

# Notes from the Director



**Rejuvenation 101.** Summer provides educators the time to rest, restore, and reflect. Our part in that seasonal triumvirate is to create spaces where teachers can come together as a community of engaged learners outside of the daily pressures and demands of the school day. This summer we will host [two summer institutes for teachers](#) as well as work with a number of area school districts -- San Rafael, San Jose, Santa Clara, Brentwood, and Clayton Valley Charter High School -- to [support site-specific needs](#). All of these summer programs endeavor to create spaces for teachers to learn from UCBHSSP as well as their colleagues.

Here's a snapshot of the two programs we are hosting at UC Berkeley!

## [Technology and the Common Core Classroom](#), June 20-24

[Devin Hess](#) was a middle school teacher before getting his master's in educational technology. His approach to integrating technology is to ensure that instruction and student learning are centered in the planning process. Through his work with UCBHSSP, he has not only transitioned our paper-based strategies to easily accessible (and free!) web-based applications, but he has also thought about how technology can be leveraged to do things that couldn't

previously be accomplished easily in the classroom.

During this [week-long institute](#), teachers will be introduced to learning strategies in both paper and web-based forms. They will explore how technology can amplify learning through discrete lessons as well as cumulative projects. Participants will be provided to time to share what they know, discuss what they fear, and plan for their individual context.

Teacher leaders, Erica Shaw, who leads a flipped classroom at Mt. Diablo High School, and [Evelyn Cervantes](#), a middle school teacher in San Jose Unified who has been part of UCBHSSP's multi-year partnership around integrating technology and literacy into history classrooms in her district, will be on hand to share their experiences and to work with teachers in small groups.

## [California & the Nation: A Teaching with Primary Sources Institute](#), July 25-29

[Emily Richards](#) has been thinking about how we can use local, and state history, to make the historical narrative more relevant to students. While we often think of California history in the context of fourth grade, this institute will give teachers from all grades the opportunity to think through lesson ideas that utilize events in California as a way to 1) make sense of the history of the US within a more local context, 2) rethink traditional narratives within US history through the addition of California examples, and 3) use events in California history as a case study for exploring a parallel theme in another context -- international, ancient, domestic, or contemporary.

Each morning, participants will be treated to a scholarly lecture, which will be followed by the presentation of a model lesson. Then participating teachers will have the opportunity to work on their own lessons with the guidance of UCBHSSP staff and teacher leaders. The Library of Congress' trove of digitized resources will serve as the basis for lessons.

We can't think of a better way (aside from lolling about on a tropical island) to rejuvenate this summer among a cohort of engaged colleagues! We hope you will [join us](#).

Dr. Rachel B. Reinhard  
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