

# Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • April 2009 • Volume 17, Issue 7

## CRL Online Resources

Julie Tollefson & Aaron Sumner  
KU-CRL

In recent years, we've seen an explosion in the number of web sites and online resources developed by the Center for Research on Learning. To help you find what you need, we've prepared this guide (accurate as of the end of March 2009).

### Center for Research on Learning Web Site

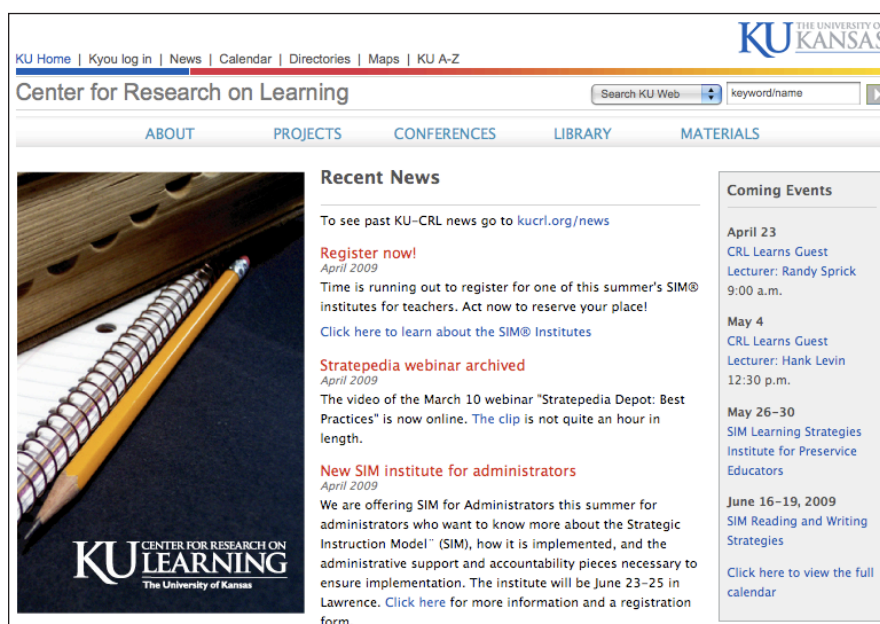
<http://www.kucrl.org>

This is the Center's home page and represents all six divisions and institutes. The home page features Strategic Instruction Model® and Content Literacy Continuum® links, a calendar of coming events, a "quick links" listing of related web sites, and announcements and news.

### CRL Learns

<http://crllearns.kucrl.org>

CRL Learns fosters innovation, learning, dialogue, and excitement about making a difference in students' lives. The initiative consists of four types of events: guest speakers, "workout" sessions in which researchers share their preliminary findings, book studies, and research capacity building sessions. The initiative's interactive web site offers



convenient access to videos and other materials related to CRL Learns presentations and encourages continuing conversations about topics explored during CRL Learns events.

### KU-CRL Media Archives

<http://media.kucrl.org>

We developed our media archives as a repository for our expanding collection of photography, video and audio clips, and other types of multimedia. The archives include podcasts, International SIM Conference photo galleries, and selected videos.

### THE CENTER'S SIX DIVISIONS AND INSTITUTES

#### Advanced Learning Technologies in Education Consortium

<http://www.altec.org>

The ALTEC mission is to design, develop, and evaluate the effective use of educational technologies in K-12 instruction and to use evolving telecommunication technologies to connect and engage learners. ALTEC resources, consisting of educational games, web-based instructional resources, scaleable online assessment, and assistance for

### CONTENTS

- Calendar, 2
- 2009 International SIM Conference, 5

- Stratedirectory Online, 6
- Preconference Sessions, 7
- Announcements, 7



## CALENDAR

### May 26-30, 2009

SIM Learning Strategies  
Institute for Preservice  
Educators  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Contact: Mona Tipton  
(mkatz@ku.edu)

### May 26-30, 2009

Teaching Content to All:  
Content Enhancement for  
Preservice Educators  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Contact: Mona Tipton  
(mkatz@ku.edu)

### June 16-19, 2009

SIM Strategies for Reading  
and Writing  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Contact: Mona Tipton  
(mkatz@ku.edu)

### June 16-19, 2009

More SIM Strategies  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Contact: Mona Tipton  
(mkatz@ku.edu)

### June 22-26, 2009

Institute for Potential SIM  
Professional Developers  
in Learning Strategies and  
Content Enhancement  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Contact: Mona Tipton  
(mkatz@ku.edu)

### June 23-26, 2009

SIM Institute: Introduction  
to Teaching with Content  
Enhancement  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Contact: Mona Tipton  
(mkatz@ku.edu)

### New! June 23-25, 2009

SIM for Administrators  
Lawrence, Kan.  
Space limited; Contact: Mona  
Tipton (mkatz@ku.edu)

More calendar,  
page 8

those with special needs, are accessed more than a million times a month. Our professional development providers address the challenges of implementing technologies in the classroom through on-site professional development, instructional coaching, and program support. Director: Marilyn Ault

### Division of Adult Studies

<http://das.kucrl.org>

The vision of the Division of Adult Studies is a world that values and respects people by fostering equal and continuing opportunities for all to fully participate in society. To contribute to that vision, DAS conducts research, evaluates programs and projects, disseminates findings, and provides assistance to individuals or organizations that seek to improve services for people with disabilities or disadvantages. Through its work, DAS cultivates improved policies, systems, and practices. Director: Daryl Mellard

### eLearning Design Laboratory

<http://elearnndesign.org>

The mission of the eLearning Design Laboratory is to explore new uses of technology to enhance learning environments that meet the educational and training needs of society. This involves the study, development, and research of new designs, principles, practices, tools, and policies that contribute to the pedagogy of e-learning. (The eLearning Design Laboratory is a joint effort with KU's Information and Telecommunication Technology Center) Co-directors: Ed Meyen and James Miller

### Institute for Research on Adolescent Learning

<http://iral.kucrl.org>

The Institute for Research on Adolescent Learning develops and researches instructional practices, strategies, and programs that significantly enhance the

achievement of adolescents who struggle with learning. Director: Mike Hock

### Kansas Coaching Project

<http://www.instructionalcoach.org>

The Kansas Coaching Project conducts research on instructional coaching, on-site professional development intended to teach educators how to use proven instructional methods. The project offers several opportunities throughout the year to learn more about coaching, including an annual fall conference featuring some of the nation's experts in instructional coaching. Director: Jim Knight

### Professional Development Research Institute

<http://pdri.kucrl.org>

The Professional Development Research Institute seeks new ways to deliver quality learning opportunities, conceptualize models of professional development, and provide support to teachers and other school personnel. The ultimate goal of our research and development activities in this area is improved student achievement through effective teaching practices. Director: Patricia Graner

### FOR SIM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPERS

### Stratedirectory Online

<http://directory.kucrl.org>

The familiar paper *Stratedirectory* now exists exclusively online. SIM Professional



Developers can customize their profiles—SIM expertise, professional history, contact information—and search for colleagues using this new online service. Only active members of the SIM International Professional Development Network appear in *Stratedirectory* search results.

### **SIMville**

<http://www.kucrl.org/simville/>

SIMville organizes documents and other resources that support your professional development efforts. Among its many collections are *Stratenotes* and *Strategram* archives, important forms, professional development skills and standards, and resources for new professional developers. The Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement collections include PowerPoint presentations for each intervention. You must have a user ID and password to gain access to SIMville. These are standard for all SIM Professional Developers.

*user ID:* Network  
*password:* strategic

Both the user ID and password are case-sensitive.

### **SIMTRAINER-L**

SIMTRAINER-L is an e-mail discussion list open only to members of the SIM International Professional Development Network. You manage your subscription to SIMTRAINER-L through your Profile page in *Stratedirectory Online*. To join SIMTRAINER-L, click on the Edit button near your name on your Profile page. Answer “yes” to the question, “Would you like to be added to the SIM Professional Developer e-mail discussion list?”

### **Conference**

<http://sim2009.kucrl.org>

This interactive site organizes all of the information related to the 2009 International SIM Conference: registration forms, schedule, session

descriptions, speakers, and more. The site offers opportunities for you to join discussions as we plan the conference.

### **STRATEPEDIA TOOLKIT**

#### **Coaching Calendar**

<http://coaching.stratopedia.org>

Coaching Calendar is a scheduling manager for schools and districts involved in instructional coaching and the Content Literacy Continuum®. This service is currently under development and available to CLC project sites in the state of Virginia. If you’d like us to let you know when Coaching Calendar is available at other sites, please e-mail [help@stratopedia.org](mailto:help@stratopedia.org).

#### **Depot**

<http://depot.stratopedia.org>

Depot is an online community of professional developers and teachers who use Content Enhancement. It is a place to share your Content Enhancement work with others as well as a place to give and receive feedback on Content Enhancement diagrams.

#### **Guidebooks**

<http://guides.stratopedia.org>

The Guidebooks section of Stratopedia offers step-by-step tutorials for components of the Stratopedia Toolkit. Guides are available online or as downloadable documents (pdf).

#### **Hello (the Stratopedia Blog)**

<http://hello.stratopedia.org>

Hello, the Stratopedia Blog, is your place to find news related to technology that is pertinent to strategic



**News from the blog:** [RSS may be like radio, but my RSS reader is my personal newspaper](#)

The University of Kansas  
Center for Research on Learning  
Joseph R. Pearson Hall  
1122 West Campus Road, Room 521  
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101  
Main Office: 785.864.4780  
Order Desk: 785.864.0617  
Fax: 785.864.5728  
E-mail: [simpd@ku.edu](mailto:simpd@ku.edu)

Contributors:  
Donald D. Deshler | Patricia Graner |  
Mona Tipton

Communications Director: Julie Tollefson  
Art Director: David Gnojek

STRATENOTES is published eight times from September through May and once every summer by the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning as part of Strateworks for the International Professional Development Network. Publication period 2008-2009; cost \$35.00. Permission to reproduce any or all parts of Stratenotes to support professional development activities is hereby given.



instruction and literacy. We also use the blog to announce new developments with the Stratepedia Toolkit. You can subscribe to the blog feed through RSS or e-mail.

### Learning Labs

<http://learninglabs.stratopedia.org>

Learning Labs are online collaboration spaces for project workgroups, communities of practice, and special interest groups. Strateaders, the virtual book club led by SIM Professional Developer Jean Piazza, has a home in Learning Labs.

### Webinars

<http://webinars.stratopedia.org>

Webinars from Stratepedia target people working with technology and SIM. You can participate live by enrolling when we announce a new webinar or go through archived webinars at your leisure. Past webinar topics include GIST, the Coaching Calendar, and online collaboration.

## PROJECT WEB SITES

### After School Literacy Project

<http://afterschool.kucrl.org>

The After School Literacy Project promotes community efforts to expand reading and learning beyond

the classroom. KU-CRL received a \$700,000 donation from the Walmart Foundation to develop a tutoring curriculum to be implemented nationwide at Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

### Content Literacy Continuum®

<http://clc.kucrl.org>

This web site is the chief location for all materials related to the Content Literacy Continuum®. The site includes CLC brochures and a collection of video segments capturing some of the key ideas and components central to improving adolescent literacy in secondary schools.

### National Research Center on Learning Disabilities

<http://www.nrcl.org/>

Although we are no longer updating this project site, it remains a great source of information about learning disabilities determination and response to intervention. NRCLD's goal was to help educators, policymakers, and parents understand the complexity and importance of making sound decisions regarding whether a child has a specific learning disability. Our research in this area—including studies of the

role of and best practices associated with response to intervention—was the foundation underlying all of the materials available on this site.

### Pathways to Success

<http://www.kucrl.org/pathways>

The Pathways to Success program aims to ensure that students develop concrete, actionable goals that will motivate them to stay on the path to post-secondary success. Its levels of support include online mentoring, Strategic Tutoring, instructional coaching, and family and community programs.

### Preparing Preservice Educators

<http://preservice.kucrl.org>

The Preparing Preservice Educators site helps preservice educators, faculty, and professional developers network and share materials. The site includes a collection of video segments that captures some of the key ideas and components central to improving adolescent literacy in secondary schools.

### Strategic Instruction Model® Teacher Training Project: The Virginia State Improvement Grant

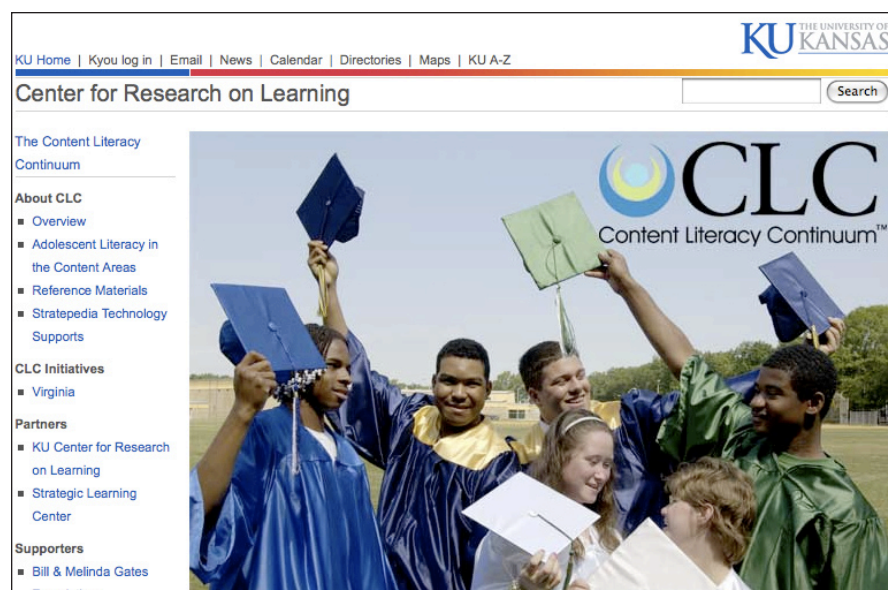
<http://virginia.kucrl.org>

This site provides resources for teachers, students, and administrators in Virginia who are working with the Center for Research on Learning to implement the Content Literacy Continuum®. Among the resources available are video segments related to CLC implementation and reprints of several relevant articles.

### Xtreme Reading™

<http://www.xtremereading.com/>

The Xtreme Reading™ class is designed to allow adolescents to develop the reading and writing skills they need to pass required classes, graduate from high school, and prepare for the future.



## Other online resources

The resources listed here are not created or maintained by the Center for Research on Learning, but they are vital for SIM® Professional Developers.

### Edge Enterprises

<http://edgeenterprisesinc.com>

Edge publishes many of the SIM manuals and conducts additional research. On this site, get to know the Edge staff, see what research they're working on now and what they've completed, and find contact information for the company.

### GIST

<http://www.gistplan.com/>

This site supports GIST, a tool for educators to create and present Content Enhancement devices. Find answers to your questions and get updates at this site.

### Teachscape

<http://teachscape.com>

KU-CRL and Teachscape have worked together to create blended (face-to-face and online), outcomes-based professional development with the goal of improving performance of struggling adolescents. Three modules are focused on adolescent literacy and are available for SIM Professional Developers to preview. To create a preview account, go to <http://teachscape.com/register> and enter the following:

Program Code: KUCRL

Self-Registration Code: SIMPD

Select the SIMPD workspace to preview the online resources.

# Interactive Conference

## KU-CRL Staff

Make your mark on the 2009 International SIM® Conference: Our new conference web site allows you to comment on sessions and schedules while we're still in the planning phase, giving you the unprecedented opportunity to shape your conference experience before you even arrive in Lawrence.

You can add your comments to nearly every page of the conference site. As we plan sessions, strands, and affinity groups and post more information about our plans, your suggestions and ideas will be invaluable.

A brief orientation to the 2009 International SIM® Conference web site (<http://sim2009.kucrl.org>):

The home page shows the most

recent news about the conference in the main part of the page. A brief explanation of our interactive vision appears on the right side. Under the vision, with a "Recent Discussion" heading, all of the recent comments made across the site appear in a short list. We've included this feature so you can keep up on what people are saying and easily join in the discussions that interest you.

Many of the links at the top of the page are self-explanatory: Download registration forms at the "Registration" link. Find the preconference schedule and session descriptions at the "Preconference" link.

The "About" link will lead you to general conference information as well as hotel and travel information.

## 2009 International SIM® Conference

July 15-17, 2009

**Preconference:** July 14, 2009

Holiday Inn and Convention Center • Lawrence, Kansas

The “Contact” page includes a form you can use to e-mail questions or requests to the Center.

The “Presenters” and “Sessions” pages, though relatively empty now, will build as plans are firmed up. We encourage you to post your questions for presenters once we’ve identified sessions.

Take advantage of this technology. Make this conference your conference.

Our vision for this year’s conference: Everyone in attendance will engage in a partnership of learning and end the week equipped with new knowledge and new skills to tackle today’s education challenges.

- Don Deshler will lay the foundation for our work in his July 15 keynote address, “Rethinking SIM, Literacy, and Professional Development.”
- After the keynote, participants will divide into five special interest groups, or strands, to explore in depth the issues raised during Don’s address.
- On the final day of the conference (Friday, July 17), we will convene “affinity groups” to discuss how we can use what we’ve learned during this week. Groups will work together to develop action plans.

We will return to a more traditional format for Thursday, July 16, offering sessions on new strategies or routines; reading programs such as Fusion Reading™, Xtreme Reading™, and STRUCTURE Your Reading; and technology. Day 2 also offers several

opportunities for you to learn from fellow professional developers in our “Enlightening Round” or “Mini Pearl” formats.

### More about strands

We’re designing this strand structure in part to respond to your requests for more time to immerse yourselves in SIM learning opportunities. Thus, participating in one strand for the bulk of the first day should help you acquire deep and explicit knowledge that you will find useful in your work. **However, you are free to move from strand to strand at any time.** We want you to make decisions about where you need to be and what you need to learn based on your individual needs. We anticipate organizing the day around the following five strands:

*SIM and Literacy:* Sessions in this strand will focus on how the rest of the world is thinking about and addressing literacy and on how our SIM work fits in this global picture. Our latest research on adolescent literacy has yielded some very interesting findings, and sessions in this strand will touch on the evolving relationship between SIM and literacy.

*SIM as a Change Agent:* What can you do to bring about profound, lasting improvements in the schools or school systems with which you work? This strand will explore the role of the Content Literacy Continuum®, including presentations from those working in current CLC projects. Sessions will include a look at how SIM and other interventions

or innovations can merge in a school or district.

*Instructional Coaching:* This strand will present the “Big 4”—classroom management, content planning, instruction, and assessment for learning. You’ll leave these sessions with a bag full of tools designed to support your work as a professional developer or instructional coach.

*Making Content Enhancement Make a Difference:* This strand will consider all things Content Enhancement, from current research on the explicit use of Content Enhancement Routines to supports that enhance the use of those routines.

*Professional Development: Strengthen Your Core:* Strong core knowledge is vital to SIM professional development work. This strand will reinforce the knowledge that each professional developer should have, including research, history, tools, and ideas for growing as a professional developer.

Day 1 will end with the annual poster session followed by a social—two more ways you can keep the conversations going with your fellow professional developers.

### Stratedirectory Online

*Stratedirectory Online*, our newest offering for the SIM® Professional Developer Network, is now open for business. This new, interactive directory format is a product of KU-CRL’s efforts toward a greener SIM® and is replacing the old paper directory.

If you have not yet joined the *Stratedirectory Online* community, please click the “Sign Up Now” button at

<http://directory.kucrl.org>

Complete, up-to-date  
conference information  
and registration forms:

<http://sim2009.kucrl.org>



# 2009 International SIM® Conference

## Preconference Sessions July 14, 2009

For descriptions of the preconference sessions and to download a registration form, visit our Web site:  
[www.kucrl.org/conferences/sim](http://www.kucrl.org/conferences/sim)

**All preconference sessions:  
 Minimum 7 participants; maximum 40.**

**Laptop computers will not be provided during preconference sessions. Participants should bring their own.**

**Building Proficiency in Content Enhancement with GIST: The Basics:** 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 14  
 Registration fee: \$70 (does not include the GIST software) or \$130 (includes the GIST software) (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**Computerized Writing Strategy Instruction** (*Jean Schumaker and Lisa Walsh, Edge Enterprises*): 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, July 14. Registration fee: \$100 (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**Fusion Reading™: An Overview of a Comprehensive Evidence-Based High School Reading Program** (*Mike Hock, Irma Brasseur, and Don Deshler, KU-CRL*): 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 14. Registration fee: \$70 (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**Instructional Coaching** (*Jim Knight, KU-CRL*): 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 14. Registration fee: \$100 (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**Integrating and Enjoying SIM in Higher Education** (*Barbara Duchardt, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La.; Dee Berlinghoff,*

*Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, N.Y.; and Joyce Rademacher, Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas*): 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, July 14. Registration fee: \$70 (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**Master Google Chef** (*Melanie Bacon, ALTEC/KU-CRL*): 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 14. Registration fee: \$70 (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**Partnership Learning: An Update** (*Jim Knight, KU-CRL*): 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, July 14. Registration fee: \$70 (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**The Strategic Tutoring Professional Development CD Program** (*Paula Lancaster, Grand Valley State University, Michigan*): 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 14. Registration fee: \$100 (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**The Ultimate Teacher Toolbox: Free Web-Based Resources for Teachers!** (*Amber Rowland, ALTEC/KU-CRL*): 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, July 14. Registration fee: \$70 (after June 15, add \$25 late fee).

**Using GIST as a Tool in Presen-**

## CRL LEARNS FEATURES RANDY SPRICK

On April 23, the Center for Research on Learning hosted a visit from Randy Sprick, president of Safe and Civil Schools and a longtime collaborator with the Center. You can view video of Randy's presentation, *Implementing an RTI Continuum of Positive Behavior Support*, on the CRL Learns web site, <http://crllearns.kucrl.org>. You can also participate in discussions about Randy's presentation using the "Comment" boxes on the CRL Learns site.

Our next CRL Learns guest speaker will be Hank Levin of Columbia University in New York City on May 4. Look for video of his talk, "The Why and How of Cost-Effectiveness Analysis," on the CRL Learns site by mid-May.

<http://crllearns.kucrl.org>

## Stratereaders

Stratereaders, the interactive, virtual book club, focuses on literature addressing our changing world, implications for education, professional development, leadership, and educational reform. **WHO:** SIM Professional Developers, SIM educators, book study groups, and anyone interested in reading and contributing. **WHEN:** The club reads a new book every two months from September through May. **HOW:** Log on to [www.stratopedia.org](http://www.stratopedia.org), then click on Stratereaders. A conference call will be held at the end of each reading period to discuss the featured book. Watch your e-mail (SIMTRAINER-L listserve) for information about participating in each call.

## APRIL-MAY BOOK SELECTION

*Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes Are High* by Kerry Patterson, Joseph Grenny, Ron McMillan, and Al Switzler

## INSIDE:

- **CRL online resources**

Here's a handy guide to help you navigate the many online resources developed by the Center in recent years, 1.

- **Interactive conference**

A new, interactive web site allows you to help shape the 2009 International SIM Conference. Use the site's built-in commenting features to suggest ideas or questions before conference plans are finalized, 5.

### Calendar, cont.

**August 10-12, 2009**

Instructional Coaching Institute Level 1  
Lawrence, Kan.

Contact: Mona Tipton (mkatz@ku.edu)

**August 12-15, 2009**

Instructional Coaching Institute Level 2  
Lawrence, Kan.

Contact: Mona Tipton (mkatz@ku.edu)

**October 5-7, 2009**

Instructional Coaching Institute Level 1  
Lawrence, Kan.

Contact: Mona Tipton (mkatz@ku.edu)

**October 8-10, 2009**

Instructional Coaching Institute Level 2  
Lawrence, Kan.

Contact: Mona Tipton (mkatz@ku.edu)

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

### STRATENOTES Volume 17, Issue #7

**KU**  
CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON  
**LEARNING**  
The University of Kansas

Presorted First  
Class  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Lawrence, KS