



## CITATION

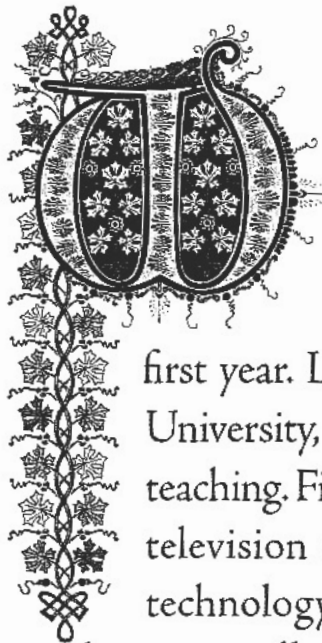
MARCH 3, 2001

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 Section of the Association is pleased to identify

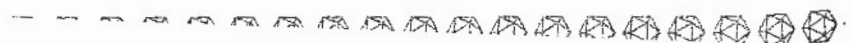
**WADE ELLIS, JR.**

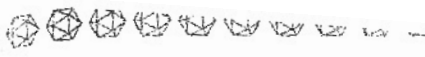
as the recipient of its MAA Sectional

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



WADE began his career teaching high school in Detroit, where he was so well-regarded that he was made an honorary Croat at the end of his first year. Later, while a graduate student at The Ohio State University, two significant events charted his life direction in teaching. First, teaching courses on the university's instructional television network which began a lifelong effort to utilize technology effectively in the classroom and to help others do so as well. Second, working with adults from low-income backgrounds who had never had a real math course before made him sensitive to the needs and desires of such students. Both of these experiences have motivated him to become an extraordinarily successful classroom teacher.





In his efforts to explain how to exploit technology for effective teaching, Wade has written numerous books, monographs, and tutorials showing how to use technology and made many many presentations with the aim of bringing these new tools to thousands of college and pre-college colleagues. In addition, he has authored many grants to help others purchase the technological tools and the training to use these tools. If these books, presentations and grants alone were his contributions to the improvement of mathematics instruction, he would have been a strong candidate for this award. However he has done much more. In addition, he has helped shape educational policy by serving as a member of the Mathematical Sciences Education Board, the United States National Committee on Mathematics Instruction, as Second Vice-President of the Mathematical Association of America, and as President of the California Mathematics Council of the Community Colleges.

But Wade's most important contribution may be his face to face classroom teaching and today we honor him especially for his effectiveness in teaching. He is universally praised by his students for enthusiasm and energy, his caring, and his respect for all of them. As one first semester calculus student put it, "[He is] able to explain anything to anyone. Very motivational and enthusiastic. Best teacher I have ever had." This single quote is echoed repeatedly by his students.

We are not the first to recognize his remarkable teaching ability. He is the recipient of the Hayward Award for Excellence in Teaching given by the California Community Colleges, the AMATYC lifetime achievement award for *Excellence in Education* and the Outstanding Civilian Service Award from the United States Army for his service at the United States Military Academy.

Thus, it is with great pleasure, affection and respect that we present this year's Award for Outstanding Teaching to Wade Ellis.

