

Daley College Professor wins State Math Award

Daley College professor Dr. M. Vali Siadat has won the 2001 Excellence in College Teaching Award of the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Dr. Siadat is a long time member of the department and department chairman. The award recognizes his leadership and his influence on others in the field of mathematics.

The Illinois Council of Teachers of English is a state-wide organization founded in 1949, serving mathematics teachers at all levels, including elementary, middle school, high school, and college. The purpose of the organization is to encourage an active interest in all areas of mathematics and mathematics education, to afford a medium of interchange of views regarding the teaching of mathematics and related disciplines, and to further the study of problems relating to the teaching of mathematics and computer science, recognized in 1999 for the Keystone Method of Teaching Mathematics, which he developed with UIC Professor Yoram

Dr. Siadat was nationally Sagher and pioneered at Daley College. The Keystone method, which uses a combination of psychology, technology, and responsive/adaptive teaching, has dramatically improved student retention and success in introductory and college algebra classes. Passing rates more than doubled for students taught with the Keystone method. Longer term studies suggest that these students also improve their ability to concentrate. Students taking Keystone classes show a 12% increase in reading comprehension scores.

The Keystone Method won the 1999 Exemplary Initiatives Award from the National Council of Instructional Administrators. The award is the top honor conferred by the National Council of Instructional Administrators for innovation in classroom instruction. Dr. Siadat will be honored for his achievements at the annual meeting of the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics in October.