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6.931 Development of Inventions and Creative Ideas
Spring 2008

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6.931 DEVELOPMENT OF INVENTIONS AND CREATIVE IDEAS
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
SPRING 2007

Assignment 2

Date Assigned: February 20, 2007

Due: February 26, 2007

All homework assignments are due to the TAs by 7:30PM. *Please include your name and e-mail address on all assignment submissions.*

I. Final Project Proposal (10% of final Grade):

We are granting a blanket extension on the proposal until 7:30PM March 5, 2007

A large portion of the grade in the course is related to the term project. The term project constitutes 50% of the total grade in the course. An additional 10% of the grade for the course is provided through the development of a project proposal for the final project. This project proposal should be no more than 5-7 single spaced pages in length. The project proposal should include the following elements:

- a. *Title of the Project*
- b. *Participants in the Project:* If more than one person is planning to participate in the project, then you must show in the proposal how each person will contribute to the completion of the final project.
- c. *Problem Statement:* explain the problem/opportunity being addressed in the project through a problem statement
- d. *Background/References:* Identify any pertinent literature or background information that we should know about this problem/opportunity in order to make an informed and reasoned decision on the significance of the problem. This should serve as a literature review for general projects or review of precedence for law-focused presentations.
- e. *Solutions Development/Detail:* In this section, you should tell us exactly what you plan to do in the project. Explain how you will answer the questions outlined in your problem statement. You should list any methods, procedures, or frameworks that you will use to complete your project.
- f. *Timeline:* Provide a timeline for major milestones to completing the project with any associated dependencies. If there are barriers to completing the project or unnecessary dependencies, please demonstrate how you will mitigate or resolve those barriers to successfully complete and present the final project by the specified due date (May 14, 2007).
- g. *Significance/Contribution:* What will be the significance or contribution of the work that you will complete for your final project? What are your success criteria (criteria that you will use to determine when you are done)? How will you gauge the impact of this project on furthering the mission of this course and the impact on resolving the problem statement?

II. Short Answer Questions:

1. In this course, we often hear a number of terms associated with the body of work that we are studying: innovation, invention, creation, patent, intellectual property. What do these terms mean to you? From your perspective, explain how these terms are significant to this class.
2. To what degree does the Taiwan patent system grant positive rights, i.e. grant the inventor the right to make, use, or sell their invention?
3. Explain the significance of the term “reinvention” with regard to the Taiwan patent law?
4. Is Taiwan a signatory of the Paris Convention?

III. Reading(s):

Read the text of *Lear v. Adkins* and *Medimmune v. Genentech*.

A). *Lear v. Adkins*: <http://laws.findlaw.com/us/395/653.html>

B). *Medimmune v. Genentech*: http://supreme.lp.findlaw.com/supreme_court/docket/2006/october/05-608-medimmune-v-genentech.html