

MEI
Conference
2018

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Being a member of a professional organisation

Stephen Lee
(MEI Research and
Evaluation Manager)

About MEI

- Registered charity committed to improving mathematics education
- Independent UK curriculum development body
- We offer continuing professional development courses, provide specialist tuition for students and work with employers to enhance mathematical skills in the workplace
- We also pioneer the development of innovative teaching and learning resources
- **MEI is a member organisation**

Abstract

- Are you a member of a professional (maths) organisation? Whether you answered yes, or no, you are welcome to attend this session with no pressure to join one!
- Here we will consider what the benefits could be to joining such organisations, as well as what some of the issues might be. This coming at a time of a prospective merging of several maths organisations including the ATM and MA.

What is the JMC?

The Joint Mathematical Council of the UK

- The JMC is a council of participating and observing bodies which first met in 1963 to promote communication between the bodies and to promote mathematics and the improvement of the teaching of mathematics at all levels.
- It serves as a forum for discussion between societies and for making representations to government and other bodies and responses to their enquiries. It meets three times each year to enable updating, responses to issues and discussion between the bodies.

JMC

- There are 21 ‘participating bodies’ listed on the JMC website...
- Can you name them?

		Full Name
1	A L M	Adults Learning Mathematics
2	A M E T	Association of Mathematics Education Teachers
3	A T M	Association of Teachers of Mathematics
4	B S R L M	British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics
5	B S H M	British Society for the History of Mathematics
6	H o D o M s	Conference of Heads of Departments of Mathematical Sciences
7	E M S	Edinburgh Mathematical Society
8	I M A	Institute of Mathematics and its Applications
9	L M S	London Mathematical Society
10	M A	The Mathematical Association
11	M E I	Mathematics in Education and Industry
12	N A N A M I C	National Association for Numeracy and Mathematics in Colleges
13	N A M A	National Association of Mathematics Advisers
14	N N	National Numeracy
15	M M P	NRICH (on behalf of the Millennium Mathematics Project)
16	O R S	Operational Research Society
17	R A E	Royal Academy of Engineering
18	R S S	Royal Statistical Society
19	S T E M L	STEM Learning
20	U K M T	United Kingdom Mathematics Trust
21	W I M C S	Wales Institute of Mathematical and Computational Sciences

More detail

- A little more detail on each of the 21 involved in the JMC is available at:
<https://www.jmc.org.uk/home.htm>
- Why so many:
 - All generally have their own specific area of interest

Why join? (Benefits)

What do they say themselves?
(links to their own websites)

- [Association of Teachers of Mathematics](#)
- [Mathematical Association](#)
- [Institute of Mathematics and its Applications](#)

Benefits summary

- Improving knowledge
- Having a voice
- Sharing best practice
- Professional Development

- ‘Other’ discounts (e.g. Royal Statistical Society has member area for general discounts, such as insurance)

Issues?

- Cost of membership
 - For an individual organisation
 - When joining multiple organisations (+same time)
- Shear volume of correspondence
- Many rely heavily on membership subscriptions as their main income
 - Drop in members could put existence in jeopardy
 - May focus on short term 'member acquisition'

Changing Times?

‘Stuck in the last Century’

- *“Where many baby boomers are attracted to membership organisations by virtue of simply being associated with it, millennials can often be a more demanding bunch.”*
- Having grown up digital natives, millennials also expect more in terms of technology offerings
 - Use of social media (accounts)
 - Member drives and engagement
- Pace of change can be slow
- Historic organisations with long traditions

Personal experience

Currently

- **Fellow** - Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (+ Chartered Mathematician)
- **Fellow** - Royal Statistical Society
- **Member** - British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics
- **Member** - British Educational Research Association
- **Professional Affiliate Member** - Chartered College of Teaching

Past member of the ATM, MA and NAMA.

Open discussion

- Which organisations are you a member of?
- Have you seen any today that may have sparked your interest?
- Questions, comments?