New PD Director Patty Graner!

Patty Graner, a familiar face in the SIM Network, has taken on a new role, that of KU-CRL director of professional development.

KU-CRL Director Don Deshler made the announcement in early June.

Patty, who assumes her new responsibilities immediately, brings a rich array of experiences as a teacher, administrator, and SIM Professional Developer. She has been a certified member of the network since 1988 and has assumed a host of professional development leadership roles.

She has co-directed KU-CRL's Teaching Content to All institutes for the past several years and has directed several Potential SIM Professional Development Institutes.

Patty served as the director of professional development for the Strategic Learning Center in Seattle from its inception in 1999 to 2002. As a result of her work there, she was awarded a doctoral fellowship to KU to pursue her doctoral degree.

During her doctoral studies, Patty's primary area of emphasis has been professional development. She will complete her doctoral degree later this summer.

Above: Don Deshler introduces Patty Graner as the new KU-CRL Director of Professional Development. *Below:* Patty says a few words about her goals in her new role.

Patty takes the position long held by Janet Roth. As members of the network no doubt know, Janet retired on April 1.

"The leadership that Jan provided and contributions that she made were most significant," Don says. "We will be forever grateful for all that she did on behalf of the CRL and the members of the SIM Professional Development Network."

Photos by Mona Katz/KU-CRL

Send your news to Julie Tollefson at the Center for Research on Learning, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Road Room 521, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101 or e-mail Julie at jtollefson@ku.edu.

THE SPRING GROWING SEASON IS

here, and SIM gardeners are sharing their abundance. SIMTRAINER-L, the electronic mailing list for SIM Professional Developers, has been abuzz with requests and ideas. Here is a sampler to add to your SIM garden idea book.

Q: Have you used LINCS with elementary students? How young? Have you adapted the strategy at all?

A: I have used LINCS—both the learning strategy and the content enhancement routine—with elementary students in small class settings and in tutorial situations.

We use the two middle frames of the CE tables to expand the space for cartooning and stretch the writing along the bottom edge of those two frames.

On the LINCS card, we mark up the vocabulary word using the Orton-based reading method that I teach (Wilson Reading System). This really helps reinforce phonemic awareness, syllabication, and morphology.

—Mandy Horton,
Florida

A: We blow up the LINCS table to blueprint size, laminate it, and let teachers take it back to their classrooms. Elementary teachers love this!
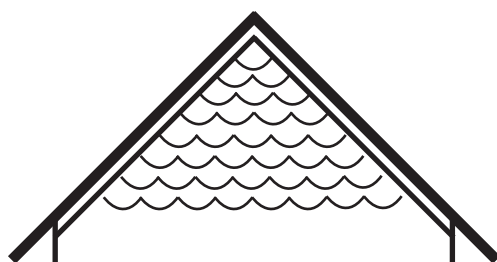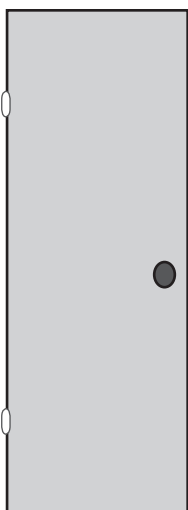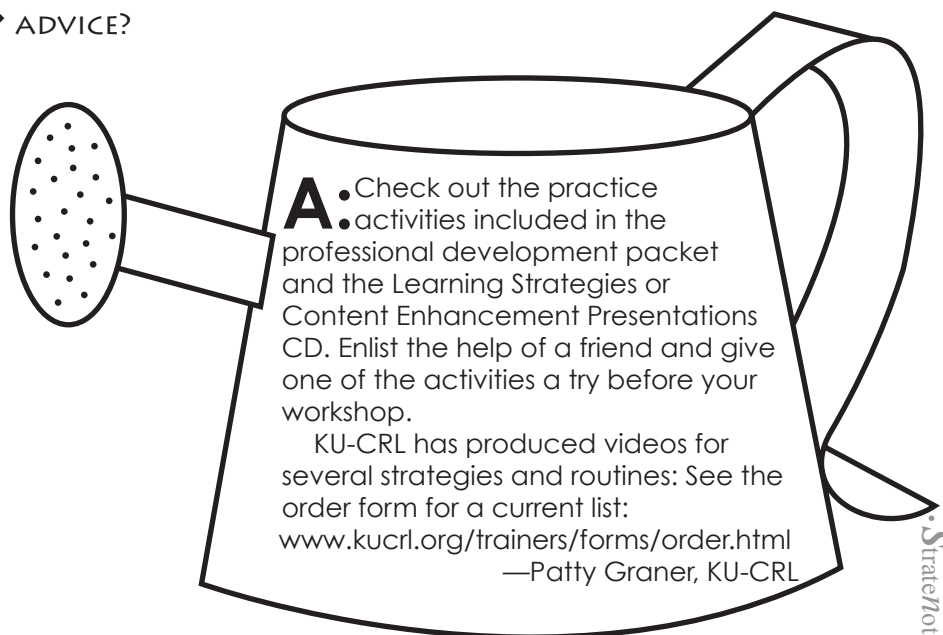
—Helen Barrier, Virginia

Tool shed

• **SIMville:** Part of the KU-CRL web site just for SIM Professional Developers. Find past articles, ideas for workshops and other resources here. (Password is "strategic")

• **Downloads:** A collection of materials are available at www.kucrl.org/downloads. Includes SIM handouts; resources related to SIM and No Child Left Behind; and research summaries for several strategies.

• **Strategram archives:** Several volumes of *Strategram* articles are archived on SIMville. They are organized by volume (www.kucrl.org/strategram/volindex.html) or by subject (www.kucrl.org/strategram/subindex.html).
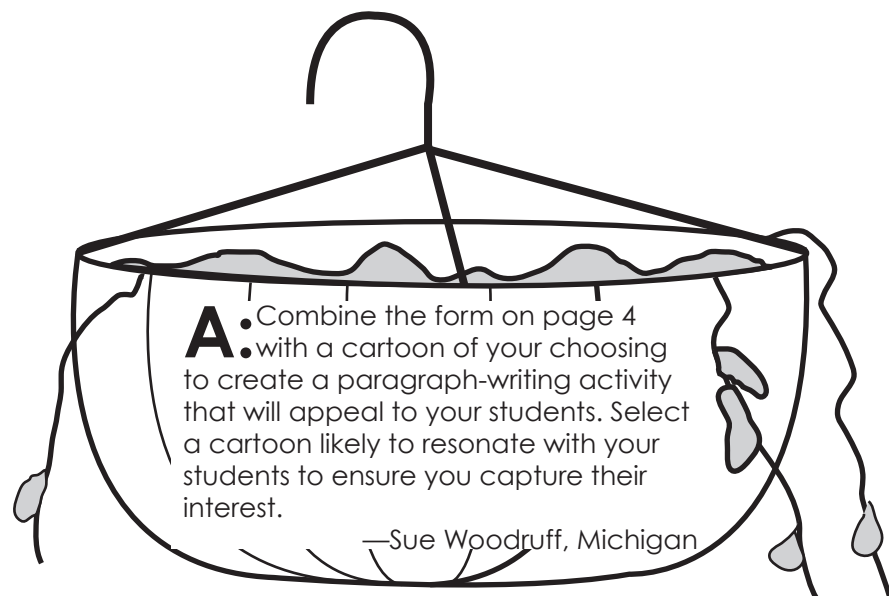
Q: I am scheduled to work with teachers soon on Word Identification and Paragraph Writing, but I don't have much classroom experience with these strategies. Any advice?

A: Check out the practice activities included in the professional development packet and the Learning Strategies or Content Enhancement Presentations CD. Enlist the help of a friend and give one of the activities a try before your workshop.

KU-CRL has produced videos for several strategies and routines: See the order form for a current list: www.kucrl.org/trainers/forms/order.html
—Patty Graner, KU-CRL

A: Combine the form on page 4 with a cartoon of your choosing to create a paragraph-writing activity that will appeal to your students. Select a cartoon likely to resonate with your students to ensure you capture their interest.
—Sue Woodruff, Michigan

If you can harvest great ideas like these from one small seed planted on SIMTRAINER-L, imagine the bounty you can expect from tilling the fertile fields of the SIM Conference! Registration forms and more information are available on the conference web site: www.kucrl.org/conference.

INSERT CARTOON OF YOUR CHOICE HERE.

Select a cartoon likely to resonate

with your students to ensure you capture their interest.

This activity was developed by Kristine Reeths,
Muskegon High School English language arts teacher.
Thanks to Kristine and Sue Woodruff for sharing.

Elements of Humor

Identify the elements of humor found in the above cartoon. Complete the diagram below. Write a paragraph that explains the elements of humor and what makes this cartoon funny.

Topic: _____

Topic Sentence: _____

_____

Details: Elements and why funny

◯ _____

◯ _____

◯ _____

◯ _____

◯ _____

Conclusion: _____

_____

Additions to the 2006 International SIM Conference schedule

● A general session and box lunch have been added to the Wednesday schedule. The session, *Forging a Partnership with Teachscape,* will introduce a new collaboration between KU-CRL and Teachscape, a technology-enabled professional services organization. The two entities intend to tap their combined power to support SIM efforts nationwide. This session will highlight the benefits for the SIM Network. A breakout session after this general session—*Teaming through Teachscape: How Can We Maximize Our Impact by Leveraging a Blended Model of Implementation Through Our Partnership with Teachscape?*—will provide more details about the partnership.

● Throughout the conference, EDGE Enterprises and GIST will demonstrate new technology in the hotel board room. Check your program book for each day's scheduled demonstrations.

● The most up-to-date conference information and registration forms are available on our conference web site, www.kucrl.org/conference.

● We hope to see you in July!

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

2006 International SIM Conference
July 19-21, 2006 ◊ SpringHill Suites ◊ Lawrence, KS

(Not Quite As Tentative) Conference Schedule

Wednesday-Friday, July 19-21, 2006
SpringHill Suites • Lawrence, Kan.

Wednesday, July 19

8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m.	Welcome, opening session
8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	General session: *Myths and Realities of Adolescent Literacy*
10:45 a.m.-11:45 a.m.	Breakout sessions
11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	General session: *Forging a Partnership with Teachscape.* Box lunch included.
1:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.	Breakout sessions
3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Kaleidoscope and breakout sessions
5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.	Social
6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Dinner for first-time attendees

Thursday, July 20

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.	Keynote: *Adolescent Literacy In and Out of School,* Elizabeth Moje
9:45 a.m.-11:15 a.m.	Breakout sessions
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Recognition luncheon
1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Breakout sessions

Friday, July 21

7:15 a.m.-8:15 a.m.	Poster session and continental breakfast
8:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m.	General session: *Moving Schools Forward with Instructional Coaching and CLC*
10:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Breakout sessions
12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.	Closing session

Strateworks Renewal 2006-2007

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED