

Tarleton Mathematics Professor Richard Winton was completely caught off-guard when Tarleton President F. Dominic Dottavio walked into his Wednesday morning freshman-level trigonometry class and presented him with the Faculty Excellence in Scholarship Award.

The award was created by the faculty senate to honor educators for their success in academic research and scholarly study. During the 2008-2009 academic year, Dr. Winton had three scholarly publications accepted, a tremendous accomplishment. Some articles were in journals where no other Tarleton faculty had succeeded in being published.

In mathematics, research involves proving theorems no one else has provided. Dr. Winton is interested in theoretical mathematics, especially continuum theory and cryptology (the mathematical science of creating and breaking codes). He has been puzzling over some proofs for decades.

He has taught mathematics at Tarleton since 1991. He has a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Dallas Baptist College and a master's degree in mathematics from North Texas State University. He also has master's and doctoral degrees in mathematics from the University of Texas at Arlington.

In response to the award, Winton humbly commented, "The real reward for my research is being on the faculty of Tarleton State University and the privilege of enjoying a career in which I get to work on such interesting problems. Receiving the award is, to me, a nice way of giving something back to the department and university that have given me so much. Receiving this award truly inspires me to perform at a higher level than ever before."