

Notes from the Director - Summer 2014 Wrap-Up

For those of you who know the UCBHSSP well, you know that summer is our busiest season as we support teachers during their break from structured school days. This summer we worked with nearly 600 teachers, hailing from as close as Oakland to as far as Rhode Island, through a blend of new programming and great familiar ones! We are also conducting a search for a program coordinator and accepting applications until August 22. [Learn more about applying.](#)

We kicked off the summer with our annual *Implementing the Common Core* institute. Thirty five educators spent a week working in collaborative teams to re-conceptualize units and embed lessons with their newly learned literacy strategies. Off site, UCBHSSP trainers led district-wide trainings for teachers in the San



Rafael City School District.



Our next program was one of our largest of the year, *The Bay Area Home Front in World War II*. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, 80 teachers from across the country came to spend one of two weeks with us to learn about WWII history through the visiting of Bay Area landmarks and scholar talks. UC Berkeley historians, including institute co-director Professor Mark Brilliant, National Park Service rangers, former “Rosies”, filmmaker Ken Kokka, and volunteer veterans shared their insights with the visiting teachers. Each was a thrilling and exhausting week, and we can’t wait to offer this program again!

We then hosted two exciting new institutes: 1) *Implementing the Common Core (Advanced)*, where we piloted new thinking and worked with teachers

to develop their own workshops and lessons and facilitation skills, and 2) *Dynamic Technology*, led by our technology specialist Devin Hess, transitioning the traditional research process from paper to web-based applications.

We also threw in a day long workshop on the new CHSSP History Blueprint, *Sites of Encounter in the Medieval World*. If you missed this session, stay tuned as we are planning an all-day conference in December to highlight all the [History Blueprint](#) units - Civil War, Cold War, and Medieval World.

Finally, we closed out the summer at the Legion of Honor Museum in San Francisco. UCBHSSP partnered with the museum for a three-day *Exploring Ancient Civilizations through Art* workshop, which brought teachers from Sacramento and Southern California.



Aren't you tired just reading this! Thankfully, we also took time for personal holidays, as we transition into our school based work with a number of new schools and districts this year. We remain inspired by the teachers in our network.

Many thanks to the teacher leaders who helped us bring these programs to educators. And, we look forward to seeing you at our fall programming! Learn more at <http://ucbhssp.berkeley.edu/events>.

Warm regards,

Dr. Rachel B. Reinhard
UCBHSSP Director