



## News Release

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# Math Instructor, Author Earns Teaching Excellence Award



Cuesta College math instructor, Mark Turner, was awarded the 2008 Teaching Excellence Award by his peers to open the fall academic semester, honoring his leadership, distinguished job performance and professional excellence.

Turner started teaching at Cuesta College in 1991 and was hired full-time in 1995. He is a tenured faculty member and textbook writer, co-authoring the top-selling trigonometry textbook in the country. He has presented at numerous local and national conferences and also constructs educational and tutorial materials through his company, Turner Educational Publishing.

“After a few years of teaching at Cuesta and observing the exceptional ability demonstrated by the faculty here, I honestly never expected to win this award,” Turner said. “The fact that my colleagues have considered me worthy is a great honor. They have been a huge factor in making this possible, for it is easier to strive for excellence in an environment where you are surrounded by excellence on a daily basis.”

The Teaching Excellence Award is funded annually by the Foundation. The purpose of the award is to recognize a faculty member, chosen by his/her peers, as one who has “shown leadership in course organization and presentation while keeping current with educational methodology.”

Turner earned his bachelor’s in mathematics from California State University, Fullerton and his master’s in mathematics with a teaching option from Cal Poly. He is married with two children and enjoys cycling and geocaching.

“I also owe a great deal of thanks to my family for their support and understanding, especially on those evenings or weekends when I disappear with thick stacks of papers in hand,” Turner said.

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