

# Meet the Staff

## CATHERINE C. SCHIFTER, PH.D.

### Scientific Consultant

Catherine Schifter is an associate professor at Temple University and serves as a scientific consultant in CIL, with expertise in game theory in learning and motivation. Her professional work revolves around technology in classrooms, specifically how to infuse technology solutions into teaching and learning so all children learn as best they can. She is currently establishing a new certificate program for instruction, teaching, and learning with technology for teachers and trainers. Her current research concerns the uses of the virtual “sandbox” to support learning in general and, in particular, the uses of virtual game environments in assessment. Among Dr. Schifter’s recent publications is *Teaching and Learning with Technology: Beyond Constructivism* (Routledge, 2010), a volume which she co-edited. Her chapter, “Games in Learning, Design and Motivation,” appears in CIL’s *Handbook on Innovations in Learning* and is freely available for downloading.

Catherine followed a nontraditional path into higher education, initially pursuing her father’s profession, dentistry. After receiving her bachelor’s degree from Baylor University College of Dentistry, she decided to follow her mother’s path into teaching. After completing her master’s in health education at the University of Houston, she joined these two disciplines and taught in the dental hygiene program in the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

While teaching at SDM-UP, Catherine earned her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from U. Penn’s Graduate School of Education. She helped introduce distance learning to U. Penn when she spearheaded the placement of a satellite dish on the roof of her college building, thus enabling the sharing of national and international broadcasts to the university campus as a whole.

At Temple University, Dr. Schifter served as assistant dean in the Temple University College of Allied Health Professions and became the director of Temple’s Online Learning Program in 1997. In 2000, she was named a Carnegie Scholar in the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, and more recently served as chair of the College of Education’s Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technical Education.



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