

**Invited Talk Given at the
East China Normal University
By Prof. Bruce M. McLaren
March, 2017**

Title: Learning with Educational Games and Educational Technology Education at Carnegie Mellon University

Abstract:

In this talk, I will discuss two topics. First, I will discuss the rise and appeal of educational games, as well as the current lack of scientific evidence for their learning benefits. I will also discuss my own research in this area, in which my lab has uncovered some evidence for the benefits of learning mathematics with games. We have developed and empirically tested an educational game called ***Decimal Point***, which helps middle school students learn about decimals. Second, I will discuss the ***METALS (Masters of Educational Technology and Learning Science)*** program at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU). This is a relatively new program at CMU in which students are trained to join the professional workforce in the area of educational technology. One of the key courses they take is a Capstone course, in which teams of students develop an educational technology solution for real-world clients.

Bio:

Prof. Dr. Bruce M. McLaren, an Associate Research Professor at Carnegie Mellon University, is passionate about how technology can support education and has dedicated his work and research to projects that explore how students can learn with educational software, in particular, software that runs on the world-wide web. He is particularly interested in intelligent tutoring systems, e-learning principles, collaborative learning, and educational games. He holds a Ph.D. and M.S. in Intelligent Systems from the University of Pittsburgh, an M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Pittsburgh, and a B.S. in Computer Science (cum laude) from Millersville University. He has over 140 publications (31 journal articles) spanning peer-reviewed journals, conferences, workshops, symposiums and book chapters. He is the President-Elect (2017-2019) of the International Society for Artificial Intelligence in Education.