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Concordia

U N I V E R S I T Y M A G A Z I N E

Therese Brisson,
BSc 89, displays
her 2002 Winter
Olympics gold medal

► CONCORDIA'S OLYMPIANS ► HOSTING CONGRESS 2010 ► PEER RELATIONSHIPS

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Alumni profile Our Olympians

Meet seven Concordia alumni who have played or coached (or both) at the Olympic Games.



Cover: Therese Brisson, BSc 89, former Concordia Stingers star and Canadian women's hockey team player, displays her gold medal from the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Congregating at Concordia

Concordia will be centre stage in May as 10,000 delegates arrive for the 2010 Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences.

by Patrick McDonagh



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Family matters

The research of Concordia Psychology Professor William Bukowski uncovers surprising findings about children's peer relationships.

by Anna di Giorgio

Faculty Spotlight

Engineering and Computer Science

We profile some compelling research and key events at Concordia's Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science.

Toasting to 10 years

When I was in high school in my native Hong Kong, I expected to work for the government after I graduated. But my parents wanted me to study in Canada even though they had a hard time financing my education. It turned out to be a worthy investment. I headed to Sir George Williams University in Montreal and my years there changed my outlook on life.

In 1970, I returned to Hong Kong and, two years later, launched a successful business career after I founded Canada Land Limited. In 1994, the Australian Stock Exchange listed the company.

I have never forgotten the value of my Sir George Williams education. My daughter, Rosita Yip, BComm 93, my nephew, Philip Yip, BComm 76, and my niece, Winnie Yip, BComm 90, continued the family tradition of studying at Concordia.

I was also extremely grateful when the university presented me with an honorary doctorate degree in 1998. The following year, I helped establish

the Concordia Hong Kong Foundation—since renamed the Concordia University Hong Kong Foundation—to encourage and provide an opportunity for worthy Chinese students to pursue a higher education at my alma mater.

On September 11, 2009, we held a gala to celebrate the Foundation's 10th anniversary at a fundraising dinner in Hong Kong (see page 7 for story) and raised a further \$195,000 for scholarships and bursaries. I'm proud to report that since its inception, the Foundation has awarded 42 scholarships to appreciative students. We will have a sufficient number of both reserved and pledged funds to provide at least 10 scholarships annually until 2015.

It's a privilege to be able to give back to my alma mater in a meaningful way and help the next generation of Chinese students benefit from the same, life-altering experiences and top-quality education that shaped me both as an individual and professional.

William Yip, S BA 67, LLD 98

*President, Concordia University Hong Kong Foundation
Chairman, Canada Land Limited
Hong Kong, China*



William Yip, S BA 67, LLD 98

How to make a difference

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Olympian efforts

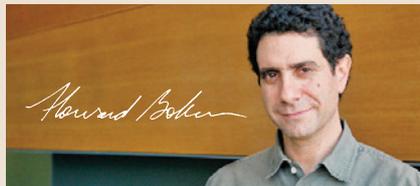
When the Montreal Alouettes won the Grey Cup November 29 on a last second field goal, there was one victorious team on the field—and one loser. (Sorry, Saskatchewan.) Sports can be brutal that way.

But the Olympic Games are different. True, failing to win a gold medal in a final match—and settling for a silver—can be devastating. Therese Brisson, BSc 89, was a member of the 1998 Canadian women's hockey team that was upset by the United States club in the gold-medal game at the 1998 Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan. When Therese spoke to our writer for the cover story, "Our Olympians" (see page 8), her disappointment over the loss was still evident. "You lose the gold. You win the bronze. Silver is just hard to swallow," Brisson said.

But not always. Those of us who are, well, seasoned enough to remember the 1976 Olympic Summer Games in Montreal will recall the collective euphoria when Greg Joy won the silver—Canada's only medal—on the final full day of competition.

For most athletes, simply getting to the Olympics is a monumental achievement that is the result of years of backbreaking training. The 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games, which will be held February 12 to February 28, will bring a cast of 2,500 athletes who will compete in 15 sports and 86 medal events. While most will return home medal-less, they will be rewarded with fond memories and the affection of their fellow citizens.

We know of about 25 Concordians who competed at the Olympics over the years and many more



behind the scenes who helped them get there. While the seven Canadian athletes and coaches we profile in "Our Olympians" achieved differing levels of success at their respective games, they each said they were proud to have competed and represented their country. Several Concordia Olympians competed for other nations as well, including Cammi Granato, attendee (sports admin.) 97, and Karyn Bye, GrDip (sports admin.) 95, both of whom helped the United States knock off Brisson's Team Canada to win the gold medal at the 1998 Winter Olympics; Pedro Suinaga, L BA 26, who played for the Mexican Olympic soccer

team at the 1928 Summer Games in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and later became the Mexican Ambassador to Canada; and 1930s Loyola College football star Frank Shaughnessy Jr., L BA 32, who won a bronze medal with the U.S. hockey team at the 1936 Winter Olympic Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.

While the Olympic ideal can bring out the best in people, it can also bring out the worst. Winning a gold medal can lead to lucrative endorsement deals and other financial opportunities. As a result, many athletes are tempted to cheat, mainly with performance-enhancing drugs. That's why Richard Pound, S BA 63, helped create the World Anti-Doping Agency in 1999 to fight rising drug use in sport.

Pound is better known for his association with McGill University as its Chancellor Emeritus. But while studying for his law degree, he earned a BA at Sir George Williams University and has retained strong ties to Concordia. For instance, he recently stepped into the role of cabinet chair for the university's Recreation and Athletics Campaign. (See his profile, "Olympian achievements," on page 10.) The former Olympic swimmer joined the Canadian Olympic Committee in 1968 and has spent much of the past 40-plus years involved behind the scenes with the Olympic movement—as an unpaid volunteer. Pound's dedication to advancing both athletics and education reflects the true Olympic spirit, much like that displayed by all of our Olympic Concordians.

They set a shining example for the rest of us. ■

YOU'RE RIGHT.
SILVER CAN BE
HARD TO SWALLOW.



Appreciating our athletes

Many of you have surely tried your hand at golf, hockey or similar activity in which you chase some small round thing and try to hit it with a long thin thing. Most of us have been involved in individual or team sports, in school or later in life. And some of you may well have tried to break records or at least reach for new heights to achieve your personal best.

Personally, I have sweated on a squash court and pushed myself to complete two kilometres of laps with a masters swim club; I've paddled my heart out in a dragon boat race and lurched over the finish line in an eight-person rowing shell.

These experiences have given me infinite appreciation for athletes, particularly the ones featured in this issue (see the story "Our Olympians" on page 8), who have gone on to compete on the world stage.

Student athletes have two sets of responsibilities: Not only do they put themselves through the paces of university life—working their way through an obstacle course of papers, class presentations and exams—but they also practice on the court, field or ice and then exert additional hours of individual training. They are playing to win, for themselves, for Concordia and—in the cases you will read about—for their country.

A couple of Concordia graduates will be involved in other ways at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. Julie Healy, BSc 83, a former Concordia hockey player, field hockey player and assistant women's hockey coach, oversees the



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Judith Woodsworth, centre, with (from left to right) Stingers wrestling coach Victor Zilberman, Tamara Medwidski, CEO of the Canadian Amateur Wrestling Federation, Olympic wrestler Martine Dugrenier and Katie Sheahan, Concordia director of Recreation and Athletics.

Canadian Olympic women's hockey team as Hockey Canada's director of female hockey. Anthony Brown, BA 02, a former Stingers football player, is the cultural co-coordinator for the opening ceremonies.

We salute the achievements of all athletes, past and present, who have been associated with Concordia and its founding institutions. We also express our gratitude to them for building the reputation of our school as they compete with their peers both near and far.

And I'd like to add a note of congratulations to our current teams.

Our women's varsity rugby players had an amazing season, winning the Quebec championship and finishing fourth at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport finals in Vancouver, B.C. Our baseball team won the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association championship in a thrilling finish in Oshawa, Ont.

To our Olympians and to the Stingers with competitions still ahead, know that we'll be cheering you on, if not in person then in spirit. ■

Judith Woodsworth, PhD
President and Vice-Chancellor

Concordia
university magazine

Concordia University Magazine welcomes readers' comments. Letters should include the writer's full name, address, school(s),

degree(s) and year(s) of graduation for alumni. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. No letter will be published without the full name of the correspondent.

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John Molson School of Business Building opens to much fanfare

On September 22, Concordia celebrated the opening of the innovative building that is the new home of the John Molson School of Business (JMSB). Michelle Courchesne, Quebec's Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, several members of the Molson family, Peter Kruyt, BComm 78, chair of Concordia's Board of Governors, and Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Judith Woodsworth took part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Woodsworth recognized the leadership of the Molson family and generosity of the Quebec government, as well as the countless donors who helped pave the way for the new building. "This building now proudly stands as a symbol of the excellence in research and teaching that has earned the JMSB its reputation around the world," Woodsworth said.

Eric H. Molson, the Molson Coors Brewing Company's chairman emeritus, said he was proud to have this building



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony (from left to right): Michelle Courchesne, Quebec's Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports; Jane Molson and Eric H. Molson, chairman emeritus of Molson Coors Brewing Company and chancellor emeritus of Concordia; Judith Woodsworth, Concordia president and vice-chancellor, and Peter Kruyt, chair of Concordia's Board of Governors.

bear the name of his ancestor. "John Molson was an entrepreneur . . . but he was also a philanthropist who helped build railways, hospitals and other institutions in Montreal and across Canada. Concordia's business school now honours his entrepreneurial legacy

through its academic excellence and the contributions of its alumni across the globe," said Molson, who is also Concordia's chancellor emeritus.

To read more about the JMSB Building, read "Open for Business" at magazine.concordia.ca. ■

Concordia donors continue to support the university

The past few months have seen Concordia donors step up and announce several important gifts to the university.

At a ceremony October 20, Christine Marchildon, Senior VP, TD Canada Trust, Quebec Region, announced a \$500,000 gift from TD Bank Financial Group to the JMSB. The gift will fund five annual PhD fellowships and five annual master's-level scholarships. Marchildon said the TD is committed to supporting education in Canada and recognizes the financial burdens students face. "We believe access to a high-quality education is one of the keys to a rewarding and productive life," said Marchildon, adding that she's the "proud mother" of a Concordia graduate.

On September 16, Robert J. Briscoe, S BA 67, S MBA 73, underscored his commitment to the university after donating \$400,000 toward an endowment for PhD fellowships in Business Administration at the JMSB. Kathy Assayag,

VP, Advancement and Alumni Relations, told the guests who took part in a gift-announcement ceremony that the funds will also help further the university's goal of attracting the best and brightest minds to the business school. "Bob is a two-time Concordia graduate who has never forgotten his alma mater. He's been a strong supporter of Concordia and the John Molson School of Business," said Assayag.

On August 26, RSM Richter Chamberland, through the Richter Charitable Foundation, contributed \$250,000 to the JMSB Building Fund. At a gift-announcement ceremony held in the JMSB Building, RSM Richter Managing Partner Stephen Rosenhek, MBA 84, thanked Concordia "for giving his firm a chance to contribute."

Other recent donations included \$65,000 from an anonymous donor to support undergraduate scholarships; \$36,000 from the Henry and Berenice Kaufmann Foundation for the Concordia



ANTHONY KORRIDAKIS

Kevin Tierney, producer and co-writer of the 2006 hit movie *Bon Cop Bad Cop*, returned to his alma mater September 29 to speak to about 85 students, staff and faculty members and announce a gift in honour of his parents.

Centre for Native Education's Elder in Residence Program; \$20,000 from Montreal-based, high-tech firm Vigilant Futures that will fund annual graduate scholarships for international students in Computer Science; and \$10,000 from Montreal's Kevin Tierney, S BA 71, GrDip 78, producer and co-writer of the 2006 hit movie *Bon Cop Bad Cop*, to create the Pat and Bill Tierney Scholarship, named after his parents. ■

Proponents pressure governments to implement genocide-prevention recommendations

About 40 invited guests gathered October 28 at the elegant Jeanne Sauvé House in Montreal to hear Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire (Retired), Concordia History Professor Frank Chalk and others discuss the report and vital work of the university's internationally renowned Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies (MIGS) and its Will to Intervene project.

In 1994, Montreal-born Dallaire served as commander of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda during the country's genocide, among history's most heinous atrocities. Dallaire, who was ordered not to intervene by his superiors, watched helplessly as 800,000 ethnic Rwandans were brutally slaughtered over 100 days. Since then, he has made it his life's mission to prevent future genocides.

In 2006, Dallaire became a senior fellow at MIGS. One year later, he and MIGS Director Chalk developed the Will to Intervene project, which focuses on the prevention of genocide and other

crimes against humanity. Dallaire said the international community's reluctance to act led to the Rwandan massacre. "The bulk of the international effort on genocide has been about picking up the pieces or crisis management—not about prevention," said Dallaire, who was named to the Senate of Canada in 2005. "It was my experience of seeing, smelling—and even tasting—genocide that motivated me to find ways to get leaders to participate."

Chalk, who served as the event's master of ceremonies, introduced three Rwandan genocide survivors who were in the audience. He spoke of how honoured he was to work with Dallaire, whom he described as "a moral entrepreneur." "He's someone who comes onto the scene with vision, courage and skills to help others make the situation

better," Chalk said.

In September, Dallaire, Chalk and MIGS researchers presented the project's report titled "Mobilizing the Will to Intervene: Leadership and Action to Prevent Mass Atrocities" to officials in Ottawa and Washington, D.C. The report outlines genocide-prevention recommendations for the Canadian and American governments. ■



TRISTAN BRAND

Rwandan genocide survivors Gilbert Nshimyumukiza (far left), Jean-Baptiste Mukiza (centre) and Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire (Retired) and Erica Adelson on October 28 at Montreal's Jeanne Sauvé House.



R'VAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

From left, former Canadian prime minister Paul Martin; Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Judith Woodsworth; Quebec Premier Jean Charest; Brian Gallery, Canadian Irish Studies Foundation Chair; Michael Kenneally, Interim Principal of the School of Canadian Irish Studies; and former Quebec premier Daniel Johnson joined the launch of Concordia's School of Canadian Irish Studies October 19.

Dignitaries help launch School

Concordia University inaugurated its School of Canadian Irish Studies October 19 during a ceremony marked by emotional tributes to its founders.

Brian Gallery, chair of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, told about 200 guests that the School had come a long way since its inception several years ago. "We had no stationery, no office, no trustees and no money," said Gallery, who served as master of ceremonies. "And now, we have more than \$5 million in the bank. It shows you what the Irish can do!"

In 2002, Concordia created Canadian Irish Studies programs. The School now offers 16 courses—in a dozen disciplines—leading to minor and certificate programs in faculties of Arts and Science and Fine Arts. Enrolment stands at about 700.

Michael Kenneally, the School's principal, acknowledged the contributions of professors, staff members, external organizations and the wider community in helping to establish the School. "Their shared vision was to study, research and teach the rich culture of Ireland and the highly influential

Second President's Conference examines privacy and security

BY RUSS COOPER

For the second time in eight months, Concordia's President's Conference united researchers, community members and students for a discussion about an issue that has a profound impact on our everyday lives.

The conference, held November 4 in Concordia's D.B. Clarke Theatre and titled "Every Breath You Take: Surveillance, Security and the End of Privacy," dealt with privacy and security in today's increasingly wired world.

Its three sessions provided a forum for differing perspectives from members of the university's four faculties: The Institute for Information Systems Engineering's Mourad Debbabi gave a chilling description of how nefarious hackers can exploit your every move online; Ching Y. Suen, director for the Centre for Pattern Recognition and Machine Intelligence, discussed the science behind handwriting recognition; Chemistry and Biochemistry Professor John Capobianco explained the potential for nanotechnology to improve public safety and health; and History Professor Shannon McSheffrey provided a historical context of surveillance.

Communication Studies Professor Kim Sawchuk said most



Professors Ching Y. Suen and Kim Sawchuk at the President's Conference November 4 in Concordia's D.B. Clarke Theatre.

CREATIVE MEDIA SERVICES

people believe there's a trade-off between privacy and security. "But in academic research, the two are linked and want to be balanced," Sawchuk said. "We need a better understanding of these terms and laws that oversee us. I think the reason we're here is understanding the questions we need to ask."

Building on the success of last spring's first President's Conference called "Understanding Desire: The Addicted Network," the fall edition again welcomed hundreds of students from local high schools and CEGEPs. Some schools participated online, via webcast and Google video chat. Organizers were also virtually connected with students from Collège Edouard Montpetit in Longueuil, Que., and Stafford Middle School in Plattsburgh, N.Y. It was the first time French-language and American schools participated.

Olivier Dyens, BFA 86, Concordia's vice-provost of Teaching and Learning, said the next President's Conference will be held during Congress 2010 (see the story on page 22) and focus on human rights while the fall conference will deal with sustainability. ■

of Canadian Irish Studies

role Irish immigrants have played in shaping Canada and, in particular, their contribution to the unique fabric of Quebec society," Kenneally said.

Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Judith Woodsworth thanked Gallery and the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation for setting the stage for the School and lauded Kenneally's leadership and vision. "It's such a pleasure to see your wonderful work come to fruition," Woodsworth said.

The School recognizes the influences of Irish people, as well as their history and future, said former Canadian prime minister Paul Martin. "It's a truly remarkable event in our history," said Martin, adding that his ancestors immigrated to Canada during Ireland's famine in the mid-19th century. "The Irish have great vision. They don't give up."

Quebec Premier Jean Charest, who is honorary chairman of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, said the School's existence is proof-positive that Quebec has a "capacity to integrate" all its citizens. "The story of the Irish needs to be told time and time again," Charest said. ■

Concordia University Hong Kong Foundation celebrates 10th anniversary

Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Judith Woodsworth, Kathy Assayag, VP, Advancement and Alumni Relations, and Frederick Lowy, LLD 08, Concordia president emeritus, joined the festivities September 11 at the 10th Anniversary of the Concordia University Hong Kong Foundation Fundraising Dinner at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. More than 200 people attended the event and raised about \$195,000 for scholarships and bursaries. Woodsworth talked about the university's latest developments to the crowd of friends and alumni, including Foundation President William Yip, S BA 67, LLD 98. ■



OUR STINGERS

AS VANCOUVER, B.C., GEARS UP TO HOST THE 2010 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES, WE INTRODUCE YOU TO A FEW OF THE MANY CONCORDIA ALUMNI WHO PARTICIPATED IN PAST WINTER AND SUMMER OLYMPICS.

GOLDEN PLAYER

Therese Brisson, BSc 89, has distinguished herself in sports and academics in a way few ever do. Brisson starred on defence for the Concordia Stingers women's hockey team from 1986 to 1989, is a two-time Olympic medallist and a 1997 inductee to the Concordia University Sports Hall of Fame. She also holds an MSc and PhD in Physical Activity Sciences from Université de Montréal, taught motor and neural control and learning, research methods, statistics and kinesiology at the Faculty of Kinesiology of the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, and earned an MBA in 2004 from York University's Schulich School of Business in Toronto. Brisson now serves as marketing manager for Procter & Gamble in Toronto.

Brisson says she chose Concordia because its exercise science program was one of few in Canada at the time. But hockey was also part of the draw and her three years with the Stingers proved to be both successful and shining moments. "There were no national championships at that time but we won two provincial championships," Brisson points out.

Long-time Stingers women's hockey coach Les Lawton has fond memories of and high praise for Brisson. "She is obviously a very high achiever in the classroom, on the ice and in the workforce," Lawton says. He credits Brisson, in part, for strengthening the Concordia women's hockey program over the years. "She was there at the start. And when you have good players, it attracts good players."

In 1994, Brisson joined Team Canada and played in the 1998 Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan. The team took home the silver medal that year—a bitter disappointment for the club. "We were perennial world champions. We were the favourites. We had won the majority of our previous games against the U.S. But we didn't play our best on the night it mattered most," Brisson recounts.

The team headed into the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah, more determined and in better shape, Brisson says. "We trained on military bases to become better athletes. I remember one time at [Canadian Forces Base] Valcartier watching the Van Doos [the Royal 22nd Regiment] go through an obstacle course with rifles and 35 pounds on their backs. It was very humbling, very inspiring," Brisson recalls. That year, Team Canada captured the gold medal, beating the United States 3-2 in the finals.

While Brisson hung up her skates in 2005, she recently became a member of the Canadian Olympic Committee's board of directors. And on December 7, she fulfilled a childhood dream by taking part in the Olympic torch relay in Longueuil, Que. "It's



Therese Brisson waves the Canadian flag in celebration of Team Canada's gold medal victory at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.



like closing the loop on the Olympic journey, from being a little kid seeing the relay torch for the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, which inspired me in so many ways, to my own involvement that left me with lifelong values.”

—Rhonda Mullins, MA 96

OLYMPIAN ACHIEVEMENTS

If people are familiar with the name **Richard Pound**—and many Canadians are—they likely associate him with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) or McGill University. But a lesser known fact is that Pound is a graduate of Sir George Williams University, BA 63. He has also lectured at Concordia’s Department of Exercise Science and recently agreed to act as cabinet chair for the university’s Recreation and Athletics Campaign,

which is raising money to refurbish and expand Concordia’s recreation and athletics facilities. “I had lunch with [Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor] Judith Woodsworth. She asked me to come on board and I told her that when it comes to education and athletics, I’m always glad to help,” Pound says.

Pound’s involvement with the Olympics began in 1960, when he competed at the Summer Olympic Games in Rome,

Italy. He finished sixth in the 100-metre freestyle swimming finals and his relay team placed

fourth. The native of St. Catharines, Ont., was already enrolled at McGill and returned to earn his Bachelor of Commerce in 1962. Pound says that while he also had his sights set on a law degree, he had to earn a BA first to gain entry to the Quebec Bar. So he headed a few blocks west to study Latin and philosophy at Sir George Williams. During that school year, Pound flew down under to compete in the 1962 Commonwealth Games in Perth, Australia. “I left Montreal with a suitcase that had one bathing suit and about 37 books,” Pound recalls. The extra weight didn’t slow him down. He won gold in the 110-yards freestyle, as well as two silvers and a bronze medal in other swimming events.

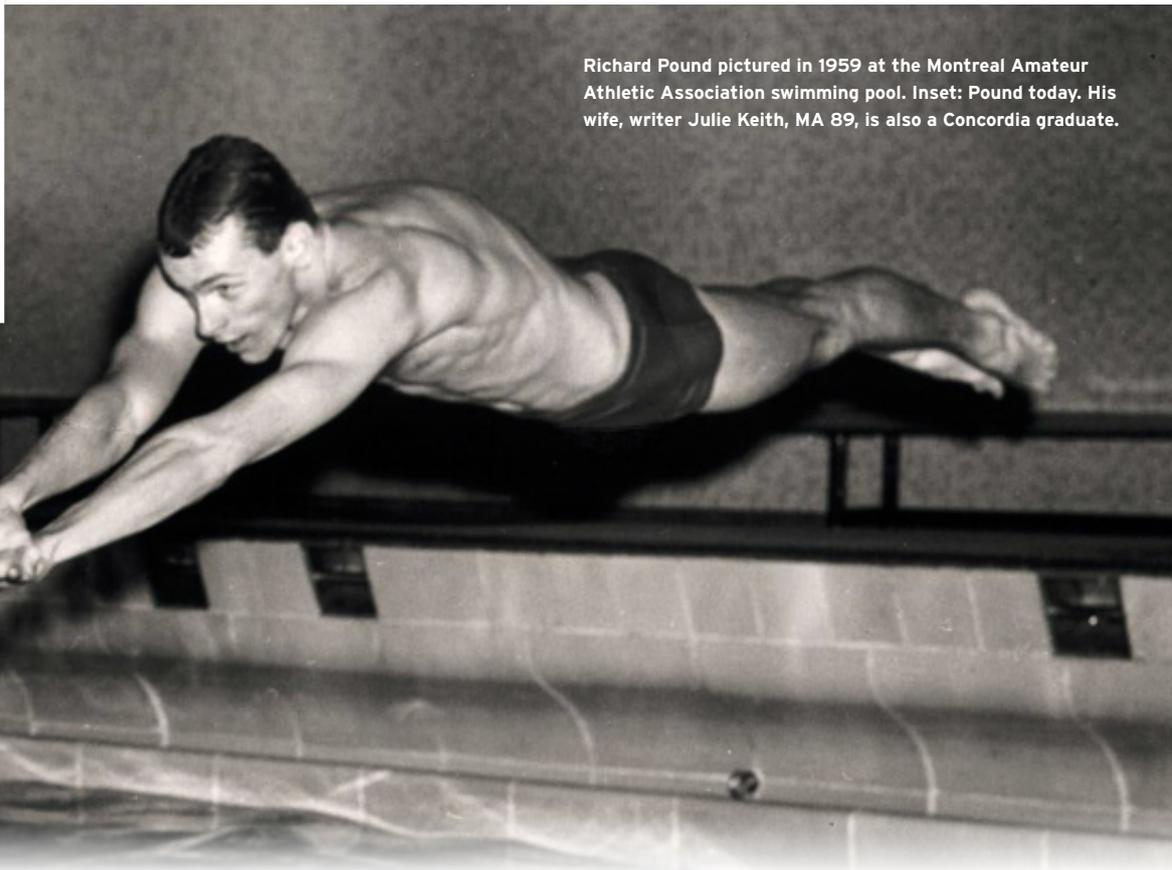
After returning to Sir George Williams and completing his BA in 1963, Pound became a chartered accountant the following year and earned his law degree from McGill three years later. He then became a member of the Quebec Bar and

eventually joined Montreal law firm Stikeman Elliott LLP, where he is now a senior

I left Montreal with a suitcase that had one bathing suit and about 37 books.

partner. He also continued to swim at the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association. “The guys who ran the Canadian Olympic Committee were members of the club,” Pound says. “In 1967, one of them approached me and said, ‘Young Pound, you’re a Canadian citizen and will soon be a lawyer. Would you like to join the Canadian Olympic Committee as secretary?’ I said, ‘Sure, what do I need to do?’ And he responded, ‘Oh, we’ll take care of that.’ That was the way they did it back then.”

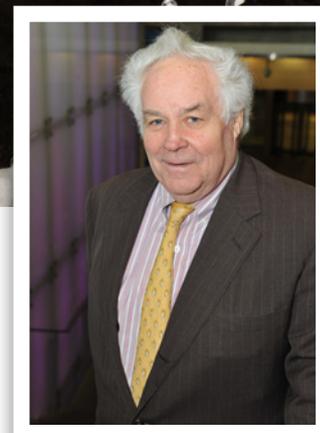
That conversation marked the beginning of a lifelong



Richard Pound pictured in 1959 at the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association swimming pool. Inset: Pound today. His wife, writer Julie Keith, MA 89, is also a Concordia graduate.



Canadian men's and women's lugers gather in 1967 for a group photo. From left to right, front row: Martha Diplock, Phyllis Walter, Michele Marchand, Linda Crutchfield Bocock and Paul Levesque; and back row: Larry Arbutnot, Roger Eddy, John Welsh, Larry Gilbride and Laird Bush. Inset: Paul Levesque today.



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

relationship with the Olympic movement. "It's kind of like a swamp. Once you're in it, it's hard to get out," Pound quips. He served as president of the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) from 1977 to 1982, IOC vice-president and executive board member from 1983 to 1991 and 1992 to 2000, and founding chairman of WADA from 1999 to 2007. Pound also was chair of McGill's Board of Governors from 1994 to 1999 and its chancellor from 1999 to 2009. "I'm still a member of the COC, the IOC and Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee, among other committees, plus I make my living as a lawyer," he says.

Despite his hectic schedule, Pound accepted an invitation from Concordia's Exercise Science Student Association in 2008 to talk about his IOC and WADA experiences. Jonathan Bourget-Murray, BSc 09, helped organize the event. "Mr. Pound gave a great presentation, stayed to answer questions and was extremely helpful," Bourget-Murray says. "He donated his speaker's fee back to the Association. The department matched it and we used the money to create the Annual Richard Pound Award, which is presented to a graduating Exercise Science student based on his or her contribution to student life outside the classroom." It's a fitting tribute to a man who has given so much to the lives of students and athletes in Montreal and around the world.

—Howard Bokser

LUGER ON FAST TRACK TO SUCCESS

In 1967, the Canadian Amateur Bobsleigh and Luge Association asked **Paul Levesque**, L BA 57, to put together a luge team—Canada's first—to compete in the 1968 Winter Olympic Games in Grenoble, France. But Levesque says he wasn't sure he wanted the job. "I wasn't a luger," Levesque

admits. He did, however, have a long history in winter sports, including skiing for Loyola College's varsity ski team.

(Levesque was inducted into the Concordia University Sports Hall of Fame in 1983). He had also enjoyed a great deal of success in bobsled (also called bobsleigh) competition, capturing the gold medal at the 1962 Commonwealth Bobsled Championship in St. Moritz, Switzerland, and four more golds over the next four years at international contests in Lake Placid, N.Y.

Some elements of bobsledding and luge are similar: both involve sliding down an icy, curved slope at breakneck speeds. "But a bobsled is up to 600 pounds of steel with two or four men," Levesque points out. "A luge weighs 60 pounds and you're single or double doing speeds of 80 miles per hour. You don't have the stability of a 600-pound sled with the weight of four men. The principle of the two is the same but a luge is harder to control."

Still, Levesque set his reservations aside, ran trials and recruited a team made up of male and female athletes from other sports. Initially, Levesque says he wasn't sure what his role would be. "They were up against experienced lugers but they had a lot of guts so I said I would stay with them," Levesque recalls. He travelled to the 1968 Winter Olympics as a member and coach of the luge team. And while they didn't take home any medals, Levesque says the team competed like champions.

D'Arcy Coulson, LBA 57, skied alongside Levesque on the Loyola varsity squad and later competed with him in bobsled and the Canadian luge team. Coulson says Levesque was the driving force behind Canada's eventual competitive edge in sliding sports. "He had a knack for organizing and getting people involved. And he is very difficult to say no to. He has an enthusiasm that captures your attention and interest," Coulson says.

For his contributions to sports in Canada, Levesque earned the Canadian Centennial Medal from the Governor General of Canada in 1967. The following year, the United States Amateur Athletic Union presented him with the John F. Kennedy Sports Memorial Medal for his achievements in bobsledding and luge.

**He is very difficult to say no to.
He has an enthusiasm that captures
your attention and interest.**

About that time, Levesque moved to New York City, where he's lived since, and became an investment banker. He's now a senior advisor at Coady Diemar Partners LLC. (Coulson reveals Levesque's nickname among former fellow competitors is "Wall Street Paul.") And he remains involved in sports. In 1977, Levesque founded the Annual Hockey Achievement Award Dinner. He continues to chair the prestigious, New York fundraiser, whose impressive list of award recipients includes hockey legends Maurice Richard, Gordie Howe, Jean Béliveau and Mario Lemieux.

In keeping with his exuberant personality, Levesque has become an informal Canadian ambassador in New York City, regularly receiving everyone from politicians to high school students, as well as Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Judith Woodsworth in April 2009. He's also actively involved with the Concordia University Alumni Association's Tri-State Chapter.

Clearly, Levesque is still highly adept at rallying people toward a common cause.

—Rhonda Mullins

SEEING ATHLETICISM THROUGH ART

Sylvia Sweeney, attendee 77, was one of Canada's top female basketball players. Individually or as a team member, Sweeney's been inducted into the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame (1996), Quebec's Panthéon des sports (2000) and the Concordia University Sports Hall of Fame (2006). She was a member of Canada's Olympic women's basketball team at the 1976 Summer Games in Montreal and the 1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles, Calif. She was named the most valuable player at the 1979 women's basketball world championships in Seoul, South Korea, making her the best player on the planet at the time. And Canadian Interuniversity Sport now presents the annual Sylvia Sweeney Award to a Canadian university female basketball player to recognize excellence in basketball, academics and community involvement.

The shower of accolades and accomplishments aside, Sweeney remains philosophical about her basketball career, accepting the good with the bad—her Olympic teams'

Sylvia Sweeney returned to Concordia in 1985 and is pictured with Ed Enos, then-director of athletics. At right, Sweeney today.



performances didn't go according to plan—and leveraging both to become the success she is today as a producer and arts advocate. She says that at 17, the words of wisdom uttered to her by Jack Donahue, long-time Canadian national men's basketball team coach, proved prophetic. Donahue told her that basketball was a way to open doors to her future. "I remember him saying, 'Use sports as a vehicle, not as a destination,'" recalls Sweeney, who studied music at McGill University before enrolling in Concordia's Communication Studies program in 1976.

She says the pressure of playing on stage put performing on the courts into perspective. "Piano was my competition; that was where my palms started sweating," she says. "I was having fun when I played basketball at whatever level. Other players were so tense, not wanting to lose. To me, I wasn't losing. I was on the court and I was in, say, China. I'd already won."

While at Concordia, Sweeney starred for the Quebec-championship-winning women's basketball team in 1976-77.

Then-Stingers coach Mike Hickey remembers her outstanding skills. "She was one of the best players at the time in the country, potentially in the world. If you ever saw her play, she stuck out. She was a tremendous athlete," Hickey says.

Upon retiring from basketball after the 1984 Olympics, Sweeney returned to the arts. She became a journalist and news anchor for CBC TV's *Newswatch* and then host/journalist for CTV's *W5*. In 2001, she served as executive producer for the National



—Rhonda Mullins

then the Paralympics," Sweeney explains. For this ambitious project, she has garnered the support of two Montrealers, Richard Pound (see the story, above) and Peter Howlett, L BA 63, who are acting as advisors and opening doors for Sweeney. "It's anybody's guess whether I run out of steam before the project gets done," she says. Smart money is on Sweeney having plenty of steam.

THE WRESTLERS

IN RECENT YEARS, THE CONCORDIA STINGERS WRESTLING TEAM, LED BY VICTOR ZILBERMAN, GRDIP 85, HAS AMASSED AN IMPRESSIVE ARRAY OF AWARDS AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL AND SEVERAL OF ITS MEMBERS AND ALUMNI HAVE COMPETED IN THE OLYMPICS AND WORLD WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

ONE-MAN SHOW

With his decades of experience as a wrestling coach, **Victor Zilberman**, GrDip 85, says the sport has become like a second skin. "For 50 years being in one field, putting in 30 to 50 hours a week, anybody who loves it will become an expert, if you want to or not," Zilberman says.

Zilberman wanted to. Born in 1947 in Moldova in the former Soviet Union, he began wrestling at 11 years old. He eventually earned a spot on the Soviet national team. "The status and expectations were so high," Zilberman recalls. "The Soviet Union used to be the top country for wrestling, so, of course, you learn how to train and how to coach at that level."

In 1975, Zilberman was able to leave the communist country for Thunder Bay, Ont., and brought that expertise with him. "I started coaching right away," he says. He spent two years at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay.

In 1977, he relocated to Montreal and signed on as a coach for the Quebec Wrestling Federation and the Stingers, whom he still coaches.

Piano was my competition; that was where my palms started sweating. I was having fun when I played basketball at whatever level.

Film Board of Canada's Ontario Centre. But Sweeney has come into her own as president of Elitha Peterson Productions, a Toronto-based, film, television and stage production house that focuses on creating uplifting, human-interest stories. In fact, Elitha Peterson Productions created the 1992, Gemini-Award-winning documentary film, *In the Key of Oscar*, about jazz legend Oscar Peterson, Sweeney's uncle.

The company has also allowed Sweeney to combine her love of the arts with her Olympic past. She is in discussions with the International Paralympic Committee to put together what she calls the Arts Games, which would potentially stage competitions among emerging artists. "My dream is to create an arts bridge, to have the Olympics, then the Arts Games and

Amateur wrestling (not to be confused with the faux sport of professional wrestling) is aggressive and competitive, Zilberman says, and calls for both mental and physical prowess. "I teach the athletes how to think from day one—how to be tough, how to push themselves, how to analyze what they do," Zilberman says. "It's a long process and there are some things you can teach and some things where they just have to have the abilities."

Fortunately, many of his Stingers have had those abilities, including past and future Olympians Martine Dugrenier and David Zilberman, his son (see the stories, below). But Zilberman says he also lets his team members mould his method and, as a coach, "You adapt to individuals, adapt to times." In competition, he adds, "You try to help the athletes by doing whatever you think could help them at the moment."

Katie Sheahan, BA 78, Concordia's director of Recreation and Athletics, describes Zilberman as "a one-man show." "He brings almost two generations of leadership and coaching to the program and does so with an elaborate structure of volunteer support and dedicated patrons and sponsors," Sheahan says. Those sponsors include the Reinitz family and Snowdon branch of the YM-YWHA/Montreal Jewish Community Centre, where the Stinger wrestlers practise.

In his 32 years at Concordia, Zilberman was twice named Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Coach of the Year, he has led the Concordia wrestling team to six national championship victories, and wrestlers under his tutelage have racked up dozens of CIS gold medals. He's also served as the Canadian Olympic wrestling team's assistant coach five times, including at the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing, where he worked with his son, David. "It's much harder to coach your own kid. Everything is magnified for you as a coach," Zilberman admits.

While an injury to David and a tough, semi-final loss for Martine Dugrenier dashed their hopes for medals, "I don't have any career disappointments," Zilberman says. "I am just so fortunate to have the results I've had, producing in a challenging environment for amateur sport in Canada. How can I complain?"

—Lucas Wisenthal

FROM BALANCE BEAM TO WRESTLING MAT

At the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, **Martine Dugrenier**, BSc 02, GrDip 08, was a few seconds shy of a bronze medal. Wrestling in the 63-kg class against American Randi Miller, the score was tied after two rounds. But in the third and final round,

Dugrenier ceded a point, losing the match and finishing a disappointing fourth.

Still, the Laval, Que., native was unfazed. Less than two months later, "I came back after the Olympics and wrestled in the World Wrestling Championships, and I won." Dugrenier says. One year later, she repeated her world championship win.

It took Dugrenier a few years and enormous effort to reach that level of success. She had previously met defeat in three, consecutive, world-championship final matches but worked hard to improve, says Tamara Medwidsky, GrDip 00, MBA 03, executive director of Wrestling Canada and a former Stinger. "Martine is always striving to become a better wrestler, regardless of the outcome of a match," Medwidsky says. "Win or lose, Martine always learns from the experience."

Dugrenier, now 30, says she never aspired to wrestle as a youth. She actually began her athletic career as a gymnast, eventually competing nationally. At 17, Dugrenier enrolled in Vanier College, a Montreal CEGEP, with hopes of later landing a scholarship at an American university. During her first semester, the only physical education class that fit her schedule was wrestling, taught by Victor Zilberman (see story, above). "As soon as he saw me, he said, 'I think you should quit gymnastics for wrestling,'" Dugrenier recalls.

While she tried her hand at the sport, gymnastics remained her priority. But injuries derailed Dugrenier's career as a gymnast while she was in her first year at Concordia. She sought out Stinger coach Zilberman and gave wrestling another shot. "I liked the sport better in my second try than in my first," admits Dugrenier, adding that taking to the mat meant a second chance as an amateur athlete. "I could see that in wrestling, I had another opportunity, maybe, to go to the world level and to compete there."

Within a few months, Dugrenier had clinched a provincial title and placed third in a national tournament. However, she says that wrestling's head-to-head competition took some getting used to. In gymnastics, athletes

perform individually, while wrestlers must contend with an opponent whose moves can be tough to predict. "You know their strengths, their weaknesses, but you never know what's going to happen," Dugrenier says.

What often happened was a victory for Dugrenier. In 2002, 2003 and 2004, she won the CIS 70-kg weight class gold medals and was named Concordia's Female Athlete of the Year all three of those years. She says she hopes to defend her world title next year and, in 2012, return from the Olympic Summer Games in London, U.K., with a medal in hand. Then, she says she'll settle into a career as a coach and physical education teacher, a profession she's already begun at Vanier College while she pursues an MEd at Université de Montréal.



Victor and David Zilberman enjoy the moment at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China.



Martine Dugrenier (in red) pictured in action at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

But right now, retirement is far from Dugrenier's mind. "I'm really enjoying every single moment I go to a tournament," she says. "It's not everyone who has the opportunity to keep doing their sport at 30 years old."

—Lucas Wisenthal

WRESTLING IS IN HIS BLOOD

Wrestler **David Zilberman**, BA 07, was Concordia's 2005-06 Male Athlete of the Year and represented Canada in two, World Wrestling Championships and at the 2008 Summer Olympics Games in Beijing, China, where he competed in the 96-kg men's freestyle event. Zilberman's coach is his father, Victor Zilberman (see the story, above). His mother, Christine, serves as administrator for the Concordia Stingers wrestling team.

Yet, Zilberman recalls that as a child, he was seldom drawn to the sport. "I was always interested in hockey and baseball," Zilberman says. Neither sport seemed to suit him, though. "I never saw any real improvements in what I was doing." Spurred by his father, Zilberman decided to start wrestling as a teen. He admits that it was a difficult transition. "It took me a while to learn. It's such a tough sport," Zilberman says. "I eventually developed a passion for it."

His father's coaching helped, as did his own rigorous work ethic. "I always wanted to train. It was always something that I enjoyed doing and it wasn't something I was scared of doing." His dedication paid off and Zilberman ultimately joined the Concordia squad. His former Stinger teammate James Mancini says Zilberman's resolve set an example for the rest of the team. "He basically trains injured, sick, in bad weather—you name it," Mancini says. "Whatever the conditions are, he will train."

Zilberman's achievements bespeak that commitment. In 2006 at Concordia, he earned a CIS gold medal in the heavyweight class and, that same year, finished fifth at the World Wrestling Championships. Despite sustaining a chest injury shortly before the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, Zilberman competed and placed 14th. "I just tried to do what I could with what I had. I mean, definitely, it's too bad," he says. "You work your whole life for something and you get completely blindsided like that."

Zilberman adds that while he's been careful not to let wrestling consume his life, he's mindful of the fact that he lives with his coach. "A really important thing is being able to separate yourself from what you do," he says, adding that being in the classroom takes his mind off competing. Zilberman is now simultaneously pursuing a BEd at McGill University and an MEd at Concordia, where he's also assisting his father as a coach. So when it's time to hit the mat, "I'm able to put everything into that," he says.

While he has his sights set on competing in London in 2012, these days Zilberman, 27, remains focused on what it takes to qualify for the 2010 World Championships next September. "Once you get to a certain level, it's the small, little details that make a difference and I need to work on those small, little details."

—Lucas Wisenthal

NOS DIEUX DE L'OLYMPÉ

TANDIS QUE VANCOUVER (COLOMBIE-BRITANNIQUE) SE PRÉPARE À ACCUEILLIR LES JEUX OLYMPIQUES ET PARALYMPIQUES D'HIVER DE 2010, NOUS VOUS PRÉSENTONS TROIS DES NOMBREUX DIPLÔMÉS DE L'UNIVERSITÉ CONCORDIA À AVOIR PARTICIPÉ AUX JEUX OLYMPIQUES D'HIVER ET D'ÉTÉ.

UN LUGEUR EN ASCENSION RAPIDE

En 1967, l'Association canadienne de bobsleigh et de luge amateur demande à **Paul Lévesque**, L BA 1957, de constituer une équipe de luge—la première au Canada—en prévision des Jeux olympiques d'hiver de 1968 à Grenoble. Paul hésite à accepter cette tâche; « je n'étais pas un lugeur », admet-il aujourd'hui. Cependant, il excellait dans les sports d'hiver depuis longtemps, ayant entre autres skié pour l'équipe interuniversitaire du Collège Loyola. Il avait également connu un succès retentissant en compétition de bobsleigh, remportant la médaille d'or au championnat du Commonwealth de 1962 à Saint-Moritz, en Suisse, et quatre autres médailles d'or au cours des quatre années suivantes lors de compétitions internationales à Lake Placid, dans l'État de New York.

Le bobsleigh et la luge présentent des points communs : dans les deux sports, il s'agit de descendre une piste

glacée à une allure folle. « Cependant, comme le souligne Paul Lévesque, alors que le bobsleigh peut peser jusqu'à 600 livres d'acier et est conçu pour deux ou quatre bobbeurs, une luge n'en pèse que 60 et accueille un lugeur ou deux sur des vitesses de 80 milles à l'heure. Elle n'a pas la stabilité d'un bob de 600 livres chargé de quatre hommes. Les deux sports reposent sur le même principe, mais la luge est plus difficile à contrôler. »

Il met tout de même ses réserves de côté, fait des essais et recrute une équipe constituée d'hommes et de femmes d'autres disciplines sportives. Au départ, il ne sait pas bien quel sera son rôle : « Ces novices devaient rivaliser avec des lugeurs expérimentés, mais ils se montraient si courageux que je suis resté avec eux. » Aux Jeux olympiques d'hiver de 1968, il est membre et entraîneur de l'équipe canadienne de luge, qui ne remporte aucune médaille. Mais, selon lui, tous les membres ont participé comme de vrais champions.

D'Arcy Coulson, L BA 1957, skie aux côtés de Paul Lévesque dans l'équipe interuniversitaire de Loyola, puis se retrouve à ses côtés en bobsleigh et dans l'équipe canadienne de luge. Il soutient que c'est grâce à Paul si le Canada s'est constitué un avantage concurrentiel dans les sports de glisse. « Organisateur de talent, il a l'art de rallier les gens. Son enthousiasme est contagieux. Personne ne lui résiste », déclare-t-il.

En 1967, M. Lévesque se voit octroyer la médaille du Centenaire du gouverneur général du Canada pour sa contribution aux sports au Canada. L'année suivante, l'Amateur Athletic Union des États-

Unis lui remet la *John F. Kennedy Sports Memorial Medal* pour ses succès en bobsleigh et en luge.

C'est vers cette époque qu'il s'établit à New York où il fait carrière dans les services de banque d'affaires. Maintenant conseiller principal chez Coady Diemar Partners LLC (D'Arcy Coulson a révélé que ses concurrents l'ont surnommé Wall Street Paul), il reste actif dans le domaine des sports. En 1977, il crée le *Annual Hockey Achievement Award Dinner* et continue de présider cette prestigieuse soirée de financement de fonds new-yorkaise, dont l'impressionnante liste de récipiendaires inclut les légendes du hockey Maurice Richard, Gordie Howe, Jean Béliveau et Mario Lemieux. En 1983, Paul est intronisé au Temple de la renommée de l'Université.

Doté d'une personnalité exubérante, Paul Lévesque est devenu un représentant non officiel du Canada à New York. Il reçoit régulièrement tout le monde, des personnalités politiques aux élèves du secondaire, sans oublier la rectrice et vice-chancelière de Concordia, M^{me} Judith Woodsworth, en avril 2009. Il s'occupe également de l'Association des diplômés de l'Université—Section de la région des trois États américains.

Visiblement, Paul Lévesque a toujours ce don de rallier les gens à une cause commune.

—Rhonda Mullins

Son enthousiasme est contagieux. Personne ne lui résiste.



Thérèse Brisson aux Jeux olympiques d'hiver de 2002 à Salt Lake City, en Utah.

UNE JOUEUSE EN OR

Peu de personnes se sont distinguées autant que **Thérèse Brisson**, BSc 1989, aussi bien dans les sports que dans les études. Elle a joué à la défense pour l'équipe féminine de hockey des Stingers de Concordia de 1986 à 1989, et remporté deux médailles olympiques avant d'être intronisée, en 1997, au Temple de la renommée de Concordia. Titulaire d'une MSc et d'un PhD en sciences de l'activité physique de l'Université de Montréal, elle a enseigné le contrôle du mouvement et l'apprentissage moteur, les méthodes de recherche, la statistique et la kinésiologie à la Faculté de kinésiologie de l'Université du Nouveau-Brunswick, à Fredericton. Également titulaire d'un MBA de l'École de commerce Schulich

de la York University à Toronto, en 2004, elle est maintenant directrice du marketing pour Procter & Gamble Canada.

Thérèse Brisson dit qu'elle a choisi l'Université Concordia parce que son programme en sciences de l'exercice était un des seuls au Canada à l'époque. Mais son amour du hockey a également joué. Ses trois années avec les Stingers se sont avérées fructueuses et riches de moments extraordinaires. « À l'époque, il n'y avait pas de championnats nationaux, mais nous avons remporté deux championnats provinciaux », dit-elle.

Les Lawton, entraîneur de l'équipe féminine de hockey pendant de nombreuses années, garde d'excellents souvenirs d'elle : « Visiblement, Thérèse était un élément très performant aussi bien en classe que sur

la glace et au travail », affirme-t-il, lui attribuant entre autres le renforcement du programme de hockey féminin de l'Université Concordia au fil des ans. « Elle était là dès le début. Et la présence de bons éléments en attire d'autres. »

En 1994, Thérèse Brisson rejoint Équipe-Canada et participe, en 1998, aux Jeux olympiques d'hiver de Nagano, au Japon. L'équipe remporte la médaille d'argent, ce qui la déçoit beaucoup : « Nous étions les grandes championnes, les favorites. Mais après avoir gagné la plupart des matchs contre les États-Unis, nous n'avons pas joué de notre mieux le soir où ça comptait le plus », raconte-t-elle.

L'équipe participe ensuite aux Jeux olympiques d'hiver de 2002 à Salt Lake City, en Utah, plus expérimentée et en meilleure forme, selon M^{me} Brisson : « Nous nous sommes entraînées dans des bases militaires pour accroître nos capacités. Une fois, à [la base des Forces canadiennes] Valcartier, je me souviens d'avoir admiré les « Van Doos » [Le Royal 22^e Régiment] dans une course à obstacles avec des fusils et une charge de 35 livres sur le dos. Cela m'a donné une belle leçon d'humilité et m'a inspirée. » La même année, l'équipe du Canada remporte la médaille d'or, battant les États-Unis 3 contre 2 en finale.

Même si elle raccroche ses patins en 2005, Thérèse Brisson ne se retire pas entièrement du milieu puisqu'elle siège au conseil du Comité olympique canadien. Par ailleurs, le 7 décembre 2009, elle réalise un de ses rêves d'enfant en prenant part au relais de la flamme olympique à Longueuil, au Québec. « Pour moi, c'est comme fermer la boucle du parcours olympique : enfant, j'ai vu le relais du flambeau aux Jeux olympiques de Montréal de 1976, ce qui m'a inspirée à plusieurs égards, et puis j'ai moi-même participé à cette grande aventure qui m'a inculqué de très belles valeurs pour le reste de ma vie. »

—Rhonda Mullins

LA LUTTE

AU COURS DES DERNIÈRES ANNÉES, L'ÉQUIPE DE LUTTE DES STINGERS DE CONCORDIA, DIRIGÉE PAR VICTOR ZILBERMAN, GRDIP 1985, A CUMULÉ UN NOMBRE IMPRESSIONNANT DE RÉCOMPENSES UNIVERSITAIRES. PLUSIEURS DE SES MEMBRES ET DE SES DIPLÔMÉS ONT MÊME PARTICIPÉ AUX JEUX OLYMPIQUES AINSI QU'À DES CHAMPIONNATS MONDIAUX.

DE LA POUTRE D'ÉQUILIBRE AU TAPIS DE LUTTE

aux Jeux olympiques d'été de 2008 tenus à Beijing, **Martine Dugrenier**, BSc 2002, GrDip 2008, rate la médaille de bronze par quelques secondes. En lice pour la catégorie « 63 kg et moins » contre l'Américaine Randi Miller, le score est à égalité après deux périodes. Mais à la troisième et dernière période, Martine Dugrenier cède un point et perd le combat pour terminer, terriblement déçue, en quatrième place.

La Lavalloise ne se laisse pas décontenancer pour autant. Moins de deux mois plus tard, elle décroche l'or

aux championnats du monde de lutte et, un an après, elle réitère sa victoire au même championnat.

Selon Tamara Medwidsky, GrDip 2000, MBA 2003, directrice administrative de Lutte Canada et ancienne membre des Stingers, les exploits de Martine Dugrenier sont le fruit de plusieurs années d'efforts acharnés : « Martine s'est déjà inclinée trois fois de suite en finale des championnats du monde, mais a travaillé d'arrache-pied pour se perfectionner. Elle cherche continuellement à s'améliorer, quelle que soit l'issue d'une rencontre. Qu'elle gagne ou qu'elle perde, elle tire toujours une leçon de ses expériences. »

Martine Dugrenier, aujourd'hui âgée de 30 ans, confie n'avoir jamais aspiré à faire de la lutte dans sa jeunesse. Elle a en fait commencé sa carrière d'athlète comme gymnaste et a fait des compétitions de niveau national. À 17 ans, elle s'inscrit au Collège Vanier, à Montréal, avec l'espoir d'obtenir une bourse dans une université américaine. Au cours du premier trimestre, le seul cours d'éducation physique qui correspond alors à son emploi du temps est la lutte, enseigné par Victor Zilberman (voir ci-dessus). « Dès qu'il m'a vue, il m'a dit : "Je pense que tu devrais abandonner la gymnastique

pour la lutte" », se rappelle-t-elle.

Même si elle s'essaie à ce sport, la gymnastique demeure sa priorité. Malheureusement, au cours de sa première année à Concordia, elle se blesse et doit abandonner son rêve de devenir gymnaste. Elle retourne alors voir l'entraîneur des Stingers, M. Zilberman, et reprend la lutte. « J'ai davantage aimé ce sport à mon deuxième essai, ajoute-t-elle, car j'ai compris que le fait de combattre sur le tapis représentait une seconde chance en tant qu'athlète. La lutte me donnait une nouvelle occasion d'espérer rivaliser au niveau mondial. »

En quelques mois, elle décroche un titre provincial et finit troisième à un tournoi national. Elle admet cependant qu'il lui a fallu du temps pour s'habituer aux compétitions de lutte, où les antagonistes s'affrontent littéralement. En gymnastique, les athlètes s'exécutent seuls alors que les lutteurs doivent combattre un adversaire dont les mouvements peuvent être difficiles à prévoir. « On connaît leurs forces et leurs faiblesses, mais on ne sait jamais ce qui va se passer », explique-t-elle.

Et pourtant, Martine Dugrenier a enchaîné les victoires. En 2002, 2003 et 2004, elle remporte la médaille d'or du SIC dans la catégorie des 70 kg et est chaque fois consacrée Sportive de l'année par l'Université. Elle espère d'ailleurs défendre son titre mondial l'année prochaine et, en 2012, rapporter une médaille des Jeux olympiques d'été de Londres, au Royaume-Uni. Après quoi elle entamera une carrière d'entraîneuse et professeure d'éducation physique, métier qu'elle exerce déjà au Collège Vanier, tout en préparant une maîtrise en éducation à l'Université de Montréal.

Mais à l'heure actuelle, elle ne songe aucunement à la retraite : « Je profite à fond de chaque instant lors des tournois. Tout le monde n'a pas l'occasion de continuer à pratiquer son sport à 30 ans. » ■

—Lucas Wisenthal

Martine Dugrenier (en rouge) en pleine action aux Jeux olympiques d'été de 2008 à Beijing, en Chine.





Our 2009 graduates from left to right: Mohammad Asgar Khan, MSc (mech. eng.) 09; Mei Mei Zhang, MSc (admin.) 09; Jianguo Wu, MSc (admin.) 09; and Patrizia Scali, BSc (exer. sci) 09

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ENGINEERING THEN AND NOW

The history of Concordia's Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science (ENCS) spans well over half a century. Sir George Williams University launched its Faculty of Engineering in 1964 and Loyola College followed suit the next year, with both institutions offering engineering courses before that. Today, ENCS boasts more than 160 full-time faculty members, 5,000 students and nearly 20,000 alumni. Here is a snapshot of some of the people who have added to its rich history and bright future and a few recent, notable events.

BY CLÉA DESJARDINS

Portrait of an engineer: Professor Paul Fazio

Paul Fazio, Building Civil and Environmental Engineering professor, says he developed a passion for engineering as a child in the 1940s living near Monte Cassino in Italy. Fazio recalls turning cannon shells from the Second World War into toy scooter wheels. "My dad was a builder and consulted engineers, so I figured I would be an engineer when I grew up," Fazio says. In 1953, he and his family moved to Canada and he later studied engineering at the University of Windsor in Ontario.

After he graduated, Fazio was lured by the Sir George Williams Faculty of Engineering. "With Jack Bordan as dean, Matt Douglas as chair and mentors such as Clair Callaghan and Neil Hutcheon from the National Research Council, coming here was a very welcoming experience. And it's been hectic ever since!" Fazio says.

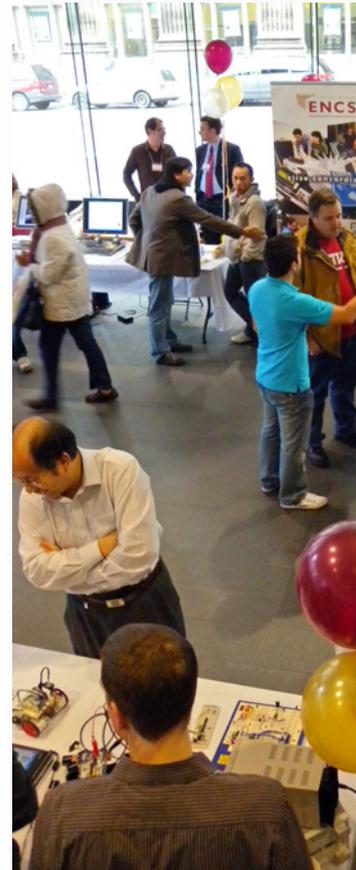
In 1977, he founded the Centre for Building Studies and launched the Building Engineering program, the first in Canada. That put Concordia 30 years ahead of the curve on issues that include global warming and sustainability.

While Fazio is now semi-retired, he says he's never been busier. One of the projects he's working on deals with engineering self-sustaining housing for low-income families in less-developed and remote regions. "We can use current technology and material knowledge to develop systems that can be produced cheaply and sustainably," explains Fazio, who adds that he's collaborating with graduate students and colleague Andreas Athienitis, the Concordia research chair in Integration of Solar Energy Systems into Buildings. "If the project takes off, we will have the potential to help countless numbers of people who do not have access to adequate water or housing. The technology is there, it's up to us to develop it and to find people willing to help."

In recognition of this and his many other accomplishments, the Canadian Academy of Engineers elected Fazio as an honorary fellow in early 2009. "[The Academy] is a learned society of professional engineers from all disciplines who are nominated on the basis of their contributions to society," Fazio explains. "It's wonderful to be part of a group that can exercise a certain amount of influence over national policies and prod governments to respond to the current issues like sustainable housing." With two young grandsons who may also have engineering coursing through their veins, Fazio doesn't show any signs of scaling back on his work to develop sustainable technologies at the university he has called home for the past 43 years.

Opening up ENCS

ENCSC welcomed a host of potential students November 7, 2009, at Concordia's Open House. The Faculty put its best foot forward with displays from its departments, centres and student groups. Tours offered through ENCS facilities, which include a wind-tunnel flight simulator and labs dedicated to solar research, computer-gaming development skills and design and manufacturing, proved especially popular. As part of the Faculty Showcase, Sheldon Williamson, Electrical and Computer Engineering assistant professor, delivered a riveting presentation about the need to develop new electrical and hybrid vehicle technologies. Williamson's talk on "Advanced Solutions for Sustainable Future Transportation" drew a full house of nearly 60 attendees—and helped inspire the next generation of ENCS students and others.



Visitors check out the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science display November 11, 2009, at

Awarding excellence

An important event during the ENCS fall term is the annual Dean's Excellence Awards. The ceremony honours the Faculty's top undergraduate students with prizes and scholarships, including the Norman D. Hébert Engineering Scholarship, the Schouela Family Entrance Scholarship, the Salvatore Randaccio Scholarship and a prize from the Association des ingénieurs-conseils du Québec. At this year's awards ceremony on November 11, 2009, Nancy Acemian, MSc 92, a Computer Science and Software Engineering lecturer, received the 2008-09 ENCS Teaching Award in recognition of her dedication to teaching and innovative development of pedagogical skills and techniques. ENCS Dean Robin Drew presented the Concordia University Award of Distinction in Engineering to Joaquim Frazao, BEng 82, MASC 94, co-founder of Mechntronix Systems, the world's third largest manufacturer of flight simulators. "This faculty has always felt like a family to me and I'm honoured to receive this award today," Frazao said upon accepting the award. ■



Engineering and Computer Science Dean
Robin Drew (right) presents the
Concordia University Award of
Distinction in Engineering to
Joaquim Frazao, co-founder of
Mechntronix Systems, the world's
third largest manufacturer of
flight simulators. Frazao received
the award for his dedication to
teaching and innovative
development of pedagogical
skills and techniques.

Paul Fazio, Building,
Civil and Environmental
Engineering professor,
pictured at Concordia's
convocation ceremonies
on November 13, 2009.



Engineering and Computer
Science at Concordia's Open House.



Engineering and Computer Science Dean
(right) presents the Concordia
Award of Distinction in
Engineering to Joaquim Frazao, co-founder
of Frazao Systems, at the Dean's
Award ceremony on November 11, 2009.

CONGREGATING

Concordia prepares to host the 2010 Congress of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences—and leave a lasting impression on its 10,000 delegates.

By Patrick McDonagh | Photos by Spyros Bourboulis

It'll be a big show over eight days, with a cast of thousands at 180 venues.

From May 28 to June 4, 2010, about 10,000 delegates will flock to Concordia and set the Quartier Concordia abuzz with discussion, debate and stimulating intellectual exchanges at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences.

The Congress's academic convenor, Concordia History Professor Ron Rudin, is gearing up for the event of a lifetime. "With all these people on campus, we have the chance to really show off Concordia," says Rudin. "We want delegates to remember Congress as something special. And we want to create a legacy so that after the show has come and gone, the university gains from what is left behind."

This will be the 79th edition of Congress, the annual event of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences (CFHSS) that is formerly known as The Learned (as in learned societies). It attracts members of large national organizations, such as the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English, the Canadian Philosophical Association and the Canadian Historical Association, as well as groups with more focused areas of inquiry. The scholars gather to present, discuss and share ideas on the latest research in their fields. Nearly all Canadian academics in the humanities and social sciences deliver a paper at the Congress at least once during their careers.

The university won the bid to accommodate the event in spring 2007. Concordia Provost David Graham, who



was then-dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science, says the Congress is a perfect fit for Concordia because of the university's large number of humanities and social sciences scholars. "It will give us an opportunity to showcase ourselves that's not possible in any other way," Graham says. In 2008, he asked Rudin to take on the role of academic convenor, a position Graham held for the 1997 Congress at Memorial University in St. John's, Nfld. "I had an understanding of what it takes to do the job. You need a senior person with strong credentials in the academic community and Ron had that in spades," Graham points out.

Rudin has since worked closely with the Concordia academic committee that's overseeing the event's scholarly aspects to start building the foundation for a memorable congress. That included finding an appropriate theme "that would emphasize Concordia's strengths," Rudin recalls. They concluded that "Connected Understanding/Le savoir branché" reflects Concordia's expertise in digital technology and communications, its ties to the larger community and interdisciplinary links that characterize much of its research. These ideas are implicit both in the conference symbol—

an ampersand with a USB plug on one end and a nib on the other—and in the scheduled events and activities.

Concordia's pied pipers

Concordia's edition will distinguish itself from previous ones thanks to the dynamism coming from all sectors of the university. For example, an interdisciplinary team is developing a state-of-the-art, multimedia installation that will exhibit Concordia's research activities not only at Congress but also at future events.

Other imaginative projects are being developed as a result of the role the Faculty of Fine Arts is playing. Sandeep Bhagwati, a professor in the departments of Theatre and Music, will take advantage of Congress to launch Nexus, a project in which five musicians, each located in a different building on the Congress site, will jam together through the university's wireless network. "But each musician will hear only one or two of the others, whose playing will be broadcast by a speaker that each musician will be wearing," says Bhagwati, who also serves as the Canada Research Chair in Inter-X Arts Practice and Theory. "It's much like those buskers who play along with recorded music in the subway, except that this music will be live and improvised."

For three days, at the end of each day's sessions, musicians will walk through the main downtown venues playing their instruments and wearing a sign that reads "follow me." "They will be pied pipers, leading delegates to Hexagram's 'black box' in the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex [EV

at concordia



Congress Manager Marie-Josée Allard (left) is responsible for logistics and liaison with the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. "Concordia is the host but it's the [Federation of the Humanities and Social Science's] event," Allard says. "They are the client and we need to make them 100 percent satisfied." Concordia History Professor Ron Rudin (right) is academic convenor for the 2010 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences that will be held at Concordia. In 2008, Rudin agreed to organize the large-scale event. "I enjoy a new challenge," Rudin says.



Building], where they will then perform together," Bhagwati explains. The event will not only raise awareness about one of the university's new music programs but will also shine the spotlight on Hexagram (hexagram.concordia.ca), the Faculty of Fine Arts media art, design and interactive performance and technologies lab, as a centre of creation research.

Bhagwati is also part of a group that's collaborating with the Faculty of Fine Arts (FOFA) Gallery Director Jake Moore, BFA 93, MFA 96, to transform the gallery into a forum for intellectual

performances. Throughout the Congress, the FOFA Gallery will offer three strands of programming: a morning talk-show-like event called "Le savoir branché dialogue"; an event titled "Afternoon tea with..." that features a researcher who will present work in an innovative multimedia format; and an evening, performance-based show. "We want the FOFA Gallery to be a centre of stimulating, interdisciplinary exchange during Congress," Moore stresses. "We're trying to break down some of the barriers between disciplines without suggesting we are all the same."

Rooted in the community

Rudin adds that the "Connected Understanding" theme will also be highlighted in projects that link the university to delegates and the public. "For example, we will be hosting a series of films dealing with Montreal in one way or another. And we're working with the organizers of the University of the Streets Café program, which stages intellectual discussions in cafés and pubs across the city, so we can get delegates out to Montreal neighbourhoods to discuss some of

the issues we're dealing with during Congress," Rudin says. "Another example is the book fair, always one of the major events during Congress but which is typically hidden away from the public. Ours, however, will occupy prime real estate in the atria of the EV and John Molson School of Business buildings and we hope to keep it open later than normal one night to draw a larger public."

My job is to develop and cultivate activities that will make delegates appreciate the imagination and creativity that exists here at Concordia.

The impressive lineup of keynote speakers is also in line with the theme of connectivity. Prominent American historian Robert Darnton, the Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass., and director of Harvard University Library, will discuss the hot topic of open access to university research. Other speakers include Mark Kingwell, a University of Toronto philosophy professor and public intellectual; writer-activist Lawrence Hill, author of *The Book of Negroes*; and lawyer and political strategist Donna Brazile, who was campaign manager for Al Gore's 2000 United States presidential run. All are adept at toppling the barriers that sometimes set academia apart from the rest of the world.

Event planning 401

To oversee logistical demands, in August 2008 Concordia hired professional event organizer Marie-Josée Allard as Congress manager, its only full-time position. Allard works closely with Rudin and Roger Côté, Concordia's associate VP of Enrolment and Student Services, as well as teams from the facilities management, IT and communications units. "So I'm the one who knows everything about the Congress," Allard jokes. Her responsibilities range from ensuring smooth wireless access and other IT services for the registration area to designating appropriate floor space for the book fair. Allard also serves as the primary liaison with the CFHSS.

Rudin's focus, on the other hand, is on Congress participants. "My job is to develop and cultivate activities that will make delegates appreciate the imagination and creativity that exists here at Concordia," he says. "It's one thing to say we want to provide an interesting experience and another to make it happen. Fortunately, we have a lot of people committed to it." (See the sidebar, "Team of Concordians.")

"We're working with very talented people across the university who are enthused about offering their skills to show off Concordia in the best possible way," Rudin says.

"The real investment is not so

much in money but people's imagination."

So plans are in full swing. For eight days in May and June, delegates will swap ideas by the thousands and develop new research efforts. They will follow Bhagwati's wireless pied pipers and gather at the FOFA Gallery for an intellectual exchange with a twist. They will mingle with Montrealers at the book fair and discover the city through the University of the Street Café events. Finally, delegates will power down their laptops and return to their home universities to regale colleagues with tales of their 2010 Congress experiences. And if

Ron Rudin has his way—and it looks as though he will—these tales will be happy ones indeed. "We couldn't buy the publicity this congress is giving us," Rudin says. "So we're doing something edgy that will reflect Concordia's creativity and energy." The spotlight never looked so inviting. ■

For more information, visit concordia.ca/congress2010 and congress2010.ca

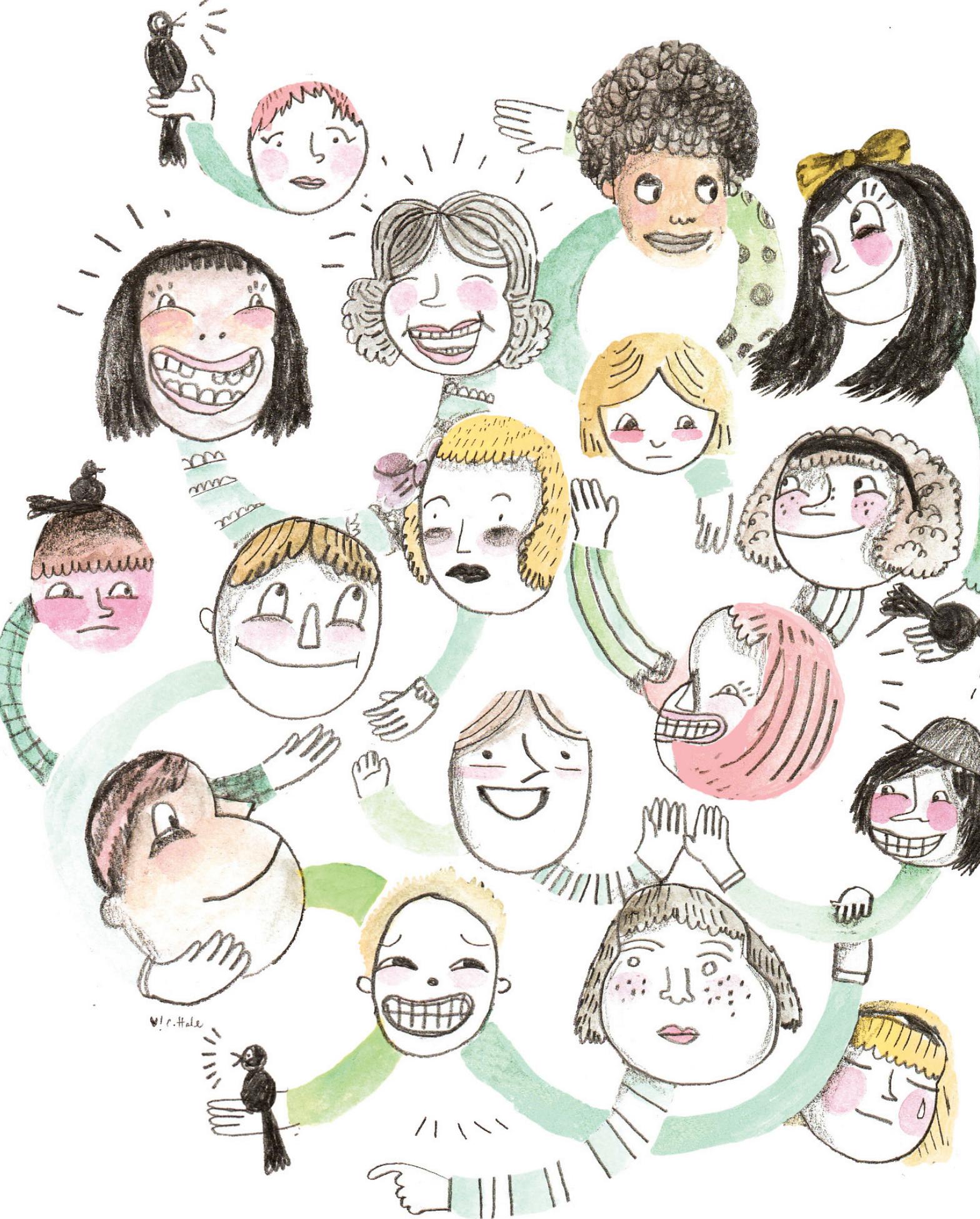
Patrick McDonagh, PhD 99, is a Montreal-based writer.

Team of Concordians

Hundreds of Concordians, including facilities management and IT teams, local arrangement coordinators (LACs), program chairs and special event leaders, are addressing basic issues with running the 2010 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at Concordia. Take, for example, Mark Rozahegy, PhD 03, a part-time faculty member in Concordia's departments of Philosophy and History. Rozahegy is one of 39 faculty and staff members serving as an LAC, linking an association—in his case, the Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture—with the Congress's organizing committee and taking on the responsibility of coordinating the society's room bookings, arranging catering and ensuring proper audio-visual facilities. "When all the volunteers were gathered together in the logistics meeting in the fall and Ron Rudin was describing all the work to be done . . . well, you realized that setting up this conference is no small matter," recalls Rozahegy. "There are an immense number of people involved. It's impressive."

jake moore is director of Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts (FOFA) Gallery, which will be a hub of artistic and intellectual events during the Congress. moore is pictured with the FOFA Gallery's installation called *RIVER - The Whirlpools of Time* by Lenka Novakova.





© M. Hale

William Bukowski, director of Concordia's Centre for Research in Human Development, has spent the past 30 years delving into the meaning and long-term consequences of children's experiences with their peers.

Friendship matters

BY ANNA DI GIORGIO

ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTINE HALE

The old adage, "Tell me who your friends are and I'll know who you are," may be true but according to the research of Concordia Psychology Professor William Bukowski, it would be more accurate to say, "Tell me who your friends *were* and I'll know who you *will be*."

In his research, Bukowski examines how peer relations contribute to a child's emotional and social development and affect adolescence and whether adequate peer relations can compensate for inadequate family relationships. His findings confirm that peers are crucial for functioning in adult life.

Bukowski, who is also director of Concordia's Centre for Research in Human Development, explains that the best indicators of adult psychopathology—or the behavioural manifestation of any mental disorder—and criminality stem from how children deal with peers throughout



LINDA RUTENBERG

Concordia PhD candidate Felicia Meyer (left) and Psychology Professor William Bukowski in Bukowski's Loyola Campus office. He has penned more than 85 articles in scholarly publications and co-authored four books on child psychology.

elementary school. "If you want to find out who is going to end up in a prison or a psychiatric hospital, or be unemployed and miserable when they are adults, the best predictor of that status is probably how well kids can establish satisfying relationships with their friends in elementary school," Bukowski points out.

Friendship as protector

By far the most pervasive finding of all friendship studies, including those of Bukowski, is the role friendship plays in protecting people against risks in other parts of their lives, asserts Bukowski. "We've done a few studies that have shown that people who have relatively negative experiences in their families are less likely to show the effects of that if they have a friend than if they don't," he says. "Friendship protects an at-risk person from a long-term negative outcome." A healthy friendship, he adds, is one that includes some autonomy and admiration

and where appropriate behaviours are measured against one another.

While Bukowski says he's comfortable with the Aristotelian view that identifies three reasons for choosing a friend—because he or she is good, useful or pleasant—he is quick to point out that friendship is difficult to measure and it's partly subjective. "If you ask elementary school children, 'What's friendship?' they're going to give you some ideas that will make you think they have been reading philosophical literature," he says. "They're going to talk about the importance of intimacy, of loyalty; they're going to tell you extreme things like friends give each other courage; they talk a lot about caring."

Much of Bukowski's recent work involves schoolchildren in Colombia and Montreal. The Centre for Research in Human Development hosted a seminar about same-

gender and mixed-gender schools December 7 on Concordia's Loyola Campus, where Bukowski and fellow scholars presented various aspects of a study that has been underway for nearly two years in four Colombian primary schools. The study is a collaborative effort with the Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla and the Universidad de los Andes in the capital of Bogotá. "This project started out as part of the larger theme of my work for the past 30 years of trying to understand something about the features and the effects of children's experiences with their age mates," explains Bukowski.

He goes on to report that the studies have uncovered surprising twists. "In these studies with upper- and lower-middle-class children, I always expected that the effects of friendship would be much stronger among children from families with weaker financial resources," he says. "The reason was I thought their lives would have more stresses to them, more challenges, and that for those reasons friendship would be more significant; but it turned out to be just the opposite."

The study revealed that friendship has greater positive and negative meanings among upper-middle-class children and this holds true both in Colombia and Montreal. Bukowski maintains that one reason behind this finding is that friendship derives from interaction, "after we've had some shared or intense shared experiences." Another reason is that the learning of interpersonal skills is valued in upper-middle-class families, where success in society is deemed important.

While he acknowledges that the classroom is a "pure social context" that tests notions of friendship, adaptability and functioning, he cautions against making sweeping generalizations. "The argument has always been that boys and girls learn differently but that is not entirely true. We've been trying to do some empirical studies about this subject in a dispassionate way," Bukowski says. "We're looking at what are the peer relationships in these schools and what's the impact of sex roles in the schools."

Beyond the happy family

By his own account, Bukowski's personal training ground provided fodder for his research into friendship. "Growing up, it seemed like everybody's family was the



same and positive. I couldn't imagine anyone having anything but a completely glorious experience in their family, which was true for everybody I knew," he says. "I reached the erroneous conclusion that any differences between people must have to do with the people you hang around with." It was not until Bukowski entered graduate school, however, that the idea of friendship as a research topic crystallized. "I wasn't particularly interested in the work being done on family relations. So I started, sort of by myself, studying friendship, and I haven't stopped."

Bukowski came to Montreal and Concordia by way of his native United States after he completed his graduate studies in psychology in 1983 at Michigan State University in East Lansing and

spent six years at the University of Maine's department of psychology. He joined Concordia in 1989 and became a full professor in 1999. "Teaching is a big part of my life," says Bukowski, who teaches lifespan developmental psychology and culture and development psychology courses at the undergraduate level.

He was appointed director of the Centre for Research in Human Development in June 2008. Exploring the multicultural aspects of a research topic, such as friendship, is at the heart of the Centre's new mission. Established in 1981, the Centre is an internationally recognized research and training site, which, in recent years, has focused on critical issues in human development, from infancy to old age. Since 2006, the Centre has evolved into a more multi-disciplinary research hub, including other social sciences such as anthropology, and has welcomed international members along with those from Quebec institutions, such as Université du Québec à Montreal, Université de Laval, McGill University and Collège de Maisonneuve.

The Centre's inclusive and cross-cultural approach suits its new director well, says Concordia PhD candidate Felicia Meyer, MA 07. "He has diverse interests and is an open-minded researcher and so he not only is open to exploring new areas, he encourages us to do so as well," Meyer says. Her collaboration with Bukowski—who was Myer's MA supervisor—was entirely serendipitous. She was living in Bogotá, Colombia, after she completed her undergraduate studies in 2004 at McGill and learned of Bukowski and the research he was undertaking with the Universidad del Norte.



If you want to find out who is going to end up in a prison or a psychiatric hospital, the best predictor is probably how well kids can establish satisfying relationships with their friends in elementary school.

For her MA research, Meyer investigated the protective role of friendship in the lives of fifth and sixth grade children whose family relationships were negative. Her PhD research involves studying children's understanding of mental illness and health.

Anna-Beth Doyle, who recently retired from Concordia as a professor of Psychology, worked with Bukowski for the better part of her career at the university. "When Bill [Bukowski] took over the Centre from its founding director Lisa Serbin in 2008, it had already increased in size and scope," says Doyle. "His arrival, however, added another dimension with a dynamic structure that has made it possible for 33 people from across many universities to work together and to enjoy it."

Doyle, whose academic focus was on cultural and family influences on social development in childhood and adolescence, praises Bukowski's research techniques. "Bill is a truly excellent researcher with broad international reach," she says. "And by excellent I mean he has published widely on social development issues that are of relevance to large communities." Doyle adds that Bukowski is also a skilled methodologist who "pushes science to higher levels of precision" by teasing and making scientific sense out of the masses of information culled during research. "The method by which you seek answers is critical because while we all may want answers, what we need are scientifically sound answers," she asserts.

Bukowski says one of his goals upon assuming the Centre's leadership was to make its research more readily available to the communities it serves and to ensure that findings are communicated "in plain English." Doyle and Meyer agree that this desire to "translate knowledge" is at the genesis of the Centre's workshops and was also evident when Bukowski presented April 6 at Concordia's first President's Conference on "Understanding Desire" to an audience that included many Montreal high school children.

Bukowski and his team at the Centre for Research in Human Development are proving to be good friends to the community. ■

Anna di Giorgio, BFA 81, is a Montreal-based writer.

HOMECOMING RECAP

RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY



September 24 Mentor Program Speed- Networking & Cocktail Reception

Concordia held its second, highly successful career speed-networking event, bringing together 39 students and 26 volunteer mentors, who provided career advice to the students. Mentors represented various professional backgrounds, including finance, management, IT, engineering, marketing, human resources, the arts, education and law.

Following the networking session, participants continued their discussions during a cocktail reception. Pictured above are (from left) mentor **George Metrakos**, BEng 94, MBA 01, of GMS Capital Corporation, and **Caroline Lavoie**, BFA 08.

September 25 Shuffle 20

More than \$53,000 toward scholarships and bursaries was raised as hundreds of Concordians turned out for the 20th Shuffle, the 6.5-km walk between the Sir George Williams and Loyola campuses that traditionally kicks off Homecoming.

Mitch Robitaille (pictured above right with Virgin Radio 96 host **Sir Patrick**), a third-year Management student at the John Molson School of Business, told friends he'd dress as a clown if he failed to raise \$500 toward the cause. Robitaille actually raised \$530 and donned a Bozo suit, anyway. Robitaille was lauded as the "Most Flamboyant Shuffler." Since its inception, the Shuffle has raised \$900,000 that has provided support to more than 375 students.

RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY



Concordia Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony & Banquet

Rocco Romano, BA 88, was a dominating offensive lineman for the Concordia Stingers football team from 1983 to 1986. But Romano told the audience of 110 alumni, faculty and staff members and friends at the Concordia University Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet at Montreal's Molson Brewery that his football career nearly ended on his first day of Stingers training camp in 1983. Despite a season-ending injury, he opted to remain at the university and later went on to a 14-year, Hall-of-Fame career in the Canadian Football League. "It all started at Concordia," he pointed out.

Romano joined Sir George Williams University soccer star Gerald Stachrowski, BA 63, Concordia women's hockey standout Cammi Granato, attendee 97, the 1962-63 Sir George Williams men's soccer team and the 1995-96 Concordia women's hockey team as the 2009 Sports Hall of Fame inductees. Pictured below (from left) are Sir George Williams men's soccer team inductees **Ruthven Licorish**, attendee 65, and **David Fletcher**, S BA 64, with **Sarah** and **Jennifer Fletcher**.

RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY



From September 24 to October 4, thousands came home to Concordia to reconnect with former classmates and friends during 10 days of exciting events at the university and abroad. For full details and more photos, visit homecoming.concordia.ca

September 26 Homecoming Football Game

Hundreds came out to the Concordia Stadium at Loyola Campus to witness the Concordia Stingers take on the St. Francis Xavier X-Men, who proved to be tough competition. The game was close, with a final score of 19-17 for St. F-X. This year's Sports Hall of Fame inductees were introduced to the crowd at half-time.

September 27 Family Fair Day

The award-winning Family Fair Day, now in its third year, attracted more than 900 participants, despite persistent rain. Members of the Concordia and local communities congregated at Loyola Campus for a fun-filled day of activities and events for the whole family. A highlight was the synthetic WeTeam™ Ice rink, where members of the Concordia Stingers men's hockey team joined youngsters for a friendly hockey game (pictured below).

Canadiens right-winger Georges Laraque and Montreal Alouettes players Kerry Carter, Paul Woldu, Shea Emry and Eric Wilson were on hand to sign autographs. Concordia's provost, deans and university librarian served up hotdogs and hamburgers during the Deans' BBQ.



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

September 29 Up Close and Personal with Rawi Hage



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

Concordia alumnus Rawi Hage's first two novels fetched national and international award nominations and prizes. The author spoke about his oeuvres to about 170 students, alumni and other guests who packed Concordia's J.A. De Sève Cinema for "Up Close and Personal with Rawi Hage."

Hage's debut novel, *De Niro's Game* (2006), won the 2008 IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, the most lucrative prize for English-language fiction. In his second novel, *Cockroach* (2008), Hage's unstable narrator veers disturbingly between reality and fantasy while living in a Montreal immigrant neighbourhood.

Peter Webb, a Concordia assistant professor of English, joined **Hage** (pictured above), BFA 98, on stage at the "Up Close and Personal" event and asked the writer a series of questions. Hage fondly recalled his days in Concordia's Photography program in the mid 1990s. "It was a great time for me; very enlightening. I was exposed to critical thinking and different schools of thought," said Hage.

September 30 AbitibiBowater Lecture: Linda Nazareth | The Post- Everything Economy: Thriving and Surviving in a New World

Short-term prospects for Canadian workers are grim: not only will we “shut up and work” but we’ll also work harder and put in longer hours to hang onto our jobs, predicts Canadian economist and author **Linda Nazareth** (pictured below, right, with Concordia Provost **David Graham**). In the long term, we’ll live in smaller homes and lead simpler lives. “The leisure economy is the opposite of what we have now, a time-crunch economy,” Nazareth told 150 participants at Concordia’s AbitibiBowater Lecture.



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

October 1 Layton Out Loud: a night of poetry to celebrate the work of Irving Layton

About 70 Concordia students, faculty and staff members and friends of the late, renowned poet Irving Layton packed the Vanier Library’s ground-floor study room for “Layton Out Loud: a night of poetry to celebrate the work of Irving Layton.” The Concordia Library houses the largest collection of Layton’s published and archival materials.

October 2 Science College 30th Anniversary Public Lecture

Louis-Éric Trudeau, BSc 90, delivered a public lecture, entitled “Adventures into brain science,” in Concordia’s Hall Building in honour of the Science College’s 30th anniversary. Trudeau discussed the various stages of his training and how the Science College had a positive impact on his life, helping him become a successful neuroscientist.

October 3 Engineering and Computer Science Reunion



MICHAEL PERL

More than 100 Engineering and Computer Science alumni celebrating special reunion years returned to Concordia for three special events.

The day was kicked off by Pragasen Pillay, Concordia professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Hydro-Quebec Chair in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, who spoke about the timely topic of “Renewable Energy for the Future.”

Pillay said he’s optimistic about a future that will be shaped, in part, by today’s engineering students. Alumni and guests then joined a tour of the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex and Hall Building.

To cap the festivities, about 60 alumni, professors and guests gathered in Reggie’s Bar in the Hall Building and mingled, reminisced and happily imbibed Reggie’s finest brews. Former Engineering and Computer Science associate dean Terry Fancott delivered a nostalgic speech that induced many laughs and presented a slideshow featuring old photos of students and professors. Pictured above at Reggie’s are (from left) **Suzanne Belanger**, principal director of development of the faculties of Engineering and Computer Science and Fine Arts, **Anatole Desiatnyk**, S BEng 69, **Harold Debor**, S BEng 65, S BEng 68, and **Paul Fazio**, professor of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Science College 30th Anniversary Alumni Banquet

About 85 Concordia alumni, faculty and staff members, students and guests gathered for the Science College 30th Anniversary Alumni Reunion Banquet at Montreal’s Montefiore Club. Science College Principal Calvin Kalman served as master of ceremonies. Pictured above right at the reunion are (from left) **Alexandra Merckx-Jacques**, BSc 98, **Caroline Van de Velde**, BSc 99, MA 01, PhD 08, and **Ian Ferrier**, BA 81.



October 4 President's Reunion Brunch and Campus Tours

Graduates of the classes of 1959 and earlier, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994 and 1999 celebrated their milestone anniversaries at the President's Reunion Brunch and campus tours.

Montreal media personalities L. Ian MacDonald, L BA 69, and Mutsumi Takahashi, BA 79, MBA 85, were among those who delivered addresses. MacDonald underscored his pride for Concordia. "It's a tier-one university. When you look around at these facilities today . . . it's a pretty impressive mid-town campus," said MacDonald, a columnist for *The Gazette* and *National Post* newspapers, political commentator and editor-in-chief of *Policy Options* magazine.

Takahashi, news anchor for CTV Montreal, recalled how choosing Concordia set the stage for her career. "Concordia gave me an arts degree, which is so critical for a well-rounded education," said Takahashi. Dominic Taddeo, L BComm 59, echoed MacDonald's views. "Concordia has grown," said Taddeo, who recently retired as president and CEO of the Port de Montréal. "It is now an institution."

Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Judith Woodsworth told guests that the passage of time had been good to them. "I can see you've all aged gracefully, as has our university," Woodsworth said. Pictured below enjoying the celebration are (from left) **Christine Kruczyj-Batiuk**, L BA 67, and **Eugene Batiuk**, L BSc 59.



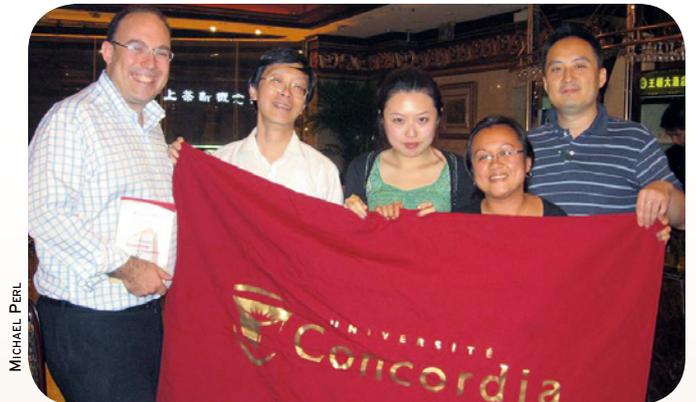
Geographic Chapters

September 24 Tri-State: Canadian Universities Alumni Reception



The Concordia University Alumni Association's Tri-State Chapter gathered at the 17th Annual Canadian Universities Alumni Reception at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. Hosted by the Canadian Association of New York, the event brought together Canadian university graduates for networking over delicious food and refreshments. Pictured above at the event are (from left) **Cameron Fortin**, BComm 06, **Sarah Bostock**, BComm 04, **Tiziana Sullivan**, BComm 95, **Lina Uberti**, alumni officer, geographic chapters, **Janet Chin-Lyn**, MBA 93, and **Russell Makofsky**, BComm 07.

September 25 Shanghai: Homecoming Dinner



Concordia alumni living in China gathered at Shanghai's Wangchao Restaurant to celebrate Homecoming 2009 over a traditional Chinese meal. Pictured above showing their Concordia pride are (from left) **Laurent Dagenais**, MA 03, **Winston Kan**, BComm 81, **Nancy Xie**, BA 05, **Kim-Tien Huynh**, BComm 01, and **Richard Choi**, MA 04. ■



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY

1 Alumni Golf Tournament

CONCORDIA GOLF TOURNAMENT SCORES BIG

By Philippe Pourreaux, BComm 00
Member, Board of Directors, Concordia
University Alumni Association

The John Molson School of Business Alumni Chapter and Loyola Alumni Association joined forces for the first time September 10 to host the Concordia Annual Alumni Golf Tournament at the beautiful Club de Golf Islesmere in Ste-Dorothee, Que. About 140 golfers were greeted by upbeat club staff, alumni officers and fellow participants who mingled with old friends and met new ones. The outstanding golf course and sunny weather made for an idyllic setting.

Following everyone's heroic shots—and other, less impressive ones—guests chatted about golf, business and life at a cocktail reception and delicious dinner.

Alumni showed their sense of belonging by donating many valuable items for a silent auction and the Alumni Association and its affinity partners contributed several raffle gifts. Participants were equally generous, eagerly bidding for the items up for grabs and generously buying raffle tickets. The event raised \$60,000 gross for student scholarships and alumni activities.

The overwhelming story behind this great golf tournament is the continued dedication of alumni from all chapters

who are willing to collaborate to make their Concordia experience resonate.

Way to go, alums!

Pictured are **Philippe Pourreaux**, BComm 00, **Bonnie Birollo**, EMBA 06, **Aleem Mohammed**, BComm 07, and **Marshall Johnson**, S BA 67, S MA 70. **1**

LOYOLA

The Loyola Class of 1959 organized a reunion on October 3 at Montreal's Le Caveau restaurant. Pictured standing (from left): **Eduardo Fernandez**, L BComm 59, **Paul Laberge**, L BA 59, **Eric Bernier**, L BA 59, MSc 76, **Phil Lanthier**, L BA 59, **Paul Buckley**, L BSc 59, **Bob Coughlin**, L BSc 59, **Chuck Murphy**, L BComm 59, **John**



2 Loyola

Javornik, L BA 59, **Gerry Potter**, L BA 59, L BComm 70, **Nick DeTakascy**, L BSc 59, and **Gene Lewis**, L BSc 59; and seated (from left): **Howie Backman**, L BA 59, **Gerry McQuade**, L BSc 59, **Alex McAllister**, L BComm 59, and **Harold Allmand**, L BComm 59. **2**

ANNUAL CONCORDIA USED BOOK FAIR

Thanks to a countless stream of book lovers, the 13th Annual Concordia Used Book Fair October 5 and 6 in the Atrium of Concordia's J.W. McConnell Building raised more than \$10,000 for the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy's Student Emergency and Food Fund and Concordia scholarships. Organizers estimate that more than 5,000 books were sold. **3**

The Annual Concordia Used Book Fair accepts book donations throughout the year. Books can be of any type, including children's books and popular fiction, as long as they are in good condition. The Book Fair also accepts *National Geographic* magazines but not textbooks that were published more than 10 years ago.

Donations should be boxed, clearly labelled "Concordia Used Book Fair" and dropped off at the Hall Building loading dock, 2100 Bishop St., Montreal.

ALUMNI BOOK CLUB

Stephanie King, MA (Eng.), 01, and about 30 alumni and friends discussed the book *Girl in a Blue Dress* by



3 Used Book Fair



MICHAEL PERL

4 Explorations of the Mother House

Gaynor Arnold at the Alumni Book Club October 8 at Concordia's Hall Building. The novel was longlisted for the 2008 Man Booker prize.

PREOCCUPATIONS: PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPLORATIONS OF THE MOTHER HOUSE OF THE GREY NUNS

On October 15, guests packed the York Amphitheatre and FOFA Gallery of the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex for a panel discussion and vernissage titled "Preoccupations: Photographic Explorations of the Mother House of the Grey Nuns." The exhibit, which ran at the FOFA Gallery from October 8 to November 6, featured photographs of the Mother House of the Grey Nuns by alumni and Fine Arts faculty members: Jessica Auer, MFA 01, BFA 07, Claude-Philippe Benoit, MFA 95, Olga Chagaoutdinova, MFA 08, Denis Farley, MFA 84, Clara Gutsche, MFA 86, Thomas Kneubühler, MFA 03, Suzy Lake, MFA 83, Anne Ramsden, MFA 83, Sylvie Readman, MFA 88, Arthur Renwick, MFA 97, Gabor Szilasi and Chih-Chien Wang, MFA 06. Pictured is **Thomas Kneubühler** in front of his photograph, *Grey Nuns Lights*. **4**

MOUTH OPEN, STORY FALL OUT: TALES FROM THE CARIBBEAN AND AFRICA

World-renowned storyteller Jan Blake (pictured **5**) held more than 100 alumni and guests spellbound on October 19 with riveting stories from Africa and the Caribbean. Blake's



MICHAEL PERL

5 Tales from the Caribbean and Africa

standing-ovation performance of "Mouth open, story fall out: Tales from the Caribbean and Africa" was part of the 10th edition of the bilingual Quebec Intercultural Storytelling Festival. A native of England, Blake has travelled the world for more than 20 years recounting her stories, many inspired by traditional tales steeped in her Jamaican and African roots. Blake's tales drew heavily on Ananci, a common character in African lore who is often depicted as a trickster and cultural hero.

THE LOYOLA PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES ON ETHICS IN SOCIETY

About 100 alumni and guests filled Concordia's Communications Studies and Journalism Building Auditorium October 21 to hear to James Pambrun, L BA 71 (pictured next page at left **6**) deliver the first Loyola Public Lecture Series on Ethics in Society. Pambrun, a professor of Systematic

Theology at Saint Paul University in Ottawa, spoke about "Religion, Ethics and Culture." Pambrun praised the university as a "place of the human word." "The efforts of the human word bring answers to great inquiry," Pambrun said. He discussed how these intellectual pursuits open avenues for a reflection on ethics and how religion can play a role in our understanding of the power of the human word. The positive results can be found around us, he explained. "Societies and cultures are the evidence of the human word at work."

FACULTY SHOWCASE

Four outstanding Concordia faculty members brought more than 140 guests up to speed on exciting and relevant Concordia research November 7 at the Faculty Showcase at Concordia's J.W. McConnell Building. Vincent Martin, associate professor of

RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY



6 Loyola Public Lecture Series

Microbiology, explained his research on producing clean and sustainable fuel. Daniel Cross, BFA 91, MFA 98, an assistant professor of Cinema, delivered an inspiring presentation on what motivates him to make documentary films and showed clips from his films. Sheldon Williamson, assistant professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, delivered a talk about sustainable transportation; and Charles Cho, assistant professor of Accountancy, discussed social and environmental accounting, which covers the social and environmental effects of organizations' economic actions on particular interest groups and society at large.

17TH ANNUAL CONCORDIA BOWLATHON

About 65 Concordia alumni, faculty and staff members, students and their families and friends, gathered November 8 for a fun-filled day of 10-pin and fundraising at the 17th Annual Concordia Bowlathon. Montreal's Virgin Radio 96 hosts Mark Bergman and Chantal Desjardins served as masters of ceremony for the lively event at Quilles G Plus in Montreal. Participants walked home with about 30 prizes—and plenty of great memories. Since its inception by the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University, the Concordia Bowlathon has raised funds that have provided more than 110 scholarships and bursaries for worthy Concordia students.

RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY



7 Concordia Bowlathon



8 Tri-State Alumni

Pictured are (from left) **Donatella Tampieri**, Allen Nutik, S BA 68, 1st VP, Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University, **Gregory Chambers**, **Heather Starnes**, **Jeffrey Chambers** and **Donald Chambers**, BComm 76, 2nd VP, Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University. **7**

CHAPTERS: Tri-State

Members of Concordia's Tri-State alumni gathered for a good cause October 17 at the annual, 5-km Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research in New York City. Following the run, (pictured from left) **Alexandra Wong**, MBA 04, **Veneta**

Sotiropoulos, BA 99, MSc 03, **Janet Chin-Lyn**, MBA 93, **Cameron Fortin**, BComm 06, **Ali Ardakani** and **Russell Makofsky**, BComm 07 **8**, shared stories of their time at Concordia over a well-deserved lunch. The New York City Terry Fox Run supports cancer research at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Washington

On October 24, Washington, D.C. - area alumni and friends toured the Sunset Hills Vineyard, nestled in the woods of Northern Virginia's wine country. The visit started with a walk through the vineyard, surrounded by fiery autumnal shades, and a sampling of fruit from the vine. Participants then learned about the winemaking process during a tour of the production and storage facilities and enjoyed a private wine tasting of delectable Viognier, spicy Merlot, aromatic Sauvignon Blanc ice wine and a full-bodied Cabernet Franc, among other brands.

California

Northern-California alumni and friends celebrated Canadian Thanksgiving October 24 at a dinner at the Crowne Plaza in San Jose, Calif. The guests enjoyed a traditional turkey and ham dinner and agreed to try to make this an annual event. Pictured (from left) are **Adriana Girlea**, MSc 01, and **Joanne Mollot**, BA 79. **9**



9 California Alumni



10 Edmonton Alumni

Edmonton

Alumni and guests gathered October 29 for a hot buffet dinner and to hear from guest speaker Liz Czach, MA 01, assistant professor of English and Film Studies at the University of Alberta, who shared her insights into "Dueling Film Festivals: Montreal versus Toronto." After Czach's entertaining presentation, guests joined a lively discussion on the state of Canadian film. Pictured are **William MacKay**, S BSc 61, Chapter president **Peter Pagano**, L BA 67, and **Rupert Rubens**, S BComm 53. **10**

Boston-New England

The Boston-New England Chapter brought a taste of Montreal to

Boston October 30 for its 2nd Annual Montreal Deli Night. The event was held at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel, where hotel general manager David Connor, EMBA 98, greeted the alumni and family members in attendance. Guests savoured Montreal-style smoked-meat sandwiches, coleslaw and fries loaded with salt and vinegar.

Toronto

Toronto alumni enjoyed another successful Pub Night September 15 at the Rivoli restaurant in the heart of the Queen West district. Cass Simons, S BComm 71, a veteran executive recruiter, shared insider secrets to a successful career search with more than 50 attendees.

On November 10, a group of Toronto alumni gathered for a Remembrance Day Pub Night at Fionn McCools on Adelaide Street in Toronto's financial district. Guests socialized and raised a glass in honour of the brave men and women of the Canadian Forces. Pictured are **Monique Hutchins**, BComm 00, and **Ingrid van Weert**, BA 83. **11**

Jordan

Concordia alumni in Jordan gathered for a Young Alumni Networking Dinner November 11 at Fakhri El-Din Restaurant in Amman. Rami Kamal Adwan, MBA 99, Deputy CEO, Marketing and Sales, for Taameer Jordan Holdings,

organized the event. Adwan reports that the gathering was a success and the group is eager to establish a local chapter to promote the Concordia name in Jordan and foster networking opportunities. Pictured are **Tamara Malhas**, MA 05, and **Issa Aghabi**, BComm 04. **12**



11 Toronto Alumni

Ottawa

Some 70 alumni from Concordia and other universities gathered for the 11th Ottawa Alumni Business Networking Luncheon November 24, 2009, at the Minto Suite Hotel. The Ottawa Chapter revived the popular Networking Luncheon after a six-year hiatus. Guest speaker Corinne Charette, BSc 75, Chief Information Officer for the Government of Canada, spoke fondly of her time at Loyola and the role her university education has played in her career. Charette fielded questions and stayed to talk with guests. The Luncheon allowed members of various university alumni associations and the Ottawa business community to meet, greet and make new connections. A directory of participants' business cards was prepared and circulated after the event. For more information, contact **Murray Kronick** (pictured below, left, with Acadia University alumnus **Ed Hemphill** **13**), BSc 78, MCSc 83, Ottawa Chapter President, at cuaa-ottawa@concordia.ca.



12 Jordan Alumni

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE GEOGRAPHIC CHAPTER EVENTS

Watch for your invitation to these upcoming chapter events or visit alumni.concordia.ca.

Toronto

The Second Annual Toronto Marlies Night, with Brian Burke

Join us for the exciting action of a live American Hockey League game from the vantage of a luxury suite. Don't miss

a chance to meet Toronto Maple Leafs President and General Manager Brian Burke and learn about Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment hockey operations.

March 20, 2010

Ricoh Coliseum at Exhibition Place
Information: James Goodman at cuaa-toronto@concordia.ca

Meet the President and Vice-Chancellor
March 31, 2010

Calgary

Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra event:
Star Trek: The Music
January 13, 2010

Ottawa

Beer Tasting with Peter McAuslan
March 10, 2010

Meet the President and Vice-Chancellor
May 19, 2010

Tri-State

Smoked Meat Night
March 2010 ■



13 Ottawa Networking

75th anniversary of Sir George Williams's first graduating class



Homecoming 2012 will see a remarkable outpouring of memories for thousands of Sir George Williams University alumni as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the institution's first graduating class.

Sir George Williams was—and still is—a wonderful amalgam of college, school of business, textile, art and retailing, and primary and secondary schools. “Dear dirty old Sir George,” as one of us wrote long ago, made possible our escape into a more interesting and promising future. The stories of Sir George are heart-warming, complex and fascinating to all of us Georgians.

We are planning a magnificent celebration of what we were and what we are. We would like to hear from you not only about what you would like to participate in but also about what you remember and what Sir George has meant to your life and space.

Tentative plans to commemorate the 75th anniversary include an oral history component, enlarged memory book, art display, 1960s-style poetry reading, memorabilia display, philosophical discussion of what made Sir George unique and successful in adult education and, of course, a final banquet during which we can dust off our outdated finery and come “as we were”—or as you are, if that is more comfortable.

To include your recollections in our kaleidoscopic *Memory Book 75*, offer suggestions or for more information, please contact me:

Barbara Barclay, S BA 74, BSc 76
c/o Advancement and Alumni Relations Office
1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., FB 520
Montreal, QC H3G 1M8
barbara.barclay@concordia.ca

NOTICE

Are you a graduate living in London, United Kingdom?

We are interested in learning about the type of events and activities you would be interested in attending. Please complete our short, online survey at alumni.concordia.ca/chapters/geo. Help us widen our network by encouraging others to do the same.

For more information, contact Lina Uberti, Alumni Officer, Geographic Chapters, at lina.uberti@concordia.ca or 514-848-2424, ext. 4606.

NOTICE

Call for Class Reunion Champions for Homecoming 2010

Graduates from the classes of pre-1960, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995 and 2000 will reunite to celebrate their anniversary years at Homecoming 2010.

If you would like to volunteer as a Class Champion for your reunion class, please contact Erin Mullins, Associate Alumni Officer, Homecoming & Reunions, at erin.mullins@concordia.ca or 514-848-2424, ext. 3881. Help us bring together your former classmates to celebrate this momentous event.

NOTICE

Concordia Sports Hall of Fame Call for Nominations

The deadline for nominations to be considered for the 2010 induction ceremony is January 31, 2010.

Nominations should be accompanied by as much supporting documentation as possible, because it is the documentation that provides the basis for the selection. Nominations do not expire if they are not considered the year during which they are put forward.

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



1-3 > LiQin Tan, MFA 93, is an associate professor of Art at Rutgers University in Camden, N.J. LiQin specializes in digital-natural art, which incorporates digital-3D images with primitive technology and materials, and making primitive rawhide/wood-art through digital technology and equipment. He writes: "My recent artistic activities are focused on the conceptual animation and interactive animation-installation, specifically in the interactive animation-installation with Chinese agricultural devices." In the past year, LiQin exhibited in Beijing, China, at the Beijing World Art Museum, the YuanFen New Media Art Space and the Beijing Song Zhuang Art Festival. He will hold an exhibition called "Cold Heart/Warm Tech" from December 21, 2009, to February 21, 2010, at the LaSalle University Art Museum in Philadelphia, Penn.

1) *Digitally Bloodless*; 2) *Rusty Faces*; 3) *Black-Red Sun II*



Some graduates in this listing have received more than one degree from Concordia, Sir George Williams and/or Loyola. These people are listed under their earliest year of graduation.

46 Maurice A. Ryant, S BSc, moved to Ottawa in 1948 to work as a chemist. In 1954, he became a faculty member at the University of Ottawa's St. Patrick's College and, in 1959, he joined the team that had been put together to establish the Eastern Ontario Institute of Technology, which became Algonquin College in 1967. In 1970, Maurice became Algonquin's dean of Technology and in 1972, dean of the newly amalgamated Technology and Trades Division. He was elected a fellow of the Chemical Institute in 1970 and remains a member of the Chemical Institute of Canada. Maurice retired in 1976. Three years later, he earned the Polysar Award for "Outstanding Chemistry Teaching in Community and Technical Colleges." Maurice was a member of the World Federalist Organization of Canada and served one term as chairman of the Ottawa Chapter. He was one of the founding members of the Ottawa Modern Jewish School.

47 Stan Matthews, S BA, lives in Groveland, Fla. "As an active member and officer of the Association of

Alumni of Sir George Williams University, I was the founding editor of *Postgrad*, the alumni magazine that I published and edited in 1951 and 1952. At the time, I was a reporter at *The Montreal Star* newspaper and before that was at *The Gazette*. Dean Henry F. Hall was my favourite humanities professor and mentor for alumni association affairs. I am a minister of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. I obtained a Master of Divinity from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, N.Y., in 1953 and a Doctor of Ministry from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Penn., in 1983. From 1961 to 1965, I was on the faculty and director of information at George Williams College in Chicago, Ill. I published two books, *The Night Pastors* and *Tested Methods in Fund Raising*. I was pastor of a Presbyterian church in New

Jersey from 1980 until I retired in 1988. I moved to Florida in 2001. All my best to the Sir George Williams Class of 1947."

59 Richard Cleverdon, S BA, lives in Carey Bay, Australia. "When I completed my BA from Sir George Williams, I also received my commission in the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve and then got my teaching certificate at

the Ontario College of Education in Toronto. After teaching a few years in Toronto and Vancouver, I read that they were looking for teachers in New South Wales,

Australia, and I took a job there in 1970. I later moved to Sydney, where I taught in the Catholic School System for 21 years. I retired in 1995. I'm busier than ever: I belong to the Royal Volunteer Coastal patrol, am the conductor of the Rathmines Wangi Singers—a group of 12 men and a female accompanist—and am president of the retirement village where I live."

4 > Judith Klugerman, MFA (visual arts) 81, is a Montreal-based artist. Judith is holding an exhibition of her art called "Crete" from December 5, 2009, to January 17, 2010, at the Maison de la culture de Montréal, 1000 Avenue de la Commune, Montréal, QC H2Z 1K9. 4) *Crete XIX*

5 > Mary Selyan-Milligan, S BA 66, Norma Lehrer, S BA 68, Ingebord Jürgensen Hisc 79, Beverly Wight, BFA 81, Ingrid Black, BFA 83, Patricia Morris, MFA 84, Eric Bell, BFA 96, Shulman, BFA 96, and Alicia Surveyer, BFA 07, participated in a group exhibition called "Filling Space" from September 9 to October 11 at the Galerie de la ville in Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Que. 5) *Gone Fishing* by Susan

6 > Louise Bloom Spunt, S BA (fine arts) 67, is a Morin Heights, Que.-based artist. "I was one of the first graduates of Sir George Williams University's newly formed Fine Arts department and a student of Alfred Pinsky, Ghitta Caisserman-Roth and Gerry Tondino for print making." Louise is holding an exhibition of miniature prints and related works and etchings called "Story and Scroll" from November 26, 2009, to February 26, 2010, at the Wilder & Davis Gallery in Montreal. 6) *Alice's Garden - Time and Tide Wait for*

78 Neville-Warren Cloutier, BSc, EMBA 91, is legal counsel and manager for several German companies based in Quebec and is president of Iso Software Systems Inc. (isosoftware.com) in Montreal. In September, Iso Software won the Silver award in the Small Business category (sales of up to \$5 million) of the National Bank Financial Group's 16th SME (small- and medium-sized enterprises) Awards for the Montreal region.

79 Barbara Samuels, BA, received the Margaret Collier Award at the 24th Annual Gemini Awards in October for her significant contribution to the national and international profile of Canadian television screenwriters and her exceptional body of work. Barbara's screenwriting credits include *E.N.G.* and *North of 60*.

81 Patricia Abbott, BA (journ.), recently stepped down as executive director of the Association of Canadian Choral Communities and was named artistic director of Canadian Amateur Musicians/Musiciens amateurs du Canada. Patricia has taught for Canadian Amateur Musicians at the Lake MacDonald Music Centre in Harrington, Que., since 1991. She continues to conduct the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) Chorale,

the Chorale du Gesù women's choir and the Cantivo Chamber Choir. The EMSB Chorale will celebrate its 30th anniversary with a gala concert May 1, 2010, at Concordia's Oscar Peterson Concert Hall.

Ralf Chlipalski, BEng 81, lives in Nepean, Ont. "I worked 15 years as an engineer at Gandalf Technologies in Ottawa and was a senior engineer at Nortel in Ottawa before the crash of 2001. Then I began inventing gadgets. I have appeared on CBC TV's *Dragons' Den* the last three seasons."

83 Pang Lim, BEng, is a self-employed engineering manager in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. "I really miss all my friends and classmates from the Faculty of Engineering Class of 1983. We had students from Bahrain, Singapore, Indonesia, Africa and, of course, Canada."

25TH REUNION

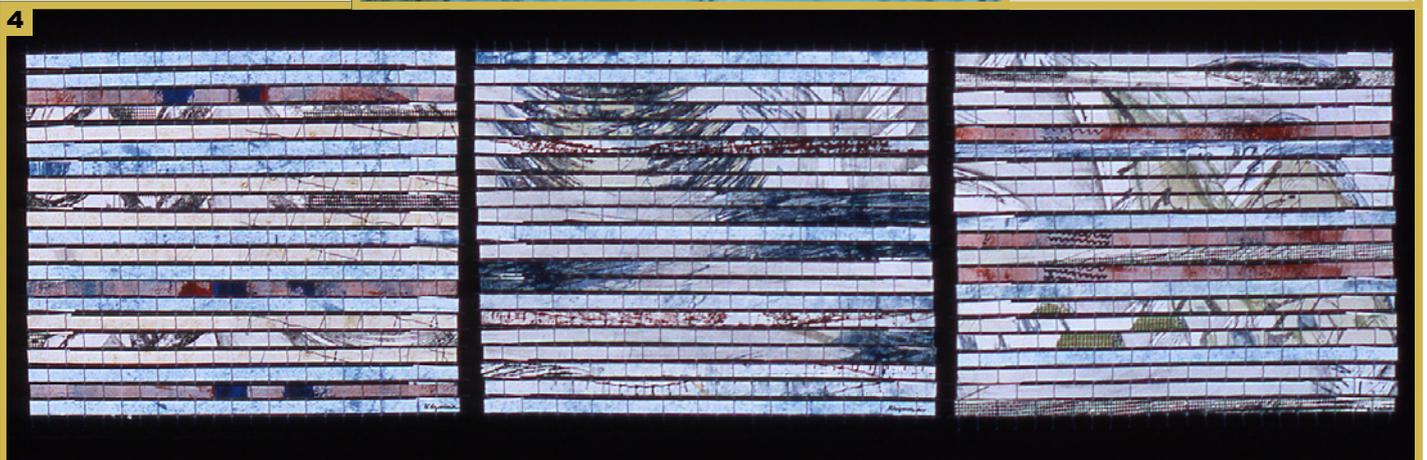
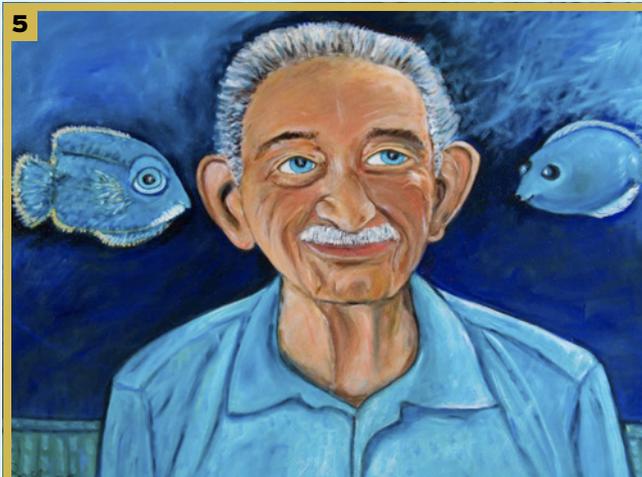
85 Lily Goldman, BFA, has just launched her new children's book entitled *Mrs. Nosy: A Composting Story for Children & Adults*. Lily is a Montreal-based watercolourist and children's author and also illustrated *Mrs. Nosy*. mrsnosy.blogspot.com

Gloria Taylor, GrDip (ed. tech), holds an MEd from McGill University and is retired from Kingston, Ont.'s Limestone District School Board. Gloria is now writing her memoirs. In October, the Seniors Association of Kingston's *Vista* magazine published one of Gloria's stories, "Steppin' Out." Her poem entitled "Ode to Nina," composed in honour of Gloria's first granddaughter, will be published in the Poetry Institute of Canada's upcoming edition of *Whispers On The Wind*.

88 Justine Freund, BComm (mktg.), recently became the business development representative for Avec Plaisirs, a Montreal-based corporate caterer. "I am married to **Mike Ritlop**, BSc (exer. sci.) 88. Mike runs the Centered Athlete, which designs sport-specific yoga programs for runners, triathletes, cyclists and cross-country skiers."

20TH REUNION

90 Erik Goulet, BFA (cinema), is a part-time instructor at Concordia's Department of Cinema. Erik was the director of the first Montreal Stop Motion Film Festival, which was held October 24 and 25 at Concordia's J.A. De Sève Cinema. The festival showcased more than 80 stop-motion animation films from



around the world. It kicked off with a special screening of Aardman Animation's latest creation called *Wallace & Gromit: A Matter of Loaf and Death*. StopMotionMontreal.com

91 Michel Héroux, BFA (music), launched his second album, *Greasy Spoon*, in October. "I'm still teaching jazz guitar at Cégep de Saint-Laurent [Que.], and my second baby girl just turned one. Visit myspace.com/michelheroux to see what I'm up to."

94 Angelika Brunel, BEd (TESL), recently published her first book, *Real English Authentic Learning 1* (Chenelière Éducation), a textbook for English as a second language students.

99 Robert Swartz, BA (philosophy), won a Gemini Award for Best Picture Editing in a Comedy, Variety or Performing Arts Program

or Series in the Children's and Youth, Comedy, Drama and Variety Categories in October. Robert was awarded for his work on *The Young Romantic*, a documentary portrait of Chinese pianist Yundi Li.

10TH REUNION

00 Lance Blomgren, MA (Eng.), recently published an expanded edition of *Walkups* (Conundrum Press), his debut novella. Originally published in 2000, *Walkups*—a dystopian docu-drama set in Montreal row-house apartments—was adapted into a radio piece for CBC Radio One and translated into French and published by Éditions Adage.

Philippe Pourreaux, BComm, recently joined Bombardier Aerospace's strategy and business development group in Montreal. Previously, Philippe was a strategy



Kai Sun Chan, BA 90 (poli. sci.), is a film actor and film extra in Montreal. "I'm still a big *Star Trek* fan. I'm pictured (above) showing the Vulcan hand salute at Concordia's Homecoming 2009 Family Fair Day on September 27. To the graduates of the Class of Stardate 1990: Let's have a great time at Homecoming 2010. Make it so. Live long and prosper!" starshipcaptainschan@live.com

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@alcor.concordia.ca Subject: *Class Acts*

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

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

consultant at Secor Consulting and business analyst at the National Bank of Canada.

01 Danièle Powell, BSc (eol.), holds a Certificate in Translation from McGill University and is a translator and communications coordinator for Saint-Eustache, Que.-based Nova Bus. At McGill's fall 2009 convocation ceremonies in November, Danièle received the McGill Associates Prize in Translation (French to English), which is awarded annually to the student with the best academic record in the Certificate in Translation program.

5TH REUNION

05 Rose Wangechi, BComm (fin.) 05, is the alumni officer for Student Programs at Concordia's Advancement and Alumni Relations Office. In October,

Rose received a 2010 Rising Star Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District I, which encompasses universities and colleges in eastern Canada and north-eastern United States. The Rising Star Award recognizes the accomplishments of new advancement professionals.

07 Alexandre Saba, BFA (electroacoustics), runs the post-production development team at Wave Generation, a Montreal-based, audio post-production facility specializing in interactive entertainment. "I majored in electroacoustics and have no plan of backing away from my passion: sound design. My credit list is growing as fast as my grey hair, perhaps running in parallel, and I've had the opportunity to work on some of the industry's most critically acclaimed video games." ■



Michael Ernest Sweet, MA (ed. studies) 08, is the founder of Learning for a Cause (LearningforaCause.org), a Montreal-based, non-profit organization dedicated to publishing and promoting young writers. In October, Michael (pictured above with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper) received a 2009 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence. He also was recently appointed to the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, awarded a 2009 National Council of English Teachers High School Teacher of Excellence Award and profiled in the 100th edition of *Canada's Who's Who*.

Four Concordians win Quebec Writers' Federation prizes

In November, four Concordia alumni took home Quebec Writers' Federation (QWF) prizes, which are awarded to the best English-language literature published by Quebec writers in the past year:

Eric Siblin, BA (hist.) 84, MA (hist.) 87, won the McAuslan First Book Prize and the Mavis Gallant Prize for non-fiction for *The Cello Suites* (Atlantic Monthly Press). Sibli's book was also nominated for a Governor General's Literary Award.

Carmine Starnino, MA (Eng.) 01, won the A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry for *This Way Out* (Gaspereau Press).

Lazer Lederhendler, MA (Eng.) 93, won the Translation Prize, French to English, for *Nikolski* (Knopf Canada).

Monique Polak, MA 84, won the QWF Prize for Children's and Young Adult Literature for *What World Is Left* (Orca Book Publishers).

Concordia presented four honorary doctorates November 13 at its fall 2009 convocation ceremonies

AA Bronson, LLD 09, is an award-winning artist, writer, curator and healer whose work has been widely exhibited. In 1969, AA co-founded the artist's group called General Idea, and for 25 years, published the influential *FILE* magazine and produced more than 100 solo exhibitions and countless public art projects. Since 1994, his work has become more focused on the concept of healing. AA is now president of Printed Matter, a non-profit centre for artists' books, and artistic director of the Institute for Art, Religion, and Social Justice, both in New York City. He is studying for his Master of Divinity degree.



Robert Walsh, L BSc 63, LLD 09, is president and founder of Forensic Technology in Montreal. His Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) revolutionized the way firearm crimes are investigated and solved in more than 48 countries. Crime labs connected to the IBIS network can now trace gun crimes by sharing digital fingerprints of bullets or cartridges.



Elizabeth Comper, BA (ed.) 77, LLD 09, earned a BA at Concordia while working full-time as a teacher and earned a Master of Library Science degree at McGill University in 1979. Elizabeth served on the board of directors of the Tarragon Theatre in Toronto, where she lives, and is a member of the Art Gallery of Ontario's board of trustees. With her husband, Tony Comper, Elizabeth helped found Canada's largest theatre arts award, the Elinore & Lou Siminovitch Prize.



Tony Comper, LLD 09, is immediate past president and CEO of BMO Financial Group in Toronto. Tony joined BMO in 1967 after receiving his bachelor's degree from the University of Toronto. He played a central role in developing BMO's innovative computer system and was appointed president in 1990 and CEO in 1999. Tony has also contributed countless hours to local organizations. He and his wife Elizabeth founded Fighting Antisemitism Together (FAST), a coalition of non-Jewish Canadian leaders to fight anti-Semitism. The couple also created the Tony and Elizabeth Comper Fund for New Works at the Necessary Angel Theatre Company in Toronto.



John William Whalen, L attendee 32, died on July 3 in Montreal. John is survived by his sons, John and Warren. He was 92.

Brock Francis Clarke, QC, L BA 39, died on August 29 in Westmount, Que. Brock is survived by his wife, Simonne, and his children, Brian, David, Kevin, Brenda and Gregory. He was 89.

Dr. George Maurice Dundass, S BSc 41, died on August 29. George is survived by his children, Donna, Murray, Helen and Debbie. He was 87.

Paul François Limoges, L BA 41, died on October 21 in Calgary, Alta. Paul is survived by his wife, Christina Valerie, and his children, Suzanne Seely and Estelle Brennan. He was 88.

Dr. Harry Bethune Mann, S BSc 41, died on November 1 in Montreal. Harry is survived by his children, Varda, Vickie and Jonathan. He was 92.

Samuel George Toshitoki Toguri, S BSc 47, died on September 11 in Montreal. Samuel is survived by his children, James and Tokiko. He was pre-deceased by his wife, Keyoko. Samuel was 88.

Dr. George Alfred Brabant, S BSc 48, died on October 6 in Montreal. George is survived by his wife, Margaret, and his children, Gordon, Judy, Debbie, Sharon and Cathy.

Dr. Myer Katz, S BA 49, died on January 20 in Montreal. Myer is survived by his wife, Rose, and his sons, Joel and Michael.

Jean Le Menn, S BSc 49, died on November 1 in Montreal. He is survived by his daughters, Louise and

Jacqueline, and his partner, Louise Vanden Abeele. He was 82.

Patrick Polan, L BA 49, died on September 9 in Calgary, Alta. Patrick is survived by his children, Kevin, Brian, Karen, Michael and Cynthia. He was 81.

Lionel William Sweeney, L BA 50, died on July 5 in Oakville, Ont. Lionel is survived by his children, Maureen and Daniel.

Walter Joseph Stanley Wade, S BComm 51, died on July 9 in Victoria, B.C. Walter was 96.

Harry Peter Barakett, S BComm 52, died on September 8 in Toronto. Harry is survived by his sisters, Odette, Betty, Lorraine, Corrine and Connie.

Lillian (Jaslow) Schwartz, S BA 52, died on October 4 in Toronto. Lillian is survived by her husband, Herbert, and her son, Irving Siegel.

William Fraser C. (Bill) Barrie, S BA 53, died on August 13 in Nepean, Ont. William is survived by his children, Fraser and Janice, and his stepdaughter, Lynne Houldsworth. He was 91.

Rory O'Connor, L attendee 53, died on November 5 in Terrebonne-Heights, Que. Rory is survived by his children, Patricia, Michael and Brian. He was 78.

Warren Anthony Brown, S BComm 55, died on July 6 in Mississauga, Ont. Warren is survived by his children, Judy, Barb, Caroline and Jackie.

Daniel Edward Presley, S BA 56, died on October 21 in Toronto. Daniel is survived by his wife, Judith Gelber, and his daughters, Carolyn, Laura, Allison and Meredith. He was

predeceased by his wife, Sheila Smyth. Daniel was 76.

Uno Vahtrik, S BComm 57, died on July 24 in Montreal. Uno is survived by his wife, Maria, and his stepson, Lou Calderisi. He was 86.

Dr. George DeZwirek, L BSc 59, died on September 13 in New York City. George is survived by his children, David and Bernadette.

Herbert Frankenberg, S BA 60, died on October 25 in Montreal. Herbert is survived by his sister, Beate (Bea). He was 80.

C. Peter Herbert Partridge, S BComm 60, died on September 21 in Ormstown, Que. Peter is survived by his wife, Marilyn. He was 72.

Brien Hubert Noble, L BA 62, died on October 4 in Kingston, Ont. He is survived by his wife, Carolyne, and his children, Brien, Gayle and Wendy. He was 68.

Israel (Issie) Shinder, S BComm 62, died on July 5 in Montreal. Issie is survived by his wife, Brenda Pipersberg, and son, Stephen.

Joel Hartt, S BA (philosophy) 63, died on July 19 in Montreal. Joel is survived by his wife, Trudy, and his children, David, Tai, Robert, Tyrone, Tanya, Shama, Suzanne, Jeremy and Russell. He was 69.

Gabriel Macoosh, S BSc 65, S MTM 69, died on October 1 in Montreal.

Saul Zeidel, S BA 67, died on September 2 in Montreal. Saul is survived by his children.

Marian "Mario" Kraska, L BSc (biochem.) 68, died on September 16 in Ottawa. Mario is survived by his wife,

Magdalena, and his sons, James, Peter and Matthew. He was 63.

Barbara (Broderick) Dworsky, L BA (Eng.) 70, died on July 20 in Montreal. Barbara is survived by her husband, William, and her sons, Christopher, Nicholas and Matthew.

Dr. Jeffrey I. Bernstein, S BA (econ.) 71, died on July 22 in Aventura, Fla. Jeffrey is survived by his wife, Lidia Baranski, and his daughter, Jasmine.

Barbara (Usher) Goldberg, S MA 73, died September 28 in Encinitas, Calif. Barbara is survived by her husband, Norman, and her children, Judith and Jonathan. She was 72.

Helmy Tewfik Said, S MTM 73, died on September 9 in Montreal. Helmy is survived by his wife, Yvonne Shehata, and his children, Liliane and Tewfik.

John Louis (Janos) Ferenczy, BA (theol. studies) 75, died on August 20 in Montreal. John was predeceased by his wife, Eleanora Thornton, and is survived by his companion, Doris Vendittoli. He was 96.

Norman Manocchio, BSc (biol. sci.) 75, BAdmin 88, died on August 14 in Saint-Elie, Que. Norman is survived by his wife, Hanna, his mother, Catherine De Notaris, and his stepsons, Victor and William Perrault. He was 55.

John Flood, BA (poli. sci.) 77, died on September 8 in Kenora, Ont. John is survived by his mother, Claire, and his daughter, Jennifer. He was 55.

Barbara Kerr, BA (Eng.) 77, died on October 25 in Montreal.

Barbara is survived by her twin sister, Linda, and her siblings, David, Steven, Deborah, Tara and Emily. She was 57.

Robert Stahlbrand, BA (phil.) 77, died on November 3 in Pointe Claire, Que. Robert is survived by his sister, Doreen.

Samuel Eliesen, BA (psych.) 78, died on October 13 in Montreal. Samuel is survived by his wife, Minna Urynski.

Yvonne (Masri) Lawee, BA 79, died on November 2 in Montreal. Yvonne is survived by her children.

Audrey Pearl (Stephenson) Miles, BA (ECE) 79, died on November 1 in Richmond, B.C. Audrey is survived by her husband, Thomas, and her children, Susan and Tom.

Hagop Angaladian, BEng 80, died August 13 in Outremont, Que. Hagop is survived by his wife and children. He was 52.

Hermine Elvita Manning, BA (psych.) 82, died on July 8 in Montreal. Hermine is survived by her siblings, Gilbert, Inez, Headley and Consie.

Muriel Helena Duckworth, LLD 83, died on August 22 in Magog, Que. Muriel is survived by her children, Martin, Eleanor and John.

Mumtaz Gawargy, PhD (eng. & comp. sci.) 86, died on September 3 in Pointe Claire, Que. Mumtaz is survived by his wife, Suzan, and his children, Maryam Tse, Michael, Manar and Mark.

Audra Bracken, BComm (fin.) 89, died on August 17 in Toronto, Ont. Audra is survived by her siblings, Shirley, Ronald, Reginald and Russell.

Françoise Desrochers, GrDip (inst. admin.) 89, died on August 6 in Montreal. Françoise is survived by her husband, John Scally, and her sons, John and Robert. She was 61.

Michaela Charlotte Otto-Jacob, BFA 90, died on 27 July in Magog, Que. Michaela is survived by her husband, Carl Heinrich, and her daughters, Christina Helene, Valerie Beatrice and Caroline Yvonne Elizabeth. She was 74.

Anastasia (Tassy) Roumbas, BA (poli. sci.) 91, died on October 23 in Mississauga, Ont. Anastasia is survived by her husband, Derek Bruneau, and her parents, Niki and Spiros. She was 41.

Helen (Collin) Tallentire, BA (app. soc. sci.) 92, died on September 17 in Montreal. Helen is survived by her husband, Rex, and her children, Una Jane and Tara. She was 79.

Piero Flammia, BA (math. & philosophy) 93, died on August 17 in Lourdes, France. Piero is survived by his wife, Giuseppina (Josie), and his mother, Maria. He was 38.

Glen Wilfred Allen Tapp, BA (math. & stats.) 99, died on September 29 in Montreal. Glen is survived by his father, Louis, and his siblings, Beverly and Gary.

Luciano Venditti, BA (econ.) 01, died on August 18 in Montreal. Luciano is survived by his wife, Mya Gauthier, his twin sons, Lucca and Julian, and his parents, Sylvia and John. He was 33.

Léa Guilbeault, BComm (mktg.) 02, died on July 16 in Montreal. Léa is survived by her husband, Hani Beitinjaneh, and her parents, Michel and Micheline. She was 33. ■


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Challenging the seven summits

BY ANTOINE LABRANCHE,
BA (HIST.) 09

Antoine Labranche is a Second Lieutenant Canadian Air Force pilot (in training) with the 438 Tactical Helicopter Squadron in Saint-Hubert, Que.

On August 25, at 12:15 p.m. local time, I successfully reached the western summit of Mount Elbrus in Russia's Caucasus mountain range near the border of Georgia. Mount Elbrus is the highest point and peak in Europe at 5,642 metres above mean sea level. It was the second conquest of my "Seven Summits" goal to scale the highest mountains in all seven continents.

The two years I've spent working toward that objective have been long, strenuous—and cold! I hope to become the youngest Canadian to climb all seven summits—I'll be 27 if I reach my goal within four years—and the first man and youngest member of the Canadian Forces to successfully scale Mount Everest. I'm doing it to inspire other young people by showing them that with determination and perseverance, they, too, can set ambitious goals and realize them. But I'm also driven to support causes in which I firmly believe. I dedicated a recent preparatory climb of Mount Orizaba in Mexico to my father, who died from cancer, and my cousin, Noémie Dubé, who is currently battling the disease. At the top of each summit, I also display the flags of organizations that have supported me along the way, including Concordia, my Canadian Forces squadron, the Canadian Cancer Association and Centraide.

In summer 2008, I completed my first mountaineering expedition at Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa. The following year, after I graduated from Concordia, my friend and I biked



Antoine Labranche displays a Canadian Cancer Society flag atop Mount Orizaba in Mexico, the third highest mountain in North America, in November 2009.

across the Mojave Desert and Death Valley in Nevada and California and climbed Mount Whitney in California, the highest peak of contiguous United States. Three months later, I left for Russia to tackle my next summit.

On August 19, I left Montreal for Moscow and headed to Mount Elbrus. Our group of 12 climbers began our ascent on the morning of August 23. We reached base camp (3,800 metres) around noon, then continued our climb to 4,400 metres, just below Pashtukov Rocks, a visible landmark on the mountain's south face. The weather was deteriorating; it was too windy and cold so we had to descend back to base camp. The following day, we climbed all the way up to Pashtukov Rocks to complete our acclimatization. (Acclimatizing allows the body to adapt to the thin air, which is vital in mountaineering.) It was a rough hike and not everyone in the group made it. But when we got there, with the sun gleaming on the glacier, it was warm and beautiful. We looked south and had a spectacular view all the way to Georgia.

We returned to base camp in the early afternoon. At 4 a.m. the next day, we left for our summit push—nearly 2,000 metres above our camp. It was chilly but not windy. We climbed for nine long hours until we were a few hundred feet

shy of our goal. On the steep slope below the west summit, I saw a climber slip and fall but, luckily, he managed to avoid smashing against the rocks below. He turned around and headed back down.

We ploughed ahead unfazed. I accelerated my pace, feeling a surge of energy, and reached the summit five feet behind the first climber. But I only savoured success for about 15 minutes because it got extremely windy again and the squadron flag nearly slipped through my fingers, which froze instantly after I took off my thick mitts to pose for a picture. Along the way back down, a whiteout forced us to remain idle for 10 minutes because we couldn't see 20 feet ahead and knew that crevasses lay nearby. We spent the night at base camp and the next day descended to the valley below. We spent one day recovering before travelling back to Moscow.

In early 2010, my sights are on Mount Chimborazo in Ecuador and Mount Aconcagua in Argentina, which, at 6,962 metres, is the world's tallest mountain outside of the Himalayas. It will be the next stage in my incredible journey.

If you're interested in sponsoring Second-Lieutenant Antoine Labranche, contact him at antoinelabranche@gmail.com. ■

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