UMTC 2006

The new-look Undergraduate Mathematics Teaching Conference (UMTC) will be held on the 18th and 19th of December at the University of Birmingham. UMTC is a working conference that provides an opportunity for lecturers and others interested in mathematics within Higher Education to share ideas concerning undergraduate learning, teaching and assessment. Participants spend a significant proportion of their time at the conference working with others to tackle current issues of concern within the teaching of undergraduate mathematical sciences.

The outcomes of UMTC extend far beyond the conference itself, as experience is shared with the entire mathematical sciences community, and there is a chance for participants to have their work published within refereed conference proceedings. The fee for this conference is £99 and includes all meals and accommodation. For further information, including details of the issues to be addressed by this conference and how to register, please see the conference advert on the back cover or visit: www.umtc.ac.uk

A Review of Statistics Teaching in Higher Education

The Review of Statistics Teaching in Higher Education has investigated statistics teaching in British universities, in departments of statistics and of mathematics and across other applied disciplines, in order to achieve a basis for future debate on continuing provision and requirements in the changing climate of the British university scene.

The last 20 years has seen marked increases in both the numbers of universities and student numbers. There have also been fundamental changes in funding arrangements to cover statistics teaching provision and need. Departmental structures have changed correspondingly, departments have opened and closed, mainstream and service teaching of statistics has inevitably experienced marked variations from earlier patterns. Applications and needs of statistics in the professions, in science, in the community, in society and in politics are clearly ever more important; they are also apparent and reflected in policy, and in consulting demands. At the same time, there are views that the subject is being less well provided for at university level and that students may be less attracted to the subject.

This half-day meeting, on the 13 December at the Royal Statistical Society, provides an opportunity for participants to hear of the findings from the one-year study which will describe the changes to and influences upon statistics teaching to set the current provision in context. There will also be scheduled sessions for other speakers to comment on the study findings and the implications for future action. For further details, please visit, www.mathstore.ac.uk/workshops.

Invitation to Tender for Learning & Teaching Projects

The Maths, Stats & OR Network will again be offering funding for a limited number of projects investigating learning & teaching to commence in Spring 2007. Up to £5000 is available for any one project, and collaborative applications are welcome.

Application forms and further details can be found on the website http://www.mathstore.ac.uk/projects or by contacting us at info@mathstore.ac.uk. The closing date for all applications is Friday 26 January 2007.