



June 2, 2017

AST Appoints Academic Dean to Three-Year Term

It is with great pleasure that I tell you Rev. Dr. Robert Fennell will be continuing as AST's Academic Dean for a full term of three years, ending June 30, 2020. As you know, Rob has been Acting Academic Dean since January 1, 2017, and it is good to know that he will be continuing to provide academic leadership at AST in this way.

Prior to finalizing Rob's appointment, a committee carried out an intensive review of the Academic Dean position description for the first time since 2010. A number of clarifications and amendments were made in order to bring this key document up to date.

Rob has been doing an excellent job in the acting role and brings real talents for strategic thinking, organizing and implementing. He has quickly become an effective member of the senior leadership team of the university where his natural bent for collaboration and consultation has become so evident. Having taught for over ten years now at AST, Rob has stepped into this leadership role out of a love for the university and a commitment to creative and high quality academic programs.

In July and August 2017 Rob will be completing his planned sabbatical leave and taking vacation. During those months Rev. Dr. David MacLachlan will once again be Interim Academic Dean. I am so grateful to David for agreeing to do this as a service to the university as he did last Fall. David's depth of experience with the role means that he is able to be effective in it essentially from day one and this is important for the short-term coverage we need this Summer.

Please join with me in expressing our congratulations and thanks to Rev. Dr. Robert Fennell and Rev. Dr. David MacLachlan.

Rev. Neale Bennet
President

-30-

Contact:
Dawn Robertson
Manager, Communications and Alumni Relations
Atlantic School of Theology
902-496-7943
advancement@asttheology.ns.ca / www.asttheology.ns.ca