stråt-2-notes: an international newsletter for SIM Trainers

Calendar March 2-4, 2000 Southeast Region Update Embassy Suites, Charleston, South Carolina Week of May 30, 2000 Pedagogies for Academic Diversity in Secondary Schools Workshop University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas July 6-8, 2000 International SIM Trainers Conference Lawrence, Kansas July 10-12, 2000 Advanced Trainers' Workshop: Teacher-Guided Professional Development Lawrence, Kansas July 17-19, 2000 Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) Workshop Level I University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas July 20-22, 2000 Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) Workshop Level II University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas July 17-21, 2000 Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) Workshop Content Enhancement University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas July 25-28, 2000 Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) Writing Strategies Workshop University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas July 31-August 4, 2000

Workshop for Potential

Enhancement Trainers

(Continued on page 2)

University of Kansas

Lawrence, Kansas

SIM Content

This issue of Stratenotes comes to you as part of the annual StrateDirectory and StratePubs mailing to Strateworks members.

StratePubs

This year's mailing features two articles of interest to SIM Trainers:

 "Don't Water Down! Enhance: Content Learning through the Unit Organizer Routine," by Daniel J. Boudah, B. Keith Lenz, Janis A.

Bulgren, Jean B. Schumaker, and Donald D. Deshler. This article describes the Unit Organizer device and provides an example of how to use the Unit Organizer Routine. It also offers planning tips, logistical suggestions, ideas for modifications, and assessment considerations. The article was published in the January/February 2000 issue of the Council for Exceptional Children's Teaching Exceptional Children.

"Involving Students in Assignment Evaluation," by Joyce A. Rademacher. This article describes the relationships among planning, presenting, and evaluating assignments and describes the PACE 1, 2 ... self-checking process for evaluating assignments. It was originally published in the January 2000 issue of Intervention in School and Clinic.

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You also will find a flyer in this mailing describing the information you can find on the Center's Web site. We hope you will bookmark the site and turn to it first when you need answers about KU-CRL, Learning Strategies, Content Enhancement Routines, or the Strategic Instruction Model. Please also give this address to teachers who may want to learn more about SIM, our products, and our programs.

StrateDirectory

Those of you who are familiar with past editions of StrateDirectory will notice a few changes this year. The biggest change is that we have eliminated the regional listing of trainers. Feedback from directory users indicated that an alphabetical listing by state would be more helpful. The year 2000 edition of StrateDirectory features three ways for you to find information about members of the SIM Network:

 The "Alphabetical Listing" of SIM Trainers (by the trainer last name) includes home and work telephone numbers and e-mail addresses, when available. This listing indicates the state (or states) in which the trainer lives and works. You can use this information to find more detailed information about the trainer in the Details by State Listing. The "Alphabetical Listing" begins on page 9.

Special delivery

StrateDirectory & StratePubs

IEP workshop videotapes

The Council for Exceptional Children is offering a two-tape set of videos capturing Dr. Barbara Bateman, preeminent educator in the field of learning disabilities, as she presents workshops on vital IDEA changes and useful IEPs to teachers, administrators, and parents. In the first tape, Dr. Bateman deals with IDEA changes in team membership, the legal process, and disciplinary procedures. In the second tape, she discusses how to set the stage for meetings, what is legally required in an IEP, and how best to develop educationally useful IEPs. The tapes were produced by the CEC's Division for Learning Disabilities. The cost of the tapes is \$179 for both tapes or \$95 for an individual tape. CEC members pay \$125.30 for the set or \$66.50 per individual tape. For more information, contact the CEC ordering department at (888) 232-7733.

More calendar

July 31-Aug. 4, 2000 Workshop for Potential SIM Learning Strategy Trainers University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas

STRATENOTES is published eight times from September through May and once every summer as part of Strateworks of the International Training Network by the Center for Research on Learning, 1999-2000. cost \$35.00. Permission to reproduce any or all parts of Stratenotes to support training activities is hereby given.

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Editor: Julie Tollefson

- The "Listing by State and City," which begins on page 27, lists trainers by state, province, or country (other than the United States or Canada) and by city. It includes home and work telephone numbers and e-mail addresses, when available. If the trainer lives and works in different cities within the same state and both addresses are given for publication, the trainer is listed by his or her home city. If the home and work states are different, we made every effort to print the trainer information in the listings for both states.
- The "Details by State" listing, which begins on page 49, provides all of the information authorized for release by each trainer. States are listed alphabetically; within each state, trainers are listed alphabetically by last name. Information provided in this list includes home and work addresses, home and work telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, fax numbers, professional categories (college professor or staff developer, for example); trainer status (for example, certified SIM Trainer); the setting in which the trainer feels most comfortable (inner city, rural, or suburban); the student populations with which the trainer has worked (LD, BD, etc.); and the strategies and routines in which the trainer is willing to advise others. If the trainer lives and works in different states and both addresses are given for publication, we have made every effort to print the trainer's information in the listings for both states.

The directory lists information for SIM Trainers who have completed Directory Information Forms. The trainer must be an active member of the SIM Network. Trainer names were removed from the directory for the following reasons:

- 1. The trainer is inactive (has not attended an update training meeting within the last two years, according to our records), and
- 2. The trainer has not subscribed to Strateworks since the 97-98 subscription year.

Our decision to remove names from the directory was based on the information we had in our records as of December 21, 1999.

In addition to the SIM Trainer listings, StrateDirectory describes the grants, projects, areas of expertise, and interests of staff members in its CRL Staff Information section, which begins on page 5.

The last page of the directory is a Directory Information Form. If you are not listed in the directory because you have not completed a form, please fill it out and mail it to the Center for Research on Learning, 3061 Dole, Lawrence, KS 66045. Likewise, if you are listed in the directory but need to update your information, just complete the form and send it to us.

Suggestions?

We would like to hear your suggestions for improving the directory in the future. In particular, we are interested in your answers to the following questions:

- What directory information do you use most often (phone number, address, e-mail address, state listing, etc.)
- What information is least valuable to
- Which listing do you turn to first for information? Why?
- What would you like to see changed to make the directory more useful to you?

You may e-mail your answers to jtollefson@ukans.edu or mail them to Julie Tollefson at the Center for Research on Learning, 3061 Dole, Lawrence, KS 66045.

The Center receives many requests for information about how teachers and schools are integrating Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement Routines into long-term programs. Because the training network is such a rich source for information of this sort, we are passing along three specific requests to you:

- A foreign language teacher would like information about how to use the LINCS Vocabulary Strategy with a foreign language.
- We have received several requests for descriptions of how teachers have set up Learning Strategies courses or study skills courses with a strategies

- focus at the junior high or high school level. Syllabi for such courses would be extra useful.
- We need examples of IEPs that are written around a strategic learning focus and procedures for how teachers are approaching this in schools.

If you have any information or examples that would be helpful in answering these three requests, please contact the Center by phone at (785) 864-4780, by mail at KU-CRL, 3061 Dole, Lawrence, KS, 66045, or by email at crl@ukans.edu. You also may contact Keith Lenz directly at klenz@home.com.

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Off the Dime ...and into Action!

Presented during the 1998 International SIM Trainers' Conference by **Jo Jakupcak** of the University of Montana-Missoula.

Have you ever given a SIM training, felt really good about the enthusiastic audience participation, and then, several months later, run into a teacher and asked how the new strategy was working, only to be let down by the answer? Sadly, the best training may never be put into action in the classroom. One method to avoid this pitfall is to give the teacher-participants real ownership in the Strategic Instruction Model approach.

Try providing (or having available for a small materials fee) all of the needed equipment and materials for each participant to produce his or her own classroom poster of the newly learned strategy. Here is a suggested list of supplies:

- · large sheets of poster board
- letter stencils and scissors
- colored markers
- rulers or yardsticks

Of course, a sample of suggested posters is handy; better yet, encourage teachers to work individually or in pairs to create visual aids for their own classrooms. When they return home, the built-in reminder of what they have just learned is there, ready to use the next school day. Just this simple activity may enliven workshops and be the key to starting SIM in a classrom.

Trainers honored

SIM Trainers Debbie Cooke of Lake Worth, Florida, and Patty Sampson-Graner of Delray Beach, Florida, received this year's Jane Langenbach Award during the annual Florida SIM Trainers' Update Meeting. The award recognizes outstanding performance as a trainer. It was established in memory of Jane, who was one of the original strategies trainers in Florida.

Poet identified

The InSPECT Strategy training packet includes a poem called "Owed to a Spell in Checker" with a note that the poet is unknown. No longer! The actual title of the poem is "Candidate for a Pullet Surprise." It was written by Jerrold H. Zar of Northern Illinois University and originally appeared in the January/February 1994 issue of the Journal of Irreproducible Results.

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Content Enhancement in Virginia

The Recall Enhancement Routine takes center stage at three Feast & Forum sessions to be presented in April in Virginia. SIM Trainers Lee Dorman, Pat Parrott, and Barbara Scott will present sessions April 4 in Charlottesville, April 10 in Richmond, and April 12 in Fredericksburg. All sessions are scheduled from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The Recall Enhancement
Feast & Forum sessions are
part of a dinner series for
teachers and parents sponsored by the Virginia Branch
of the International Dyslexia
Association. Previous Feast
& Forum sessions focused on
the Concept Mastery Routine
and the Framing Routine.

For more information about the series, call the Virginia IDA Hotline at (800) 988-8336.

Pat Parrott is the Virginia IDA Education Committee Chair.

Success stories to inspire SIM teachers and trainers

Sue Woodruff, SIM Trainer from Muskegon, Michigan, has shared several inspirational stories with us over the past few months. Here are a couple of our favorites:

One great day

In a single fabulous day, Sue received two telephone calls and placed one that together would brighten even the gloomiest day.

The first call she received came from a teacher in Portage, a large district bordering Kalamazoo that has three middle schools and two high schools. Two of the middle schools and one of the high schools are implementing strategic instruction. The teacher who called Sue is implementing reading strategies in sixth-grade general education classrooms and really enjoying it. Several teachers in the district are reporting tremendous success.

The second call was from a general education English teacher in a neighboring district who works with low readers. The teacher is implementing Word ID with middle school students. She told Sue that she had started off somewhat skeptical but now is amazed at the results she's getting. The experience has re-energized her, she said.

After receiving these two excellent calls, Sue decided to call another teacher she worked with last year to check on her progress and offer encouragement. The teacher had taught *Word ID* and *Visual Imagery* with great results and was beginning *Self-Questioning*. In addition, she had just made her second school board presentation and was extremely excited and hopeful. A ninthgrade student attended the school board meeting with her and spoke about how much she had learned about reading and, even more importantly, about herself.

A new self-image

Sue came away from a recent visit with a middle school general education English teacher with the following extraordinary story:

The teacher was working on the Word ID Strategy with an eighth-grade student who should have been in 10th grade. The teacher said the student, who pretested at a 3.6 grade level, needed complete quiet to do his best. He came to class, planted himself in a corner with his materials, and curled up in a way that looked as if he was trying to shut out the sounds of the world. When he worked independently, he concentrated very deeply with his back to the other kids, off in his own world. The teacher said this student put in many long, hard hours of practice while trying to master the Word ID Strategy. One day, when he was reading to himself and practicing DISSECT, he jumped up and shouted, "I can READ!" He then read for the class, and the other students complimented him on his fluency. But that's not all, Sue said. The next day, the first thing he said as he entered the classroom was "Hey, Mrs. H., last night, I went home and READ!"

"This boy had truly turned a corner and opened the door to reading," Sue said. "I was struck by the notion that all of a sudden, his view of himself changed. He had the realization that he was now a reader. What a great moment in that boy's life."

Share your successes... We love to hear stories like these. If you have successes or inspirations to share with the SIM Network, send them to us at the Center for Research on Learning, 3061 Dole, Lawrence, KS 66045 Attn: Stratenotes. You can e-mail them to us at crl@ukans.edu.

2000 International SIM Conference

When: July 6-8, 2000
Where: Holidome in
Lawrence, Kansas.

Keynote speakers

- Dr. Sharon Vaughn, Endowed Professor at the University of Texas at Austin, will deliver her address, "Powerful Factors that are Associated with Improved Outcomes for Students with Learning Disabilities," on July 6. She also will present a breakout session focusing on fluency and comprehension strategies that improve outcomes for students with disabilities in general education classrooms.
- Bauwens, Professor in the College of Education at Boise State University in Idaho, will deliver her address, "The Key is We!" She also will present a break-out session, "Tools and Techniques to Accommodate All Learners," describing six universal tools to accommodate all learners and numerous techniques for planning for and teaching a diverse group of learners within general education classrooms.

Post-conference workshop

A three-day post-conference workshop will provide advanced skills that certified trainers can use to become forces for improvement in schools. The historic Eldridge Hotel in downtown Lawrence will be the setting for the Advanced Trainers' Workshop:

Teacher-Guided Professional

Development. This workshop, facilitated by Jim Knight, will adopt a

Poster session

Thinking of creating an entry for the conference poster session, but need some inspiration? Here are some of the titles from last year's poster session:

- Learning Strategies are in...the regular classroom
- · Preskills for Paraphrasing
- University of Kansas Strategies: A Yellow Brick Road Worth Traveling
- Upgrade Your Verbal Rehearsal Activities Now!
- Success for All Learners: River East School Division Initiative

The poster session is a valuable method of sharing your ideas and accomplishments with other members of the SIM Network. We will be happy to work with you to develop your posters. Our poster session coordinator will work directly with you to ensure you have the materials you need for a polished poster presentation. Please be thinking of ideas you can share in this way.

problem-solving and highly interactive format, enabling participants to work on real problems as they learn. Participants will

- build presentations, shaped around partnership principles and learning structures
- learn and practice skills required for successful one-to-one professional development
- learn and practice process structures that they can use with groups who need to solve problems or create a plan for implementation during training

Teacher-Guided Professional
Development is a democratic approach
now being used in the Pathways to
Success project recently undertaken at
the Center and directed by Jim. Trainers
who are interested in a more teachercentered, partnership-based approach to
professional development should
benefit from these sessions.

Conference hotel reservations

Rooms are available at the Lawrence Holidome for \$65 per night plus 10.9 percent tax. Reservations may be made with the hotel by calling (785) 841-7077, ext. 8902. Please specify that you are with the National SIM Trainers' Conference to ensure special group rates. A block of rooms will be held for SIM Trainers until June 6. 2000. After that, reservations will be taken on a spaceavailable basis only, and the hotel cannot guarantee the special rate.

Registration and call for papers

More information about the conference, including a call for presentations and registration forms for the conference and the post-conference workshop, appeared in the January issue of *Stratenotes*. The forms also are available for download from the Center's Web site, www.ku-crl.org.

New on the Web

- · January Spotlight. A new Starter Strategy: InSPECT
- February Spotlight. SIM instruction with a tropical flair: Island-hopping teacher helps missionary students & families
- Post-conference registration form
- More Frequently Asked Questions answered

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FIRST CLASS

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STRATENOTES Volume 8-Issue #5

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