

Women, Science, and  
Interdisciplinarity:  
Theoretical Considerations

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# Categories of Interdisciplinarity

Four modes of practice:

- Cross-fertilization
- Team-collaboration
- Field creation
- Problem orientation

(Rhoten & Pfirman 2006)

# Three modes of scientific research

Beyond the basic/applied dichotomy:

- Newtonian: basic research
- Baconian: applied research
- Jeffersonian: basic research addressing societal problems

# Jeffersonian research

- Conference “Science for Society,”  
Nov. 2000
- Historical case study: Press/Carter  
initiative

# IVORY BRIDGES

· CONNECTING SCIENCE AND SOCIETY ·



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*with the Assistance of*

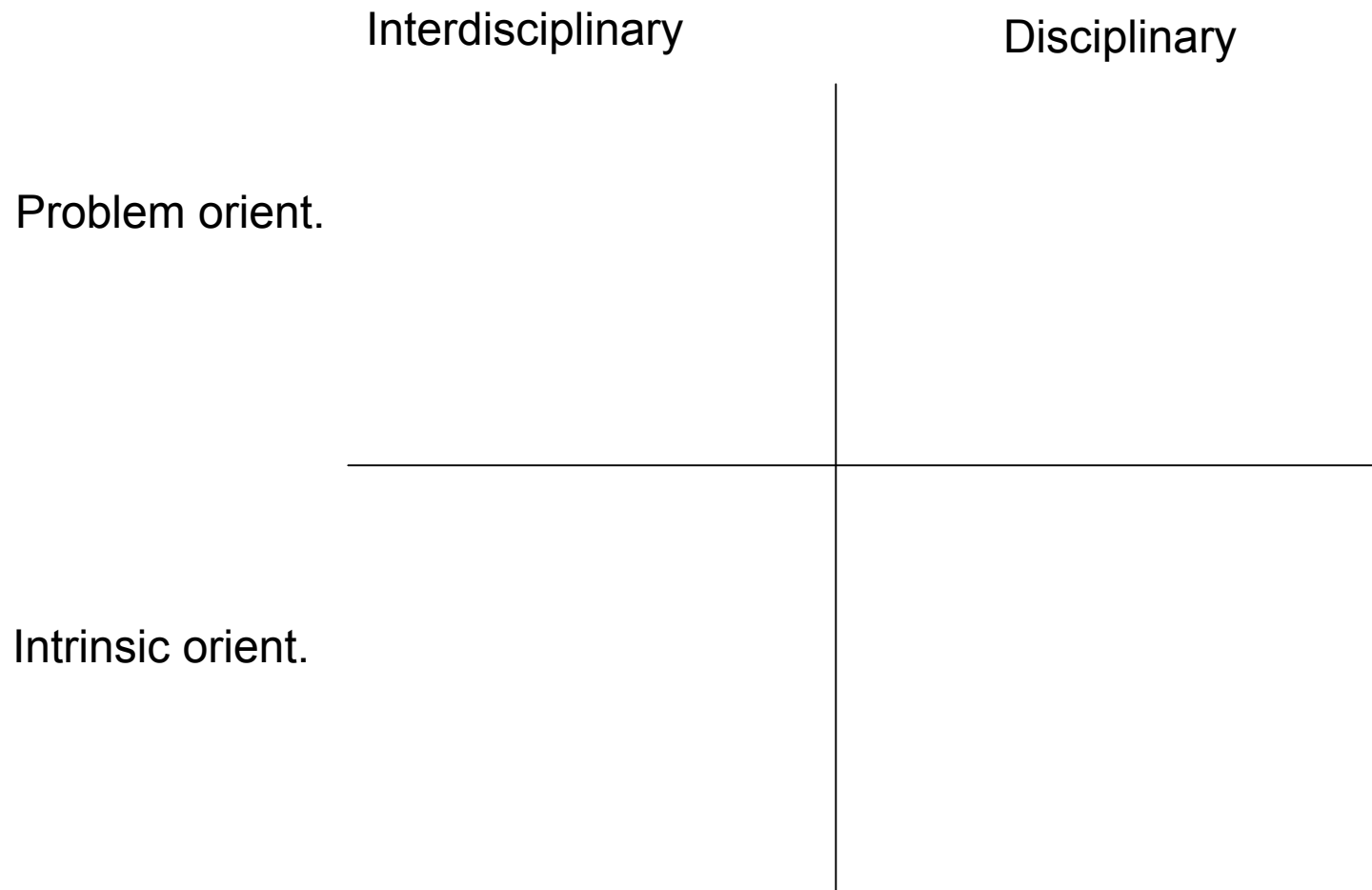
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# Jeffersonian Research and Gender

**Women's greater interest in careers that help others (Eccles 1994, Margolis & Fisher 2002, Rayman & Brett 1993, Seymour & Hewitt 1997)**

**Interfaculty/Student Discussion Group on Diversity in Science and Technology 2000-2001 (Harvard)**

# Problem orientation and interdisciplinarity



# References

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