OLAW and therefore OLAW's notification was warranted.