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WebSights features reviews of select sites presenting physics teaching strategies, as well as shorter announcements of sites of interest to physics teachers. All sites are copyrighted by their authors. This column is available as a web page at <http://PhysicsEd.BuffaloState.Edu/pubs/WebSights>. If you have successfully used a site to teach physics that you feel is outstanding and appropriate for *WebSights*, please email me the URL and describe how you use it to teach. The person submitting the best site monthly will receive a T-shirt.

ComPADRE Digital Collections

The comPADRE collections of digital resources for physics and astronomy education are accessible via the comPADRE umbrella URL: <http://compadre.org> or by direct URLs below. This recently established set of focused, edited, and maintained collections sponsored by the American Astronomical Society, the American Association of Physics Teachers, the American Physical Society, and the National Science Foundation–National Science Digital Library project, includes the six established collections noted below, with more to come (e.g., one devoted to physics teacher preparation):

The Astronomy Center, <http://astronomycenter.org>

— educational resources for teaching introductory astronomy;

The Physics Front, <http://thephysicsfront.org>—resources for precollege teachers—high school and middle school physics and physical science teachers with plans for materials for K-5 teachers under way;

Physics-to-Go, <http://compadre.org/informal>—resources for informal (self-directed) physics learning;

The Quantum Exchange, <http://compadre.org/quantum>—resources for teachers and learners of quantum physics;

The Nucleus, <http://compadre.org/student>—a collection of resources dedicated to supporting the online physics and astronomy undergraduate student community, including the Student Physics Society (SPS); and,

PER-Central, <http://compadre.org/per>—Physics Education Research central, a collection of information and resources for physical sciences education focused upon the scholarly research of this field.

All of these comPADRE collections are thematically developed from and based upon the platform housed by the AAPT's Physical Sciences Resource Center or PSRC. All collections contain a shared ability for users to freely register and create a login with a file cabinet of resources where a user may store the results of searches.

All sites share the ability to search the PSRC, submit resources to the collections, read or participate in focused dis-

cussion forums, and send other users private messages. Users can create and share resource lists of their own creation. Each collection can create databases and calendars of events and opportunities, and each collection has an editor who focuses and attends to the collection website, identifying and annotating the very best known digital resources appropriate to his/her collection theme.

For example, *Cathy Ezrailson* of Texas A&M University is the managing editor of *The Physics Front*, <http://thephysicsfront.org>, and describes that collection as follows: “The overarching goal of *The Physics Front* is to provide enhanced accessibility to quality physics teaching resources for all pre-college teachers of physics and the physical sciences with special materials for new and cross-over teachers.” Some highlights/features of *The Physics Front* collection site are:

- A collection of physics-related topics with units of instruction including content, tutorials, labs, and reference materials.
- Excerpts from some of the Physics Teaching Resource Agents (PTRA) manuals and curricular materials with activities.
- A “Welcome to the Profession” statement from the *New Physics Teacher Manual* by Jan Mader and Mary Winn.
- Classroom techniques and best practices.
- Simulations and images to enhance instruction for students.
- Special features and help for the new physics teacher.
- Discussion Forums.
- Filing cabinet for sharing and organizing teaching materials.

Advantages to using *The Physics Front*, as the collection provides:

- User-recommended and editor-approved materials.
- Connections with other physics teachers nation/worldwide.
- Content and pedagogy support.
- Venue for sharing, accessing, and archiving exemplary teacher-designed materials.
- Opportunities to contribute to a dynamic and growing online physics teacher community.

Dr. Ezrailson further invites *TPT* readers to “Register, take our short online survey and your name will be entered into a drawing for ComPADRE USB memory sticks. The survey can be found at: <http://thephysicsfront.org>.”