

Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • October 2009 • Volume 18, Issue 2

SIM TREK

Going boldly where no school reform has gone before

The voyages of SIM® continue in July 2010 as we explore new worlds—both physical, in the case of our conference venue, and cerebral, as we flex our mental muscles during an intense three days of learning.

Physical worlds

The 2010 International SIM Conference will take place in Lawrence's newest hotel, the Oread. Located on the edge of campus, the 10-story hotel promises stunning views of the university and downtown Lawrence. From its rooftop restaurant to its subterranean dance club, the hotel's features are sure to be crowd-pleasers.

Mona Tipton has been working closely with the Oread Hotel staff and has toured the site several times during its construction. Her prime directive is to ensure the best possible experience for 2010 conference attendees. Here's her take on this new conference space:

We are so excited to be holding the 2010 conference at the brand-spanking new Oread Hotel for so many reasons. The hotel itself is absolutely beautiful, constructed of Kansas limestone and featuring a variety of places to meet up with friends: lounges, restaurants, bars, patios, and an observation deck!

The facility offers several dining options, including a restaurant/bar on the roof with a spectacular view of Lawrence and the surrounding countryside. In addition, the Oread is only a block from the Student Union, where there are more eating options and where everyone may purchase a nice Jayhawk for their home or office.



Attendees will be able to book themselves into the onsite spa for a relaxing massage after a long day of intense learning and sharing. In fact, I will meet you there.

The hotel is so close to the Center that I have binoculars in my office to keep an eye on construction. Its location means attendees will be able to stroll on

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campus and downtown (although strolling downtown means strolling back *up* the hill to return).

There is wireless Internet throughout, so don't forget your laptop.

The hotel is scheduled to drop its shields and allow visitors to board after the first of the year; it will begin taking reservations for the SIM conference in mid- to late November. Watch our Twitter feed (@StrateTweets) for announcements.

Cerebral worlds

Our journey to seek out new civilizations in literacy and school reform will take us through familiar territory. We'll continue the strand session format we first explored last year. These daylong mind-meld sessions delve deeply into current hot topics in education as well as the solid core data upon which SIM was built. Some 2010 strand topics may be repeats from last year, updated appropriately. Others may be new. Watch our Twitter feed (@StrateTweets) for updates as we make decisions.

The second day of the conference will consist of more traditional sessions, in which we introduce new materials and discuss more sharply focused topics. Last year's popular affinity groups are likely to return on Friday, along with other options that are still under development.

Many great topics have been suggested for the *SIM TREK* prequel...er, preconference. Again, watch Twitter and look for details in the January issue of *Stratenotes*.

How do we know what you want and need?

Much as we would like to rely on our empath skills to divine your needs, we just haven't fully developed them yet. Instead, we are following the logical path by asking you. In planning the conference, we will rely heavily on your responses to surveys (using Survey Monkey—great technology!).

Your evaluations of last year's conference have already shaped some of the offerings for 2010. Another survey this fall asked you to suggest strand and session topics and solicited potential presenters for book reports, posters, and shorter sessions. Those results are all part of the planning mix.

A new standard in educational leadership

"Some people will kiss pigs for their students and others will..."



"[It's] always important not to take ourselves too seriously," says Barbara Millikan, SIM Professional Developer and Principal, Raleigh Park Elementary, Beaverton, Ore.

Look for more surveys in the coming months. (Watch our Twitter feed—@StrateTweets—for announcements.)

Your answers really do make a difference in what we offer during the conference.

Resistance is futile! Plan now to attend *SIM TREK: Boldly Going Where No School Reform Has Gone Before* (star date: July 14-16, 2010).

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES 2010

Registration Forms at <http://kucrl.org/institutes>

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning invites you to explore effective instructional methods through our series of classes geared toward classroom teachers, higher education faculty, and instructional coaches. These classes are practical, hands-on experiences that will enable you to implement Strategic Instruction Model® (SIM) interventions or instructional coaching methods effectively. For experienced SIM teachers who successfully complete an application process, we offer an institute to begin the process for SIM Professional Developer certification.

FOR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY FACULTY

SIM Learning Strategies Class for Preservice Educators

\$975 (after April 26: \$1,000)

June 1-5, 2010 (10 a.m. Tuesday to noon Saturday)

Lawrence, Kan.

This class will enable preservice educators in teacher education programs to provide empirically validated SIM interventions to prospective teachers. This class 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.

Teaching Content to All: Effective College Teaching

\$975 (after April 26: \$1,000)

June 1-5, 2010 (10 a.m. Tuesday to noon Saturday)

Lawrence, Kan.

This class, which is designed for college/university faculty who are engaged in teacher preparation, will enable participants to implement a variety of empirically validated teaching routines from the SIM Content Enhancement (CE) 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 CE Routines can be infused into existing courses or new courses can be constructed. Information related to meeting additional

SIM CE Inservice Professional Developer certification requirements will be provided. Teams of individuals from the same institution are encouraged to enroll.

FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

The Value-Added Roles of the Speech-Language Pathologist in the Content Literacy Continuum®

\$150 (after Dec. 4: \$175). *Note: FREE to individuals employed as educators in Virginia Public Schools.*

January 15-16, 2010, Glen Allen, Va.

This conference will consist of two days of discourse on the role of the speech-language pathologist in CLC® sites. This will include conversations about adolescent literacy and language, workload vs. caseload, and RTI with Barb Ehren and other experts. SLPs from Virginia will discuss their comprehensive work in current CLC sites.

SIM Reading and Writing Strategies

\$675 (after May 16: \$700)

June 15-18, 2010 (8 a.m. Tuesday to noon Friday)

Lawrence, Kan.

This class is directed toward teachers who work directly with students. Teachers will be introduced to the foundations of SIM Learning Strategies and will receive instruction on implementing research-based interventions to help students acquire the skills necessary to understand grade-level reading materials. Class participants learn how to implement the *Word Identification Strategy*, *Paraphrasing Strategy*, *LINC's Vocabulary Strategy*, and *Fundamentals and Proficiency in the Sentence Writing Strategy*. Time will be allowed for planning for implementation.

More SIM Strategies

\$675 (after May 16: \$700)

June 15-18, 2010 (8 a.m. Tuesday to noon Friday)

Lawrence, Kan.

This class, formerly known as SIM Level 2, will offer instruction in additional SIM reading, writing, and other Learning Strategies. Participants who have previously received instruction in the *Sentence Writing Strategy (Fundamentals and Proficiency)* and have already implemented Learning Strategies in their classrooms 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 studying and remembering information, improving assignments, and motivation.

Introduction to Teaching with Content Enhancement

\$675 (after May 23: \$700)

June 22-25, 2010 (8 a.m. Tuesday to noon Friday)

Lawrence, Kan.

In this class, teachers learn methods to teach large amounts of content to academically diverse classes in “learner-friendly” ways without diluting the content. Participants will plan how to use Content Enhancement (CE) Routines in their own courses to enhance the way they present subject-area content and improve students’ ability to organize, understand, and remember critical information. CE Routines include ways to plan courses, units, and lessons; teach the mastery of concepts; promote the understanding of reading assignments; teach the mastery of the meaning of vocabulary words; guide the development of answers to critical questions; and support understanding and remembering key information. General and special education teachers will find this class relevant and stimulating.

FOR ADMINISTRATORS

SIM for Administrators

\$500 (after May 24: \$525)

Registration is limited to 20

June 23-25, 2010 (8 a.m. Wednesday to noon Friday)

Lawrence, Kan.

This class is offered for administrators who want to know more about the Strategic Instruction Model® (SIM), how it is implemented, and the administrative support and accountability pieces necessary to ensure implementation. Led by Rosalind Davenport, a SIM Professional Developer and former school and district administrator, the class will focus on the Content Literacy Continuum® (CLC), leadership, change, and SIM Content Enhancement (CE) Routines and Learning Strategies. Administrators will learn two CE routines that will be useful in their own work and will have an opportunity to interact with teachers participating in the Introduction to Teaching with Content Enhancement class. KU-CRL researchers will participate.

FOR POTENTIAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPERS

Institute for Potential SIM Professional Developers in Learning Strategies

\$800

June 21-25, 2010 (8 a.m. Monday to 2 p.m. Friday)

Lawrence, Kan.

Institute for Potential SIM Professional Developers in Content Enhancement

\$800

June 21-25, 2010 (8 a.m. Monday to 2 p.m. Friday)

Lawrence, Kan.

These five-day SIM institutes to become certified SIM Professional Developers will use the Content Literacy Continuum® as a unifying framework. Instruction in specific Learning Strategies or Content Enhancement Routines will not be offered during this week; the focus will be on the professional development process.

Participants will be selected through an application process. See the web site for eligibility criteria.

FOR INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES

Visit the instructional coaching web site, <http://instructionalcoach.org>, for complete information about Instructional Coaching Level 1 (Jan. 28-30, 2010; Aug. 9-11, 2010; or Oct. 4-6, 2010) and Instructional Coaching Level 2 (Aug. 12-14, 2010, or Oct. 7-9, 2010).

FEES & CANCELLATIONS

Fees cover the cost of materials and instruction. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation, housing, and meals. **Cancellations** requested after the registration deadline: A full refund of registration fees, less a \$25 administrative fee, will be available. A \$15 fee will be charged for returned checks. KU reserves the right to cancel the course and return all fees in the event of insufficient registration. The liability of the University of Kansas is limited to the registration fee. The University of Kansas will not be responsible for any losses incurred by registrations, including but not limited to airline cancellation charges or hotel deposits.

CALENDAR 2009-2010

Jan. 15-16, 2010

The Value-Added Roles of the Speech-Language Pathologist in the Content Literacy Continuum®
Glen Allen, Va.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

Jan. 20-21, 2010

Florida Update (25th Anniversary)
Orlando, Fla.
Contacts: Mary Ann Ahearn, ahearnm@nefec.org, and Valerie Watson, watsonv@nefec.org

Jan. 28-30, 2010

Instructional Coaching Institute, Level 1, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://instructionalcoach.org>

Feb. 25-27, 2010

Southeast SIM Update
Holiday Inn Historic District
Charleston, SC

May 4-5, 2010

Louisiana SIM Update (Open to all)
Baton Rouge, La.
Contact: Joyce Russo, joyce.russo@la.gov

Twitter with us!

Following the example set by the Center's Stratepedia team, we have set up two new Twitter accounts to foster continuing communication about SIM® and Center activities:

@StrateTweets: Communication about the Strategic Instruction Model® from the Center for Research on Learning, University of Kansas

@KUCRL: Communication from the Center for Research on Learning, University of Kansas

June 1-5, 2010

SIM Learning Strategies Class for Preservice Educators
Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

June 1-5, 2010

Teaching Content to All: Effective College Teaching
Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

June 9-10, 2010

Iowa SIM Update, Des Moines, Iowa
Contact: Kara Krohn, kara.krohn@iowa.gov

June 15-18, 2010

SIM Reading and Writing Strategies
Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

June 15-18, 2010

More SIM Strategies, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

June 21-25, 2010

Institute for Potential SIM Professional Developers in Learning Strategies
Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

June 21-25, 2010

Institute for Potential SIM Professional Developers in Content Enhancement, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

June 21-25, 2010

Florida Potential Professional Developer Institutes for Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement, Orlando, Fla.
Contacts: Mary Ann Ahearn, ahearnm@nefec.org, and Valerie Watson, watsonv@nefec.org
Non-Florida residents register through KU-CRL.

June 21-25, 2010

Institute for Potential SIM Professional Developers in Learning Strategies
Burlington, Vt.
Contact: Winona Lowe, sim@madrivern.com

June 22-25, 2010

Introduction to Teaching with Content Enhancement
Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

June 23-25, 2010

SIM for Administrators
Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/institutes>

July 13-16, 2010

International SIM Conference and Preconference, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://kucrl.org/conferences>

Aug. 9-11, 2010

Instructional Coaching Institute, Level 1, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://instructionalcoach.org>

Aug. 12-14, 2010

Instructional Coaching Institute, Level 2, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://instructionalcoach.org>

Oct. 4-6, 2010

Instructional Coaching Institute, Level 1, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://instructionalcoach.org>

Oct. 7-9, 2010

Instructional Coaching Institute, Level 2, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://instructionalcoach.org>

Oct. 11-13, 2010

Instructional Coaching Conference
Lawrence, Kan.
<http://instructionalcoach.org>

Online directory

<https://directory.kucrl.org/>

As we begin a new *Strateworks* membership year, now is a good time to review your profile information on *Stratedirectory Online*. Make sure your contact and professional information is current.

You can use *Stratedirectory Online* to look up other members of the SIM International Professional Development Network. Just click on the directory tab.



2009-2010 Strateworks 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, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Road, Room 517, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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The University of Kansas