

History in the making *a yearlong celebration of 25 years of success*

Calendar

January 22-24, 2003
SIM Update for Florida
Trainers
Adams Mark Orlando
Orlando, Florida

January 31-February 1,
2003
West Region SIM Update
Tropicana Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

February 12-14, 2003
Preservice SIM Update
Maho Bay, St. John Island

February 20-22, 2003
Northeast Region SIM
Update
Wyndham Hotel
Washington, D.C.

March 6-8, 2003
Southeast Region SIM
Update
Holiday Inn Historic
District
Charleston, South
Carolina

March 31-April 1, 2003
Iowa SIM Update
Johnston, Iowa

May 27-31, 2003
Teaching Content for All
workshop for college/
university faculty
Lawrence, Kansas

July 16-18, 2003
International SIM Trainers'
Conference
Place TBA

Fran Clark had a front-row seat at the birth of what would grow up to be the Center for Research on Learning.

She was a graduate student at the University of Kansas in the 1970s when KU researchers began kicking around the idea for the Institute for Research in Learning Disabilities, the original, federally funded project that set the stage for the development of the Strategic Instruction Model, CRL, and the SIM Network.

Throughout the 25-year history of CRL, Fran has been involved in one way or another with the research and growth, and she has stories to tell.

She saw the early years when then-IRLD offices were housed in a converted dormitory, and because of limited space, products had to be stored in an old bathroom.

"We had the *Paraphrasing* shower stall, the *Word Identification* and *Sentence Writing* manuals stored in shower stalls," she said.

Later, Fran was instrumental in nurturing the early development of the SIM Network. Now an associate professor at Wichita State University and still a dedicated member of the SIM Network, Fran credits the ideals of the IRLD founders for providing the solid foundation necessary for a sustained, successful program.

"The vision that began the institute is what has held it together," Fran said during an interview in 2000. "In the beginning, Ed Meyen and Dick Schiefelbusch, along with Don (Deshler) and Gordon Alley, had

that vision that it was going to build. I think their commitment and groundwork have kept that going. It's the commitment to the belief that these kids can be self-sufficient, and we can find ways to help them do that."

During the coming year, CRL will celebrate its 25 years of commitment to students who struggle in school. But we know we would not have made it this far without our stars, the members of the SIM Network. Your hard work, dedication, and continued support are crucial to our success.

So as we celebrate CRL's anniversary, we also want to celebrate you.

Throughout the year, we hope to bring you the personal stories of individual SIM Trainers and what SIM and CRL mean to them.

We'll start in this issue of *Stratenotes* with a few short stories gathered during the 2000 International SIM Trainers' Conference. Expanded stories of the SIM Trainers featured here—Fran Clark, Gail Cheever, and Carl Skordahl—will appear on our web site, www.ku-crl.org.

In addition, we invite you to share your stories, experiences, and memories on the SIM Trainer e-mail discussion list, SIM-TRAINER-L. Instructions for joining the e-mail discussion list are on page 4, or you can e-mail Julie Tollefson at jtollefson@ku.edu and request to be added to the list. Stories shared on the list will be collected and may be featured in future issues of *Stratenotes* or

Update meeting registration

All SIM Trainers soon should receive, if you haven't already, a packet detailing registration information for most of the SIM update meetings scheduled in the coming months. Information about the Iowa update meeting will be available later.

Strategram or on our web site.

This celebratory year will culminate in the 2003 International SIM Trainers' Conference extravaganza next summer. The conference theme "Got the silver...going for gold!" reflects both CRL's long history and the promise of many years to come. Thanks to Debbie Cooke and Mike Hock for suggesting this oh-so-appropriate theme.

We challenge each of you to consider ideas you can present during the confer-

ence, using the theme as inspiration. The October issue of *Stratenotes* will include an official call for presentations.

Each issue of *Stratenotes* between now and the conference will build toward a super conference celebration.

We hope you will plan to join us for the 25th anniversary International SIM Trainers' Conference next summer. As longtime SIM Trainer Gail Cheever said, "When we come together, that's where the most influence is."



SIMstar snapshot: Giving credit where it's due

Fran Clark believes the SIM Network can be credited with much of the growth of CRL and its products over the years.

"If we had only relied on the staff at the center to do the training and to spread the word, there's no way we could have had the impact that the trainers in the field have had," she said. "The development of the model itself couldn't have happened without those people because they have contributed ideas, they have asked the tough questions that drove the research and the building of the network."

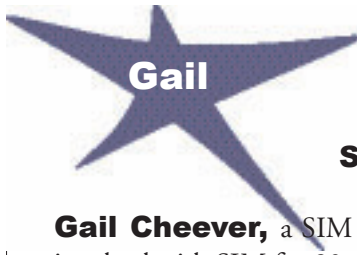
In fact, Fran noted, even some of the research conducted under CRL auspices has been completed by members of the SIM Network. That concept of people in the field informing the research is unusual among research institutes.

SIMquotable: *"It's creating kids as their own resources. It's teaching them to be self-sufficient rather than having to continue to rely on their teachers for everything. If it's done well, they outgrow us as their teachers, and that really is what we want to have happen. We want to give them the tools to go far beyond us."*

STRATENOTES is published eight times from September through May and once every summer as part of Strateworks of the International Training Network by the Center for Research on Learning, 2002-2003, cost \$35.00. Permission to reproduce any or all parts of *Stratenotes* to support training activities is hereby given.

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More online: Read more from Fran Clark, Gail Cheever, and Carl Skordahl on the CRL web site: www.ku-crl.org.



SIMstar snapshot: Passion for SIM

Gail Cheever, a SIM Trainer from Trophy Club, Texas, who has been involved with SIM for 20 years, was a general education teacher who moved into special education.

"When I started to read about the work that the Center was doing, it was an immediate match for me as a teacher, teaching kids how to think and how to learn," Gail said. "I always valued content as a means to an end, anyway, but it helped me to be explicit with kids and really help them understand what it was they were really learning."

"I think I'm so passionate about it because it just reinforced what I believe teaching should be, anyway."

SIMquotable: *"I don't think I could do my independent training without the technology, because it's what allows me to customize trainings and to do things more efficiently. I'm just a lot more creative with my computer than I ever was with paper and pencil."*



SIMstar snapshot: Fiscal responsibility

Carl Skordahl, a retired director of special education who lives in Ramsey, Minnesota, spent years getting the most out of his professional development budget. He was a master at allocating funds to research-based programs, and SIM in Minnesota benefited greatly from his expertise.

"If you're an administrator and you're going to spend a lot of money, you need to be accountable for that money so you have to make sure that whatever you use is effective," he said.

SIM measures up.

"It's proven because it's so thoroughly field tested and re-tested," Carl said. "You teach the student the specific skills and then you teach the student how to generalize in the mainstream setting. That, to me, is a total program. It's also cost-effective. You can back up your effectiveness in using strategies with real clean statistical data."

SIMquotable: *"I'm so sold on the strategies. I'm aware of a lot of programs, but none have lasted like this and have had the impact that this program has had."*

Literacy grant award

A research team including CRL staff and University of Kansas faculty from the departments of Psychology and Research in Education, Speech and Language, and Preventive Medicine and Public Health has won a \$3.7 million, five-year grant as part of a new Adult Literacy Research Network.

The grant is funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institute for Literacy, and the Offices of Vocational and Adult Education.

Members of the team from CRL include Daryl Mellard, principal investigator, Mike Hock, and Richard Johnson.

The project, *Improving Literacy Instruction for Adults*, proposes to extend the knowledge garnered with younger populations to addressing adults' needs. The goal is to validate instructional interventions appropriate for adults with limited literacy proficiency.

The project offers a multi-disciplinary, systematic, and programmatic research plan with three aims.

1. Researchers will investigate what component skills for reading are incorporated within common assessments of literacy.
2. The project team will select appropriate interventions based on their findings and rigorously test these interventions with adults under well-controlled conditions.
3. The team will address the issue of successfully translating research findings into practice in more typical settings. These studies will examine how effective these interventions are on learners' outcomes when the research controls and supports are reduced from what was available in the previous studies.

E-tips

—Use the **SIMTRAINER-L** discussion list

- to solicit advice for specific professional development issues
- to offer tips from your personal experiences
- to share success stories
- to network with other SIM Trainers
- to contribute to the CRL history project (see page 1)

—When visiting **SIMville**, to bypass the password screen in the future, bookmark the first SIMville page.

E-SIM: SIMTRAINER-L & SIMville

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to check out some of the electronic resources available exclusively for SIM Trainers, now is the time! These tools can help you stay in touch—with CRL as well as other SIM Trainers—and up-to-date on all news related to SIM.

SIMTRAINER-L

SIMTRAINER-L is an e-mail discussion list. When you send a message to SIMTRAINER-L, all SIM Trainers who are subscribed to the list receive a copy of the message.

As we celebrate CRL's 25th anniversary year, we hope to use this discussion forum to share stories and tales of SIM through the years. These stories will be collected and possibly featured in future issues of *Stratenotes* or *Strategram* or on the CRL web site.

If you are not already a member of the SIMTRAINER-L list, follow the instructions below or e-mail Julie Tollefson at jtollefson@ku.edu and ask to be added to the list.

To subscribe, send an e-mail to
listproc@ukans.edu

In the body of the message, type
sub SIMTRAINER-L Your Name

Replace "Your Name" with your name. *Note that SIMTRAINER-L is all one word; do not type any spaces in the list name.* Do not type anything in the subject line of the message.

When you have successfully subscribed to the list, you will receive a welcome message and detailed instructions for sending messages to the list. In short, sending an e-mail to the list works the same as sending an e-mail to anyone else. Simply type "SIMTRAINER-L@ku.edu" in the "To" line of your message and proceed as you would with any other e-mail message.

Note: Only individuals who are currently subscribed to SIMTRAINER-L

can post messages to the list.

You have two options when responding to messages that you receive as a member of SIMTRAINER-L.

1. You may reply directly to the individual sending the message by using the "Reply" feature of your e-mail application. If you use this option, only the sender will see your reply.
2. You may reply to all members of the list—and perhaps spur some additional, meaningful discussion—by using the "Reply All" feature of your e-mail application.

Check the "To" line of the message you are composing to determine whether your reply will go to the sender or to the list.

SIMville

SIMville is a section of the CRL web site set aside just for SIM Trainers.

The SIMville welcome page prominently displays announcements relevant to SIM Trainers. Currently featured information includes

- highlights from the 2002 International SIM Trainers' Conference
- application materials for *Teaching Content for All*, a workshop for college and university faculty
- a reminder to renew your *Strateworks* membership for 2002-2003

The site includes other materials for use in your professional development sessions, such as current order forms, a handout describing the Performance Gap, research summaries for select learning strategies, and more.

To gain access to all of this valuable information, visit www.ku-crl.org.

1. Click on "SIM Trainer Resources."
2. Select the log on option. You will be asked for a password. Type "strategic" in the box (do not type the quotation marks). The password is case-sensitive, so you must use all lowercase letters.
3. Click on the "OK" button.

To be listed in the 2003 edition of StrateDirectory, you must be an active member of the SIM Network, including maintaining a current Strateworks membership. **You also must have a completed Directory Information Form on file with CRL.** If you have never completed a Directory Information Form, or if you need to make changes to your information, complete the form now and **mail it so it reaches us before November 15.** If you have completed a form in the past and you do not need to change your information, you do not need to complete another form.

2002-2003 SIM Directory Information Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

_____ Phone: _____

Note: If you do not want your phone number to appear in the directory, do not list it here.

Primary Employment Site: _____

Title of Position: _____

Work Address: _____

_____ Phone: _____

Note: If you do not want your phone number to appear in the directory, do not list it here.

Preferred Mailing Address: ____ Home ____ Work

E-mail Address: _____

Fax Number: _____

Check the professional categories that describe you:

- ☐ college/university professor
- ☐ full-time staff developer
- ☐ high school teacher
- ☐ junior high school teacher
- ☐ middle school teacher
- ☐ elementary teacher
- ☐ administrator
- ☐ post-secondary teacher of students with learning disabilities
- ☐ general education teacher
- ☐ special education teacher
- ☐ independent trainer
- ☐ other

Check the category or categories that best describe the school districts in which you are the most comfortable or experienced in providing training:

- ☐ inner city
- ☐ suburban
- ☐ rural
- ☐ other

Indicate the student populations with which you are most familiar:

- ☐ ESL
- ☐ EMR
- ☐ LD
- ☐ ADD
- ☐ BD
- ☐ TMR
- ☐ At Risk
- ☐ Adults
- ☐ Other

Continued on back

Check the strategies and routines in which you feel that you are an expert and are willing to advise others.

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. | Collaborative Problem Solving | <input type="checkbox"/> 24. | Concept Comparison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. | Concept Mastery Routine | <input type="checkbox"/> 25. | Surface Counseling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. | Self-Advocacy | <input type="checkbox"/> 26. | Paired Associates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. | Error-Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> 27. | Clarifying Routine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. | FIRST-Letter Mnemonic | <input type="checkbox"/> 28. | Survey Routine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. | Lesson Organizer Routine | <input type="checkbox"/> 29. | Theme Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. | LINCS Vocabulary Strategy | <input type="checkbox"/> 30. | Course Organizer Routine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8. | Math Strategies | <input type="checkbox"/> 31. | Framing Routine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. | Paragraph Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> 32. | Recall Enhancement Routine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10. | Paraphrasing | <input type="checkbox"/> 33. | Quality Assignment Routine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11. | Progress Program | <input type="checkbox"/> 34. | InSPECT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12. | SCORE | <input type="checkbox"/> 35. | THINK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13. | Sentence Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> 36. | LEARN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14. | SLANT | <input type="checkbox"/> 37. | BUILD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15. | Social Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> 38. | Strategic Tutoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16. | Teamwork | <input type="checkbox"/> 39. | Talking Together |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 17. | Test-Taking | <input type="checkbox"/> 40. | Following Instructions Together |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18. | Visual Imagery | <input type="checkbox"/> 41. | Vocabulary LINCing Routine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19. | Word Identification | <input type="checkbox"/> 42. | Question Exploration Routine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20. | Concept Anchoring Routine | <input type="checkbox"/> 43. | Organizing Together |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 21. | Unit Organizer Routine | <input type="checkbox"/> 44. | Taking Notes Together |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 22. | Self-Questioning | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 23. | Assignment Completion | | |

What are your main areas of interest related to SIM?

About how many teachers do you train annually?
(KU-CRL may use this information for writing grants.)

Comments/Questions:

53 earn SIM certificates

During the past year, the following individuals completed the requirements to become Certified SIM Trainers:

Learning Strategies

Maryland

Diane McGowan

Ohio

Nancy Angerman

Gretchen Balzer

Bob Hevener

Michelle Pistillo

Bonnie Schuck

Kansas

Lynn Barnes

Devona L. Dunekack

Wendy Meier

North Carolina

Alice Bartley

Nevada

Ashley Skylar

Vermont

Winona Lowe

Connecticut

Barbara Haggerty

Carol A. Hanny

Diane Lucarelli

Louisiana

Sheila Barber

Yvonne Ben

Hilly Bernard

Kristin Brand

Anne Clouatre

Eva Miller

Patricia Neal

Joey Neuman

Melynda Rodrigue

Joyce Russo

Texas

Elizabeth Gaidry

Frieda Lee Schwartz

Canada (Ontario)

Nancy Leishman

Minnesota

Frances Beversdorf

Molly Lynch

Beth Mortinson

Iowa

Amy Sturm

Michigan

Monica Harris

Shawn Herron

Deborah Underhill

Content Enhancement

New York

Deborah Aslanian

Marcia Kimmel

Sharon Korn

Sharon Longert

Kentucky

Angela Bray

Connie Cundiff

Debbie Hampton

Carolyn Hornbeck

Margaret Nickell

Lauren Pohl

Angelika Reimer

Phil Shepherd

Paula Stafford

Canada (Saskatchewan)

Dorothy Finlayson

Jean Lendszyk

Pennsylvania

Virginia Lewandoski

Virginia

Donna Schwab

Robert Keniston

Michigan potential trainers workshop

A workshop for individuals interested in becoming Certified SIM Trainers is scheduled for August 4-8, 2003, at the Traverse Bay Area ISD in Traverse City, Michigan.

At this point, organizers expect to need 12 participants to go forward with the workshop.

For more information about the workshop, including cost, contact Sue Woodruff by phone at (231) 780-4507 or by e-mail at swoodruf@attbi.com

Strateworks Renewal 2002-2003

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Work Phone: _____

Please indicate at which address you prefer to receive mail:

☐ home ☐ work

E-mail address: _____

Mail completed form and your payment of \$35 (U.S.)
to KU-CRL, Attn: Order Desk, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West
Campus Road Room 517, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101.

Renew Strateworks memberships now

Take a look at the mailing label below. A green dot indicates you already have renewed your *Strateworks* membership. A red dot means that, according to our records, you have not renewed. If you don't act fast, this could be your last issue of *Stratenotes*, and you could be in danger of losing the other benefits you receive as an active member of the SIM International Training Network. To ensure that you continue to receive *Stratenotes*, *Strategram*, and other member benefits, complete the form at right and mail it with your check for \$35 (U.S.) to the address on the form.

FIRST CLASS

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