

# **More Maths Grads Resource Consultant / Researcher**

## **Consultancy Specification**

### **Overview**

The *more maths grads* initiative is a Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) funded initiative aimed at attracting more young people to study the mathematical sciences at University. The project has worked with partner HEIs in three designated regions to organise a wide range of events for school and college students to gain, and then sustain, their interest in the mathematical sciences and to encourage them to study the mathematical sciences in Higher Education. The outcome of the programme is aimed to be a contribution to HEFCE's widening participation activities whilst at the same time increasing the supply of mathematical sciences graduates. The Project formally commenced in August 2006, and will run until the 31 January 2010. Further information on the Project can be found by visiting: [www.moremathsgrads.org.uk](http://www.moremathsgrads.org.uk).

As the *more maths grads* Project enters its final stages, it is seeking to recruit a Resource Consultant / Researcher to oversee the production of a series of resources that will ensure a long-lasting legacy for the Project. The resources to be produced are entitled "*more maths grads* in a box for HE". These resources are aimed at University mathematics departments and outreach units, to support them in the delivery of high quality and proven activities.

The majority of the contents of *more maths grads* in a box for HE will be taken from *more maths grads* in a box for schools and colleges. The resource consultant/researcher will need to select those resources which are most appropriate for HE. In addition, the box will contain a guide outlining good practice in school-university engagement. The resource consultant/researcher will develop this guide by drawing on the experiences of the *more maths grads* regional officers. He/she will also identify other sector-wide good practice in HE outreach and include this in the guide.

The National STEM Programme (<http://www.stemprogramme.com/>) has been commissioned to build on the work of *more maths grads* and three other pilot projects (in chemistry, engineering and physics). The final task for the resource consultant / researcher will be disseminate the resources through a series of regional seminars organised in collaboration with the National STEM Programme.

### **Duties**

The role of the Resource Consultant / Researcher is to oversee the development of *more maths grads* in a box for HE, to produce a good practice guide on school-university engagement and mathematics outreach and to organise a series of seminars to disseminate these resources.

The Resource Consultant / Researcher will:

- Select appropriate resources from *more maths grads* in a box for schools and colleges to go into *more maths grads* in a box for HE;

- Identify other resources which could be usefully included in *more maths grads* in a box for HE and make recommendations for resources that may be commissioned to enhance its impact;
- Produce a good practice guide for school-university engagement and mathematics outreach by conducting a series of interviews with them and distilling the contents of these interviews into chapters for the guide
- Identify other sector-wide practice in HE mathematics outreach and include this as additional chapters in the good practice guide
- Organise, in conjunction with the *more maths grads* core team and the officers of the spoke institutions of the National STEM Programme, a series of six regional seminars to disseminate the good practice guide and *more maths grads* in a box for HE.

### **Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience Required**

It is anticipated that the Resource Consultant / Researcher will have experience of gathering information through interviews, a good writing style and, ideally, will have experience of engaging in mathematics outreach activities on behalf of a Higher Education Institute. It would also be desirable if they were a member of either the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, the London Mathematical Society, or the Royal Statistical Society.

### **Appointment**

Work on this activity should start as soon as possible after appointment. The fee for undertaking this work will be £250 per day, up to a maximum of £15000 in the first instance.

The six regional seminars must take place in January 2010. The good practice guide and *more maths grads in a box* for HE must be produced for distribution at the seminars.

### **Application Procedure**

Those wishing to undertake this work are asked to submit a brief expression of interest detailing their suitability for undertaking this work to Melanie Ashfield ([m.ashfield@bham.ac.uk](mailto:m.ashfield@bham.ac.uk)) by 11 September 2009.