

*The Department of Political Studies presents*



## **SLEEPING WITH AL-QAEDA**

### **Bob Fowler**

Former Foreign Policy Advisor to the Canadian government and former Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the United Nations

Thursday, October 11, 2012

7:00 pm – 8:15 pm

Stirling 301 A

#### Biography:

During his 38 year Public Service career, Bob Fowler was the Foreign Policy Advisor to Prime Ministers Trudeau, Turner and Mulroney, Deputy Minister of National Defence, Canada's longest serving Ambassador to the United Nations, Ambassador to Italy and the 3 Rome-Based UN Food Agencies, Sherpa for the Kananaskis G8 Summit, and the Personal Representative for Africa of Prime Ministers Chrétien, Martin and Harper. Mr. Fowler retired from the Federal Public Service in the fall of 2006, and is now a Senior Fellow at the University of Ottawa's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. He is also a mentor for the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation. In July 2008, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, appointed Mr. Fowler to be his Special Envoy for Niger, a country whose fragile development prospects continue to be threatened by an on-going insurrection in the northern Agadez region.

While acquitting his UN mission, Mr. Fowler and his colleague, Louis Guay, were captured by al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) on 14 December 2008, and held hostage in the Sahara Desert for 130 days.

*This talk is a part of the Department of Political Studies Speaker Series*