



CITATION

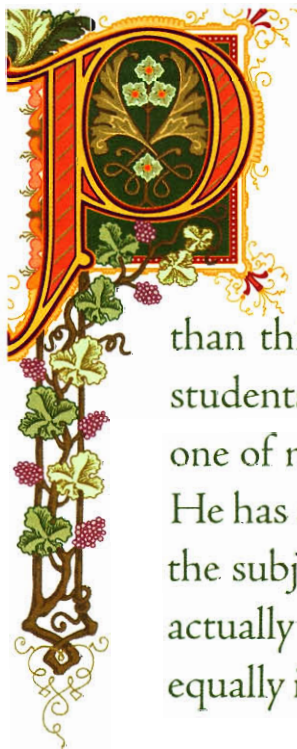
FEBRUARY 24, 2007

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, the Northern California, Nevada, and Hawaii Section of the Association is pleased to identify

WILLIAM FISHER

as the recipient of its MAA Sectional

**AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED COLLEGE OR
UNIVERSITY TEACHING
OF MATHEMATICS**



ROFESSOR WILLIAM FISHER, with a new Ph.D. degree from the University of Oregon, joined the faculty of the Department of Mathematics of California State University, Chico, more than thirty years ago. One representative of Fisher's many students sums up his experiences thus: "Dr. Fisher's class is one of my most interesting and involving math classes ever. He has a manner of teaching that excites the students about the subject. I have always liked math, but this class is one I actually eagerly await. It is also obvious that the entire class is equally involved. I appreciate his ability to present material in





such an exciting and interesting way.” Excerpts from other student comments are: “He tried to break the barriers that currently stand in my way of liking math. . . I no longer think negatively [about the subject].” “He didn’t just give problems and have you solve them. He really tried to teach the concepts.” “He is the best math teacher I ever had.” Clearly he inspires his students. From his colleagues we hear: “His seemingly infinite energy, ideas and accomplishments have had a major positive effect on the University and K-12 communities.” “Bill is a master teacher.”

Professor Fisher’s influence extends well beyond the confines of his own campus. Though concentrating on the northern part of the state, with his co-founding the Mt. Lassen Mathematics Council, for example, and serving as its first president, he provides professional development for mathematics teachers in the region. He has also served in roles having statewide and even national impact.

He has published widely and has a distinguished record of speaking at meetings of professional societies. To enhance pre-service and in-service education he has received roughly three million dollars in grants. He is co-director of Project MATH, a FIPSE-funded program for mathematics majors in mathematics education and is co-director of the Chico Mathematics Project, one of nineteen sites of the California Mathematics Project. For many years he was director of his campus’s Center for Mathematics and Science Education.

With the help of the Exxon-Mobil Foundation he established a Teacher-in-Residence program in which elementary school teachers work half-time for the Chico department, teaching future elementary school teachers. This program also supports the creation of his department’s mathematics education seminar at which elementary, secondary, community college and university teachers meet (sometimes via satellite) to discuss issues in mathematics education.

We are proud to present this year’s Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics to Bill Fisher.

