

MSOR Connections

Vol 1 No 4 November 2001

Published quarterly by the LTSN
Maths, Stats & OR Network.

The Network is supported by the
four higher education funding
bodies in England, Scotland,
Wales and Northern Ireland.

The newsletter is available free of
charge to academics in UK
higher education institutions. For
those outwith this sector, a paid
subscription scheme exists.
Contact the Network for details.

Contributions are invited - please
contact the editors.

Advertisements and inserts can
also be accepted - see page 23

The articles and reviews from this
newsletter will shortly be
published on the Network's Web
site. Many other resources can

be viewed at

<http://ltsn.mathstore.ac.uk/>
for Mathematics, and

<http://www.ltsn.gla.ac.uk>

<http://science.ntu.ac.uk/rsscse/>
for Statistics



ISSN 1473-4869

© LTSN Maths, Stats & OR Network

Maths, Stats & OR Network

Welcome to the November edition of *MSOR Connections*, a newsletter for those involved in teaching mathematics, statistics or operational research in higher education. We hope you will use this newsletter to share information and expertise with other practitioners, especially by contributing to our regular features on pages 4/5 *Have you seen this?* and *Something that worked for me*

Overleaf you will find a report of recent activities and plans for the next few months, including a briefing day for FDTL Phase 4 on 28 November and a workshop on mathematics support on 10 December. This will feature our new LTSN MathsTEAM project coordinator Christine Hirst (pictured).



This issue includes a progress report from National Teaching Fellow Patricia Egerton. Other articles address statistics education, staff development, Curriculum 2000 and the use of real datasets. There are also reports on national and international meetings, and book and courseware reviews.

If you have any questions about our activities, or need information about the Network, please contact our administrator Jenny Nolan at the Birmingham site, telephone 0121 414 7095, or email info@mathstore.ac.uk

Contents of this issue

Recent activities and plans for the near future	2
Some Basic References for Undergraduate Statistics Education	6
Teaching Statistics in Higher Education - A Day Workshop	7
Staff development project - First Steps	8
Progress on "Where Are We Now" Project	10
Statistics Education Downunder	11
Web-Created Real Data Worksheets	15
AS/A Maths Modules and the UCAS tariff	18
From the Gold Standard to Silver Service	21
Using NESSTAR Light to Access Major UK Datasets Online	24
Review of Maple 7	29
"Welcome to Derive 5 Programming"	34
Review of MATLAB 6 and Student Version of MATLAB	36
An Applet for Teacher	40
Beyond Applets: Introducing WebMath Microworlds	44
Review of Seeing Statistics	47
Book Reviews: <i>Maple Computer Guide; Mathematica Computer Guide; Linear Algebra; Duelling Idiots and Other Probability Puzzlers</i>	50
UMTC2002: An invitation to contribute	54
Conference Reports: BCME-5 and the 2001 CAME Symposium	55
A National Approach to Diagnostic Testing	56
CAA Mathematics Series; Courseware News	59
Diary Dates	60

Editors - Robert Surowiec and Pam Bishop

LTSN Maths, Stats & OR Network

School of Mathematics & Statistics

The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT

Tel: 0121 414 7670

Fax: 0121 414 3389

Email: r.l.surowiec@bham.ac.uk, p.bishop@bham.ac.uk