

Lester Edwin J. Ruiz



Lester Ruiz joined the staff of The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in August 2008, and he currently serves as senior director of accreditation and global engagement. His work includes facilitating accrediting reviews, providing education and support to member schools about the process of accreditation, and providing staff support to the work of the Board of Commissioners of the ATS Commission on Accrediting. In addition, he focuses on continuing to explore opportunities to build strategic partnerships with theological educators worldwide on behalf of ATS.

Prior to ATS, Ruiz was a faculty member of New York Theological Seminary (NYTS) in New York City beginning in 1997, where he was professor of theology and culture. He became vice president for academic affairs and academic dean in 2006. Before NYTS, Ruiz was associate professor of political science at International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan, teaching courses in peace and world order studies, international relations, and politics and culture. He is ordained in the Convention of Philippine Baptist Churches.

Ruiz is coeditor of four published works, including *Re-Framing the International: Law, Culture, Politics*, with Richard Falk and R.B.J. Walker, and he has contributed numerous chapters to books and has been widely published in journals and other periodicals. He received an ATS Lilly Theological Research Grant and a Sohn Foundation Award for sabbatical research in 2005. He serves on the editorial committees of *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*, the *Journal of World Christianity*, and *Silliman Journal*, is on the advisory board of Global Action to Prevent War, and is on the board of the Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia.

A graduate in pastoral care and counseling from Ottawa University (Kansas), Ruiz holds a Master of Divinity with an emphasis on religion and society and a PhD in social ethics from Princeton Theological Seminary.