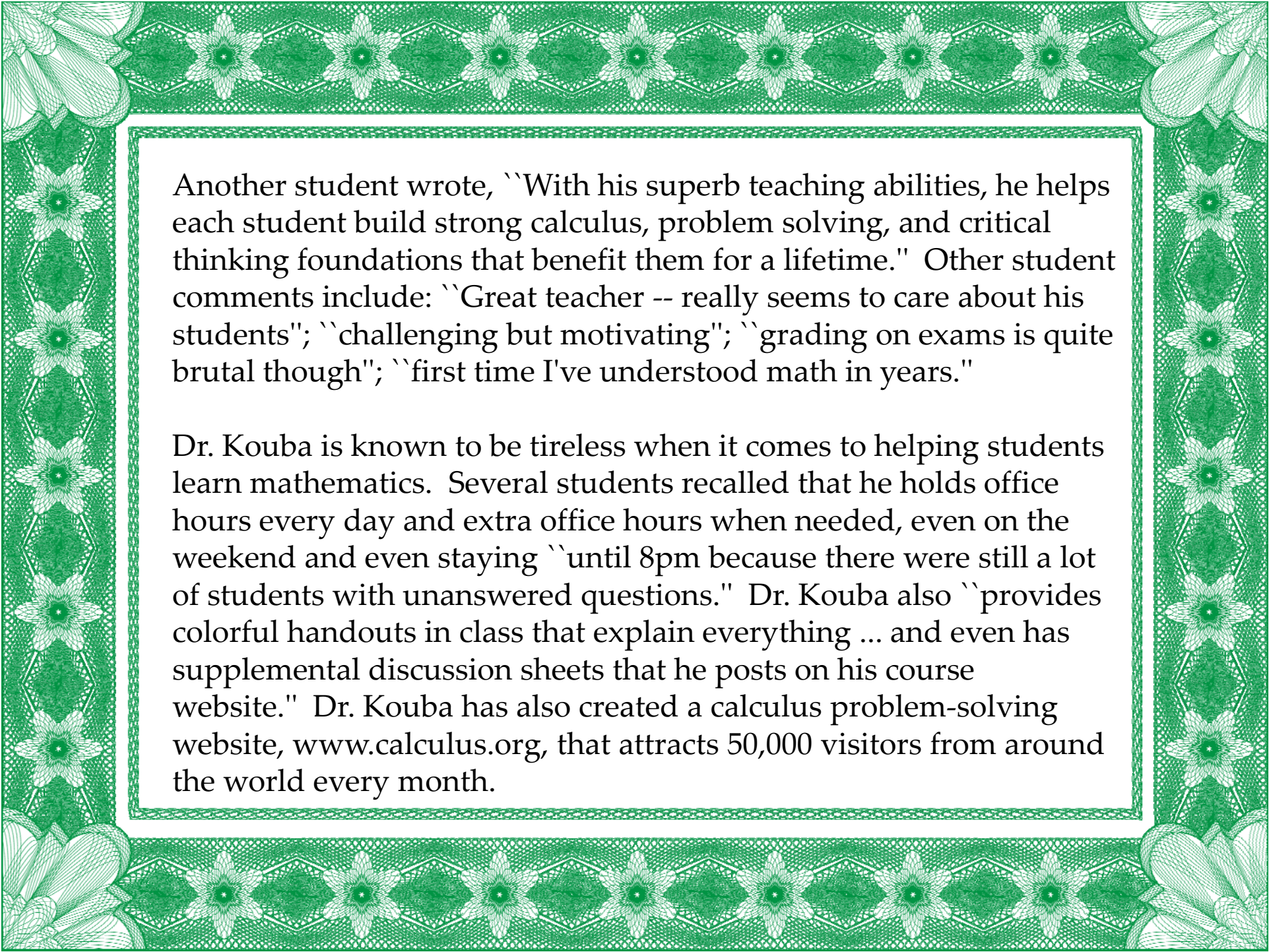


**D**uane Kouba has been teaching mathematics at the University of California, Davis, since 1982, where he has a well-deserved reputation for being a highly effective teacher who not only presents lectures that are crystal clear, but who also challenges his students to reach mathematical heights that they had not thought possible for themselves---and helps them to achieve those heights.

Dr. Kouba can bring out the best in people, whether they are naturally gifted in mathematics or not. Students praise him and choose to take further courses with him even when they have not gotten a high grade from him. A testament to this comes from a biological sciences student who wrote, "My friends thought that I was crazy when I decided to sign up for Professor Kouba **again**, after I had taken him for a math course the previous quarter and barely passed with a 'C.'... I never once considered myself to be a 'math' person, but now I can proudly say that I feel confident enough in my skills where I can explain the concepts to others. I credit my confidence to Professor Kouba, because he did not give up on me, he believed in my ability even when I wasn't sure of myself." That student earned an A in her second course with Dr. Kouba.

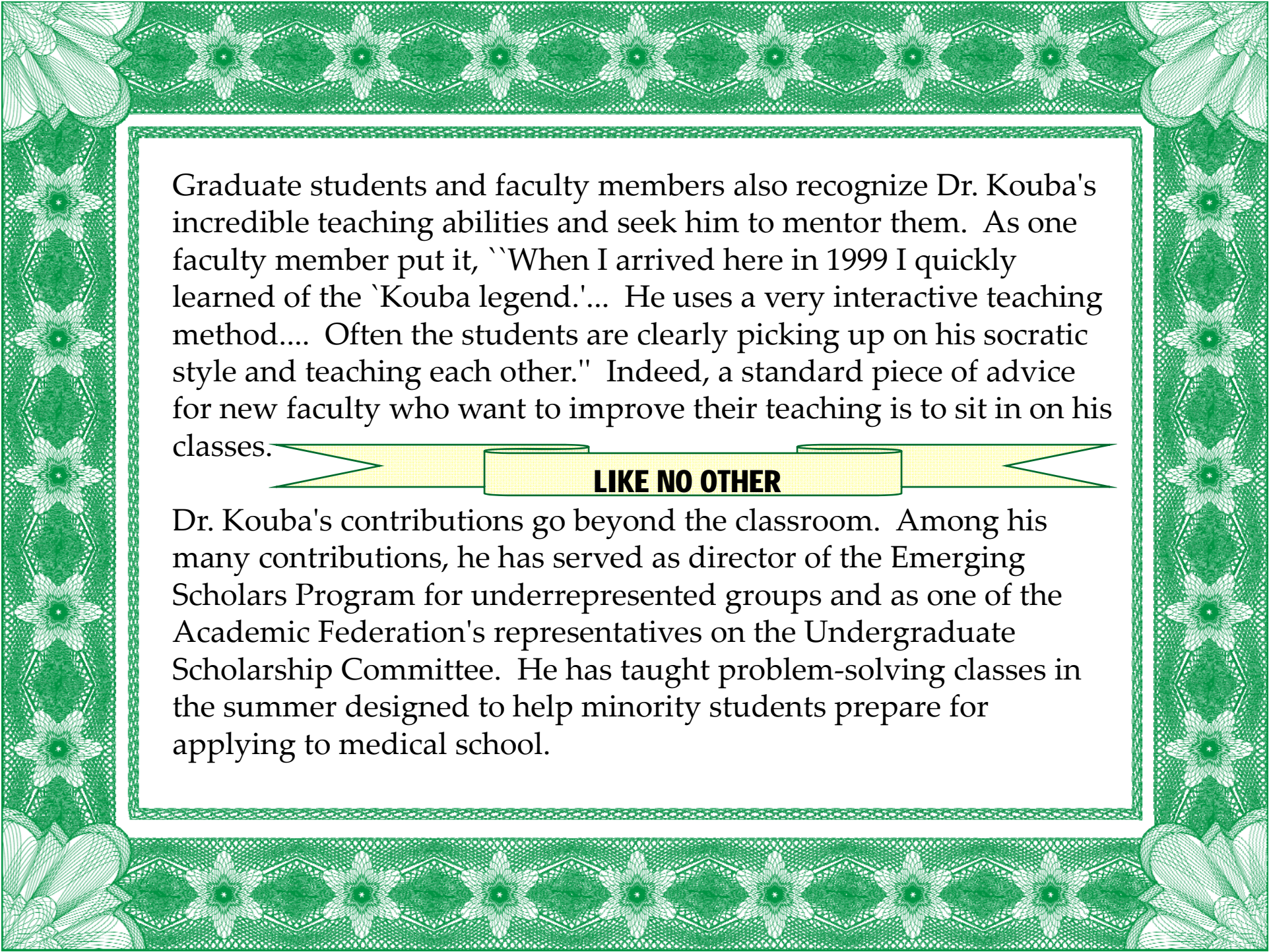




Another student wrote, "With his superb teaching abilities, he helps each student build strong calculus, problem solving, and critical thinking foundations that benefit them for a lifetime." Other student comments include: "Great teacher -- really seems to care about his students"; "challenging but motivating"; "grading on exams is quite brutal though"; "first time I've understood math in years."

Dr. Kouba is known to be tireless when it comes to helping students learn mathematics. Several students recalled that he holds office hours every day and extra office hours when needed, even on the weekend and even staying "until 8pm because there were still a lot of students with unanswered questions." Dr. Kouba also "provides colorful handouts in class that explain everything ... and even has supplemental discussion sheets that he posts on his course website." Dr. Kouba has also created a calculus problem-solving website, [www.calculus.org](http://www.calculus.org), that attracts 50,000 visitors from around the world every month.



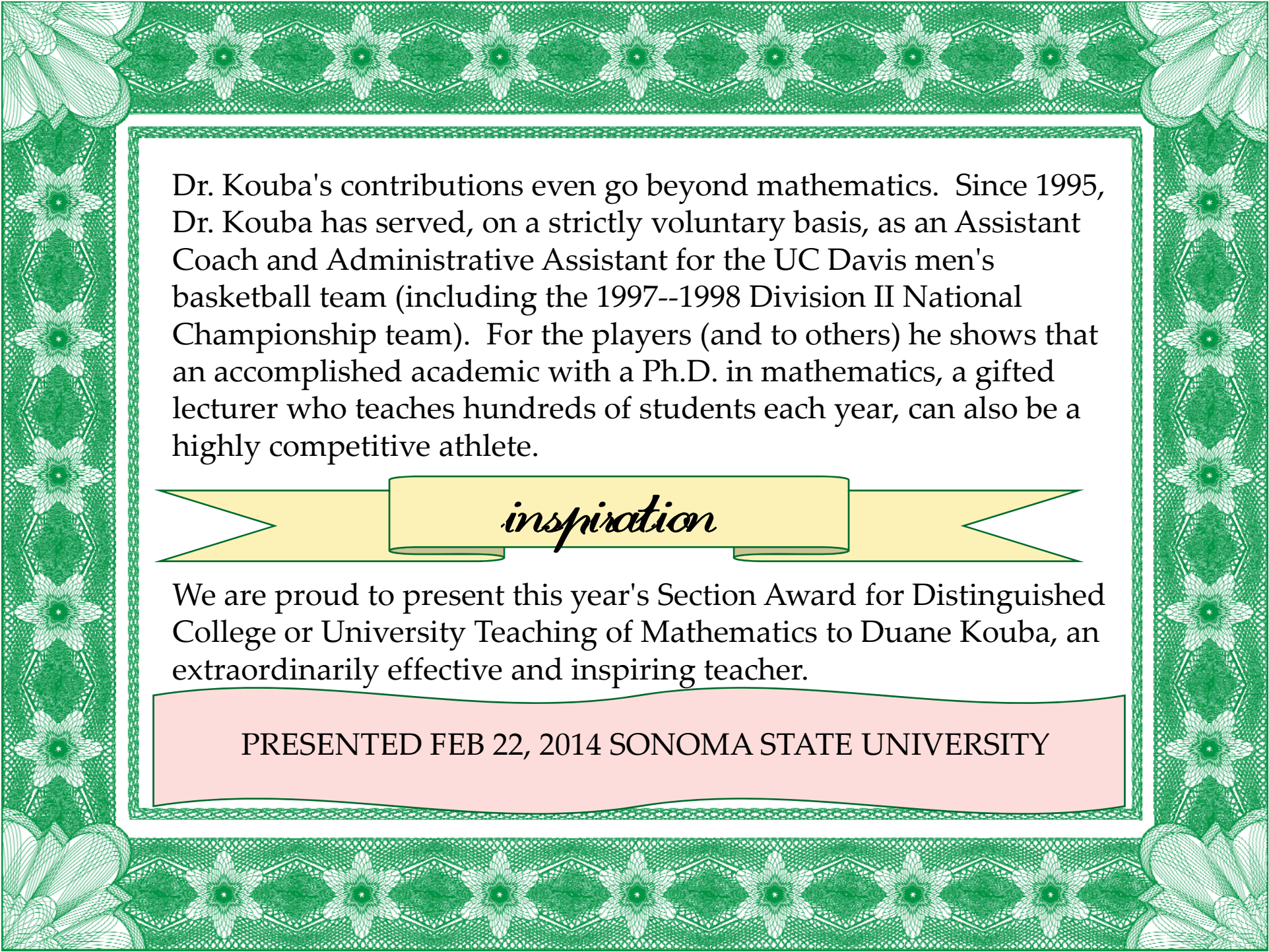


Graduate students and faculty members also recognize Dr. Kouba's incredible teaching abilities and seek him to mentor them. As one faculty member put it, ``When I arrived here in 1999 I quickly learned of the `Kouba legend.'... He uses a very interactive teaching method.... Often the students are clearly picking up on his socratic style and teaching each other." Indeed, a standard piece of advice for new faculty who want to improve their teaching is to sit in on his classes.

LIKE NO OTHER

Dr. Kouba's contributions go beyond the classroom. Among his many contributions, he has served as director of the Emerging Scholars Program for underrepresented groups and as one of the Academic Federation's representatives on the Undergraduate Scholarship Committee. He has taught problem-solving classes in the summer designed to help minority students prepare for applying to medical school.





Dr. Kouba's contributions even go beyond mathematics. Since 1995, Dr. Kouba has served, on a strictly voluntary basis, as an Assistant Coach and Administrative Assistant for the UC Davis men's basketball team (including the 1997--1998 Division II National Championship team). For the players (and to others) he shows that an accomplished academic with a Ph.D. in mathematics, a gifted lecturer who teaches hundreds of students each year, can also be a highly competitive athlete.

*inspiration*

We are proud to present this year's Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics to Duane Kouba, an extraordinarily effective and inspiring teacher.

PRESENTED FEB 22, 2014 SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY