

## HUL 273: Science, Technology & Society

Major Test, Nov. 2008

DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME IN THE ANSWER SCRIPTS.

Answer any seven questions. Each carries five marks.

Please do not write more than three pages for each question.

1. Among various barriers faced by women in science, which is highlighted in the Case (see below)? How this barrier can be tackled?
2. Do you agree with Neil Selwyn's discussion on 'people's non-use of technology'? Why?
3. Respond - Developing countries will not gain by 'global generation of innovations by TNCs.'
4. Is it possible to measure the diffusion of knowledge through movement of personnel? Discuss.
5. According to you what is the status of technology transfer between basic research and industry in India? Why?

OR

Highlight one case from the documentary, 'Life is like that: Call centers in India' and discuss the call center workforce in India.

6. Using only one example, discuss any two paradigms of technology & work organization.
7. What are the industry segments preferred by VC's in India? Is there any impact? Discuss.
8. Is there a cycle of credibility for the industrial scientists? Justify.
9. Public funding of industrial R&D is declining in developed countries. Why?
10. After learning about Mathew Effect, is there any change in your perception about science? Elaborate.

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### Case

#### Female Professors at U. of Texas-Austin Earn \$9,000 Less Than Male Peers

Female professors at the University of Texas at Austin earned an average of \$9,028 less than their male counterparts in 2007, and senior female faculty members there feel more isolated and less recognized for their work than do their male colleagues.

Those are among the findings of a new report on gender issues affecting the faculty that was written by a 22-member panel created by the university's provost in 2007.

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The panel also found that more women than men at Texas left before winning tenure, and of those who stayed a smaller proportion of women than men achieved tenure within seven years. Thirty-six percent of women hired as assistant professors in 1997 had earned tenure and been promoted to associate professor within seven years, compared with 56 percent of men. The task force also conducted a survey of faculty members that found that 14 percent of female professors said they had been sexually harassed.

Gender inequities in the professoriate have been a major concern for other prominent universities — most notably Harvard University, which has had a poor record of offering tenure to women, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which nearly a decade ago conducted a gender-equity review like the one at Texas and found similar results. —*Robin Wilson*

Source: <http://chronicle.com/news/article/5443/female-professors-at-u-of-texas-austin-earn-9000-less-than-male-peers>