

Maths 4 Life Sciences: Towards Developing an Innovative E-learning Resource

Date: 17 & 18 January 2005

Venue: David Davies Building, Loughborough University

Facilitators: Vicki Tariq (UCLan), Jim Stevenson (EBS Trust) and Tom Roper (University of Leeds)

Aims: This 2-day workshop and discussion forum will -

1. facilitate discussion of key issues surrounding the perceived problems regarding mathematics in undergraduate life science curricula;
2. introduce participants to 'mathtutor' and mathcentre;
3. provide an opportunity for participants to gain hands-on experience of using 'mathtutor';
4. facilitate discussion of a proposal for the design and production of a similar (in terms of the technology used) learning resource for the life sciences, which may apply the paradigm of problem-based learning in providing mathematics support for undergraduate students;
5. provide an opportunity for participants to influence the subject-specific and maths content of this new and exciting learning resource and get actively involved in its production.

Provisional Programme:	
<p><u>Day 1 (Monday 17 Jan):</u></p> <p>13.00: Arrive, registration & sandwich lunch</p> <p>14.00: Welcome, introductions, summary of afternoon's objectives</p> <p>14.15: Defining the maths problem (presentation, followed by group discussion of experiences)</p> <p>15.15: University strategies to support maths teaching for life sciences (group discussion)</p> <p>15.45: Tea/coffee</p> <p>16.00: Identifying independent-learning maths resources currently available for the life sciences (small group discussion)</p> <p>16.30: What specific mathematics skills and knowledge do life science disciplines need and use? (small group discussion)</p> <p>17.00: Feedback to whole group</p> <p>17.15: Summary of afternoon's discussions</p> <p>17.30: Close of session</p> <p>19.00: Dinner</p>	<p><u>Day 2 (Tuesday 18 Jan):</u></p> <p>9.00: Summary of morning's objectives</p> <p>9.15: Introduction to mathtutor and mathcentre</p> <p>9.30: Hands-on experience of using mathtutor</p> <p>10.00: Towards a proposal for a life sciences/maths e-learning resource & discussion of concept and structure</p> <p>10.45: Tea/coffee (continue discussion)</p> <p>11.00: Specific maths content with examples (small group discussion)</p> <p>11.40: Feedback to whole group</p> <p>12.00: Discussion of potential funding to support development</p> <p>12.15: Taking the process forward and identifying lead roles</p> <p>12.45: Close and sandwich lunch</p>