

## Letter to the Editor

School of Applied Science and Computing,  
Department of Applied Science,  
ITT Dublin,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to enquire if members would have views on the following question.

Would it be feasible or worthwhile for the IOTs and Universities to get together to consider offering appropriate courses at Masters level and beyond with the aim of advancing mathematical knowledge and providing also a means by which mathematicians and others can develop their interest in different areas perhaps outside of their own specialized areas? Attending a course can strengthen ones knowledge more that say attending a single seminar. Also due to time commitments it may not be possible to attend regular seminars outside of ones own college or institute. The possibility of attending courses would offer the general mathematical community and the mathematical community in the IOTs particularly a very valuable way of engaging in continuous professional development. Courses could be held at weekends or outside of current teaching time, for example between May and September.

The pace of change in mathematical research is increasing all the time and it seems to me that provision of courses at the appropriate level could help enormously to help keep up with the pace of this change. It seems to me eminently sensible for colleges and institutes to pool resources and get together to provide such educational opportunities for mathematicians.

Experience in hosting short one day courses in various areas at IT Tallaght has been very positive but it is felt that longer periods providing an opportunity for more in depth knowledge research and analysis could be even more beneficial.

I would be interested in reading members views on such a proposal.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Cora Stack.