



QuarkNet

Stories from the classroom

It's a cold winter day in Cincinnati and the class of physics students is nervous and excited at the same time. Today they get a chance to present of their data analysis from an experiment looking for matter-antimatter symmetries to physicists at CERN, and European and US students. A few months earlier they had seen ghostly particles appear in a cloud chamber and conducted an experiment with a cosmic ray detector to participate in an international experiment. This is not your regular physics classroom!

These are just two examples throughout the years where my physics curriculum has been enhanced with opportunities for students to see real applications to the problems and content they study. Students have participated in summer research with the Babar experiment at SLAC and the LHCb experiment at CERN. Students have analyzed data and communicated with physicists at DELPHI, ATLAS, CMS, and LHCb. A few summers ago, another teacher and eight of our students spent a week at Fermilab and conducted an experiment we designed with one of the beam lines. Students have conducted research and won state science awards with the cosmic ray detector. Students and teachers in our area have toured not only Fermilab, but Oak Ridge, SLAC, Berkeley, and Livermore.

The professional development I have received through QuarkNet has made me a better teacher and given my students opportunities of a lifetime. QuarkNet brings cool physics to my classroom!

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