

Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • September 2007 • Volume 16, Issue 1

CRL accomplishments: A look back at '06-'07

KU-CRL Staff

Every year, we prepare a review of the Center's accomplishments for the annual report of KU's School of Education. The review encompasses all four of the Center's divisions and gives a glimpse of the range of interests and expertise of our researchers. Here is our look back at 2006-2007.

CRL studies problems in education and works to place solutions that make a difference into the hands of educators, learners, employers, and policy makers.

- The National Research Center on Learning Disabilities, a joint project of researchers at CRL and Vanderbilt University, has released its *Learning Disabilities Resource Kit: Specific Learning Disabilities Determination Procedures and Responsiveness to Intervention*. The kit will guide and support state and local education agency personnel as they revise the procedures used to identify students with learning disabilities. The kit also answers questions regarding the responsiveness to intervention education model,

The Center for Research on Learning (CRL) encompasses four divisions, each with a slightly different research emphasis. **Advanced Learning Technologies** (ALTEC) uses the most advanced and innovative technologies available to improve teaching and learning.

The **Division of Adult Studies** (DAS) addresses issues in the transition, education, employment, and quality of life of adults with disabilities. The **e-Learning Design Lab** (eDL) studies and develops online instruction with an underlying commitment to identifying and institutionalizing the elements of online teaching that are inherent in a mature pedagogy. The **Institute for Effective Instruction** studies factors related to academic achievement, designs interventions that dramatically improve the performance of learners, and develops systems to ensure implementation success.

- in which schools design multiple levels of support for struggling students.
- CRL researchers developed and tested a two-year intervention for struggling adolescent readers in two urban high schools. The program, called Fusion Reading, was implemented successfully, and staff are now analyzing data gathered during the study.
- CRL researchers completed a descriptive study of the nature of reading skills possessed by struggling and proficient readers.
- The Blending Assessment with Instruction Program (BAIP) in mathematics has been field tested and will be made available statewide by the Kansas State Department of Education in the fall of 2007.
- eDL, in collaboration with a publisher, developed an e-book that allows students to access a variety of instructional resources. eDL designed the authoring system to create the e-book, and the pub-

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- lisher assumed responsibility for content.
- eDL completed development of a program for KU's Center for Independent Living focusing on what young adults with disabilities need to know when seeking access to postsecondary education and preparing them to be self-advocates. The program is a hybrid of eDL's online module design and the e-book format.
 - CRL staff published several books during the past year:
 - *Informed Choices for Struggling Adolescents: A Research-Based Guide to Instructional Programs and Practices*, by **Donald D. Deshler**, Annemarie Sullivan Palincsar, Gina Biancarosa, and Marnie Nair (International Reading Association)
 - *Instructional Coaching: A Partnership Approach to Improving Instruction*, by **Jim Knight** (Corwin Press)
 - *Coaching Classroom Management: Strategies and Tools for Administrators and Coaches*, by Randy Sprick, **Jim Knight**, Wendy Reinke, and **Tricia McKale** (Pacific Northwest Publishing)
 - *RTI: A Practitioner's Guide to Implementing Response to Intervention*, by **Daryl F. Mellard** and Evelyn Johnson (Corwin Press)
 - CRL secured several new grants:
 - The National Technical Assistance and Dissemination Center on Response to Intervention is a \$2.5 million, five-year grant from the American Institutes for Research. This center's goal will be to meet the needs of educators, policymakers, and concerned individuals for information about and help establishing research-based practices related to response to intervention and early intervening services.
 - The Capacity Building for Content Literacy Continuum Implementation project, funded by the Stupski Foundation for \$170,000, will strengthen CRL's capacity to help schools adopt the Content Literacy Continuum™ model for improving adolescent literacy.
 - Improving Adults' Reading Outcomes with Strategic Tutoring and Content Enhancement Routines is a \$1.99 million, four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. This study will test ways to improve Job Corps participants' reading and curricular outcomes using Strategic Tutoring and Content Enhancement Routines developed by CRL.
 - Improving Instruction through Implementation of the Partnership Instructional Coaching Model is a \$1.9 million, four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. This study to develop a Partnership Instructional Coaching model for improving instruction and achievement of students with disabilities will involve middle schools in Florida, Colorado, and Texas.
 - The five-year, \$5.9 million Adolescent Literacy Partnerships: Meeting the Needs of All Students project, funded by the Virginia Department of Education, will expand on work undertaken during a three-year State Improvement Grant. The continued goal of the work is to improve literacy outcomes for adolescents with disabilities through use of CRL's Strategic Instruction Model™ and Content Literacy Continuum™.

KU-CRL Pearl Anniversary SIM Conference 30 Years with SIM

July 16-18, 2008

Kansas City Marriott, Country Club Plaza
4445 Main, Kansas City, MO

Make your reservations early. Call 816.531.3000 or 800.810.3708
Online reservations: Use the link from the KU-CRL international conference web page:
www.kucrl.org/conferences/sim

For more information, go to www.kucrl.org/conferences

E-mail ideas for presentations, kaleidoscopes, posters to Mona Tipton at mkatz@ku.edu
Watch for more information in future issues of *Stratenotes*

Announcements

Northeast Regional Update Conference

The Northeast Regional Update Conference will be Nov. 2-3 in Mystic, Conn. Registration is \$200. Festivities begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 2, at the Hilton Mystic Hotel. For reservations, call 860-572-0731 or 800-HILTONS by Oct. 12. Group name: SIM Northeast Conference. Coordinated by Alice Henley (henley@ctserc.org). For more information and a registration form, visit <http://www.kucrl.org/sim/regional.shtml>.

Iowa Update Conference

An Iowa Update Conference will be June 10-11 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Des Moines. Stay tuned to *Stratenotes* and visit our web site for more information.

Directory Information Deadline

It is almost time for us to put together another StrateDirectory. The directory is distributed in February, but the process of updating and compiling it begins months earlier. If you have moved, changed jobs, changed your name, or in any other way need to update the information we have on file for you, please complete the Directory Information Form on pages 6 and 7. The deadline for inclusion in the 2008 edition of StrateDirectory is **December 1**.

This is the first newsletter of the 2007-2008 membership year

If there is a **red dot** on the mailing label on this newsletter, you have not renewed your Strateworks membership for 2007-2008. **Please do so now**, or you will be dropped from the list of "active" SIM Professional Developers.

If there is a **green dot** on your mailing label, **THANK YOU!** for your renewal.

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: _____

☐ Personal Card

☐ Business Card

If business, name of institution: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature Authorization: _____

Mail completed form and your payment of \$35 (U.S.) to KU-CRL
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Lawrence, KS 66045-3101

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CALENDAR

October 10-12, 2007

Instructional Coaching
Institute (SOLD OUT)
Lawrence, Kan.
Contact: Mona Tipton or
Kathy Schmidt (crl@ku.edu,
785.864.0626)

October 15-17, 2007

Instructional Coaching
Conference
Lawrence, Kan.
Contact: Mona Tipton or
Kathy Schmidt (crl@ku.edu,
785.864.0626)

November 2-3, 2007

SIM Northeast Conference
Mystic Hilton, Mystic Seaport,
Conn.
Reservations: 800 HILTONS
by October 12, 2007
Contact: Alice Henley
(henley@ctserc.org)

January 17-18, 2008

Florida PD Update
Alamonte Springs, Fla.
Hotel TBA
Contact: Mary Little
(projcentral@mail.ucf.edu)

February 21-23, 2008

SIM Southeast Conference
Francis Marion Hotel, Historic
District, Charleston, SC
Reservations:
843.722.0600 or
877.756.2121 by January
20, 2008
Contact: Jerri Neduchal
(jerrinsinc@aol.com)

June 10-11, 2008

Iowa Update Conference
Hilton Garden Inn, Des
Moines

More calendar, page 8

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TIP

Content Enhancement PD: Advice from the field

SIM Professional Developer **Kathy Boyle-Gast** of Athens, Ga., recently asked other SIM PDs to weigh in on a plan to provide two days of professional development in Content Enhancement. Here is a summary of her request and the discussion it generated on SIMTRAINER-L.

Kathy's Situation: Kathy has been asked to provide two days (about seven hours each day) of professional development in Content Enhancement for middle and high school teachers. Participants will represent both general education and special education (in both collaborative and support skills/resource settings). The teachers do not have any experience with Content Enhancement. Some may have experience with a few of the reading and writing strategies, but others will not be familiar with the Strategic Instruction Model at all. Kathy asked colleagues on SIMTRAINER-L which routines they would recommend she offer, giving special consideration to those that would have the most powerful effect for teachers and would be implemented most readily.

Discussion and Advice: **Helen Barrier** of Roanoke, Va., suggested that Kathy first initiate discussions with a group of teachers and administrators to obtain formal and informal data related to student needs.

"Is it literacy issues? AYP? Teacher dissatisfaction with student performance? Carryover from writing and reading skills?" she asks. "We have found that if teachers have a voice in what is being taught and see a direct connection as to

the 'why' of it, your implementation and investment rates are so much higher."

Paying attention to these factors, Helen says, can help professional developers build a plan that will give the best bang for the buck.

Once the needs of participants have been identified, discussion participants were confident Kathy could cover three or four routines in the time allotted.

"I think educators, when given well-planned professional development, will

SIMTRAINER-L is an e-mail discussion list just for active SIM Professional Developers. This Professional Development Tip is an example of the discussions that take place.

rise to the challenge of learning four in two days," says **Bruce Noah** of Davenport, Iowa.

Given that many of the participants will not have knowledge of SIM, "a very solid presentation on SIM and how CE started, along with how the routines were researched, is essential," says **Linda Saletto** of New Port Richey, Fla.

Each professional developer responding to the question offered personal favorites from among the routines—*Framing*, *Vocabulary LINCing*, *Recall Enhancement*, and *SLANT* to name a few.

"I like to start with *Unit Organizer* and then the *Lesson Organizer*," says **Roxi Moore** of Fullerton, Calif. "This way, they are all on the same page, and the principal can see results from the money they spent."

Walter Kimball of Gorham, Maine,

described a three-day program offered by **Rosemary Tralli** (Glastonbury, Conn.) , in which she presented an orientation to SIM and the research, *Unit Organizer*, *Framing Routine*, and *Following Instructions Together* and *Organizing Together* from the Community Building Series. The lineup offered a nice cross-section of routines, he says, and had a nice flow and connections across days. Participants also responded positively.

Finally, a considerable amount of time should be devoted to helping participants make decisions about how they will use the routine in their classroom.

"Without that assistance and time to plan out their first use of the routine, most will not implement, as you most likely know," Linda says. "Give them time to practice use of the routine with your whole group or in small groups. The more practice, the more comfortable they will be in using it in their teaching."

Linda and Helen both emphasized the importance of following up with participants after the professional development session—online, on-site, by phone, or using a combination of communication methods.

"Coaching is essential," says Helen. "Don't do any professional

development unless it includes follow-up for coaching throughout the year."

Helen and Linda also cautioned against trying to provide too much professional development.

"Don't be pushed into doing more routines than what they are ready to implement now," says Linda. "Take your time, move slowly and purposefully."

Miscellaneous Tips

- Look for strategies and routines that can work together when used simultaneously across departments. For example, if language arts teachers are teaching the *Sentence Writing* and *Paragraph Writing* strategies, the rest of the core areas can use the *Framing Routine* to support writing while cueing students to use PENS. Such cross-curriculum coordination can result in huge gains.
- If the school uses interactive notebooks, participants can incorporate Course Maps, Unit Organizers, Frames, Concept Diagrams, and LINC's Tables into those. They are a natural fit and teachers see the connections right away.

—Helen Barrier

Subscribe to SIMTRAINER-L

e-mail jtollefson@ku.edu

SIMville Sign-On Reminder:

User name: Network
Password: strategic

StrateReaders 2007-2008

StrateReaders, our online book club, has moved and is now part of Stratepedia (see below):

<http://courses.stratepedia.org/course/view.php?id=45>

StrateReaders participants will discuss four books in 2007-2008.

- *Is Literacy Enough? Pathways to Academic Success for Adolescents* by Snow, Porche, Tabors, and Harris
- *Instructional Coaching: A Partnership Approach to Improving Instruction* by Knight
- *How the Way We Talk Can Change the Way We Work: Seven Languages for Transformation* by Kegan and Lahey
- *Made to Stick: Why Some Ideas Survive and Others Die* by Heath and Heath

Stratepedia

1. Open your web browser to <http://courses.stratepedia.org/>
2. Click the Create new account link at the top of the right-hand column.
3. Complete the new account form. Be sure to enter your real e-mail address—you will need it to verify your account in a moment. Click the Create my new account button when finished.
4. Check your e-mail inbox for an automated message from Aaron Sumner. This message should arrive within a minute or two and includes a verification link. Click this link or copy and paste it to your browser's address field.
5. Join a group by selecting it from the front page. Many groups require an enrollment key for access. You can get this key from the group leader listed with the group.

For detailed, illustrated instructions, visit <http://courses.stratepedia.org/> and click How to create an account. For assistance, e-mail Aaron Sumner at asumner@ku.edu.



Complete this form and mail or fax it to KU-CRL, 1122 West Campus Rd., 517 JRP, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101 • Fax: 785.864.5728

2008 SIM Directory Information

Date: _____

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____

Primary Employment Site: _____

Title of Position _____

Work Address: _____

Phone: _____

Note: If you do not want your phone number or address 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 professional developer
- ☐ other: _____

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

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

Indicate the student populations with which you are most familiar:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ESL | <input type="checkbox"/> At Risk | <input type="checkbox"/> Gen. Ed. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LD | <input type="checkbox"/> Hear Imp | <input type="checkbox"/> Adults |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BD | <input type="checkbox"/> Vis Imp | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MR | <input type="checkbox"/> Autism | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADD | | |

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

Learning Strategies

- ☐ ID = Word Identification
- ☐ SQ = Self-Questioning
- ☐ VI = Visual Imagery
- ☐ PP = Paraphrasing
- ☐ FIRST = FIRST-Letter Mnemonic
- ☐ FPS = Fund. of Paraphrasing & Summarizing
- ☐ PA = Paired Associates
- ☐ LVS = LINC'S Vocabulary Strategy
- ☐ SW = Sentence Writing
- ☐ PW = Paragraph Writing
- ☐ TW = Theme Writing
- ☐ EM = Error Monitoring
- ☐ INF = Inference
- ☐ IS = InSPECT
- ☐ AC = Assignment Completion
- ☐ ST = Strategic Tutoring
- ☐ TT = Test Taking
- ☐ ETT = Essay Test Taking
- ☐ SLANT

☐ THINK

- ☐ LEARN
- ☐ BUILD
- ☐ SCORE
- ☐ TEAM = Teamwork
- ☐ FIT = Following Instructions Together
- ☐ OT = Organizing Together
- ☐ TNT = Taking Notes Together
- ☐ TALK= Talking Together
- ☐ FT = Focusing Together
- ☐ Math Strategies

Motivation Strategies

- ☐ SA = Self-Advocacy
- ☐ PS = Possible Selves

Content Enhancement Routines

- ☐ CO = Course Organizer
- ☐ UO = Unit Organizer
- ☐ LO = Lesson Organizer

☐ CR = Clarifying

- ☐ FR = Framing
- ☐ SR = Survey
- ☐ VLR = Vocabulary LINCing Routine
- ☐ CM = Concept Mastery
- ☐ CA = Concept Anchoring
- ☐ CC = Concept Comparison
- ☐ RE = Recall Enhancement
- ☐ QE = Question Exploration
- ☐ QA = Quality Assignment
- ☐ OR = ORDER Routine

Teaming & Support

- ☐ CPS = Collaborative Problem Solving
- ☐ PROG = Progress Program
- ☐ SURF = Surface Counseling

What are your main areas of interest related to SIM?

Comments/Questions:

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

KU-CRL may use the following information when writing grant proposals. Completing this section is optional.

About how many teachers attend your professional development sessions annually?

Place a check next to the gender that describes you.

- ☐ Female ☐ Male

Place a check next to the race that describes you. (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Black/African American
- ☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native
- ☐ Asian/Pacific Islander
- ☐ Caucasian
- ☐ Hispanic
- ☐ Other (Explain:_____)

Place a check next to the age that best describes you.

- ☐ 20-29 ☐ 30-39 ☐ 40-49 ☐ 50-59 ☐ 60-69

Place a check next to the highest degree you have earned:

- ☐ Associate ☐ Bachelor ☐ Master's ☐ Doctorate

Place a check next to all of the following that describe student populations with whom you have worked.

- ☐ Black/African American
- ☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native
- ☐ Asian/Pacific Islander
- ☐ Caucasian
- ☐ Hispanic
- ☐ Other (Explain:_____)

In what areas do you hold certification/licensure and any endorsements?

INSIDE:

- **CRL accomplishments:**

Our annual report reveals interests, expertise of CRL researchers. Read all about it on page 1.

- **Advice from the field:**

SIM Professional Developers share suggestions for Content Enhancement professional development, page 4.

- **Update our records:**

Complete a new SIM Directory Information form by Dec. 1 to ensure the 2008 directory contains accurate information. See page 6.

Calendar, cont.

July 14-15, 2008

SIM Preconference

July 16-18, 2008

International SIM Conference
30th Anniversary Celebration
Kansas City Marriott on the Plaza,
Kansas City, MO
Reservations: 816.531.3000 or
800.531.3000
Contact: Mona Tipton (mkatz@ku.edu)

Fall 2008

CAL-SIM
San Francisco Bay Area, Calif.
Contact: Rosalind Davenport
(rdavenport@alameda.k12.ca.us)

Center for Research on Learning Pearl Anniversary

Help us commemorate 30 years of KU-CRL. Send your ideas for ways to celebrate, both throughout the year and during the International SIM Conference next July.

crl@ku.edu

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KU
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The University of Kansas

