
LTSN Maths Stats & OR Network - the team

Advisory Committee

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External Evaluators

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Nominations are invited for a Welsh evaluator

Details from info@mathstore.ac.uk

HE Policy Priority Areas - Widening Participation*

John Blake, Director

We are often approached for advice and support concerning HE Policy Priority Areas. One of the central planks of government policy is Widening Participation, whereby 50% of those aged between 18-30 should benefit from Higher Education by the end of the decade. As a consequence the Funding Councils have earmarked funding for universities to implement Widening Participation policies. The LTSN Maths, Stats & OR Network implicitly supports the Widening Participation agenda by including amongst its priorities a range of activities addressing the school-university transition, such as publishing an information pack on Curriculum 2000, sponsoring miniprojects which address Widening Participation (see *MSOR Connections* Feb 2002, p 15),

developing materials for use at this level (*Algebra Refresher* and *Calculus Refresher* workbooks), hosting a working party on a National Approach to Diagnostic Testing, providing support toward the establishment of a UK Mathematics Learning Centre and meeting with school mathematics advisers and consultants to discuss statistical numeracy in schools. Many of our other activities such as Assessment, developments in Applicable Mathematics and Statistics (service teaching) and Staff Development issues also have a bearing on the Widening Participation agenda. For further information on this issue or other areas please contact Pam Bishop, email p.bishop@bham.ac.uk

* The term 'widening participation' is used to denote activities to recruit students from the groups that educational institutions have identified as under-represented, and then to ensure their success. These groups may include disabled people, either as a group in their own right or as students who are both disabled and belong to another under-represented group.