2016 Conference Highlights

NEW SIMVILLE
http://sim.kucrl.org/simville

SIMville, the SIM Professional Developers' online resource area, has always had hundreds of resources available to SIM PDs. At this year's International Conference, the completely redesigned **SIMville website** was introduced. This password protected site is available to all active SIM Professional Developers and now includes an ever growing array of videos, presentations, documents and other assets to use in your professional development, share with teachers and administrators, and build your knowledge base. You can access back issues of Stratenotes and Strategram and the professional development Powerpoints that you need for all of the strategies and routines.

The most exciting feature of the new SIMville is specific Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement Routines pages are linked to specific resources. The potential here is enormous. We have stocked the Resources section of each and every Learning Strategy and Content Enhancement Routine with video, articles, tips, activities and tools connected to the strategies and routines you are using now, and hope these resources will help you expand your practice into strategies and routines you have not explored before.

2016 Certificate Cermony (pictured from left to right): Patty Graner, Monica Boomgard, Mike Hock, Beth Laksy, Sara Eylands, Dorothee Chadda, Cody Mize, Jean Schumaker, Randy Klima, Janet Jones, Mary Black, Heather Hanson, Janet Atallah, Melissa Mulock, Elaine McCann, Allison Kanji

We will continually add to this precious resource, and we appreciate recommendations and feedback from the SIM Network.

NEW STRATEDIRECTORY
https://directory.kucrl.org

We're very pleased that many professional developers at the conference updated their Stratedirectory profiles. The new Stratedirectory allows SIM Professional Developers to choose whether to make their profile contact information public. Districts, schools, teachers, and parents are now able to search the directory as Guests to locate SIM professionals in their vicinity. New features allow professional developers to highlight their expertise and post micro-credentials as proof of their abilities and skills.

Please update your profile and remember to add evidence to your 2016 SIM Conference Participant micro-credential at BadgeList.com if you haven't already.

SIM Leadership Award
Jean Piazza

Jean Piazza is the 2016 recipient of the SIM Leadership Award, which recognizes individuals who have shown exceptional leadership and excellent service to SIM by helping educators become strategic teachers and, as a result, students become strategic learners. An energetic, enthusiastic, and resourceful person, she exemplifies the characteristics of this award.

Jean began her journey in 1991 while teaching English at Cody (Wyoming) High School. Cognizant of the positive impact of SIM on her own teaching and on the results for her students, she wanted to keep it going. Soon she was not only a full-time teacher but was also providing professional development and coaching support to her district teachers. Collaborating with her English department, they developed 9th and 10th grade Strategic English classes for students with disabilities and students at risk for academic failure. Students' pass rates on the end of course assessments were higher than those for students enrolled in the general education English classes, and her 9th grade class was featured on Wyoming PBS's Making the Grade Show.

To this day, teachers in Cody schools continue to teach classes influenced by that collaboration.

Leadership and Service
Jean has worked in districts in Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Louisiana, and Texas. She has taken SIM to exotic locations including Uganda and Morocco. Jean has engaged with the Ferndale, Washington district and the Riverbank, California district, helping to make both districts demonstration sites for their states. She was a team leader for the Striving Readers Grant in Portland, Oregon and a site leader for the Midwest Content Literacy Research Project working with schools in Indianapolis, Akron, and Detroit. At the conclusion of that project, Akron Public Schools invited her to continue working with Fusion Reading in their high schools.

Since the fall of 2010, Jean has developed a working relationship with the Yakima, Washington school district, focusing on math and science academic and instructional goals with SIM. Addressing the needs of the district's English Language Learner population was also an important focus for the work.

Innovative
Jean was the brain behind StrateReaders. She explains, "Wanting to satisfy a desire to engage in discussion around relevant and interesting books, I launched and led StrateReaders eight years ago. I was always hearing from someone about how they read the book but didn't join the conference call, or read the book but not until a month after we were done with it. The 'confessions' told me StrateReaders accomplished its goal."

Successes & Lessons
When asked to share successes, Jean shared her pride in "(1) being part of a complete transformation of a high school, (2) the testimonies she has received from teachers and students regarding the impact her effort has had on them as learners, instructors, and people, and (3) the success of her mentees."

Deep change in schools and districts can happen when all of the moving parts coalesce. Jean's efforts in districts and projects make her an example of exceptional leadership and

SIM Administratvie Leadership Award
Dr. Carolyn Teigland
Associate Superintendent, Cecil County Public Schools

Carolyn Teigland is the recipient of the 2016 SIM Administrative Leadership Award, an award designed to honor a school or district administrator associated with the SIM Professional Developers' Network. With this award, the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning recognizes the administrator for their outstanding leadership and contributions in promoting SIM and other research–based practices.

A Determined Leader
As Principal, Executive Director of Elementary Schools, and later Associate Superintendent for Education Services, Dr. Teigland has collaborated with administrators and teachers to create and fulfill an inclusionary vision for students across Cecil County Public Schools in Elkton, Maryland. SIM Content Enhancement Routines, writing strategies, and Instructional Coaching are implemented across the district, elementary through high school. Michael Hodnicki, Instructional Coordinator for Professional Development, Secondary English Language Arts wrote, the district has "a fully scaled, vertically articulated writing program using the Learning Strategies to support Common Core State Standards language and writing standards." He added that she understood that, "content enhancement was the most intelligible means for developing and housing Cecil County's new curriculum documents."

Leadership through Perseverance
Her vision and this work have stood the test of time. Thirteen years ago, as the Executive Director of Elementary Schools, she and her team began to investigate how to build a concept-based curriculum. The content enhancement routines became the tools through which, "We could provide a common lens for teachers. We had new standards with which to work, so we did not try to retrofit the old curriculum. We wanted our teachers to teach students how to process. We made decisions through the lens of giving access to all students because we are a fully inclusive district."

Leadership through Collaboration
Jim Knight trained teachers and curriculum writers in content enhancement and instructional coaching. The district developed 24 instructional coaches who could build the capacity of their teaching community.

Other collaborators in establishing a systematic writing initiative were Jean Clark and Sherry Eichinger-Wilson. "Jean Clark has been a colleague and a great thought partner for many years," said Teigland. A shared vision of the team to establish a structured, impactful model that would embed common language and knowledge about writing has meant that by high school, teachers were "not simply re-teaching and students were just catching up" but instead, they were learning how to write for multiple purposes from the beginning.

Leadership Focused on Standards
Language arts and social studies teachers engaged in writing strategies, "…the SIM writing strategies proved a critical lens for students to consider text structure and authorial purpose, two integral elements of the Common Core and College and Career Readiness Standards Content area teachers now share ownership of instructing and scoring of student writing," relayed Hodnicki.

Leadership for Sustainability
In 2016, Carolyn transitions into a new role overseeing administrative services, however, she has built strong district and teacher leadership capacity to sustain the work. "Tenure and leadership have been central to the stability of this work which has continued through two superintendents. The momentum came from within a leadership team that shared a vision." Dr. Teigland's advice to others: "(1) resist changing for the sake of change and instead change strategically, (2) remember the importance of reflection, (3) engage collaboratively, and (4) have a strong vision for where you are planning to go because you need a strong professional development plan, an open door, people to do the work, and a way to receive feedback."

Share your SIM™ story for the Network's 30th Anniversary Conference in 2017.

Send your story, and a picture if you have it, to: SIMPD@ku.edu by February 20, 2017. Stories should be a maximum of 750 words.

SMARTER Instruction Cycle

Please check out a new publication by B. Keith Lenz, Ph.D. in SIMville. This article, THE SMARTER INSTRUCTION CYCLE, explores research on teacher planning has long moved away from the idea that planning is a discrete stage of teaching that occurs before instruction begins. In addition, research on evaluation has also moved away from the idea that assessment is an activity that takes place after instruction is complete. Effective instruction is now seen as a complex and ongoing interaction of planning, teaching, evaluating activities that are mediated by reflection around collaborative co-constructed learning experiences between and among both learners and teachers. Planning and evaluating activities are integrated throughout teaching, and comprised of both reflection and action i.e., reflaction (Bulgren & Lenz, 1996). We see evidence of this when we implement any of the Content Enhancement Routines, despite the fact that we sometimes refer to some routines as planning routines and others as teaching routines. In truth, they are all instructional routines that require planning, teaching, and evaluating activities co-constructed with students that live in an ongoing instructional cycle (Clark, Girod, Roberts, Aben, Galindo, Farmer, & Noble, 2001). In an effort to use language that more accurately reflects the dynamic nature of SMARTER Planning, in this overview, we refer to it as the SMARTER Instructional Cycle, and propose that instructional coaching for improved course, unit, and lesson implementation be tied to this cycle.
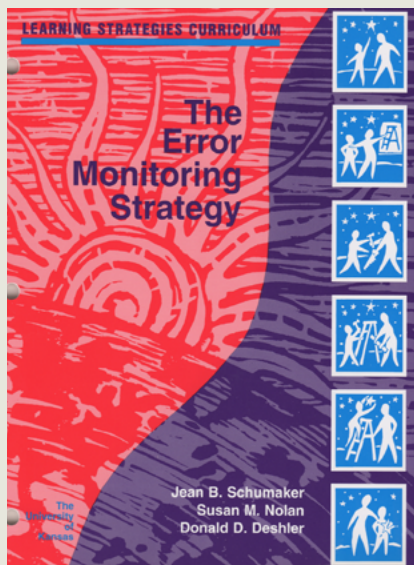
Error Monitoring Strategy now available in PDF Format!

Students use the Error Monitoring Strategy to independently proof and correct their written work for content and mechanical errors. The strategy includes development of personal strategies to avoid future errors. The research results demonstrated that students who mastered this strategy dramatically increased their ability to locate and correct errors in their hand written products. Before instruction, they were making one error in every four words. After instruction, they made only one error in every 20 words.

Say goodbye to paper.

We're very excited that StrateNotes will be electronic from now on and we will be able to include more links to online resources for you! The 2015-16 year is coming to a close and that means that it's time to renew your Strateworks subscription. <u>Renew online today!</u>

STRATEWORKS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2016-2017: $50
SEPTEMBER 1, 2016-AUGUST 31, 2017

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Work Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Alternate email address: _____

☐ Add me to SIMTRAINER-L, the email discussion list for SIM Professional Developers ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please check one: ☐ Professional Developer ☐ Not a Professional Developer
☐ Apprentice or Potential Professional Developer ☐ Other: _____

Please indicate whether you are interested in receiving referrals for independent professional development work when inquiries are received from your area/state: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Comments: _____
_____

Strateworks membership includes:

- *Stratenotes* - electronic newsletter
- *Stratedirectory Online* - a searchable, web-based listing of SIM Professional Developers
- SIMTRAINER-L - an optional e-mail discussion list for SIM Professional Developers
- *SIMville* - a collection of resources and assets on our website available to active SIM Professional Developers
- *Professional Developer Micro-credentials* - http://sim.kucrl.org/micro-credentials

Please visit the SIM Website for more information - http://sim.kucrl.org/sim

Regardless of when you begin or renew your membership, the *Strateworks* membership year begins in September and runs through August of the next year. Thus, if you renew your membership in December, your membership is valid through the following August. Back issues of all *Stratenotes* newsletters are available in the Stratenotes section of SIMville.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ **Check** (made payable to KUCRL)

☐ **Credit card** (Visa or MasterCard) # _____

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Mail or fax completed form and your payment of $50 (U.S.)
KUCRL, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Rd, 7th
Floor, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101
Fax: 785.864.5728 Email: orderkucrl@ku.edu

SIM Leadership Award

This is your opportunity to recognize a certified inservice or preservice professional developer for her/his outstanding contributions and efforts associated with SIM and the SIM Network. This award is for individuals who have shown leadership and excellent service to SIM by helping educators to become strategic teachers and consequently, aiding students to become strategic learners. Your nominee should be an *active* member in the SIM Network who regularly attends update conferences, subscribes to Strateworks and shares knowledge with other members of the network via Stratenotes, SIMville, simtrainer-l, or presentations at national, regional or state conferences and who submits professional development reports to KUCRL.

SIM Administrative Leadership Award

This award is designed to honor a person who is associated with the SIM Professional Developers' Network and who serves in an administrative position in a school, school district or other educational support organization. The award recognizes individuals for outstanding leadership and contributions in promoting SIM and other research–based practices.

SIM Impact Award

The SIM Impact Award is presented to schools or school systems that have widely adopted many components of the Strategic Instruction Model throughout major segments of their entire school system and have carefully gathered2 or more years of data related to their efforts.

Know someone outstanding? Nominate them today!

*Note: Nominations must be received by **October 15** for the following summer. Nominations received after October 15 will be considered the following year.. More in depth information in support of the nomination will be sought from the nominee.*

DATE:_____

Nominee: _____

Award Nominated for: _____

Nominated by: _____

Reason for Nomination:_____

_____

_____

SIM CALENDAR

November 8 – 10, 2016
2016 Conference on Exceptional Children
Greensboro, NC

January 13 - February 2, 2017
2017 Florida SIM Update Conference
Orlando, FL

January 12 - February 13, 2017
2017 Winter Virtual Conference
Online

March 7-8, 2017
2017 Southeast SIM Update Conference
Charleston, SC

For a complete list of SIM events, including those not coordinated by KUCRL: SIM.KUCRL.ORG/CLASSES LIST YOUR OPEN SESSIONS ON THE SIM CALENDAR: We are contacted by hundreds of educators each year who have heard about SIM or CLC and are looking for opportunities to learn more. Email information about your open sessions to monatipton@ku.edu to be included in the online SIM Events Calendar.