*S*trate*n*otes

Beyond silver

During this anniversary year, silver stands for longevity. It symbolizes our 25-year commitment to working on behalf of students who need help learning. Silver is not second best. It is a celebration.

This issue provides all of the information and forms you need to join in our silver anniversary celebration during the 2003 International SIM Conference.

We hope you will join us as we celebrate 25 years of good works and set our sights on the gold—and beyond!

Inside Stratenotes—

Reasons we 'Got the Silver'

Don Deshler, Director
Center for Research on Learning

As we prepare to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Center for Research on Learning, I've given some thought as to why this work has endured for a quarter of a century. Obviously, there are no simple answers, but I'd like to share a few of the conclusions I've drawn. After sharing my ideas, I hope you'll see why we are thrilled to have been involved in this exciting cause with so many dedicated and creative professionals for the past 25 years (thus leading to *"Got the Silver"*) and why we're eager to *"Go for the Gold"* during the next 25 years!

An Important Commitment

About a year after the CRL began in 1978 (at that time we were known as the Institute for Research in Learning Disabilities), we were feeling very overwhelmed by all of the questions and problems that loomed before us and by the limited number of worthwhile solutions that we had. At the time, we were funded by a single five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Given how slowly things seemed to be going for us (it was the proverbial "two steps forward, one step back"; and on bad days, it seemed as if it was "one step forward and two steps back"!), it was quite clear to us that at the end of our five-year grant period, we really would have very little to show for our efforts.

In essence, the problems confronting adolescents with learning disabilities were so overwhelming and perplexing that five years was simply not sufficient time for us to come up with good solutions. When we came to this stark realization, we committed to doing whatever it would take to ensure the longevity of the Center. We knew that worthwhile, meaningful solutions that would result in significant outcomes for students with learning problems would require much more time and talent than we had available to us during those formative years. Although it has not always been easy to keep the CRL ship afloat during the past 25 years, the effort to do so has been well worth it!

Pausing to Check

As with much of life, these past 25 years of growth and development have passed by very quickly. In many ways, it seems like just yesterday that we were doing

SIM Leadership Award nominations

Now is the time to nominate an outstanding certified inservice trainer or preservice trainer for the SIM Leadership Award. This award recognizes individuals who have shown exceptional Strategic Instruction Model leadership by helping educators become strategic teachers and, as a result, students become strategic learners.

Nominees should be active members in the SIM International Resource Network who regularly attend update training sessions; maintain *Strateworks* memberships; share knowledge with other members of the network through *Strategram,* trainer reports, or presentations at national, regional, or state conferences; and participate in such SIM opportunities as regional committees or preservice studies.

Please make nominations by **March 10, 2003**, to Janet Roth by mail at the address below or call (785) 864-4780. You may e-mail your nominations to Janet at jroth@ku.edu. Be sure to include your name and a reason you are nominating the person.

the initial studies on paraphrasing and test-taking or that we were trying to figure out an instructional methodology for having students generalize and maintain a strategy! Children who were born to us when the Center was trying to "find its legs" are now parents themselves and engaged in teaching their children to walk! In 1978, the Dow Jones Industrial average was 893, gasoline was 63 cents a gallon, inflation was 13 percent, Elvis had just stopped singing, *Grease* was the hot movie, and Jimmy Carter was our president! Where does the time go?

Through the various ups and downs that accompany any journey in education, as we pause to check our progress at the 25-year mark, we see that SIM has become an identifiable entity on the educational landscape. Nearly 60 instructional materials have been validated and published, more than 1,200 people have become members of our professional development network, thousands of teachers have incorporated SIM into their classrooms, more than 3,500 districts have adopted parts of SIM, and, most importantly, the lives of thousands of at-risk students have been and are being dramatically affected in a positive way!

Why?

Although these accomplishments are somewhat encouraging, perhaps the more instructive question to ask is "What seems to account for this growth?" Again, not a question that has a simple answer! In many ways, I think much of the answer is found in an observation made by Mohandas Gandhi: *"Interdependence is and ought to be*

We are where we are because of a shared belief in and deep commitment to the vision and overriding purposes of SIM

as much the ideal of man as self-sufficiency. Man is a social being." In other words, a 25th anniversary is being celebrated *because our accomplishments are grounded in an*

interdependent mind set that embodies a deep commitment to work together to solve perplexing problems.

One of the errors most frequently committed when speaking about SIM or CRL is to say that *a particular person* "created" or "developed" a particular thing. The reality is that in most areas of life, great achievements are not made in a vacuum.

Children who were born to us when the Center was trying to 'find its legs' are now parents themselves and engaged in teaching their children to walk!

This is certainly the case with SIM. The individual who receives the credit inevitably stands on the shoulders of many who went before or who labored silently in the background. Even those who found those things that *didn't work* helped clear the way for someone else to more easily formulate a more workable solution. If ever there was a movement in which teamwork and interdependence has been essential—indeed, foundational—to all that has been done and accomplished, it has been the development and refinement of SIM!

In short, we are where we are because of a shared belief in and deep commitment to the vision and overriding purposes of SIM – namely, to enable students to learn, to believe in themselves, to have a desire to set and work toward meaningful goals, and to be actively engaged in worthwhile and significant causes that will lead to fulfilling and productive lives now and in the future. There is, indeed, a very significant moral purpose in the work that we do!

Personally, I consider it a great privilege to be able to work with and learn from individuals of such substance, high character, talent, and deep commitment as those who are members of the CRL staff and the SIM Network. The contributions of everyone have been important. If any of the pieces are factored out, the overall pattern

and beauty of the fabric will be negatively affected. In an undertaking as complex and difficult as helping struggling learners become good learners and ineffective schools transform into places where students not only learn but also come to love the process of learning, the best thinking, commitment, and energy of many is required. Success comes only when interdependence is seriously embraced.

The list is almost endless, but here are a few of the significant people who have made SIM and the CRL what they are today: Those who…

- teach with creativity and soundness
- ask hard questions
- make us laugh and smile
- *really* listen to students and colleagues
- take risks
- provide critique
- suggest refinements
- seek for a better way
- bring seasoned perspectives and caution to the table
- bring unbridled enthusiasm and energy to the table
- fulfill orders for materials and get them there on time
- write proposals so new research can be done
- create graphics and visuals to help us better understand
- write so important ideas can be shared and have permanency
- provide clerical and accounting help
- tend to details so the ship doesn't fall apart

- seek the bigger view so we head in the right direction
- require us to demonstrate our relevance
- sacrifice much personal time and resources
- juggle one more ball because they know how important each is
- build on SIM and make it "theirs"
- come to SIM meetings and willingly share
- set high expectations for those with whom they work
- forgive when others fall short…especially when they tried hard
- formulate policies to facilitate implementation

I'm confident that you found yourself named at several points on this list, which underscores how critical each one of us is to this worthy cause. It's easy to see that if *any* one of the individuals who fulfills a role on the list above were removed, the overall effectiveness and essence of SIM would be negatively altered.

Don't Miss the Synergy!

Our conference this year not only will be an opportunity to celebrate what *all* of us have accomplished in the past, but it also will be a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the many great things that happen when SIM people come together. This summer's conference will be an outstanding opportunity for connecting, for growth, for reflection, for celebration, and yes…for many laughs, smiles, and fun!

See you in July!!

Directory changes

StrateDirectory will look a little different this year.

The 2003 edition, which will be mailed in February along with *Stratenotes* and *StratePubs,* will include the names and contact information for every individual who has ever completed a Directory Information Form.

In the past, only active members of the SIM Network (those who maintain up-to-date Strateworks memberships and attend update sessions every two years) have been listed in the directory.

The abbreviation "Prof. Dev." will be printed after the names of active members of the network. Inactive members will be listed as "affiliates."

The new directory will have three sections:

- The *alphabetic listing* will be a comprehensive list of active SIM Professional Developers and affiliates. It will contain telephone and e-mail contact information.
- The *city/state listing* and *details by state listing* will provide more detailed information about active members of the network only.

If you have completed a Directory Information Form in the past but no longer want to be listed in the directory, please e-mail Julie Tollefson at jtollefson@ku.edu. You also may call 785-864-4780 or write KU-CRL, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Road Room 517, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101. ***Please note that it is too late to be removed from or added to the 2003 directory.***

The CRL History Project

Throughout the year, we are celebrating CRL's 25th anniversary as well as the hard work, dedication, and continued support of the members of the SIM Network. Issues of *Stratenotes* feature "snapshots" of the personal stories of individual SIM professional developers. Read more in the CRL History Project on our web site: **www.ku-crl.org/history**.

2003 International SIM Conference

Conference 4-1-1

Who: Members of the SIM International Resource Network

What: 2003 International SIM Conference

When: July 14-17, 2003

Where: Sheraton Hotel, 6100 College Boulevard, Overland Park, Kansas, 66211

Why: Celebrate, socialize, share, learn

Speakers

The 2003 International SIM Conference will feature two special and inspiring speakers.

Rick Snyder, distinguished professor of psychology at the University of Kansas, will kick off the conference on Monday, July 14, with a presentation on "hope." He will be featured during the "Opening Ceremonies," a dessert social from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

On Tuesday morning, July 15, the spotlight turns to David Rose, co-executive director of the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST). In his keynote address, David will talk about the principles of universal design and ways to maximize student outcomes by designing materials with sufficient scaffolding and supports.

David is one of the pioneers of the concept of universal design, a set of principles for designing instruction and materials that optimizes their usability for all learners.

David and CAST have a long history of collaborating with CRL researchers. CRL currently has a joint contract with CAST to integrate SIM Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement Routines within a science text chapter. The project will build on CAST's expertise to put the information into a digital format.

Conference Hotel

This year's conference will be held at the brand-new Sheraton Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas.

The Sheraton is conveniently located near shopping and dining and is just 25 minutes or fewer from downtown Kansas City and the area's popular attractions, including world-class shopping at Country Club Plaza, professional sporting events, the 18th and Vine Jazz District, and more.

The hotel offers 24-hour room service, an indoor pool and whirlpool spa, 24-hour exercise facilities, and a full-service restaurant as well as shuttle service to nearby restaurants.

Rates for rooms are $119 plus tax for single occupancy and $129 plus tax for double, triple, or quadruple occupancy. In addition to regular sleeping rooms, a few suites are available at a higher price.

You may register at the hotel by calling the Sheraton's reservations center toll-free at 866-837-4214. Specify that you are with the Center for Research on Learning. A block of rooms will be held until 5 p.m. (Central) June 20, 2003.

Post-Conference Field Trip

Many SIM members would have liked to have had the 25th anniversary conference in Lawrence, the home of CRL where the foundation of SIM lies. However, we were unable to find a place in Lawrence that could satisfactorily hold the size of conference we expect to have.

To take some of the sting out of this disappointment, we are planning a field trip to Lawrence for those who want to visit CRL, the bookstore at KU, or the sidewalk sale in downtown Lawrence.

If you choose to participate in the field trip, you may want to spend Thursday night at a Lawrence hotel. A block of rooms has been reserved at the SpringHill Suites in Lawrence. Call 785-841-2700 to make reservations. Tell them you are with the Center for Research on Learning. The rates will be $75 plus tax for single or double occupancy.

Transportation

- Shuttle between KCI Airport and Sheraton Hotel in Overland Park: KCI Shuttle. 800-243-6383
- Shuttle from Lawrence to KCI Airport: Kansas Transportation Service Shuttle. 877-942-0544

25th Anniversary Talent Show

One of the highlights of the 20th anniversary conference in 1998 was the SIM Talent Show. It was so much fun, we're bringing it back for 2003.

If you would like to star in a skit or other SIM-related talent presentation, please take a moment to fill out the "Call for Skits" form on page 5 and send it to CRL.

2003 International SIM Conference Schedule

Monday • July 14, 2003

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Preconference workshops
6:00 p.m.	Conference registration
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	**Opening ceremonies. Dessert social.** Speaker: Rick Snyder, distinguished professor of psychology at the University of Kansas; topic: hope

Tuesday • July 15, 2003

8:00 a.m.	Conference registration
8:30 a.m.	**Keynote address:** David Rose, co-executive director of the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST); topic: principles of universal design
10:15 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Concurrent sessions with a break for lunch on your own
3:00 p.m.	**Kaleidoscope**
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	**Social & Talent Show**

Wednesday • July 16, 2003

7:45 a.m.-9:15 a.m.	**Poster session/continental breakfast**
9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	Concurrent sessions with a break for lunch on your own
7:00 p.m.	**CRL 25th Anniversary Banquet Celebration**

Thursday • July 17, 2003

8:00 a.m.	General Session
9:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
11:30 a.m.	**Recognition Luncheon**
1:30 p.m.	**Field trip to University of Kansas and Lawrence**

See the conference web site for complete details.
www.ku-crl.org/25thanniversary

"Call for Skits" 25th Anniversary Talent Show

Yes! I am interested in participating in the 25th Anniversary Talent Show.

Type of talent:

Name of act:

Names of players:

Time required:

Special requests:

Call for Presentations

The deadline for submitting proposals to present sessions during the 2003 conference is March 1. The **Call for Presentations** form is available on our web site:

www.ku-crl.org/25thanniversary

International SIM Conference

Registration Form

July 14-17, 2003

Sheraton Hotel • Overland Park, Kansas

Got the Going for silver gold
1978-2003
The University of Kansas
Center for Research on Learning

Name:_____

Social Security Number *(required)***:**_____

Work Address:_____

_____

_____

Work Phone:_____

Home Address:_____

_____**Home Phone:**_____

E-Mail Address:_____**Preferred mailing address: home   work**

I give permission for CRL to include my name, address, phone number, and e-mail address in a listing to be distributed to conference participants *(please circle one):*   **yes   no**

How many previous International SIM Conferences have you attended? _____

Registration Fee

✦ **3+ Days**
(Includes Monday evening "Opening Ceremonies" plus three full days—Tuesday-Thursday, July 15-17—of conference sessions.)
Early Bird: **$150**
Registrations postmarked after May 1: **$175** $_____

✦ **2 Days**
✦ Tuesday, July 15
✦ Wednesday, July 16
✦ Thursday, July 17
(Please check the days you plan to attend.)
Early Bird: **$120**
Registrations postmarked after May 1: **$145** $_____

✦ **1 Day**
✦ Tuesday, July 15
✦ Wednesday, July 16
✦ Thursday, July 17
(Please check the day you plan to attend.)
Early Bird: **$90**
Registrations postmarked after May 1: **$115** $_____

Total Enclosed: $_____

Make check payable to KU-CRL

Events & Materials
Your "three-plus" conference registration fee includes the following:
• Dessert social (Monday)
• Social and snacks (Tuesday)
• Continental breakfast (Wednesday)
• 25th anniversary gala banquet (Wednesday)
• Recognition luncheon (Thursday)
• Professional development materials
One- or two-day registration fees cover materials and special events occurring on the days for which you are registered.

Mail to The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning, Attn: International Conference Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Road Room 517, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101

Preconference workshops
Your choice of three full-day, informative sessions

In conjunction with the 2003 International SIM Conference, we are pleased to offer a choice of three full-day preconference workshops. The workshops will be Monday, July 14. Registration will begin at 8 a.m., and the workshops will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a break for lunch on your own.

Two of the workshops—*Integrating Corrective Reading into SIM and the Content Literacy Continuum* and *Teacher-Guided Professional Development*—will be held at the conference hotel. The third—*Building Proficiency in Content Enhancement with the Interactive Organizer Software*—will be conducted at a University of Kansas computer lab just a 10-minute drive from the conference hotel.

See page 8 for a registration form for these workshops.

Building Proficiency in Content Enhancement with the Interactive Organizer Software
Keith Lenz, Janis Bulgren, and Brad Nelson

This preconference workshop will explore the integration of many current and new content enhancement devices using the new commercial version of the Interactive Organizer software. During this workshop, we will review the relationships among different content enhancement devices and then use the Interactive Organizer to link courses, units, and lessons with other instructional materials and Internet links as part of the planning and presentation process. A full day of guided technical training, one-on-one support, and development practice will be provided in a computer lab that is just a 10-minute drive from the conference hotel. The fee for this workshop includes the Interactive Organizer software, user guide, and examples.

Integrating Corrective Reading into SIM and the Content Literacy Continuum
Tara Ebey, Eastern Washington University

This preconference workshop will provide information about instructional techniques for the successful use of Corrective Reading. At the end of this session, participants will have an understanding of the Corrective Reading Program, including an overview of the program and with whom the program is used. Participants will be able to deliver the program in their educational settings. The workshop facilitator will present options for using the Corrective Reading Program as a peer-assisted reading program and will discuss the steps for becoming a Corrective Reading Program professional developer in your area. This session is being offered to help SIM Professional Developers better respond to Level 4 activities on the SIM Content Literacy Continuum. The fee for this workshop includes associated Corrective Reading Program materials.

Teacher-Guided Professional Development
Jim Knight

This session will focus on Teacher-Guided Professional Development. The problem-solving and highly interactive format will enable participants to work on real problems as they learn. Participants will build presentations shaped around partnership principles and learning structures; learn and practice skills required for successful one-to-one professional development; and learn and practice collaboration structures that they can use with groups who need to solve problems or create a plan for implementation during training. Participants will learn new techniques to use for interviewing teachers, reporting data during sessions, planning training, and working with entire districts rather than schools. Professional developers who are interested in a teacher-centered, partnership-based approach to professional development should benefit from this workshop. Participants who already have a copy of the *Partnership Learning Fieldbook* should bring it to the workshop. Participants who do not have a copy may purchase one at an additional fee. See the preconference registration form on page 8 for details.

Registration Form for Preconference Workshop

July 14, 2003
Sheraton Hotel • Overland Park, Kansas

Name:_____

Social Security Number *(required)*:_____

Work Address:_____

_____

_____ **Work Phone:** _____

Home Address: _____

_____

_____ **Home Phone:** _____

E-Mail Address:_____

Workshop Selection and Registration

✴   **Building Proficiency in Content Enhancement with the Interactive Organizer Software**

    ✶ **Early Bird: $50**
      (After May 1: $60) $ _____

✴   **Integrating Corrective Reading into SIM and the Content Literacy Continuum**

    ✶ **Early Bird: $50**
      (After May 1: $60) $ _____

✴   **Teacher-Guided Professional Development**

    ✶ **Early Bird: $30**
      (After May 1: $40) $ _____

    Select one:
      ✶ **I will bring my copy of the Partnership Learning Fieldbook**
      ✶ **I will purchase the Partnership Learning Fieldbook: $25** $ _____

              Total Enclosed: $ _____

Make check payable to KU-CRL

Mail to KU-Center for Research on Learning
Attn: Preconference Workshop
Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Road Room 517
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101

Your receipt for registration will be available at the workshop.

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
Joseph R. Pearson Hall
1122 West Campus Road, Room 517
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101

This newsletter is being sent to everyone who has ever been a member of the SIM Network. A quick check of the upper right corner of the mailing label on the back page should tell you whether you are a paid member of the network. If for some reason, you have let your Strateworks membership lapse, please consider re-joining now.

(Although we hope every past member will re-join, see page 10 if you no longer want to be affiliated with the SIM Network.)

Among the many tangible benefits of membership in the network are the newsletters, multimedia support systems, and research updates mailed to you every year:

• *Stratenotes,* a newsletter for SIM Professional Developers, published nine times a year

• *Strategram,* a newsletter for classroom teachers, published six times a year

• **SIMTRAINER-L,** an e-mail discussion list

• **SIMville,** a members-only web site for SIM Professional Developers

• *StrateDirectory,* a listing of all members of the SIM Network

• *StratePubs,* recent research articles related to the work of CRL and the SIM Network

Calendar

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 1, 2003
Deadline for Call for Presentations for 2003 International SIM Conference

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 1, 2003
Early-bird registration deadline for 2003 International SIM Conference

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

July 14, 2003
(Monday)
Preconference Workshop
Sheraton Hotel
Overland Park, Kansas

July 14-17, 2003
(Monday evening through Thursday afternoon)
International SIM Conference
Sheraton Hotel
Overland Park, Kansas

Attention <u>Inactive</u> Members of SIM Network!

This issue of *Stratenotes* is being sent to ***all*** members—past and present—of the SIM International Resource Network. If you no longer want to be affiliated with the SIM Network and the Center for Research on Learning, please e-mail jtollefson@ku.edu. Provide your name and use "No more SIM mailings" as the subject line of your message. You also may call Julie Tollefson at (785) 864-4780 or write to her at KU-CRL, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Rd., Room 521, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101, to be removed from the SIM mailing list.