

News Release
March 5, 2012
For Immediate Release

Atlantic School of Theology Announces May 2012 Convocation Honorees

Halifax, NS – During Convocation ceremonies on May 5, 2012, Atlantic School of Theology (AST) will award a Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa, to Brian Stewart, in recognition of his efforts, through journalism, to document human suffering and injustices and bring them to the attention of the world. Mr. Stewart will also deliver the Convocation address.

Brian Stewart

Brian Stewart is one of Canada's most respected foreign correspondents. Over more than two decades, his reports for CBC's *The National*, his acclaimed international documentaries, and his show, *CBC News: Our World*, provided Canadians with a window on the world. A three-time Gemini Award winner, he is a critical reporter with a depth of understanding gained by many years working abroad and has a noted ability to bring compassion and humanity to foreign coverage. He is currently a Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto. Throughout his reporting career, Stewart has worked extensively in war zones, including Afghanistan, and in many humanitarian crises. He was the first North American reporter to focus the world's attention on the Ethiopian famine of 1984; his report about his efforts to track down a girl that he had come across during the famine received international coverage and led Stewart and the girl, now a college graduate, to an appearance on *Oprah* years later. In the Gulf War, he was the first Canadian reporter to get into the liberated Kuwait City. He has also filed award-winning reports from Somalia, and from Sudan, where he exposed child slavery during the Civil War. He has interviewed many world leaders, including Nelson Mandela and Margaret Thatcher.

In addition to the above-noted honorary degree, AST will honor Bob Latimer as an Associate of Atlantic School of Theology in recognition of his commitment and support to the school.

The Reverend Robert S. (Bob) Latimer

Robert S. (Bob) Latimer is an ordained minister of the United Church of Canada. He is a native of Sydney, N.S., and is a graduate in both arts and education from Mount Allison University and theology from Pine Hill Divinity Hall. He served pastoral and educational ministries in P.E.I., N.B., and N.S. These included C.E. Field Secretary, ACTC Principal (Atlantic Christian Training

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Centre, now known as Tatamagouche Centre), and the Presidency of Maritime Conference. He provided leadership in many youth forums, camps and conferences, and worked as a training and education consultant. Volunteer activities included service on a number of Mount Allison, Pine Hill, and Tatamagouche Centre boards and committees. Among Bob's published works are *Historical Overview of Pine Hill Divinity Hall and Sacred Spaces: Marking Two Centuries of Pine Hill Sites*. He is married and resides with his wife Sadie in Truro, N.S., where they are active in St. Andrew's United Church.

AST is celebrating 40 years of excellence in ecumenical theological education with a gala dinner on May 4, the evening before Convocation, where both Mr. Stewart and The Rev. Latimer will be honored guests (Mr. Stewart will also be the guest speaker). Ticket information is available on the AST website: www.astheology.ns.ca.

All are welcome to attend AST's convocation exercises, which take place on Saturday, May 5, at 11:00 a.m. in St. Matthew's United Church, 1479 Barrington Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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