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Daley Math Prof Wins Highest Math Teaching Honor

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In January 2009, Daley College's Mathematics Professor Vali Siadat, a member of Local 1600, became the first community college professor in the U.S. to receive the highest award in his field, the Mathematical Association of America's Deborah and Frank Tepper Haimo Award for the

Distinguished Teaching of Mathematics. In the past, this award has gone to University of Chicago, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the University of California and Harvard University professors.

Siadat, who has been teaching at Daley for 26 years, estimated that he has taught 10,000 students. He said this instruction was his greatest gift to our society. He also said that he received the award in the name of his hard-working colleagues in the City Colleges of Chicago. "Teaching at a two-year college is challenging. It requires lots of energy, enthusiasm and commitment," Siadat said.

The Haimo Award was not Siadat's only triumph. In 2005, Siadat was named Illinois Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Sources for this story include Melanie Brisson's *Community College Times* article.

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Top Photo: Dr. Siadat uses his Keystone Method to communicate with students at Daley College in February 2009.



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