Welcome to the November 2007 issue of MSOR Connections, the newsletter of the Maths, Stats & OR Network, that contains information on the learning and teaching of Mathematics, Statistics and Operational Research within Higher Education.

In August 2007, after seven years of leading the Network, Professor John Blake decided to step-down from his role as Director. John’s overarching vision, commitment and enthusiasm for teaching & learning has resulted in the Network being in the position within the MSOR Community that it is today. John will continue to take an interest in the activities of the Network and I am sure you will all join me in thanking John for his enormous contribution and wish him well for the future. John will be replaced by Professor Duncan Lawson whose expertise and commitment to teaching & learning will ensure the Network continues to develop into the future.

Within this issue of MSOR Connections two funding opportunities are launched. The Network is once again issuing a call for its annual series of learning and teaching projects, and also seeking to commission a guide to share good practice in relation to undergraduate peer support mechanisms. Further details on both of these opportunities can be found within this issue.

Finally I would like to wish all readers of MSOR Connections a very Merry Christmas, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Michael Grove – Assistant Director