

Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • February 2010 • Volume 18, Issue 5

Web appeal

Center launches redesigned, restructured site

Julie Tollefson
KU-CRL

The Center for Research on Learning has undergone some important changes in the past few months—on our web site, that is. The Center's redesigned home page (<http://kucrl.org>) launched at the end of January, and already we are hearing great reviews. A big thank you to **David Gnojek**, the Center's art director, who took on the mammoth redesign task.

We set out to accomplish several goals with the redesign:

1. **Comply with new University of Kansas web design requirements.** Because we are a unit of the university, some elements of our site are dictated by KU's expectations for university web sites. The graphic of the hill across the top of the page, the references to KU Home and Kyou, and the gray bar at the bottom of the page containing KU-specific links are elements of the KU web design template.
2. **Equally represent all CRL divisions.** Feedback indicated our previous web design made it difficult to find links to the Center's divisions: ALTEC, Division of



- Adult Studies, e-Learning Design Lab, Institute for Research on Adolescent Learning, Kansas Coaching Project, and Professional Development Research Institute. The new design lists all six divisions alphabetically on the lower left side of the page, under the featured content. Each division name is linked to the division's own web site.
3. **Improve navigation and organization.** The main section of the new home page features prominent links to five high-traffic sections of the site:
 - The **ABOUT** section describes our

mission and goals and provides contact information for the Center and for central office staff members

- The **RESEARCH** section lists journal articles by Center researchers (both an alphabetical listing and a category listing, as on the previous site)
- The **CLASSES & CONFERENCES** section lists classes, conferences, and events sponsored by our divisions; details are available by clicking on the event name
- The **PRESENTATIONS** section con-

CONTENTS

- *SIMTrek: 2010 conference*, 3 • *Conference web site*, 4 • *Conference notes*, 4
- *Preconference*, 5 • *Calendar*, 5 • *Registration forms*, 6-7 • *Tentative conference schedule*, 8

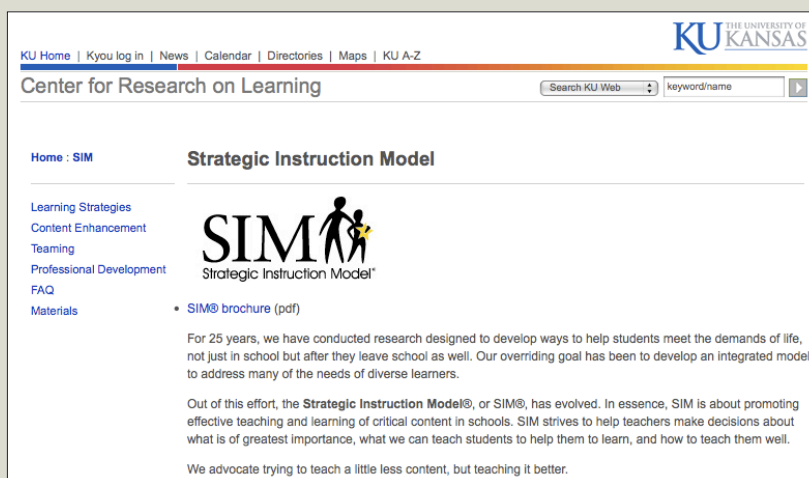
tains slideshows and handouts from select presentations made by the Center's researchers

- The **MULTIMEDIA** section contains video, graphics, podcasts, and photos produced by the Center

The central part of the home page now features a news slide show. Content in this section will be updated frequently and will include links to profiles of projects conducted by Center researchers. A profile of Soaring to New Heights, for example, describes the successes, challenges, and lessons learned in this Division of Adult Studies project. Our goal is to post at least one new project profile each month, along with news as it happens.

As you are exploring our redesigned site, note several helpful links near the bottom of the page. Just above the Jayhawk graphic you will find text links to SIMville, StrateReaders, and Stratedirectory Online on the left side of the page. On the right side are icon links to an RSS feed (which will notify you when news items are posted), to our @kucrl Twitter account, and to our YouTube channel.

We welcome your comments on the redesigned site. Please e-mail jtolfelson@ku.edu or follow the link



TIP: The old CRL site contained a section called "Materials" that described several SIM products and linked to an order form. That information has moved to <http://kucrl.org/sim>. Look for the Materials link on the left side of the page.

on the Contact page to use the site's feedback form.

What about SIM®?

With all of these changes to the main CRL site, you may be wondering about Strategic Instruction Model® information.

We have not changed the SIM section of the site yet. With one exception (see TIP above), all of our SIM

information remains where it was before the main site redesign. We are in the process of analyzing the current content and organization as we prepare to give SIM a site of its very own. For now, you can still find SIM at <http://kucrl.org/sim>. This address will change slightly when we launch the redesigned SIM site in a couple of months. We will announce the new address here and through the @StrateTweets Twitter account, and the old page will redirect visitors to the new address for awhile.

To help us understand what information you would find useful in a redesigned site dedicated to SIM, please take a few minutes to respond to questions on a new survey we have set up on Survey Monkey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BJ33XLW>. Your answers will help shape the future of SIM's online presence. If you are a SIM® Professional Developer, you will be asked to answer a few questions about SIMville, too.

Other SIM & CRL Online Resources

SIMville Sign-On

User name: Network
Password: strategic

Stratopedia

<http://stratopedia.org>

CRL Learns

<http://crllearns.kucrl.org>

2010 International SIM® Conference

<http://sim2010.kucrl.org>

www.kucrl.org

CRL & SIM on Twitter

@kucrl

Center for Research on Learning

@StrateTweets

Strategic Instruction Model®

@Stratopedia

Stratopedia Technology Group

SIM TREK

Voyage to School Change

The 2010 International SIM Conference will be July 14-16 in Lawrence, Kan., with preconference sessions on July 13. Registration forms are on pages 6 and 7.

Keynote speaker

We are fortunate to have as our keynote speaker Timothy Shanahan, professor of urban education at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Shanahan possesses a wealth of expertise in reading instruction and has written or edited 200 publications on the topic. Learn more about Dr. Shanahan and his work at his blog, www.shanahanonliteracy.com.

Reading assignment

During this year's conference, we will continue our exploration of disciplinary literacy. Across the country, researchers and practitioners hold many perspectives on what constitutes literacy. How each defines literacy has direct implications for who within a school is responsible for it and what is involved in teaching it.

Two articles available on the conference web site will help you prepare for these discussions:

- *Rethinking SIM, Literacy, and Professional Development*, by Don Deshler.
- *Using the Content Literacy Continuum® as a Framework for Implementing RTI in Secondary Schools*, by Barb Ehren and Don Deshler.

Both of these articles are available by selecting the **About** link in the right column of the conference web site. Look for the "DO THIS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE" information.

Strands

We will break into five "strands" for most of the first day of the conference. These intense sessions allow you to think deeply about SIM, the needs of educators today, and your role in bringing about lasting school change.

We will post an online survey this spring to gauge your interest in these strands. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.** In this survey, we will ask you to



Timothy Shanahan

rank the strands in the order you are most interested in attending. The strands that have the greatest interest—**AS REFLECTED IN THE SURVEY RESULTS**—will be assigned to larger rooms. This does not mean that you are locked in to a choice you make on the survey. We just ask that you think carefully before making your choice on the survey and understand that these choices do affect accommodations during the conference. It is very important that you participate in this survey when we announce that it is posted. Watch *Stratenotes* and Twitter (@StrateTweets) for announcements.

2010 International SIM® Conference:

July 14-16, 2010

Preconference: July 13, 2010

Oread Hotel • Lawrence, Kan.

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
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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 2009-2010; cost \$35.00. Permission to reproduce any or all parts of Stratenotes to support professional development activities is hereby given.

CONFERENCE NOTES

Attention, First Timers!

We will offer an orientation session for all first-time conference participants at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, at the conference hotel. We'll answer your questions, and you'll have the opportunity to meet researchers and staff from the Center for Research on Learning. Watch the conference web site for further details.

One-on-one

Schedule a meeting during the conference with any researcher or staff member at the Center for Research on Learning. E-mail Mona Tipton (mkatz@ku.edu) or use the contact form on the conference web site. Let Mona know which staff member you want to meet with and what topic you want to discuss.

Call for proposals

The deadline for proposal submissions is **March 15**. Click on the Registration link at the top of the conference web site for Call for Proposal details, including types of presentations and procedures for submitting proposals. Selected presenters will be notified by April 1.

Twitter: @StrateTweets

Follow conference plans, provide feedback, and make suggestions for the 2010 SIM Conference using Twitter. Use the hashtag **#SIM2010** to tag your tweets.

<http://sim2010.kucrl.org> Your go-to source for SIM TREK: Voyage to School Change

We have set up the conference web site (<http://sim2010.kucrl.org>) as a place to begin conversations and professional learning months before we get together face to face. During the next few months leading up to the big show, visit the site often to help us plan session content and to get answers to any questions you have before you arrive in Lawrence. As many of you know, we changed the conference format last year so that we now spend almost the entire first day in a "strand" focusing on a specific topic. Because of this change, you will need to make an important choice on the first morning of the conference: which strand will be of most benefit to you and your work? The information available ahead of time on the web site will help you make this choice, and you will be glad you took the time to study it before the conference starts.

The site features many ways for you to communicate with each other and with us. On the right side of the page, you'll see a column labeled "SIM 2010 Interactive." This column explains all of the ways you can get in touch and keep in touch about the conference. If you use an RSS reader, you can subscribe to an RSS feed on the conference site that will alert you when news items have been posted.

You may use the contact form to submit questions, suggestions, and comments directly to Mona Tipton here at the Center. You can find the link to our Twitter account in the column.

The SIM 2010 Interactive column also explains how to comment directly on the web site. CRL staff monitor all comments and are ready to respond. Some presenters also will monitor the comments related to their sessions and will be available to discuss plans and suggestions.

Use the tabs across the top of the page to navigate to important information: registration, daily schedule, preconference workshop descriptions, session descriptions, and the list of presenters.

We believe active participation in the site before the conference will be beneficial for you in many ways. You will have a say in conference planning. You will have reasonable expectations for what you will learn at the conference. You will be able to get answers to nagging questions before you arrive in Kansas. You will make connections with other professional developers who are attending. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity, especially if this is your first time at a SIM conference.

Preconference survey

To help us gauge interest in our preconference offerings, we invite you to participate in an online survey. The following web address will take you to a Survey Monkey survey where you can let us know whether you are interested in attending a preconference workshop and, if so, which workshops appeal most to you. Completing the survey is not a commitment to attend any of the workshops.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VWS9W7F>

CALENDAR 2009-2010

2010 International SIM® Conference Preconference Sessions

July 13, 2010
Oread Hotel
Lawrence, Kan.

Full-day: 8 a.m.-noon & 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

- What's New in the Big Four (\$140)

Morning: 8 a.m.-noon

- Computerized Writing Strategy Instruction (\$100)
- Enhancing Content Enhancement Routines: Guidebooks on Integrating CE Routines into Core and Elective Classes (\$140)
- Science and Social Studies Essential Understandings SMARTsheets (\$60)
- Stratepedia for Professional Developers (\$40)

Afternoon: 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

- Computer-Based Strategic Tutoring PD: Building Capacity with Directors, Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Peers, & Volunteers (\$115)
- Introduction to the All-New GIST 2.0 (\$80)
- Introducing the EDIT Strategy: An In-Depth Look (\$60)
- Literature Literacy SMART-sheets (\$60)

<http://sim2010.kucrl.org/preconference/>

May 4-5, 2010

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

May 23-28, 2010

Learning Strategies Potential Professional Developer Institute
Palmer, Alaska (Hosted by Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District) Contact: Lee Schwartz,
friedalee@aol.com. Application deadline April 1; space is limited

June 1-5, 2010

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

June 1-5, 2010

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

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/classes>

June 15-18, 2010

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

June 21-25, 2010

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

June 21-25, 2010

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

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 22-25, 2010

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

June 23-25, 2010

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

July 13-16, 2010

International SIM Conference and Preconference, Lawrence, Kan.
<http://sim2010.kucrl.org>

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>

2010 International SIM® Conference

SIM Professional Developer Registration Form

July 14-16, 2010 • Oread Hotel • Lawrence, Kan.

Name: _____

Work Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Preferred mailing address: ☐ home ☐ work

E-Mail Address: _____

Summer E-mail Address: _____

We e-mail **important conference information**.

Emergency contact name and phone number: _____

How many previous International SIM Conferences have you attended? _____

☐ This is my first International SIM Conference as a professional developer

I give permission for KU-CRL to include my name, address, phone number, and e-mail address in a listing to be distributed to conference participants: ☐ yes ☐ no

Note: You may be videotaped during the conference.

Certified SIM Professional Developer and Apprentice Registration Fee: \$250

For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. **Total Enclosed: \$** _____

Non-Professional Developers

We have a limited number of spaces available for individuals who are not certified SIM Professional Developers to attend the conference with a SIM PD sponsor. The registration fee for non-professional developers is **\$350**, if registration is received before June 15, 2010. After June 15, a \$35 late fee will be assessed. **For registration forms and more information, contact Patty Graner (pgraner@ku.edu) or Mona Tipton (mkatz@ku.edu).**

☐ **Make check payable to KU-CRL** **OR** ☐ **PO#** _____
Institute issuing PO: _____

☐ **Credit Card # (VISA or MasterCard)** _____ Expiration Date: _____

☐ Personal Card or ☐ Name of Institution: _____

Signature Authorization: _____

*Mail or fax completed registration to KU-CRL, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Rd., Rm. 517
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101 • Fax: 785.864.5728 • Your receipt will be available at the conference.*

Cancellation Policy

If you cannot attend the conference, you must **notify KU-CRL by June 30, 2010**, to receive a full refund of your registration fee. We will be unable to issue any refunds after June 30, 2010.

Events & Materials

Your conference registration fee includes the following:

- Social (Wednesday)
- Professional development materials
- Refreshments during breaks

Hotel & Transportation

See our web site, <http://sim2010.kucrl.org>, for more information about the conference, including hotel and transportation details.

2010 International SIM® Conference

Preconference Registration Form

July 13, 2010 • Oread Hotel • Lawrence, Kan.

Name: _____

Work Address: _____

_____ Work Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

_____ Home Phone: _____

Preferred mailing address: ☐ home ☐ work

E-Mail Address: _____

Summer E-mail Address: _____

We e-mail **important conference information**.

Emergency contact name and phone number: _____

☐ I will **NOT** be able to bring a laptop computer to the preconference.

ALL-DAY SESSION

NOTE: THIS IS A FULL-DAY SESSION. DO NOT REGISTER FOR ANY OTHER PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS.

☐ **What's New in the Big Four: \$140** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

MORNING SESSIONS: SELECT ONLY 1

☐ **Computerized Writing Strategy Instruction: \$100** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

☐ **Enhancing Content Enhancement Routines: \$140** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

☐ **Science and Social Studies Essential Understandings SMARTsheets: \$60** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

☐ **Stratopedia for Professional Developers: \$40** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

AFTERNOON SESSIONS: SELECT ONLY 1

☐ **Computer-Based Strategic Tutoring PD: \$115** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

☐ **Introduction to the All-New GIST 2.0: \$80** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

☐ **Introducing the EDIT Strategy: \$60** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

☐ **Literature Literacy SMARTsheets: \$60** \$ _____
For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2010, add **\$25** late fee. \$ _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

☐ **Make check payable to KU-CRL**

—OR—

☐ **Credit Card #**
(VISA or MasterCard)

Expiration Date: _____

☐ Personal Card OR
☐ Name of Institution: _____

Signature Authorization: _____

—OR—

☐ **PO#:** _____

Institution issuing PO: _____

Mail or fax completed registration to KU-CRL, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Road, Rm. 517, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101
Fax: 785.864.5728

Cancellation Policy

If you cannot attend the preconference session(s), you must **notify KU-CRL by June 30, 2010**, to receive a full refund of your registration fee. We will be unable to issue any refunds after June 30, 2010.

INSIDE:

- Web appeal: The Center's redesigned, restructured site, 1
- SIM Trek: Voyage to School Change, 3
- Conference web site, 4
- Preconference workshops, 5
- Registration forms, 6-7

2010 International SIM® Conference Tentative Schedule

July 14-16, 2010 • Oread Hotel • Lawrence, Kan.

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

6 p.m. Orientation for first-time participants

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

7:30 a.m. Registration
 8 a.m.-8:45 a.m. Welcome
 8:45 a.m.-10 a.m. Keynote: Timothy Shanahan
 10:15 a.m.-Noon Strand breakout sessions
 Noon-1:15 p.m. Lunch on your own
 1:15 p.m.-4 p.m. Strand breakout sessions, cont.
 4:15 p.m.-5 p.m. Certificate ceremony
 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Social

Thursday, July 15, 2010

7:30 a.m. Registration
 8 a.m.-9 a.m. Welcome, SIM awards program
 9:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Breakout sessions
 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lunch on your own
 12:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m. Breakout sessions

Friday, July 16, 2010

8 a.m.-8:45 a.m. Poster session
 8:45 a.m.-9:15 a.m. Welcome
 9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m. General session
 10:15 a.m.-Noon Affinity groups, "Grab & Go" lunch
 Noon-12:30 p.m. Closing session

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

STRATENOTES Volume 18, Issue #5

The University of Kansas

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 LEARNING

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 Lawrence, KS