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Biomaths Education Network: A virtual community to bring biology and maths together

Day 1 – Parallel II (15.05-15.35)

Working in a very interdisciplinary area is challenging: teaching maths within biology involves not only a good all-round knowledge of biology but a sound understanding of mathematics and statistics and an appreciation of the pedagogy of both maths and science for mature learners.

The Biomaths Education Network was established with a meeting in June 2012 followed up with a virtual network using a blog-based website <http://biomathed.wordpress.com/>. Its purpose is to: (1) Create an interdisciplinary network of scientists, mathematicians and educators interested in the teaching of mathematics and statistics within the biosciences. (2) Identify and share good practice in teaching. (3) Share, publicise and collaboratively-develop resources. (4) Create a consensus around the curriculum and pedagogy of biomaths to influence school teaching.

This presentation will raise a number of issues around working in an interdisciplinary manner across both school and university education and consider how a sustainable model to support learning could be developed.