



# StrateNotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • Winter 2005 • Volume 14, Issue 3

## Calendar

### January 12-14, 2006

Instructional Coaching  
Institute  
Lawrence, Kan.

### January 19-20, 2006

Florida Update  
Embassy Suites  
Altamonte Springs, Fla.  
Organizer: Kay  
Younginger  
(projcentral@mail.ucf.  
edu)

### February 10-11, 2006

West Region Update  
Harrah's Las Vegas Hotel,  
Las Vegas  
Organizers: Barbara  
Millikan (Barbara\_  
Millikan@beavton.k12.  
or.us) and Susan P. Miller  
(millersp@unlv.nevada.  
edu)

### March 2-4, 2006

Southeast Region  
Update  
Holiday Inn Historic  
District, Charleston, S.C.  
Organizer: Jerri Neduchal  
(JerriNSisinc@aol.com)

### June 12-16, 2006

LS Potential Professional  
Developer Institute  
St. Louis, Mo.  
Contact: Mary Ellen  
O'Hare (mohare@ssd.  
k12.mo.us)

### June 20-22, 2006 and Jan. 11-12, 2007

LS Potential Professional  
Developer Institute  
Austin, Texas  
Contact: Candace Bixler  
(candace.bixler@esc13.  
txed.net)

(More calendar on page 2)

## KU-CRL schedules 2006 SIM institutes

KU-CRL again will offer a range of summer institutes for teachers and others interested in learning more about the Strategic Instruction Model.

The 2006 lineup includes two institutes for college and university faculty—*SIM Learning Strategies Institute for Preservice Educators* and *Teaching Content To All: Effective College Teaching*—as well as multiple dates for the *Instructional Coaching Institute*. Other institutes focus specifically on writing strategies, reading and writing strategies, or content enhancement.

Please distribute this information to any individual who might be interested in learning more about SIM.

The Strategic Instruction Model (SIM), developed by researchers and teachers at the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning, is an approach to teaching adolescents who struggle with becoming good readers, writers, and learners. SIM is based on the reality that for adolescents to meet high standards, they must be able to read and understand large volumes of complex, difficult reading materials. Additionally, they must acquire the skills to express themselves effectively in writing. The instructional components of SIM take the processes that are necessary for learning and break them down into manageable steps, enabling students to successfully meet standards.

### Instructional Coaching

January 12-14, 2006

August 3-5, 2006

October 12-14, 2006

\$450

This institute will offer an opportunity for educators to learn the basics of instructional coaching. The methods that coaches can use to enable instructional improvements will be emphasized. This institute is provided for professional developers and other education professionals who want to accelerate professional learning in schools. Participants do not need a knowledge of the Strategic Instruction Model, and specific SIM interventions will not be addressed in this institute. The workshop will address *how* to coach, not *what*. Registration should be postmarked by **Dec. 12, 2005**, for the January workshop; by **June 30, 2006**, for the August workshop; or **Sept. 11, 2006**, for the October workshop. *Late registration is an additional \$25.*

### Institute Fees

Institute fees cover the cost of materials and instruction provided with the SIM Professional Development Institute. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation, housing, and meals.

### Application & Registration Forms

For applications or registration forms for Strategic Instruction Model Professional Development Institutes at the University of Kansas, please write to:

Institutes, KU-CRL

Joseph R. Pearson Hall  
1122 West Campus Road,  
Room 521

Lawrence, KS 66045-3101  
or call 785.864.0626

Information also may be requested through e-mail, [crl@ku.edu](mailto:crl@ku.edu), or by downloading registration or application forms from the KU-CRL web site: [www.kucrl.org](http://www.kucrl.org). Select "Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers."

### More calendar

#### June 20-22, 2006 and Jan. 11-12, 2007

CE Potential Professional Developer Institute  
Austin, Texas  
Contact: Candace Bixler (candace.bixler@esc13.txed.net)

#### June 22-24, 2006

CAL-SIM  
Sacramento, Calif.  
Organizers: Peggy and Jeff Reyes (jrpeg@comcast.net)

#### July 17-18, 2006

SIM Preconference  
SpringHill Suites, Lawrence, Kan.

#### July 19-21, 2006

International SIM Conference  
SpringHill Suites, Lawrence, Kan.  
Organizer: Mona Katz (crl@ku.edu)

#### July 31-August 4, 2006

LS Potential Professional Developers Institute  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Contact: Mona Katz (crl@ku.edu)

#### July 31-August 4, 2006

CE Potential Professional Developers Institute  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Contact: Mona Katz (crl@ku.edu)

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## SIM Learning Strategies Institute for Preservice Educators

May 30-June 3, 2006  
(noon Tuesday to noon Saturday)  
\$800

The purpose of this institute is to enable preservice educators in teacher education programs to provide empirically-validated interventions from the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) to prospective teachers. This institute will focus on exploring strategies from the SIM Learning Strategies Curriculum. Participants will explore several learning strategies and will be provided sample syllabi, books, and teaching resources that can be used to modify existing courses or construct new courses. Registration should be postmarked by **April 14, 2006**. *Late registration is an additional \$25.*

## Teaching Content to All: Effective College Teaching

May 30-June 3, 2006  
(noon Tuesday to noon Saturday)  
\$800

This institute is designed for all college/university faculty who are engaged in teacher preparation, interested in honing their teaching skills, or new to the profession of teaching university students. This institute will enable faculty to implement a variety of empirically validated teaching routines from the Strategic Instruction Model Content Enhancement Series. Content will emphasize inclusive course planning and the implementation of a variety of explicit teaching routines designed to ensure content area mastery of critical ideas and concepts by all students. Participants will explore several routines in depth so that Content Enhancement (CE) Routines can be infused into existing courses or new courses can be constructed. Information related to meeting additional SIM CE Professional Developer certification requirements for inservice professional development also will be provided. Teams of individuals from the same institution are encouraged to apply. Registration should be postmarked by **April 14, 2006**. *Late registration is an additional \$25.*

## SIM Institute: Writing Strategies

June 26-30, 2006  
(noon Monday to noon Friday)  
\$600

This institute is designed for teachers who teach in general education and special education settings to provide them the tools necessary to incorporate the SIM writing curriculum into their courses. Participants will receive instruction in the SIM strategies for writing sentences, paragraphs, and themes. Sessions will be interactive, and participants will have time each day to practice and plan how to incorporate new information into their courses. The sessions are designed to be relevant for instructors at almost all levels (grade 3 to post-secondary). Individuals teaching English, language arts, communications, or learning strategies courses in a general education setting will find this institute practical and stimulating. The four-day institute begins at noon on June 26 and ends by noon on June 30. Registration should be postmarked by **May 8, 2006**. *Late registration is an additional \$25.*

### ***SIM Reading and Writing Strategies (formerly Level 1)***

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June 20-23, 2006  
(Tuesday a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday)  
\$525

This institute will introduce teachers to the foundations of SIM, then teach them to implement research-based interventions to help students acquire the skills necessary to understand grade-level reading materials. Institute participants will be offered two reading strategies, one vocabulary strategy, and the sentence writing strategies. Time will be allotted to planning for implementation. Registration should be postmarked by **May 8, 2006**. *Late registration is an additional \$25.*

### ***More SIM Strategies (formerly Level 2)***

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June 20-23, 2006  
(Tuesday a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday)  
\$525

This institute will offer instruction in additional SIM reading, writing, and other Learning Strategies. Participants who have attended an introductory SIM institute in the past and have implemented strategies will be able to select more strategies to support their literacy efforts. In addition to reading and writing strategies, selections may include strategies related to motivation, improving assignments, and studying and remembering information. Registration should be postmarked by **May 8, 2006**. Late registration is an additional \$25.

### ***SIM Institute: Introduction to Content Enhancement***

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June 26-29, 2006  
(Monday a.m. to Thursday p.m.)  
\$600

This Content Enhancement (CE) institute is designed to provide an opportunity for teachers to learn methods to teach large amounts of content to academically diverse classes in “learner-friendly” ways. In this hands-on institute, participants will plan how to use CE, a set of teacher routines developed through research at the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning, to enhance the ways they present subject-area content and improve students’ ability to organize, understand, and remember critical information. CE is intended to make content more accessible to students without diluting the content. General and special education teachers can benefit. During sessions, participants will learn routines from the CE series and then invent ways to implement the routines within their own courses. The CE routines include ways to plan courses, units, and lessons. Ways to teach the mastery of concepts, the mastery of the meaning of vocabulary words, the development of answers to critical questions, and to understand and remember key topic and main idea information are important parts. Registration should be postmarked by **May 8, 2006**. Late registration is an additional \$25.

#### ***In memoriam***

KU-CRL has learned of the death on August 14 of longtime SIM Professional Developer **Debra Wynn** of Connecticut. Debbie, age 48, had been battling breast cancer. Alice Henley wrote that Debbie was a wonderful teacher and colleague. Debbie taught at Hillcrest Middle School in Trumbull, Conn., where she held numerous leadership positions. Survivors include a son and daughter, Todd Wynn Springer and Bailey Wynn Springer.

#### ***Northeast update***

On November 4 and 5, 35 SIM Professional Developers from the Northeast and a few other states met for the Northeast Regional Conference at the Westin Hotel in Providence, R.I.

KU-CRL Director of Professional Development **Janet Roth** reports that “the weather was beautiful, as were the participants at the conference.”

Thanks to **Alice Henley** for organizing an excellent conference; to **Rosemary Tralli**, who created table decorations using the lovely autumn colors; to **Keith Lenz**, **Trent Steffen**, and **David Scanlon** for their presentations; and to all those who participated and made the two days special.

### **SMARTER in China**

**Shirley Leali**, SIM Professional Developer and professor at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, recently had the opportunity to present SMARTER Planning during a conference in China. She attended an international U.S./China joint conference in Beijing as a mathematics delegate.

### **Notes from Louisiana**

Despite the hardships and challenges of the past hurricane season, Louisiana continues to expand its SIM program. Our continued concern and sympathy go out to all those along the Gulf Coast who show so much resilience despite having lost so much.

**Anne Cloutre**, SIM Professional Developer from Baton Rouge, recently sent an update of the situation in and around New Orleans. "The devastation is beyond my description and comprehension," she writes. In addition to the physical destruction, the hurricanes have caused monumental financial strain on the state. When Anne wrote, the legislature had just begun making cuts in government and spending. The Department of Education, which employs several of our SIM PDs, will be reorganized soon, and deep cuts are expected in the state budget overall.

Our thoughts are with all as they face these continuing challenges.

### **Logging on to SIMville**

From the KU-CRL home page  
**www.kucrl.org**  
select **SIMville** from the list on the left.

You will be asked for a password.  
Type **strategic**

## **Potential SIM Professional Developers Institutes for Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement**

July 31-August 4, 2006  
(Monday a.m. to Friday p.m.)  
\$750

These two five-day SIM professional development institutes will be conducted simultaneously and will use the Content Literacy Continuum as the unifying framework. **Instruction in specific CE Routines and Learning Strategies will not be offered during this week; the focus will be on the professional development process.**

**Participants will be selected through an application process. Eligible applicants**

- a) are experienced SIM teachers, administrators, coordinators, or university personnel who have previously received professional development in CE Routines or Learning Strategies and have implemented them successfully with students;
- b) have the energy and spirit required to be good professional developers;
- c) have effective communication skills in teaching adults and working with administrators; and, most critically,
- d) have administrative support for their participation in acquiring training/instruction, attending update sessions to maintain their professional developer status, finding time and resources required to deliver instruction to others, and gaining wide-spread, long-term implementation success.

Applications should be postmarked and mailed by **April 14, 2006**.

## **Essay Test-Taking Strategy overhead revised**

During the Northeast Regional Update meeting in November, participants noted that Step 6 on Overhead #34 in the Essay Test-Taking Strategy professional developers' guide was listed incorrectly.

The corrected overhead  
appears on **page 5**.

# **Lesson 4:**

## **“WRITING THE ANSWER”**

**This lesson involves  
teaching:**

**Step 5: Engineer Your  
Answer**

**Step 6: Review Your  
Answer**

## Strateworks Renewal 2005-2006

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 indicate whether you are interested in receiving referrals for independent professional development work when inquiries are received from schools in your area/state: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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