



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I04070024

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The National Science Foundation, Office of Inspector General (NSF/OIG) received an allegation from a Program Manager<sup>1</sup> alleging that a Principal Investigator (PI)<sup>2</sup> may have misused grant funds. The Program Manager stated that he had concerns that the PI had not provided financial support from the grant to the foreign collaborator<sup>3</sup>. The Program Manager advised that the PI provided an accounting of how the grant funds were used that revealed the grant funds had been moved to different areas of the budget.

NSF/OIG contacted the PI's home institution and the foreign collaborator to obtain information on the foreign collaboration and grant expenditures. The foreign collaborator advised that he collaborated on the grant but a colleague<sup>4</sup>, traveled in his place due to his unfavorable health condition. University revealed that some of the participant support was used to pay for students that worked on the grant and for some of the travel expenses of the foreign collaborator. However, the majority of the participant support was used to fund international travel for the PI.

The Program Manager explained that the most important aspect of the grant is the foreign collaboration therefore; he was not concerned that a different individual traveled to collaborate on the grant. The Program Manager stated that he would have approved the use of participant support for international travel of the PI or foreign collaborator. A determination was made to close the case due to the Program Manager's concurrence with expenditures on the grant.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

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<sup>1</sup> Footnote Redacted

<sup>2</sup> Footnote Redacted

<sup>3</sup> Footnote Redacted

<sup>4</sup> Footnote Redacted