

## **Doing Physics Experiments with Students in the Virtual World of Second Life**

**By Robinson, Vicki**

First, there were illustrations in the textbook. Then there were filmstrips. Later came downloadable videos and Java applets. All of these visual representations of physical phenomena are helpful additions in a physics teacher's arsenal. None of these are, however, interactive in the truest sense. Students can't walk around things, push buttons, take data in response to parameters that they set. Physics classes at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at RIT are now able to fold their lab experiences into their homework in new ways, using the virtual world of Second Life. This presentation will demonstrate how the NTID physics students are doing physics homework in the 21st Century.

### **Biography**

Vicki Robinson is an Associate Professor at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at RIT. She has been teaching physics to deaf college students since 1978, and has a long-standing interest in different forms of instructional delivery technologies.