

Jon

Unfortunately I will not be able to make the COPS meeting on 13 May. There are a few things that COPS members might be interested in:

1 This academic year we piloted presentations about the work of the MSOR Network in two Welsh universities maths depts (Cardiff and Aberystwyth) which were along the lines of 'What the MSOR Network does and what it can do for you'. The format was informal and semi-social, with nibbles, cheese and wine paid for by the Network. It went down very well (in more ways than one!) at both Cardiff and Aber. We have plans to roll this out next academic year to any dept that would like us to do it. So perhaps you could ask members of COPS to contact me if they would like this to be done in their depts?

2 Our Daybreak Programme

(<http://www.rsscse.org.uk/activities/daybreak.asp>): one on Data Mining is planned for later this year and we are considering the possibility of organising future Daybreaks jointly with particular regional needs in mind. So perhaps COPS members to consider putting on a course of their own?

3 Next academic year we will be developing a 1 day workshop on teaching stats in HE based on the RSS Certificate in TSinHE material. This could be useful to lecturers new to teaching stats, as the course concentrates on pedagogy (not knowledge enhancement). Details of the current course are at <http://www.rsscse.org.uk/activities/tsihe.asp>, where comments of past participants can be read.

4 We are running an international project called Variety in Statistics Assessment (VISA): This is ongoing and is being led by Neville Hunt, Penny Bidgood and Flavia Jolliffe. A successful project on this theme ran at UMTC 2007 and a book is being prepared for publication. A call for contributions has been issued - have a look at <http://www.rsscse.org.uk/activities/visa/>.

5 We are planning to create some teaching aids (eg facts, formulae and information resources) for healthcare students and professionals, so if COPS members would like to help us that would be most welcome!

Not sure how you could communicate these to COPS members, though - I'll leave that to you.

Best wishes

Neville