

Katarina Schuth honored with 2016 Distinguished Service Award

The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada conferred its 15th Distinguished Service Award upon Katarina Schuth on June 28, 2016, at its 50th Biennial Banquet in St. Louis, Missouri.



ATS Executive Director Daniel Aleshire (left) and ATS Board President James Hudnut-Beumler (right) congratulate Katarina Schuth on her award.

In presenting the citation and medal to Schuth, ATS Executive Director Daniel Aleshire and ATS Board President James Hudnut-Beumler noted the extraordinary contributions she has made to the advancement of theological education.

Schuth has served theological education, the church, and the broader public as a scholar, a teacher, and a leading voice on behalf of improvement in theological education for more than five decades. A member of the Sisters of Saint Francis of Rochester, Minnesota, since 1960, she currently holds the endowed chair for the scientific study of religion at Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity of the University of St. Thomas in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Schuth's service to ATS has been particularly laudable. She has served as a member of the ATS Commission on Accrediting, chaired the Task Force that guided the

redevelopment of the accrediting standards from 1992 to 1996, served on the ATS Board of Directors, and served as a member of the Advisory Committee for the Henry Luce III Fellows in Theology program.

Her research on Roman Catholic seminaries and theologates constitutes the premier scholarship on Roman Catholic theological education. Among her many publications are *Reason for Hope: the Futures of Roman Catholic Theologates* (1989); *Seminaries, Theologates, and the Future of Christian Ministry: An Analysis of Trends and Transitions* (1999); *Priestly Ministry in Multiple Parishes* (2006), and [Seminary Formation: Recent History-Current Circumstances-New Directions](#) (2016).

In accepting the award, Schuth noted, "Through the years we have grown closer in so many ways—Protestants and Catholics together in this great ecumenical expression made possible by the Second Vatican Council. As I look out at this wonderful congregation assembled here tonight, I am reminded of how much we have strengthened each other."

[A full transcript of her remarks is available.](#)

Schuth joins a distinguished group of awardees who have made extraordinary contributions to theological education.