

CCC Professor Receives Prestigious Teaching Award

Dr. Vali Siadat, Richard J. Daley College, receives highest award given by Mathematical Association of America—the first time awarded to professor at two-year college

This past January, Dr. M. Vali Siadat, distinguished professor of mathematics at Richard J. Daley College, was the recipient of the Mathematical Association of America's highest honor: The Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award for Distinguished Teaching of Mathematics. This is the first time that the prestigious award has gone to a professor of a two-year college.

Media from around Chicago and the country picked up the news of Dr. Siadat's award—an honor that usually goes to recipients from such preeminent institutions as Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Chicago, and the University of California.

The Chronicle of Higher Education featured Dr.

Siadat in its March Community Colleges

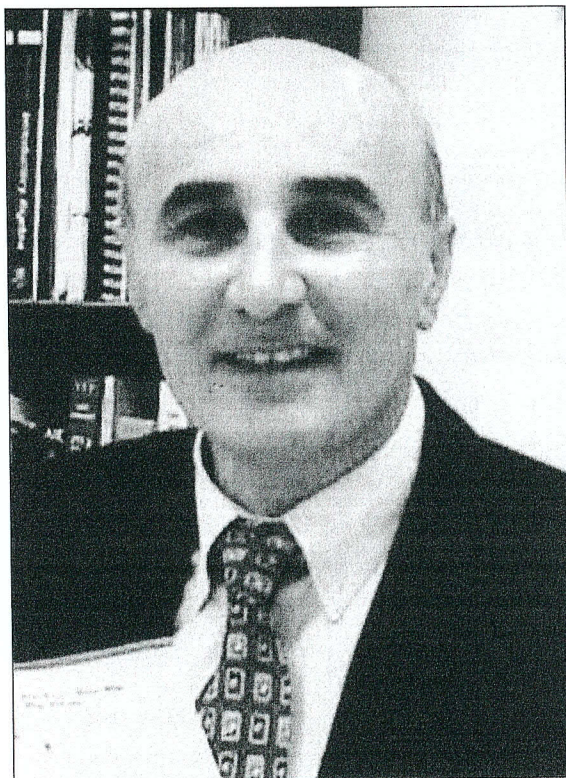
edition in a story titled "Teachers Who Matter." Channel 7/WLS-TV's Harry Porterfield, host of "Someone You Should Know," showcased Dr. Siadat and his Daley College classroom. *The Chicago Sun-Times* ran a feature on Dr. Siadat, as did many other Chicago regional and neighborhood newspapers. National community college media and mathematical journals also ran stories.

The Haimo Award, bestowed annually on an individual mathematician for excellence in teaching, was given to Dr. Siadat for his lifetime

dedication to his students and their academic success. Known for using innovative approaches to help students achieve their educational goals, Dr. Siadat travels nationally to speak about improving undergraduate mathematics education in the U.S.

Dr. Siadat has also:

- Developed and obtained grants from the Gabriella and Paul Rosenbaum Foundation to expand the award-winning Keystone Mathematics Project, a method Dr. Siadat developed to improve teaching basic mathematics to students.
- Secured substantial grants from NASA for mathematics-based summer enrichment programs for high school and middle school students, called Project Access.
- Arranged for students to obtain numerous summer research internships at the world-renowned Argonne National Laboratory.



Dr. M. Vali Siadat

- Conducted research with colleagues at Daley College over the last ten years, the results of which have been published in peer-reviewed journals.

"We applaud Dr. Siadat and his outstanding dedication," says City Colleges of Chicago Chancellor Wayne D. Watson. "This award demonstrates the rich talent that the City Colleges offers its students."

The award was presented to Dr. Siadat at the Joint Mathematics Meeting in Washington, D.C., last January. 📷