

Media Release

December 10, 2015

**- Bill Whalen, Francis McBrearty and Christine Cornell
Named to Board of Governors -
- President and Vice-Chancellor Dawn Russell Named to
Board of Directors of Universities Canada -**

Moncton communicator and community leader Bill Whalen and Saint John lawyer Francis McBrearty have been named to St. Thomas University's Board of Governors for four-year terms.

At the national level, Dawn Russell, President and Vice-Chancellor, has been named to the Board of Directors of Universities Canada for a two-year term. Universities Canada is the voice of Canada's universities at home and abroad, representing the interests of 97 Canadian public and private not-for-profit universities and university degree-level colleges.

St. Thomas University's board of governors is comprised of *ex officio* members, faculty representatives, student representatives, alumni representatives.

Bill Whalen is owner and chief executive officer of Hawk Marketing Services based in Moncton, NB and has extensive experience in community relations, special events management, board and executive communications and media relations. Over his career, he worked with the Atlantic Lottery Corporation, Blue Cross, Irving Oil, the Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce and Corporate Communications Ltd. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Concordia and was inducted into the Canadian Public Relations Society College of Fellows. He has been a community leader having played important roles as Chair of the Greater Moncton Airport, the Greater Moncton United Way Campaign, the 2010 IAAF World Junior Championships and the Friends of The Moncton Hospital Foundation. In 2013, he was given the Order of Moncton.

Francis McBrearty was admitted to the New Brunswick Bar in 2013 and practices with Lawson Creamer in Saint John. He has a broad-based bilingual practice, focused on the areas of litigation and employment law, and he brings his expertise in human rights to the firm's employment law practice. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from St. Thomas University, a Master's in International Human Rights Law from the National University of Ireland and a law degree from the Université de Moncton. He also serves on the Board for the St. Thomas University Alumni Association.

Dr. Christine Cornell, a professor in the Department of English Language and Literature, has joined the board as a faculty representative. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Master's of Arts in English from the University of Waterloo, and a PhD in English from Dalhousie University. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications, reviews and conference papers, and she has served on numerous university committees including the Learning, Teaching and Development Committee, the Senate Honorary Degree Committee, and Great Ideas Advisory Committee. She received the St. Thomas University Excellence in Teaching Award in 2007.

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