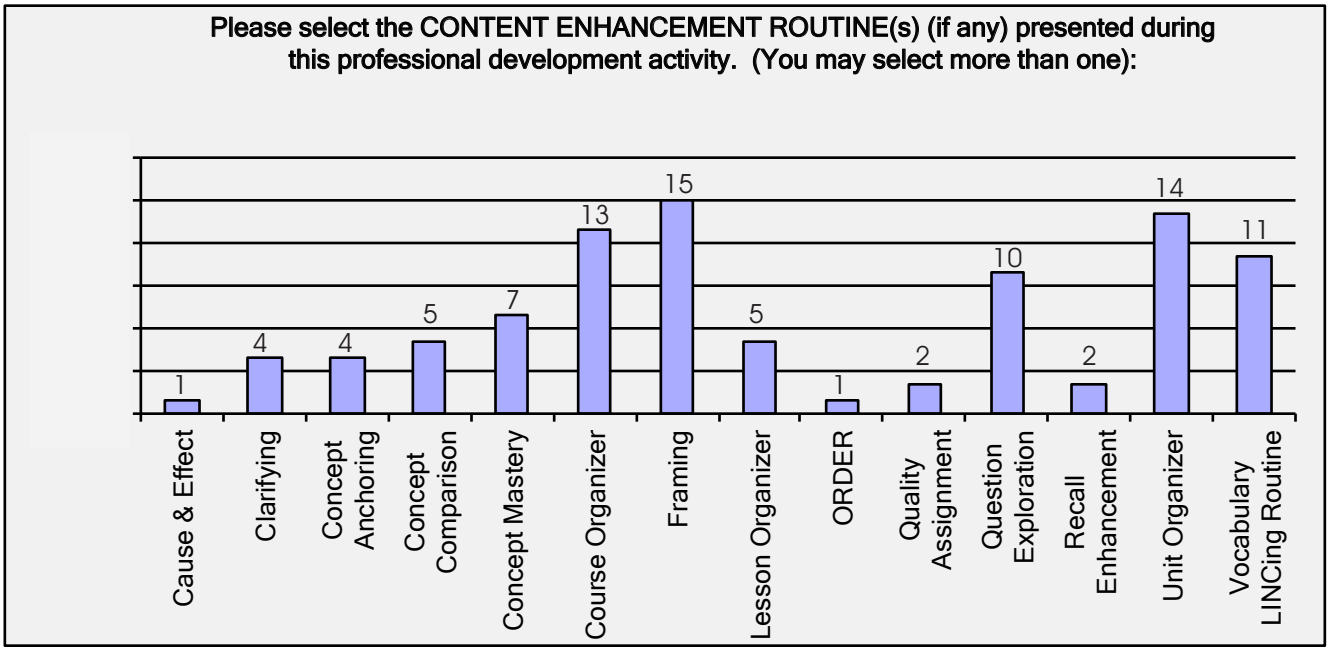
Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • April 2015 • Volume 23, Issue 7

SIM™ stats: Teacher feedback from 2013–2014 workshops

Every few months, Peony Allen pulls together statistics from our post-professional development participant surveys. In this issue, we take a look at responses from SIM workshop participants who completed surveys in the 2013–2014 academic year.

A total of 179 individuals completed the survey. The top three Content Enhancement workshop topics were *Framing Routine, Unit Organizer Routine,* and *Course Organizer Routine*. The top three topics for Learning Strategies workshops were *Fundamentals in the Sentence Writing Strategy, Proficiency in the Sentence Writing Strategy,* and *Paragraph Writing Strategy*.



SIM Strategic Instruction Model®

SIM Professional Development Follow-Up Participant Questionnaire

Have you implemented any of these SIM strategies or routines?	
Yes	78.5%
No	21.5%

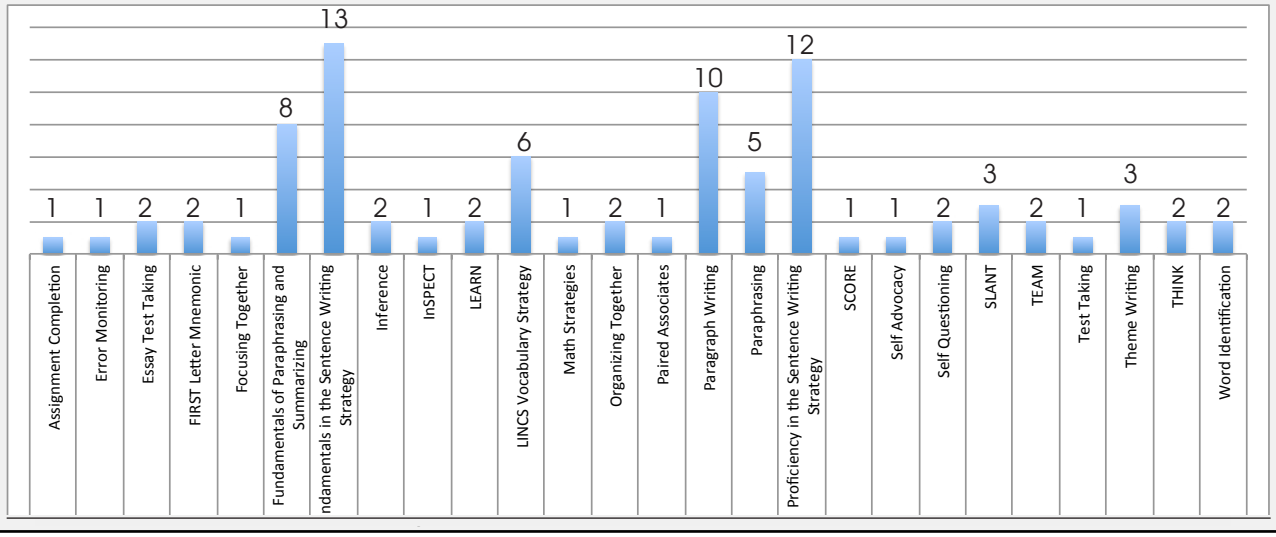
If you have implemented these strategies or routines, have you seen improvement in student performance? ✶*See related—page 3*✶	
Yes	77.7%
No	22.3%

How many students are you using this strategy or routine with this year?	
1–5	14.9%
5–10	14.2%
10–25	21.6%
25–50	12.7%
50+	36.6%

How often are you using this strategy or routine?	
Daily	32.8%
Weekly	42.5%
Monthly	3.7%
As needed	20.9%

State/Province of Session	
California	3
Connecticut	1
Florida	4
Georgia	20
Illinois	8
Indiana	1
Iowa	1
Maryland	18
Michigan	5
Minnesota	5
Missouri	20
New York	3
North Carolina	15
North Dakota	9
Ohio	7
South Carolina	5
Texas	38
Virginia	11
Washington	1
West Virginia	1
Wisconsin	3

Please select the LEARNING STRATEGY (if any) presented during this professional development activity. (You may select more than one):



✷TEACHER SATISFACTION, SUCCESS✷

We periodically send surveys to teachers who have attended SIM workshops. In the fall, we followed up with teachers who answered "I have seen student improvement with SIM Strategies or Routines. I have data and will share." Among the responses was this message, from **Mary Geeza**, a teacher at Liberty Middle School in Cumming, Georgia. Mary teaches seventh-grade special education (resource—small group) language arts and literacy and eighth-grade special education (resource) language arts. She gave us permission to share her success story, which she attributes largely to SIM and to SIM Professional Developer **Jane Basler**. Here's Mary's email message to us:

> I am thrilled to share with you that I have had very strong growth among the 7th graders with whom I work. I focus on the Word ID and Word Mapping strategies during the first semester each year. Last year my data went through the roof (in my opinion)!
>
> My 7th grade small group literacy students had a median growth percentile of 90% in reading on standardized testing. My students had the highest growth in the school for 7th grade readers!
>
> Needless to say, I L-O-V-E SIM!
>
> Thanks for making life of the special educator SOOOOO much easier AND more successful!
>
> Mary

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

KUCRL Divisions

Advanced Learning Technologies
http://www.altec.org

Division of Adult Studies
http://das.kucrl.org

e-Learning Design Lab
http://elearndesign.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

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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 2014–2015; cost $50.00. Permission to reproduce any or all parts of Stratenotes to support professional development activities is hereby given.

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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 includes SIM Professional Developers (active, inactive, retired, retiring, thinking of retiring) or teachers that professional developers would recommend 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.

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)? If so, submit details to simpd@ku.edu and we will post them on our SIM Events calendar and on our SIM Facebook page.

SIM sessions for preservice educators

College and university faculty have two options to learn more about incorporating evidence-based Strategic Instruction Model™ practices into their work. One option—Content Enhancement Routines for College/University Faculty—is directed toward content teaching. The other—SIM Learning Strategies for Preservice Educators—is focused on student interventions. Both institutes will be May 27–29 on the campus of the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Content Enhancement Routines for College/University Faculty

The session is targeted for college and university faculty who are interested in revising their own content courses to incorporate evidence-based practices. The emphasis of this workshop is to embed inclusive course planning and the implementation of various explicit teaching routines designed to ensure content-area mastery of critical ideas and concepts by all students.

Participants will use their own course materials and explore several routines in depth so that Content Enhancement Routines can be infused into existing courses or new courses can be constructed.

SIM Learning Strategies for Preservice Educators

This exciting collaborative opportunity is designed to expand the knowledge and skills of university faculty who lead credential preparation and graduate-level teacher education courses. The session will provide the opportunity to meaningfully integrate multiple evidence-based strategies and teaching methods to share with your education students, including the following:

- Tools to teach students how to learn and how to use what they have learned to solve problems and be successful.
- Tools to teach students how to study and take tests more successfully.
- Tools to teach students how to express themselves successfully.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

Visit our website for registration and payment instructions.

http://sim.kucrl.org/classes

Graduate-level credit is available for this session through the University of Kansas. Tuition fees apply. Contact Mona Tipton, monatipton@ku.edu, for details.

FOLLOW US!

Facebook
http://www.facebook.com/kucrl.sim

Twitter
@StrateTweets

2015 International SIM Conference

July 15–17, 2015 • Oread Hotel • Lawrence, Kansas

Make plans now to attend the 2015 International SIM Conference this summer. Our keynote speaker this year will be Richard Culatta, director of the Office of Educational Technology at the U.S. Department of Education. Culatta is a leader in the field of educational innovation. He has experience in K-12, higher education, and workplace learning environments. At the education department, his work focuses on using technology to create personalized learning experiences for all students and promoting increased connectivity to improve access to education and make college more affordable.

Culatta, a former Spanish teacher, was director of operations for the Rose Education Foundation and learning technologies advisor at Brigham Young University, where he was instrumental in redesigning the teacher preparation program at the McKay School of Education. He began working with educational technology at the University of Rhode Island, where he co-taught the university's first technology integration workshops for faculty. His previous work centered on using social media to create effective, large-scale distributed learning environments. He has a particular interest in

Richard Culatta

games for learning, personalized learning, and open education. Before joining the education department, he served as education policy advisor to U.S. Senator Patty Murray.

Registration form, page 7–8.

Preconference sessions

Extend your learning this summer by attending one of the three preconference sessions we have planned.

For the first time, we are offering an opportunity for you to delve into the nitty-gritty, practical details of the **Xtreme Reading** curriculum. Participants in this preconference session will be able to add Xtreme Reading to the slate of options they offer educators with whom they work.

If you're interested in a discipline-specific approach to teaching key Common Core literacy standards, Ed Ellis's **Differentiated Visual Tools** is the preconference session for you. Or spend the day mastering the art of **GIST**, including the all-new Unit Builder feature and mobile options.

All preconference sessions will be July 14. See the registration form on page 9.

Xtreme Reading: A New Curriculum for Your Learning Strategy Professional Development Practice

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Instructors: Pam Leitzell and Jerri Neduchal

Cost: $60 (includes professional development materials, an Xtreme Reading sampler, and Xtreme Reading micro-credential)

Xtreme Reading (XR) is a spiral reading curriculum focused on seven essential SIM reading strategies (*Word Mapping, Word Identification, Self-Questioning, Paraphrasing, Fundamentals of Paraphrasing and Summarizing, Inference,* and *Visual Imagery*) and two motivation strategies (*Possible Selves* and *Talking Together*). The curriculum is complex but paced to be taught in a single year. Xtreme Reading's core instructional approaches include direct instruction, teacher modeling, paired student practice, and independent practice. The program provides end-of-unit assessments to track student progress.

This session offers the opportunity for Learning Strategies professional developers to quickly learn about the structure of the program and the instructional approaches, saving them a significant amount of time versus figuring out how to instruct teachers on their own. In addition, participants will receive the professional development materials and guidance for delivering professional development and coaching. At the end of this session, participants will be equipped to teach Xtreme Reading to other educators.

The objective of XR is to empower adolescent learners to reach academic

goals and to teach them the strategies, habits of learning, and knowledge regarding reading and literacy that are required to thrive in the 21st century.

XR is appropriate for students who exhibit:

- Poor reading fluency
- Small sight vocabularies
- Limited understanding of words and multiple word meanings
- Limited background and conceptual knowledge
- Few demonstrated skills in using strategies that enhance understanding and remembering of oral and written language

As a part of the conference fee, participants will receive an Xtreme Reading Sampler and key professional development materials, including PowerPoint slides, to enable them to teach Xtreme Reading. Participants will have the option of purchasing a complete Xtreme Reading Professional Developer Set—which includes one copy of each manual in the Xtreme Reading program and all associated teacher and professional developer materials—at a discounted price of $600 ($1,000 value). If you want to purchase this set, select the appropriate option on the preconference registration form on page 9.

Differentiated Visual Tools

10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Instructor: Ed Ellis
Cost: $60

Differentiated Visual Tools (DVTs) is a K-12 discipline-specific approach to systematically teaching key Common Core (literacy) standards while integrating instruction in content information. Learn the answers to "What's so differentiated about Differentiated Visual Tools?" and "Why do DVTs reduce teachers' and students' cognitive load?" If you'd like to learn more about DVTs to decide whether to attend the workshop, visit http://www.MakesSenseStrategies.com.

During the workshop, we will review DVT programs designed for two different grade levels: grades K-5 and grades 6-12. Participants will be sent a link to PowerPoint presentations and handouts that can be shared with others when providing professional development. Participants should bring a laptop with Adobe Reader already loaded on it.

Participants who register for the preconference workshop will also be sent a "gift card" coupon code that will allow them to purchase DVT software via automatic download at a 50% discount at http://www.MakesSenseStrategies.com. *Note:* Please download the software before the workshop. Some participants may be more interested in the K-5 DVT programs, some the 6-12 DVT programs, and some may want both.

GISTv2 and GIST Mobile

9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Instructors: Keith Lenz and Peter Lenz
Cost: $60

The session will be a hands-on training of GISTv2 and GIST Mobile. Participants will learn about the GISTv2 software and how to create, design, and publish courses and organizers to GIST Mobile. Participants will also learn about the all-new Unit Builder that takes users through each section of the *Unit Organizer Routine.* The Unit Builder will include new features and add-ons such as assignment creation, populating, creating unit-level Content Enhancement Routine devices, syncing, and more. The second part of the session will then focus on publishing and using GIST Mobile for Teachers and Students. GIST mobile will give users access to Content Enhancement Routine templates and other resources in a course that can be used on web-accessible devices, including IPADs, tablets, smart phones, and computers. The GIST Mobile part of the session will focus on how students and faculty access and use interactive Content Enhancement designed courses. Participants will learn how to use student inputs, navigation, layers, linking, and zooming with the different organizers and devices in their mobile course while also monitoring student co-creation and involvement in real time.

Preconference session attendees will receive an updated version of the GISTv2 software along with any other product-related updates. Please bring laptop computers for course design, publishing, presentation, and co-creation in GISTv2 and GIST Mobile. To use GIST Mobile, participants can bring tablets, IPADs, or web-accessible computers.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORTING

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

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

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!

2015 International SIM Conference

SIM Professional Developer Registration Form

July 15–17, 2015 • Oread Hotel • Lawrence, Kansas

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: $325** $ _____

For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2015, 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

Coming soon: Visit 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, 2015**, to receive a full refund of your registration fee. We will be unable to issue any refunds after July 2, 2015.

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 15, 2015). **Space is limited. For registration forms and more information, contact Patty Graner (pgraner@ku.edu) or Mona Tipton (monatipton@ku.edu).**

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Wednesday, July 15

7 a.m.	Registration
8 a.m.	Welcome
8:30 a.m.	Keynote Richard Culatta
10 a.m.	Breakout Sessions
Noon	Lunch on your own
1 p.m.	Breakout Sessions
4 p.m.	Certificate Ceremony
4:45 p.m.	Social

Thursday, July 16

7:30 a.m.	Registration
8:15 a.m.	Breakout Sessions
11:45 a.m.	Lunch on your own
1:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions
3:15 p.m.	Poster Session

Friday, July 17

8:30 a.m.	Kaleidoscope
9:45 a.m.	Breakout Sessions
11:15 a.m.	Closing

CONFERENCE REQUESTS

Suggestions for affinity group topics:

_____

_____

_____

Other suggestions or requests:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2015 International SIM Preconference

July 14, 2015 • Oread Hotel • Lawrence, Kansas

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: SELECT ONE

❒ **Xtreme Reading: A New Curriculum for Your Learning Strategy Professional Development Practice: $60** $ _____

❒ Optional: Xtreme Reading Professional Developer Set: $600 $ _____

❒ **Differentiated Visual Tools: $60** $ _____

❒ **GISTv2 and GIST Mobile: $60** $ _____

For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2015, add $25 late fee. $ _____

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.: _____

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SIM CALENDAR

May 27–29, 2015
SIM Learning Strategies for Preservice Educators
Lawrence, Kansas

May 27–29, 2015
SIM Content Enhancement Routines for College/University Content and Preservice Educators
Lawrence, Kansas

June 25–26, 2015
Maryland Update for SIM Professional Developers
Elkton, Maryland

July 14, 2015
International SIM Conference Preconference workshops
Lawrence, Kansas

July 15–17, 2015
International SIM Conference
Lawrence, Kansas

October 22–23, 2015
SIM x Southwest: Austin Update for SIM Professional Developers
Austin, Texas

For a complete list of SIM events, including those not coordinated by KUCRL: **HTTP://SIM.KUCRL.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.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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