

CANADA:
ITS OWN FLAG.
ITS OWN DESTINY.



The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10, headlines
the Henri P. Habib Distinguished Speakers' Series at Concordia

Montreal, March 4, 2015

concordia.ca/alumni

#CUalumni #CUtalks



Before a capacity audience at Concordia's Sir George Williams University Alumni Auditorium in the Henry F. Hall Building on March 4, 2015, the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10, spoke candidly and passionately about public life and his love for Canada.

The former Prime Minister delivered the Henri P. Habib Distinguished Speakers' Series on Peace, Conflict and Global Politics in the 21st Century lecture, called "Canada: Its own flag. Its own destiny." It was followed by a Q&A with CTV Montreal News chief news anchor Mutsumi Takahashi, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13. Chrétien provided his take on a number of historic Canadian moments — often to loud applause, including four standing ovations.

The audience of 750 included Concordians as well as Members of Parliament, journalists and other guests. The Henri P. Habib Distinguished Speakers' Series on Peace, Conflict and Global Politics in the 21st Century was established in 2005 in honour of Distinguished Professor Emeritus Henri Habib, who founded Concordia's Department of Political Science and served as chair for 24 years.



Aline Chrétien; the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10; Henri P. Habib, distinguished professor emeritus, Department of Political Science, Concordia



The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10; Mutsumi Takahashi, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13, chief news anchor, CTV Montreal News





Bram Freedman, vice-president, Development and External Relations, and Secretary-General, Concordia

Peter Kruyt, BComm 78, vice-president, Power Corporation, past chair of the Concordia Board of Governors; Claire Mullins Kruyt, BA 87; Aline Chrétien



Olivier Desmarais, vice-president, Power Corporation and Power Financial; Adriana Desmarais; Helen Antoniou Molson; Andrew Molson, partner and chairman, RES PUBLICA Consulting Group; Bruce Hartley, senior partner, Prospectus Associates



On the Canadian Government's adoption of the "Maple Leaf" flag on December 15, 1964:

"It was a great day on Parliament Hill. It was cold, but it was very warm in our hearts because we had our flag, at long last."

— The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10



Bram Freedman, vice-president, Development and External Relations, and Secretary-General, Concordia; Henri P. Habib, distinguished professor emeritus, Department of Political Science, Concordia; Marlene Sokolon, chair and associate professor, Department of Political Science, Concordia



François-Philippe Champagne, Liberal Party candidate for Saint-Maurice–Champlain



Andrew Molson and Bruce Hartley



Mutsumi Takahashi, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13, chief news anchor, CTV Montreal News



"I was proud to tell [European leaders] I don't have any problem with immigration in Canada. For me an immigrant is not a problem, an immigrant is an asset."

— The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10



Christine Poirier, co-founder of Momzelle, Liberal candidate for LaSalle—Émard—Verdun



Annie Tobias, director, TornadoTobias Advisory; Sarah Tobias, Sarah Tobias Consulting

Patrick Parisot (right) and son



André Roy, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science; Amir Asif, dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science; Graham Carr, vice-president, Research and Graduate Studies; Steve Harvey, dean of the John Molson School of Business

“Of course, the [1995 Quebec referendum] question was so confusing. ‘Do you want happiness?’ It was difficult to vote no. After that I said, ‘This will not happen anymore.’ And we passed the law that we called the Clarity Act. There would be no negotiation according to this law if the question is not clear. ‘Do you want to separate from Canada? Yes or no.’”

— The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10





Henri P. Habib, distinguished professor emeritus, Department of Political Science, Concordia, and Marlene Sokolon, chair, Department of Political Science, Concordia



“The United Nations had a report every year on the quality of life in Canada. We were always number one, but one time we dropped to number three — and The Globe and Mail gave me hell. And now we’re number nine, 10, 11.”

— The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10

The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10, takes questions from reporters.



From left: members of Concordia's Garnet Key Society, Dave Oram, Veronica Tamburro, Alexandra Buonanno, Alexandra Mickleham, Patricia Hachey, the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10, Leo Collard, Noor Mady, Oreoluwa Ajayi, Rémi Mireault and Juan Wong



Claire Mullins Kruyt, BA 87; Louise Charbonneau; Joseph Shine, BA 76; Susan Doyon Burke, BComm 78, MBA 80; Sylvie Chagnon

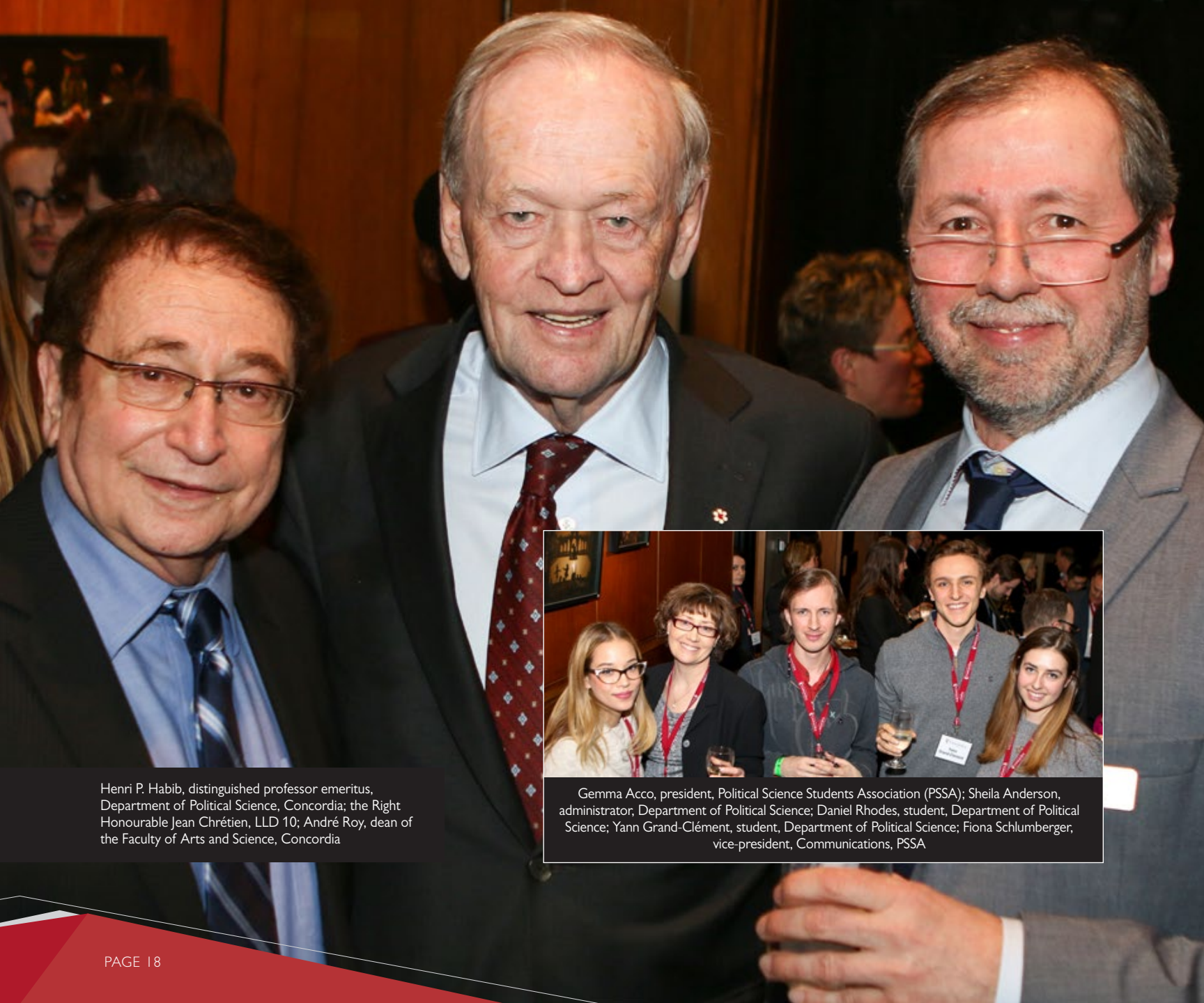


Sylvain-Jacques Desjardins, director of communications, Advancement and Alumni Relations, Concordia; the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10; Mutsumi Takahashi, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13, chief news anchor, CTV Montreal News; Aline Chrétien; Bram Freedman, vice-president, Development and External Relations, and Secretary-General, Concordia



Members of Concordia's Political Science Student Association: Gemma Acco, president, and Fiona Schlumberger, vice-president, Communications

The Right Honourable Jean Chretien with members of Concordia's Garnet Key Society: Alexandra Mieklem, Dave Oram, Patricia Hachey, Leo Collard and Noor Mady



Henri P. Habib, distinguished professor emeritus, Department of Political Science, Concordia; the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10; André Roy, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science, Concordia

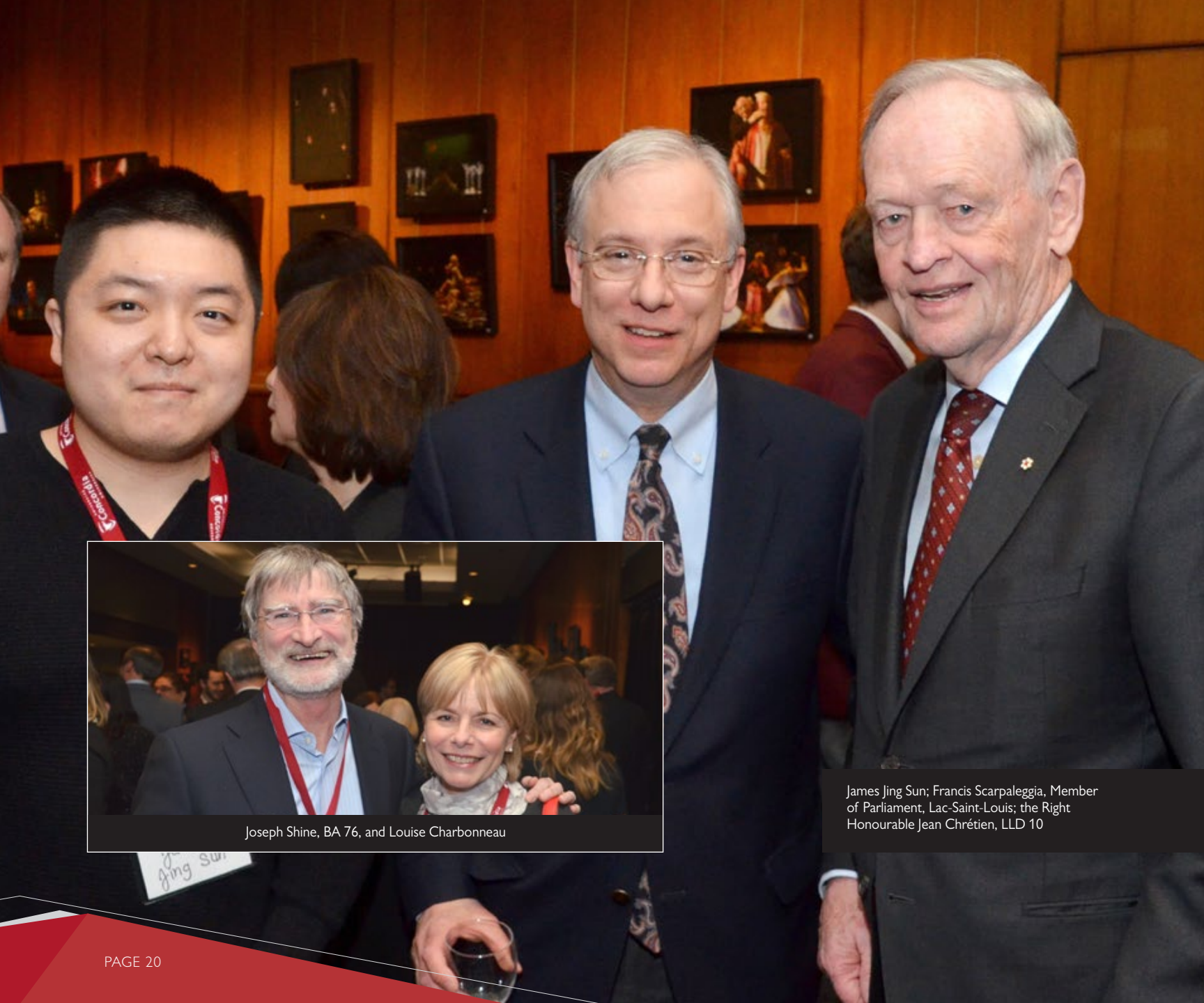


Gemma Acco, president, Political Science Students Association (PSSA); Sheila Anderson, administrator, Department of Political Science; Daniel Rhodes, student, Department of Political Science; Yann Grand-Clément, student, Department of Political Science; Fiona Schlumberger, vice-president, Communications, PSSA



The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10, and Marlene Sokolon, chair, Department of Political Science, Concordia

Garnet Keys Alexandra Buonanno, Veronica Tamburro and Noor Mady with Leisha LeCouvie, senior director, Alumni Relations, Concordia



Joseph Shine, BA 76, and Louise Charbonneau

James Jing Sun; Francis Scarpaleggia, Member of Parliament, Lac-Saint-Louis; the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10



Mutsumi Takahashi, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13, chief news anchor, CTV Montreal News, and the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10



Sylvie Bourassa, executive director, Government Relations, Concordia; the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10; Benoit Antoine Bacon, provost and vice-president, Academic Affairs, Concordia

Henri P. Habib, distinguished professor emeritus, Department of Political Science, Concordia; Bram Freedman, vice-president, Development and External Relations, and Secretary-General, Concordia



The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10; Aline Chrétien; Patrick Parisot (right) and his son



Peter Kruyt, BComm 78, vice-president, Power Corporation, past chair of the Concordia Board of Governors; Aline Chrétien; Claire Mullins Kruyt, BA 87



Marlene Sokolon, associate professor and chair, Department of Political Science; André Roy, dean, Faculty of Arts and Science; Mireille Paquet, assistant professor, Department of Political Science; Chedly Belkhodja, principal and professor, School of Community and Public Affairs; Ed King, associate professor, Department of Political Science; Michael Lipson, associate professor, Department of Political Science; Patrik Marier, professor, Department of Political Science, and Canada Research Chair in Comparative Public Policy



On his favourite foreign leader of the past:

“The night of the election, the polls were still coming in and [U.S. President Harry Truman] went to sleep. [The next day], the Chicago Tribune published the headline ‘Dewey Defeats Truman’. When Harry got up in the morning, he read it but he had won. He just smiled when he saw it. The Tribune was not for him but the people were.”

— The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, LLD 10

- Learn about our university's notable leaders, prominent researchers, entrepreneurs, artists, athletes and thinkers at [**concordia.ca/greatconcordians**](https://concordia.ca/greatconcordians).
- Discover what Concordia achieved first in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and the world at [**concordia.ca/concordiafirsts**](https://concordia.ca/concordiafirsts).