



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A13120097

Page 1 of 1

A graduate student who was supported by an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program award and was also a participant on another NSF award falsified data in a poster that she presented at a conference. The other award's PI, who was the student's mentor, then included the falsified data in the award's Annual Report.

The student admitted to her actions and the university's Inquiry Committee concluded the student's data falsification was intentional. The university suspended the student for 1 year and prohibited her from returning to the University for an additional 3 years. The student departed the university.

We concurred with the university's findings and recommended that NSF debar her for 3 years. We further recommended that, for 3 years after the debarment period, NSF require certifications and assurances and submission of a detailed data management plan, and bar her from participating as a peer reviewer, advisor, or consultant for NSF. NSF made a finding of research misconduct and required completion of RCR training within one year. NSF did not impose a debarment but issued the requirements and prohibitions as recommended above for a 3-year period.

Accordingly, this case is closed with no further action taken.