

- b) **Narrowed Focus:** the elimination of duplication may increase the efficiency of group research efforts. But narrowing the focus of research for the industry as a whole may reduce the number of independent lines of inquiry, thus reducing the overall productivity of research in that industry.

- c) **Death of Empirical Evidence:** there is not a lot of empirical evidence to support the claims that cooperation in R&D contributes to economies of scale. Research into Canadian technical alliances has revealed some industry specific differences with regard to economies achieved by R&D cooperation. For example, Niosi of UQAM has concluded that, for technical alliances in the electronics industry, economies of scope may be a more important benefit than economies of scale. However, his research in the advanced materials industry confirmed that economies of scale were a major determinant.