Closeout of M91010009

This case was brought to OIG on January 6, 1991 by He had a complaint from Prof. Institute of The complaint was against Prof. in the Department and Prof. at the same institution. The complainant believed that the first subject had reviewed one of his proposals to NSF and had passed information in that proposal to the second subject. The second subject in turn had used that information in preparing a proposal that he submitted to an internal funding organization at his institution. The complainant had a copy of that proposal and also a copy of a proposal that the second subject had previously submitted to the US Department of Agriculture. That earlier proposal allegedly showed that a certain research style and certain ideas that the second subject used in the proposal to the institution were not in his possession until they were supplied to him by the first subject.

OIG asked the complainant to give more specific information about the proposal to the institution and the USDA proposal so that we could request copies and inspect them. The complainant agreed to this, but over a period of more than a year he has failed to do it, after numerous repeated requests and promises to comply. He once explained that he was not interested in helping NSF with a misconduct case as much as he was in preventing the subjects from reviewing more of his proposals. He has also confronted the subjects at public meetings about what he considers defects in their work. Most recently he explained that he has protected himself by publishing the materials needed to establish his own priority. OIG notified him that the case would be closed if the requested information not been received by the end of 1991. Since the information has not been received and since it is essential to any possibility of pursuing the case, this case is now being closed without any finding.

June 3, 1992

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