

Meet the Staff

JANET TWYMAN, PH.D., BCBA

Director of Innovation and Technology

As CIL's director of innovation and technology Dr. Twyman's helps identify emerging promising practices, shapes the Center's priorities, and collaborates to plan the development of the center's products, including web-based systems and tools. One of her first projects is to help develop a nominating and vetting tool to help educators find or learn more about innovations in learning. She was a co-editor of the free *Handbook on Innovations in Learning*, a publication of center, and co-wrote three chapters in that volume. Her engaging webinar, *E-learning 101: Putting the Big Picture into Focus*, is also archived and available for viewing on the center's website.

Janet is a career educator and has been a preschool and elementary school teacher, a principal and administrator, and a university professor. She has worked directly on improving the personalization of learning and on engineering self-paced learning with typically developing students, preschoolers with intellectual disabilities, adolescents with emotional and behavioral problems, and learners with autism spectrum disorders. As a vice president at "Headsprout®", she led the design, development, and dissemination of the company's award winning Internet-based reading programs and oversaw their implementation in over 1,500 public and private schools. These programs featured built-in, data-based decision-making, and real-time, individualized use of data to inform instruction.

Dr. Twyman has presented nationally and internationally on effective instructional practices and evaluating and supporting educational innovations, including a 2011 presentation on technology and education for learners in developing countries at the United Nations. She is active on the boards of numerous organizations including the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies (as Education Group Chair). In 2007–08, she served as president of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. In addition to her CIL work, she is an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Dr. Twyman's research interests involve understanding basic learning processes so that we may build meaningful instructional technology programs for use with all learners.

Janet grew up in Kentucky and credits her professors at the University of Kentucky with leading her on a path to discover the best ways to teach kids with learning and behavior problems. After completing her doctorate at Columbia University, she ran an early childhood center and taught children, teachers, and parents. Wanting to see more of the country she moved to Seattle which is where she and friends created Headsprout®, but after 11 years moved back East. Now, when she is not busy with the University of Massachusetts or CIL, she is riding horses and trying to figure out how they learn.



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