



**CITATION**  
**FEBRUARY 26, 2022**

In keeping with the resolve of the Mathematical Association of America to take substantive action each year to honor extraordinarily successful teaching at all post-secondary levels, its Golden Section is pleased to identify

**JESÚS OLIVER**

as the recipient of its sectional award for a

**DISTINGUISHED TEACHER OF COLLEGE  
OR UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS**

Since joining the faculty at California State University, East Bay in 2016, Dr. Jesús Oliver's teaching and mentorship has impressed his students and colleagues. As a senior colleague states

Dr. Jesús Oliver is an extraordinary teacher, mentor, and human being. His laser-like focus, energy and passion for supporting student success is incomparable.

Dr. Oliver has made key achievements in encouraging deep thinking and engagement; creating an inclusive, collaborative, and active learning environment; and inspiring and supporting the use of these strategies through a Community of Practice.

Dr. Oliver earned his doctorate in mathematics in 2013 at the University of California, San Diego where his research focused on spacetime around black holes. At Cal State East Bay, Dr. Oliver has brought his skills as a researcher and a teacher to create engaging research opportunities for his students. Under Dr. Oliver's guidance, these students have created joint publications, presented poster presentations at math conferences, earned awards for outstanding research presentations, and been accepted





and been accepted into math PhD programs. A former research student states praises Dr. Oliver's purposefulness

when it comes to building up and equipping his students with the right tools that will enable them to further their education and in return contribute to the world of mathematics.

At Cal State East Bay, Dr. Oliver was one of the originators of their Community of Practice model for STEM pathway classes. Initially funded by the NSF sponsored *Student Engagement in Mathematics through Institutional Networks for Active Learning (SEMINAL)* grant on which Dr. Oliver served as PI, the Community of Practice program in the department now regularly engages instructors and TAs in collaboration in order to better support students. The group developed a suite of active learning activities and built a course coordination framework based on supporting active learning.

With class activities, such as *Visualization in the engineering lab*, a collaboration with engineering faculty that exposes students to Cal State East Bay's high tech virtual reality lab and helps build student understanding of calculus and its connection to engineering principles, Dr. Oliver is a popular instructor. A senior colleague states,

It's rare to be that teacher who is loved by all, and yet, Dr. Oliver has achieved that. The lively conversations he has with students about math and their lives, both in and out of the classroom, is what resonates, and elevates Dr. Oliver.

We are proud to present the 2022 Golden Section Award for a Distinguished College or University Mathematics Teacher to Dr. Jesús Oliver, an exceptionally effective mathematics researcher, teacher, and educational leader.