

(Free download) Biotechnology: The University Industrial Complex

# Biotechnology: The University Industrial Complex

*Martin Kenney*

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**Martin Kenney : Biotechnology: The University Industrial Complex** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Biotechnology: The University Industrial Complex:

In the first serious history of the biotechnology industry, Martin Kenney examines its growth and structure, describes the role of university departments of basic and applied biology, and shows how the relationship undermines the

educational role of the university." Kenney's work is the first major effort to provide a detailed analysis of the birth of the new industrial field of biotechnology and its impact on universities. . . . Kenney's book abounds in rich description and valuable conjectures. It also provides important insights into the structural and institutional aspects of the biotechnological revolution. It is informed by an extensive literature including reports from the financial community, university-industry contracts, trade journals, personal interviews, and company prospectuses." Sheldon Krimsky, *American Scientist* "A fine description of a vital new field. It deserves wide readership." David Silbert and Duncan Newhauser, *New England Journal of Medicine* "The author raises important questions about whether the character of this university-industrial complex adequately allows for the kind of public discussion and participation necessary to insure consideration of social, economic, and moral issues in the development of this important new technology." *Harvard Educational Review* "Bears upon questions of fundamental importance to science, academia, and society and provides valuable documentation of the magnitude of the actions already taken and the multitude of participants involved." Robert L. Sinsheimer, *Nature*

From *Publishers Weekly* Kenney is an assistant professor of agricultural economics at Ohio State. With this scholarly study he becomes an authoritative, cautionary voice on the close ties binding many universities to some of the world's largest corporations (mainly pharmaceutical) and how this "university-industrial complex" will effect educational institutions, agriculture, our very lives. Many university people will ponder thoughtfully Kenney's insights into the ways that big business, in the wake of the Watson-Crick DNA breakthrough in 1953, made their first passes at bio professors, university labs and university administrations themselves. When professors in effect become entrepreneurs, is pure science sullied? When halls of learning are caught up in the international struggle for markets by firms racing to produce profitable "living robots" via the processes of altering microbial DNA, will ethics pay the price? Kenney asks in closing: "Should the immense power of transforming and changing life forms be transferred to groups merely seeking a return on investment? Appendixes explain DNA splicing and offer an instructive history of biotech patents. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Library Journal* Kenney describes the birth of the biotechnology industry within American universities and traces the evolution of the current university-industry relationship. He describes the conflicts inherent in this partnership and sketches actual situations. After detailing the patterns of the start-up companies (e.g., Genentech, Centocor), he discusses their ties with various academic institutes and their relationships with the multinational chemical and pharmaceutical companies. He concludes with an analysis of what biotechnology will do to U.S. agriculture and why we should be prepared for a tremendous social transformation caused by this new industry. A fascinating study of "the shattering of the ideology of pure science under the impact of economics," for public and academic libraries. Hilary D. Burton, *Lawrence Livermore National Labs.*, Livermore, Cal. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the *Back Cover* In the first serious history of the biotechnology industry, Martin Kenney examines its growth and structure, describes the role of university departments of basic and applied biology, and shows how the relationship undermines the educational role of the university.