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On November 20-22, 2008, CNS-ASU
and the Technology Policy and
Assessment Center at Georgia Institute
of Technology co-sponsored a
workshop on **Nanotechnology, Equity
and Equality**. The goal of the workshop
was to foster a rich interchange that
would change how participants see the
ways emerging nanotechnologies are
likely to affect various groups in society
as well as the structure of societies and
economies, both national and global.



Given what we currently know about nanotechnologies, what are the likely consequences for equality and fairness of the technologies on the near-term horizon? What features of nanoscience and nanotechnology enterprise are contributing to those consequences?

Given what we know about equality and fairness, what is the variety of possible consequences of nanotechnologies over the longer term? What can be done now to affect the probabilities of the various possibilities?

The workshop brought together scholars and practitioners who approached the topic from several perspectives: those managing nanoscience and nanotechnology funding programs, scientists and engineers developing nanotechnologies in the laboratory or industrial settings, scholars of the social context of nanotechnology, and analysts from a variety of fields who have given thoughtful consideration to issues of equity/inequity and equality/ inequality, especially in the context of emerging technologies.

The papers that were presented at the workshop are being developed into the third installment of the *Yearbook of Nanotechnology in Society*.