Science of Innovation

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Innovation

"Innovation is the complex process of introducing novel ideas into use or practice and includes entrepreneurship as an integral part. Innovation is usually considered noteworthy only if it leads to widespread use. Thus, society benefits only after innovation, not from invention alone."

Invention: Enhancing inventiveness for quality of life, competitiveness, and sustainability, Report of the Committee for Study of Invention, sponsored by the Lemelson-MIT Program and the NSF.



Potential Thrusts

- Research in the Science of Innovation. What are the fundamental scientific understanding of innovation and the process steps needed to move from knowledge to societal benefit that might come from a combination of science, engineering, business, and social science?
- Partnership Opportunities. Recognizing that NSF's core "business" is the creation of new knowledge, how can we provide new opportunities for advancing this knowledge forward toward societal benefit?

