

not unprecedented. And there is no consensus in the scientific community on anthropogenic climate change. CO₂ is not a pollutant and is not the control knob to combat climate change. The proposed solutions to combat climate change come with tremendous costs. Fossil fuels are in abundant supply and are low cost. Alternatives to fossil fuels are not economically viable and create a visual blight on the environment. The costs, of reducing CO₂ emissions, to businesses and the economy will be immense, ranging from critical food shortages to increased costs of equipment, transportation and consumer goods. It will hurt the poor, and it will not have any noticeable impact on climate but will have tremendous negative impact on the environment. The bottom line is “sustainability” is not sustainable.

Novel Job Scheduling Tool for University Technology Transfer

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Business managers are often faced with the daunting task of servicing inventors. The services include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) training inventors on intellectual property (IP) laws and their employers' IP policies; (2) evaluating invention disclosures for patentability and marketability; (3) drafting and implementing invention marketing plans; and (4) working closely with patent counsel on patent prosecution. The amount of time taken to evaluate invention disclosures and file patent applications often conflicts with inventors' desire to publish their findings. Overall, the expediency of evaluating invention disclosures and commercializing new inventions can be problematic. This problem has been documented in studies of university technology transfer office managers. Further, very few technology transfer managers use project management job scheduling tools to minimize the time to process invention disclosures. This study offers a scheduling solution using advanced optimization via simulated annealing which is quite new to the literature.

Technology transfer is the process of evaluating an invention disclosure for patentability and marketability; obtaining and maintaining patent protection, marketing the technology to industry, and securing licensing deals in order to generate royalty income. Technology transfer is a subset of technology management. Although it is imperative for technology managers to reduce processing delays, it is not commonplace for university technology managers to view the technology transfer process as having individual projects with job tasks. Very few university technology transfer managers use job scheduling tools. This research resulted in the development of a novel job scheduling tool using simulated annealing. This job scheduling tool would be easy to use and cost effective. The managerial relevance of using such as job scheduling tool in university technology transfer is that it will allow technology managers to clearly plan what their team members should accomplish and when so that they can accomplish their goals. It would reduce processing delays that frustrate faculty researchers and academic entrepreneurs who are seeking to disseminate their research findings or to gain first-mover advantage.

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