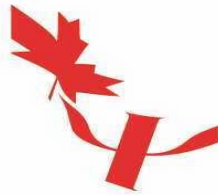


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Dr. Catherine S. Fichten

CPA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Public and Community Service 2007

Dr. Catherine Fichten is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine at McGill University and in the Psychology Department and Adaptech Research Network at Dawson College, and she is a clinician at the Jewish General Hospital in Montreal. For over twenty years, Dr. Fichten has been a tireless champion of students with disabilities, working to find solutions to the barriers these students face in attaining their life goals.

As a classroom teacher in 1985, Dr. Fichten was unable to find resources to help her fairly and effectively accommodate the needs of disabled students. She set out to find solutions which resulted in the development of two handbooks, one for instructors with disabled students in their classrooms and one for the students themselves. From her early work studying attitudes about students with disabilities to her current work looking at the accessibility of eLearning, she has always included consumers with disabilities in all phases of her work.

Dr. Fichten has not been confined to the university. She has been and continues to be a strong advocate. She sits on many boards and committees and works with organizations such as the National Educational Association of Disabled Students to bring greater awareness to the needs of these students and to effect meaningful change.