

# Newsletter

**Winter 2025 (Volume 11, Issue 3)**

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## News

The department had a successful job search for a Canada Research Chair in Aging, Politics, and Public Policy. Dr. Rachel Weldrick will be joining us as of July 1st this year.

## Events

Drs. Donal Gill, Graham Dodds and Colin Scott are joined by Dr. Agnieszka Pasioka. "A Shift to the Right?" SCPA. 19 February.





The School of Community  
and Public Affairs

SCPA PUBLIC  
PANEL SERIES 2025

## A SHIFT TO THE RIGHT?

A public panel exploring the rise of right-wing political movements in North America.



PANELIST  
**DR. BARBARA PERRY**

PANELIST  
**DR. GRAHAM G. DODDS**

PANELIST  
**DR. AGNIESZKA PASIEKA**

PANELIST  
**DR. COLIN SCOTT**

MODERATOR  
**DR. DÓNAL GILL**



**19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025**  
**6 PM - 8 PM**  
**BÂTIMENT 7 | GRAND ATELIER**  
**1900 RUE LE BER, MONTREAL, QC**  
**H3K 2A4**

Food and drinks  
provided

Momoka Watanabe. "What Does Belonging Mean?" IRMS. Jan 27.

Ailsa Henderson. "The Nostalgia Trap." IRMS. Feb 5.

Yann Allard Tremblay (McGill University). A Great Ox Sits in Your Mind: Decolonial Cautions about Epistemic Reparations and the Right to be Known.

## A Great Ox Sits in Your Mind: Decolonial Cautions about Epistemic Reparations and the Right to be Known

Yann Allard-Tremblay (McGill University)

Wednesday, March 26, 2025  
2:00-3:30pm  
*Hall Building, Room H-1220*



Jennifer Lackey has recently argued that victims of gross injustices and epistemic harms not only have a right to know, but also a right to be known, i.e., to share and have their truth heard. This right is associated with a duty to provide epistemic reparations, notably in hearing victims and seeking their testimonies. The epistemic harms with which Lackey is concerned are features of settler colonialism and thus admittedly call for such epistemic reparations. I seek however to raise cautions about the pursuit of epistemic reparations through testimony in settler colonial contexts. I argue that settler colonial epistemic environments constitute morasses of unknowing, where settlers are subjectified in such ways as to render them unable to properly hear, understand, and know victims of gross epistemic harms. I argue that epistemic reparations in settler colonial contexts risk both being unproductive and pernicious. They risk being unproductive precisely because one cannot properly be known without transforming the material and subjective features of settler colonial epistemic environment. They further risk being pernicious by framing the epistemic harms that require reparation as extraordinary and exceptional, instead of as ordinary and built into the very fabric of the settler order. For a right to be known to be properly fulfilled, we must therefore also consider the required, prior decolonial transformation of the structures and subjectivities that make such harms possible.

Yann Allard-Tremblay's current research is focused on the decolonization and Indigenization of political theory. He is interested in investigating how mainstream concepts and methods in political theory may silence and distort the thoughts and claims of Indigenous peoples. He is also interested in investigating how the political thoughts and claims of Indigenous peoples offer alternative ways to think about, and transform, political conduct and political concepts. Yann Allard Tremblay is a member of the Huron-Wendat First Nation.



[concordia.ca/artsci/polisci.html](https://concordia.ca/artsci/polisci.html)

Gabriela Ríos Granados (Institute of Legal Research, National Autonomous University of Mexico) “Labour and Economic Informality in Canada and Mexico: Different Ways of Addressing the Issue.”



FACULTY OF  
ARTS AND SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE SPEAKER SERIES



## Labour and Economic Informality in Canada and Mexico: Different Ways of Addressing the Issue

Gabriela Ríos Granados (Institute of Legal Research, National Autonomous University of Mexico)

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

2:00-3:30pm

Hall Building, Room H-1220



"Taxes are the price of living in society." Mexico has a low tax culture that is directly linked to economic and labor informality. Half of the GDP comes from economic informality, a sector in which there is a parallel state where taxes are not paid and there are no basic rights or social security benefits. In Canada, informality is a growing social phenomenon, but it is not comparable to the Mexican case. This talk will look at the different ways of approaching a social phenomenon that affects most countries, generating inequalities and lacking foundations of basic rights.

**Gabriela Ríos Granados** is Professor at the Institute for Legal Research at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). She is former President of the Mexican Academy of Fiscal Law and former Special Prosecutor in the Office of the Attorney General of the Mexican Republic. In 2016, she received the UNAM's Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz prize for best woman academic. Her research focuses on fiscal and budgetary law, and she has published widely on taxation, public spending, and social rights.

[concordia.ca/artsci/polisci.html](https://concordia.ca/artsci/polisci.html)

Alexa Zeitz had a round table discussion/book launch on March 19 of her new book entitled “*The Financial Statecraft of Borrowers: African Governments and External Finance*”.





## Book Launch *The Financial Statecraft of Borrowers: African Governments and External Finance*

Alexandra O. Zeitz (Concordia University)

With comments by:

Vincent Arel-Bundock (Université de Montréal)

Juliet Johnson (McGill University)

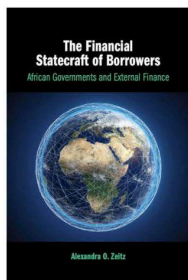
Amy Poteete (Concordia University)

The discussion will be followed by a reception.

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

5:30 – 7:30pm

Hall Building, Room H-1220



As China rises to prominence as a global lender, what impact does this have on borrowing countries? In a context of deepening global financial integration and rising powers, this book examines how developing countries, specifically in sub-Saharan Africa, can use borrowing relationship to their advantage. Alexandra O. Zeitz reveals how these countries, once reliant on traditional donors, may now leverage Chinese loans and international sovereign bonds to enhance their bargaining power in aid negotiations – a strategy she terms the “financial statecraft of borrowers.” Grounded in extensive interviews with senior officials from recipient countries and donor agencies in Ethiopia, Ghana, and Kenya, and complemented by statistical analysis of aid agreements, *The Financial Statecraft of Borrowers* offers a comprehensive understanding of how aid relationships are changing along with the shifting landscape of international finance.

Alexandra O. Zeitz is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Concordia University. Her research focuses on international political economy, particularly developing countries' position in the international financial system.

[concordia.ca/artsci/polisci.html](https://concordia.ca/artsci/polisci.html)

## Professorship in Social Gerontology

Professor Marier was recently awarded the Concordia Professorship in Social Gerontology (CPSG) (2025-2032). The Professorship aims to launch an innovative research program on home care and in proximity support in a comparative perspective, strengthening existing pan-Canadian and international collaborations. It will also build upon well established relationships within the Centre for Research and Expertise in Social Gerontology (CREGÉS).

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## Recent Publications

Dodds, Graham G., Kamil Joński, Wojciech F. Rogowski, Andras Bozóki, & István Benedek. "Return to Power: The Illiberal Playbook from Hungary, Poland, and the United States." *Politics in Central Europe*. Vol. 20, No. 4 (December, 2024). p487-528.  
<https://doi.org/10.2478/pce-2024-0022>

Béland, Daniel, Patrik Marier, and Mireille Paquet (2024). Subnational Comparative Policy Analysis: Institutions, Methodology, and Research Agenda. [\*Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis\*](#), 26(6): 553-566.

Béland, Daniel and Patrik Marier (2024). How to Design a Program for the Poor that is Not a Poor Program : Explaining the Political Sustainability of the Guaranteed Income Supplement. [\*Osgoode Hall Law Journal\*](#). 61(2) : 541-562.

## BOOK REVIEWS

## Conference and Roundtable Presentations

Graham Dodds presented a paper on "The Power of the Purse vs. the Power of the Pen: Congressional Resistance to Unilateral Presidential Directives for Economic and Budgetary Policy" at the annual conference of the Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA) in Chicago, IL on April 3.

Patrik Marier. *La médicalisation du vieillissement au Canada dans une perspective comparée*. Conférence-midi, Chaire de Recherche Antoine-Turmel sur la protection juridique des aînés de l'Université Laval. 7 avril 2025.

Patrik Marier. *Comparative Policy Analysis in Aging*. Aurélia research network. INED, March 14, 2025.

Patrik Marier. *L'isolement social, la solitude, et les politiques publiques*. Glendon Global

Dialogue – The Loneliness Epidemic. Toronto, November 20, 2024.

## Other Presentations

Alexandra Charette et Patrik Marier (dir.). Mémoire rédigé et présenté dans le cadre de la Consultation pour la Politique nationale sur les soins et les services de soutien à domicile au Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (Montréal : CREGÉS).

## Media Appearances and Op Eds

Elizabeth Bloodgood and Graham Dodds were featured in a news story and accompanying video about Americans living in Canada in the current political environment:

-Dolan, Jack. “Trump threats do the unthinkable: transform Canadians into flag-waving, U.S.-booing patriots.” Los Angeles Times. April 9, 2025.

-Foshay, Karen. “For Americans living in Canada there’s definitely been a vibe change.” Los Angeles Times. April 9, 2025.

<https://www.latimes.com/00000196-17ce-da73-afff-9fff4f500000-123>

Dodds, Graham G. “Jimmy Carter’s pardon of Vietnam War resisters had a profound impact.” (Op-Ed). Montreal Gazette. December 30, 2024.

<https://www.montrealgazette.com/opinion/article646929.html>

Graham Dodds was interviewed by journalists about U.S. politics on multiple occasions since the end of the Fall 2024 term. He was on CTV (local) on January 7 and 19, and February 3 and 10. He was on CJAD radio on January 5, 8, 18, February 16 and 28, and April 2. Other media appearances included:

- Boutros, Magdaline. “Qu’est-ce que Trump cherche à obtenir du Canada?” Le Devoir. February 3, 2025.
- “Pardon Me? Pardon You.” Things That Go Boom. February 3, 2025.
- “The history of U.S. presidential pardons.” Australian Broadcasting Corporation, National Radio. January 25, 2025. (re. Donald Trump’s pardons.)  
<https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/sundayextra/presidential-pardons/104856266>
- Lumetta, Carolina. “Jan. 6 defendants reflect on crime and punishment.” World. January 22, 2025.
- “The World and Everything in It.” World. January 22, 2025.
- Briceno, Leo. “Washington Wednesday: President Trump fast-tracks his agenda.” World. January 22, 2025.

- Briceno, Leo. "Trump wields the power of the pen." World. January 21, 2025. Sinha, Shreyas. "I Committed a Crime to Find Out Why Presidential Pardons Exist." A Show About The News. January 6, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Imp1K7s3tVk>
- Kourdouli, Salomé. "La grande majorité d'entre eux ne devrait pas être en prison": Trump prêt à gracier les assaillants du Capitole." Le Télégramme. January 6, 2025.
- Fragasso-Marquis, Vicky. "À quoi s'attendre de l'an un du retour de Donald Trump à la Maison-Blanche?" Le Devoir. December 28, 2024.

## **Kudos**

Graham Dodds was selected by University Communications Services (UCS) as a Concordia Newsmaker of the Month for January 2025 for providing expert commentary on President Donald Trump's use of executive powers and pardons.

Congratulations to Alexa Zeitz and Sam Rowan for obtaining tenure this year. Also to Beth Bloodgood and Mireille Paquet for becoming full professors.

## **Alumni Corner**

Myriam Montrat, MPPPA '98, was recently appointed High Commissioner of Canada to Ghana, a posting that also serves Togo and Sierra Leone.

## **MPPPA News**

Concordia's team won this year's National Annual Public Administration Case Competition. The Case Competition is organized by the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration (CAPPA) and the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) and is designed to showcase Canada's Public Administration programs and provides participating students with a great learning experience. This year's case was "It's a Question of Ethics: Return to Office and Public Service Culture". Twelve teams took part in the competition. Our team was composed of MPPPA students Erykah Kangbeya, Julia Kelly, Hannah Lazarus, Matteo Mazza, and Tess Walker. A special word of thanks and gratitude goes to Dr. Meghan Joy (MPPPA Director), Dr. Joe Faragone (Public Servant in Residence), and Professor Geoffrey Kelley (Indigenous Governance Specialist in Residence), who generously contributed their time and expertise to accompany and coach the team to success. On March 7th celebratory drinks were had at the University Club for all the winners as well as the leaders.





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 DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Vaughn Charlton   Jennifer Hollington   Lawrence Ieraci   Nadine Huggare   Meghan Joy

Friday  
 March 28<sup>th</sup>  
 2025  
 10h30 to  
 12h00

## PUBLIC SERVANT LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF POLITICAL CHANGE

YOURSelves: **TONIA**, CORRECTIONAL SERVICES CANADA (MPPPA ALUMNA)  
**JACQUELINE**, HEALTH SERVICES AND HEALTH CARE  
**LEONORE**, PUBLIC SERVICES AND PROGRESS CANADA (MPPPA ALUMNA)  
**ROSEMARY**, HEALTH CANADA (MPPPA ALUMNA)

The Department of Political Science invites you to join us for the  
**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Public Servant Panel** moderated by MPPPA  
 Program Director Dr. Meghan Joy. We are thrilled to welcome senior  
 level Canadian federal government leaders who will share their insights  
 on how one navigates the public service when change is afoot.

Please RSVP: [polsci.internship@concordia.ca](mailto:polsci.internship@concordia.ca)

ZOOM link: <https://concordia-ca.zoom.us/j/84142313602>

concordia.ca/pspp



Vaughn Charlton



Jennifer Hollington



Lorenzo Ieraci



Nadine Huggins



Meghan Joy

### Panelists:

**Vaughn Charlton** DG, Correctional Services Canada (MPPPA alumna)

**Jennifer Hollington** retired ADM, Health Canada

**Lorenzo Ieraci** ADM, Public Services and Procurement Canada (MPPPA alumni)

**Nadine Huggins** ADM, Health Canada (MPPPA alumna)

On Friday, March 28th, the Department of Political Science hosted its 6th Annual **Senior Public Servant Panel** titled **PUBLIC SERVANT LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF POLITICAL CHANGE**. The popular event was very well attended with over 55 guests, including alumni, faculty, and graduate students. The discussion, moderated by MPPPA Program Director Dr. Meghan Joy, addressed the challenges in adapting to the many shifting priorities within government at this time, which stimulated a conversation that led to many interesting insights on how one navigates the public service when change is afoot.



**Jennifer Moore**, (Center) MPPPA Alumna of 2022 is a Senior Analyst in Strategic Services at the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG), in Montreal. As part of the *POLI 686 Internship Preparation* course, we invited Jennifer as a guest speaker to provide insights about the hiring process. Jennifer has had the role of hiring graduate interns at the CCG and has been hiring MPPPA students for the last few years. Jennifer took it to another level and taught a full hour session on how hiring managers go about selecting candidates and how students can prepare for interviews. Jennifer designed an informational and interactive deck to encourage interns in the room to practice live. The Program's alumni are quick to invest in the MPPPA program; we are as proud of them as they are of us!!