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one of Concordia's
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HELPING UGANDANS HELP THEMSELVES

The Concordia Volunteer Abroad Program allows students to lend a hand to African development.

By Chris Hanna



ALUMNUS PROFILE: NET RESULTS

An intrepid Concordia grad muses on life as a goalie.

By Frederic Serre



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

The resurgent Concordia Institute of Aerospace Design and Innovation.

By Cléa Desjardins



SITTING PRETTY: RESEARCH CHAIRS OF DISTINCTION

Meet four Concordia research chairs, part of a crop of exceptional professors delving into a range of academic topics.

By Patrick McDonagh



SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE INVISIBLE— FIVE DAYS AT A TIME

Concordia students walk the walk to help raise consciousness and money for Montreal homeless youth.

By Jennifer Charlebois

Cover: Sandeep Bhagwati, Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Inter-X Art Practice and Theory, in **matralab** in Concordia's Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex.

Credit: Christian Fleury

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Millennial commitment

I recently had a discussion with a friend who's a Concordia professor. He told me he's observed differences in the values and habits—some better, some not so much—of today's students compared with those of the past. But one area in which he feels the present cohort outshines its elders is social awareness: young people across the board now seem keenly aware of such issues as sustainability, human rights and economic inequality, among others, and are ready to do something about it.

This *Concordia University Magazine* volume supports my professor-friend's thesis. In "Helping Ugandans help themselves" (page 4), Chris Hanna outlines how former Political Science students Awel Uwihanganye and Peter Schiefke launched the Concordia Volunteer Abroad Program in 2006. Since then, several hundred young Concordians have travelled to Gulu in northern Uganda to help locals improve their housing and health care—and transfer knowledge so Ugandans can grab the reins of their own development.

In "Shedding light on the invisible—five days at a time" (page 8), Jennifer Charlebois describes how two John



Reaching Up, Reaching Out and adopted in 2009, spells out one of Concordia's goals as "Community Engagement and Social Responsibility." Furthermore, the newly approved academic plan encourages students to take these responsibilities seriously. In his message on page 3, Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Frederick Lowy further explains this philosophy and why he and the university actively support volunteerism.

A more traditional role that universities play to help society tackle challenges is through research and teaching. Our cover story, "Sitting Pretty: Research Chairs of Distinction" (page 16), profiles four Concordia research chairs whose widely divergent fields of study—alternative energy sources, lactating mothers, small-capital equities and technology and music—exemplify the disparate ways academia can better our daily lives.

"Sitting Pretty" was written by Patrick McDonagh, one of our long-time freelance writers. Probably the only freelancer more senior to Patrick at *Concordia University Magazine* is Frederic Serre, the author and illustrator of the feature article, "Net results" (page 12). Fred's cartoons have been a fixture on this editorial page longer than I've been here (that is, a long time). In this issue, we provide him a few pages to spread his wings—or goalie pads, since he expounds on his goaltending career that started at Concordia. Fred may save more pucks than lives (though he's done that too; read the story for more), but his work brightens our days—certainly a valuable contribution to society! ■

Molson School of Business alumni, Josh Redler and Kristina Partsinevelos, organize a five-day homeless stint for students to raise money and awareness for the plight of dispossessed youth. Since 2008, Concordia's 5 Days for the Homeless campaign has raised in excess of \$170,000—and has sensitized many to the hardships of living without a roof, especially during Montreal winters.

In other words, the societal commitment of so-called millennials (those now in their early 20s) augurs well for Concordia—and everyone else.

Those running things at Concordia share these ideals. That's why the university's five-year strategic plan, called

Concordia

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Editor

Volunteerism: a vital part of a university student's development

Canada's universities and their communities are linked in many ways, and one of the most vital and dynamic connections is volunteerism. This is especially true of Concordia.

If our communities are to remain viable and thrive in the face of changing economic, demographic and societal challenges, then volunteerism by the students, faculty members, staff and alumni of Canada's universities must be a growing part of the solution. There is considerable room for broadening volunteerism in Canada, particularly among our youth.

Surveys show that just under half of Canadians volunteer in some way, but a small minority account for the bulk of hours contributed each year. Much of that effort is being made by a cohort of super volunteers who are in large part retiring and ready to pass the torch to subsequent generations.

A 2010 pan-Canadian research study, "Bridging the Gap," revealed that the goals of the upcoming generation of volunteers are likely to be quite different from those who preceded them. The younger generation represented by our students—many of whom are juggling school, job and family obligations—seems to want more flexibility, shorter-term opportunities, group activities and volunteer tasks that are different from daily work or study life.

Canada's Governor General and long-time university president, the Right Honourable David Johnston, is encouraging the country's youth to be more active in volunteering, and our universities can be natural leaders in that movement. In fact, many of Canada's

universities were founded by individuals or groups who devoted their personal, professional and financial resources to supporting education.

At Concordia, giving of time without remuneration is a longstanding core value, beginning with our founding institutions, Sir George Williams University and Loyola College, whose histories and positive social impacts stretch back to the late 1800s. We believe that teaching and learning should be infused with a sense of social commitment, purpose and responsibility.

Our new Academic Plan, recently approved by the Senate, puts a special emphasis on encouraging students to take advantage of volunteer opportunities, especially those that correlate with their academic program objectives. This can be done through initiatives such as problem-based service learning for academic credit and by including volunteerism in a co-curricular transcript or diploma supplement.

Concordia's Co-Curricular Record, for example, is an official document that formally recognizes a student's volunteer experience through extracurricular involvement, leadership accomplishments and community service activities. It was instituted in September 2010, making Concordia the first Quebec university to offer such a record.

Coaching is vital, so we also teach interested students how to be effective volunteers and we try to match them with the opportunities available.

Since it opened in August 2010, the Concordia LIVE (Leadership Initiative and Volunteer Engagement) Centre has connected with more than 1,200 students seeking information about volunteer opportunities.

In this 10th anniversary of the UN's Year of the Volunteer, one challenge for Canada's universities and their supporters and partners is to be as adaptable, accessible and creative as possible in making volunteerism a natural part of our students' development.

The corporate sector, for example, can help with targeted scholarships that help ease a student's transition into lifelong volunteering. Governments can provide innovative funding incentives such as loan offsets that reward students for their commitment to volunteerism. Non-governmental organizations can develop project-based programs and leadership circles that help students find their way to volunteering.

The relationship between Canada's universities and our several communities—local and global—can be strengthened and deepened through volunteerism that has deep roots and good prospects of growing strongly in the years ahead. We plan to emphasize this further at Concordia. ■



Frederick Lowy

President and Vice-Chancellor



STUDENTS FROM THE CONCORDIA
VOLUNTEER ABROAD PROGRAM
TRAVEL TO THE AFRICAN COUNTRY
TO LEND A WELCOME HAND.

by Chris Hanna

HELPING UGANDANS HELP THEMSELVES



There's an old African proverb that says, "If you want to go quickly, go alone; if you want to go far, go together."

That's the motto of the Concordia Volunteer Abroad Program (CVAP). Each May and July, CVAP sends 40 student volunteers for a two-month stint to Gulu, a city 320 kilometres north of Kampala, the capital of Uganda. CVAP partners with established Ugandan organizations to help those still affected by two decades of civil war in the northern part of Uganda.

CVAP volunteers work on projects ranging from housing to health care. Andrea Clarke, BSc 09, a 2009 participant, recalls making "row upon row" of bricks, working with locals who knew the perfect earth-to-cement ratio needed for the building blocks. Then it was days of moulding, shovelling, mixing and pressing the concoction into bricks, which eventually went into the Sports Outreach Ministry's construction of a home for a woman who took care of her grandchildren. CVAP often works with the Sports Outreach Ministry, which also offers trauma counselling, live-stock programs and business training to villagers to whom they grant loans. CVAP sometimes covers the application and borrowing costs for local loan applicants.

In 2008, Jamie Robinson, BA 08, and Daniel Lavigueur, BA 08, worked with children at the Mango Tree day-care in Gulu every day for over a month. One morning, a four-year-old named

founded the Mercy Project—in the little girl's memory—which focuses on healthcare assistance. Its current project is a collaboration with Gulu's St. Jude Children's Home, a residence that can accommodate more than 100 orphaned, abandoned or disabled young Ugandans. "The issue for the people who run St. Jude was to outsource their health care," explains Robinson, who's now CVAP's executive director. "Every time a child was sick, they had to take them to the hospital. With a limited staff and limited resources, they were spending a lot of money and not getting exactly what they needed. We made an agreement with them where they built a clinic, and CVAP and the Mercy Project supplied the nurse and medicine, so that it was an equal investment." The project is now in its second year.

"We work with organizations that are meeting the needs of the community, so it helps us reach more people," Robinson reports. "If we support a larger organization in meeting its goals, we're expanding the work to possibly hundreds or thousands of people."

IN THE BEGINNING

CVAP was the brainchild of then-Concordia students Awel Uwhanganye, BA 08, and Peter Schiefke, BA 07. The two political science majors were inspired after hearing former Canadian ambassador to the United Nations Stephen Lewis speak at Concordia in 2004. The humanitarian and then-UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa

to Concordia, they launched a campaign asking students to approve a 35-cent-per-credit fee levy to fund CVAP. That amounts to around \$5 per semester for a full-time student—or the cost of a beer, as Robinson puts it. The students overwhelmingly supported the initiative.

Uwhanganye and Schiefke launched the program in 2005 and Schiefke became CVAP's executive director. The program quickly took off. Robinson says: "Most of the students will never get to go to Gulu and will never participate in the program themselves, but they have shown a dedication to another community so far away."

PRE-DEPARTURE

CVAP's participants are required to attend pre-departure meetings, during which guest speakers and past volunteers describe what to expect. The students are also taught some of Uganda's history (see sidebar on page 7, "Uganda: a history of defiance") and possible dangers of travelling to the country. The Canadian government advises visitors to avoid all non-essential travel to districts like Gulu, which borders Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. "The reality is that a lot of places that are very much in need of help are under travel advisories, and that's partly a consequence of poverty," says Robinson.

The organizers take every precaution and discuss the region's safety and security situation with its partners in Gulu.

They're people who really can inspire the youth of Gulu. The leadership for change in Africa is in Africa.

Mercy didn't show up. Robinson and Lavigueur later learned she had died from malaria—a common affliction in Uganda—even though it costs less than \$10 to treat. "We were a little disturbed by that, considering there are over 200 registered NGOs in Gulu Town," Lavigueur says with some bitterness. "They still seemed to not be covering the basics of medical care."

Therefore, Lavigueur and Robinson

(2001-2006) urged students to stand up for something they believed in and take responsibility for some of the problems they saw in the world.

Uwhanganye and Schiefke, who was the Concordia Student Union's VP of Student Life, visited Gulu for the first time that year. "It was the biggest eye-opener of my life," Schiefke says about witnessing the plight of the region's 1.5 million refugees. Soon after returning

Robinson notes: "The border is actually 12 hours away from Gulu, but it means that the district borders what has obviously been quite a tumultuous area. But it's a bit like when the G20 is happening in Toronto: you really would never think that it would affect Montreal."

Volunteers also get "what felt like 100 vaccines," as Clarke puts it, and are reminded to purchase malaria medication. Robinson adds: "You also have to

buy sunscreen because they don't sell that there."

CVAP IN UGANDA

The students' fee levy provides CVAP an annual operating budget of around \$250,000, depending on Concordia student enrolment. Volunteers pay their own transportation to Uganda and fundraise an additional \$500 each before their departure, which allows the organization to focus on giving more support to its Uganda community partners like the Sports Outreach Ministry and St. Jude Children's Home.

CVAP also recently built a permanent office and living complex for its volunteers. Robinson says the \$125,000 construction project will offset the

organization's costs considerably. It also sends a message to the Ugandans about CVAP's long-term commitment.

The summer 2011 participants were the first to live on CVAP's property. "We wanted to have something that was appropriate and that worked with the ethic of the program, so these houses do not have electricity," Robinson says. "Obviously, we're not kidding ourselves; students are living much better than people in the community. But at the same time, they're meant to give the students a sense that a lot of the things they take for granted as necessities are actually luxuries. They're not things that most people in the world have."

Up to 24 people can sleep in CVAP's four huts. "The braiding work on the

inside of the huts is really fine craftsmanship," Robinson says about the traditional Acholi housing. "We wanted to embrace the culture and not just live as if we weren't in Gulu. Typically, a family of eight could live in a hut. It's just a place to store your stuff and sleep. And it's so gorgeous out," she says. "One of the hardest things about coming back to Montreal is that you have to do everything inside, especially during the winter."

Robinson describes the feeling of returning home as reverse culture shock, and past volunteers also noticed the drastic differences between Montrealers' and Ugandans' ways of life. "People in Uganda don't have much, but everyone has a huge smile on their face," says Lavigne. "You come back

CONCORDIA VOLUNTEER ABROAD PROGRAM (CVAP) VOLUNTEERS AND LOCALS IN GULU, UGANDA. THE PRESENCE OF CVAP'S NEW PERMANENT OFFICES AND RESIDENCE SEND A MESSAGE THAT THE PROGRAM WILL BE AROUND FOR SOME TIME.



People in Uganda don't have much, but everyone has a huge smile on their face. I spent months in Gulu without hearing anyone complain.



to Montreal and people are complaining about this and that. I spent months in Gulu without hearing anyone complain.” Clarke echoes those sentiments. “We’re unhappy with our three-storey homes and our cars and all of the food we eat. They’re not living the way we live, but they’re living happily,” she says.

When Robinson first volunteered for CVAP in 2008, she says she wanted to learn more about development work and the continent because “there are so many images of poverty in Africa.” She went for two months and was so taken that she extended her trip by three months and continued living in Gulu. “The work was so amazing,” Robinson recalls. “To this day, I’ve never seen people working so well together on a holistic approach and prioritizing their community, but maintaining themselves.” Back in Montreal from her first trip, all Robinson wanted to do was go back to Gulu. She became CVAP’s administrative assistant and replaced Schiefke as executive director in 2009. This past July, she made her fourth trip to Uganda.

GULU THEN AND NOW

For Robinson, what has changed the most over the course of her involvement with CVAP is Gulu itself. “When I first went three years ago, there were still internally displaced people’s camps,” she remembers. “When they closed, it changed the landscape, because these camps all of a sudden were gone; they were actually being demolished.”

Schiefke, who’s now the national director of the Canadian branch of the Climate Reality Project (which was founded by former United States Vice President Al Gore), continues to advise CVAP. He’s also observed dramatic changes in Uganda over the past few years, including the advent of HIV-awareness programs and homes for orphans. “The difference is tangible,” he says.

An essential element of CVAP’s mission is to help the local population learn about and contribute to the development process. “There are qualified Ugandan adults, and we’re working with

UGANDA: A HISTORY OF DEFIANCE

Uganda gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1962. Its first election was won by an alliance between the Uganda People’s Congress and monarchist party Kabaka Yekka. In 1966, its parliament drafted a new constitution and executive prime minister Milton Obote was declared executive president. Obote remained until a 1971 coup d’état by General Idi Amin. Amin’s presidency was marred by human rights abuses and economic mismanagement. According to Amnesty International, Amin’s army killed 500,000 Ugandans.

Amin was ousted in 1979 and Obote reclaimed the presidency. In 1985, General Tito Okello staged another coup but was deposed six months later by the National Resistance Army, led by current president Yoweri Kaguta Museveni. Museveni has been re-elected several times in his 25-year tenure, but opponents claimed the February 2011 elections were rigged.

Museveni has been credited with enabling Uganda’s economic growth after decades of oppression, but he has not been able to stop the Lord’s Resistance Army’s (LRA) terror. Since 1987, the violent LRA has operated in Northern Uganda and neighbouring Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Led by guerrilla leader Joseph Kony, the LRA seeks to establish a theocratic government based on the Ten Commandments. The group has been accused of killing thousands of people and recruiting child soldiers. The LRA remains active even though its bases in Northern Uganda and South Sudan have been destroyed.

them to meet the needs of their community,” says Robinson. “I don’t need to go there and be handing out food to people in poverty. It’s better if we strengthen the relationships that our community partners have with their beneficiaries. They’re people who really can inspire the youth of Gulu. The leadership for change in Africa is in Africa.” ■

For more information about the Concordia Volunteer Abroad Program or to get involved, visit concordiavolunteers.org.

Chris Hanna is a Concordia Journalism student.



CAPITAL:
KAMPALA

TOTAL AREA:
214,038 SQ KM

POPULATION:
34,612,250

LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH:
53.24 YEARS

MEDIAN AGE:
15.1 YEARS

FERTILITY RATE:
6.69 CHILDREN BORN/WOMAN

HIV/AIDS ADULT PREVALENCE RATE:
6.5 PER CENT

ANNUAL HIV/AIDS-RELATED DEATHS:
64,000 (2009 EST.)

What do generating energy through osmosis, analyzing the performance of small-capital equities, exploring hormonal shifts during lactation and developing software that can learn to improvise specific styles of music have in common? If you guessed that all are areas of academic interest for Concordia professors, you are, of course, correct. But the full answer is that the faculty members in question all hold prestigious research chairs that support their investigations.

“Research chairs help provide resources, manpower and opportunities for professional exchanges that facilitate exploration and discovery, and they are unbelievably important to Concordia’s research profile,” says Kristina Ohrvall, associate director of Research Development in Concordia’s Office of Research. “Chairholders represent our top researchers, in terms of publications, training of students and contributions to advancing knowledge.”

Research chairs come in different flavours. Under the federal government’s

SITTING PRETTY: RESEARCH CHAIRS OF DISTINCTION

Canada Research Chair (CRC) program, launched in 1999 to attract top scholars to Canadian universities and to keep them there, Concordia is allotted 28 chairs, divided into two categories: Tier 1, which funds \$200,000 annually for a seven-year term, for senior researchers; and Tier 2, which funds \$100,000 annually for five years, for researchers earlier in their careers.

Concordia committed its CRC program to attract new faculty members. Therefore, in 2000 the university

Concordia’s research chair programs—funded by government, the university or donors—play a key role in attracting and retaining top scholars working on diverse and important projects. We introduce you to four of Concordia’s finest.

By Patrick McDonagh

created the Concordia University Research Chair (CURC) program to retain high-profile academics already on board. The program mirrors CRC’s two tiers (albeit with less money) and currently supports 44 chairholders. (With a fixed amount of funding, the number of chairs shifts according to how many are Tier 1 and 2.)

In addition, Industrial Research Chairs are sponsored by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council in collaboration with industry partners; currently, Concordia has one NSERC-IRC (as they are known)—Electrical and Computer Engineering professor Pragasen Pillay (see his profile on page 10)—and plans are in the works for more. Finally, endowed chairs are created by independent donors wishing to support research in specific areas; the number of these also varies, as many of the endowed chairs are limited to terms of five, seven or 10 years, with funding levels negotiated between the donor and the university.

We profile four of Concordia’s research chairs.



SANDEEP BHAGWATI, IN THE MATRALAB, IS A COMPOSER, THEATRE DIRECTOR AND CONCEPTUAL ARTIST. HE SPENT MUCH OF THE PAST FALL COMPOSING A SYMPHONIC, 45-MINUTE WORK FOR SIX SINGERS AND LARGE ORCHESTRA FOR THE 2012 ECLAT FESTIVAL IN STUTTGART, GERMANY, AND THIS WINTER HE WILL CREATE THE 2012 SYMPHONIES PORTUAIRES, MONTREAL'S ANNUAL HARBOUR SYMPHONY FOR SHIPS.

INTER-X MAN: SANDEEP BHAGWATI

I'm interested in work that is interdisciplinary, intermedia, intercultural and interactive.

Hence the 'Inter-X' in my chair's title," explains Sandeep Bhagwati, who came to Concordia in 2006 as the Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Inter-X Art Practice and Theory. His CRC has just been renewed for a second five-year term.

Bhagwati, a professor cross-appointed to the departments of Theatre and Music in the Faculty of Fine Arts, carries out much of his research on new artistic practices in the **matralab**, a high-tech facility in the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex. He says the lab, established with financial help from his CRC, "has made a huge difference to the scope of the projects I can pursue. Graduate and post-doctoral students from around the world, as well as internationally known artists and musicians, want to come here because the **matralab** provides a nexus between art and research. There are a lot of technology labs around, but not many where you can create art in new ways."

One product of Bhagwati's research is an interactive music environment dubbed *Native Alien*, based on software developed at the Paris-based Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique (IRCAM). The software analyzes the patterns of musicians as they improvise, and in a few minutes is able

so that it learns different styles, allowing Bhagwati and his collaborators to create a catalogue of compositional strategies. The process reflects what Bhagwati calls "comprovisation," a fusion of composition and improvisation that informs much of the **matralab**'s research. "We are looking for new ways to create fluid

The software makes music in its raw state, a bit like a pasta machine that produces an endless stream of flat lasagna. We're looking at ways to shape musical dramaturgies on the fly—more interesting forms of noodles, if you will.

to emulate them, essentially turning the computer into an improvisation partner. "The IRCAM software makes music in its raw state, a bit like a pasta machine that produces an endless stream of flat lasagna," Bhagwati says. "In *Native Alien*, we're looking at ways to shape musical dramaturgies on the fly—more interesting forms of noodles, if you will."

His work involves inviting world-class virtuosos to play with the software

architectures of sound or art," he says. "Comprovisation' can prompt [live] performers to come up with music and stories they would never have imagined themselves—something you don't usually get in free improvisation."

Native Alien will enjoy its public debut in January at the Western Front in Vancouver. (Check out the *Native Alien* video on **matralab**'s website at matralab.hexagram.ca.)

NOT ON AUTOPILOT: PRAGASEN PILLAY

“Sixty percent of the power Hydro-Québec generates goes through an electric motor of some sort,” says Electrical and Computer Engineering professor Pragasen Pillay, holder of the NSERC-Hydro-Québec Senior Industrial Research Chair. “So improving the efficiency of these machines is important.” Pillay’s team collaborates with Institut de recherche d’Hydro-Québec labs in Shawinigan and Varennes to explore doing just that. The chair’s total annual funding of \$400,000 come equally from NSERC and Hydro-Québec, and supports graduate students and technicians, equipment and software, as well as travel to conferences and other professional activities.

Pillay’s research also explores alternative energies, including wind, biomass and osmotic power. The latter is an especially novel approach, generating power through the osmotic process that occurs where fresh water meets salt water. “This is a new idea, with the world’s only prototype in Norway,” Pillay says. “Quebec has very large water resources, so this can have significant potential. Our job is to calculate system designs and perform feasibility studies.”

Energy sources like biomass and wind can be especially helpful in remote areas



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

PRAGASEN PILLAY IN HIS LAB IN THE ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND VISUAL ARTS INTEGRATED COMPLEX. IN LINE WITH HIS RESEARCH ON IMPROVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY, PILLAY’S STUDENTS HAVE DESIGNED A SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING THE WASTE FROM CONCORDIA’S STUDENT CAFETERIA TO OFFSET SOME OF THE ENERGY NEEDS OF THE HENRY F. HALL BUILDING.

that are difficult to serve through the conventional electrical grid. “In some rural areas, you might have considerable waste coming from dairy cows, which could be a problem but can become a solution to energy costs,” he explains.

In addition, Quebec’s remote northern communities are often powered by diesel fuel, which requires expensive transport. Wind energy could reduce

factors such as wind gusts or still periods might be accommodated within the mini-grid.

While osmotic, biomass and wind energy seem distinct, there are fundamental similarities. “We are generating power and then connecting it to the grid, which requires electrical machines. But how should we bring this power into the grid most efficiently for each source?

“Osmotic power might require one approach, wind power in a remote community might need another,” he explains. “Our work focuses on the customer

side of the grid, to improve efficiency and develop alternate sources of power generation. Our goal is to leave this planet better than we found it.”

Our goal is to leave this planet better than we found it.

this reliance, so Pillay’s lab is modelling a system of wind turbines to learn how it might work in conjunction with diesel and to better understand how such



LINDA RUTENBERG

FROM NEURAL PATHWAYS TO NURSING MOTHERS: BARBARA WOODSIDE

Professor of Psychology Barbara Woodside has a high regard for new moms. “Lactating mothers have to produce an immense amount of energy in the form of milk. It’s really quite a heroic act,” says Woodside, holder of a Tier 1 Concordia University Research Chair. Her research explores

the neurological mechanisms that allow mothers to cope with the energy demands and changes in energy balance connected to providing food for their young. “Lactating mothers have to eat and drink more, and that excess energy must be channelled for the milk,” she explains. “This requires changes in the brain mechanisms that control food intake.”

An increase of the hormone prolactin—an increase stimulated by the act of

BARBARA WOODSIDE IN HER LAB IN THE RICHARD J. RENAUD SCIENCE COMPLEX. HER RESEARCH FOCUSES ON HOW LACTATING MOTHERS PROCESS THEIR FOOD FOR ENERGY. WOODSIDE HAS WELCOMED VISITING SCHOLARS FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES, INCLUDING FROM BRAZIL AND INDIA, HELPING BUILD PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS WHILE ADDING TO THE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE.

BIG IDEAS FOR SMALL-CAPS: LORNE SWITZER

During the initial studies of small-capital equities in the early 1980s, researchers noticed an anomaly: small-cap companies—that is, companies (mainly new or young ones) whose overall market capitalization is relatively small—seemed to outperform larger ones over the years. “At first, many people thought an improper measurement of risk lay at the heart of this anomaly,” says Lorne Switzer, professor of Finance in the John Molson School of Business and the Van Berkom Endowed Chair in Small-Cap Equities. “Then another theory argued that small-caps actually underperform.”

Switzer analyzed data going back to the start of the 20th century to confirm

that, over the long haul, small-cap companies outpace their bigger peers. But there are provisos. “If we look at the business cycle, small caps do better coming out of recessions,” he reports. “But going into recessions, it is a different story, and it looks like we are heading into another one now. The time to start thinking things are getting better will be when the small-cap premium rises.”

With the aim of supporting studies in this area, Sebastian van Berkom, S BComm 69, president and CEO of Van Berkom and Associates, endowed funds in 2003 to support the chair for seven years, and recently renewed the commitment for a second seven-year term for Switzer. The chair’s research, often involving graduate students working

with Switzer, includes studies looking at small-cap portfolio managers. While much financial analysis over the years has focused strictly on the numbers, Switzer notes that today researchers are increasingly considering behavioural and psychological issues. “What makes a good small-cap manager?” he asks. “The main answer is *experience*. While gender doesn’t make a difference [to the bottom line], we did find that women generally make more aggressive managers, taking more risks.” His latest work explores the intangibles of small-cap portfolio management. “We’re trying to capture the real world of dynamics and interactions,” he says. “We’re not looking at performance alone, but in line with risk, portfolio turnover, fees and other issues.”

Switzer meets regularly with Van Berkom, and a number of his academic papers are posted on Van Berkom and Associates’ website (vbassociates.com). “Sebastian has a wealth of knowledge and ideas about problems facing managers, and will point to issues we should consider looking into,” says Switzer. “And dealing with real-world problems keeps the research grounded.”

Patrick McDonagh, PhD 98, is a Montreal-based freelance writer.

For a full list and description of Concordia’s research chairs, visit vprgs.concordia.ca.



LORNE SWITZER, IN THE FINANCE LAB IN THE JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS BUILDING, EXAMINES HOW SMALLER COMPANIES FARE IN FINANCIAL MARKETS RELATIVE TO LARGER ONES. HE SAYS HIS ANALYSIS SHOWS THAT SMALL-CAP EQUITIES RECOVER FASTER AFTER BAD PERIODS BUT SLOWER AFTER GOOD ONES.

nursing—means that lactating mothers become less sensitive to signals from other hormones that would normally shut down food intake and more sensitive to those that would increase it. In other words, their hormones change their eating behaviours.

Woodside’s research uses rats as models to focus on the changes in the neural pathways that affect how the body takes in food, allowing the female to obtain enough energy to feed her young. She also explores the mechanisms that determine how to divide caloric energy between mothers and

their nursing young. “We found that if you restrict food intake during lactation, the mothers will use up all their own body fat to make milk for their offspring,” she says. “But if they have a lot of body fat going in, they don’t [use all the fat to make milk]. In fact, obese animals don’t lactate as well—and this also applies to humans.” This research sheds further light on how the brain works, and especially on questions of neuroplasticity—that is, how the brain changes.

Woodside’s observations on the relationship between obesity and lactation

have led to other fruitful lines of inquiry. “We developed a project looking at the impact of obesity-immune responses of pregnant females, and then took it to the logical next step to consider males and non-reproductive females.” Because it required several years from the initial experiments to confirm that this was a viable line of research—to the point where Woodside and her collaborators could get funding—the early studies were supported by CURC money. “The CURC has really allowed me to broaden my research,” she says. “It has given me extra freedom.” ■



Net results

At 48 years of age, and on this chilly mid-April evening, I'm fulfilling every hockey goalie's fantasy. I've been standing on my head the past two and a half periods, miraculously stopping just about everything the other team has shot at me. What makes this pure fantasy material is that my team is Team Canada, the opposing side is Team Finland, and I am playing in Tampere, Finland, with a group of Canadian military personnel as part of an 11-day tournament tour through Finland and Sweden. And I happen to be the oldest player in our lineup.

Two games into the tournament, my

jet-lagged squad and I hadn't done the maple leaf proud, getting mercilessly trounced by Russia and Finland. But tonight, inside the cavernous Tampere Ice Hall, Team Canada is moments away from upsetting Finland in the Tampere Classic's 23rd annual international old-timers' ice hockey tournament.

The score is 5-3 for the good guys, and I'm between the pipes, playing with a slightly fractured right wrist—courtesy of a bullet fired by former Montreal Canadiens defenceman Jyrki Lumme two games earlier. But no matter. In a few moments, the game will be over and I'll be named MVP for my somewhat unorthodox—yet successful—style

of stopping pucks. The next day, my injured wrist and I will face Team Russia, before moving on to Helsinki and then to Sweden for another tournament. In the end, we will win our divisional titles and come home proud of our exploit. The sore wrist is history.

Three months later, back in Montreal, I'm asked to be one of the goaltenders for the seventh annual Just For Laughs Reebok Ball Hockey Cup game. This much-anticipated matchup, held each summer during the comedy festival, pits a crew of comedians against entertainment industry suits, including head Just For Laughs honcho Bruce Hills, attendee (mktg.) 90. The game takes place at

How an invitation to join Concordia's intramural ball hockey league in 1986 opened the door to fulfilled goaltending fantasies, many against fellow Concordia alumni.

Text and illustration by Frederic Serre • Photographs by Andrew Dobrowskyj



FREDERIC SERRE ON THE ICE IN APRIL IN TAMPERE, FINLAND (FAR LEFT), AND MAKING STOPS AT THE JUST FOR LAUGHS REEBOK BALL HOCKEY CUP GAME IN MONTREAL IN JULY (ABOVE).

the Pointe St. Charles Arena on July 30, with the temperature at 26° C.

Deep into the second period, comedians Sugar Sammy and Freddie James are passing the ball to each other in my end, pressing the play before James fires a shot, which bounces off my pad and out of danger.

Legendary NHL referee Kerry Fraser, who, along with Ray Kirkwood, BA 88, and Vikram Chitra, BComm 02, are officiating today's game, saunters over with a big smile. "Nice stop! Did you know that Tony Esposito used to put Teflon on his pads to make the pucks bounce farther out?" Fraser tells me, before running to the other end of the rink.

As the play intensifies at the other end, I pause for a bit of reflection. Wow, I think to myself. Here I am, playing ball hockey with comedians, hanging out with Kerry Fraser, mere months after playing in Scandinavia against former professional hockey players. That's when I realize that hockey—both ice and ball—has been a huge and colourful part

of the past 25 years of my life. And with that realization, one name comes up: Vladimir Pavlicik, DSA 80, GrDip 93.

VLAD'S SUGGESTION

It is because of Pavlicik that I am a hockey nut. He's the man who, in 1986, convinced me to join the Concordia intramural ball hockey program that he was running at the Loyola arena (now the Ed Meagher Arena). I had just graduated from the journalism program and it'd been years since I had donned any hockey gear. After I visited him at the arena one afternoon, he suggested I join his intramural league. "Try it, you might like it," I recall him saying. "And get your brother to play, too!"

And so while Jyrki Lumme was being drafted by the Montreal Canadiens in the spring of 1986, I found some old goalie gear, pulled my 1974 goalie mask out of retirement and began playing at Loyola for a ragtag team, captained by my brother, Eric Serre, BFA 84.

Today, Pavlicik is associate director of Campus Recreation with the

university's Department of Recreation and Athletics. When I track him down to report on my journey as a hockey goalie, he remains as philosophical as ever. "There is much joy in play, and we are quite lucky, or blessed, to have an opportunity to be involved with play," says Pavlicik. "I just try to share this passion or joy, or the likelihood of such, with those around me. Playing a team game, even for a moment, allows us to imagine things that would otherwise not at all be possible. It is a physical language that the whole world understands and shares."

Since that fateful spring of 1986, I have played in countless garage leagues and, in January 2009, participated in an 11-day ball hockey cruise in the Caribbean, playing on a boarded hockey surface on the top deck of the 5,000-passenger *Freedom of the Seas*. Our 17-member group played on the high seas and faced a squad of Canadian ex-pats in Grand Cayman in a game that made the local TV news.



ABOVE LEFT, FREDERIC SERRE DONNING HIS EQUIPMENT; ABOVE RIGHT, SERRE AND COMEDIAN SUMI SHAN AND BELOW, COMEDIAN MIKE PATERSON (LEFT) AND FORMER NHL REFEREE KERRY FRASER GET IN THE SPIRIT BEFORE THE JUST FOR LAUGHS REEBOK BALL HOCKEY CUP.

CONCORDIANS ON ICE

And no matter where I play, I always end up bumping into a member of the great Concordia family.

I think of Brenda O'Farrell, BA 86, who, in 2006 with Peter Wheeland, launched the co-ed Slap Shots Hockey League in Saint-Lazare, a town located about 50 kilometres west of Montreal. The weekly event featured questionable hockey talent and plenty of post-game bragging rights over beers and wings.

Each Wednesday between 2006 and 2009, I would drive to Saint-Lazare, where I saw lots of rubber during the game, while putting my new gear (formerly owned by NHL goalie Sébastien Caron) to the test. The 10:30 p.m. opening faceoff meant I wouldn't crawl into bed until at least 4 a.m.

Interestingly, it was while driving to a Slap Shots hockey game in February 2007 when, on Highway 20, I teamed up with another motorist to pull a trapped man out of his burning car—mere

moments before the vehicle was totally engulfed by flames.

All this to show that even the unexpected can be expected when it comes to hockey—and that would include one Concordia journalism graduate (O'Farrell) scoring against another (me).

It's something that O'Farrell remembers fondly. "The best moments, I have to admit, were when I headed down the ice toward the opposing net, where you waited, ready to make the save," she tells me during a recent interview. "I secretly always hoped that you would make the stop. I really did. Because after almost every Fred Serre save there was the promise of a rebound. While you flailed and flopped in the crease, and as I caught up to the play, the puck could be mine. With you down, out of position, laughing, I had a chance at hockey glory. It didn't matter how unsteady, weak or ungraceful the wrist shot, I could score."

Another hockey freak is David Newman, BA 96, who plays every Saturday morning with me in a Just For Laughs-launched ball hockey league in Montreal that has, in its six years, rounded up some 400 players. Newman so loves the game that in 2009 he and league organizer Brent Schiess created a series of hockey cards for each league player, featuring a photo of the player in action and individual statistics.

From stopping pucks in Finland to looking up during a break in action and seeing a butterfly fluttering near my head while aboard a cruise ship docked in Haiti, my hockey goaltending journey is filled with outstanding memories. I'm glad I took up Vladimir Pavlicik's invitation more than 25 years ago. It's certainly brought me net results. ■

Frederic Serre, BA (journ.) 86, is a Montreal-based writer, translator, illustrator—and freelance goalie.

IS THAT THE BEST
YOU CAN DO?!

COME ON, GIVE ME
YOUR BEST
SHOT!!





Shedding light on the *invisible*—
five days at a time

5 DAYS FOR THE HOMELESS VOLUNTEERS, IN THEIR SIGNATURE ORANGE T-SHIRTS, OUTSIDE CONCORDIA'S HALL BUILDING. JOSH REDLER (FAR RIGHT, AT LEFT) SAYS, "IT'S REALLY GREAT TO SEE HOW THE MONTREAL COMMUNITY STAYS INVOLVED AND REALLY WANTS TO JOIN IN ANY WAY THEY CAN, FROM DONATING SPARE CHANGE TO GIVING US FOOD, TO COLLECTING AT WORK, OR JUST SPREADING THE WORD."



Josh Redler, BComm 08, now understands—to some extent—how a homeless person is treated. “Sometimes people will indirectly insult you. Or talk about you behind your back—but right in front of you. Or they just ignore you,” he reveals. “A lot of people will would walk by and say, ‘Get a job.’”

Neither Redler nor Kristina Partsinevelos, BComm 08, ever imagined they would find themselves living on the street, panhandling. But indeed they do—for five days each March. This winter will mark the fifth year that the John Molson School of Business (JMSB) alumni will be involved in 5 Days for the Homeless, a national initiative in which students (and others) live and sleep outdoors for a week to raise awareness and money for local charities.

Concordia’s 5 Days for the Homeless campaign began in 2008. That year, Redler and Partsinevelos’s JMSB classmates Adam Gold, BComm 09, and Brian Chungwing, BComm 08, attended a conference at the University of Alberta’s School of Business, where they learned of

the innovative idea, begun in 2005. Gold and Chungwing returned inspired and, with Redler and Partsinevelos, helped launch the campaign in Montreal.

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

Concordia’s 5 Days participants, who include students and other volunteers, spend a week each March outside the Henry F. Hall Building on the corner of Mackay Street and De Maisonneuve Boulevard. (The original location was a block away, outside the Guy Metro

Building.) They must sleep outdoors without such comforts as warm showers, a change of clothes or their own money. They can only eat and drink what they receive from individuals’ donations. Those staying overnight are provided sleeping bags or pillows and blankets, which can be exchanged

for an emergency meal if needed. Student participants must remain on campus and are required to attend all regular classes and complete academic responsibilities. Many participants also juggle work.

Importantly, proceeds for Concordia’s 5 Days for the Homeless campaign go to Dans la Rue, a local charity founded in 1988 by Father Emmett “Pops” Johns, LBA 74, LLD 97, to help homeless youth. “It just made sense for us,” says Redler. “It’s like kids helping kids.”

I’m not asking everyone to sleep outside, and I’m not asking everyone to donate money. Just acknowledging that there is a problem is the first step.

Dorothy Massimo, BFA 87, is the director of Development and Communications at Dans la Rue. She says one of the important goals of the 5 Days for the Homeless campaign is to sensitize the public: “We have loyal donors. But half of the problem is that much of the population doesn’t understand youth

For the fifth year, students and others will gather outside Concordia for one week in March to emulate the lives of Montreal homeless youth, as part of a campaign to raise money and awareness
By Jennifer Charlebois





5 DAYS FOR THE HOMELESS ORGANIZERS RECEIVE SOME CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP, WHICH HELPS PROVIDE THEIR T-SHIRTS AND SLEEPING BAGS. BUT KRISTINA PARTSINEVELO (PICTURED FAR RIGHT WITH JOSH REDLER) SAYS, "THE MAJORITY OF OUR DONATIONS COME FROM PANHANDLING AND ONLINE DONATIONS, AND I THINK THE GRASSROOTS APPROACH IS WHAT REALLY RESONATES."

homelessness. Most people don't want to see it. They just don't get it."

5 Days for the Homeless, Massimo explains, helps educate the public and attract new donors. The money raised supports Dans la Rue initiatives including its outreach and intervention programs, youth work program and providing hot meals. "5 Days is a catalyst of change," she says. "It helps us towards our ultimate goal, which is to let these young people know that there are other options for them." Massimo adds, "Last year was the first year I slept outside. One of the wonderful things about it is they make a fun time of it, even though it is a grim issue."

HUMBLING BEGINNINGS

Redler, Chungwing, Gold, then-CSU president Angelica Nova, BSc 08, and former Management professor Martin Martens slept outside the first night of the initial campaign. "The first year, we didn't really know what we were doing," Redler says with a laugh. The Otis Grant & Friends Foundation (begun by former middleweight boxing champion Otis Grant, BA 93) provided sleeping bags—which didn't arrive on time. "The Saturday before, there was a massive snowstorm and the entire city was blanketed," Redler recalls. "The

The traffic, the noise . . . But the worst part was the fact that people ignore you. The idea that I could be faceless really stuck with me.

people who were supposed to deliver the sleeping bags were stuck in Toronto. So, I built a quinzhee [snow shelter] for us."

However, at about 3 a.m. Concordia security came by. "They knocked on my little cardboard door and told me I couldn't sleep in the quinzhee," Redler says. "Finally, I signed a sheet that waived my rights and they let us sleep there that night, but that was it. Luckily the sleeping bags arrived the next day."

Lucky indeed. Sleeping outside is not easy—very little sleeping actually occurs. "It was really hard," Redler admits. "I've done winter camping before, but [with 5 Days] you're lying down and you close your eyes and you forget that you are in the middle of the street until you hear people walking by," he says. "They could be 10 feet away, but the crunching of the snow resonates right next to your ear and you think they are right beside you. That was the hard part about the first night: closing your eyes and just trusting that nothing is going to happen to you."

Throughout the week, various other students and members of the Montreal

community joined in. By the end, Concordia's 5 Days for the Homeless campaign more than doubled its goal and raised over \$37,000.

Since that first cold night and its humble beginnings, support for the initiative has expanded to include students from HEC (the Université de Montréal's École des Hautes Études Commerciales), McGill University and ESG (Université du Québec à Montréal's École des sciences de la gestion), and has collected over \$170,000. In 2011, Concordia raised about \$39,000 out of \$59,000 in total from all schools. The next Concordia 5 Days for the Homeless will be held March 13-18, 2012. Redler is hoping to kick off the 2012 campaign with a street ball-hockey tournament.

FIVE YEARS AND GOING STRONG

Partsinevelos has found that the project helps bring diverse people, schools and communities together. "I've spoken to homeless people, people from other schools and other departments, and now people across Canada. These are people



I might have never otherwise crossed paths with," she says.

The shared experience also creates a special camaraderie. "It was like we became a family. Nobody else can really understand what we are going through," Partsinevelos adds. "Some people say, 'You have sleeping bags and donated food, and homeless people don't have that,' which is true. But we are trying to emulate the lives of the homeless to the best of our ability. It's obviously hard on the body, mentally and physically draining, but I never imagined I would have such a good time."

Redler and Partsinevelos say they couldn't survive the week without their resident 5 Day "moms." Mona Senecal, a receptionist at JMSB, and Murielle Salari, assistant to JMSB's Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs, have provided warm, home-cooked breakfasts and treats to the campaign participants. "When anyone is not in a good position, the best thing you can do is show them kindness," Senecal says. "So, since the very first year, we've made them breakfast in the mornings. And I thought, if I had been outside all night, what is the first thing that I would want? So I gave them warm face cloths." Sometimes, it's the little things that mean the most.

Senecal herself has slept outside one night for each of the past two years. "It was very discomfoting," she reveals. "The traffic, the noise . . . But the worst part was the fact that people ignore you. The idea that I could be faceless really stuck with me."

Mahesh Sharma, associate professor at JMSB's Department of Decision Sciences/MIS, who will turn 75 this spring, is the only Concordia faculty member who has joined the homeless students since the first year. "I generally don't sleep much, I wear my big coat and I just lie down," he says of the experience. "But it's a lot of fun also. You are surrounded by young people and they make jokes. It's a good thing." Sharma adds: "I just do it because the poor people deserve it. Every little bit helps."

ON THE HORIZON

Redler has become the Quebec 5 Days for the Homeless regional director and Partsinevelos holds the same position for Eastern Canada, championing the cause at Carlton University in Ottawa, where she is pursuing a master's degree in Journalism.

They also have their sights on international expansion, starting with our southern neighbours. In November,

they will teach students at a community college in Salt Lake City, Utah, about the initiative. They also have a friend who is hoping to kickstart the campaign at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston.

There are many ways to help. "People can donate whatever they are comfortable with," Redler says. "You can sit with us for an hour at lunchtime or sleep all five nights. I think that's why it's been so successful in Montreal. We're very open to everyone."

"We're trying to get people out of their own world," adds Partsinevelos. "I'm not asking everyone to sleep outside, and I'm not asking everyone to donate money. Just acknowledging that there is a problem is the first step."

Redler stresses that it's not the only step needed to solve the problem of youth homelessness: "Even though we do it for five days of the year, you shouldn't forget the other 360 days of the year. It doesn't end there." ■

Concordia 5 Days for the Homeless will be held March 13-18, 2012. For more information, visit 5days.ca or the 5 Days for the Homeless in Montreal Facebook page.

Jennifer Charlebois, GrDip (journ.) 11, is a Montreal-based freelance writer.



CIADI: THE NEXT GENERATION

THE CONCORDIA INSTITUTE OF AEROSPACE DESIGN AND INNOVATION REINVENTS ITSELF

BY CLÉA DESJARDINS

As one of the few places on the planet where an aircraft can be built from start to finish, Montreal represents the ideal locus for advanced aerospace research and teaching. The city is home to every manufacturing component—including aerostructures, engines, landing gear, avionics and systems—necessary to put an airplane together. What's more, the aerospace industry employs about 41,000 people locally.

Concordia's Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science has long recognized the importance of its existence within Montreal and has come to provide a strong educational and research presence in the aerospace industry. In order to support this important relationship between the industrial and university sectors, the faculty established the Concordia Institute of Aerospace Design and Innovation (CIADI) in 2001. CIADI's original focus was to recruit students with a keen interest in aerospace and place them in industrial internships, where they would work on real-world research projects. Over the past decade, this program has helped many of its students go on to promising careers.

As CIADI celebrates its tenth anniversary, the faculty is aiming to turn Concordia into Canada's preeminent provider of aerospace education and research. To achieve this goal, CIADI is undergoing a renaissance of sorts. Under the leadership of

its new director, Robert Fewes, supported by associate director Nadia Bhuiyan and CIADI administrator Jayne Claassen, and with the full backing of the faculty, CIADI is expanding to become what will truly be a full-fledged aerospace institute.

The next three years are set to be CIADI's busiest ever, with plans to offer a Bachelor of Aerospace, an Executive Master of Aerospace (targeted mainly to new recruits within industry who would spend three weeks on the job for every one week in class during the two-year program), and a PhD in Aerospace Engineering. Key cross-institutional partnerships are also being established and dual degrees could eventually be offered jointly through Concordia, in partnership with prominent international aerospace universities in Europe, India and Australia.

Throughout its rebirth, CIADI will continue to operate as it always has, working to promote awareness and provide leading-edge know-how to students in aerospace design and innovation. To enhance and complement the education of undergraduate students, CIADI will continue to conduct collaborative, industry-driven design and research internships. With the crop of 2011 students already selected and internships underway, the future is certainly bright for CIADI—and for the aerospace industry itself.

HANDS-ON LEARNING: SAMI GIRGIS, BENG 89, MBA 98

From an early age, Sami Girgis couldn't wait to get his hands on something to find out how it worked. That mechanical inclination eventually led him to choose Concordia to pursue his Bachelor of Engineering. "From all of the things I had heard about Concordia, I knew it was more of a hands-on engineering program," he says. "That was really the path that led me here."

That same path would guide him toward a career in industry that has now spanned more than two decades. By the end of his second year at the university, Girgis had started working closely with a few professors who had solid connections with aerospace companies, particularly Pratt & Whitney Canada (PWC). With the help of his professors, Girgis landed a summer internship at PWC and returned to the company when he graduated two years later.

It wasn't long before Girgis was back at Concordia to acquire additional applied skills. "I was starting to think I should branch out and cover the business side," he explains. "So I started the MBA program at Concordia. I took a course here, a course there, and by 1998, I finished it. That same year, I became a manager within the company [PWC] and found myself much better equipped to handle the challenges."

Today, Girgis is PWC's manager of Installation and Turbine Aerodynamics, responsible for all aspects related to the concept design, technology development and performance development of inlets, exhausts and turbine components. As he reflects on his career route, he recognizes that Concordia faculty members' solid industry connections guided his way. "Professors in this faculty know what the needs of the outside world are for future graduates—and I think that's probably one of the biggest strengths of Concordia's Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science."



MARC BOURCIER

SAMI GIRGIS IS MANAGER OF INSTALLATION AND TURBINE AERODYNAMICS AT PRATT & WHITNEY CANADA.

I knew it was more of a hands-on engineering program. That was really the path that led me here.

RESEARCH IN ACTION: LUIS RODRIGUES, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

"This might surprise you, but more than 75 per cent of commercial flight time worldwide is performed on autopilot," says Luis Rodrigues, an associate professor in Concordia's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. "That sounds dangerous," he continues, but "the reaction time of an autopilot and its ability to perform fine-tuned manoeuvres is significantly better than what a human can do."

Rodrigues, whose goal is to revolutionize the aerospace industry through his unprecedented work in control and automation, points out that improved flight performance is just one potential benefit arising from the use of autopilots in commercial airliners. Through computer-based analysis of data such as wind speed, angles of roll and pitch, trajectory and velocity, autopilots can be programmed to make tiny adjustments that add up to significant energy savings. Rodrigues's research is taking autopilot technology beyond merely giving pilots a bit of "time off" to significantly reducing the currently enormous carbon footprint of commercial airliners.

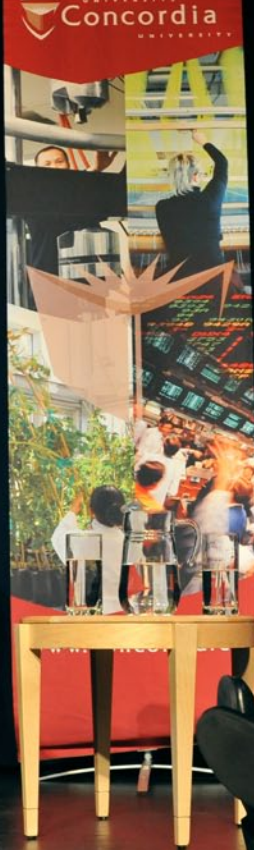


MARC BOURCIER

THE RESEARCH OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR LUIS RODRIGUES WILL MAKE AUTOPILOT TECHNOLOGY MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY EFFICIENT.

"If you multiply the amount of flight time by the number of flights per year, there is a lot you could save in terms of emissions—even if it's only a reduction of one per cent,"

Rodrigues explains. "Aerospace corporations are currently focused on producing the next generation of aircraft, but those won't be commercially available for another 10, 20 or 30 years. My research looks at what we can do in the short term to make the aerospace industry more environmentally friendly." ■



HOME

1 **AbitibiBowater Lecture**

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PHOTOS BY RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

SEPTEMBER 15

ABITIBIBOWATER LECTURE

No Canadian can claim to match Ken Dryden's accomplishments, which include six Stanley Cups with the Montreal Canadiens, membership in the NHL Hall of Fame, and being a Liberal Member of Parliament from 2004 to 2011 and author of five books. Dryden touched upon aspects of these achievements in front of a nearly capacity crowd of 370 at the D.B. Clarke Theatre in Concordia's Henry F. Hall Building at the AbitibiBowater Lecture, called "A Canadie/an Life."

Dryden revealed that when he was an undergrad at Cornell University (in Ithaca, N.Y.), he had no idea where his life would take him—and that's true for most university students. "If we're lucky, our path will change and we'll end up doing things more interesting than what we set out to do," he said.

After a short address, **Dryden** (right) sat down for a 45-minute discussion with moderator **Mutsumi Takahashi**, BA 79, MBA 95 (left), news anchor for CTV Montreal. **1**

SEPTEMBER 16

SHUFFLE 22

At the 22nd annual Shuffle, hundreds of Concordians raised more than \$50,000 and pushed the cumulative total raised for student scholarships and bursaries since the fundraiser began in 1990 past the \$1-million mark. Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Frederick Lowy announced the success of their mission while Shufflers were enjoying the President's Picnic after completing the 6.5-kilometre walk from the Sir George Williams Campus to the Loyola Campus. Shuffle Advisory Committee chair **Jang Kwon** (left) named **Irvin Dudeck** (right), director of

Budget Planning and Control, Shuffler of the Year for his 19 years of dedicated participation. **2**

SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY AND BANQUET

The Department of Recreation and Athletics inducted the newest members of the Concordia Sports Hall of Fame at a ceremony under the Homecoming tent on Loyola Campus. The individual 2011 inductees (from left) are: **George Lengvari**, L BA 63, Loyola men's basketball; **Richard Freitag**, S BSc 59, Sir George Williams men's basketball; **Alexandra Jones**, BA 92, women's soccer; **George Springate**, S BA 65, Sir George Williams builder; Stingers men's hockey coach **Kevin Figsby**, who represented the Heritage recipients: Harry Trihey, Jack Brannen and Arthur Farrell, Montreal Shamrocks (posthumous); and **Paul Palma**, attendee 83, football. **3** The provincial



2 Shuffle 22



3 Sports Hall of Fame

COMING '11 RECAP



4 Homecoming Football Game



5 Engineering and Computer Science Alumni

champion 1988 Stinger's women's soccer team was also inducted.

SEPTEMBER 17

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME

The Concordia Stingers were not very welcoming to the St. Francis Xavier X-Men at the Homecoming Football Game, trouncing the visitors 55-9 before 2,300 fans at Concordia Stadium. Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor **Frederick Lowy** (left) and **Katie Sheahan**, BA (soc.) 78, Concordia's director of Recreation and Athletics (right), flank **Gerry Sam McGee**, L BSc 51, who made the ceremonial opening kickoff. **4**

ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE ALUMNI REUNION COCKTAIL

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science alumni from the classes of 1961 and earlier, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006 returned to Concordia for Homecoming celebrations. The festivities involved a campus tour, demos by students and professors, glimpses of new equipment and the chance to relive old

memories over a drink or two at the alumni reunion cocktail. "The facilities have changed so much that it makes me want to go back to school all over again!" said **Shun-Hui Yang**, BEng 91, pictured (second from right) with (from left) **Ida Kos**, BEng 91, **Chantal Chabot**, BEng 94, and **Kathleen McKenna**. **5** A highlight was the speech by Denis Kefallinos, BEng 91, who said the goal of the evening was "to honour the connection we all have to this institution, which made the many experiences we enjoyed possible."

PRESIDENT'S REUNION DINNER

The nostalgia and cheer was palpable as kindred spirits—drawn to their alma mater—gathered for the President's Reunion Dinner at Sir George Williams Campus. It was a golden anniversary of sorts for Holocaust survivor and Sir George Williams graduate Fred Fiksel, S BA 60, S BSc 61, who told guests he immigrated to Canada in 1950 "with no money and an unfulfilled passion" for education. "Sir George Williams enriched my life and opened my mind." Anca Ivanov, BComm 02, André Bandrauk, L BSc 61, and Kim Fuller,

BFA 96, also spoke. "Class reunions are wonderfully nostalgic affairs," said President Lowy, addressing his captive audience. "We reminisce about bygone days and we look to the future."

SEPTEMBER 18

FAMILY FAIR DAY

A record-breaking 2,500 people came to celebrate the fifth anniversary of Family Fair Day. The perfect fall day no doubt helped encourage members of the Concordia and Montreal communities to head to the Recreation and Athletics Complex on Loyola Campus to take in the wide range of family-themed activities and performances, including face painting, BMX bike stunts and a **Circus Montreal** act. **6**

SEPTEMBER 19

TALKING TO BOOKS: THE LIVRES D'ARTISTES OF THE SYLVIA AND IRVING CAMLOT COLLECTION

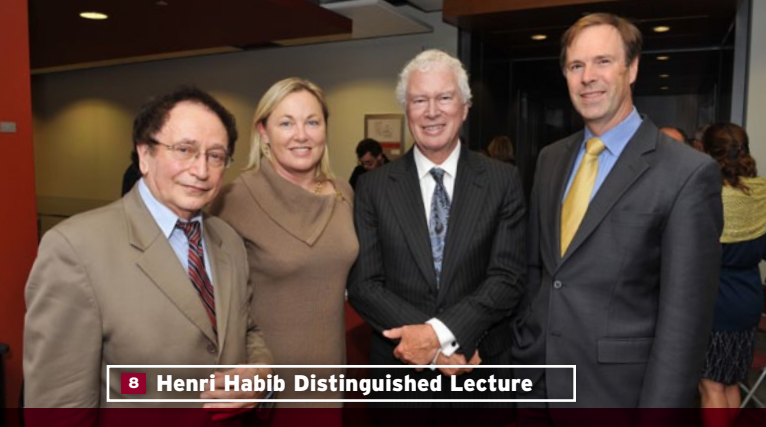
Visitors celebrated the recent donation of a collection of *livres d'artistes* by Sylvia Camlot from the Sylvia and Irving Camlot Collection to Concordia



6 Family Fair Day



7 Career Speed-Networking



8 Henri Habib Distinguished Lecture



9 Up Close and Personal

Libraries. The 16-volume *Livres d'artistes* combines 20th-century fiction and poetry from Quebec writers with the original artwork of emerging and established Quebec artists.

SEPTEMBER 20 AND 22

CAREER SPEED-NETWORKING

Once again, Concordia graduates from various professional backgrounds shared career-related stories and job tips with current students in an interactive environment. This year, the highly successful event was split into two nights: September 20 focused on engineering, computer science and business students and professionals, such as JMSB student **Chanele Parent** (left) and **Nisreen Kapasi**, BA 11 (right), assistant manager, Credit Quality, Royal Bank of Canada; **7** September 22 featured careers in arts, humanities and sciences.

SEPTEMBER 21

HENRI HABIB DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

During the Iranian Revolution in 1979, after a group of students forcibly took over the American embassy in Tehran, Canadian ambassador Kenneth D. Taylor helped hide six Americans

and eventually spirited them out of the country to safety. When the news broke, Taylor became a Canadian—and American—hero. (The exploits are recounted in *Our Man in Tehran: Ken Taylor, the CIA and the Iran Hostage Crisis*, by Robert Wright, 2010.)

Taylor related his views on the revolution and myriad other topics surrounding past and present Iran and the Middle East to 250 Concordia alumni, students, faculty members and others at the D.B. Clarke Theatre. His talk, called “Iran – The Middle East Power,” was part of the Henri Habib Distinguished Lecture Series. The revolution “stunned everyone,” Taylor admitted, and it “introduced a hybrid: a republic and Islamic government.”

Shortly after a question-and-answer session moderated by Concordia Political Science professor and chair Csaba Nikolenyi, about 40 guests gathered for a cocktail reception in the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex. Pictured at the reception are (from left) Distinguished Professor Emeritus **Henri Habib**, **Claire Kruyt**, **Kenneth D. Taylor** and **Peter Kruyt**, BComm 78, chair of Concordia’s Board of Governors. **8**

SEPTEMBER 22

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

UN deputy special envoy to Haiti Paul Farmer has been lauded for his global lifesaving work and in Tracy Kidder’s widely admired book, *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World* (2003).

Farmer was part of Concordia’s Up Close and Personal: A Panel Discussion on Engagement in Haiti event, which helped cap off the Homecoming ’11 celebrations. While cautioning that “Haiti is a very fraught problem,” the Harvard Medical School professor praised Montreal’s own Haitian populace as an area of hope for the devastated nation. “The diaspora has a huge role to play,” said Farmer.

In front of a capacity crowd of 380 at Concordia’s D.B. Clarke Theatre, **Stéphane Brutus** (left), Management professor and chair, moderated the panel, which included (from left) **Farmer**, **Régine Chassagne**, BA 98, of Montreal-based indie rock group Arcade Fire, and Domtar executive **Madeleine Féquière**, BA 85. **9**

SETTING AN EXAMPLE

Concordia's diplomat

Even though I was born and raised in Jakarta, Indonesia, in 2007 I travelled half-way around the globe to attend Concordia. I was attracted by its Political Science program and to the City of Montreal, since I wanted to learn French during my studies. I loved my Concordia experience, both for the formal education and the diverse friends I made.

While at the university, I was fortunate—and grateful—to receive an International Student Bursary for two years. Because tuition fees for international students are higher than for Quebec or Canadian residents, those bursaries meant a great deal to me (as they do to other international students).

I added to my Concordia experience through volunteering, including for the International Students Office and at the university's Open House. As well, in 2009 I began work at Concordia's call centre, where students phone graduates and friends and ask them to support the university. I thoroughly enjoyed sharing my thoughts on the institution and its developments directly with alumni and friends, and being able to talk about the importance of

giving—no matter the amount—and let potential donors know they can direct their gifts to any area they feel passionate about.

Working as a student caller made me feel compelled to give, too (even in a small way). So last spring I decided to support the graduating class gift campaign, which raised enough money for 17 new bursaries—an achievement that's extremely meaningful to me as a former bursary recipient. Now that I've graduated, I remain committed to helping students and continue the cycle of giving.

I'm currently pursuing a master's in Global Political Economy at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. I plan to gain some work experience and then apply for positions in international organizations, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, because it's always been my dream to be a diplomat—which is why I'm proud to be an ambassador for Concordia.

Bessie Lucas, BA (poli. sci.) 11
Hong Kong, People's Republic of China



How to make a difference

As a volunteer or donor to Concordia, you too can make a difference.
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- I will give \$_____ by credit card every month until:
 I notify the university month: _____ year: _____
- Enclosed is my cheque payable to Concordia University
- Charge my: Visa MasterCard American Express

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1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., FB 520,
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Email: giving@concordia.ca
Website: giving.concordia.ca

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1 Loyola Medal

LOYOLA MEDAL

Friends, colleagues and alumni gathered on October 18 for the 2011 Loyola Medal presentation to Distinguished Professor Emeritus Father John (Jack) E. O'Brien, S.J., L BA 45. After he graduated from Loyola College, Father O'Brien joined the Society of Jesus and was ordained in 1957, earned a PhD in Communication from the University of Southern California, returned to Loyola and in 1965 founded the Department of Communication Arts, Canada's first department dedicated to the study of communications. The program evolved to become Concordia's acclaimed Department of Communication Studies.

In his acceptance speech, Father O'Brien reflected upon the highlights of his career, emphasizing it was about "being at the right time and at the right place" and being "supported by people who were with me and enjoyed what they were doing."

The Loyola Medal was conceived in 1961 by the Loyola Alumni Association and the administration of Loyola College as a tribute to outstanding leadership and contribution to society. It is one of the highest honours awarded by Concordia University. Father O'Brien joins a distinguished group of past recipients that includes Canadian astronaut Roberta Bondar (2009), Senator and Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire (Ret.) (2006), fellow Jesuit the late

Reverend Bernard Lonergan (1971) and the late Governor General of Canada, Georges P. Vanier, L BA 06 (1963).

Father O'Brien (right) is pictured receiving the Loyola Medal from **Donal Ryan**, L BComm 67, president of the Loyola Alumni Association. **1**

FINE ARTS

At Concordia's FOFA Gallery on September 24, Christine Redfern, BFA 89, and Caro Caron launched their graphic novella, *Who Is Ana Mendieta?*, about artist and Cuban expatriate Ana Mendieta (see page 39). A concurrent exhibit at the FOFA Gallery, *Anima*, was curated by Redfern and presented selected filmworks by Ana Mendieta,

videos, an interactive projection and all of the original drawings by Caro Caron from *Who Is Ana Mendieta?*

JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

More than 55 JMSB alumni, graduate students and staff gathered at Bistro L'Aromate on September 27 for the first JMSB Alumni Chapter Gastronomic Pub Night of the academic year. They mingled and networked over drinks and canapés. They also met the alumni chapter's four executive members and learned how to get involved in chapter activities. A second Montreal gastronomic pub night was held November 22 at Le Pois Penché and two more are planned for this academic year: February 7 at the Irish Embassy and April 24 at Boris Bistro. Watch your inbox for an email invitation or check alumni.concordia.ca closer to the dates to register.

FACULTY SHOWCASE

This year's Faculty Showcase, called "Excellence in Research," was held October 22 in the J.W. McConnell Building. The series of discussions featured professors from Concordia's four academic faculties.

Fine Arts: "Music Therapy for Health and Wellness" Sandra Curtis, Professor and Graduate Music Therapy Program Coordinator, described the diversity of music therapy research and practice through an overview of recent research in the areas of hospice and work with survivors of violence.



2 Ed Tech



3 Ottawa Chapter



4 Toronto Chapter

Engineering and Computer Science:

"The Constant Challenge of Digital Security" Mourad Debbabi, Professor, Director of the CIISE Institute and Concordia Research Chair (Tier 1), demonstrated how easily one can perpetrate online attacks, focusing primarily on what are called botnets.

John Molson School of Business:

"Buying Less, Consuming More – Collaborative Redistribution for Sustainable Consumption" Zeynep Arsel, Assistant Professor of Marketing, spoke of the need to not necessarily consume less but consume better by, for instance, avoiding products that are designed with "planned obsolescence" or to be thrown out after a year of use.

Arts and Science: "Doing Masculinity Differently: Kanye West and Representations of Masculinity in Contemporary Hip-Hop Culture"

Marc Lafrance, Assistant Professor of Sociology, examined the controversy-driven celebrity culture of artist and rapper Kanye West, specifically the creative output on his album *808s and Heartbreak* (2008).

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

More than 40 Ed Tech alumni and friends gathered October 27 in the John Molson School of Business Building for a panel discussion called Revisiting Ed Tech: Staying Up-To-Date. The panellists included (from left) **Ahmed Ibrahim**, a McGill University doctoral candidate in Educational Psychology;

Daniel Dupont, a consultant in training and organizational development; **Patrick Devey**, BSc 98, GrDip 00, MA 02, PhD 09, chief learning officer at Knowledge One; and **Audrey McGoldrick**, an online high school math teacher. 2 The discussion focused on past assumptions and new findings structured around three themes: educational neuroscience and neuropsychology, learning motivation, and practical applications in information technology.

GEOGRAPHIC CHAPTERS

Ottawa

On October 4, the Ottawa chapter held its annual fall Welcoming Night at Must in the Byward Market. Alumni, including (from left) **Stephen Huza**, S BA 73, and Ottawa chapter president **Richard Duranceau**, BA 96, MA 99, 3 enjoyed catching up and getting a quick overview of the events planned by the chapter executive for the 2011-2012 year.

Toronto

At the third annual Wine Tasting at Peller Estates Winery at Niagara-on-the-Lake, held August 28, two dozen alumni visited the winery's Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot vineyards, learning about the Niagara region's micro-climate and the geographical and agricultural importance of the Niagara Escarpment. 4



5 Calgary Chapter

On September 22, Toronto alumni met at the Soupepper Theatre Company for a cocktail reception and to enjoy *The Odd Couple*, Neil Simon's acclaimed and delightful 1965 comedic play about two ill-suited male roommates. And on October 26, chapter members welcomed Oktoberfest with a beer-tasting event at the 3 Brewers restaurant. Nearly 30 guests sampled four types of beers and great food over lively conversation.

Calgary

On a warm and sunny Saturday morning on August 27, more than 90 football fans gathered for the Als vs. Stamps: Tailgate Party and CFL Game. Hosted by the Concordia, McGill University and HEC alumni associations, this annual event also welcomed guests from École Polytechnique and Acadia University. It was a hard-fought game but Calgary emerged with a last-minute win. 5

**6 Boston Chapter****7 New York City Chapter****8 London Chapter****9 Shanghai Chapter**

And on November 1, Calgary alumni gathered at the Craft Beer Market for great conversation, tasty appetizers and a beer tasting. The venue and nature of the event provided a relaxed atmosphere for guests to share memories of Concordia, Montreal and life since graduation.

Vancouver

Vancouver-area alumni gathered October 6 at the Culinaria Restaurant in the Art Institute of Vancouver to network and hear from Kenneth Woods, MBA '75, founder and chair of Concordia's Kenneth Woods Portfolio Management Program.

Boston

New England-area alumni gathered September 22 at the Fairmont Battery Wharf Hotel in Boston for a Wine Tasting and Networking event. Guests enjoyed a memorable evening of sipping wine, savouring canapés and networking. The lively group of about 30—including (from left) **Bill Bardosh**, BSc '82, EMBA '00, **Mimi Goss**, L BA '72,

Robert Goodridge, BA '08, **Laura Ziton**, BComm '03, and **Vinu Srinivasan**, MBA '03, **6** sampled Pinot Noir from three different regions around the world, and Jeffrey Davis, BA '78, spoke briefly about his new book, *The 24-Hour Turnaround: How Amazing Entrepreneurs Succeed in Tough Times*.

New York City

The annual Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research on October 15 was a hit with New York alumni. The 5-km walk/run began in Central Park and Concordians capped off the triumphant event with an après-run brunch at Viand Café. The **Concordia team 7** far surpassed its fundraising goal of \$350, pulling in \$1,243 for a worthy cause.

London

The Concordia University in London Town event brought 30 alumni and friends to the prestigious Institute of Directors (Pall Mall) on October 4. Fred Bolza, MBA '98, Sony Music (UK)'s VP of marketing services, gave

a fascinating and inspiring speech. Pierre Boulanger, agent-general in the Quebec Government Office in London, also addressed guests. **Bolza** (second from left) is pictured with (from left) **Lina Uberti**, Concordia Alumni Officer, Geographic Chapters, **Stephen Sparling**, BA '97, and **Angela Songui**, attendee '97. **8**

Beijing

On October 22, Beijing alumni and friends celebrated National Day with a reunion lunch at Southern Tongle restaurant.

Shanghai

Shanghai chapter members participated in the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai's Alumni Thanksgiving Dinner at the Pinnacle Steak House on October 22. Concordia recruitment officer **Eric Goldner**, BAdmin '83 (left), was in town for a recruitment fair and joined (from left) **Winston Kan**, BComm '81, and **Serge Ajamian**, BComm '07. **9** Ajamian won the best-dressed award.



Sir George Williams Scholarship and Bursary Fund

More than 23 years ago, the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University created a scholarship and bursary fund with the goal of helping Concordia students pay for their studies. To date, more than 160 students have benefited from this fund.

In honour of our 75th Anniversary, we are asking all Georgians to make a donation to the **Sir George Williams Scholarship and Bursary Fund**. Help build the Georgian legacy and make a contribution so we can increase the number of awards given to Concordia students every year.

Mardy Weigensberg, S BComm 74
President
Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University

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*This page is graciously sponsored by the
Concordia University Alumni Association.*

President's Reunion Gala

Mark your calendars! The 75th Anniversary of the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University is being honoured at the next **President's Reunion Gala**.

Date: Saturday, September 29, 2012

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Loyola Campus (under the tent)

Cost: \$75 per person

Dress: Business

Harvey Stoliar, S BComm 62, and **Robert Barnes**, S BA 68
Co-Chairs, 75th Anniversary Dinner-Dance Planning Committee



Alumni with more than one degree from Concordia, Sir George Williams and/or Loyola are listed under their earliest graduation year.

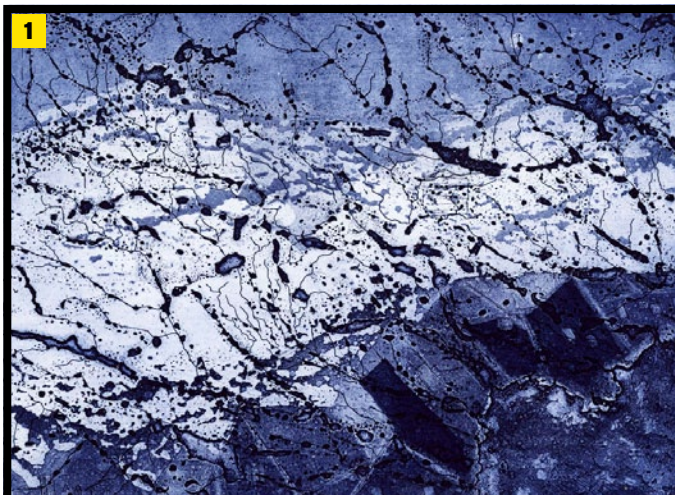
53 Peter Silverman, S BA, began his journalism career in 1974 at Global Television in Toronto. In 1981, he moved to the *CityPulse* business segment "CityBiz"

on Citytv and in 1989 became ombudsman through his "Silverman Helps" segment. Over the next 20 years, he and his team handled in excess of 20,000 consumer complaints a year, most of which they were able to resolve. "Silverman Helps" garnered a number of awards and Peter was appointed to the Order of Ontario in 2009. He also wrote several

books including *Who Speaks for the Children?* to commemorate the International Year of the Child in 1978. He holds an MA from the University of British Columbia, a PhD in History from the University of Toronto and a Diploma in Native Law and Administration from the University of Cape Town in South Africa. Peter and his wife of 40 years live in Toronto

and have twin daughters and three grandchildren.

68 Lilian Broca, S BFA, has created a series of mosaics that are celebrated in a newly released, lavishly illustrated large-format book entitled *The Hidden and the Revealed: The Queen Esther Mosaics of Lilian Broca* (Gefen Publishers). In a testament to the significance



1 > Julianna Joos, BA (art hist.) 75, was the Quebec commissioner for "Water Portraits," an international print exchange of 11 artists each from Queensland, Australia, and Quebec. The Montreal exhibit was held at the Warren G. Flowers Gallery at Dawson College from November 4 to 25. 1) *Le lac 1* by Julianna Joos

2 > Nancy Hatch, BFA 84, held an exhibit called "Nancy's art show" at the Laundromat Gallery in Montreal from December 1 to 31. 2) *Rooster*

3 > Patricia Morris, MFA 84, held a solo exhibition called "Trans-Canada Drive Exhibition III: En Route (New Works)" at Viva Vida Art Gallery in Pointe-Claire, Que., from October 14 to 28. 3) *Quebec Spring*

4 > Claire Venne, BFA 86, held an exhibition entitled "Carnival" at galerie de la ville in Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Que., from October 13 to November 13. 4) *Masque Hivernal #3*

5 > Daniel Barkley, BFA (cinema) 90, MFA (studio art) 94, held a solo exhibition called "Daniel Barkley" at the Weiss Gallery in Calgary from September 8 to October 8. 5) *Golden Boy*

6 > Pierre Dalpé, BFA (cinema) 93, held an exhibit of his photos called "Sur(face)" at Espace 6 in Montreal from September 23 to October 8. pierredalpe.com 6) *Allan y Jonathan*

of Broca's work, renowned American artist Judy Chicago wrote the preface to this collaboration by Lilian, Yosef Wosk and Sheila Campbell.

Peter Globensky, L BA, retired in 2003 as CEO and director general of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment. He had enjoyed a career in national and

international public service that included a posting in the Office of the Prime Minister as a senior policy advisor and as chief of staff to the Minister of External Relations and International Development. Peter is now vice-president and managing partner of BASA, an international indigenous and environmental consulting firm. He lives in Rosspoint,

Ont., along the "Group of Seven shores" of Lake Superior. Peter invites his former classmates and TKE fraternity brothers to contact him: basa1@shaw.ca.

75 William (Bill) D. Roberts, GrDip (comm. studies), is president and CEO of ZoomerMedia Limited Television Division in Toronto. Bill is an advocate for public

service media and an advisor and contributor to government, business, academia and media organizations. In addition to stewardship of S-VOX, Canada's foremost provider of television and digital content focused on spiritual awareness and personal growth and wellness, Bill teaches broadcast communications and policy at the university level.

76 Linda Heslegrave, BA (hist.), and **Dan McCaughey**, BA (hist.) 76, are now the representatives in Canada for Martin Randall Travel (MRT, martinrandall.com) in Toronto. MRT organizes unique, all-inclusive music festival trips and about 200 small-group tours every year in Europe, the Middle East and the United States. "We have been travelling the world for more than 35 years and this new venture fits nicely into our lifestyle."

80 Suraj Sadan, MA (art ed.), is a visual artist dedicated to the nonviolent philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. In 2006, Suraj set up the Mahatma Gandhi International Foundation to promote messages of peace and nonviolence, and in 2008 the foundation launched an international art exhibition to encourage young people to creatively explore the ideals of nonviolence through art. The work of recent competition winners was displayed at Café de Da de la bibliothèque d'Ahuntsic in Montreal in October.

81 Gina Cody, MEng, PhD (bldg. eng.) 89, was once again named to *Profit* magazine's W100 as one of Canada's top 100 women entrepreneurs, placing at number 11 on the 2011 list. Gina is president of Construction Control Inc., a Woodbridge, Ont.-based firm of consulting engineers and building scientists.

85 Eric B. Litwack, BA (phil.), is a philosopher and business consultant on the faculty of Queen's University's Bader International Study Centre in Hailsham, England. He is the author of *Wittgenstein and Value: the Quest for Meaning* (Continuum, 2009).

Josée Nadeau, BFA, is an artist whose impressionistic style and larger-than-life paintings grace the homes of many collectors, including celebrities such as Oprah Winfrey, Clint Eastwood and Pierce Brosnan. Nadeau donated her talents to Maryland Legal Aid, the state's largest provider of free legal services to abused children and the elderly, at its centenary celebration on September 24 at the Baltimore Waterfront Marriott. Nadeau's painting was unveiled at the event by state governor Martin



7 > Shawn Mackniak, BFA (art ed.) 95, GrDip (art ed.) 98, a Saskatchewan-born artist, participated in a group show called "Vanité" at Usine 106U Gallery in Montreal from October 5 to 31. 7) Monster painting

8 > E.A. Fay Morin, BFA 01, exhibited at the 2011 Salon d'Automne at the Musée des beaux-arts de Mont-Saint-Hilaire, Que., from September 29 to October 30. 8) *Cent Dessous Dessus*

9 > Giuseppe Pascale, BEng (bldg. eng.) 06, is holding a photographic exhibition entitled "From the Street: Exploring Urban Composition" at Wilder & Davis Gallery in Montreal from November 4, 2011, to February 3, 2012. 9) *Hôtel de ville*



Carol McQueen, BA (hist. & western soc. & cult.) 95, is the political counsellor at the Canadian High Commission in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, where she lives with her husband, Christian, and daughter, Calista (pictured). Carol and Christian plan to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania in January 2012 to raise funds for UNICEF for famine relief in the Horn of Africa, where the most severe drought in decades is threatening the lives of more than 11 million people. To donate, email Carol at carolvmcqueen@yahoo.com.



Linda Bucholtz-Ross, BFA (photog.) 08, was recently awarded a grant in research and creation from the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec. "I recently captured this image [above] as an entire wall of Concordia's Guy Metro Building was revealed; the walls came down, the walls went up, all in a very short space of time. These industrious workers went busily about their work, unaware of the ephemeral performance they created for those of us on the sidewalk who looked up." bucholtz.carbonmade.com

O'Malley and entertainer/activist Harry Belafonte.

88 Nellie Cheng, BA, received a World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) Chairman's Award in October. The honour is given to individuals who have made a significant contribution to the global green-building movement. Nellie served on the WorldGBC board for six years and now heads the U.S. Green Building Council China operations. She is a past-president of Concordia's Vancouver alumni chapter.

89 Alex De Zordo, BA (poli. sci.), earned an LLB from Université de Sherbrooke in 1992. Alex is a partner and the litigation department manager at Borden Ladner Gervais, Canada's largest law firm, in Montreal. Last year, he received the Order of St. John for his contribution to the board of directors of St. John's Ambulance. Alex was co-counsel to Réjean Hinse in the latter's long battle against the Attorney Generals of Quebec and Canada for a

wrongful conviction, which in April 2011 resulted in the highest civil award for a victim of wrongful conviction in Canadian history. Alex was recently elected president of the board of directors of Pro Bono Quebec for 2011-2012.

90 Alexandria Haber, BFA (theatre perf.), co-wrote the play *Four Minutes if you Bleed*, a "comedy of manners about hockey, weddings and Christmas miracles," that ran at Montreal's Centaur Theatre from November 24 to December 03. **Claire Holden Rothman**, MA 88, was assistant stage manager.

91 Maureen Marovitch, BA (comm. studies), is creative director of Picture This Productions (picturethis.ca) in Montreal. Maureen and **David Finch**, BA (sci. & human affairs) 92, co-produced *The Invisible Red Thread*, a documentary film that follows a 15-year-old adopted girl's return to China. The film premiered in the Documentaries of the World section at the Montreal World



Russell Makofsky, BComm (fin.) 07, and Rochelle Rego, BComm (fin.) 08, recently became engaged. Russell is president of New York City Chess Inc. and co-president of Concordia's New York alumni chapter, and Rochelle is a senior advisor in the Financial Services Risk Management division at Ernst & Young New York.

Film Festival in August and will be shown on Omni TV in March 2012. **Catherine Legault**, BFA 03, was the film's editor, and **Bruno Dequen**, BFA 03, MA 09, was associate producer.

92 Dimitris Ilias, BFA, GrDip (adv. mus. perf.) 99, a tenor, and soprano Maria Diamantis are founders and artistic directors of Chroma Musika. The Chroma Musika/

Socrates children's choir from Montreal, comprised of more than 50 children of Hellenic origin, launched a book and CD, *The Magic Recorder*, at the Dimitris Horn Theatre in Athens on September 7, with the support of the Embassy of Canada. The Ta Zouzounia children's choir of Athens and the symphony orchestra Ensemble Sinfonia de Montréal also participated.

Concordia University bestowed three honorary doctorates during fall convocation ceremonies on November 22 at Place des Arts.

JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Robert Courteau,

BComm (mktg.) 81, is president of SAP (Systems, Applications and Products in Data Processing) North America, a multinational company and market leader in enterprise application software based in Newtown Square, Penn. Robert joined the company in 2004 as president and managing director of SAP Canada. He is also chair of the Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC) and serves on the executive committee of the ITAC Board of Directors. Robert was honoured for his significant contributions to the advancement of information technology in Canada and his involvement in community organizations.



FACULTIES OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE AND OF FINE ARTS

Xavier-Henri

Hervé, BEng (mech. eng.) 87, is President and COO of Mechtronix Systems Inc., CEO of Mechtronix Environment Inc. and President of Mechtronix World Corp., headquartered in Ville Saint-Laurent, Que. Xavier-Henri is responsible for the running and restructuring of Mechtronix Systems Inc., the core division of Mechtronix World Corp., and participating in and overseeing strategy and business development. Xavier-Henri holds a Master's in Business Administration from INSEAD in Paris and was honoured for leading the way in aeronautical industry innovations.



FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Kathy Reichs is

an American crime writer, forensic anthropologist and academic. Kathy's first book of fiction, *Déjà Dead*, became a *New York Times* bestseller and won the 1997 Ellis Award for Best First Novel. She is also a producer of the FOX TV series *Bones*, which is based on her work. Kathy serves as a consultant for Laboratoire de sciences judiciaires et de médecine légale for the province of Quebec. She earned MA and PhD degrees at Northwestern University in her native Chicago. She is one of only 88 forensic anthropologists certified by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology.



Caroline Merola,

BFA 83, won a 2011 Governor General's Literary Award for Littérature jeunesse – illustrations (langue française), for *Lili et les poilus* (Dominique et Compagnie). The citation reads: "Lili et les poilus is a work full of dynamic compositions, with profound and luminous colours that are applied with unbridled energy."



Also nominated for 2011 Governor General's Literary Awards:

Lazer Lederhendler, MA (Eng.) 93, *Apocalypse for Beginners*, by Nicolas Dickner, and *Dirty Feet*, by Edem Awumey, Translation – French to English

J.J. Lee, BFA (studio arts) 94, *The Measure of a Man: The Story of a Father, a Son, and a Suit*, Non-fiction (English)

Catherine Leclerc, PhD (humanities) 04, *Des langues en partage? Cohabitation du français et de l'anglais en littérature contemporaine*, Essais (langue française)

2011 Quebec Writers' Federation honours:

Dimitri Nasrallah, MA (Eng.) 03, won the Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction for his novel, *Niko* (Véhicule Press; Esplanade Books), about a young boy who flees a bombed Beirut with his father.

Lazer Lederhendler, MA (Eng.) 93, won the Cole Foundation Prize for Translation (French to English) for *Apocalypse for Beginners* (Knopf Canada: Vintage Canada), a translation of Nicolas Dickner's *Tarmac*.

Geneviève Côté, BFA 88, was nominated in Children's and Young Adult Literature for *Without You*.

95 Suzanne Hood,

MA (psych.), PhD (psych.) 10, on September 30 received the Association des doyens des études de cycles supérieurs du Québec's prize, awarded annually for the best doctoral thesis in the province. Suzanne's thesis identified a new regulator of the circadian clock, which may help Parkinson's Disease sufferers.

98 Stephen Roy, BEng,

MBA 10, co-founded AeonVirtual (aeonvirtual.com) in Montreal in 2009. AeonVirtual creates real-time, interactive virtual reality spaces for real estate developers who want to sell condos that have not yet been built. The company has also applied its technology to a virtual nuclear power plant, a virtual Q-Tip box (to

help Unilever with product design), and touch-screen kiosks with interactive maps.

02 Franco Santelli,

BComm (mktg.), is a child literacy advocate in Montreal. "What started out as a short story for my newborn daughter, Evelina, has grown into a children's book studio known as Littlings Interactive. KwiqApps

approached me recently to transform my short story into a full-fledged iPad app. The franchise is taking off, as there is a board game in the works. Our first ebook was released November 11." littlings.com

06 Xania Keane, BA (comm. studies & journ.), is one half of electro-art-pop duo Trike (trikeband.com).

"I've been living in Berlin [Germany] for the past while, making money as a musician, playing shows and recording songs. I started my own website, xaniakeane.wordpress.com."

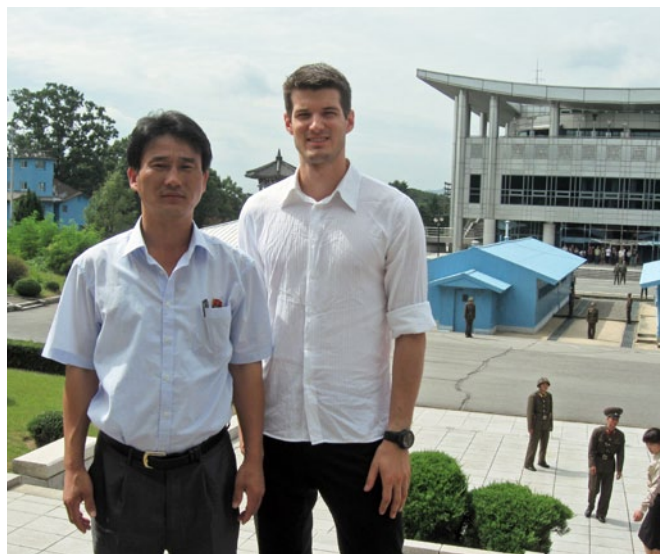
07 Allie Caldwell, BA (comm. studies), and **Aaron Hancox, BA** (comm. studies) 07, produced and directed the documentary film *Unheralded*, which centres on the big personalities behind small Ontario community newspapers. *Unheralded* was chosen for the NFB-TVO Calling Card Program, which provides an opportunity for emerging filmmakers and new-media teams from Ontario to work with the NFB and TVO to create documentaries for new-media platforms or television broadcast. It had its premiere on TVO in September.

08 Marc-André Séguin, BFA (jazz studies), a Montreal-based jazz guitarist, has released a CD, *The Time it Took*. The CD features drummer Alain Bourgeois and bassist

Marcin Garbulinski, BFA 01. The trio's debut album uses engaging compositions as vehicles for improvisation. marcandresequin.com

11 Andrew Searles, BComm (mktg.), writes, "I'm a stand-up comedian and actor, born and raised in Montreal, with parents from Barbados and Jamaica. Why did my parents move from the always-sunny-and-warm Caribbean to here? Don't ask. Comedy and acting have always been my main career goals, but I studied marketing to learn business tips and tricks to apply to my career." andrewsearles.com

Myriam Suchet, PhD (humanities), received the Prix de thèse en cotutelle Québec-France, co-sponsored by the French Consulate and Quebec's Department of International Relations. Myriam explores the challenges that emerge from translating "Hétérolingual" texts—those written simultaneously in different languages. ■



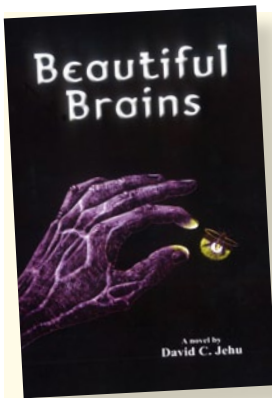
Antoine Labranche, BA (hist.) 09 (above right), celebrated his 25th birthday in Pyongyang, North Korea, with a dinner of dog meat and kimchi, a traditional fermented Korean dish of seasoned vegetables. "I visited this mysterious and closed country, an experience that proved to be highly insightful. It was especially interesting to hear their version of the Korean War, along with their perspective on the Korean national struggle."



Jonathan M. Mongeau, BA (hist.) 07, completed the Barreau du Québec last spring and is articling at the Montreal office of law firm Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP. On September 17, **Jonathan, Mark Grandbois, BComm** (acct.) 08, and **Guido Di Cerbo, BA** (urban planning) 10, organized Walk4Water: 2011. At the event, 63 participants walked 8 km and raised over \$7,200 for *charity: water*, a not-for-profit organization bringing access to clean drinking water to people in need. Pictured at the event (above, from left) are Mark, **Liberal MP Justin Trudeau**, Jonathan and Guido.



Michael Solomita, BComm 96 (above right), is vice-president of Operations for Roxon Medi-Tech in Montreal. Michael was one of 80 people chosen to appear this season on the CBC's top-rated TV show, *Dragon's Den*. His episode aired September 28. He pitched his medical product, the Cefaly (cefaly.ca), an electrical stimulation to alleviate and prevent migraine pain.



David C. Jehu, S BA 64, is an artist, woodcarver and freelance writer who lives, in McDonalds Corners, Ont. David recently published his first novel, *Beautiful Brains*, which introduces a mischievous young boy growing up in his mother's small-town boarding house in the 1940s. Through encounters with colourful characters and the murder of a friend, the boy learns painful life lessons. To

buy *Beautiful Brains* (\$15), contact David at bjehu@igs.net.



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

Table for two

"We all have stories. There are some things you just can't forget," says Santo Fata, BA 94, MBA 97.

Fata's story involves Concordia's Vanier Library. On December 12, 1991, he entered the Loyola Campus library to cram for a computer science exam and suddenly spotted a student, Kimberley Jackson, BA 93, at one of Vanier's characteristic wooden study tables. "She was sitting there, absolutely stunning (and she still is!)," Fata says. "I was blown away. I knew I had to act right away or my life would never be complete." Fata quickly introduced himself—and a great library love story began.

The study table played a central role for the two young students. They regularly sat there to study together. Fata can recall what Kimberley was wearing, what books they were studying, the marks in the wooden chairs and the exact location of the table (which, incidentally, had not changed since then). The two are now married with two daughters.

Fata expressed his desire to somehow acquire the table so that he could present it to his wife on their 13th anniversary. "Some people like diamonds—and so does my wife—but she also appreciates things that have a special symbolic value," he explains. Through the efforts of Dubravka Kapa, director of the Vanier Library, arrangements were made to donate the table and chairs to Fata.

On August 16, the table and chairs were presented by University Librarian Gerald Beasley (pictured, above right, with Fata) and promptly loaded into Fata's vehicle so that he could hurry home and install the table before his wife returned from a cunningly arranged diversion.

The library is indebted to him for sharing his story because, as Beasley points out, "We know there are many stories out there about the libraries. Your stories are our stories."

— *David Thirlwall, Associate University Librarian, Library Personnel*

Do you have a Concordia Library story you would like to share? Email the University Librarian at gerald.beasley@concordia.ca.



Stay connected with JMSB Alumni; join our online communities today!



johnmolson.concordia.ca/joinusalumni



Keep in Touch

New job? Just moved? Just married? Or just want to let your former classmates know what you've been up to? Visit

alumni.concordia.ca/keepintouch

Or mail or email us any information about yourself—don't be shy—you'd like to appear in *Class Acts*.

Please include: your name (including name at graduation); year(s) of graduation and degree(s) from Concordia, Loyola or Sir George, and other universities; street address, phone number(s) and email address; and any other relevant personal or business info and messages that you'd like to appear.

By email: alumni@concordia.ca Subject: **Class Acts**

By mail: *Class Acts*, Advancement and Alumni Relations, Concordia University, 1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., FB 520, Montreal, QC H3G 1M8

Join the the Concordia University Alumni Association LinkedIn group at alumni.concordia.ca/benefits/olc.

Maurice Rowan, L BA 37, died on September 13 in Montreal. Maurice is survived by his wife, Ruth, and his son, Tom. He was 97.

Ernest Rossi, L attendee 42, died on August 18 in Pickering, Ont. Ernest is survived by his children, Diane, Carole, Joanne and Norman. He was 86.

Murray Fainer, S BA 45, died on September 24 in Montreal. Murray is survived by his wife, Lois, and his children, Phil, Betsy and Duffy. He was 87.

Gdalyah Rosenfeld, S BA 45, died on August 20 in Ottawa. Gdalyah is survived by his wife, Florence, and his daughters, Jocelyn and Anita. He was 88.

André Richard, S BComm 47, S BA 56, died on August 31 in Cowansville, Que.

Kenneth F. Elliot, S BA 48, died on September 24 in Oakville, Ont. Kenneth is survived by his children, Susan and Scott. He was 86.

Harold Fligel, L BSc 48, died on August 8 in Montreal. Harold is survived by his wife, Marion, and his children, Erwin and Donna.

Alan L. Drumm, L attendee 50, died on August 11 in Markham, Ont. Alan is survived by his wife, Robyn, and his children, Tracey, Marc and Annemarie. He was 82.

Eric (Budgie) Malcolm Lack, S BA 53, died on September 4 in Montreal. Eric is survived by his wife, Anita, and his children, Heidi, Wendy and Jonathan.

Irving (Issie) Finkelberg, S BA 55, Cert 95, BA 97, MA 03, died on September 30 in Montreal. Issie is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and his children, Norm, Sam and Eric. He was 82.

John Nettleton Adams, S BComm 57, died August 18 in St. John's, Nfld. John is survived by his nephew, Ken. He was 90.

Shibly J.C. Abela, L BSc 61, died on August 4 in Ottawa. Shibly is survived by his wife, Daphne, and his children, Daphne, Peter, John, Caroline and Carmen. He was 71.

G.C. Ian Burgess, S BA 62, died on September 6 in Toronto. Ian is survived by his wife, Joanne, and his son, William. He was 70.

William Ralph Norris Finlayson, S BA 62, died on August 23 in Ottawa. Ralph was 71.

William G. Copp, S BA 68, died on September 9 in Harrington, Que. William is survived by his wife, Elaine, and his daughters, Deanna and Caragh. He was 67.

Muriel Whinfield, S BA 68, died on September 29 in Belleville, Ont.

Marika (Salamis) Asimakopulos, S BSc 70, died on August 12 in Montreal. Marika is survived by her daughters, Anna and Julia. She was 72.

Maureen Boyce-Arnold, L BA 70, died on September 17 in Montreal. Maureen was 74.

Peter John Astrauskas, L BEng 71, died on August 14

in Mesa, Ariz. Peter is survived by his mother, Albina, his wife, Donna, and his sons, Paul, Mark and Michael. He was 60.

Sonia Selnekovic-Giacomini, S MA 74, died on August 5 in Montreal. Sonia is survived by her husband, George, and her sons, David and Robert. She was 60.

Peter Susel, BSc 75, died on July 15 in Mississauga, Ont. Peter is survived by his wife, Marion, and his son, Geoffrey. He was 62.

Gail Marks, BA 76, died on September 28 in Toronto. Gail is survived by her mother, Betty. She was 57.

Giuseppina (Josie) Wilson, BA 77, died on September 28 in Montreal. Josie is survived by her husband, Brian, and her daughter, Jacqueline. She was 57.

Thomas Cullen Daly, LLD 80, died on September 18 in Montreal. Thomas is survived by his wife, Ruth, and his sons, Tom and John. He was 93.

Jacques Douesnarde, BComm 80, died August 6 in Montreal. Jacques is survived by his parents, Fernand and Micheline, his wife, Sylvie, and his children, Laurie-Anne and Pierre-Olivier. He was 56.

Marc A. Booth, BA 81, died on September 9 in Montreal. Marc is survived by his wife, Céline.

Steven Weintraub, BEng 84, died on August 18 in Montreal. Steven is survived by his father, Gaby, and his sister, Debbie. He was 50.

Daniel Artola, BEng 87, died on September 3 in Montreal. Daniel is survived by his wife, Virginia, and his sons, Ryan and Eric. He was 47.

Giulia Angione, BComm 89, died on September 17 in Montreal. Giulia is survived by her mother, Angela, and her brother, Peter. She was 52.

Gladys Gulyas, BA 91, died on October 22 in Montreal. Gladys is survived by her husband, Zoltan, and her sons, Steven, Frank and Jason. She was 67.

Morris (Morrie) Krantzberg, BA 91, died on October 14 in Montreal. Morrie is survived by his wife, Gertrude (Gerry), and his sons, Eli and Leon. He was 94.

Michéline Tambasco-Gagné, BA 95, BEd 98, died on January 4 in Montreal. Michéline is survived by her parents, Michele and Emira. She was 41.

Lillian Willson, BA 98, died on September 24 in Pierrefonds, Que. Lillian is survived by her niece, Sandra, and her nephew, Ken. She was 88.

Lynn Leonard Griffiths, BFA 99, died on August 9 in Montreal. Lynn is survived by her husband, Andrew, and her son, Adam.

Erika (Krajicek) Gutbrodt-Zimmerl, BFA 01, died on September 25 in Brome, Que. Erika is survived by her son, Mark. She was 77.

Geneviève Thérien, BFA 08, died July 11 in Montreal. Geneviève was 25. ■

Alumni Recognition Awards

Call for Nominations

Send your submission by December 22, 2011

All graduates, faculty members and staff, students and friends of Concordia University and its two founding institutions, Sir George Williams University and Loyola College, are invited to nominate candidates for the Concordia University Alumni Association (CUAA) Recognition Awards, the highest honour bestowed by the association. The CUAA urges you to submit nominations for individuals who deserve to be recognized for their outstanding achievements, exceptional service to the advancement of Concordia or continued service to their community. Award recipients will be honoured at a special event in spring 2012. The awards are as follows:

Humberto Santos Award of Merit

Alumnus/a of the Year Award

Benoit Pelland Distinguished Service Award

Honorary Life Membership

Outstanding Student Award

Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching

MBA Alumnus/a of the Year Award

Outstanding Faculty/Staff Award

Visit alumni.concordia.ca/events/awards to complete a nomination form or contact Nancy Wada, Alumni Officer, Associations, at nancy.wada@concordia.ca or at 514-848-2424, ext. 3882.

Are you a Loyola College graduate or attendee?



The Loyola Alumni Association would like to hear from you! In an effort to stay current, we are asking all Loyola College alumni for feedback on matters pertaining to the short- and long-term future of the Association. Kindly take a few minutes to fill out a short questionnaire: alumni.concordia.ca/about/associations/loyola/survey/

Many thanks,
Executive Committee, Loyola Alumni Association

NOTICE

Concordia Sports Hall of Fame Call for Nominations

The deadline for nominations to be considered for the 2012 induction ceremony is

January 31, 2012.

Nominations should be accompanied by as much supporting documentation as possible, because it is the documentation—not the number of times a name is put forward or endorsed—that is considered at the time of selection. Nominations do not expire if they are not selected in the year in which they are made.

Visit athletics.concordia.ca/nomination.html for a nomination form or call 514-848-2424, ext. 3852, for more information.

GO STINGERS!



CALL FOR CLASS REUNION CHAMPIONS FOR HOMECOMING 2012

Graduates from the classes of 1962 and earlier, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997 and 2002 will reunite to celebrate their anniversary years at Homecoming 2012. If you would like to volunteer as a Class Champion for your reunion class, please contact Erin Mullins, Associate Alumni Officer, Homecoming and Reunions, at erin.mullins@concordia.ca or 514-848-2424, ext. 3881. Help us bring together your former classmates to celebrate this meaningful event.

NOTICE

Reader's Digest Annual Lecture Series in Journalism

Featuring investigative reporter Stevie Cameron

March 9, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

J.A. de Sève Cinema, J.W. McConnell Building
Concordia University, 1400 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Montreal

This free public lecture is supported by the Reader's Digest Foundation of Canada in collaboration with Concordia University's Departments of Journalism and English.

Call for chapter volunteers

We're seeking volunteers to help organize events in California and in Edmonton. It's a meaningful way to network and give back to your alma mater. For more information, please contact Lina Uberti, Alumni Officer, Geographic Chapters, at lina.uberti@concordia.ca.

Haiti, Africville and Quebec folk rock

From **Johanna Skibsrud**, MA (Eng.) 05, winner of the 2010 Scotiabank Giller Prize for *The Sentimentalists*, comes the short-story collection ***This Will Be Difficult to Explain and Other Stories*** (Penguin Canada, \$28). The stories take readers around the world, into inns and

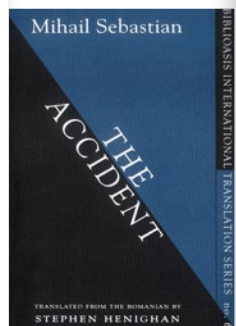
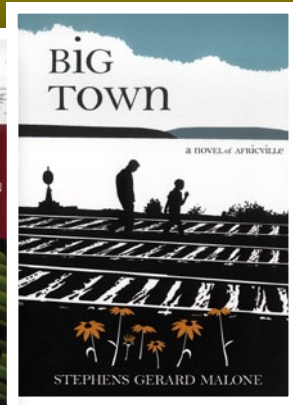
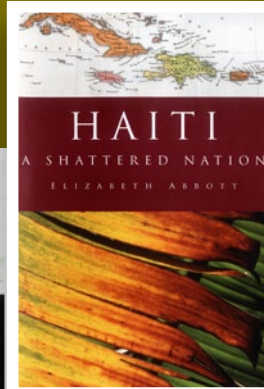
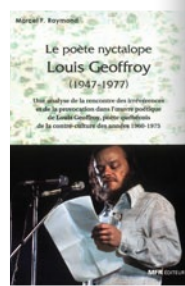
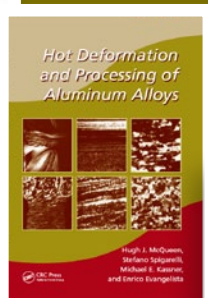
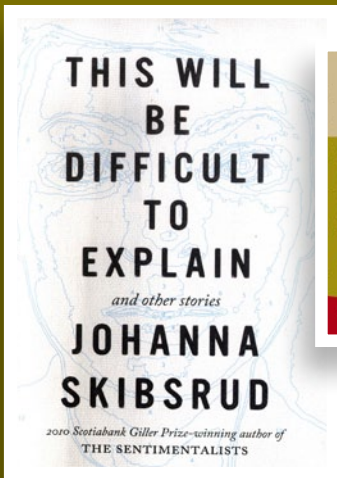
deformation process relates to possible microstructural developments and its expected mechanical properties. McQueen is a Professor Emeritus of Materials and Manufacturing in Mechanical Engineering at Concordia.

The latest effort by internationally renowned writer and

at Trinity College of the University of Toronto.

Déjà culturiste, modèle, éditeur, rénovateur résidentiel, poète, peintre et défenseur des droits de la personne, **Marcel F. Raymond**, S BA 1973 (littérature française et science politique)

be fictional, but their plight and setting aren't: Africville was a small Halifax enclave whose African-Canadian inhabitants were relocated in the sixties by municipal authorities who wanted the land for development. Malone's story illustrates the resilience of the human spirit.



farms and art galleries, to meet an eclectic array of people. The author shows readers "through their eyes what even they cannot see and uncorking minor epiphanies in the middle of the most unremarkable days," according to the publisher.

Hugh J. McQueen, L BEng 54, Stefano Spigarelli, Michael E. Kassner and Enrico Evangelista have contributed a comprehensive reference book, ***Hot Deformation and Processing of Aluminum Alloys*** (CRC Press, \$215.95), that explains how the hot

historian **Elizabeth Abbott**, S BA 63, ***Haiti: A Shattered Nation*** (The Overlook Press, \$40.50), explores the history of the troubled nation, from its independence through the brutal Duvalier regime to the aftermath of the devastating 2010 earthquake. Abbott, who lived in Port-au-Prince, leads readers through the small Caribbean nation's continued struggles with government corruption and poverty, painting a portrait of an extraordinarily resilient people. Abbott's previous books include *Mistresses: A History of the Other Woman* (2011). She is a Senior Research Associate

signe à présent ***Le poète nyctalope Louis Geoffroy, 1947-1977*** (MFR éditeur, 25 \$). Cet ouvrage examine l'œuvre irrévérencieuse, provocatrice, radicale et expérimentale de Geoffroy durant la révolution culturelle québécoise. L'édition comprend un résumé en anglais.

Big Town: A novel of Africville (Nimbus Publishing, \$18.95) by Halifax-based writer **Stephens Gerard Malone**, BA (comm. studies) 83, weaves the stories of three youths struggling with hardships in early 1960s Nova Scotia. The characters may

Stephen Henighan, MA (Eng.) 86, translated Mihail Sebastian's 1940 novel ***The Accident*** (Biblioasis, \$19.95) into English from the original Romanian. Amid the artistic and intellectually vibrant Romania of the 1930s, *The Accident* interlaces the lives of Nora, injured after falling off a tram, and her rescuer, a suicidal young man. The book's "lyricism and depth of feeling have been made wonderfully apparent thanks to Stephen Henighan's elegant translation," praised *The National Post*. This is Sebastian's first novel to appear in English. Henighan is a writer and teaches Spanish American

literature at the University of Guelph, Ont.

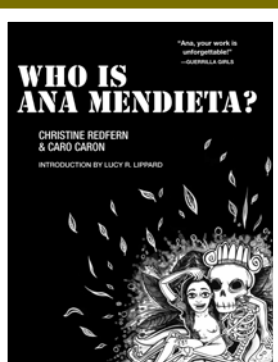
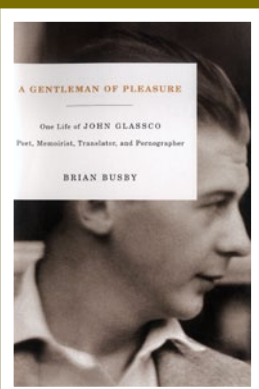
A self-described “great practitioner of deceit,” the notorious, Montreal-raised John Glassco is best known for his acclaimed *Memoirs of Montparnasse*, chronicling his supposed youthful adventures with celebrities in Paris and numerous affairs. In ***A Gentleman of Pleasure: One Life of John Glassco, Poet, Memoirist, Translator,***

Veracap Corporate Finance Ltd. Johnson illustrates how to maximize shareholder value through private-equity financing, acquisitions, divestitures and shareholder advisory services. In the preface, Johnson writes that the process of building value in a company is similar to building a house: “Creating a strong foundation does not happen overnight. . . [but] a well-built house becomes a lasting legacy.”

Mélissa Anctil, BA 1992 (traduction et études classiques). On y retrouve Gigi, l’adolescente apparue dans *Gigi* (2002), d’ailleurs mis en nomination pour un Prix du Gouverneur général. Dans cette suite, l’étudiante du secondaire tombe amoureuse du beau François, néglige sa meilleure amie et lutte pour s’épanouir dans sa transition vers l’âge adulte. Mme Anctil, qui possède une maîtrise

cultural turmoil of the past three decades. Beauchemin taught creative writing and international journalism at Concordia and is a former senior editor at the Montreal *Gazette* and author of *Salut! The Quebec Microbrewery Cookbook* (2003).

In ***Food and Fellowship: Projects and Recipes to Feed a Community*** (The Alternate Press, \$24.95), **Andrea Belcham**, BA (Eng.



and Pornographer (Queen’s University Press, \$39.95), **Brian Busby**, BA (Eng.) 87, uncovers the truth of a master raconteur and literary translator whose penchant for deception wove itself through his life and his works. Busby is the author of several books, including *Character Parts: Who’s Really Who in CanLit* (2004), and lives in St. Marys, Ont.

For executives and business owners comes ***Building Value in your Company*** (Chartered Accountants of Canada, \$49) by **Howard E. Johnson**, BComm 88, managing director of Toronto-based

Who Is Ana Mendieta? (The Feminist Press at CUNY, \$22.50), by **Christine Redfern**, BFA 89, and **Caro Caron**, is a graphic novel about the art and life of Ana Mendieta. Killed at the height of her career in 1985, the Cuban American feminist artist’s work about the female body and violence greatly impacted art history. The text features mostly quotes by Mendieta and other cultural figures. Redfern is a Montreal-based artist.

Les règles du jeu (Soulières éditeur, 10,95 \$) est le troisième ouvrage de fiction jeunesse publié par

en études françaises de l’Université de Montréal, est traductrice principale pour le cabinet d’avocats montréalais Gowling Lafleur Henderson.

Raymond Beauchemin, MA (Eng.) 92, has penned his debut novel, ***Everything I Own*** (Guernica Editions, \$20). The witty and wise story follows Michel Laflamme, a Montreal songwriter, as he reflects on his wife, a founding member of a seminal Quebec folk-rock group, and his disappearing father. Michel’s relationships parallel the province’s political and

lit) 99, makes the case that buying locally sourced, natural food ingredients in bulk and preparing them in batches in a local kitchen is not only sustainable, healthy and economical but strengthens community bonds, improves family life and fights world hunger. She provides a guide for organizing and managing both a food-buying club and a batch-cooking group—and even includes 100 delicious vegan recipes. Belcham, a resident of Pointe-Claire, Que., reviews food and environment books and leads vegetarian cooking classes and workshops. ■

A journey of self-publishing

BY DONNA KAKONGE, MA 99

I almost published my first book at age 7. My Grade 2 teacher, Mrs. Chen, loved my story about dinosaurs so much that she brought my dad in to discuss getting it published. That was in 1979, and self-publishing was expensive.

Twenty years later, after I graduated with a master's in Media Studies from Concordia, I finally took the plunge when I self-published three copies of my MA thesis, called *Afro Forever*. At a Montreal print shop, I photocopied and bound the manuscript, which cost about \$20 each at the time. To make a profit, I sold the three copies for \$50 apiece in less than two weeks. I renamed that same manuscript—now *What Happened to the Afro?*—and in 2006 self-published it on Lulu.com as a paperback, and later a hardcover and ebook.

As my books were selling slowly, I took a tip from a young American woman. Last winter, I slashed my ebook prices and started selling about an ebook a day.

I found out about Lulu.com when the website I built with the help of friends was discovered by a man named Michael Teal. Through email, Teal told me how much he liked my site and invited me to visit his. There, I clicked on an ad for an online publisher. At first, I found its publishing-for-free deal too good to be true. (The company doesn't charge for publishing but takes 20 per cent of writers' profits.) However, I took a risk and gave it a try. I sold three copies of *What Happened to the Afro?* in summer 2006. Soon after, I published *How to Write Creative Non-fiction*. In 2007, I self-published my third book,

called *My Roxanne*, which I had written in 1989 at 17.

By then, teaching and writing had taken over my life—and kept me out of trouble. In fall 2009, for example, I taught nine courses between Humber College, University of Guelph-Humber, Seneca College, Centennial College and Trebas Institute in Toronto—while writing at a rapid pace. From 2007 to 2011, I completed 40 more books, bringing the count of my self-published titles to 43. The works include short

stories, published school essays and non-fiction volumes with topics as varied as transportation, radio and television announcing, and spiritual matters—and there is still so much more I want to write about!

About 2009, I discovered Amazon Kindle. As the journey continued and my books were selling slowly, I took a tip from a young American woman who was offering her teen novels for \$2.99 USD. Last winter, I slashed my ebook prices to \$3.99 and my paperback/hardcover book prices to as low as possible. I started selling about an ebook a

day, plus the occasional paperback.

I'm now delving into traditional publishing by contributing two academic and creative book projects through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) at the University of Toronto. One project is an academic piece to be developed from a Black Feminist Thought course I took last winter, and the other is derived from a conference on spirituality held at OISE, where I am pursuing a PhD in Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Development.

It is now nearly 13 years since I graduated from Concordia and self-published my first book. After that initial success, I now also have thousands of credits in my publishing history (I have been writing nearly daily for the past four years for my online magazine, called *Donna Magazine*, at kakonged.wordpress.com). My books are featured in the Barrie Public Library and the libraries of Seneca and Centennial colleges.

As well, I have at least 43 self-published books on my bookshelf, more than \$3,500 in profit in my pocket, and the experience of seeing projects through. Thank you, Concordia. ■

Donna Kakonge is a writer/teacher living in Toronto. Her website is donnaakakonge.com. You can find her books on Amazon Kindle and the iBookstore by searching "Donna Kakonge."

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DONNA KAKONGE IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON A BOOK OF ABOUT SPIRITUALITY.



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