

Media Release

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Dr. Michael Dawson Appointed Associate Vice-President (Research) at St. Thomas University

Michael Dawson, a professor who was recently named to the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists, has been named associate vice-president (research) at St. Thomas University.

"I am pleased to welcome Michael Dawson to our leadership team at St. Thomas University," said Dawn Russell, president and vice-chancellor.

"He is a productive and nationally recognized scholar who has experience in administration. I know that he is committed to enhancing St. Thomas University's role as a positive and transformative presence in society through our faculty's creation of knowledge and creative works."

Russell said that in his new role Dawson will work to strengthen support for faculty research, promote the regional and national visibility of faculty research and creative work, and facilitate connections between faculty research and external communities.

"St. Thomas University boasts a vibrant research culture and I'm really excited about this opportunity to work with our very talented faculty and students to help promote and develop that culture," said Dawson.

Dawson began teaching in the Department of History in 2004 and has taught courses on Canadian history, the global history of sport and tourism, and comparative history of national identity and popular culture. He has an active research agenda focusing on topics that include the mythology of the Canadian Mountie, tourism promotion, sporting events, the history of shopping, and the cultural and educational significance of television programs. He is the author of numerous publications, including *Selling British Columbia: Tourism and Consumer Culture, 1890-1970* (2004) and *The Mountie From Dime Novel to Disney* (1998), and he is the co-editor of *Contesting Clio's Craft: New Directions and Debates in Canadian History* (2009).

Dawson was recently elected to the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. The college is Canada's first national system of multidisciplinary recognition for the emerging generation of intellectual leadership. He also serves on the Council of the Canadian Historical Association.

- 30 -

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