

Stratenotes

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning • February 2018 • Volume 26, Issue 3

North Carolina's Focus on Adolescent Literacy Results in Success for Students and Teachers



Pam Leitzell
PD Leader
Florence, AL

LuAnn Jordan
CE & LS preservice
Charlotte, NC

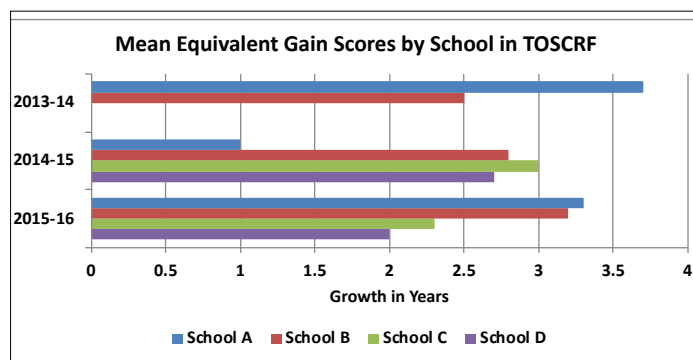
Chris O'Brien
LS preservice
Charlotte, NC

Dan Boudah
CE & LS PD
Greenville, NC

Over the past 5 years, North Carolina has steadily developed statewide supports for adolescent literacy using the *Xtreme Reading Program* as the linchpin in its quest to help struggling adolescent readers across the state. Over 1,000 students participated in the program in designated sites during this 5-year period, and the results have been exciting and impressive. Students completing the one-year course demonstrated extraordinary gains in their reading ability and increased knowledge of reading and literacy skills needed to succeed in school and in their everyday lives.

The state's work in adolescent literacy is an extension of work that began in the year 2000. At that time, a State Professional Development Grant was awarded to the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction, and funds were used to support a rollout of professional development across the state in foundational reading skills. To date, over 36,000 North Carolina educators have completed a rigorous 5-day course focusing on current reading research and ways to implement research-validated practices in the classroom. The course, titled *Reading Research to Classroom Practice*, has developed and expanded its focus over the years to include proven practices that build the reading abilities and literacy levels of adolescents. This opened the door for a strong focus on SIM strategies and the *Xtreme Reading Program*. The state's journey toward a common vision and mission regarding adolescent literacy had begun.

Xtreme Reading has become one part of an adolescent literacy mini-institute that has now been offered in every region of the state. The state is also providing virtual follow-up coaching sessions for new *Xtreme Reading* teachers with topics ranging from organizational tips for the classroom to the power of effective feedback to students. Teachers report that the opportunity to network and talk to other *Xtreme Reading* teachers has been "Xtremely" valuable, and the outcome has been higher quality implementation of the program in classrooms.



This chart represents gains made by students in *Xtreme Reading* in four schools in one district over a 3-year period. The Test of Silent Contextual Reading Fluency (TOSCRF) was used as one of the pre and posttest measures. The bars indicate the average *growth* in grade equivalency reading scores for students at each school in each academic year as measured by the test. Each school is represented by a colored bar.

In the 2013-2014 school year, two schools in the district (School A and School B) implemented *Xtreme Reading* (n=108 students). As shown, School A (blue bar) had 3.7 average years of growth and School B (red bar) had 2.5 average years of growth after students completed the one-year curriculum.

In 2014-2015, two additional schools, Schools C (green) and D (purple) in the district implemented

Xtreme Reading. Reading growth in the four middle schools was measured as follows: on average, 1 year of growth in School A, 2.8 years in School B, 3.0 years in School C and 2.7 years in School D (n=227 students). Notably, School A experienced teacher turnover in the Xtreme Reading classroom during the school year.

In 2015-16, reading growth in the four middle schools was measured as follows: on average, 3.3 years growth (School A), 3.2 years (School B), 2.3 years (School C), and 2.0 years (School D) (n=237 students). All in all, each group of students in the district's Xtreme Reading classrooms over the 3-year period made impressive gains.

Now, numerous students across the state are reaping the benefits of the focus on adolescent literacy and the *Xtreme Reading Program*. Teachers are reporting that the program has changed not only their students' reading scores, but also how students feel about themselves as learners. Teachers are changing too. As one *Xtreme Reading* teacher said, "*Xtreme Reading* has catapulted my abilities as a teacher far beyond what I imagined; I know I can help all of my students become strong readers." That's success!

SIM ONLINE RESOURCES

SIM Website
sim.ku.edu

SIM Events
sim.kucrl.org/classes

SIMville
sim.kucrl.org/simville

Publication List
kucrl.ku.edu/research_publications

Report your professional development at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SIMPDSessions>

Regional SIM Conferences

Florida started the year off with their 33rd regional SIM Conference: *Cultivating SIM Professional Developers, Nurturing Student Growth and Harvesting Success*. This year's conference included a keynote on *Communication and Community* by Dr. D. Sue Vernon, *SMARTER Planning for Collaborative Teaching* preconference session with Diane Gillam, concurrent sessions and kaleidoscopes by national and Florida educators, and presentation of awards to Marty Beech and Kristin Hope. If you were unable to make it to Florida, we hope to see you at one of the other conferences in 2018 (listed on page 6).



Marsha Kufel & Sallie Payne set up for the conference.



Patty Graner and Sallie Payne with Marty Beech, recipient of the 2018 Donald Deshler "Making a Difference" Legacy Award.



Diane Gillam presenting on *SMARTER Planning for Collaborative Teaching* at the preconference session.



SIM Block Party Session



The tables were set for cultivating, nurturing, and harvesting success!



SIM Block Party Session

2018 KUCRL Learning Conference



The 2018 KUCRL Learning Conference will be July 17-19 at the [DoubleTree Hotel](#) by Hilton in Lawrence, KS.

We will be addressing your most requested topics at this year's conference, including: Social Emotional Learning, Teaching Content to Diverse Learners, Tech to Improve Instruction, Adolescent Literacy and more. We hope to see you in Lawrence this summer!

Keynote Panel, Tuesday July 17, 2018

Social emotional learning and instructional technology as a way to support academic achievement for all students.



Panelists include:

[James Basham](#), Associate Professor, KU Special Education

[Jose Blackorby](#), Senior Director of Research and Development, CAST

[Karrie Shogren](#), Professor/Senior Scientist, KU Special Education, Life Span Institute, KU Center on Developmental Disabilities

[Sue Vernon](#), President, Social Perspective LLC

Conference Venue

DoubleTree by Hilton has come to Lawrence! The hotel chain completed a multimillion dollar renovation of the former Holidome, transforming the property into an upscale, service-focused hotel designed for conferences like ours. Long-time conference attendees may remember the Holidome and not fondly. Believe us when we say, we would not have moved if there had not been MAJOR changes to the facility and new management. Guest rooms feature new décor and furniture and are equipped with a refrigerator, in-room safe, **in-room tea and coffee** offerings by The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf®, and an array of Aroma Actives Essentials skin and body care line. Suites are also

available providing a separate living area, compact kitchenette and sleeper sofas. **Free Wi-Fi** is offered throughout the hotel.

More good news, the chlorine smell is gone! The DoubleTree has replaced the old swimming pool with a **new saltwater pool and whirlpool**. There are no longer upper level walkways in the pool area. Upper level hotel rooms are now sealed from the pool area, there are only doors to an inner hallway. This change alleviates room dampness and increases room size! If you want easy pool access, there are still ground floor rooms that enter from pool area. There is also a 24-hour state-of-the-art fitness center featuring Life Fitness equipment and a dedicated free weight area.

Dining options at the DoubleTree include the Heartlands Garden Grill, a casual, contemporary lobby restaurant offering breakfast classics, the Boulevard Grill, a restaurant with American-style favorites and beers on tap from Kansas City's renowned Boulevard Brewing Company, room service (6am-10am for breakfast and 11am-10pm for Lunch and Dinner), and the Made Market Pantry where guests may purchase salads, sandwiches, snacks and beverages 24-hours a day.

For more hotel information:

Visit the [Lawrence DoubleTree by Hilton website](#)

Book rooms now! Group Rate: \$119

Call 785.841.7077. Group: KUCRL Learning Conference

Online: www.group.doubletree.com/KUCRL-LearningConference Group Code: CRL | Group Name: KUCRL Learning Conf

For the budget minded, the DoubleTree is the Lawrence pickup and drop off spot for the Arival KCI Airport Shuttle ([see schedule](#)).



2018 KUCRL Learning Conference
SIM Professional Developer Registration Form
Doubletree Hotel • 200 McDonald Dr. • Lawrence, Kansas
July 17-19, 2018

MAILING ADDRESS (SELECT ONE): ☐ HOME ☐ WORK

Name: _____

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: _____

☐ **Certified SIM Professional Developer and Apprentice Registration Fee: \$350**

\$ _____

For registrations postmarked after June 15, 2018, add \$25 late fee.

\$ _____

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

\$ _____

Total enclosed:

\$ _____

☐ **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.:** _____

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

Cancellation Policy: If you cannot attend the conference, you must **notify KUCRL by July 1, 2018** to receive a full refund of your registration fee, minus \$50 processing fee. We will be unable to issue refunds after July 1, 2018.

Return Completed registration to:

KUCRL, Joseph R. Pearson Hall
1122 West Campus Rd., 7th Floor
Lawrence, KS 66045

Fax: 785.864.5728 **Email:** orderkucrl@ku.edu

The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a vet-eran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University's programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, IOA@ku.edu, 1246 W. Campus Road, Room 153A, Lawrence, KS, 66045, (785) 864-6414, 711 TTY.



SIM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPERS
2018 SIM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE
Registration Form

Name: _____

School/District/Workplace: _____

Work Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone (home): _____ (work): _____

Email address to be used for communication about this conference: _____

Choose your virtual conference session:

- ☐ **Winter:** Jan. 16–Feb. 16, 2018; webinar dates Feb. 21 & Feb. 22 **REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Jan. 12, 2018
☐ **Spring:** Apr. 9–May 7, 2018; webinar dates May 9 & May 10 **REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** April 4, 2018

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

- ☐ Registration: Streaming video \$425 (U.S. funds) \$ _____
☐ Stateworks membership renewal (optional) \$50 (U.S. funds) \$ _____

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: _____

Email for paid credit card receipt: _____

☐ **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.
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101
Fax: 785.864.5728 • Email: orderkucrl@ku.edu*

Refund Policy: If you cannot participate in this conference, you must notify KUCRL by the following deadlines 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 Dec. 29, 2015, for the virtual conference beginning Jan. 11, 2016, or after March 28, 2016 for the virtual conference beginning April 11, 2016. Please make a copy of this form for your records.

The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University's programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, IOA@ku.edu, 1246 W. Campus Road, Room 153A, Lawrence, KS, 66045, (785) 864-6414, 711 TTY.

SIM CALENDAR

February 27-28, 2018

[Southeast Update Conference](#) – Charleston, SC

April 9 - May 7, 2018

[Spring Virtual Update](#)

April 14, 2018

[CAL-SIM Workshop Day for educators](#)

Encino, CA

June 11-15, 2018

[LS & CE Potential Professional Developer Institute](#)

Holland, MI

June 14-15, 2018

[Iowa Update Conference](#) – Des Moines, IA

June 20-21, 2018

[Northeast Update Conference](#) - Glastonbury, CT

July 17-19, 2018

[KUCRL Learning Conference](#) – Lawrence, KS

August 1-2, 2018

[Xtreme Reading Institute for educators](#) - Austin, TX

For a complete list of SIM events, including those not coordinated by KUCRL, visit 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 to be included in the online SIM Events Calendar.



Check out SIM stories of success in the new 30x30+ book. Available for download on the SIM website or in the online store.

30X30+

more stories of success, hope, and innovation

KU CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON LEARNING
The University of Kansas



Join us for the 2018 KUCRL Learning Conference

July 17-19, 2018
DoubleTree by Hilton
Lawrence, KS



CRL STORE

Includes free products

The University of Kansas
Center for Research on Learning
Joseph R. Pearson Hall
1122 West Campus Road
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101
Main Office: 785.864.4780
Order Desk: 785.864.0617
Fax: 785.864.5728
E-mail: simpd@ku.edu

Contributors:
Peony Allen
Dan Boudah
Patricia Graner
LuAnn Jordan
Pamela Leitzell
Chris O'Brien
Mona Tipton

STRATENOTES is published six times a year by the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning as part of Strateworks for the International Professional Development Network. Publication period 2017-18; cost \$50.00. Permission to reproduce any or all parts of Stratenotes to support professional development activities is hereby given.

The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University's programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, IOA@ku.edu, 1246 W. Campus Road, Room 153A, Lawrence, KS 66045, 785.864.6414, 711 TTY.