

Join IMCAT for summer training

If you're new to the world of Texas instructional materials or just want a refresher on best practices, you'll have not one, but eleven opportunities, to learn at IMCAT's Summer Institutes.

IMCAT is hosting eleven Summer Institute training sessions on different dates and at different sites. That lets you get your training close to home on a date that works into your summer schedule.

The Instructional Materials 101 curriculum at each location is designed for coordinators who are new to their responsibilities. Curriculum and technology staff members may also benefit from learning the process required to order, process and distribute instructional materials to schoolchildren.

Cost is \$65 for IMCAT members, \$95 for nonmembers and \$195 for a representative of a commercial enterprise.

The fee includes morning refreshments, lunch and materials. The nonmember

CONTINUED PAGE 12 SUMMER INSTITUTES

Looking ahead: Schools need to plan for upcoming proclamations

As the Instructional Materials Allotment system enters its second biennium of existence this fall, educators will have to take the long view as they prepare to use IMA funds to purchase materials included in two massive proclamations.

The good news is that there's been no controversy over the Legislature's plan to appropriate \$839 million for instructional materials, an increase over the \$792 million appropriated in the last biennium.

There was no Proclamation 2013 from the State Board of Education, so this fall, schools will only need to purchase continuing contracts, consumables and specific course materials that a school may elect to provide.

That allows schools to save up for Proclamation 2014, which will include materials for Mathematics for grades K-8; Mathematics (Spanish), grades K-5; Science for grades K-12; Science (Spanish) for grades K-5; and Technology Applications for grades K-12.

Those will go in the classrooms in the fall of 2014. A year later,

CONTINUED PAGE 8 > PROCLAMATION

Chuck Kennedy honored with P.D. Thomas Award

Chuck Kennedy was named the recipient of the 2012 P.D. Thomas Award at IMCAT's 21st Annual Conference in Corpus Christi this past December. The P.D. Thomas Award recognizes instructional materials coordinators who have selflessly supported training of coordinators in the state.



Letter from IMCAT President Jill Cook

If you attended I.M. 2012, IMCAT's 21st Annual Conference, in Corpus Christi last December, you know that we had an informationpacked program that covered all aspects of instructional materials: curriculum, technology, administration and finance.



You also know that it wasn't just our program that was packed. We packed folks into the Omni Bayfront hotel with record-shattering numbers for both attendees and exhibitors.

We hope to continue that trend with I.M. 2013, Dec. 8-11 at the Omni Fort Worth. Like the trail drives that struck out across the prairies from Fort Worth, we're blazing new trails into the future of instructional materials generally and IMCAT specifically.

By the time you get to Fort Worth this fall, the 83rd Legislature will be done, and we'll be left to figure out how to implement what our lawmakers decide in Austin. Fortunately, it looks like the Legislature is going to increase funds for instructional materials.

At the same time, the prospects are good that the Legislature will change high school graduation requirements and end-of-course exam requirements. This directly affects teachers, but it also affects instructional materials coordinators. Some of the instructional materials you ordered for a required course will now be used only for an elective. What are you going to do with the leftovers?

Susan Lenox of Plano ISD, our Conference Committee chair, is working with our good friends at the Instructional Materials and Educational Technology Division at T.E.A. to provide plenty of opportunities for you to learn what you need to do. As with every post-Legislature IMCAT conference, there's information you can't really afford to miss.

A lot of that information will come from our exhibitors. Last year, IMCAT welcomed a record 40 companies, and we have every intention of continuing to grow. If you know of a company or firm that you think would make a good addition to our growing exhibit hall, please contact Tracy Wagner-Haight at IMCAT: **tbwagner@texas.net** or 512-251-8101. Last year's attendees found plenty of opportunities to investigate textbooks, software, hardware and ways to save money on all of the above.

Mark your calendar now for I.M. 2013 – "Trailblazing into the Future" – Dec. 8-11 at the Omni Fort Worth.

IMCAT IMpulse

Official Newsletter of the Instructional Materials Coordinators' Association of Texas Volume 16 Summer 2013

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Shipping Wars: Using freight companies could create savings for IMA funds

Schools may be able to save IMA money by exploring alternative shipping options.

When a publisher ships materials ordered through EMAT, schools pay a percentage of the cost of the materials that are being shipped.

Use of freight companies can reduce the shipping costs, because the freight fees are calculated on weight and volume, instead of the price of the materials being shipped.

The IMCAT Board of Directors shared insights on shipping at its recent meeting in Austin.

Greg Wright, IMCAT Treasurer and coordinator for Leander ISD, said that his district expects to save as much as \$200,000 over the biennium by using Central Freight rather than publishers for shipping.

Susan Lenox, IMCAT president-elect and director of distribution for Plano ISD, cautioned that coordinators are doing more of the work when using a nonpublisher shipper.

One example is when items are back-ordered. If the original order has any back-ordered items, those

items will need to be tracked by the district. By using a freight company, the shipment cost would be charged with each shipment, the in-stock items off the original order and then any back-orders. The instructional materials coordinator must verify all items on the original order have been shipped and must work through the EMAT disbursement system on covering all shipment charges.

"There are times when using a freight company would benefit your district and times when working with a publisher would. Instructional materials coordinators can find a balance for their district need," she said.

TEA's Lori Miller said via email, "TEA does have contracts with freight carriers that transport state adopted materials ordered on requisitions in EMAT (Central Freight, Averitt Express, Echo Global Logistics, Quality Logistics, Trans-Expedite and Lone Star Overnight). Districts are not required to use these and the freight carriers may or may not give the same rates to districts [as they do to the State]."



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CSCOPE could see more oversight

A legislative move to impose more oversight on the popular CSCOPE lesson management system, at *IMpulse* presstime, is headed to the floor of the state's House of Representatives.

CSCOPE was developed by a consortium of the state's Educational Service Centers and marketed to schools. More than 800 school districts use the lesson plans it provides.

CSCOPE came under fire after conservative firebrand Glenn Beck alleged it was anti-American in some of the lesson activities it included. Tea Party activists have also been critical of the program.

Senate Bill 1406, authored by Senate Education Chair Dan Patrick, leader of the legislative Tea Party caucus, requires that CSCOPE come under the same State Board of Education adoption and review cycle as instructional materials.

The SBOE at its April meeting passed a resolution stating it stands ready to comply with any CSCOPE directive the Legislature gives it.



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EMAT closes June 7

John Lopez, managing director of T.E.A.'s Instructional Materials and Educational Technology Division, has slightly modified the timetable that he unveiled at IMCAT's Annual Conference - I.M. 2012 - in December.

Here's the new timetable for instructional materials ordering and Proclamation 2014:

- » June 7: EMAT closes
- » **June 12:** EMAT opens for ordering with unexpended 2011-2012 funds
- » **April-July 2013:** Review of Proclamation 2014 instructional materials
- » Schools receive information about their 2013-2014 IMA Allocations Information a**fter the conclusion of the Legislative Session**
- » Sept. 1, 2013: New IMA funding available
- » **November 2013:** Adoption of Proclamation 2014 instructional materials

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CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

- » March 2014: EMAT closes (reprogram for new materials)
- » April 2014: EMAT opens
- » May 2014: Final adoption samples available

One common question has been whether schools can use local funds after EMAT reopens in June to purchase instructional materials for the 2013-2014 school year, then receive reimbursement from IMA funds after the new appropriation becomes available in September. Lopez said that no answer to that question is expected before the Legislature adjourns in late May.

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Proclamation

Proclamation 2015 will mean new materials for Social Studies high school Mathematics and Fine Arts.

The Proclamation 2015 Social Studies includes grades K–8; Social Studies (Spanish), grades K–5; United States History Studies Since 1877; World History Studies; World Geography Studies; United States Government; Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits; Psychology and Sociology.

Mathematics includes Algebra I; Algebra II; Geometry; Precalculus; Mathematical Models with Applications; Advanced Quantitative Reasoning; Engineering Mathematics; Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; and Statistics and Risk Management.

Fine Arts for grades K-12 include Theatre, Art, Dance, Music, Musical Studies and Technical Theatre.

In theory, the State Legislature meets again in early 2015 and will appropriate funds for the Instructional Materials Allotment that can be used to pay for the Proc 2015 materials.

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However, as schools are learning this year, the money appropriated for the 2015-2016 biennium won't officially become available until the 2015 budget year begins on Sept. 1, 2015, which is after classes begin for most school districts.

So how will schools have the Proc 2015 materials available when students show up? Here are some options:

- Districts can use any unexpended Instructional Materials Allotment funds to purchase instructional materials before new funding becomes available. With the long-term thinking that schools should be doing anyway, they could economize on Proclamation 2014 and save enough for preliminary Proclamation 2015 costs.
- T.E.A. could determine that schools could purchase 2015 materials before the budget year begins and be reimbursed with IMA funds that become available on Sept. 1, 2015. That's a consideration that's already playing out in the summer of 2013. T.E.A. says it is waiting until after the Session ends to determine if the Agency is authorized to provide districts reimbursements for materials necessary to open the 2013-2014 school year.
- If the economy remains robust, the Legislature in 2015, as it did with Medicaid funding in this session, could add enough money to the 2013-2014 budget to get schools started for 2015.

Of course, in a worst-case scenario, an unforeseen economic downturn could cut into the 2015-2016 budget, and the Legislature, as it did in 2003, could eliminate the proclamation entirely. No one wants or expects that, but there's a reason the Las Vegas bookmakers don't wager on Texas textbook funding: It's pretty unpredictable.

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RUSSELL OWEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

Name of Applicant_____

School District

Title

The IMCAT **Russell Owen Memorial Scholarship** honors Instructional Material Coordinators'who plan to pursue professional development in education, and memorializes an individual whose passion was public education and the students he served. R u s s e II O w e n w as a district level administrator with the Dallas Independent School District for more than 30 years. His dedication to his students and his loyalty to TCAT/ IMCAT serve as an example to his colleagues today and to those who will follow in his footsteps.

One recipient will be eligible for a scholarship award to the IMCAT Conference (Dec. 8-11, Omni Fort Worth), conference meals, three-nights hotel accommodations, and up to \$100 reimbursement for approved travel expenses (a value up to \$800).

GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

To be considered for the IMCAT Russell Owen Memorial Scholarship, an applicant must:

- Be the instructional materials coordinator or directly involved in acquisition of instructional materials.
- > Declare intent to attend the entire conference in December.
- > Have never attended a conference before and wishes to continue professional development.
- Provide a letter from superintendent or director why applicant is being nominated to attend conference.

The following should be submitted in one envelope:

A copy of the application form and a letter of support from superintendent or director. *It is preferred that this form be used.* A copy reproduction is acceptable.

The packet postmarked on or before <u>October 18, 2013</u> must be sent to: **Russell Owen Memorial Scholarship Committee** Instructional Materials Coordinators' Association of Texas PO BOX 676 PFLUGERVILLE, TX 78691-0676 Attention: Cliff Avery

Your application will be reviewed and voted on by an IMCAT committee. If you have additional questions, contact John Bridges, IMCAT Past President, via e-mail at john.bridges@fortbend.k12.tx.us or call 281-634-2946



INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS COORDINATORS' ASSOCIATION of TEXAS



RUSSELL OWEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name of Applicant:		Date:	
School District:		Position:	
Address:		Email :	
Office Phone #:	Fax #:	Cell #:	
Department:		#of yrs./ months:	
Superintendent: Name	Pl E1	Phone: Email:	
Director: Name		hone: mail:	
Texas Annual Conference?		onal Material Coordinators' Association of	
Does applicant have the supp Yes or No	port/approval of Director	r or Superintendent to attend?	
Does applicant plan on atten Yes or No If no please explain:	2		
Has the applicant ever attend Yes or No	led an IMCAT conferenc	ce before?	

Summer Institutes

fee includes IMCAT membership for the remainder of 2013.

All classes are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registrants may attend one session at any site; region listings are for suggestion only):

Regions 1, 2 & 3 • Tuesday, June 18

Victoria ISD Conference Center 2909 Miori Lane Victoria, TX 77901 Instructors: Abel Villarreal & Betty Adamson Contact phone: 361-788-9321

Regions 4 & 5 • Monday, June 17

Instructional Support Building 4810 Magnolia Cove Dr. Kingwood, TX 77345 Instructors: Jill Cook, John Bridges, Erica Gruber Contact phone: 281-641-8340

Region 6 • Thursday, June 20

Washington County Appraisal Dist. Board Room 1301 Niebuhr St. Brenham, TX 77833 Instructors: Rod Leer & Gracie Coleman Contact phone: 979-277-3760

Regions 7 & 8 • Tuesday, June 18

Whitehouse High School 901 E. Main Whitehouse, TX 75791 Instructors: Tony Black & Linda Little Contact phone: 903-363-6848

Regions 9 & 17 • Thursday, June 20

Wichita Falls ISD Education Center 1104 Broad Street Wichita Falls, TX 76301 Instructor: Janet Powell Contact phone: 940-235-1018

Region 10 • Friday, June 21

Plano ISD Transportation Bldg., 600 Seabrook Dr. Plano, TX 75023 Instructors: Matt Tyner & Susan Lenox Contact phone: 469-752-1585

Region 11 • Thursday, July 11

MISD Anderson Complex 1016 Magnolia St. Mansfield TX 76063 Instructors: Misty Fisher, Lea Bailey, Kathryn Rey, Ann McGuffey Contact phone: 817-299-6098

Regions 12 & 13 • Thursday, July 11

Leander ISD Support Services Bldg., Room 206 1900 Cougar Country Dr. Cedar Park, TX 78613 Instructors: Greg Wright & Sandy McCollom Contact phone: 512-570-0625

Regions 14, 15 & 16 • Thursday, June 13

Abilene ISD Administration Bldg. 241 Pine St. Abilene, TX 79601 Instructors: Kim Slough & Lorrie Payne Contact phone: 325-677-1444 ext. 2854

Regions 18 & 19 • Thursday, June 13

Ector County ISD Textbook/Records Dept. 619 W. 10th Street Odessa, TX 79761 Instructors: Dana Wiest Contact phone: 432-456-8979

Region 20 • Thursday, July 11

Judson ISD 8205 Palisades Dr. Live Oak, TX 78233 Instructors: Brian Squyres & KK Korelich Contact phone: 210-619-0357

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Making Waves at the 2012 IMCAT Conference



Clockwise From Top: Corpus Christi ISD Superintendent Scott Elliff kicks off the conference during the Opening Session • Attendees meet with exhibitors during the conference • Kim Strauss and Jessical Johnston, with Brenham ISD, lead a session on Google Drive and how it can be utilized in the classroom • Attendees network and visit during a luncheon • Speaker Rick Rigsby motivated attendees during the President's Lunch • Susan Lenox, incoming President-Elect, helps hand out door prizes.







Clockwise From Top: Attendees try their luck at the Annual Casino Night, sponsored by Hayes Software and Textbook Warehouse • Board President John Bridges thanks TEA's John Lopez for his support of IMCAT • Attendees were able to ask publisher representatives questions during the Publisher's Forum on Tuesday • Board President John Bridges and President-Elect Jill Cook listen in during the Publisher's Forum • The Cunningham Middle School Choir give a holiday performance • Attendees enjoy the Welcome Reception, sponsored by Follett • IMCAT collected toys for the Toys for Tots charity during the conference.

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