



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I03080033

Page 1 of 1

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Office of Inspector General (OIG) selected this award as part of a review of conferences, workshops and symposia with respect to compliance with program income requirements. A review of material pertaining to this grant indicated that the University¹ may have used Federal funds for a social banquet, which included charges for alcohol. Financial documents identified a separate account containing a balance² from registration fees collected for the grant conference.

NSF/OIG contacted the University Account Manager³ who advised that the balance of registration fees had been returned via the Federal Cash Transaction Report (FCTR). The Account Manager explained that the University was unaware of the rules associated with conference grants. The Account Manager⁴ provided emails between the Principal Investigator (PI) and the Program Officer, which indicated that the institution was given implied approval to use the program income to pay for banquet activities.

NSF/OIG acknowledges that the Program Officer may have inappropriately given approval for the social banquet but advised the University that the awardee is responsible for using the grant funds in accordance with the applicable Federal grant conditions and that the purchase of alcohol is unallowable. The awardee reimbursed NSF for the unallowable charges.⁵

The University returned the Program income that was inappropriately used to NSF. Accordingly, this case is closed.

¹ Footnote redacted

² Footnote redacted

³ Footnote redacted

⁴ Footnote redacted

⁵ Footnote redacted