



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A12120082

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In the results of prior support section of a recent proposal (the proposal¹), the PI² listed a large number of papers as being supported by his previous grant (the grant³). Our analysis revealed over half of the papers listed were not supported by the grant. Some papers were submitted before the grant was awarded, while some acknowledged the PI's other NSF grants. We also reviewed the final project report for the grant and found a small number of papers inaccurately attributed to the grant, but the majority of papers were accurately listed.

We wrote to the PI, who explained the circumstances surrounding the preparation of the proposal. He mostly focused on the project description and inadvertently used an older list of NSF-supported papers. He noted using an old listing meant not only were old papers listed that should not have been, but recent papers that should have been listed were not. He was embarrassed by the errors and acknowledged the need to pay more attention to all parts of future proposals.

We found the PI's explanation well-thought-out and credible. We sent the PI a letter reminding him of his need to treat all parts of a proposal carefully. Accordingly, this case is ***closed*** with no further action taken.

1 [REDACTED] was submitted by [REDACTED].
2 [REDACTED] was the PI.
3 [REDACTED]