

Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • August 2012 • Volume 20, Issue 9

INVITATION

Be part of new Listening & Note-Taking study

KUCRL Staff

You are invited to join KUCRL in a new research project to study questions about student achievement, professional development, and distribution as they relate to our newest strategy, *Listening and Note-Taking*.

The strategy, released last summer, represents a new format for Strategic Instruction Model™ strategies and may be purchased without professional development. Our study will attempt to answer the following questions:

- What level of support is needed to see gains in student achievement?
- What kind of gains in student achievement can be expected without professional development?
- How can we aggressively leverage the SIM Network and the Internet to get the strategy into the hands of the teachers and students who need it?
- How can we extend our reach (apply this knowledge to other strategies)?

We envision that the study will explore *Listening and Note-Taking* instruction under three conditions:

- Teachers learn to use the strategy by reading the manual, without other supports.
- Teachers receive the manual and have access to supporting videos showing how to teach the strategy to students.
- Teachers receive the manual and the supporting videos plus participate in professional development focused on the main features of the strategy, structured practice, coaching, and question-and-answer time.

For each condition, the study will attempt to answer questions related to teachers' use of the strategy in their

classrooms and student achievement. In addition, we are interested in answering several professional development questions: How can we effectively distribute this strategy and other SIM products? How can we extend our reach beyond the SIM Network? What supports are needed to ensure teachers use the strategy with fidelity? What is the best way to deliver professional development?

YOUR INVITATION

We would like you to join us as partners in this research project. Partners will recruit a minimum of three middle school social studies teachers for the project and will serve as the professional developer and participate in data collection and other aspects of the research.

We hope you will seriously consider this invitation. We can't carry on the mission of KUCRL without you.

If you are interested in participating, or if you want more information about the planned research, please contact Patty Graner at pgraner@ku.edu or 785.864.0622.

STRATEWORKS MEMBERSHIP

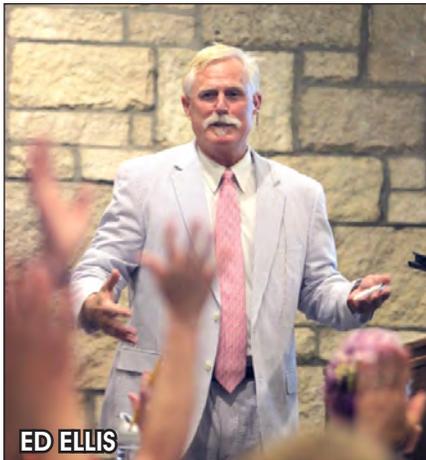
DUES INCREASE TO \$50

For the first time in more than 20 years, *Strateworks* membership dues will increase this fall. See the renewal form on page 17.

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ED ELLIS



JIM KNIGHT

**JULY 10-12, 2012
LAWRENCE, KAN.**



DEBBIE COOKE



NEWLY CERTIFIED SIM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPERS



CINDY MEDICI, JANET ATALLAH, PATTY GRANER



KARA FORREST

SEE MORE CONFERENCE PHOTOS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: [HTTP://FACEBOOK.COM/KUCRL.SIM](http://facebook.com/kucrl.sim)

ENCOMPASS

2012 INTERNATIONAL SIM CONFERENCE

KUCRL Staff

Encompass, the 2012 International SIM Conference, celebrated the connections that have made the Strategic Instruction Model™ an enduring fixture on the education landscape. It featured two keynote speakers—Ed Ellis and Jim Knight—as well as a fantastic lineup of strands, sessions, and activities.

Among the highlights of the three conference days was the presentation of the 2012 KUCRL awards. Three outstanding SIM Professional Developers—Ann Hoffman, Diane Gillam, and Beth Lasky—received SIM Leadership Awards, and the Dubuque Community School District received the Gordon R. Alley Partnership Award. In addition, we recognized past SIM Leadership Award recipient Cathy Spriggs for her continued leadership and exceptional achievements in the decade since she received the award. SIM Leadership Award profiles begin on page 9. Look for a profile of the Dubuque Community School System in next month's issue of *Stratenotes*.



SIM Leaders (from left): Ann Hoffman, Diane Gillam, and Beth Lasky, 2012 SIM Leadership Award recipients; and Cathy Spriggs, 2002 recipient



Gordon R. Alley Partnership Award: Dubuque Community School District. From left: Irma Bresseur-Hock, KUCRL; Jennifer Elbert, Joanne Loeffelholz, Lynn Helmke, Brenda Konrardy, and Julie Spahn, Dubuque; and Mike Hock, KUCRL

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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

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

Communications Director: Julie Tollefson
Art Director: David Gnojek

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New Professional Developers 2011-2012

Welcome to the following individuals, who became certified SIM Professional Developers in the past year, from Aug. 1, 2011, through July 31, 2012.

ALABAMA

Learning Strategies: Amelia Odom (PD Leader: Ann Hoffman)

ALASKA

Learning Strategies: Theresa Davis, Jane Demme, Tammy Dodd, Tanya Johnson, Kathy Moffitt, Nancy Shultz, and Patty Vink, (PD Leader: Lee Schwartz)

ARKANSAS

Content Enhancement: Tom Blount (PD Leader: Debbie Cooke); Rosemary Burks and Jay Fitch (PD Leader: Jerri Neduchal)

CALIFORNIA

Content Enhancement: Amy Whitney and Laurel Ruddy (PD Leader: Cathy Spriggs)

Learning Strategies: Kelly Gregor (PD Leader: Cathy Spriggs)

CONNECTICUT

Learning Strategies: Kate Johns-Galvin (PD Leader: Rosemary Tralli)

FLORIDA

Content Enhancement: Jude Cepero (PD Leader: Jerri Neduchal)

GEORGIA

Content Enhancement: Jane Basler (PD Leader: Jerri Neduchal)

Learning Strategies: Donna Chester, Teresa Cockerham, Denise Sclafani Gilbo, and Jessica Griffin (PD Leader: Ann Hoffman)

ILLINOIS

Learning Strategies: Jacquie Greiner (PD Leader: Ann Hoffman); Linda Morning (PD Leader: Sue Woodruff)

IOWA

Content Enhancement: Mark Burnett (PD Leader: Ann Hoffman)

Learning Strategies: David Cole (PD Leader: Ann Hoffman)

MASSACHUSETTS

Content Enhancement: Kris Theriault (PD Leader: Sue Woodruff)

MICHIGAN

Content Enhancement: Miranda Holmberg (PD Leader: Sue Woodruff)

Learning Strategies: Kim Nguyen (PD Leader: Sue Woodruff)

NORTH CAROLINA

Learning Strategies: Christine Bouck (PD Leader: Conn Thomas); Marianne Haulk (PD Leader: Ann Hoffman)

OHIO

Content Enhancement: Jen Bair and Denielle Myers (PD Leader: Ginna Fall); Christine Ceraolo (PD Leader: Peggy Graving); Jeremy Koppus (PD Leader: Sue Woodruff)

Learning Strategies: Ginna Fall (PD Leader: Sue Woodruff)

SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA

Content Enhancement: Maria Furgiuele, Tressa Kokonas, and Gina Melnyk (PD Leader: Jim Knight)

TEXAS

Content Enhancement: Allison Tigert (PD Leaders: Candace Bixler and Gail Cheever)

VERMONT

Learning Strategies: Patty Hathaway and Debra Tanneberger (PD Leader: Conn Thomas); Eileen Zazzaro (PD Leader: Ann Hoffman)

VIRGINIA

Content Enhancement: Christine Belcher, Rhonda Booth, Donna Cox, Noemi Goodman, Sharon Hill, Liz Hogan, Andrea Kilby, and Betty-Jo Wynham (PD Leader: Shari Schindele)

Learning Strategies: Judy Bland (PD Leader: Helen Barrier); Tara Holladay (PD Leader: Ann Hoffman)

WISCONSIN

Content Enhancement: Jennifer Burgraff, Mary Larsen, and Heidi Schafhauser-Schmitz (PD Leader: Susan D'Aniello)

VASSP MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Tim McClung, the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals 2012 Middle School Principal of the Year. McClung is principal of Central Academy Middle School in Botetourt County, Va. Last year, his school was one of four recipients of the 2011 SIM Impact Award for outstanding achievements. Central Academy Middle School and James River High School in Botetourt County and Patrick Henry High School and Liberty Middle School in Hanover County were recognized as pioneers in their use of the Content Literacy Continuum™ to promote school-wide improvements in literacy for all students.

Register now for 2012/2013 Virtual Conference

Registration is open for the 2012/2013 virtual conference. We have scheduled two opportunities for you to participate.

- The first virtual conference will be **Oct. 15-Nov. 5, 2012**, with concluding webinars on Nov. 7 and Nov. 8.
- The second virtual conference will run **Jan. 14-Feb. 4, 2013**, with concluding webinars on Feb. 6 and Feb. 7.

Content for the 2012/2013 virtual conference is drawn from sessions presented during the 2012 International SIM Conference, which celebrated the spectrum of connections that have made the Strategic Instruction Model™ an enduring fixture on the education landscape. The conference featured two keynote speakers:

Ed Ellis, professor of special education and multiple abilities at the University of Alabama, focused on instructional practices and 10 indicators of a successful education in his keynote address, *Beyond Test Scores—Indices of a Successful Education*.

Jim Knight, director of the Kansas Coaching Project at KUCRL, explored the benefits of and the practices that promote professional learning in *Learning Adults for Learning Students*.

DVDs of both keynote addresses will be included in your virtual conference package.

WHAT IS THE SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?

The virtual conference is a way for you to receive credit for attending a SIM update without traveling to the international conference in Lawrence or one of the regional update conferences planned around the country. It does not replace face-to-face conferences, however. You may attend one virtual conference every four years, and you must attend at least one face-to-face conference between virtual conferences.

WHO MAY ATTEND A SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?

The virtual conference is open only to SIM Professional Developers who have attended at least one face-to-face conference in the past. In addition, if you attended last year's virtual conference, you must attend another face-to-face conference before registering for a second virtual conference.

Complete the registration form on pages 7 and 8 to participate in one of the 2012/2013 virtual conferences.

HOW WILL THE SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE WORK?

You will register for the virtual conference just as you would for a face-to-face conference. We will send you a package of conference sessions on DVDs; links to additional online content, including handouts from the 2012 International SIM Conference; and instructions for completing the virtual conference.

You will be expected to watch each DVD, complete activities associated with each session, and reflect on how you can use the information in your work. You must complete an online

evaluation for both keynotes, both strands, and four of the five sessions you select before you receive credit for attending an update.

DOES THIS FULFILL THE REQUIREMENT TO ATTEND AN UPDATE EVERY TWO YEARS TO REMAIN AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK?

Yes, the SIM virtual conference fulfills your update requirement. Remember, to be considered active in the SIM Network, you must attend an update every two years *and* maintain a current *Strateworks* membership. (The virtual conference registration form on pages 7 and 8 includes a *Strateworks* membership renewal option, if needed.)

CAN I STOP ATTENDING FACE-TO-FACE CONFERENCES AND JUST COMPLETE MY UPDATES VIRTUALLY?

No. You may attend a virtual conference in lieu of a face-to-face conference every four years. In the interim, you must attend at least one face-to-face conference to maintain your active status within the network. In addition, you must have attended at least one face-to-face conference in the past before you can register for your first virtual conference.

HOW MUCH DOES THE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE COST?

The cost is \$400. You will not have the travel and lodging costs associated with attending a face-to-face conference.

SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CONTENT

- DVD: Keynote speech by **Ed Ellis**, professor of special education and multiple abilities at the University of Alabama, *Beyond Test Scores—Indices of a Successful Education*.
- DVD: Keynote speech by **Jim Knight**, director of the Kansas Coaching Project at KUCRL, *Learning Adults for Learning Students*.
- DVD: **Strand** (you choose two):
 - *The Buttons to Push to Change Student Outcomes in a Major Way*
 - *The Perfect Match: Common Core State Standards and Content Enhancement Routines*
 - *Unmistakable Impact and the Strategic Instruction Model*
 - *Writing Within the Context of the Common Core State Standards*
- DVD: Choice of **five** additional sessions (see list on the registration form)
- Online content: Handouts from the 2012 International SIM Conference, SIM online resources webquest, 2012 KUCRL awards
- Webinar to discuss sessions and lessons learned. We have scheduled two webinars for each virtual conference; you need only participate in one. Webinars are scheduled for Nov. 7 and Nov. 8 for the fall virtual conference and Feb. 6 and Feb. 7 for the winter virtual conference. Your virtual conference materials will include instructions for registering for the webinar. (Descriptions for all sessions are available on the 2012 International SIM Conference website, <http://sim.conference.kucrl.org>.)

SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE DEADLINES

OCT. 15-NOV. 5, 2012 SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

The registration deadline for the fall virtual conference is Oct. 8, 2012. Materials will be mailed to participants the week of Oct. 8, and you will be expected to complete all activities and evaluations for your conference sessions by Nov. 5 to receive credit for attending an update. You also must participate in one of the concluding webinars on Nov. 7 or Nov. 8.

JAN. 14-FEB. 4, 2013 SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

The registration deadline for the winter virtual conference is Jan. 7, 2013. Materials will be mailed to participants the week of Jan. 7, and you will be expected to complete all activities and evaluations for your conference sessions by Feb. 4 to receive credit for attending an update. You also must participate in one of the concluding webinars on Feb. 6 or Feb. 7.

Space is limited. Register early.

See registration form on pages 7-8.

SIM & KUCRL Online Resources

www.kucrl.org

Strategic Instruction Model

<http://kucrl.org/sim>

Content Literacy Continuum

<http://clc.kucrl.org>

SIM Workshops and Updates

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

SIMville

User name: Network

Password: strategic

KUCRL News

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

CRL Learns

<http://crllearns.kucrl.org>

Project Profiles

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

Publication List

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

KUCRL Divisions

Advanced Learning Technologies

<http://www.altec.org>

Division of Adult Studies

<http://das.kucrl.org>

e-Learning Design Lab

<http://elearn.design.org>

Institute for Health and Disability Policy Studies

<http://health.kucrl.org>

Institute for Research on Adolescent Learning

<http://iral.kucrl.org>

Kansas Coaching Project

<http://instructionalcoach.org>

Professional Development Research Institute

<http://pdri.kucrl.org>

Transition Coalition

<http://transitioncoalition.org>



SIM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPERS
2012/2013 SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE
Registration Form

Name: _____
 School/District/Workplace _____
 Work Address: _____ Fax: _____
 City: _____ State/Province _____ ZIP: _____
 Home Address: _____ Mailing Address: Home Address Work Address
 City: _____ State/Province: _____ ZIP: _____
 Phone (home) _____ (work) _____
 Email address to be used for communication about this conference: _____

Choose your virtual conference session:

- Oct. 15-Nov. 5, 2012; webinar dates November 7 and 8 **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCT. 8, 2012**
- Jan. 14-Feb. 4, 2013; webinar dates February 6 and 7 **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JAN. 7, 2012**

Design your conference below.

Choose Two Strands:

- The Buttons to Push to Change Student Outcomes in a Major Way** Strand Leaders: Don Deshler, Diane Gillam, Patty Graner, Pam Leitzell, and Barbara Ehren
- The Perfect Match: Common Core State Standards and Content Enhancement Routines** Strand Leaders: Janis Bulgren and Keith Ben-Hanania Lenz
- Unmistakable Impact and the Strategic Instruction Model** Strand Leader: Jim Knight
- Writing Within the Context of the Common Core State Standards** Strand Leaders: Jean Schumaker and Peggy Graving

Choose Five Sessions:

Note: Your conference registration includes DVDs of your choice of five of the following sessions. You may purchase additional sessions at a cost of \$15 each. Session descriptions and speaker bios: <http://sim.conference.kucrl.org>.

- 360 Degrees of Technology in Professional Development**—Amber Nutt, Jim Black, Jana Craig Hare, Elizabeth Hardman, Amber Roland, and Aaron Sumner
- All Aboard the Professional Developer’s Train!**—Jana Craig Hare and Amber Rowland
- Bug-in-Ear Coaching**—Marti Elford
- Dear Mona, Can You Tell Me How to Get to SIMville?**—Patty Graner
- Dubuque, Iowa: Our Journey to Sustain Fusion Reading**—Irma Brasseur-Hock, Mike Hock, Lynn Helmke, Brenda Konrardy, Jennifer Elbert, Joanne Loeffelholz, Lisa Putschio, and Julie Spahn
- Energize Oral Language and Social Skill Instruction with the Interactive Multimedia Programs *Speaking with Power* and *Socially Wise***—Sue Vernon
- Feeling a Little Wordy**—Paula Lancaster
- Linking SIM Professional Development to Instructional Frameworks and Teacher Evaluation**—Debbie Cooke
- The Listening and Note-Taking Strategy Study Project**—Gwen Berry and Patty Graner
- Literacy Leadership Team: Finding Direction**—Sue Woodruff
- The Main Idea Strategy**—Dan Boudah

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- The New GIST 2.0**—Keith Ben-Hanania Lenz, Peter Lenz, and Sherri Wagner
- A Phone, a Closet, and a Tennis Ball: Tools for Designing Effective Slide Presentations**—David Gnojek
- Resources for the Listening and Note-Taking Strategy**—Gwen Berry
- RTI and the Strategic Writing Program: Effective Practices that Work Together**—Suzanne Robinson, Bev Colombo, Diane Larson, Shari Schindele, and Jean Schumaker
- Sharing the Research: Cause and Effect, Decision Making, and Argumentation**—Janis Bulgren

- Some Routine Rules for Adapting, Shrinking, and Expanding Content Enhancement Devices**—Janis Bulgren and Keith Ben-Hanania Lenz
- Strategic Math Series: Addition with Regrouping and Subtraction with Regrouping**—Bradley Kaffar
- STRUCTURE Your Reading**—Barbara Ehren and Melissa Malani
- Teaching Essential Understandings of Complex Content Standards**—Ed Ellis and Elizabeth Long

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

Registration	\$400 (U.S. funds)	\$ _____
(Your registration fee includes DVDs of both keynotes, two strands, and five sessions. You may purchase additional DVDs at a cost of \$15 each.)		
Additional sessions	_____ @ \$15 each	\$ _____
Strateworks membership renewal (optional)	\$50	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Check here to receive your Stratnotes newsletter by email (e-Stratnotes)</i>		
Total		\$ _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Check** (made payable to KUCRL)
- Credit card** (Visa or MasterCard) # _____
Expiration date: _____ 3-digit security code (req.) _____
 Personal card OR Name of institution: _____
Billing address (req.): _____
Authorization signature: _____
Phone: _____
- P.O. #** _____ Name of institution issuing P.O.: _____

*Mail or fax completed form and your payment to
KUCRL, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Rd, Rm. 517,
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101
Fax: 785.864.5728 • Email: pmynsted@ku.edu*

Refund Policy: If you cannot participate in this conference, you must notify KUCRL no later than 14 days before the starting date to receive a refund of your registration fee. **There will be a cancellation fee of \$25 for all cancellations.** We will be unable to issue refunds for cancellations received **after Oct. 1, 2012, for the virtual conference beginning Oct. 15** or for cancellations received **after Dec. 31, 2012, for the virtual conference beginning Jan. 14, 2013.**

Please make a copy of this information for your records before returning both pages of the form to us.

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DIANE GILLAM

2012 SIM Leadership Award



Diane Gillam is an architect, and the Strategic Instruction Model™ is the foundation upon which she builds. Her list of achievements is long and impressive and includes, among other notable accomplishments, the work she's done in the last seven years to construct a powerhouse SIM program in the state of Virginia.

Supported by a series of grants, beginning in 2005, the Virginia Department of Education in partnership with the Center launched a project to build Content Literacy Continuum™ demonstration sites in all eight regions of the state. The long-term intent is to show the benefits of establishing a comprehensive, consistent educational experience for students from the time they enter

sixth grade until they graduate from high school.

Gillam, 2012 SIM Leadership Award recipient, has been a catalyst for challenging thinking, a persistent mover and shaker, and a dynamic cheerleader who propelled individuals and schools forward as the project took root. First as a state education department official and then as project coordinator for the Center, she had the ability to foresee the deep issues the state and school divisions must address to create a successful SIM program and CLC demonstration sites.

"Diane has had a profound impact on the implementation of CLC in several schools throughout the state of Virginia," says Don Deshler, director

of the Center. "She understands how to bring about meaningful changes at the classroom, school, and district level."

A measure of the success of the project, and Gillam's leadership, is reflected in the Virginia State Literacy Plan, released in March. The plan recognizes the key roles the Content Literacy Continuum and the Strategic Instruction Model play in secondary schools' literacy programs.

Another measure of success is the outstanding increase in the number of certified SIM Professional Developers throughout Virginia, an increase that can be traced directly to Gillam's advocacy.

"I don't think I'm overstating it to say that she, in her tenure, has

doubled the number of folks who have become professional developers,” says Patty Graner, director of professional development for the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning. “That’s a pretty huge impact.”

PUSHING THE ENVELOPE

Gillam’s career has been shaped by unexpected twists—a shift in focus from elementary education to secondary, transitions from public school teacher to private consultant to a leadership role in the Virginia state department of education. To all of her positions, she’s brought a successful blend of people skills, knowledge of instruction, and insistence on doing the right thing for kids.

“As strong an advocate and as competent as she is, she approaches tasks (and especially challenges) with good humor as well as persistence,” says Barbara Ehren, professor and director of the doctoral program at the University of Central Florida, who led much of the original work on the Virginia project.

Two years ago, Gillam saw a need to offer deeper learning opportunities for all of the teachers and administrators across the state who were responsible for supporting CLC in their schools and divisions. The resulting

CLC Leadership Academy has been a resounding success, prompting participants to examine their own roles in CLC now and in the future.

“She always pushes the envelope with them,” says Graner. “She helps them to grow their knowledge and helps them to create a vision for where they would like their kids and the rest of teachers to be. She pushes them to set challenging but really attainable goals.”

Donald Latham, principal at Liberty Middle School in the Hanover School Division, one of Virginia’s original CLC demonstration sites, describes Gillam as intense and visionary. Her questions—what are you doing, why are you doing it, what results are you seeing—inspire him to pursue bigger and better things for his students.

“I have learned so much from her,” he says. “I hold a great deal of respect for her as a person and for her knowledge base. She is a wealth of knowledge.”

INNOVATIVE THINKING

Gillam’s vision includes exploring ways to use new technologies to support SIM and CLC practices. She promotes the use of readily available tools—websites and Nings, for example—to ensure project staff, stu-

dents, parents, and other interested individuals have access to current, accurate information about SIM and CLC.

As the Virginia project expanded and existing technology didn’t meet needs, she helped to develop new technological tools to improve services to students and streamline communication among education professionals. She collaborated with Aaron Sumner, the Center’s director of technology for research and development, and the Center’s Stratopedia technology development team to design a calendar tool to enhance scheduling and communication among coaches, teachers, and administrators within districts. Together, they also developed a real-time data collection tool for administrator walk-throughs. Both tools eventually will be available to all members of the SIM International Professional Development Network.

Whether she finds solutions in technology or more traditional SIM tools, Gillam is steadfastly committed to doing what’s best for students. For her, SIM and CLC are part of a literacy solution that helps students meet the challenges they face now in middle school or high school and prepares them for whatever the future holds, from continuing their education to finding employment in as-yet unnamed fields and in jobs that haven’t even been invented.

“We teach students the knowledge and skills they need in the content area, but we also provide for them effective ways of thinking,” Gillam says. “With SIM, students learn how to approach learning strategically. This will position them well for all new learning they will encounter in their secondary education and beyond.”





ANN HOFFMAN

2012 SIM Leadership Award



In 1982, Ann Hoffman and her colleague, Conn Thomas, were desperate for materials to use with their secondary students with learning disabilities. When they heard a doctoral student named Steve Carlson speak about University of Kansas research in learning strategies, they saw potential solutions for their students. They called KU for more information, eventually arranging a visit to KU's Institute for Research in Learning Disabilities and a meeting with its director, Don Deshler.

As a result, they got in on the ground floor of some of the Institute's most significant early research in what is now known as Strategic Instruction Model™ Learning Strategies.

"Don agreed to share materials (literally as they were being developed), and we agreed to gather some colleagues, try the strategies in our classrooms, and share the data with them," says Hoffman, 2012 recipient of the SIM Leadership Award.

Back in those days before personal computers, email, and fax machines, Hoffman and Thomas exchanged information with KU by mail or face to face during one of the weekends when Deshler, Jean Schumaker, and other KU researchers drove to Iowa to work with a half-dozen teachers Hoffman and Thomas had recruited to test the materials.

Word began to get around, buoyed by the incredible results they were seeing, and Hoffman and Thomas

requested permission to share these still-unpublished strategies with other teachers.

"We were totally on our own and, to be honest, clueless about professional development," Hoffman says.

Before long, the demand for SIM created a need for more professionals to respond to the ever-increasing number of requests from teachers.

"We knew we needed to train others to handle the requests, and when we asked Don and Jean, they told us to go ahead and try it," Hoffman says.

She and Thomas hand-selected teachers to be part of the first recruits. (One of the early groups included Mike Hock, now associate director of the KU Center for Research on Learn-

ing and director of KUCRL's Institute for Research on Adolescent Literacy.)

"I don't remember any required readings at the time," Hoffman says. "Our focus was just getting together with them and talking about how do you share these strategies with a focus on high rates of implementation.

Their tenacious pursuit of materials and fearlessness in pushing the limits to ensure the best educational opportunities for their students helped create SIM's International Professional Development Network and helped lay the foundation for much of the network's subsequent successes.

"She was a leader in the SIM network before there *was* a network," says Deshler. "I remember when we met. Ann was just so charming and persistent and a master at working with teachers and administrators. She was remarkable in the beginning and has continued to refine her skills as one of the most influential members of our network."

MAKING CONNECTIONS

When Jim Knight, now director of KUCRL's Kansas Coaching Project, began his research on the Partnership

Learning approach to conducting workshops, Hoffman was one of the first people he interviewed.

"Ann talked about the importance of making yourself available to the audience, of connecting with people," he says. "I learned an awful lot about what it means to be a facilitator through that interview and, of course, ultimately by watching Ann as she did the work."

Hoffman's combination of skills and infectious enthusiasm makes her an exemplary professional developer. She is a master at reading the needs of workshop participants and adapting instruction or activities on the fly. She has a knack for connecting emotionally with others, she's empathetic, and she is able to convey information clearly in a style that is simple but not simplistic.

"Anybody who wants to be a school presenter would be smart to watch Ann for awhile as she does what she does," says Knight. "She's the consummate professional facilitator."

GLOBAL INFLUENCE

In the three decades since her initial exposure to the Center's research, Hoffman's role as a leader in the net-

work has grown as SIM has expanded to meet new challenges from the classroom to the district.

"I think I have done professional development on all published strategies and routines, and even some that did not make it to publication," she says. "I remember many of the earlier strategies before they had a mnemonic, if you can believe the earliest versions did not have those."

Hoffman served as team leader for a CLC project in Portland and site leader for another in Virginia, helped with early work on Xtreme Reading and Fusion Reading, and worked with Jim Knight and conducted instructional coaching professional development. From her home base in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, her influence has been felt around the globe. In addition to working with many hundreds of teachers across the United States, she has taken SIM to Australia, Puerto Rico, and India.

"The number of states, districts, schools, teachers, students that have been impacted by her work is...infinite?" says Patty Graner, the Center's director of professional development. "What is so amazing to me is that she has managed to keep a fresh perspective."

Hoffman, who along with Thomas received the 1994 Gordon R. Alley Partnership Award, credits much of her accomplishments to the inspiration she still finds in the vision put forth by Deshler and Alley when they formed the Institute for Research in Learning Disabilities in the late 1970s.

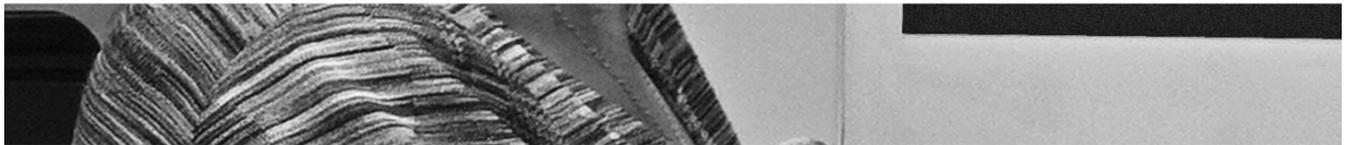
"The longer I do this work, the more I realize there is much I don't know," she says. "I love learning about how to make this last and grow...sustainability. I love the work with instructional coaching and Fusion. I love it all!"





BETH LASKY

2012 SIM Leadership Award



Beth Lasky is a force to be reckoned with in California, a go-getter with a vision of how schools and teachers can better serve their students if she can just get them to use the Strategic Instruction Model™ tools at their disposal.

“Through Beth’s great vision and persistence, SIM has thrived in many parts of California,” says Don Deshler, director of the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning. “Her ‘can do’ attitude and her commitment to high-quality education for all is an inspiration to everyone who works with Beth.”

Lasky’s path as a SIM leader is unusual. As professor at California State University–Northridge, she prepares future teachers for the

challenges they will meet in their classrooms, but she also offers SIM workshops to a broad range of educators, and she works directly with teachers and schools in one of the most densely populated, highly diverse districts in the country—the Los Angeles Unified School District. Most of the teachers she works with come from public and private schools in the LA district. All of her efforts are aimed at improving the quality of education for students in those schools.

“There are so many students struggling here in the LA area, and I know SIM can improve their skills,” says Lasky, 2012 SIM Leadership Award recipient. “The first step is to make educators aware of and then train

them to use them.”

As part of that mission, Lasky has reached out to most of the educational therapists in Southern California to show them how SIM can fit into their practices. She maintains a referral list of educational therapists who are knowledgeable about SIM for parents who request private tutoring for their children.

A SIM BABY

Lasky’s earliest exposure to SIM came in the 1980s when she heard Deshler speak at a Learning Disabilities Association of America conference in Arizona.

“I kept wondering, ‘How come I didn’t know about these strategies while I was teaching in the class-

room? They made so much sense," she says.

Not long after, she became one of the first university professors to attend the Center's *Pedagogies for Academic Diversity* workshops. At that time, only a few of the guidebooks in the Content Enhancement Series had been published. The *Course Organizer Routine* existed only in early draft form.

Lasky and a colleague from the general education faculty attended the workshop as a team.

"I was struck by the respect that she clearly had with her colleagues," says Keith Ben-Hanania Lenz, KUCRL researcher who developed the early *Pedagogies* workshops and now is a senior disability researcher at SRI International. "It is quite an accomplishment for very busy people to make a commitment to 'sit and get' for a week of their summer. It is even more remarkable to convince your equally busy colleagues in other departments to also make that commitment."

Even more extraordinary was the personal sacrifice Lasky made in traveling to Kansas that spring.

Earlier in the year, because of Lasky's successful proposal to her

university, Lenz had spoken to faculty on her campus.

"On the day Keith spoke, my beeper kept going off," she says. "When I looked at the phone number, I didn't recognize it, so I ignored it."

The calls were from a lawyer. A family wanted to meet with her to discuss adopting the child they were expecting, and the baby was due right in the middle of the Kansas workshop.

"It had taken so much to get the university to agree to send my colleague and I to KU, I didn't feel I could not go," Lasky says. "So I went to the training. Sure enough, on May 30, my daughter Sarah was born. I flew into Los Angeles as soon as the training was over and went to pick up my new daughter. I like to think of her as my SIM baby."

VISION AND VERVE

Since her introduction to SIM, Lasky has been a strong advocate, modeling the use of Content Enhancement Routines in her college classrooms, collecting data related to its effectiveness, and helping to establish and nurture a conference, CAL-SIM, that has become vital to the success of SIM in California.

A decade ago, California and its school districts were facing extreme budget shortfalls and out-of-state travel was prohibited. A group of SIM advocates, including Lasky, proposed an annual in-state conference as a way to continue spreading SIM knowledge in the state. She volunteered to present at the inaugural conference in 2005, and she served on the planning committee for future conferences.

"She has provided many of us with a robust brain trust about things to do and things to avoid," says Tony Van Reusen, who has known Lasky since her doctoral student days at the University of Arizona. "Beth's leadership, humility, and vision for the CAL-SIM network have had a significant influence on the success of CAL-SIM."

Lasky insists that all CAL-SIM presenters possess a deep and up-to-date understanding of SIM, seeing such competence as essential to help educators improve the literacy learning and achievement of all students, says Van Reusen, retired professor and department chair at California State University-Bakersfield.

Under her direction, CAL-SIM witnessed its largest attendance in 2009 with 230 participants.

Lasky's perspective, combining her knowledge of classroom challenges and her work at the university level, has changed education for teachers and students in California.

"She has a vision for what she would like to have happen for SIM in her state, and she doesn't sit back," says Patty Graner, director of professional development at the Center. "She sets the agenda and just goes."



2012 SIM CONFERENCE SESSION ORDER FORM

Session descriptions are available at <http://sim.conference.kucrl.org/schedule>

NEW THIS YEAR: ONLINE SIM CONFERENCE VIDEOS

Online access to all available conference video and DVDs of individual sessions and strands are available for purchase. Online access and DVDs will be available after the video editing process is completed, usually 8-12 weeks after the conference, and payment will not be processed until that time. If you choose online access, we will send you instructions when the videos become available. There is no foreseeable expiration for access. Session recording quality may vary. We do our best, but not all audience interactions are picked up on the microphones. Session titles are listed on the next page. Handouts will be available online if they were provided to us by the presenter.

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- Keynote address: **Beyond Test Scores—Indices of a Successful Education**—*Ed Ellis*
- Keynote address: **Learning Adults for Learning Students**—*Jim Knight*

- Strand: **The Buttons to Push to Change Student Outcomes in a Major Way**—*Don Deshler, Diane Gillam, Patty Graner, Pam Leitzell, and Barbara Ehren*
- Strand: **The Perfect Match: Common Core State Standards and Content Enhancement Routines**—*Janis Bulgren and Keith Ben-Hanania Lenz*
- Strand: **Unmistakable Impact and the Strategic Instruction Model**—*Jim Knight*
- Strand: **Writing Within the Context of the Common Core State Standards**—*Jean Schumaker and Peggy Graving*

- **360 Degrees of Technology in Professional Development**—*Amber Nutt, Jim Black, Jana Craig Hare, Elizabeth Hardman, Amber Roland, and Aaron Sumner*
- **All Aboard the Professional Developer’s Train!**—*Jana Craig Hare and Amber Rowland*
- **Bug-in-Ear Coaching**—*Marti Elford*
- **Dear Mona, Can You Tell Me How to Get to SIMville?**—*Patty Graner*
- **Dubuque Iowa: Our Journey to Sustain Fusion Reading**—*Irma Brasseur-Hock, Mike Hock, Lynn Helmke, Brenda Konrardy, Jennifer Elbert, JoAnne Loeffelholz, Lisa Putschio, and Julie Spahn*
- **Energize Oral Language and Social Skill Instruction with the Interactive Multimedia Programs *Speaking with Power* and *Socially Wise***—*Sue Vernon*

- **Feeling a Little Wordy**—*Paula Lancaster*
- **Linking SIM Professional Development to Instructional Frameworks and Teacher Evaluation**—*Debbie Cooke*
- **The Listening and Note-Taking Strategy Study Project**—*Gwen Berry and Patty Graner*
- **Literacy Leadership Team: Finding Direction**—*Sue Woodruff*
- **The Main Idea Strategy**—*Dan Boudah*
- **The New GIST 2.0**—*Keith Ben-Hanania Lenz, Peter Lenz, and Sherri Wagner*
- **A Phone, a Closet, and a Tennis Ball: Tools for Designing Effective Slide Presentations**—*David Gnojek*
- **Resources for the Listening and Note-Taking Strategy**—*Gwen Berry*
- **RTI and the Strategic Writing Program: Effective Practices that Work Together**—*Suzanne Robinson, Bev Colombo, Diane Larson, Shari Schindele, and Jean Schumaker*
- **Sharing the Research: Cause and Effect, Decision Making, and Argumentation**—*Janis Bulgren*
- **Some Routine Rules for Adapting, Shrinking, and Expanding Content Enhancement Devices**—*Janis Bulgren and Keith Ben-Hanania Lenz*
- **Strategic Math Series: Addition with Regrouping and Subtraction with Regrouping**—*Bradley Kaffar*
- **STRUCTURE Your Reading**—*Barbara Ehren and Melissa Malani*
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Regardless of when you begin or renew your membership, the *Strateworks* membership year begins in September and runs through August of the next year. Thus, if you renew your membership in December 2012, your membership is valid from September 2012 through August 2013. Back issues of all *Stratenotes* newsletters are available in the General Information section of SIMville.

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KUCRL CALENDAR 2011-2012

Oct. 4-6, 2012

Instructional Coaching Institute
Level 1: Progress Through
Partnership
Lawrence, Kan.

Oct. 14, 2012

Seventh Annual Instructional
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Lawrence, Kan.

Oct. 15-17, 2012

Seventh Annual Instructional
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Global Summit on Coaching
Lawrence, Kan.

Oct. 15-Nov. 5, 2012

2012/2013 SIM Virtual
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Jan. 14-Feb. 4, 2013

2012/2013 SIM Virtual
Conference

Feb. 21-22, 2013

West Region Update
Conference for SIM Professional
Developers
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Feb. 26-27, 2013

Southeast Region Update
Conference for SIM Professional
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Charleston, S.C.

**More information and complete calendar
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