

ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
2005
DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

PETER J. WILLIAMS

Dr. Peter Williams joined the Physics Department at Acadia University in 1992 attaining the rank of full Professor in 2005. In 2002, the International Conference on College Teaching, Learning and Technology recognized him for his pioneering contribution to the teaching of Studio Physics and, in October 2004, he was the recipient of the Acadia Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Williams has been recognized at Acadia and beyond for his “exceptional imaginative and creative abilities to integrate technology into the teaching of physics” and for his scholarly approach to teaching. Dr. Williams ensures that an evaluation process accompanies his teaching innovations, and his pedagogical research has culminated in peer-reviewed published work. A “reflective practitioner”, he is recognized for providing regional and national leadership in new modes of physics teaching.

From his students’ perspective, Dr. Williams is known as a caring, funny, approachable teacher; an excellent communicator both inside and outside the classroom; an effective educator; and a professor who is committed to the welfare and success of all his students. As one student wrote “Dr. Williams makes a point of getting to know each of us on an individual basis, and shows a genuine concern for our understanding and performance in the course”. Another wrote that Dr. Williams is “a great teacher, and a genuinely good man”.

His colleagues at Acadia and in the broader academic community echo students’ enthusiastic support for Dr. Williams. From helping colleagues in other disciplines at Acadia explore the potential of technology to enhance learning, to contributing to the development of innovative physics curricula at the regional and national level, Dr. Williams is recognized as a unique and dedicated educator with a long record of exceptional teaching practice and scholarly contributions to teaching.

For his many contributions to teaching and learning at Acadia University, within the Atlantic region, and at the national level, the Association of Atlantic Universities is pleased to recognize Dr. Peter Williams with the 2005 Distinguished Teacher Award.