

SELF-PRESENTATIONS OF THE NEW MEMBERS

ANTONIO M. BATTRO

I was born in Mar del Plata, Argentina in 1936. My field of research is the neuro-developmental study of cognition and education in children and adults. I am a physician (MD, University of Buenos Aires) and psychologist (Docteur de l'Université de Paris).

I trained in neuroanatomy in Buenos Aires, in experimental psychology with Paul Fraisse in Paris and in genetic epistemology with Jean Piaget in Geneva. I helped to introduce the computer as a relevant tool in education in South America, following Seymour Papert's research at MIT. I applied those powerful information tools as prostheses for disabled persons, a new field of research in rehabilitation and special education. In the last few years I have been focusing my activities on educational cognitive neurosciences, using the computer as a 'tool for the brain'. My effort is to join the two fields of educational computer technology and cognitive neuroscience in order to open a new frontier of research. A first approach towards this synthesis is my recent book *Half a brain is enough* (Cambridge, 2000) where I describe the impact of the digital technologies in the education of a hemispherectomized child. I am now expanding this model to span a larger spectrum of problems related to the effect of neuroplasticity in the 'educated brain'. I am currently the Robert F. Kennedy visiting professor of Latin American Studies at Harvard.