

Dr. Gary Ness

Dr. Gary Ness completed a Bachelor of Arts - Honours (Physical Education) (1970) and a Master of Arts (Physical Education) (1972) at the University of Western Ontario, and a Doctor of Philosophy (Physical Education) (1976) at the University of Alberta.

He began his career at Acadia University in 1976. Over a 34 year period, he was promoted through the ranks to Professor and served as the Director of the School of Recreation Management and Kinesiology for 12 years. He also served briefly as the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Professional Studies and more recently as Acting Director of the School of Nutrition and Dietetics prior to retiring.

Dr. Ness is an exercise physiologist with interests in sport and coach education, and health and wellness. His skills in the classroom earned him the Associated Alumni Excellence in Teaching Award as well as Acadia's nomination for Canadian Teacher of the Year in 1993. Students have also recognized his teaching, having named the Acadia Kinesiology Society's Professor Appreciation Award, the 'Dr. Gary Ness Award' in his honour.

Dr. Ness is a national and international leader in coach education. In 2004 he was hired by the Coaching Association of Canada as a Special Projects Consultant to lead several of its initiatives. His promotion of research into coach development and coach education helped to guide the creation of the Coaching Association of Canada Research Committee, which has provided the opportunity for several Acadia University faculty members to become involved in CAC's program evaluation research. He also contributed to the development of the National Coaching Certification Program curriculum, has represented CAC as a facilitator of coaching workshops in countries around the world, and continues to serve as the Director of the National Coaching Institute - Atlantic.

Dr. Ness was appointed Professor Emeritus and became a permanent member of the Acadia professoriate in May 2011.

