



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-05010009

Page 1 of 1

In July 2004, the Office of Inspector General initiated a proactive review of participant support funds allocated to NSF awards. Participant support costs are expended to or on the behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) for stipends, subsistence, travel and registration fees for conferences, symposiums and/or workshops. To that end, OIG randomly selected this award¹ for review.

Our initial review of the documentation submitted by the university² revealed several expenditures that did not appear to be allowable under the participant support guidelines. The preliminary inquiry was closed and an investigation was initiated in order to get further information from the university.

Specifically, our office contacted the university for an explanation of (3) video cameras that were partially paid for with NSF grant funds during the award period. Additionally, there was a reimbursement to the University that did not appear to be credited back to the grant.

The University provided additional documentation and explanation for the reimbursement and the purchase of the video cameras. According to the University, the purchase of the video cameras was essential to the research projects the students were working on. The university stated that it inadvertently omitted the documentation showing that the reimbursement was credited to the correct NSF account.

After reviewing the supplemental documentation and explanation of expenditures, our office is satisfied that the university did not violate the participant support guidelines or misappropriate the grant funds awarded. Accordingly, this case is closed.

¹ Footnote redacted

² footnote redacted