



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A14100057

Page 1 of 1

We assessed an allegation of improprieties in the NSF merit review system. Specifically, a complainant was unhappy with reviews he had received for his most recent declined proposal,¹ and by extension to each of his past declined proposals. The complainant generally characterizes the reviews as "out of control." The specific current allegation is that one reviewer made reference to a review of a previous proposal; the complainant considers this as evidence of improper collusion on the part of NSF or its reviewers. Analysis shows that the declined proposal itself contained a considerable discussion of past reviewer comments, leading to comments in review of the most recent proposal. There is no evidence for impropriety in the merit review of the proposals.

This case is closed with no further action taken.

1