

## Study Questions

### **Ethical Practice: Professionalism, Social Responsibility, and The Purpose of the Corporation**

#### **Session 2: Wednesday April 4, 2007**

##### Personal and Professional Practice I—the Theory

- Ashish Nanda, “Who Is a Professional?” (HBS Note 9-904-047)
  - Albert Z. Carr, “Is Business Bluffing Ethical?” (*HBR* Reprint 68102)
1. Given the definitions offered in Ashish Nanda’s piece, would you say that businesspeople are professionals? Are the people with whom you worked professionals? Are you a professional?
  2. In your opinion, what are the chief characteristics of a professional? What is their social value in your country? In the global arena?
  3. If you presented Albert Carr (“Is Business Bluffing Ethical?”) with Nanda’s argument for professional activity, would Carr agree that businesspeople are professionals? Would Nanda accept a notion of professional activity as a game?
  4. Do you agree with Carr that personal ethics differs from professional ethics, and that maintaining the difference is essential to success in both personal and professional life?
- \* Individual writing assignment for Friday, April 6: “What are my ethical principles in business?” Build your argument around an example or two from your experience. Submissions should be 2 pp., double-spaced; make sure you retain a copy of your work.