



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A11020010

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NSF-OIG received a complaint from a PI, who claimed that a patent application¹ was similar to two of his unfunded proposals.² We examined the review panel for each unfunded proposal, and neither of the subjects served as reviewers for either proposal. We also compared the proposals and the patent application and found that although they contained similar ideas, the evidence does not indicate that the subjects misappropriated the PI's intellectual property. Furthermore, no other evidence indicates a connection between the subjects and the PI or the PI's unfunded proposals.

This preliminary case is closed with no further action taken.

¹ U.S. Patent App. [REDACTED]

² [REDACTED]