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University of California Extension Media Center

Newsletter

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Two New Videos Promote Improved Teaching in College Classrooms

Patricia Cross hardly needs an introduction from us. This tireless and ebullient Berkeley Professor of Higher Education has gained national recognition for her efforts to improve the quality of college classroom teaching.

As head of the Classroom Research Project, which is dedicated to improving the quality of college learning by helping teachers improve the effectiveness of their own teaching, she has profoundly influenced higher education nationwide.

The Classroom Research Project, which is based at Berkeley's own Graduate School of Education and jointly funded by the Ford Foundation and the Pew Charitable Trusts, works to improve teaching effectiveness by providing faculty (whatever their field) with the tools, skills, and support needed to become Classroom Researchers — careful, systematic, and patient assessors of student learning in their own classrooms.

Patricia Cross

photo by Benjamin Ailes

In the course of the Project, Prof. Cross has helped develop a wide variety of materials for pre- and in-service training in Classroom Research methods.

Among these materials are books and handbooks and, now, two professionally produced and extremely informative videos that we are happy to distribute for purchase around the world and for rental throughout the country.

In order to facilitate the greatest possible accessibility to the two videos, we are offering them at special low purchase and rental prices: \$50 each for purchase and \$15 each for rental. These prices are for VHS cassettes only; shipping and handling charges and California sales tax are additional.

Please note that at these prices we cannot send free previews out for purchase evaluations. However, prospective purchasers and renters may use our preview rooms by ap-

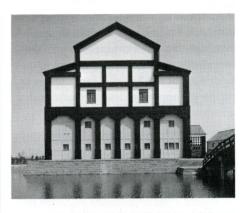
> pointment at no charge. Call 642-0460 to reserve a preview room.

The titles of the two videos are K. Patricia Cross on Classroom Research and Classroom Research: Empowering Teachers.

The former is a 25-minute record of a lively presentation made by Prof. Cross at a 1990 teleconference. In it she introduces the basic concepts of Classroom Research and outlines its relationship to edu-

cational research, educational assessment, and faculty development.

Classroom Research: Empowering Teachers is an 18-minute production that demonstrates several simple Classroom Research techniques carried out by faculty in widely different disciplines. Each of the videos stands on its own, but together they provide an outstanding resource for use in any on-site faculty training or development program.



Acclaimed New Film Profiles Berkeley Architecture Prof.

We are pleased to announce that we have been selected the worldwide distributor of *Places for the Soul: The Architecture of Christopher Alexander*, a remarkable half-hour film portrait of one of America's most original architects and thinkers. A popular Berkeley professor, Alexander is a radical humanist of international repute and a passionate critic of modern architecture.

He has spent his life pursuing a single goal: the creation of beautiful, timeless buildings whose sense of wholeness unites thought and feeling and makes them small but complete pieces of a harmonious universal order.

Produced by Emmy Award-winning film-maker Ruth Landy, *Places for the Soul* leads the viewer through two of Alexander's major projects: the stunning new Eishin University campus near Tokyo and an innovative shelter for the homeless in San Jose.

The film was a feature selection at the Film Arts Foundation Festival in San Francisco. It may be purchased and rented from us for classroom use. Please contact us for further information. The film will also be shown at Berkeley's UC Theater on Jan. 22; check with the theater for times and prices.