Robert Sutton is Professor of Management Science and Engineering and a Professor of Organizational Behavior (by courtesy) at Stanford. Sutton has been teaching classes on the psychology of business and management at Stanford since 1983. He is co-founder of the Center for Work, Technology and Organization, which he co-directed from 1996 to 2006. He is also co-founder of the Stanford Technology Ventures Program and the Hasso Plattner Institute of Design (which everyone calls “the d school”). Sutton and Stanford Business School's Huggy Rao recently launched the Designing Organizational Change Project, which is hosted by the Stanford Technology Ventures Program.

Sutton studies innovation, leadership, the links between managerial knowledge and organization action, scaling excellence, and workplace dynamics. He has published over 100 articles and chapters on these topics in peer-reviewed journals and the popular press. Sutton’s books include Weird Ideas That Work: 11 ½ Practices for Promoting, Managing, and Sustaining Innovation, The Knowing-Doing Gap: How Smart Firms Turn Knowledge into Action (with Jeffrey Pfeffer), and Hard Facts, Dangerous Half-Truths, and Total Nonsense: Profiting from Evidence-Based Management (with Jeffrey Pfeffer). The No Asshole Rule: Building a Civilized Workplace and Surviving One That Isn’t and Good Boss, Bad Boss: How to Be the Best…. and Survive the Worst are both New York Times and Wall Street Journal bestsellers. His last book, Scaling-Up Excellence: Getting to More without Settling for Less (with Huggy Rao), was published in 2014 and is a Wall Street Journal and Publisher’s Weekly bestseller. Sutton's next book, The Asshole Survival Guide: How to Deal With People Who Treat You Like Dirt, will be published in September of 2017.

Professor Sutton’s honors include the award for the best paper published in the Academy of Management Journal in 1989, the Eugene L. Grant Award for Excellence in Teaching, selection by Business 2.0 as a leading “management guru” in 2002, and the award for the best article published in the Academy of Management Review in 2005. Hard Facts, Dangerous Half-Truths, and Total Nonsense was selected as the best business book of 2006 by the Toronto Globe and Mail. Sutton was named as one of 10 “B-School All-Stars” by BusinessWeek, which they described as “professors who are influencing contemporary business thinking far beyond academia.” In 2014, the London Business School honored Sutton with the Sumantra Ghoshal Award for Rigour and Relevance in the Study of Management.

Sutton is a Fellow at IDEO, a Senior Scientist at Gallup, and academic director of two Stanford executive education programs: Customer-Focused Innovation and the online Stanford Innovation and Entrepreneurship Certificate. His personal website is at www.bobsutton.net and he also blogs at Harvard Business Review and as an “influencer” on LinkedIn. Sutton tweets @work_matters.
ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS
- Professor, Management Science and Engineering
- Professor (By courtesy), Organizational Behavior

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
- PhD, Michigan (1984)

Teaching

COURSES

2021-22
- Leading Organizational Change: MS&E 182A (Spr)
- Organizational Behavior: Evidence in Action: MS&E 280 (Win)

2020-21
- Leading Organizational Change: MS&E 182A (Win)
- Leading Organizational Change II: MS&E 182B (Spr)
- Organizational Behavior: Evidence in Action: MS&E 280 (Win)

2019-20
- Leading Organizational Change: MS&E 182A (Win)
- Leading Organizational Change II: MS&E 182B (Spr)
- Organizational Behavior: Evidence in Action: MS&E 280 (Win, Spr)
- d.Leadership: ME 368, MS&E 489 (Win)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)
Heather Altman, Ryan Stice-Lusvardi, Laura Taylor-Kale

Master’s Program Advisor
Chien-Hua Chen, Tianyi Huang, Tori Jensen, Cheri Lanham, Axelle Marcantetti, Craig Maughan, Savannah McCoy, Amelia O'Donohue, Kun Peng, Honghao Qiu, Isaiah Sanders, Michaela Szabo

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