



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-03030012

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On March 12, 2003, we received an anonymous hotline call making allegations against the Principal Investigator¹ (P.I.) of several NSF Grants at a large midwest University². The caller alleged the P.I. required students to kickback some of the support money that they received to the department and also the P.I. submitted falsified photocopies of old recommendation letters with their proposals. The caller further alleged that three former colleagues had approached a Dean at the University³ about the P.I.'s activities and all three were subsequently dismissed. The caller did not provide any information regarding the identities of these individuals.

Interviews were conducted and a request was issued to the University for various records relating to P.I.'s department and information regarding both current and former employees of the department. The requested records were received and subsequently reviewed. This review did not identify any facts to support the allegations.

Based on the anonymous nature of this complaint, the lack of any information to support the allegations and the lack of any complainants or witnesses to provide any information to warrant further investigation, it is my conclusion that the allegations made cannot be substantiated and this investigation should be closed with no further action warranted.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

[REDACTED]