Calendar

May 31-June 4, 2005
Teaching Content to All: Effective College Teaching
Lawrence, Kan.

June 13-17, 2005
Strategic Instruction Model Institute Writing Strategies
Lawrence, Kan.

June 13-17, 2005
Potential Professional Developers Institute for Learning Strategies
St. Louis, Mo.
Contact: Mary Ellen O'Hare, mohare@ssd.k12.mo.us

June 20-24, 2005
Potential SIM Professional Developers Institutes for Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement
Lawrence, Kan.

June 21-24, 2005
SIM Reading and Writing Strategies (Formerly SIM Level 1)
Lawrence, Kan.

June 21-24, 2005
More SIM Strategies (Formerly SIM Level 2)
Lawrence, Kan.

June 23-25, 2005
Cal-SIM
Bakersfield, Calif.
Contact: Tony Van Reusen, avanreusen@csub.edu, or Cindy Hurley, churley@ptloma.edu

June 27-30, 2005
SIM Institute: Introduction to Content Enhancement Level 1
Lawrence, Kan.

(More calendar on page 2)

No sleight of hand: PD skills take center stage

Center for Research on Learning Staff

It's no illusion: All eyes will be on professional development during the 2005 International SIM Conference.

Sessions for this year's conference, which will be July 20-22 in Lawrence, are being carefully planned and sequenced to optimize your opportunities to increase your knowledge, skills, tools, and techniques as they relate to professional development.

The sessions are being developed with special attention to the range of experiences within our ever-growing SIM Network—for those who are new to professional development as well as those who have dedicated careers to PD, for those who are new to SIM as well as those who helped develop the earliest SIM interventions.

At the heart of the conference will be a keynote address by Thomas R. Guskey, professor of educational policy studies and evaluation at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Guskey is known for his work in professional development and educational change.

Dr. Guskey's address will be based on his book, Evaluating Professional Development (Corwin, 2000), in which he describes five levels for assessing the effectiveness of professional development activities (see page 2 for more on these levels). After his address, the conference schedule will include time to examine how his message relates to our work and how to leverage what we've learned from him to strengthen our network and individual professional development skills.

Dr. Guskey's work in professional development has looked at many of the same issues we have encountered in our SIM Network, and his writings endorse many of the same principles and values we embrace.

As a supplement to his conference presentation, SIM Professional Developers may be interested in his article, "Results-Oriented Professional Development: In Search of an Optimal Mix of Effective Practices."

> Guskey, T.R. (1994) Results-oriented professional development: In search of an optimal mix of effective practices. *Journal of Staff Development, 15*(4), 42-50.

In this article, Dr. Guskey notes that increasingly, everyone from lawmakers to the general public want to see evidence that professional development is effective. He examines what research says about the effectiveness of professional development and presents six guidelines aimed at helping professional developers think through factors that can improve their effectiveness.

Among the points Dr. Guskey makes is one that should sound familiar: Professional development cannot be a one-size-fits-all solution. The teaching and learning process is complex, and individual contexts must be considered when formulating a professional development plan.

The article's professional development

Make plans now to attend the 2005 International SIM Conference! Lawrence hotels are likely to fill early because of the large number of events in town that week. See pages 3 and 4 for hotel and transportation information

guidelines underscore the need to recognize and adapt to different contexts and situations:

1. Recognize change as both an individual and organizational process
2. Think big, but start small
3. Work in teams to maintain support
4. Include procedures for feedback on results
5. Provide follow-up, support, and pressure
6. Integrate programs

Dr. Guskey concludes that "What is evident from these guidelines is that the key to greater success in professional development rests not so much in the discovery of new knowledge but in our capacity to use deliberately and wisely the knowledge we have."

In his conclusion, Dr. Guskey eloquently summarizes what the 2005 International SIM Conference is all

Keynote speaker Thomas R. Guskey

about: Improving your capacity as a SIM Professional Developer to effectively and wisely help others learn about and implement SIM interventions and programs.

Join us in July and experience The Magic of SIM!

Evaluating Professional Development

Dr. Guskey's address will be based on his book, Evaluating Professional Development (Corwin, 2000), the National Staff Development Council's Book of the Year for 2000. In this book, Dr. Guskey describes the following five levels for assessing the effectiveness of professional development activities:

Level 1: Participants' Reactions. This level—generally completed through questionnaires at the end of a session—establishes whether participants liked an activity and believed it to be worthwhile. It also may include questions about the comfort level of participants, such as whether the room was too hot or too cold.

Level 2: Participants' Learning. This level focuses on the knowledge and skills participants gained during the session. Assessments at this level may involve a range of activities, from written responses to questions to demonstration of newly acquired skills.

Level 3: Organizational Support and Change. This level focuses on gathering information about whether the professional development activity was aligned with the organization's mission and goals, whether leadership within the organization publicly supported change, and whether organization leaders provided the necessary resources to encourage change.

Level 4: Participants' Use of New Knowledge and Skills. This level focuses on whether participants use what they have learned. Assessments at this level must be made after enough time has passed to allow participants to put their new skills into practice and may involve more than one follow up.

Level 5: Student Learning Outcomes. This level focuses on whether students benefited as a result of the professional development activities. Measures at this level depend on the goal of the activity and may include such indicators as student grades, scores on standardized tests, attendance, or classroom behavior.

Hotel Information
2005 International SIM Conference
July 20-22, 2005 • Lawrence, Kan.
Preconference July 18-19, 2005

Conference hotel

The 2005 conference hotel is again the SpringHill Suites in Lawrence. You must make your reservations early. A block of rooms will be held until June 20; however, we expect it may fill early. Several events are scheduled in Lawrence in late July, and other hotels may fill quickly, too.

To make your reservations, contact SpringHill Suites: 785.841.2700 (phone) or 785.841.2700 (fax). Specify that you are with the SIM Trainers' Conference. The discounted rate is $77 per night plus tax for king or double queen rooms.

Other lodging options

Hampton Inn
2300 W. 6th St., 785-841-4994
Ask for manager, Derrick, OR book online for this KU-CRL rate at:
hamptoninn.com/hi/Lawrence
use corp id: 0560066665
$68
Deluxe hot breakfast bar with rotating menu, indoor pool, hot tub, work-out room, free access to Lawrence Athletic Club next door, free high speed Internet

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
3411 Iowa
One of newest hotels
(Local) 785-749-7555
(Toll Free) 866-695-0459
$69 - double
Incl. pool, hot tub, Internet access, exercise center, deluxe breakfast bar. Walk to movie theaters, South Iowa shopping

Days Inn
2309 Iowa St., 785-843-9100
$55
Incl. refrigerator, coffeepot, Continental breakfast, indoor pool & Jacuzzi

Eldridge Hotel
701 Massachusetts, 785-749-5011
Historic Downtown Hotel
Under NEW OWNERSHIP

Halcyon House
www.thehalcyonhouse.com
1000 Ohio St., 785-841-0314
Bed and Breakfast
9 rooms, close to campus & downtown
$49-$149
Price reflects single and double room rates. Private baths start at $79. Full breakfast.

Westminster Inn & Suites
2525 W. 6th
785-841-8410
$49-$54
Swimming pool

Baymont Inn
740 Iowa Street, 800-528-1234
Summer: Weekday $57; Weekend $75
Hot breakfast, indoor pool, spa, exercise room, high speed internet in every room

Complete information is available on the conference web site: www.kucrl.org/conference:
• Registration form
• Preconference descriptions and registration form
• Tentative schedule
• New events for 2005

Don Deshler and the KU-CRL staff extend a special dinner invitation to first-time conference attendees. The dinner will be at 6:45 p.m. on the first day of the conference, July 20. If this is your first conference, please plan to join this group.

KU-CRL, California State University—Bakersfield, and Point Loma Nazarene University will present "Providing Quality Instruction through SIM" in June in Bakersfield, Calif.

The June 23-25 California SIM conference (CAL-SIM) will feature keynote addresses by Jean Schumaker and Mike Hock.

The conference is open to general and special education teachers, administrators, program specialists, SIM Professional Developers, university faculty, educational therapists, and parents.

The conference agenda includes sessions on promoting literacy in grades 4-12; *Fundamentals in Theme Writing* and *Proficiency in Sentence Writing* strategies; the *Possible Selves* program; the *Self-Advocacy Strategy* interactive CD; the Cooperative Thinking Series; *Lesson Organizer, Unit Organizer,* and *Concept Mastery* routines; and new research from KU-CRL.

Tony Van Reusen and Cindy Hurley are conference coordinators, and conference facilitators are Ginger Williams, Carla Soronen, and Becky Wetzel.

More information and registration forms are available on the KU-CRL web site, www.kucrl.org/htmlfiles/regional.html.

Transportation Information
2005 International SIM Conference
July 20-22, 2005 • Lawrence, Kan.
Preconference July 18-19, 2005

Even though some travel agents will tell you to fly to Topeka, plan to fly to Kansas City International Airport (official FAA abbreviation: "MCI"; known around here as "KCI"). Transportation from KCI to Lawrence is much easier. It is located northeast of Lawrence and is approximately an hour drive from Lawrence. You may want to rent a car or use the transportation services described below. If you are driving from the airport to Lawrence, take I-435 Topeka exit and then I-70 west. Leave the turnpike at the east Lawrence exit if you are staying at SpringHill Suites, the Eldridge Hotel, or the Halcyon House. For other places, the west Lawrence exit is more convenient.

Kansas Transportation Service:
Toll free: 1-877-942-0544
Lawrence: 841-7321
www.travel-kts.com
Make Reservations 24 hours ahead of time. Conference participants qualify for a $44 discounted **round-trip fare** (regular price is $55) to and from any site in Lawrence. You must say you want the *"discounted KU-CRL fare"* when making reservations to get this price. If you make reservations online, you must write "discounted KU-CRL fare" in the Additional Notes box. There is a cancellation fee. Guarantee your reservation with a credit card number, but tell them you will pay with cash to avoid a cancellation fee.

Midwest Transportation Service:
Shuttle from and to Airport
Toll free: 888-467-3729
Local: 838-4500   FAX: 785-865-5121
Online reservations: midwestlimo.com
Make reservations 12 to 24 hours ahead of time. $25 one way, $50 round trip

785-842-8294 for reservations for taxi
Rates within Lawrence are $8 for a ride

for anywhere within the city limits. Each additional passenger rides for an additional $1.50. It is $2.00 per additional stop, and there is a charge of 40¢ per minute after 3 minutes of waiting.

Rental Car Services

Alamo
816.464.5151
www.alamo.com

Avis
816.243.5760
www.avis.com

Budget
816.243.5757
www.drivebudget.com

Dollar
800.800.4000
www.dollar.com

Enterprise
816.464.2500
www.erac.com

Hertz
816.243.5765
www.hertz.com

National
816.243.5700
www.nationalcar.com

Payless
800.258.1288
www.paylesscarrental.com

Thrifty
816.464.5670
www.thrifty.com

StrateDirectory, StratePubs 2005

This issue of *Stratenotes* comes to you as part of a special mailing for *Strateworks* members.

StrateDirectory

This mailing includes the 2005 issue of *StrateDirectory.* The alphabetical listing of SIM Professional Development Network members lists all members who have ever filled out a directory information form. A notation of "Prof. Dev." after a member's name indicates he or she is an active member of the network. Inactive members are listed as "Affiliates."

The remaining two sections of the directory— the *Listing by State and City* and the *Details by State* listings—provide information about active SIM Professional Developers only.

To be included in the directory, SIM Professional Developers must complete a directory information form. An "active" status means that the professional developer maintains a current *Strateworks* subscription and has attended a SIM update meeting within the past two years.

If you think you have been left out of the directory by mistake, please let us know or simply complete the form at the back of the directory and submit it to KU-CRL, Attn: Directory Updates, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Road Room 517, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101.

StratePubs

This year's *StratePubs* features two recent articles by KU-CRL researchers.

Teaching Adolescents to be Strategic Learners, by Jean Schumaker and Don Deshler, is a comprehensive review of research related to the Strategic Instruction Model.

Instructional Coaches Make Progress through Partnership, by Jim Knight, describes the work of instructional coaches in KU-CRL's Pathways to Success project in Topeka, Kan. The article describes what coaches do, how they are selected, how they learn to do their jobs, and lessons learned from the project.

Reading modules offered

The eight Reading Modules originally developed by KU-CRL's Online Academy are now available at a discount for members of the SIM Network.

The series covers such topics as Overview of Learning Disabilities and Reading Disabilities, Beginning Word Reading, Advanced Word Reading and Developing Reading Fluency, Basic Principles in Reading Comprehension, Building Background Knowledge for Reading Comprehension, and Goal Specific Comprehension Strategies.

Once enrolled, you may complete the modules at your own pace and on your own schedule. A certificate of completion can be provided.

The cost for SIM Network members is $75 per module, which represents a discount of 25 percent. A complete set of the eight modules can be purchased at a discounted price of $560.

The modules are available through E Learning Creations, Inc. For more information, contact Susan Catts at susan.catts@elearningcreations.com or 816.213.6092.

Strateworks Renewal 2004-2005

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Work Address: _____

_____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Please indicate where you prefer to receive mail: _____home _____work

E-mail address: _____

Please add me to the SIMTRAINER-L e-mail discussion list _____

VISA/MasterCard Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Authorization: _____

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