

Course: Virtual Learning Environments Potential and Pitfalls

Tuesday 17 June
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
10.00am to 4.30pm



Please register early to guarantee a place

Course Programme:

The purpose of the course is to:

- Describe and disseminate the experiences at the University of Newcastle and other institutions in the use of VLEs and other distributed systems for teaching mathematics and statistics.
- Demonstrate present developments and projects
- Focus on web-based assessment of mathematics and statistics using VLEs.
- Discuss good practice in the use of VLEs.

Biopic:

Bill has been actively engaged in the use of CAL and CAA systems in the teaching of Mathematics at Brunel University and now the University of Newcastle for the past 12 years. He is a highly experienced lecturer and teacher at all levels. At Brunel he developed the Heriot-Watt CALM system into a successful system for the teaching and assessment of engineering mathematics. Recent projects include the use of a VLE in the teaching of a Foundation Level mathematics course (2001-2002). At present he is engaged in two projects: INFORM-IT, an LTSN sponsored project on the use of VLEs in teaching mathematics and an internally funded project at the University of Newcastle. This last project is to link a powerful web-based assessment engine into a commercial VLE and is for two years.

Course Materials:

- It is planned that participants will receive:
- A survey of the use of distributed systems in the teaching of mathematics.
- A guide on the use of VLEs in mathematics and statistics teaching.
- A description of how third party software can be linked into commercial VLEs.

Cost:

£40, includes tea, coffee, lunch, course materials

Registration:

Register online at <http://ltsn.mathstore.ac.uk/daybreak> or contact Brad Payne on 0115 8484713, email Bradley.payne@ntu.ac.uk

UMTC

Undergraduate Mathematics

Teaching Conference 1-3 Sep 2003

The Undergraduate Mathematics Teaching conference is a working conference that provides an opportunity for lecturers and others interested in mathematics in Higher Education to share ideas concerning undergraduate teaching, learning and assessment.

UMTC 2003 is as a 3-day event running from Monday 1st to Wednesday 3rd September . We hope that this will make the conference more convenient for colleagues, whilst maintaining the core elements that have made UMTC so popular in the past.

For those unfamiliar with UMTC, the conference includes plenary sessions by invited speakers, and presentations by delegates. However, most of the conference is spent working in small groups working on briefs relating to undergraduate mathematics. The reports from the groups are refereed as part of the events of the conference, and the finished reports form the major part of the *published* proceedings.

The specifications for the briefs will include:

- 1: Developing effective strategies for teaching engineering mathematics to mixed ability groups
- 2: Assessing students well
- 3: Mathematics and Virtual Learning Environments
- 4: Mathematicians As Educational Co-Researchers
- 5: Financial mathematics
- 6: The probability problem
- 7: Action Research: Responsive Programme design
- 8: The impact of hand-held technology on the teaching, learning & assessment of mathematics

Given the wider context - where there are many projects now in progress aiming to promote and develop mathematics teaching - we are aiming to liaise and work with ongoing FDTL4 and LTSN projects and the above briefs will link with the relevant projects where possible.

Fees for UMTC are £260 (with two nights accommodation) or £175 (excluding accommodation).

More details are available at the UMTC website:

<http://www.umtc.ac.uk>