

# ISSUES

IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING  
INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS  
WINTER 2010

## Better U.S. Health Care at Lower Cost

Calming Our Nuclear Jitters

Glaciers in Retreat

Food Security with  
Perennial Grains

Changing Climate,  
More Damaging Weather

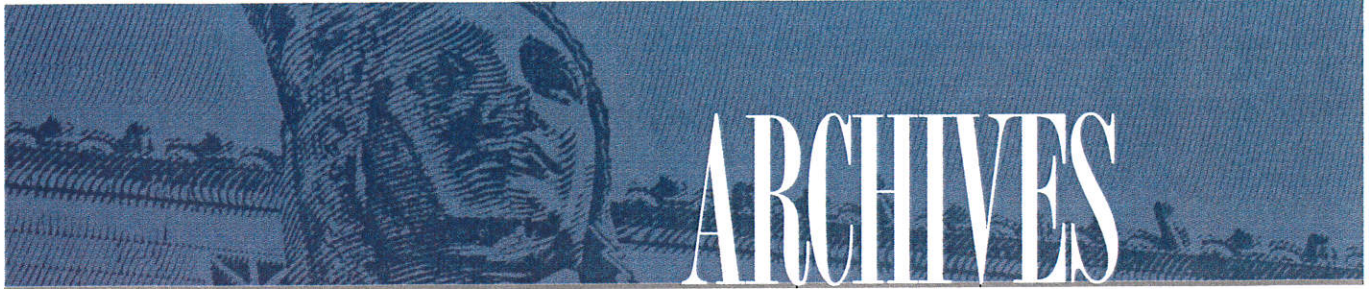
The Neglected Value  
of Intangible Assets

USA \$12.00/CAN \$13.00

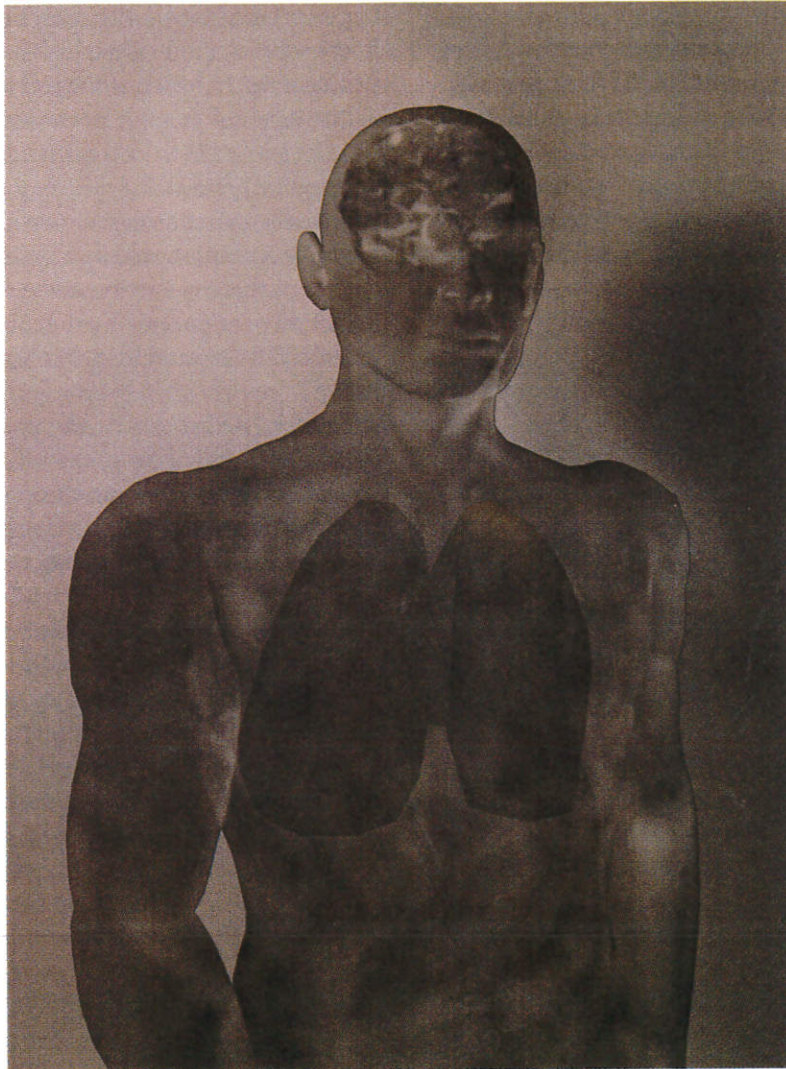


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# ARCHIVES



## *PET Study 2 (Lung Cancer): Man Ray/Picabia Imitating Balzac*

This recent acquisition to the National Academy of Sciences' art collection was created by (art)<sup>n</sup>—a group of artists who have been collaborating since 1983 to create works that merge art and science. This virtual sculpture, *PET Study 2 (Lung Cancer): Man Ray/Picabia Imitating Balzac*, is modeled on a photograph of painter Francis Picabia taken by Man Ray. In the original photograph, Picabia is believed to be mimicking the posture of Auguste Rodin's sculpture *Monument to Balzac* (1897-98). The layers of this piece include a PET scan of lung cancer made at UCLA's School of Medicine embedded into a digitized, three-dimensional model of the lungs. After mapping this onto the virtual sculpture, the image was then rendered as sixty-four separate images, each offering a slightly different perspective. When viewed through a backlit barrier screen, the assembled images are perceived by the viewer to exist in three dimensions. Similarity exists between the way that (art)<sup>n</sup> builds up the multiple layers of the virtual sculpture and the way that contemporary medical scanning technologies deconstruct the body in a series of planes.

ELLEN SANDOR, KEITH MILLER, JANINE FRON, JACK LUDDEN, (art)<sup>n</sup>, with Jim Strommer, School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, *PET Study 2 (Lung Cancer): Man Ray/Picabia Imitating Balzac*, PHS Cologram composed of Duratrans, Kodolith film, and Plexiglas, 30 x 40 inches, 2003.