

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualifications:–

B.Eng. B.Sc. M.Eng.

Biochemical Eng E127: Evaluation and Planning of Business Opportunities in Bioprocessing and Life Sciences

COURSE CODE : BENG127

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 03-MAY-05

TIME : 10.00

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

*Answer FOUR QUESTIONS. Only the first four answers given will be marked.
ALL questions carry a total of 25 MARKS each, distributed as shown []*

1.
Explain what is meant by a patent and why it is important [5]
What could invalidate the application for a patent? [5]
Give details of costs of a patent in the field of biotechnology from the filing stage to the expiry stage [5]
How could the life of a patent be extended? [10]
2.
What are the financial 'exit routes' available to refund venture capitalists financing a company in the life sciences in the UK and the U.S. Explain the advantages and the disadvantages of each. [25]
3.
Describe the different stages of development and main regulatory requirements in bringing a biological drug to the market. [25]
4.
What are the issues which need to be addressed in a bio-business plan which are specific to the life sciences sector. [25]
5.
What are the *quantitative tools* available to assess a project. [15]
Give examples of discount rates which may be used at different stages of drug development. [10]
6.
What are the major factors influencing the healthcare market worldwide? Give reasons and illustrate your answer with examples. [25]

END OF PAPER