

Newsletter

Winter 2026 (Volume 12, Issue 3)

News

Concordia's team won this year's case competition of the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration (CAPPA) on February 21, and were awarded the Gold Medal (now known as the Robert Shepherd Prize). Congratulations to team members Naomi Abramovich, Ruxandra Chirila, Katherine Chisholm, Olivia Integlia, and Brendan Metrakos. A big thank you also goes to co-Coaches Dr. Meghan Joy, Dr. Joe Faragone, and Geoffrey Kelley. This was the second year in a row Concordia won the top prize in the competition. Full story here: [Concordia students take home top prize at National Public Administration Case Competition | News - Concordia University](#)



The winning team (left to right): Katherine Chisholm, Naomi Abramovich, Olivia Integlia, Ruxandra Chirila and Brendan Metrakos. | Photo by Meghan Joy

Events

Events hosted by the Global Governance Centre at Concordia (G2C2):

Dr. Felicity Vabulas (Pepperdine University). "Exit from International Organizations: Costly Negotiation for Institutional Change." January 29, 2026.



Left to right: Dr. Felicity Vabulas (speaker), Dr. Alexandra Zeitz, and Dr. Nicole De Silva (moderator)

Dr. Robert Eno (African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights). "The Development of the African Human Rights System." March 27, 2026. (A recording of Dr. Eno's presentation will be made available online.)



Left to right: Dr. Nicole De Silva, Dr. Robert Eno (speaker), and Mary Amadi (moderator)

Other events:

Dr. Nusta Ko (University of Baltimore). "Together We Fight: Surviving Peru's Campaign of Coercive Sterilizations." March 20, 2026.

Jerry V. DeMarco, Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development.
"The Environment and Sustainable Development – now and into the future." April 2, 2026.

Kenneth Deer, LLD, Bear Clan of the Mohawk Nation at Kahnawake. "A Haudenosaunee Perspective on Conflict and Peace. April 19., 2026 (Henri Habib Lecture Series.)

Dr. Nicole De Silva moderated a panel at *Global Insights*, held at the International Civil Aviation Organization, with ambassadors from Italy, Saint-Vincent & the Grenadines, North Macedonia, and Latvia. The event was co-organized by students from Concordia's International Relations Society and John Molson International Business Association. March 12, 2026.



Open House:



Recent Publications

Cruz Erisman, M., Canham, S.L., **Weldrick, R.**, Mahmood, A., & Patille, R. (2026). The impact of COVID-19 on older adults with lived experience of homelessness. *Educational Gerontology*, 52(3), 240-252. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03601277.2025.2485810>

Poteete, Amy R., Pavel Kunysz, and Nik Luka. 2025. "Commoning, Heterotopia, and Transformation: An Analytical Framework for and from Contested Spaces," *Environment and Planning D: Space and Society*. DOI: [10.1177/02637758251361706](https://doi.org/10.1177/02637758251361706)

Biglieri, S., Ahmen, N., Main, S., Tupling, O. L., Vijayakumar, R., Boger, J., Daum, C., Mann, J., Martin, M., McAiney, C., Nasir, H. J., Nasir, N., Pearce, B., **Weldrick, R.**, Vanderlinden, K., & Middleton, L. (2025). Developing and sustaining dementia capable communities: An analysis of the current evidence. *Dementia*, 0(0), 1-24. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14713012251404533>

Huelsemeyer, Axel (2026), *Decisionmaking in an Enlarged European Union*, New York: Anthem Press.

Smele, S., **Joy, M.**, Fortune, D., Seeley, M., Kohn, F., and Walker, T. 2026. Social Reproduction as Social Infrastructure: "Good Treatment" of English-speaking older adults in Quebec. *Quality in Aging and Older Adults*, February 5 2026, 1-13 <https://doi.org/10.1108/QAOA-06-2025-0058>

Paquet, M., Shields, J., Atak, I., **Joy, M.**, Hudson, G. 2026. Municipal "Sanctuary" Policies in Canada: A View from Immigrant-Serving Organizations. In Preston, V., Shields, J. and Bedard, T. Eds. *Social Resilience and the Urban Migrant Experience*. McGill-Queen's University Press. 27-41.

Conference and Roundtable Presentations

Other Presentations

Middleton, L., Biglieri, S., **Weldrick, R.**, Vanderlinden, K., & Mann, J. (2026, Jan). Building a dementia capable community: A partnership approach. Schlegel Research Institute for Aging & University of Waterloo. [webinar]

Canham, S. L., & **Weldrick, R.** (2026, Feb). Age-Friendly Communities in the Context of Aging in the Right Place for Older Adults Experiencing Homelessness. Community presentation to the Ottawa Council on Aging. [virtual].

Joy, M. (2026, March). Coordination et gouvernance : les angles morts du système. Conférence CREGÉS. [webinar]

Alexandra Zeitz (2026, April). Terms and Conditions: The Pricing and Politics of Bilateral Lending. [MacMillan International Relations Seminar Series](#). Yale University.

Nicole De Silva (2026, Feb). Why Not Hold the Pen? Exploring Implications of Drafting Privileges in International Organizations. Centre for International Peace and Security Studies Speaker Series. Université de Montréal.

Media Appearances and Op Eds

Graham Dodds has been interviewed by journalists about U.S. politics on multiple occasions since the end of the Fall term:

- CTV, Montreal. December 17, 2025. (re. Donald Trump's first year back in office.)
- Simon Gionet and Léo Mercier-Ross. "Que faisait l'ICE à Minneapolis?" *Le Devoir*. January 9, 2026.
- *The Montreal Gazette's* podcast "The Corner Booth." January 10, 2026:
- CTV, Montreal. January 13, 2026. (re. Donald Trump and international relations.)
- CTV, Montreal. January 28, 2026. (re. Donald Trump's immigration policies.)
- "A View from our Northern Neighbor." Written and online undergraduate student project for Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), Massachusetts. March 5, 2026.
- CTV, Montreal. March 11, 2026. (re. Trump and Iran.)
- CJAD Radio, Montreal. April 3, 2026. (Live; Re. Donald Trump and Iran.)
- CJAD Radio, Montreal. April 11, 2026. (Live; Re. Donald Trump and Iran.)
- CJAD Radio, Montreal. April 18, 2026. (Live; Re. Donald Trump and Iran.)
- CTV, Montreal. April 21, 2026. (Live; Re. Donald Trump's political difficulties.)

Graham Dodds was on the PoliSci Podcast's Office Hours faculty focus series, hosted by graduate students Navid Mahlooji and Nick Von Rosk.

Kudos

Thanks very much to Beth Bloodgood and Henri Habib for organizing the Accelerator Diplomacy program thanks in part to a 6 million dollar donation:

[\\$6 million from the Wilson Foundation and friends creates Henry Habib Diplomacy Accelerator at Concordia | News - Concordia University](#)

Alumni Corner



Over 55 MPPPA alumni and graduate interns attended a smashing 5 à 7 evening on March 27th at the University Club of Montreal - hosted by Daniel Salée (Chair); Eve Pankovitch (Internship Coordinator); and MPPPA alumni hosts Timothée Labelle (MPPPA 2015); Kevin deGaust (MPPPA 2005); Paul London (MPPPA 2006) and Julie Taylor (MPPPA 2006). The fun started right away with conversations abuzz; reuniting friends; speeches and sharing; and a 'rad' mingling game organized by Lauren Thurber. There were high moments that made the event even more celebratory, as an engagement was announced, and a couple of summer internships were found. This network is bonded and the strength keeps building one cohort at a time!!

MPPPA News



Eve's retirement party with staff



Eve at Open House, February

Our internship coordinator, Eve Pankovitch retired Tuesday, March 31st. We will miss her, but know all too well that she will be thriving in her upcoming travels, exploring her new river kayaking, and painting - in her off hours. Eve has accepted to oversee the community garden in her neighbourhood; learning and growing along with the community she has joined. *Good luck Eve!*

Kudos

The 7th Annual Senior Public Servant Panel Discussion

On March 19th the MPPPA program partnered with the Feminist Policy Lab to host the 2026 edition of The Senior Public Servant Panel on the topic of *Representation, Inclusion, and Diversity in the Public Sector*. The panel was facilitated by MPPPA Director Dr. Meghan Joy and Feminist Policy Lab co-Director (with Dr. Francesca Scala) Dr. Stephanie Paterson. Senior public servant panellists included Fabio Onesj, Vanessa Clermont, and Felix Chu. Thank you to all panelists, facilitators, and audience members for an engaging discussion! A big thank you also goes to Eve Pankovitch, who coordinated the event.

