Welcome to the November 2009 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. This special edition features a series of articles that are being published following the 2008 CETL-MSOR Conference, and complement those contained within the conference proceedings.

After five years of writing this introduction to MSOR Connections it is with a degree of sadness that I write for my final issue. By the time this is published, I will have moved to a new role with the recently funded National Higher Education STEM Programme. I have thoroughly enjoyed my five years with the Network and working with the mathematical sciences community.

I do not, however, view this as ‘goodbye’, and I look forward to continuing to work with colleagues as part of the HE STEM initiative. I will continue to take a great interest in the activities of the Network, and will look forward to reading future issues of MSOR Connections.

Finally, on behalf of the Network, I would like to thank all readers of MSOR Connections for your support and engagement over the last calendar year, and wish everyone a happy holiday season.

Michael Grove

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