

Project Clarion
August/September Meeting
September 10, 2008
10:00

In Attendance:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska	Janice Leslie
Dr. Bruce Bracken	Steve Coxon
Dr. Kyung Hee Kim	Hope Deighten
Dr. Janice Robbins	Meredith Roberson
Dr. Kim Chandler	Shannon Henry
Dr. Lori Bland	Kathryn Holt

1. Staff Introductions & goodbye

- Staff members and graduate assistants for 08/09 introduced themselves and provided brief background updates
- Welcome given to Dr. Lori Bland who will be assuming the directorship of Project Clarion
- Farewell and good wishes were given to Kathryn Holt who is leaving to pursue a Masters program in the W&M psychology department

2. Clarion Development and Research Publications Plan for 08/09

- Dr. VanTassel-Baska gave a summary of prior Clarion research and data sets collected during years 2 & 3
 - 3 sets of data for 3 years
 - data for years 2 & 3 needs further analysis and write-up for publication
 - Project Clarion presentations in 2007/08 included NAGC, and AERA
- Project Clarion involved three VA districts – Gloucester, Chesterfield, Fairfax
 - The previously collected data sets are posted on the G drive under DATA
 - A goal is to publish in as many journals as possible during the 08/09 school year
 - To clarify work toward accomplishing this goal, Dr. VanTassel-Baska reviewed the Center policies and practices regarding collaborative writing teams and authorship of articles
- In-depth discussion of concerns and problems with doing research in schools, reporting data, and sustaining use beyond the completion dates of the grant
 - K-3 lack of teacher preparation and knowledge of science
 - NCLB emphasis on reading/math skills resulting in little emphasis on science, social studies
 - Fidelity of implementation of science curriculum
 - Identification of gifted children during early childhood years – most gifted not identified until grade 3
- In -depth discussion of research plan for 08/09 with priorities, updates and targets for publications during this school year (**updated plan attached with center staff responsibilities as of this time-note * to designate lead author**)

- A summary of testing instruments (TCT, COSR, PDQ, PASTel) are being made into PDF format by Kathryn & Shannon and placed on the G drive
 - To measure teacher attitudes toward innovation, ASPIRE (A Stakeholder's Perception of Innovation/Reform Efforts) was developed as part of a prior Javits grant for language arts (Project Athena), and may be used for Clarion research this year
3. **Work scope and responsibilities for 2008/-sustained use of innovation**
- Focus groups with participating districts
 - Interview protocols have to be developed for participating districts-can be based on protocols used for Project Athena
 - Principals to organize focus groups and arrange meeting with appropriate assistant principal
 - Center staff to conduct focus groups
 - Conduct interview with Assistant Superintendent or designee
4. **Scale up and Budget - 2008/09**
- Fairfax County plans to extend to 2 additional schools (Mt. Eagle & Bucknell) but details of what this will entail are unclear at this time
 - Dr. Carol Horn, Coordinator for Gifted Ed. has been contacted by both Jan Leslie, & Janice Robbins. They will clarify intentions of district re: pre/post testing and use of curriculum.
 - Janice Robbins has a teacher training scheduled for both schools.
 - Jan Leslie to draft letter to participating districts re: possible plans for scale up and an on-site visit by Clarion personnel to discuss:
 - Professional development for scaling up
 - School Interest in future expansion and continuation of existing initiatives
 - Continuation of data collection for both students & teachers
 - Willingness of school to meet in focus groups and to do implementation follow-up for grade level, and evaluation with students and teachers
 - Possible directions scale up might take:
 - Study of student outcomes in grades 4 & 5
 - Study of SOL outcomes for science by strands- if such information is available – admitted problems with securing this data
 - Use of materials in additional districts as well as to additional schools within 3 target districts
 - Venues for scale up possibilities – target national, state and local venues
 - National – AERA,(Dr. VanTassel-Baska, Dr. Bracken) NAGC (Dr. VanTassel-Baska, Dr. Stambaugh), NSTA, (Dr.Chandler),
 - State – VAGC (Janice Robbins) , VAESP (Jan Leslie) (explore booths in exhibit halls for conferences)
 - Local – in-services for VA districts- Kim Chandler scheduled for PBL in Fairfax in November
 - Web Based link on Center site (Steve Coxen to begin)

- Conference for community and home schooled students on Project Clarion
- Budget for Year 5
 - \$20,000.00 teacher stipends
 - \$35,000.00 professional development including conference and staff development travel
 - \$15,000.00 for materials
- 5. The PASTel Manual**
 - Ready for formatting and publication per Dr. Bracken
 - Shannon Henry to finalize format and readiness
- 6. Other**
 - Clarion units are with Prufrock and being printed two at a time
 - To be accomplished :
 - Begin write-up of articles
 - All units will be sent in by May, 2009
 - Dissemination of project through conferences
 - Tap into networks for Clarion expansion/scale-up
 - Follow-up in existing districts
 - Plan for Spring, 09 Clarion celebration

Next Meeting: October 8, 2008

10:00

3rd floor conference room

(see research plan – next page)

Project Clarion Research Plan 2008/09

Priority	Article	Authors	Journal	Projected Submission Date
1	Project Clarion: Year II Findings	*Dr. Joyce Van-Tassel Baska, Dr. Bruce Bracken, Dr. Tamra Stambaugh, Dr. Annie Feng, Dr. Lori Bland,	TBD – JEG or Roeper	December 1, 2008
2	Project Clarion: Year III Findings (Critical thinking & PBA)	*Dr. Joyce Van-Tassel Baska, Dr. Bruce Bracken, Dr. Tamra Stambaugh, Dr. Annie Feng, Dr. Lori Bland, Dr. Kyung Hee Kim,	TBD – JEG or Roeper	December 1, 2008
3.	Test Development of PASTel	*Dr. Bruce Bracken, Dr. Tamra Stambaugh, Dr. Janice Robbins, Dr. Lori Bland, Dr. Kyung Hee Kim	TBD	December 1, 2008
4.	Test Development of the TCT	* Dr. Bruce Bracken, Dr. Catherine Little, Dr. Lori Bland, Dr. Kyung Hee Kim, GAs as assigned	TBD	December 1, 2008
5.	Performance-Based Assessments	*Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska, Dr. Janice Robbins, Dr. Kim Chandler, Dr. Lori Bland, Dr. Kyung Hee Kim, Shannon Henry	TBD	January 15, 2009
6.	Teaching Science in Schools	Dr. Joyce Van-Tassel Baska, *Dr. Janice Robbins. Dr. Kim Chandler, Steve Coxen-lit.review to begin immediately	TBD	April 15, 2009
7	Future project: Problems of Conducting Research in Schools	TBD	TBD	TBD

*** Lead Author**

Clarion Meeting
October 8, 2008
10:00 AM

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska	Steve Coxon
Dr. Bruce Bracken	Hope Deighton
Dr. Kim Chandler	Shannon Henry
Dr. Janice Robbins	Christina Pace
Dr. Kyung Hee Kim	Meredith Roberson
Dr. Lori Bland	Janice Leslie

- I. Welcome to Dr. Bland who is now the project manager for Clarion.
- II. Budding Botanists won an NAGC curriculum award and thanks to Dr. Chandler for her work on the submission. This is the 10th year that the Center has won an award and marks continuous awards since they were established.
- III. Reports on progress from September meeting:
 - A. Clarion units from Prufrock
 1. Dr. Bland is the contact with Prufrock for the Clarion units.
 2. A final content and format review will be conducted on all Clarion units before being sent to Prufrock.
 3. Content reviews to be done by: Dr. Bracken, Dr. VanTassel-Baska, Dr. Chandler, and Dr. Robbins, Dr. Bland, Dr. Kim.
 4. GAs have completed format review.
 5. Prufrock will send galley proofs back 2 units at a time. Content reviewers will check galley proofs.
 6. Dr. Bland will develop a review protocol.
 7. Units are due on Wednesday, October 15.
 8. Publication dates from Prufrock are TBD.

B. Year 5 Scale-up

1. Scale-up implementation efforts

- a) will focus on professional development for control groups and other support, as identified by the school district.
- b) Dr. VanTassel-Baska indicated that historically it had been difficult for schools to provide data. Additional Clarion data may be collected from schools, as they are able to participate. The performance-based assessments and TCT will be suggested to schools as the instruments used for additional data collection.
- c) Dr. Bland will follow-up with district coordinators by the end of next week to plan a meeting with the Principal Investigators to determine the services curriculum, assessment, and professional development services the Center might offer and a schedule to conduct those services as well as the case study research.

2. Scale-up research will focus on case studies of curriculum implementation, professional development, and sustaining innovation.
 - a) Case study data collection will occur beginning in November with a target completion of February.
 - b) Interviewing district coordinators will be targeted for the 1st week of November.
 - c) GAs to assist with scale-up implementation: Meredith Roberson, Shannon Henry, Hope Deighton; Steve Coxon to assist with professional development.

C. Year 5 Professional Development

1. Year 5 professional development will be delivered based on district/school interest.
2. Areas of focus may include:
 - a) Curriculum implementation
 - b) Developing measures of performance
 - c) Sustaining Innovation
3. Traditional and electronic avenues for professional development were discussed, including video clips and other electronic means.

D. Research Publication

1. PASTeL
 - a) Dr. Bracken will call a meeting next week to discuss publication.
 - b) Thanks to Hope Deighton for work on PASTel – conversion into a bifold
 - c) Hope has developed a student version for Dr. Bracken's review.
2. TCT: Dr. Bracken will call a meeting next week to discuss publication.
3. Year II and III MAT results: Dr. VanTassel-Baska, Dr. Kim, and Dr. Bland will meet next week to determine timeline.
4. Year II and III Performance and TCT results: Dr. Bland will work with Dr. Kim and Shannon to complete a draft article by December 1.
5. Dr. VanTassel-Baska will meet with interested parties on additional articles related to performance-based assessment.

IV. Announcements:

- A. An additional \$50,000.00 was given to Project Clarion to help account for previous cuts in funding.

Project Clarion Meeting: Year 5

November 12, 2008

11:00 AM

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska

Hope Deighton

Dr. Kim Chandler

Meredith Roberson

Dr. Kyung-Hee Kim

Shannon Henry

Dr. Lori Bland

Janice Leslie

I. Overview of work on Clarion units:

- a. Dr. Bland met with Prufrock in Tampa during NAGC. Unit names can be changed up until December 31st of this year. Dr. Bland will send the final titles to Prufrock on January 2, 2009 for inclusion in their March 2009 catalog.
- b. The first unit to be published is *Budding Botanists* and will be the model for all Clarion units that follow. All unnecessary formatting is to be stripped from the document before it is sent off and a copyeditor may be hired to assist with keeping the style and the text consistent within the unit and across units. Peter Chapman was recommended.
- c. *Budding Botanists* is due for submission in December, with the remaining units to follow in January.
- d. A timeline will be sent to Prufrock on December 1st regarding publication of the units.
- e. Content reviews were completed on 10/15.
- f. All units except *Budding Botanists* will be returned to Dr. Bland for review.
- g. A draft of the review protocol was completed and will be revised by Dr. Bland based on the completed content reviews and guidelines from the publisher.
- h. Bracken Basic Concepts:
 - i. Dr. Bruce Bracken will make decision regarding use of the Bracken Basic Concepts in units.

II. Reports on progress from October meeting:

- a. Case Studies:
 - i. Hope and Shannon have adopted interview protocols from Project Athena for district administrators, school-based administrators, and teachers which will need to be added to the Final Report.

- ii. The interviews with the Fairfax District Coordinator and assistant have been completed and typed up, and will need to be reviewed by the interviewer.
 - iii. The interviews with the Braddock principal, assistant principal, and teacher focus group have been completed and will need to be typed.
 - iv. The interview with the Annandale Terrace principal has been completed and the teacher focus group interview is scheduled for November 19th.
 - v. Gloucester and Chesterfield interviews still need to be scheduled. Dr. VanTassel-Baska will follow-up with Chesterfield on Thursday. Dr. Bland will follow-up with Gloucester for November 18th and November 19th.
 - vi. ASPIRE has been distributed during the Fairfax interviews and will be collected next week. The new data will need to be added; Hope has already set up a SPSS database and begun entering data. The instrument will need to be included with the Final Report.
 - vii. PASTeL data also needs to be added to the Final Report. Dr. Bracken analyzed it last spring and a follow-up will take place.
- b. Year 5 Scale-Up:
- i. Fairfax has ten additional schools that may be interested. A presentation was given on November 5th by Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Bland. Carol Horn will send a list of interested schools by November 14th. Braddock and Annandale Terrace will let us know if any comparison teachers are interested by November 19th. Many Braddock experimental teachers looped classes this year. Braddock will also let us know if any experimental teachers are interested in adding a new unit to their new grade level.
- c. Year 5 Professional Development:
- i. A revised Professional Development Plan for Year 5 was distributed and reviewed. The plan will be added to the Final Report.
 - ii. One full day professional development workshop was delivered to 2 Fairfax Scale-Up Schools in October by Dr. Chandler.
 - iii. Dr. Bland and Dr. Chandler will provide a second professional development session next week on November 19th at Mt. Eagle and Bucknell.
- d. Research Publications on Clarion:
- i. Dr. Bland will follow-up with Dr. Bracken about PASTeL and his article.

- ii. Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Kim will be meeting next Tuesday at 10am to discuss articles.
- iii. Dr. VanTassel-Baska, Dr. Bland, and Dr. Kim will be meeting next Tuesday at 9am to discuss Year 2 and Year 3 data, as well as the Year 1 follow-up.
- iv. The NAGC sessions on Project Clarion will be added to the Final Report.
- v. The Project Clarion presentations for this year will be compiled on the G Drive by Meredith.

III. Announcements

- a. There will be a Project Clarion GA meeting Thursday, November 13th for assignments.
- b. The PASTeL meeting was postponed.
- c. The next Project Clarion meeting will be on December 9th at 9am.

Project Clarion Meeting: Year 5

December 9, 2008

9:00 AM

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska

Dr. Lori Bland

Dr. Bruce Bracken

Hope Deighton

Dr. Janice Robbins

Meredith Roberson

Dr. Kyung-Hee Kim

Shannon Henry

I. Year 5 Scale-Up:

- a. The scale-up plan was updated to reflect the current status. A one-page chart will be drawn up by Meredith reflecting the district, number of teachers, number of grade levels, and training received for scale-up.
- b. Fairfax County Public Schools has 10 additional schools interested in scale-up and 100 teachers will be attending two professional development sessions on January 12th (K-1st) and January 13th (2nd-3rd) respectively.
- c. Gloucester's comparison school will scale-up. Teachers will implement lessons after the SOLs in May and training will be done on February 19th and 20th.
- d. Dr. Bland will look into the nature of the e-Cart and finalize a decision with Dr. Bracken and Dr. VanTassel-Baska.
- e. Western Kentucky University will be working with the Center for Gifted Education as part of the scale-up, and will be both implementing the Project Clarion curriculum and utilizing the professional development training during their Javits Grant, Project GEMs.
- f. Dr. Bland will write a letter to be sent out to all the G/T coordinators in Virginia and the 100 largest U.S. school divisions by December 19th, inviting participation in scale up for Project Clarion. The letter will be followed-up with an e-mail.
- g. Chesterfield needs follow-up.

II. Year 5 Professional Development:

- a. Concept mapping will be reviewed during professional development sessions.
- b. Dr. Bland will create a two-day, in-depth presentation on professional development that can be used to extract shorter presentations.
- c. Dr. Bland discussed the November professional development session at Fairfax. Professional development initial or follow-up sessions need to include:
 - i. presentations by teachers who have implemented the Clarion units

- ii. examples of integration of units with other disciplines
- iii. tiering, especially as related to conceptual development
- iv. science content – opportunity for questions/review
- v. discussion of “Look Fors”.

III. Case Studies:

- a. 24 ASPIREs have been entered into the database as of December 9th.
- b. By January 15th all data from the interviews will be in.
- c. By January 31st an initial draft of the case studies will be developed.

IV. Status of Clarion Units:

- a. Fairfax is using *How Does Your Garden Grow* with their Pre-K students.
- b. Copyediting and consistency of language and common text for the Clarion units will be done by an external contractor.
- c. Dr. Bland will send *Budding Botanists* for copyediting on December 12th. It will be the model for all following units. The other units will follow.
- d. The cycle for the rest of the Clarion units was discussed: *Weather Reporter* will be the next in the cycle, while *Invitation to Invent* and *How the Sun Makes Our Day* will be placed towards the end of the cycle.
- e. Dr. Bracken is working on a different title for *Invitation to Invent*.
- f. Hope will pull post-exemplars for all the Clarion units.
- g. Instructional time for each unit will need to be reviewed.
- h. Dr. Bland will forward a copy of Dr. Bracken’s paper on the Bracken Basic Concepts to each reviewer. This paper will be used as the basis for an Appendix on the Bracken Basic Concepts.
- i. Units will include a re-designed flowchart.

V. Articles and Research:

- a. Dr. Bland will schedule a meeting with Dr. Bracken, Dr. VanTassel-Baska, and Dr. Kim about the articles.
- b. Progress on both articles has been made; assistance from GA s is needed for references.
- c. Dr. Bland will receive requests for GA assistance and direct assignments.

VI. Announcements:

- a. Dr. Bracken will reschedule the PASTeL meeting.
- b. Dr. Bland will follow-up with Meredith on the Final Report.
- c. There will be a presentation at the Javits Grant meeting, as well as a presentation to the National Advisory Board on NCN.
- d. Date for the next Project Clarion meeting: TBA

Project Clarion Meeting: Year 5
January 29, 2009
11:45 AM

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska
Dr. Bruce Bracken
Dr. Kim Chandler
Dr. Lori Bland

Dr. Kyung-Hee Kim
Steve Coxon
Hope Deighton
Shannon Henry

- I. Webinar Update
- II. Year 5 Scale-Up:
 - a. The Scale-Up Database for VA Coordinators was reviewed briefly. A paragraph will need to be written up explaining each of the four phases Fairfax will be participating in.
 - b. The Scale-Up with the 100 Largest Districts in the U.S. was discussed. Please see Professional Development for further information.
- III. Year 5 Professional Development:
 - a. A map of all VA counties and independent cities currently participating in the Clarion Scale-Up effort was reviewed. The counties and independent cities will be typed up and a copy of the map will be included with the Final Report.
 - b. Dr. Bland will follow-up with each of the VA counties on an individual basis for PD training.
 - c. Smaller school divisions and schools in VA will be grouped together for PD training.
 - d. A threshold was suggested for PD training: at the minimum a school division must have ten people, at maximum, thirty-five people.
 - e. An outline of the PD modules will be developed for the final report, and video clips will be added to the PD presentation.
 - f. Implementation pieces will be pulled for all lesson types that have caused teachers difficulty. An outline will be compiled and given to Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Chandler for review. Implementation training will need to be added to the Clarion timeline.
 - g. Teachers in a local school division will be asked if they would be willing to videotape themselves teaching classes and donate it to the Center for use with PD training sessions.
 - h. Dr. Bland, Steve, Dr. Chandler, Dr. VanTassel-Baska, and Dr. Kim will all provide PD training for the school divisions. Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Kim will be working together during the PD sessions to provide training for Dr. Kim.
 - i. PD training for the 100 Largest Districts in the U.S. was discussed: a cap will be placed on the number of materials the Center will supply and the

introductory letter will be re-crafted to reflect any changes to the initial plan.

IV. Case Studies:

- a. The data from all interviews will be in before March.
- b. Dr. Chandler will follow-up with Chesterfield on Friday, 1/30. Dr. Bland will send the protocol and Dr. Chandler will bring ASPIRE.
- c. Gloucester and Annandale Terrace have completed their ASPIREs. A follow-up will be done with Braddock.

V. Status of Clarion Units:

- a. The new schedule for the Clarion Units was handed out and reviewed. The last two units will be taken off the timeline and a different publishing date will be discussed with Prufrock.
- b. Fairfax will be asked to pilot *How Does Our Garden Grow* and *The Earth Beneath Our Feet* with their Pre-K, and the data from that will be use to determine whether the units need revisions.
- c. Revisions on *Invitation to Invent* will be discussed with Prufrock and Western Kentucky University. Dr. Kim's notes on the revisions and notes from the discussion during the December Clarion meeting will be sent to Dr. VanTassel-Baska.
- d. Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Kim will follow-up on *Invitation to Invent*. Dr. Bland will meet with them and Steve has volunteered to pilot a revised-content lesson plan at Spring SEP.
- e. Post-Exemplars for the K-1 units will be formatted into .JPEG files.

VI. Articles and Research:

- a. "Under-review" data will be sent to the three districts that participated in Project Clarion. Individual districts will be supplied with a code specifically for their data.
- b. Dr. Bland will submit two proposals to NAGC on Friday, 1/30: Curriculum Studies (K-3)—practical/strategy and Early Childhood (K-1)—teaching strategies. Steve will submit one proposal for Project Clarion to NAGC on Friday, 1/30: STEM (Grades 2-3)—research and concept.
- c. The paper on Project Clarion's performance-based assessments is ready to go out for publishing.

VII. Announcements

- a. The draft Final Report is due at the end of February.
- b. Next Project Clarion Meeting: TBD

Project Clarion Meeting: Year 5
March 24, 2009
10:00 AM

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska
Dr. Bruce Bracken
Dr. Janice Robbins
Dr. Kim Chandler

Dr. Lori Bland
Dr. Kyung-Hee Kim
Steven Coxon
Shannon Henry

- I. Year 5 Scale-Up:
 - a. Two schools from the January group have requested follow-up professional development in April or May. Dr. Bland will schedule and will follow-up with the others in the same group.
 - b. Schools will be paired up for the professional development sessions (see Professional Development).
 - c. 100 Largest Districts: One unit of choice will be offered to the various districts for review.
 - d. Input was provided for the introductory letter from Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Bruce Bracken. Attachments will include a description of the units and a reference to the *What Works* publication. Another reference to the availability of the public domain instruments (i.e. the TCT, PDQ, and PASTeL) will be provided.
 - e. A Bibliographic reference page of all articles and abstracts on Project Clarion will be posted on the Center website.
 - f. New districts from NCN: Prince William and Stafford (will be added to the professional development list), Los Angeles, and Salt Lake City.

- II. Year 5 Professional Development:
 - a. Meredith will be doing follow-up with those divisions that have not yet scheduled a professional development session.
 - b. Counties/independent cities will be paired by region (i.e. Accomack with Virginia Beach, King William and King and Queen with Middlesex, and Rockbridge and Lexington City with Buena Vista City).
 - c. Staff members will give their available dates to Dr. Bland.
 - d. There will be a separate meeting for PD presenters.
 - e. St. Gregory the Great Catholic School in VA Beach will be meeting with Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Bland on Friday, March 27th to discuss professional development and use of the Clarion units.

- III. Case Studies:
 - a. Projected data for the case studies will be included in the Final Report.
 - b. The Braddock ASPIREs will be collected. Dr. Bland has e-mailed the school.

- c. Dr. Chandler will call Chesterfield about the ASPIRE and the interviews from Bellwood.

IV. Status of Clarion Units:

- a. *Botanists* is back for revisions and the copyeditor will be receiving the units.
- b. Dr. VanTassel-Baska, Dr. Bland, and Dr. Kim will be meeting on Wednesday, March 25th at 11am to discuss and compare notes on *Invitation*.
- c. A MacBook will be purchased for Clarion Podcasts, videoconferences, and other professional development.

V. Articles and Research:

- a. Dr. Kim's MAT article has already been sent out to *Gifted Child Quarterly*, and the PBA article is, as of March 24th, ready to be sent out to the *Roeper Review*.
- b. The MAT and PBA articles will be sent out to the school divisions, along with the "under review" data. They are not allowed to quote or copy either one of the articles, and a watermark will be put on them.
- c. Hope will be representing the PBA data with a graph.
- d. Dr. Bracken has asked for volunteers to help out with the TCT and PASTeL article and e-mail him with their available dates to meet.
- e. An article will be written using data from the innovation and implementation for scale-up by Dr. Robbins.
- f. An article will be written by Dr. Kim and Dr. Robbins about using data in the real world (science and children).

VI. Final Report:

- a. Dr. Bland and Shannon will continue to review and compile the Final Report.
- b. Dr. Bland will give the Final Report to Dr. VanTassel-Baska to review.
- c. Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Bracken will receive a draft.
- d. Miriam Lund will be called and consulted about the possibility of FedEx instead of e-mailing to send the report.

VII. Summer Plans:

- a. All GAs who are here for the summer will send their temporary/preferred schedules to Dr. VanTassel-Baska or their supervisors.
- b. Dr. Chandler will be making an overall matrix of award-winning curriculum units.

VIII. Announcement: the next Clarion meeting will be on Monday, April 27th at 10:00am.

Project Clarion Meeting: Year 5
April 27, 2009
11:00 AM

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska
Dr. Bruce Bracken
Dr. Janice Robbins
Dr. Kim Chandler

Dr. Lori Bland
Steven Coxon
Meredith Roberson
Shannon Henry

- I. Year 5 Scale-Up:
 - a. Three schools from Fairfax for follow-up professional development responded. Dr. Bland will follow-up with an e-mail.
 - b. Information on Scale-Up for both the VA Divisions and the 100 Districts has been documented.
 - c. Respondents for curriculum dissemination from the 100 Largest Districts include: Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland, De Kalb and Fulton County School Districts in Georgia, Plano Independent School District in Texas, New York City Department of Education in New York, and Austin Independent School District in Texas.
 - d. The Bibliographic Reference Page for Clarion will be posted on the Center website by Steven Coxon.
 - e. A podcast was created by Dr. Bland for the Center website about Project Clarion and has been posted on the Clarion website. Steve will create a link under the "What's New" section of the website and write a short paragraph for Dr. Bland's review.
 - f. Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Bracken will review any new Clarion material to be put up on the website.
 - g. Dr. VanTassel-Baska will follow-up with Steve about pulling science research and student outcomes related to Project Clarion from the *What Works* publication on the website and reassigning it to Project Clarion.

- II. Year 5 Professional Development:
 - a. Dr. Bland will arrange a date with Dr. Chandler to meet about professional development.
 - b. Dr. Bland will follow-up with Dr. VanTassel-Baska about professional development work in July, August, and September. Dates in July and August for the VA Divisions will be solidified and given to Dr. VanTassel-Baska in the next week so that the summer training can be included in the projected Budget Extension.
 - c. Meredith will print out calendar for Dr. VanTassel-Baska.
 - d. To date 27 PD sessions have been delivered and 16 PD sessions are scheduled.

- III. Case Studies:

- a. Shannon will follow-up with Braddock about the ASPIREs.
- b. On May 4th, Dr. Chandler will be in Chesterfield for the interviews.

IV. Articles and Research:

- a. Hope is working on the final PBA data reports for the divisions that participated in Project Clarion. Both the PBA article and the MAT article will be attached to the paper reports that are being sent. Also included will be the PBA graphs for the individual divisions.
- b. TCT and PASTeL:
 - i. Tasks have already been assigned.
 - ii. Additional data collection and data analysis will take place until the end of June.
 - iii. The next TCT meeting is scheduled for April 30th at 2pm.
 - iv. The next PASTeL meeting is scheduled for May 26th at 2pm.
- c. 2009 NAGC Conference:
 - i. Both Dr. Bland's and Steve's proposals have been accepted—two proposals in total. They will be added to the presentation list for the Final Report. Responses must be in by May 1st.
 - ii. Only one unit will be submitted for the 2009 Curriculum Award—student data will determine which one will be submitted.
 - iii. Dr. Bland's, Dr. Bracken's, and Steve's registration will be pre-paid. Pre-paying for airfare and the hotel will also be looked into.

V. Final Report:

- a. Assignments have been given to Shannon, Meredith, and Hope.
- b. The Research Plan will be added and the Staff Development Plan will be updated.
- c. The Final Report will be sent by FedEx.
- d. Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Bracken have given the projections for the Budget Extension and Donna will redo the extension based on the data collected by the end of April. They will have another meeting with Donna on May 19th at 10am.

VI. International Conference on Primary Education 2009: The invitation will be forwarded to Dr. Bracken and Dr. VanTassel-Baska.

VII. Announcement: The next Project Clarion meeting will be held on May 19th at 11:00AM.

Project Clarion

Meeting Agenda

May 19, 2009

11 am – 12:30 pm

Meeting attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska

Dr. Bruce Bracken

Dr. Kyung-Hee Kim

Steve Coxon

I. Follow up on professional development workshops to be held May – August.

Mr. Coxon reviewed the following schedule:

May	Location	Presenter
28	Charlottesville, VA	Janice
29	Rockbridge County, VA	Steve

June

2-5	Western Kentucky Uni.	Kim
8	Fairfax County, VA	Janice
8	Western Kentucky Uni.	Joyce
9	Western Kentucky Uni.	Joyce
10	Virginia Beach, VA	Lori
11	Charlottesville, VA	Janice
15	Accomack County, VA	Janice
17	Roanoke County, VA	Steve
17	Augusta County, VA	Kim
18	Augusta County, VA	Kim
18	Giles County, VA	Steve

July

20	Washington County, VA	Steve
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August

TBA	Halifax County, VA	Steve
TBA	Isle of Wight County, VA	Steve
TBA	Essex County, VA	Steve
TBA	Mathews County, VA	Steve

September

TBA	Uni. Arkansas, Little Rock	Joyce
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Mr. Coxon will review the schedule with absent team members. Further action will be taken to schedule districts that have expressed interest in August and September trainings.

Mr. Coxon and Dr. Robbins have been asked to administer the PASTeL to teachers at the beginning of upcoming sessions. Data will be collected through June.

II. Status of Clarion units

The publication of units has been slowed. *Budding Botanists* is at Prufrock Press now. Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Kim are working to revise *Invitation to Invent*.

Dr. Bracken's work on the Test of Critical Thinking (TCT) is expected to be completed by the end of July. His work on PASTeL is expected to be completed by the end of August.

III. Status of Clarion evaluation report

Work on the Clarion evaluation report continues to progress. The professional development schedule, meeting minutes, and meeting agenda will all be added to the report. Distribution data will be included in the report as well.

Dr. Bland will work on a case study article in July.

IV. Update on manuscripts

Three manuscripts are currently under review. Three manuscripts are in development to be submitted by September 1st, 2009.

V. Budget extension request

A request has been made to extend the budget through September, 2009.

VI. Other

Project Clarion
Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2009
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Meeting attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska
Dr. Janice Robbins
Dr. Lori Bland
Dr. Kim Chandler
Mr. Steve Coxon

I. Grant extension

Dr. VanTassel-Baska reported that the Javits grant for Project Clarion has been extended from July 1 through December 31, 2009.

II. Policies and procedures for national dissemination

Schools will be asked to make their own copies of the units for workshop participants from electronic copies that will be sent out. Units will no longer be offered for free after August, although copies can be used for workshops. Districts requesting to use Clarion graphics should be asked to contact Prufrock Press for permission. Dr. VanTassel-Baska stated the need to have write-ups, delineating the difference between one-day, two-day, and advanced trainings. Specifically, advanced trainings should only be offered to those who have already had experience teaching the units.

III. Clarion professional development

Careful review and discussion of the professional development package offered to school divisions was conducted for Clarion training during 2008-09 to continue to meet the scale-up needs of participating districts. Updates will be made to the professional development plan, as follows:

A. Review

1. Presenters indicated that some school districts were unable to allot enough time to complete all of the modules. However, presentations will continue to be tailored to meet the needs of school divisions. The one day training will be reduced to include:

Module 1 (introduction)

Module 2 (what is a scientist?) = 30 minutes – 1 hour

Module 3 (conceptual understanding) = 1 hour

Module 4 (scientific investigation) = 1 hour

Module 5 (concept mapping) = 1 hour

2. For divisions requesting two days of training, the second day of a two-day training will include the additional training listed below:

1. Concept of systems

2. Experimental planning

3. Inquiry-based models of questioning

a. Need to Know Board for metacognition

b. PBL for metacognition

PBL is currently included as part of the scientific investigation module. This section will be pulled out of the one-day training and integrated into the two-day training. Dr. VanTassel-Baska will make the change.

A discussion was undertaken on the time needed to include PBL (45 minutes), the importance of using a *Need to Know Board* to delineate the difference between fact and assumption, and that PBL is representative of the inquiry process. It was decided that this would be ideal for the second day of a training.

3. Fairfax County requested advanced training. Advanced training will only be provided to teachers who received the initial training and who have implemented a unit. Advanced training includes:

1. Use Annenberg DVDs (Discs 3 and 4)
2. Creating a data table
3. Application of the module for scientific investigation and experiments
4. Using Paul's model with news articles

Dr. VanTassel-Baska will develop four modules for advanced training.

Dr. Bland would like to add formative assessment to the training.

Video use: Dr. Robbins has teachers list what they'd like to see in a science classroom. She uses the Annenberg DVD 1 at 16 minutes on sharks and DVD 2 at 40 minutes on plants. Dr. VanTassel-Baska uses DVD 3 on student-led discussion of scientific inquiry with the advanced training. Dr. Bland uses K-1 and 2-3 examples of worms to show Clarion-like scaffolded inquiry and PBL-like open-ended inquiry.

4. Module 6: Assessment

Dr. VanTassel-Baska reported that assessment should be offered as a module on the second day. Dr. Robbins reported that the module takes 1.5 to 2 hours to handle the three aspects of assessments. Dr. Bland reported that she shows assessment examples for each area. Dr. VanTassel-Baska suggested that teachers must go through each concept as students would and then see pre- and post-assessment examples. Dr. Robbins noted that assessment can be embedded in the use of concept mapping and scientific investigation. Dr. VanTassel-Baska proffered that a more formal assessment presentation could be conducted in a two-day session:

1. Doing assessments with participants
2. Going through the rubrics and scoring each other's responses
3. Sharing pre- and post-results

5. Module 7: Implementation

Dr. VanTassel-Baska suggested that Module 7 only be used at the end of a two-day session. For example, Dr. Robbins suggested using a jigsaw reading technique to help familiarize teachers planning to implement the units with the lessons in their unit works well in a two-day session, requiring 30-45 minutes to conduct, depending on the number of participants. She recommended having teachers share their findings with the entire group. Dr. VanTassel-Baska recommended using closure questions with the activity.

6. Closure

Dr. VanTassel-Baska would like each module to consist of an introduction, activity, and debriefing the activity. Mr. Coxon will add closure slides at the end of the day one modules to connect the pieces of training together clearly for a sense of integration. Each day of training should conclude with at least 15 minutes of reflection and evaluation of the day's activities.

B. Decisions:

1., 2., and 3. The one-day, two-day, and advanced training sessions will be delineated in a separate document. A pre-writing t-chart will be created and utilized for videos.

4. A detailed assessment module involving pre- and post-assessment examples in each area will be offered in the second day of a two-day session.

5. Module 7 will only be used at the end of a two-day session. A jigsaw technique may be used to facilitate teachers' familiarity with lessons for 30-45 minutes of the second day of a two-day session. Closure questions should be given after the activity.

6. Each module shall include an introduction, activity, and a conclusion. A PMI chart will be created and utilized as part of a 15 minute debriefing closure for each session.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Project Clarion
Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2009
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Meeting attendees:

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska
Dr. Bruce Bracken
Dr. Kim Chandler
Dr. Lori Bland
Mr. Steve Coxon

I. Professional Development Assignments

- A. Dig It! has been submitted to the Prufrock Press for publication.
- B. Dr. VanTassel-Baska and Dr. Bland have nearly completed revisions of Invitation to Invent.
- C. Dr. Bland reported that 8 of the 100 largest school districts have responded to an offer for Project Clarion curriculum units.
- D. Possible locations where efforts to increase dissemination of Project Clarion units would be most likely to succeed were decided to include North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, and Colorado as well as specific sites where the Center for Gifted Education has provided professional development or other services in the past.
- E. Dr. Bland will include the Wheel of Scientific Investigation teaching model card in further invitations for Project Clarion professional development.
- F. Mr. Coxon will improve the current modules' aesthetic appeal.
- G. Dr. VanTassel-Baska will prepare the modules for the advanced professional development on Project Clarion.
- H. Mr. Coxon will create a chart delineating the half-day, full day, two day, and advanced professional development modules.
- I. Dr. Bland will mail districts information on what we can offer in professional development following the introduction to Project Clarion.

II. Materials

- A. Two sets of the Annenberg DVDs will be ordered so that all professional developers can have access to the resource.
- B. A second set of the ASCD PBL videos was to be ordered, but has been found to be out of print.

III. Articles

A. Dr. Chandler, Mr. Coxon, and Dr. Bland will write an article for *Gifted Child Today* on meeting the needs of gifted urban students, particularly low income and minority, by using the strategies in Project Clarion by December 1, 2009.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10, at 11:00, on the third floor of the Center.

Project Clarion Monthly Meeting
Minutes
August 13, 2009

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Lori Bland

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska

Dr. Bruce Bracken

Steve Coxon

- I. Curriculum Scale-Up
 - a. Targeted mailing for curriculum
 - i. Dr. Bracken reported that access to 86 Head Start groups has been obtained
 - ii. Virginia Beach and Prince William County have expressed interest in participating in a new grant
 - b. Invitations for next steps
 - c. Incoming PBA data; maintain interest
 - i. 37 VA districts received curriculum
 - ii. 27 VA districts received training

- II. Year 5 Professional Development
 - a. Summer Training
 - i. 17 trainings were provided from May-August.
 - b. PD for 2009 update & new modules
 - i. Modules have been updated by Mr. Coxon
 - ii. New modules for advanced training are being developed by Dr. VanTassel-Baska
 - c. Fall Schedule
 - i. Virginia Beach – September 22: Joyce & Lori
 - ii. Project GEMS: WKU/Warren County Schools – September 14-18: Lori
 - iii. Project GEMS: WKU/Warren County Schools – November 9-13: Lori
 - iv. Project Stem Starters: University of Arkansas, Little Rock – TBD – Joyce
 - v. Fairfax - TBD

- III. Status of Clarion Units
 - a. Prufrock & additional publications
 - i. All units should be available by December 31, 2009
 - b. Botanist completed; in publishing at Prufrock
 - c. DI to Prufrock; waiting on Galley
 - d. Survive & Sun in copyediting; waiting on return
 - e. Weather Reporter will be submitted next
 - f. Invitation to Invent – lessons needed; copyediting completed

- IV. Case Studies – all data have been collected; recordings transcribed; proposal developed from preliminary analyses.

- V. Articles & Research
 - a. PASTeL—additional data entered (N=194; 66 w/Stebbi)
 - b. NAGC Proposals Accepted – date for presenter registration is Sept. 1
 - c. Science & Children – returned for second stage edits today; due Wed.
 - d. AERA & NCME Proposals submitted
 - e. Research Plan – lead author set up meeting, submission plan for next meeting

- VI. Final Report is being developed using the same process as for the budget extension request.

- VII. Next Meeting will be held Sept. 23, 2009

**Project Clarion Monthly Meeting
Minutes
September 23, 2009**

Meeting Attendees:

Dr. Lori Bland
Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska
Dr. Bruce Bracken
Dr. Kyung-Hee Kim
Mr. Steve Coxon

- I. Year 5 Professional Development
 - a. Dr. Bland is developing new modules
 - b. Dr. Bland is seeking help to update the website
 - c. Fall schedule:
 - i. Virginia Beach – September 22: Joyce & Lori – done
 - ii. Project GEMS: WKU/Warren County Schools – September 14-18: Lori – done
 - iii. Project GEMS: WKU/Warren County Schools – November 9-13: Lori
 - iv. Project Stem Starters: University of Arkansas, Little Rock – TBD – Joyce

- II. Status of Clarion Units
 - a. Botanist has been published and is available through Prufrock Press
 - b. Water Works has won the NAGC Curriculum Award
 - c. Dig It - waiting on Galley
 - d. Weather Reporter – waiting on Galley
 - e. Invitation to Invent, Survive and thrive, and How the Sun Makes Our Day have been returned from copyediting
 - f. Invitation to Invent – to Prufrock this week

- III. Articles & Research
 - a. Science & Children –published
 - b. Research Plan – lead author set up meeting, submission plan for next meeting
 - c. Case Studies – to develop article; include observations from WKU?

Clarion Research				
Authors	Title	Status	Journal	Date
Dr. KyungHee Kim Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska Dr. Bruce Bracken Dr. Annie Feng Dr. Tamra Stambaugh Dr. Lori Bland	Project Clarion: Three Years of Science Instruction in Title I Schools among K-Third Grade Students.	Returned for edits.	Gifted Child Quarterly	Spring 2009
Dr. Lori Bland Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska Dr. Bruce Bracken	Assessing Science Reasoning and Conceptual Understanding in the Primary Grades Using	Returned for edits.	Roeper Review	Completed by Summer 2009

Dr. Tamra Stambaugh Dr. Annie Feng Dr. Kyung Hee Kim	Multiple Measures of Performance: Project Clarion.			
Dr. Miyheon Kim Dr. Lori Bland Dr. Kim Chandler	Science Literacy: Improving Argumentation Skills in Science.	Accepted; with edits November 2009	Science and Children	Aug. 19, 2009
Dr. Janice Robbins Dr. Kim Chandler Mr. Steve Coxon Dr. Lori Bland	Project Clarion: Engaging Young Students in the Practice of Science.			TBD
Dr. Kim Chandler Dr. Lori Bland Mr. Steve Coxon	Meeting the Needs of Gifted Urban Students Using Project Clarion Teaching Strategies		Gifted Child Today (due Dec. 1)	Draft by September 30, 2009
Dr. Lori Bland Dr. Miyheon Kim Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska Dr. Bruce Bracken	Developing Science Concepts in Young Children			Spring 2010
Dr. Lori Bland Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska Dr. Kim Chandler	Implementing Science Innovation in Schools: Case Study Research	Proposal submitted	AERA 2010	Summer 2009
Dr. Lori Bland Dr. Miyheon Kim Dr. Bruce Bracken	Validity of the Bracken Basic Concept Scale - Revised for predicting math and science achievement in the primary grades.	Proposal submitted	NCME 2010	Fall 2009
Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska Dr. Bruce Bracken Dr. Lori Bland	Problems of Conducting Research in Schools			Winter 2009
Dr. Bruce Bracken Dr. Janice Robbins Dr. Lori Bland Dr. Kyung Hee Kim Kathryn Holt	Development of a scale for assessing teachers' attitudes toward science instruction: PASTeL.			Winter 2009
Dr. Bruce Bracken Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska Dr. Lori Bland	Using the Clinical Assessment of Behavior to Identify Gifted Students			Winter 2009
Dr. Bruce Bracken Dr. KyungHee Kim Dr. Lori Bland	Test of Critical Thinking	Sections Submitted to Bruce		Fall 2009

IV. Final Report - begin next week

V. Next Meeting - TBA