

Board Director biography



David G. Sylvester, PhD

**University of St. Michael's College in the
University of Toronto
President and Vice-Chancellor
Professor of Medieval History, Teaching Stream**

Director

Dr. David Sylvester was appointed the 8th President and Vice-Chancellor of St. Michael's on July 1st, 2018. Immediately prior to his appointment, David led King's University College at Western as its Principal where he was also a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of History. From 1999 through 2009 he served as the founding President of Corpus Christi College, which included a five-year term as Principal of St. Mark's College at the University of British Columbia.

David was appointed incoming Chair of the Governance Committee of Universities Canada in October 2017 and continues to serve on the Board of the Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences, the Boston College advisory board to the Institute for Administrators in Catholic Higher Education, and since 2012 he has been the Canadian elected representative to the Board of the two hundred member Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities based in Washington, D.C. While in British Columbia, David served for six years on the B.C. Council on Admissions and Transfer and the provincial Degree Quality Assessment Board. He is the past Chair of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities of Canada (ACCUC)

A social-economic historian, David's area of research focuses on the nature of community in the middle ages, with a particular interest in how the culture of medieval port towns was shaped by environment related to the activities of shipping, trade, fishing, and piracy. He holds an M.A. and a Ph.D. in medieval history from Fordham University, New York City, and has also taught in the departments of history at the University of British Columbia, Corpus Christi College, and Fordham University.