Stewart Smith was born in Yorkton, Saskatchewan and holds degrees from the University of Saskatchewan and Northwestern University. In 2017 he retired from teaching instrumental music at St. John's-Ravenscourt School in Winnipeg. He is currently a Sessional Instructor in the Marcel Desautels Faculty of Music at the University of Manitoba, a position he has held since 1997. His principal instruments are euphonium and trombone and his performing experience includes two seasons as a trombonist with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Winnipeg Wind Ensemble, and the World Civic Orchestra, to name a few. He has composed and arranged music for a variety of instrumental mediums, having received commissions for groups ranging from junior high to university level. Most recently, he has conducted original works and arrangements for the Winnipeg Brass Collective, the Manitoba Trombone Collective, and the Winnipeg Wind Ensemble. Mr. Smith remains active as a low brass teacher and clinician. He has also adjudicated at music festivals in Saskatchewan and Manitoba and served on the faculties of numerous band camps in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, in addition to the International Music Camp and the Melville Jazz Retreat.

Together with Allan Molnar, Stewart is a co-founder and co-artistic director of The ALIVE Project (Accessible Live Internet Video Education). Beginning in 2004, the ALIVE Project has successfully linked professional musicians, educators, and students by providing unique distance learning opportunities across four continents. ALIVE Project participants have worked with musicians from the world class orchestras in Chicago, New York and Boston Symphony; alumni of the big bands of Count Basie, Stan Kenton, Buddy Rich and Lincoln Center; Pulitzer Prizewinning composer John Corigliano; renowned wind conductors H. Robert Reynolds and Allan MacMurray; jazz artists Clark Terry, Bobby Shew, Frank Foster and Dan Haerle; and faculty from some of the top music schools in North America including the University of North Texas, Northwestern University, Indiana University, and the Manhattan School of Music, as well as institutions in Sweden, Germany, Norway, and Australia. Mr. Smith has presented workshops dealing with distance learning at several national and international conferences in both Canada and the United States (in person) and in Europe and Australia (via the Internet).