

Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • May 2014 • Volume 22, Issue 7

2014 Stratepubs

Digital classrooms, SLPs, complex text

Welcome to summer!

With this issue of *Stratenotes*, we bring you three *Stratepubs* articles that are relevant to your work as SIM Professional Developers and educators.

The articles, described briefly below, are available for you to download from SIMville at <http://kucrl.org/simville/general/stratepubs>.

DIGITAL CLASSROOMS

In *Understanding the iPad and iPad iBook as Classroom Interventions*, Dan Pollitt and Greg Weseloh pit iBook textbooks against traditional printed textbooks in a middle school science setting.

Their white paper report has four goals: (1) establish a concise background of how education arrived at the “cart before the horse” mentality in regard to large-scale investments in digital devices without a comprehensive understanding of how best to use such technologies in the classroom, (2) provide a guiding theory to understand how learning experiences may differ using digital devices, (3) summarize why structural elements of the classroom matter, and (4) describe a classroom-based intervention using an iPad iBook with students with disabilities.

This report will be enlightening reading for anyone working with technology in the classroom.

SLPS AND LITERACY

Patty Graner discusses literacy and speech-language pathologists in *General and Discipline-Specific Strategies and Adolescents Who Struggle: What Can an SLP Do?* She presents researchers’ recommendations for teachers to improve the literacy outcomes of adolescents and then

suggests specific actions SLPs can take to help schools adopt those recommendations.

Language problems are at the root of literacy problems, she writes:

SLPs serving in secondary schools are distinctively positioned to contribute to creating solutions to the literacy challenges of students in their schools because they know how to intervene. Their specialized knowledge...can provide better academic opportunities and outcomes for students.

ONLINE LEARNING

Diana Greer, Mary Rice, and Don Deshler tackle text complexity and online learning in *Applying Principles of Text Complexity to Online Learning Environments*. Their purpose is to provide an overview of text complexity as a component of evaluating online courses.

The article not only describes what makes a text complex but also shares research findings about online courses. Based on that combination, the authors offer several strategies for learners, parents, and other decision makers who must evaluate texts used in online courses.

Visit SIMville (<http://kucrl.org/simville/general/stratepubs>) and download your copy of these articles today.

REMINDER

The 2014 International SIM Conference is coming very soon. If you haven’t made plans to join us, do it now. Conference information begins on page 3.

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SIM EVENTS CALENDAR

Are you holding SIM Learning Strategies or Content Enhancement Routine sessions that are open to public registration (allow attendees from outside of the school or district)?

Are you presenting a session about SIM or CLC at a conference or seminar open to public registration?

We are contacted by hundreds of educators each year who have heard about SIM Learning Strategies, Content Enhancement Routines, or the Content Literacy Continuum and are looking for opportunities to learn. In the past, we have responded with contact information for active SIM Professional Developers located near the person making the inquiry, and they contacted those professional developers to see whether opportunities were available. This is awfully cumbersome! We are very excited to start spreading the word about learning opportunities in a more direct way.

We invite you to let us know about these opportunities so we can post

them on our SIM Events calendar and on our SIM Facebook page.

Submit details about these events to simpd@ku.edu. To be listed on the calendar, you must submit the following information:

1. Name of event. This could be the strategy or routine or the title of the presentation you are presenting and the name of the conference.
2. All dates of the event (if there are follow up days, include those).
3. City and state where the event will occur.
4. Who to contact for more information or to register/enroll/sign up for the event, including email, phone number, and event website, if there is one.

Please contact me with questions, and start sending information about your SIM events today!

Mona Tipton, 785.864.0626
monatipton@ku.edu

SIM TUTOR LIST

We frequently receive calls from parents who ask how to access **Learning Strategies** for their children. To meet this need, we are developing a list of people who provide this type of service or would like to. Specifically, our list will include SIM Professional Developers (active, inactive, retired, retiring, thinking of retiring) or teachers recommended by professional developers who provide this type of service or would like to. **This is an opt-in list.** If you are interested in being included on the list, please go to

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SIM_Tutor_List

to give us your information.

When parents contact us, we will give them the names and preferred contact information for members of the SIM Tutor List who live nearby.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORTING

Submit your SIM professional development session reports electronically. Visit the following link:

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

We use the information we get from you for the *Stratenotes* newsletter, to help shape future offerings, and for other SIM-related projects. We look forward to hearing about all the great work you're doing in the field!

2014 International SIM Conference

July 16–18, 2014 • Lawrence, Kan.

SHOW US YOUR DATA TOOLS

Give us your checklists, your observation tools, your data collection devices yearning to be set free.

The collection of data is so very important to our work, and we know many of you have developed tools to make data collection easier. During the 2014 conference, we

plan to display as many of these tools as you contribute. We'll also make them available as handouts, and create a place for them in SIMville once the conference is over.

On the bottom of each tool you send, include the name or names of the developers and contact informa-

tion. If you adapted a tool created by someone else, credit the original developer. Also include instructions or directions for using the tool.

BONUS: Each person who contributes a data tool for our display will receive an extra SIMsational Raffle ticket.

The 2014 conference will be July 16–18 in Lawrence, Kan., and plans are coming together. Mark your calendars and keep an eye on *Stratenotes*, where we'll announce conference details as we finalize them.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

One detail that is final, and exciting, is that our keynote speaker will be Cynthia E. Coburn, professor at the School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University.

Given her research history, Coburn's keynote address is sure to offer insightful and relevant ideas that we can apply to the challenges we meet in working with and within schools.

RELATED READING

- Coburn, C.E. (2003). Rethinking scale: Moving beyond numbers

to deep and lasting change. *Educational Researcher*, 32(6), 3–12.

- Coburn, C.E., Penuel, W.R., & Geil, K.E. (2013). *Research-practice partnerships: A strategy for leveraging research for educational improvement in school districts*. William T. Grant Foundation, New York, NY.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Registration begins at 7 a.m. on Wednesday, July 16, followed by a welcome at 8 a.m. and the keynote address at 8:30 a.m. Plans for the rest of the day include breakout sessions, lunch on your own, and the certificate ceremony before the day concludes with a social at 4:45 p.m.

Thursday's schedule includes a general session at 8:15 a.m. and breakout sessions throughout most of the rest of the day, ending with the poster session at 3:15 p.m.



Cynthia Coburn

Friday morning's schedule begins with the return of the popular kaleidoscope session, followed by a general session you won't want to miss on SIM and the Common Core State Standards, and wrapping up with a closing session and SIMsational raffle from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

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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 2013–2014; cost \$50.00. Permission to reproduce any or all parts of Stratenotes to support professional development activities is hereby given.

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2014 International SIM Conference

SIM Professional Developer Registration Form

July 16–18, 2014 • Oread Hotel • Lawrence, Kan.

CONTACT INFORMATION

MAILING ADDRESS (SELECT ONE): ☐ HOME ☐ WORK

Name: _____

Work Address: _____

_____ Phone () _____

Home Address: _____

_____ Phone () _____

We email **important conference information**. Please print clearly an **email address** that you check regularly: _____

Alternate email: _____

Emergency contact name and phone number: _____

REGISTRATION FEE

☐ **Certified SIM Professional Developer and Apprentice Registration Fee: \$300** \$ _____

For registrations postmarked after June 16, 2014, add \$25 late fee. \$ _____

☐ **Strateworks Renewal (optional): \$50** \$ _____

☐ I want to receive *Stratenotes* by email (pdf)

Total enclosed: \$ _____

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: _____

Email for paid credit-card receipt: _____

☐ **P.O. #** _____

Name of institution issuing P.O.: _____

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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CONFERENCE INFORMATION

How many previous International SIM Conferences have you attended? _____

☐ This is my first as a professional developer

We may distribute or post a list of participant names and email addresses on paper or electronically. If you do not want to be included, check here: ☐

Video release

KUCRL will videotape this conference for use in future educational and publicity products. By attending, you consent to our use of any video in which you may appear.

EVENTS & MATERIALS

With your paid registration, you also receive professional development materials distributed during the conference, refreshments during breaks, and admission to the social.

HOTEL & TRANSPORTATION

Visit the conference website, <http://sim.conference.kucrl.org>, for more information about the conference, including hotel and transportation details.

CANCELLATION POLICY

If you cannot attend the conference, you must **notify KUCRL by July 2, 2014**, to receive a full refund of your registration fee. We will be unable to issue any refunds after July 2, 2014.

*Return completed registration to KUCRL, Joseph R. Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Rd, Rm. 517, Lawrence, KS 66045-3101
Fax: 785.864.5728 • Email: pmynsted@ku.edu
Your receipt will be available at the conference.*

NOT A SIM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPER?

Individuals who are not certified SIM Professional Developers may attend the conference with a SIM Professional Developer sponsor. The registration fee is \$375 (\$25 late fee after June 16, 2014). **Space is limited. For registration forms and more information, contact Patty Graner (pgraner@ku.edu) or Mona Tipton (monatipton@ku.edu).**

FOLLOW US!

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/kucrl.sim>

Twitter

@StrateTweets

SIM & KUCRL Online Resources

www.kucrl.org

Strategic Instruction Model

<http://sim.kucrl.org>

Content Literacy Continuum

<http://clc.kucrl.org>

SIM Workshops and Updates

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

KUCRL News

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

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 CALENDAR

June 9–10, 2014

Iowa Update
Des Moines

June 9–13, 2014

SIM Content Enhancement
Potential Professional Developers
Institute
Austin, Texas

June 9–13, 2014

SIM Learning Strategies Potential
Professional Developers Institute
Austin, Texas

June 16–20, 2014

SIM Learning Strategies Potential
Professional Developers Institute
Holland, Mich.

June 16–20, 2014

SIM Content Enhancement
Potential Professional Developers
Institute
Holland, Mich.

June 23–27, 2014

SIM Content Enhancement
Potential Professional Developers
Institute
Litchfield, Conn.

June 23–27, 2014

SIM Learning Strategies Potential
Professional Developers Institute
Pasadena, Calif.

June 23–27, 2014

SIM Content Enhancement
Potential Professional Developers
Institute
Pasadena, Calif.

July 16–18, 2014

International SIM Conference
Lawrence, Kan.

For a complete list of SIM events, including those not coordinated by KUCRL: **[HTTP://SIM.KURL.ORG/CLASSES](http://sim.kurl.org/classes)**

LIST YOUR OPEN SESSIONS ON THE SIM CALENDAR: We are contacted by hundreds of educators each year who have heard about SIM or CLC and are looking for opportunities to learn more. Email information about your open sessions to monatipton@ku.edu and be included on the online SIM Events Calendar.

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