



Vol. 1 No.4

Thursday, February 22, 2007

CONTACT US

Center on Instruction
Angela Penfold
Project Director

RMC Research Corporation
1000 Market St., Bldg. 2
Portsmouth, NH 03801

603-422-8888
1-800-258-0802
Fax 603-436-9166
info@centeroninstruction.org
www.centeroninstruction.org

What's New?

Math Institute

The Center on Instruction's Mathematics Strand hosted a Mathematics Institute on *Content Knowledge for Elementary School Teachers* on January 26-27, 2007, in Berkeley, California, which discussed the importance of teachers' content knowledge in making pedagogical decisions to improve student achievement. The highlight of the conference was demonstrations of conceptual foundations of mathematical content by Professor Wu of the University of California at Berkeley.

Conference presenters also discussed implications for professional development activities for teachers including practical suggestions for improving teachers' mathematical content knowledge and strategies for developing students' conceptual understanding. The conference also focused on creating mechanisms for integrating deep understanding of mathematics knowledge into professional development activities.

Materials from this conference will soon be available on the COI website, <http://www.centeroninstruction.org>, Professional Development.

Upcoming Events

Adolescent Literacy Resource

The Center on Instruction's Reading Strand is publishing a major guidance document on adolescent literacy, scheduled for release in late March. This approximately 190-page document is titled *Academic Literacy Instruction for Adolescents*.

It will include recommendations for improvements to literacy-related instruction in the content areas or across the entire school day, interventions for students reading below grade level, and recommendations for supporting literacy development in adolescent

English language learners.

Also included are comments from experts in response to questions about methods for improving academic literacy in adolescents and examples of state activities in support of improved adolescent literacy in California, Florida, Rhode Island, and Washington.

A downloadable pdf file will be available on the COI website (<http://www.centeroninstruction.org>) when the document is finalized, and a notice will be sent out on the COI listserv. Watch for this exciting resource!

An annotated bibliography will soon be available as a companion to the adolescent literacy document.

Questions & Answers

This new Q&A Section has been added to the *COI Today* newsletter to answer frequently asked questions of the Center on Instruction. We hope they will be helpful to you in providing technical assistance to your clients.

Q: Are the PowerPoint presentations from the November Math Summit available?

A: Yes, they are available at <http://www.centeroninstruction.org>, under Professional Development. All presentation materials from Center on Instruction conferences, workshops, and other professional development activities are available on the COI website shortly after each event. Click on the Professional Development button on the top bar. Events are listed chronologically, with the most recent event on top.

Q: Can our state education department create a direct link to the COI website? And to individual resources?

A: Yes, most definitely. These materials are available for download and use without charge.

Q: When you post a new document, can you suggest ways for comp centers to use it in their technical assistance to states?

A: Professional development activities are generally provided shortly after the release of new resources. For example, when the ELL series, *Practical Guidelines for the Education of English Language Learners*, was released, our ELL Strand staff held a WebEx meeting for the regional comprehensive centers staff to introduce the books, explain the contents of each, and suggest ways to use them. A podcast of this virtual meeting and the PowerPoint presentation are now available on the COI website at

<http://www.centeroninstruction.org>, under Professional Development.

Back to top

The Center on Instruction is one of five content centers to support the regional comprehensive centers in providing technical assistance to SEAs and districts/schools in need of improvement. The goal of COI is to supply much of the research-based information, products, guidance, analyses, and knowledge on instruction in reading, mathematics, science, special education, and English language learning that Regional Comprehensive Centers use when working with States.

Please send any suggestions or comments regarding our E-Newsletter to info@centeroninstruction.org. We would love to hear from you! If you've received this newsletter in error, or if you wish to unsubscribe, please email us at info@centeroninstruction.org and write "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Center on Instruction, Angela Penfold, Project Director
[RMC Research Corporation](http://www.rmcrc.com), 1000 Market St., Bldg. 2, Portsmouth, NH 03801
603-422-8888, 800-258-0802 Fax 603-436-9166
Email: info@centeroninstruction.org Website: <http://www.centeroninstruction.org>