

MIRIAM J. ROLAND, LLD 18



CREATING
OPPORTUNITY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the president	3
Preface	5
Early years and deep connections	7
Getting involved	11
A visionary philanthropist	19
Recognition and gratitude	25
Dr. Miriam Roland: Honorary Doctor of Laws	29
Recognition for a beloved matriarch	35
Thank you, Miriam!	36
Active projects & initiatives	37
• Giving summary of Miriam J. Roland & Associated Organizations	38
• Miriam Aaron Roland Lecture Series in Clinical Psychology	40
• Miriam Aaron Roland District 3 Innovation Projects	43
Student awards & fellowships	47
• Miriam Aaron Roland bursary for the graduate diploma program in community economic development	48
• Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowship	52
• Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in Canadian Jewish or Jewish Studies ..	53
• Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities	54
• Miriam Aaron Roland Family Scholarship	57
• Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in Business Ethics	57
• Miriam Aaron Roland Emergency Needs Bursary Program	58
Final thanks to a Concordia champion	63



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Miriam,

On this occasion of your 90th birthday, I can't help but reflect on all that you've done, and that you continue to do, to advance Concordia University. Your steadfast support is matched by your generosity of spirit, eagerness to ask good questions, and willingness to share constructive advice. Few people have made or sustained such a dynamic, enduring connection to our university, and for that I am deeply appreciative.

For the past 40 years, you have embraced Concordia in ways that few others can possibly match, as a student, alumna, speaker, Governor of our Board, transformative donor and friend. It is hard to imagine someone who is more integral to our community.

The world of education is constantly shifting and adapting to fit the needs of society and the needs of our students. As a champion of Concordia you have always pushed us to think ahead, to identify the areas that need strengthening to secure our position as a leading next-generation university. And you have always stressed the importance of the values Concordia embodies, above all our commitment to students.

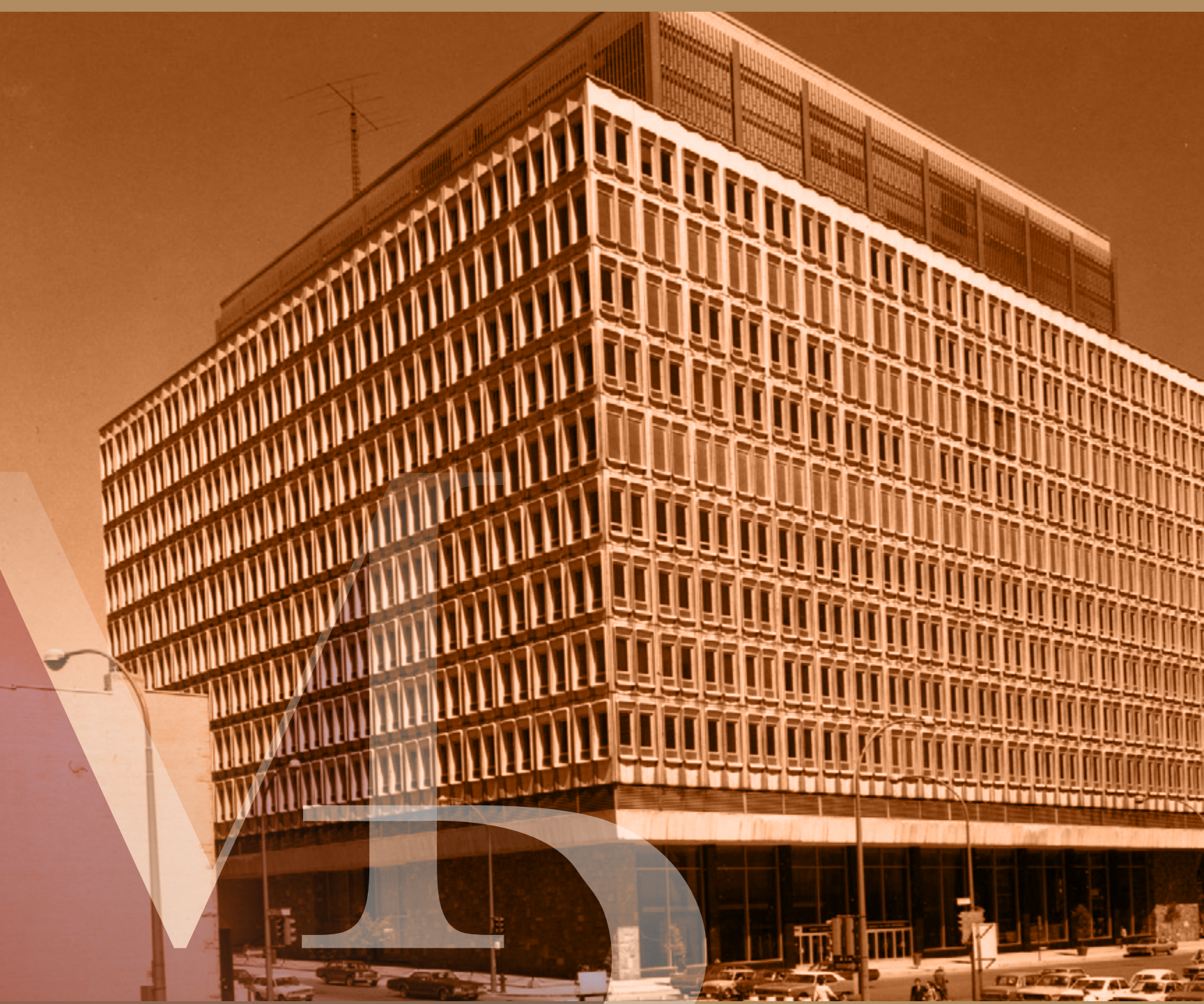
Thanks to your support, Miriam, Concordia has been able to attract some exceptional graduate students. We have been able to support others who desperately needed immediate financial assistance to continue their studies. And through your gifts we have done much to shape ethical business leaders of tomorrow and to help incentivize professors to make the digital turn in their teaching.

Your curiosity and thirst for knowledge are unmatched. It is inspirational to witness how you never stop challenging yourself and ourselves. Thank you for your commitment to make this world a better place through top-quality education and high-impact research. Thank you for your dedicated support of Concordia.

With truly warm regards on your 90th birthday,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Graham Carr". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Graham Carr
President and Vice-Chancellor
Concordia University



PREFACE



“Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny, inner sparks of possibility into flames of achievement.”

– Golda Meir, Prime Minister of Israel, 1969-74

Miriam J. Roland, LLD 18, is a psychotherapist, businesswoman, community leader, volunteer, donor and lifelong learner.

Born into a Canadian family of renowned entrepreneurs and philanthropists, in 1947 she chose a then-unconventional route — she headed to California to pursue studies at Stanford University.

She returned to Montreal, three decades later, in 1978. From her new apartment on Sherbrooke Street, she observed a changed skyline from the one she remembered.

Among the new buildings that stood out was a cubic structure. The Henry F. Hall Building, inaugurated in 1966 as the keystone of Sir George Williams University and one of Concordia’s two founding institutions, was a place that beckoned.

Within days, she had explored its campus and had registered for two courses. Within Concordia’s halls, classrooms and open spaces she found an ally for her academic aspirations. Roland would become a Concordia student, volunteer and donor.

“I’m very grateful that I’ve been around Concordia for 40 years and that I’ve seen the changes that I have,” she said.

Roland has been at forefront of those changes and her steadfast support has helped transform Concordia.



EARLY YEARS AND DEEP CONNECTIONS



“Miriam Roland is an incredible advocate and champion for our university.”

*– Alan Shepard, former president,
Concordia University*

As a member of the Bronfman dynasty, business and philanthropy run through Miriam J. Roland’s veins. While she has put her own practical spin on philanthropy, the act of giving back to society was instilled in her at an early age by her parents, Laura Bronfman and Barnett Aaron.

“The same way we eat three meals a day, we give to those in need,” she said. “It was just the ethos of the family. It was never put into words — it was just always what was done.”

Although Roland doesn’t see herself as a philanthropist, others would beg to differ.

Concordia has greatly benefited from Roland’s volunteer and financial contributions. She was a member of the Board of Governors from 1992 to 2004, when she served on several committees and fundraising campaigns.

Her volunteerism and financial support of numerous initiatives are based on a belief that Concordia fulfills a vital role in the community. She said she supports the university because she understands its place in society.

“The internal spirit of Concordia has always been, ‘How can we meet the changing needs of our students?’ And that’s a good question to ask,” she said. “I know the university wants to help its students succeed in today’s world.”



The late Mildred B. Lande, LLD 93, pictured with her cousin, Miriam Roland. In 2005, Roland created the Mildred B. Lande Prize for Service to the Community in her honour.

A lifetime of experience

Her view of the world is clear-eyed. Her lifetime of experience and lessons learned came through activism and standing up for what is right.

Born in Montreal in 1930, she headed to California at the age of 17 — after high school in Montreal. She studied at Stanford University in international relations and psychology and graduated in 1951 (Phi Beta Kappa with Great Distinction).

The same year, she married Samuel Roland, who went on to become a clinical assistant professor of surgery at Stanford.

They moved closer to San Francisco and had four children that included future Concordia graduate Tobey Roland, MBA 83, Aaron Roland, Lexann Roland Richter and late daughter Jessie Roland Jonushaitis.

As Roland recounted in her 2018 convocation address upon receiving an honorary degree from Concordia, California in the 1950s was an optimistic place. The war was over and the population was growing.



While male graduates of the baby boom generation had their pick of jobs, wives, during that period, often became volunteers. Roland became an activist. She joined study groups to report on the safety of nuclear power plants and the depiction of women's roles in textbooks.

She supported the women's movement, marched for civil rights and protested the Vietnam War. She joined the crowd to watch the first Gay Pride parade in San Francisco.

In 1969, she and her husband established the first research and teaching fund in Jewish studies, in memory of their parents, at Stanford University's School of Humanities and Science. They additionally set up the Samuel I. Roland Fund in Innovative Ostomy Care at Stanford Medicine.

Samuel Roland died tragically at age 47, soon after the ostomy care fund was established. Roland continues to support the fund.

With her children, she has continued to support the Aaron-Roland Endowed Lecture in Jewish Studies. Today, it is Stanford's longest running lecture series.

Conoco



VER

GETTING INVOLVED



“Miriam Roland is one of those special people who prefer to remain in the background much of the time — then they do or say the very right thing that moves the enterprise forward. Concordia is very fortunate to have had Miriam’s enduring attachment to the university — as a student herself, committee member, champion of students’ issues and as a major philanthropist.”

— Frederick Lowy, President Emeritus, Concordia University

Miriam J. Roland has a magnificent view of Montreal from her 27th-floor apartment on Sherbrooke Street, where she took up residence in 1978.

On a clear day, it offers a panoramic view of the skyline towards the St. Lawrence River and beyond.

At the centre of that panorama is a white, concrete monolith reminiscent of the severe architectural style of Le Corbusier. Roland did not know this building when she returned to Montreal, which looked very different from the city she left in 1947.

She learned that the brutalist structure was the Henry F. Hall Building, the main building of Concordia University’s downtown campus, formerly of Sir George Williams University before its merger with Loyola College four years earlier.

The institution piqued her interest: a place of learning, known for innovation and creativity, so close to home. In setting out to uncover the mysteries held within its walls, she registered for a few courses.



As a Canadian living in the United States, Roland was politically informed on local, state and national matters there, yet she was not eligible to vote.

The first visitors to her new apartment were two enumerators wanting to put her on the electoral list. She was so happy, she cried, she told fellow graduates at her 2018 honorary degree conferment ceremony.

‘My neighbourhood university’

While she could vote, Roland admittedly knew little about Canadian politics. She registered in political science courses so she could make more informed decisions and in French courses to brush up her language skills.

She was hooked. Roland has called Concordia her “neighbourhood university.” It is walking distance from her home — a place where she has enjoyed taking classes and attending lectures. She also found time to complete a master’s degree in 1985 in counselling psychology at the Alfred Adler Institute of Chicago, IL, now known as Adler University.

Starting in 1990, her involvement with Concordia deepened through active participation in the university’s governance. She served on numerous committees and volunteered for major fundraising initiatives.

In 1992, she was invited to join Concordia’s Board of Governors, where she spent 12 years helping guide the university through a period of great expansion.



Miriam Roland was an active member of Concordia's Board of Governors from 1992 to 2004.

She was a member of the Advancement Committee of the Board of Governors for six years; the Communications Committee; the Planned Giving Committee and the Community Advisory Board for the Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies.

She was on the Real Estate Planning Committee that oversaw the development of Quartier Concordia with, most notably, construction of the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex that opened on Ste. Catherine and Guy streets in 2005.

Through her committee work, Roland made recommendations that changed the face

of the downtown campus. She was drawn to Concordia, she has said, because of its willingness to embrace diversity and its openness to new ideas.

She championed the inclusion of a mandatory business ethics course at the John Molson School of Business and lobbied for limiting class size in the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex.

"I told them they can't build them big. If we build them big, we will fill them," Roland said. "You can't have 800 students in a class, you have no rapport with the professor. You'll notice even the biggest rooms aren't very big."

Learning: a lifelong priority

Roland attended several annual Homecoming events in the mid to late 1990s and in 2003. She still regularly attends Concordia events and lectures. Higher education and learning have always been priorities of hers.

“I get really excited with a new idea,” she said. “I remember when I was learning to become a therapist, I would go to seminars and I was always so happy when they reinforced what I thought I knew.

“After a while I decided, no, I don’t need that reinforcement anymore. I’ve been doing this for a number of years. Challenge me.

“Now I like going to lectures where I know I’m not going to like the orientation of the speaker, whereas a lot of people would stay away — I like to hear different perspectives.”

Shaped by a lifetime of learning and exploring new perspectives, she volunteers and lends her expertise to multiple organizations.

She has been the director and a member of the executive committee of the Susan and David Wilstein Institute of Jewish Policy Studies.

She continues to be a governor at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote, PA.

Her primary support for education in Israel has been towards the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

She was an editorial board member for *Viewpoints*, a magazine on Canadian Jewish life and literature.

At the official re-opening of Concordia’s Webster Library in 2018, Miriam Roland is pictured with donors Jonathan Birks (right) and Andrew Molson (far right), co-chair of the Campaign for Concordia.



Recognized for volunteerism

Roland has also been an active board or committee member at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA, and at the Taube Center for Jewish Studies at Stanford University. It was there that she and her late husband established the Aaron-Roland Endowed Lecture in 1969, Stanford's first fund for research and teaching.

Roland has since established two more funds at the university. The Miriam Aaron Roland Volunteer Service Prize was created in 2001, the 50th anniversary of her graduation, to honour professors who volunteer for projects in conjunction with their students.

For her 60th anniversary since graduation, she created the Miriam Roland Fellowship Fund Focusing on the Elderly to support undergraduate students completing research or service related to the elderly or intergenerational communication.

In Montreal, Roland continues to be a director of the Jewish Community Foundation and a member of the University Women's Club of Montreal.

She has supported Les Amis de la Montagne, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, Portage, LOVE (Leave Out Violence Everywhere) Quebec, and Centraide of Greater Montreal.

Roland generously gave \$1 million to Ometz, an organization that supports individuals and families by offering employment, immigration, school and social services. The Miriam Aaron Roland Social Service Fund has since helped Ometz expand its services, alleviate growing waitlists to serve an additional number of clients with mental illness.

In 2001, Roland received an honorary doctorate from Hebrew College in Brookline, MA. She was particularly touched to receive the honour during the UN-designated International Year of Volunteers.

Nobel Laureate and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel, the Romanian-born American writer and professor, and Moshe Safdie, the Israeli-Canadian architect, educator and theorist, were honoured that same year.

Former Concordia President Alan Shepard and Miriam Roland at the 2016 Jorisch Family Artist Residency gift celebration





Anne Whitelaw, BFA 87, GrDip 92, PhD 96, interim provost and vice-president, Academic, with Miriam Roland, at the 2016 Chancellor's Builders Circle and Friends Dinner



Miriam Roland with former Concordia President Alan Shepard at her 2018 honorary degree ceremony



Miriam Roland addressed the Faculty of Arts and Science graduating class of 2018.



Miriam Roland with Brett Cox, GrDip 20 (left), and Christopher Liczner, BSc 15, MSc 18 (right), at the Donor and Student Awards Celebration in 2019



Miriam Roland and Paula Wood-Adams, interim vice-president, Research and Graduate Studies



As a loyal ambassador of Concordia, Miriam Roland has continuously shown her support by attending various events, lectures and celebrations at the university.



W
V
R

A VISIONARY PHILANTHROPIST



“Miriam Roland’s contribution to the life of the university has been inspiring, from her support of graduate students to her support in launching bold, new initiatives. With quiet dignity and remarkable foresight, she has helped us shape the future of Concordia.”

— Paul Chesser, BA 94, GrDip 97, vice-president, University Advancement

The evolution of Miriam Roland’s relationship with Concordia is a reflection of the transformative changes at the university over the past four decades.

Her affiliation and affection began in 1978 when she enrolled in a few courses upon her return to Montreal from California after a 32-year absence. “I was grateful that I was so near Concordia, where I could have some mental stimulation,” she said.

She has returned the favour by supporting initiatives that stimulate learning, informed by her experience as a student, participant in campus life, member of the Board of Governors and benefactor.

For several years, she was a regular contributor to annual giving campaigns. When the university launched its first capital campaign in 1983, she made a generous donation in honour of one of her sons, Tobey Roland, MBA 83, who had just graduated.



Concordia Chancellor Jonathan Wener, BComm 71, with Miriam Roland at her honorary degree ceremony at Place des Arts in 2018

‘Giving opportunity’

She increased her involvement during the university’s Campaign for a New Millennium, which ran between 1997 and 1999.

“There are many different reasons why people give. My father always said, ‘As long as people give, perhaps one day they’ll give for the right reasons,’” she said.

In 2018, she announced a gift of \$3 million to establish the Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowships. The gift supports Concordia’s strategic direction of doubling its research by attracting and retaining the best and brightest graduate students, a cornerstone of the Campaign for Concordia: Next-Gen. Now.

“For my legacy gift, I wanted to address what I saw as one of Concordia’s greatest needs,” said Roland. “I wanted to help enhance this university’s reputation because Concordia deserves it.”

The fellowships will be awarded to graduate students from Concordia’s four academic faculties: Arts and Science, Fine Arts, Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science, and John Molson School of Business.



Miriam Roland has been a strong ambassador for the University of the Streets Café.

“I’m giving opportunity,” she said. “Top researchers choose schools that have good graduate students, and graduate students elect to go where there are top professors in their field — that’s a good symbiotic relationship. By helping the students, I’m also helping the faculty.”

Her support of various Concordia projects and initiatives has shown vision, openness and creativity. Other initiatives for which Miriam Roland has been a driving force include the establishment of an endowment to provide emergency student bursaries, the promotion of interdisciplinary studies and the humanities at the graduate level, and special projects at Concordia’s District 3 Innovation Center.

When she was presented the idea for the University of the Streets Café — bilingual, public conversations across Montreal and an initiative of the Office of Community Engagement — she became an avid supporter.

She has also contributed to the School of Irish Studies. In 2005, she created the Mildred B. Lande Prize for Service to the Community in honour of her fellow Governor.

Supporting bold, new initiatives

Miriam Roland's experience as a community activist led to the establishment of a fund in the Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development to support students interested in progressive change and civic engagement.

A trained psychotherapist, she founded the Miriam Aaron Roland Biennial Lecture in Psychology. Inaugurated in 2000, the series welcomes leading researchers in various fields of psychology. Events are free and open to the public.

Speakers have included Steven Heine, a visiting social and cultural psychology professor from the University of British Columbia, on DNA and destiny, Jutta Heckhausen from the University of California, Irvine, on the motivational theory of life-span development,

and Paul Salkovskis from the University of Bath, on health anxiety and its links with problems in physical health settings.

Roland's interest in culture led to her involvement with Conversations in Contemporary Art in collaboration with the DHC/ART Foundation (now Fondation Phi), Artexxe and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

She has sponsored a lecture series featuring the likes of Sarah Thornton, BFA 87, writer, ethnographer and sociologist of art; Spring Hurlbut with her contemplation on mortality; internationally renowned Mexican-Canadian multimedia artist Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, BSc 89; Canadian sculpture artist Jana Sterbak, BFA 77; and David Joselit on authenticity and terror.

Pictured at Concordia's 2016 honorary degree reception



Valuable contributions for the future

Roland has described her time on the Board of Governors and different university committees as another kind of learning experience and a chance to develop a deeper understanding of the university. Throughout her tenure on the Board from 1992 to 2004, she was at the forefront of important decisions determining the future of Concordia.

As a businesswoman at the helm of TALL-J Investments, ethical business practices have always been of paramount importance to her. She championed a mandatory course in business ethics for all John Molson School of Business graduate students.

She also funds the Fellowship in Business Ethics, currently held by Tim Field, BComm 96, MBA 00, a senior lecturer in the Department of Management.

When she served on the Real Estate Planning Committee that oversaw the development of Quartier Concordia, she lobbied for smaller class sizes in the design of the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex.

“All of these are buildings, but the fact that the buildings are there means that you can educate the students better,” said Roland. “What has remained the same is the wanting to help the students, to give them every possible chance.”

Miriam Roland celebrated a \$1-million gift from Christine Lengvari, BSc 72, to Concordia in 2017.





V E R

RECOGNITION AND GRATITUDE



“Concordia has secured its place as Canada’s next-generation university thanks in large part to its dedicated and loyal donors. During my over-20-year career at Concordia, I got to know Miriam Roland well both as a committed long-term Board member and as a loyal donor. She has been an integral part of the Concordia community for many years. Her commitment to students and faculty is genuine and heartfelt.”

*— Bram Freedman, president and CEO, Jewish General Hospital Foundation;
former vice-president, Advancement and External Relations, Concordia*

Miriam Roland has held many titles during her long association with Concordia, from student to Governor Emerita. On November 20, 2018, a new title was added when she received a Doctor of Laws, honoris causa at the fall convocation ceremony.

“Miriam Roland richly deserved her honorary degree,” said Concordia President Emeritus Frederick Lowy, LLD 08. “I knew her in many roles and appreciated her contributions, but it was when she joined the Board of Governors in 1992 that I fully realized her strength and devotion.

“She is a remarkable person and I feel privileged to have worked with her.”

In recognition of her generosity at Concordia, Roland has been named a Charter member of the Rector’s Circle and then the President’s Circle, a member of the Millennium Circle (2001, 2002, 2003) and a member of the Chancellor’s Builders Circle.

‘Long-term commitment, outstanding service’

In 2004, Roland was made an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Concordia University Alumni Association. The honour recognizes a person who, though not a graduate of the university nor its two founding institutions — Sir George Williams University and Loyola College — has demonstrated long-term commitment of outstanding service to the association and to the university.

That commitment stems in large part to the university’s focus on students. “I think there’s a certain humility about Concordia. It listens to what the student’s needs are. It’s also a sense of being part of a community of others who want to learn and who believe in knowledge, passing on what was before, but also creating new knowledge.”

She remains an active participant in campus life and takes pride in all that students have achieved, many of them with the support she has provided.

“Those students, when they graduate, are going to be members of the world at large,” she said. “And it just makes me feel good to walk down the street, to walk into the buildings, to sit in classrooms or lectures with the other students, and to feel that I am part of the next generation that’s going to make this a better world for all of us.”

Students who have benefited from Miriam Roland’s generosity have expressed their gratitude to her directly, reaffirming the valuable contributions she has made to their pursuit of knowledge, and that they may, in turn, make to society.



Annual Heritage Society reception, 2015

BRETT COX

BRETT COX, GrDip 20, 2018-19 recipient of the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for Students in the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development:

“I cannot thank you enough for helping me. I believe working with grassroots organizations to build cooperative economic organizations together with community members to ultimately empower the community and create a more just and healthy society is my future.”

“This program developed and strengthened my holistic understanding of our society and the world around me, helping to lead my passion towards a future in community economic development.”

LUCAS COBER

LUCAS COBER, PhD candidate, 2018-19 recipient of the Miriam Roland Fellowship in Jewish Studies:

“Your generosity has allowed me to undertake doctoral research at Concordia University. I am a biblical scholar who also works in the area of disability studies.”

“As a long-time advocate for people with disabilities and inclusion in our communities, I hope to pursue this work in an academic career in the future. I hope to make the academy more accessible and to remove as many barriers as possible to all students. Your support represents the removal of one more barrier that might otherwise prevent students from achieving their academic goals.”

CHRISTOPHER LICZNER

CHRISTOPHER LICZNER, BSc 15, MSc 18, candidate, Chemistry, 2018-19 recipient of the Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowship:

“The entire Concordia community is extremely fortunate to have your support. This award will go toward ensuring I can focus on my PhD research and help me reach my goal of one day being a principal investigator at Concordia.”

“It will also afford me extra time to nurture my own Concordia community. Mental health issues in academia are no secret. As the President of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Graduate Student Association (CBGSA), I hope to provide outlets for my fellow graduate students to overcome social isolation in the lab.”

JULIE ROEGIERS

JULIE ROEGIERS, GrDip 17, 2016-17 recipient of the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for Students in the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development:

“I’m an international student from Belgium. I have worked in the field of international cooperation in many countries in Africa and Asia. I have always been dedicated to others, through both paid work and volunteerism.”

“These studies mean a lot to me as it will allow me to have a more in-depth knowledge of social innovations and community organizing that can contribute to community-based social and economic development and change.”



DR. MIRIAM ROLAND: HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS



“Miriam Roland’s innate concern for others and the importance she attaches to personal contact find an outlet in her practice of psychotherapy and her sustained commitment to social organizations in Canada and the United States. In this and so many other ways, her attitudes and acts match the Concordia ethos.”

— Virginia Penhune, professor, Concordia Department of Psychology

Excerpt from convocation address

“Thank you to Concordia from the bottom of my heart for giving me this honour, and for the opportunity to contribute to its development and growth.

All of us have different backgrounds and aspirations, but today we are united by a connection to Concordia. Mine began in 1978.

I left Montreal after I finished high school and spent the next 30 years in California before returning here. From the window of my new home, I could see a big white building. Within days, I was inside it to register for classes.

The first people to ring my doorbell were two enumerators who had come to sign me up for the voters’ list. I was so happy, I cried. As a Canadian living in the United States, I could not vote. Now I had the privilege, but I knew nothing about Canadian politics.

For the course I was taking at Concordia, I selected the upcoming election as the topic for my term paper. And that gave me the courage to interview all the candidates. The one I voted for didn't win, but I got an A on my paper.

When I graduated from Stanford in 1951, it was an optimistic time. World War II had ended, the United Nations had been established, and California's population was growing rapidly. Unlike today, the question for male graduates was not whether they would get a job, but which job would they accept.

It was different for women. Society expected that women after graduation would marry, become housewives and as the magazines advised, "look pretty" when their husbands came home from work.

There was little possibility for the few who trained for a professional career to be hired by a law firm or accepted for a medical residency. Instead, women used their brains and their time to serve the community as valued volunteers.

I joined state-wide study groups to report to the government in Sacramento about the safety of nuclear power plants and how textbooks depicted history to portray the roles of women and minorities in society.

I supported the women's movement and, safe in California, I marched for civil rights, protested against the war in Vietnam and was part of the crowd watching the first big Gay Pride parade in San Francisco.

I knew that my acts would not make an impact, but there is power in numbers. And it was uplifting for me to be with people who were deciding and working to make change. Dissatisfaction is a great motivator.

Peace, gender and social equality remain as prominent concerns. Often, the demands of daily life provide little time for considering global issues. Sometimes though, a little thing provokes much thought. Remember Proust's Madeleine.

My little thing recently was a raisin. You may be familiar with mindfulness, a process bringing your attention to the current moment. The technique is

"Concordia will always be part of who you are," Miriam Roland told the graduating class of 2018. For her dedication to the university and to her community, Roland was honoured with an honorary degree from Concordia that year.



to hold a raisin in the palm of your hand and examine it intently for 5 to 10 minutes. But that day, questions interfered with my focus.

Would climate change affect the areas where grapes are grown to produce raisins? In growing grapes, were pesticides used that could contaminate the environment? Were the workers who picked the grapes treated fairly? And paid fairly?

In order to stop the questions that raisin was making me think about, I ate the raisin.

As graduates, you are looking forward to an unpredictable future. A look back however may encourage you to continue making progress.

Take a moment to be proud of your accomplishments in the past few years both in and out of the classroom. You have learned skills that will stay with you long after you have forgotten the facts that you crammed into your head before exams.

You've learned how to learn, how to gather and evaluate information. You've learned to be comfortable in a diversified, inclusive environment of students and professors, to listen and to communicate respectfully to those whose opinions differed from yours.

You've learned that life is not always fair, but you have the determination to carry on. You have learned to juggle your schedule to include your non-academic as well as your academic responsibilities and still have time for entertainment and fun.

You've learned more about your evolving values, who you are and that may prove to have even greater significance as you confront the future.

Forty years have passed since I first looked out my window. I still see the Hall, the great white building, but now there are many more Concordia buildings.

What gives those structures life and purpose is you, the students, your energy, your hopes. Take that energy to change this wondrous world, to enable people to live better lives.

Don't be complacent. Continue to learn. Don't be discouraged. You are prepared. You are Concordia graduates. Congratulations!"





Miriam Roland with her grandson, Max Goldberg, prior to her honorary degree ceremony



Miriam Roland with the late David Reich, MEng 85, architect, writer and inventor



From left: Luigi Liberatore, LLD 18, Nathalie Pilon, LLD 18, Meredith Monk, DFA 18, Miriam Roland, LLD 18, and Louis Tanguay, BComm 75, LLD 18, at their honorary degree celebration dinner in 2018



Miriam Roland was awarded a Doctor of Laws from Concordia in 2018. "Take your energy to change this wondrous world to enable people to live better lives. Don't be complacent," she told the graduating class.



With Bram Freedman, former vice-president of Advancement and External Relations at Concordia, and Ben Wygodny, BA 69



From left: Former Concordia President Alan Shepard, Anne Whitelaw, BFA 87, GrDip 92, PhD 96, interim provost and vice-president, Academic, and Miriam Roland



From left: Former Faculty of Fine Arts Dean Rebecca Duclos, Miriam Roland and Lillian Vineberg Goodman, BFA 83



From left: Rebecca Duclos, Margot Lande, BA 70, Matthew Brooks, BFA 16, Miriam Roland, and Marcel Dupuis, special advisor to the vice-president, Advancement at Concordia, celebrate the Lande Award in Photography in 2016.

Miriam Roland, pictured at the Alumni Awards Banquet in 2004, was awarded Honorary Life Membership by the Concordia University Alumni Association.





RECOGNITION FOR A BELOVED MATRIARCH

Miriam J. Roland's children would follow her example in generosity at Concordia by endowing a scholarship in her honour in September 2019. The annual award goes to a full time, fifth-year, Humanities PhD student who demonstrates leadership, community service and takes part in extra-curricular activities.

The Miriam Aaron Roland Family Scholarship was created to honour Roland's getting an honorary degree from Concordia in November 2018.

"The scholarship recognizes the affection and admiration of their mother," said Tobey Roland, MBA 83, Aaron Roland, Lexann Roland Richter.

The scholarship would have also been supported by Roland's late daughter, Jessie Roland Jonushaitis.

THANK YOU, MIRIAM!

Through your tremendous generosity to lecture series, innovation, scholarships, bursaries and fellowships, our students and faculty are encouraged to achieve both their professional and academic goals. Your support has been instrumental in providing countless opportunities for the next generation to succeed.

ACTIVE PROJECTS & INITIATIVES



GIVING SUMMARY OF MIRIAM J. ROLAND & ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Fund Allocation	Donor Name	Date
Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowships	Miriam J. Roland	26-Nov-15
Miriam Aaron Roland District 3 Innovation Projects	Miriam J. Roland	27-Dec-14
Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in Business Ethics		
	TALL-J Investment Limited	04-Apr-07
	Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal	22-Dec-06
	Miriam J. Roland	10-May-06
	American Friends of Concordia	15-May-15
	American Friends of Concordia	09-Mar-15
	American Friends of Concordia	19-Dec-17
	American Friends of Concordia	12-Mar-18
Miriam Aaron Roland Endowment Fund for Emergency Needs		
	TALL-J Investment Limited	18-Dec-98
	Miriam J. Roland	28-Dec-98
	American Friends of Concordia	04-Aug-16
Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary Fund Program for Students in The Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development		
	TALL-J Investment Limited	26-Oct-00
	TALL-J Investment Limited	09-Dec-99
	TALL-J Investment Limited	12-Jan-00
Miriam Aaron Roland Endowment for Special Projects and Initiatives		
	TALL-J Investment Limited	29-May-01
	TALL-J Investment Limited	26-Oct-00
Miriam Aaron Roland Lecture Series		
	Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal	18-Oct-17
	TALL-J Investment Limited	21-Jan-98
Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities		
	Miriam J. Roland	Sept. 2017 to Sept. 2026
	Miriam J. Roland	May 2006 to Dec.2016
	3774091 Canada Inc.	Apr.-May 2005
	Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal	07-Sep-07
	Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal	31-Dec-11
Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in Canadian Jewish Studies		
	Miriam J. Roland	April 2017 to April 2026

Fund Allocation	Donor Name	Date
Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies		
	Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal	04-May-16
	Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal	02-Mar-15
	TALL-J Investment Limited	03-Jul-13
	Miriam J. Roland	03-Sep-04
Concordia's Greatest Needs		
	Miriam J. Roland	18-Nov-85
	Miriam J. Roland	Apr. 1990 to Dec. 2000
	American Friends of Concordia	19-May-15
	American Friends of Concordia	19-Dec-17
Library Development Fund	Miriam J. Roland	Dec. 1994 to May 1997
Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies	Miriam J. Roland	25-Mar-14
Centre for the Arts in Human Development	Miriam J. Roland	15-Jun-99
	Miriam J. Roland	06-Jun-12
Mildred B. Lande Prize for Service to the Community	Miriam J. Roland	05-Dec-03
Friends of the Ellen Art Gallery	Miriam J. Roland	Dec. 2002 to Dec. 2009
Friends of Concordia Endowment	Tall-J Investment Limited	20-Dec-06
Shuffle Events	Miriam J. Roland	Feb. 1996 to Oct. 2001
Other Events such as Best of the Best 2006, Romeo & Juliet		
	Miriam J. Roland	01-May-06
	Tall-J Investment Limited	Jan. 1997 to April 2002
	Miriam J. Roland	28-May-04
Student Emergency and Food Fund	Miriam J. Roland	Dec. 2002 to Dec. 2003
Keith Lowther Graduate Award	Miriam J. Roland	30-Aug-01
Carolyn and Richard Renaud Endowment	Miriam J. Roland	09-Dec-96
Harvey Shulman Memorial Scholarship Endowment	Miriam J. Roland	22-Feb-06
Friends of Concordia Endowment	Miriam J. Roland	12-Oct-99
Arts & Science Development Fund	Miriam J. Roland	07-Apr-06
Liberal Arts College Development Fund	Miriam J. Roland	30-Sep-15
Professor Mervin Butovsky Memorial Undergraduate Sch.	Miriam J. Roland	23-Apr-10
Karl Polanyi Institute	Miriam J. Roland	13-Oct-92



“Without the funds provided by Miriam Roland, we would never have the opportunity to bring in such eminent speakers. Thank you!”

— Aaron Johnson, Chair, Department of Psychology

MIRIAM AARON ROLAND LECTURE SERIES IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Miriam Aaron Roland Lecture Series in Clinical Psychology is a bi-annual event, hosted by the Department of Psychology at Concordia. The aim of the lecture series is to bring leading researchers and practitioners in clinical science to present their work to faculty and students at Concordia and other Montreal area universities, as well as practitioners in the field.

The lecturers are chosen to be of broad interest to psychologists, with a focus on clinical research, social and policy implications, and intervention. Past speakers have addressed topics related to clinical intervention and psychopathology; others have addressed broader issues about how motivation changes across the lifespan and how we understand the contribution of genetics to our individual make-up.

Researchers are invited not only to share their research and experience, but also to visit with faculty and students to enhance their training. The following individuals were lecturers from 2010-2020:

David M. Clark

University of Oxford

“Realizing the mass public benefit of evidence-based psychological therapies”

April 2, 2020 (postponed due to the COVID-19 virus)

Paul Salkovskis

University of Bath

“Worried sick: Health anxiety and its links with problems in physical health settings”

April 5, 2018

Steven Heine

University of British Columbia

“Does DNA determine our destiny?”

April 14, 2016

Jennifer Cheavens

Ohio State University

“Positive psychology interventions to improve treatment outcomes”

December 5, 2013

Constance Hammen

University of California

“Stress and Depression: The revolving door”

2012

Jutta Heckhausen

University of California, Irvine

“A motivational theory of lifespan development”

2012



DAVID M. CLARK

University of Oxford

“Realizing the mass public benefit of evidence-based psychological therapies”

Date: April 2, 2020 (postponed due to the COVID-19 virus)

Evidence-based psychological therapies have been developed for many mental health problems, but psychological therapies are only available to a small number of people. The English Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) program aims to train an extra 11,000 new psychological therapists and deploy them in specialist, stepped care psychological therapy services for anxiety disorders and depression. This talk explains how a combination of political lobbying, economic analyses and clinical data were used to gain an initial government commitment to start the IAPT program. Development of IAPT-like services in several other countries is also discussed.

David M. Clark is a Professor and Chair of Experimental Psychology at the University of Oxford, and is a world leader in the development of effective psychological therapies for some of the most common and troubling mental disorders (e.g., panic disorder, social phobia). He is internationally regarded as one of the most influential scientists studying psychopathology and its treatment. Together with economist Lord Richard Layard, he has been successful in obtaining funding for, and launching the world’s largest initiative aimed at providing evidence-based psychological therapies to an entire nation.



PAUL SALKOVSKIS

University of Bath

“Worried sick: Health anxiety and its links with problems in physical health settings”

Date: April 5, 2018

Anxiety focused on health is a frequent issue for those seeking help in medical settings, including both general and family practice, as well as in clinics and hospitals. There is also strong evidence for the co-occurrence of physical and mental health problems, which may at times represent malignant interaction.

Cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) for health anxiety has been shown to be highly effective. Evidence for this will be described, and it will be suggested that this approach can be applied to medically unexplained symptoms. Treatment protocols do not generalize well in terms of training and application, making them expensive and difficult to disseminate, demonstrating a need for the development of a cross-diagnostic approach. As such, the general basis of such a CBT-grounded trans-diagnostic approach will be examined, highlighting the importance of incorporating cognitive elements of general and health-related anxiety (threat) and depression (loss). However, the need to take more problem-specific issues into account in treatment will be explored, suggesting that the optimum treatment may be a hybrid cross-diagnostic/specific approach with formulation, shared understanding, belief change strategies and behavioural experiments at its heart.

Paul Salkovskis is a professor of Clinical Psychology and Applied Science at the University of Bath, where he is also the director of the clinical psychology doctorate programme, as well as the director of a joint university/NHS national specialist anxiety disorder clinic. Starting in April 2018, he will take on the role of director at the Oxford Institute of Clinical Psychology, University of Oxford and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust. He was president-elect of the British Association of Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapy, and co-chair of the Scientific Committee for the 2018 European Association for Behavioural and Cognitive Therapies congress, that took place in Sofia, Bulgaria. He has published over 300 articles and chapters on the understanding and treatment of psychological problems and anxiety disorders. He’s been round the block a few times, and is noted for his reticence in terms of expressing his view.



STEVEN HEINE

University of British Columbia

“Does DNA determine our destiny?”

Date: April 14, 2016

Does DNA determine our destiny? That question, and others, made for a lively lecture by Steven Heine, visiting social and cultural psychology professor from the University of British Columbia.

What and how we think about genes, he opened, can be distorted by people believing in something he calls “essences” — invisible, inherent forces at play — and projecting those essentialist biases onto genetics. For example, when a transplant recipient thinks they inherited traits of the donor. “People the world over are essentialist thinkers,” he said. “They are attracted to the idea that hidden essences make things as they are. And because genetic concepts remind people of essences, they tend to think of genes in ways similar to essences. That is, people tend to think about genetic causes as immutable, deterministic, homogenous, discrete and natural.” Heine went on to examine how essentialist biases lead people to think differently about sex, sexual orientation, race, ancestry, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), crime, eugenics and disease whenever these are described in genetic terms. “Our essentialist biases make people vulnerable to the sensationalist hype that has emerged with the genomic revolution and access to direct-to-consumer genotyping services,” concluded Heine, who recommends more genetic education for the general public to reduce essentialist thinking and counteract the idea that genetic causes are inevitable.

Steven Heine is Distinguished University Scholar and Professor of Social and Cultural Psychology at the University of British Columbia. Heine’s pioneering research has challenged key psychological assumptions in self-esteem, meaning, and the ways that people understand genetic constructs. He is the author of many acclaimed journal articles and books in the fields of social and cultural psychology including *Cultural Psychology*, the top-selling textbook in the field. In 2016, he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

MIRIAM AARON ROLAND DISTRICT 3 INNOVATION PROJECTS

The Miriam Aaron Roland District 3 Innovation Projects fund was established in order to challenge Concordia students to solve real problems given by a company or organization, while being part of a multidisciplinary team over a three-month period.

Each year, District 3 holds an innovation residency that invites multidisciplinary teams of students to join forces and resolve challenges mandated by high-impact ventures. These students are selected for their dedication, high-performance track records, and collaborative spirit.

Concordia's District 3 is an innovation hub that nurtures and develops teams that harness emerging technologies to create businesses with global impact. As a leading incubator in Canada, District 3 has supported over 600 startups and exposed over 9,500 individuals to entrepreneurship.

SUMMER 2018 RESIDENCY

The summer 2018 residency was comprised of 15 Concordia students from all faculties who worked on developing solutions for six organizations and startups, all the while collaborating with experts, researchers, and entrepreneurs. The residents were also joined by a selected Capstone team, who learned the industry-leading methodologies and creative strategies District 3 developed to advance their own project.

The 2018 residency theme was focused on Quality of Life, where students explored emerging technologies and their implications in different case studies, including sustainable food, AI and mental health, autism, blockchain, and access to medical clinics. Participating teams showcased solutions they have developed over the course of three months on August 23, 2018. The audience consisted of business representatives, students who have participated in the development of these projects, members of the general public, as well as faculty and staff of Concordia University and District 3.



“I am currently enrolled in the Graduate Certificate of Innovation, Technology and Society program. During the Residency, the most challenging part was stepping outside my comfort zone. But I very much plan to stay within the startup ecosystem after completing my studies.”

— Sathsala Perera, Certificate Resident



“My main challenge has been pushing myself to learn new skills. From public speaking and service design, to interviewing and conducting market research with my team. All done in a hyper-dynamic and friendly environment, full of energy and vibrancy. It’s been a heck of a ride!”

— Alberto Perez, Software Development Resident

The 2018 Residency Mandates:

- **Mantle:** Used blockchain technology to understand its application across multiple industries.
- **Aifred:** Created better apps for mental health care providers and patients.
- **Omniscia:** Used AI to push education past current boundaries and explore new visions and new possibilities.
- **SecondLife:** Delivered fresh baskets of fruit or vegetables filled with misshapen or “ugly” produce that would otherwise be discarded.
- **Nextal:** Developed new ways for employers and job seekers to connect in a smarter, more connected landscape.
- **Autism House:** Modeled possibilities for adults on the autism spectrum to be able to live independently.
- **Navatech:** Reduced the wait for running errands by connecting service providers with their customers.

SUMMER 2019 RESIDENCY

Fostering collaboration across boundaries

The Our Generation Speaks-Concordia Accelerator Program is a partnership between Concordia’s District 3 Innovation Center and the non-profit organization Our Generation Speaks (OGS) as part of the residency program. Its goal is to give visiting Israeli and Palestinian entrepreneurs — graduates of OGS — a foundation for future mutually-beneficial collaboration that develops their respective ventures and fosters cooperation between the two communities. They will also benefit from the expertise Concordia Innovation Residency Teams — a select group of students — who will help the startups tackle some of their challenges.



The Residency Teams

As part of the program, 12 Concordia students from all faculties have worked on developing solutions for startups, all the while collaborating with experts, researchers, and the business community in Montreal. As part of the program, the students learned innovation best practices within a multidisciplinary context and gained cultural awareness on the sensitivities of the Middle East region.



“Working in the startup ethos has been such a blessing, and I’ve grown immensely from it. It’s been such an eye-opening experience working with these startups and seeing what is possible for our future world.”

— Kevin Lam, Fine Arts Resident

OGS STARTUP MANDATES

The mandates were given by two OGS startups. The WATA Solution mandate covered developing a solution for water security, and the SWEEPS mandate covered improving the accuracy of data for digital marketing.



WATA Solution

WATA solution assures water quantity and quality for households in Palestine and other developing countries. Using low-cost sensors on residential water tanks, WATA solution provides consumers, water companies, and municipalities with instant access to supply remaining, water purity, and other details essential to daily living. The company is entering its pilot phase and hopes to install sensors in 50 homes.



SWEEPS

Digital analytics quality assurance is manually completed by human analysts. This method is very limited and inefficient. It takes hours to go over all pages and click every button. Mistakes are common. Moreover, it does not resemble real situations: websites and apps act differently in different devices, browsers, screen resolutions and more. What an analyst sees does not always represent the real state of things. Sweeps leverages AI to support data-driven companies by ensuring the quality of their data analytics.

STUDENT AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS



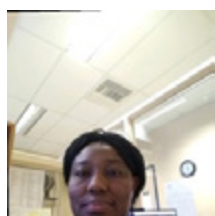
MIRIAM AARON ROLAND BURSARY FOR THE GRADUATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM IN COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic helps defray the cost of travel, housing and/or tuition for students enrolled in the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Development. This support, as well with many others at Concordia, is a reflection of Miriam Roland's deep interest in finding ways to help develop a better informed, critical and insightful citizenry. The bursary is valued at \$5,000 annually.

Since 2019, the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development has been funded through the Miriam Aaron Roland Endowment for Special Projects and Initiatives.

Below is an overview of the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development recipients from 2005-2020:

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2019-20:



Marceline Fandjo

Marceline is currently pursuing a Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development at Concordia. She also works as an Administrative Agent at the Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux (CIUSSS) in Montreal.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2018-19:



Brett Cox

Brett is completed a Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development at Concordia in 2020. For his graduate field work, Brett worked with Press Start on their anti-racism programming. Brett previously received his MA in Globalization and the Human Condition from McMaster University, and his BA in Human Rights and Human Diversity from Wilfrid Laurier University.

The following students received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2017-18:



Maciej Janicki

Maciej is currently pursuing his Diploma in Community Economic Development at Concordia. He previously received his BA in History from Concordia in 2005.



Melissa Kate Wheeler

Melissa Kate received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2018. While completing her undergraduate degree, she served as the President of the Concordia Student Union (CSU). In 2015, she ran for MP of the Green Party of Canada in the NDG-Westmount riding. She now lives in Perth, Australia where she works as the Operations Manager at Conservation West Australia.



Juliana Cortes Lugo

Besides receiving this bursary, Juliana has a BA in Political Science from the University of Alberta. She now works as the National Youth Network Coordinator at the Canadian Council for Refugees in Montreal.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2016-17:



Julie Roegiers

Julie received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2017. She also has an MA in Development Economics and International Development from the University of Namur in Belgium, and a BA in Social and Political Science from the Université catholique de Louvain in Belgium. Julie now works as the Director General at IRIS Mondial, a non-profit organization that aims to improve the visual health of disadvantaged populations in developing countries based in Montreal.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2014-15:



Wayne Radford

Wayne received his Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2016. He also has a BA in Theological Studies from Concordia. Wayne now works as the Director of Community Development at Parallel Development.ca, an overarching consulting initiative that offers expertise in business intelligence for strategic community outreach, based in Montreal.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2013-14:



Rodrigue Doucet

Besides receiving this bursary, Rodrigue has a BA in Community, Public Affairs and Policy Studies and an MA in Media Studies, both from Concordia. Rodrigue now works as the Philanthropy and Community Outreach Manager at World Federation of Hemophilia in Montreal.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2012-13:

Lisa Prince (\$2,500)

Lisa received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2013.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2011-12:



Seth DeFayette

Seth received his Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2012. He also has a BA in French Language and Literature from State University of New York College, and a GrCert in Geographic Information Systems and Cartography from Concordia. He now works as a Consulting Analyst in Geography, Management Information Systems and Collection at Statistics Canada, based in Montreal.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2010-11:



Diana Krisnajati

Diane received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2011.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2008-09:



Annelise Herrmann

Annelise received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2009. She now works as a Birth and Postpartum Doula at Alternative Naissance.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2007-08:

Sandra Ann McLean

Sandra Ann received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2008. She is currently pursuing a Teaching-English-as-a-Second-Language certificate at McGill University.

The following students received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2006-07:



Rehana Akhter

Rehana received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2007. She then went on to complete an MA in the Special Individualized Program at Concordia, where her thesis focused on the stigma related to AIDS and sex work in Bangladesh. She has previously worked as Project Manager for CARE Bangladesh and Resource Guide at Aids Community Care (ACC) Montreal.

The following students received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2006-07



Iseult Séguin Aubé

Iseult received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2008. She also received her BA from Université Laval in Political Science and International Development and her MLA Landscape Architecture from Université de Montréal. Iseult currently works as a Landscape Architect at Phyto Design, in Montreal.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Bursary for the Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development in 2005-06:



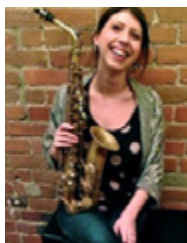
Jacqueline Bazompora

Jacqueline received her Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development from Concordia in 2007. She previously received her BA in Economics and Administration from the Université du Burundi. Jacqueline currently works as Training and Skills Development Manager at ACDEM Microcrédit Montréal, an economic development agency whose mission is to fight poverty and exclusion through community-based microcredit.

MIRIAM AARON ROLAND GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

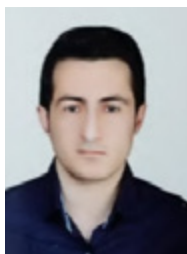
The purpose of the Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowship is to attract and retain the best and brightest graduate students to Concordia. They are entrance fellowships, open to Canadian citizens, permanent residents and international students. Eligible applicants must be full-time, pursuing a Doctoral degree at Concordia University. This prestigious award is valued at \$25,000/year over for four years, with a total value of \$100,000.

The following students received the Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowship in 2019-20:



Averil Cathleen Parker – PhD in Psychology, Research and Clinical Training

Averil's research interests are how musical skills can serve as a neuroprotective mechanism throughout the lifespan. Musicians have been shown to have structural and functional differences in the brain compared to non-musicians. She's interested in how these differences relate to functional outcomes that make a difference in a person's quality of life, and especially how musical ability interacts with cognitive/motor aging. Her thesis focuses on understanding the link between sensorimotor synchronization (i.e. rhythmic ability) and gait parameters (i.e. walking) in the context of aging. Unhealthy gait patterns put older adults and adults with degenerative diseases (such as Parkinson's Disease) at risk for falls. This finding would open the door to rhythmic-based interventions, which may have a variety of advantages including increased motivation. Averil previously received her BFA in Specialization Jazz Studies, BA in Honours Psychology, and MA in Clinical Psychology, all from Concordia.



Seyed Alireza Moezi – PhD in Mechanical Engineering, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering

Seyed's Master's dissertation focused on the path tracking control of a manipulator. In this research, the dynamic modeling, control, design, and construction of the 3-RPR parallel robot were investigated. Based on the Lagrange equations method, the equations of motion of the robot are derived in both cases of rigid and flexible intermediate links. Seyed has authored 18 journal articles and six conference proceeding articles, many of them appearing in high reputed international journals. He received his BEng and MEng in Mechanical Engineering from Islamic Azad University (IAU) Shiraz and Yazd University, in Iran.

The following students received the Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowship in 2018-19:



Christopher Liczner – PhD in Chemistry

Christopher's research specializes in the synthesis of modified phosphoramidites and their incorporation into oligonucleotides by automated solid-phase synthesis. He currently serves as President of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Graduate Student Association at Concordia, and works as the Lead Chemist at Encapcell Technologies, where he is developing a novel sorbent dialysis system. He previously received his BSc in Honours Biochemistry and his MSc in Chemistry, both from Concordia.



Ebrahim Ali – PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Ebrahim's research focuses on properties of the fractional Fourier transforms, defining a new variant of these transforms, and demonstrating its advantages in image processing applications. He published a research paper titled "Image Encryption via Discrete Fractional Fourier-Type Transforms Generated by Random Matrices" in Elsevier's journal Signal Processing: Image Communication on this work. His Master's thesis ranked 8th among all M.Sc. theses granted by engineering departments in Egypt for the interval 2014-2017. He completed his MSc in Systems and Biomedical Engineering and his BSc in Systems and Biomedical Engineering, both from Cairo University.

MIRIAM AARON ROLAND FELLOWSHIP IN CANADIAN JEWISH OR JEWISH STUDIES

This fellowship is intended to attract and retain the best and brightest graduate students pursuing graduate research in the areas of Canadian Jewish Studies or Jewish Studies within the Faculty of Arts & Science. One fellowship of \$5,000 is offered annually through competition.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Fellowship in Canadian Jewish or Jewish Studies in 2019-20:



Lindsey Jackson – PhD in Religion

Lindsey's doctoral research interests revolve around contemporary Jewish ritual — ritual change, creation of ritual, the tension between tradition and innovation, and the diversity of ritual practice within the Montreal Jewish community. She is also interested in the role of gender, sexuality, and the body in ritual practices. Lindsey's research is focused on Jewish parents who are choosing not to circumcise their baby boys in favour of an alternative ritual, known as brit shalom (covenant of peace).

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Fellowship in Canadian Jewish or Jewish Studies in 2018-19:



Lucas Cober – PhD in Religion

Lucas's primary research interest is in disability theory of the Bible, with specific attention to how biblical studies as a field contributed to interpreting disability in a profoundly negative way throughout history and into the contemporary period. His research focuses on using literary-critical and narrative methods of reading to offer redemptive readings of texts that have traditionally been employed to marginalize disabled individuals in various ways, and on creating spaces in which disabled individuals can speak for themselves on their own terms, rather than being forced to conform to ableist standards of interpretation through the lens of pop culture, and how biblical stories change when they come to the audience through non-traditional media.

MIRIAM AARON ROLAND FELLOWSHIP IN PHD HUMANITIES

This fellowship supports first year graduate students within the Faculties of Arts & Science or Fine Arts, restricted to a Humanities discipline, with high academic standing and qualified interdisciplinary research. One fellowship of \$2,500 is awarded annually.

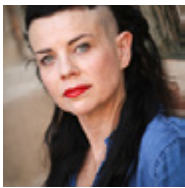
The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2019-20:



Balam Kenter – PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science)

Balam is currently pursuing her PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science) at Concordia. She previously received her BA in Art History from Cornell University and her MA in Culture and Performance from University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She currently works as a Theatre Manager.

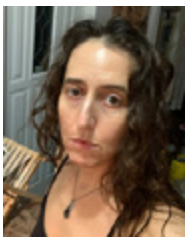
The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2018-19:



Dana Dugan – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)

Dana is currently pursuing her PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts) at Concordia. She previously received her MA in the Individualized Program, Humanities at Concordia. Her research seeks to offer tools like critical disobedience for agency in a circus body, and research that advocates for socially conscious performances and alternative, queer, feminist, political narratives that cultivate agency on the circus stage.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2017-18:



Rebecca Miriam Rustin – PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science)

Rebecca is currently pursuing her PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science) at Concordia. She previously received her MA in French and Translation Studies and her BA in English Literature, both from Concordia. Rebecca has worked as a freelance content writer and a French-to-English translator in Montreal and Toronto.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2016-17:



Ronald Rose-Antoinette – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)

Ronald received his PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts) from Concordia in 2018. He previously received his PhD in Philosophy from Université Vincennes-Saint-Denis in Paris and his MA in Film Studies from Concordia. He currently works at Concordia as a Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2015-16:



Nikola Stepic – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)

Nikola is currently pursuing his PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts). He previously received his MA in Film Studies from Concordia and his BA in English Language and Literature from the University of Novi Sad, in Serbia. During his undergraduate studies, he spent a year as a foreign exchange student at Humboldt State University in California. He currently works as a Teaching Assistant at Concordia.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2013-14:



Andrew Forster – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)

Andrew is currently pursuing his PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts). He previously received his MA in the Individual Special Program from Concordia and his BFA in Sculpture from the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design. He currently teaches courses in graphics, urban design/public space, collaborative design practice and critical practice in the department of Design and Computation Arts at Concordia.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2012-13:

Sarah Manya Hertzberg – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2010-11:



Jaclyn Meloche – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)

Jaclyn received her PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts) from Concordia in 2015. She previously received her MFA in from the School of Visual Arts New York City (SVA NYC), as well as her MA (Canadian Art History) and BFA, both from the University of Ottawa. She has worked as co-curator at the Ottawa Art Gallery (OAG), curator of contemporary art at The Art Gallery of Windsor, and most recently as a part-time faculty member at Wayne State University in Detroit within the Art History department.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2008-09:



Ioana Radu – PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science)

Ioana received her PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science) from Concordia in 2015. She previously received her MA in Public Policy & Public Administration and her BA in Specialized Human Environment, both from Concordia. She is currently a Senior Lecturer at the School of Community and Public Affairs in the First Peoples Study Program at Concordia, as well as a Policy Programming Associate with Inshiyuu Miyuupimatisiun (Chisasibi Mental Wellness Team) in James Bay.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2007-08:**Mona Tajali – PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science)**

Mona received her PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science) from Concordia in 2014. She previously received her MA in Human Rights from the University of Manchester. She currently works as an Assistant Professor in International Relations and Women's Studies at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, Georgia.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2006-07:**Jason Crawford – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)**

Jason received his PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts) from Concordia in 2011. He previously received his M.Div from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, and a BA in Political Science from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. He currently teaches courses in gender and sexuality, religion and society and ethics at Champlain College Saint-Lambert in Saint-Lambert, Quebec.

The following students received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2005-06:**Erin Jessee – PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science)**

Erin received her PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science) from Concordia in 2010. She previously received her MA in Forensic Archaeology and her BA in Archaeology, Anthropology, both from Simon Fraser University. She is currently the Lord Kelvin Adam Smith Research Fellow on Armed Conflict and Trauma at the University of Glasgow.

**Tagny Duff – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)**

Tagny received her PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts) from Concordia in 2014. She previously received her MFA in Studio Arts from Concordia and her BFA in Studio Arts from Emily Carr University of Arts and Design. She is currently an Associate Professor in the Communication Studies Department at Concordia, where she teaches courses in visual culture, viral media, interdisciplinarity, art/sci production and collaboration, post-studio art practice, and the relation between art, science and technology.

The following students received the Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities in 2004-05:**Philippe Cardinal – PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science)**

Philippe received his PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science) from Concordia in 2009. He previously received his MA in French and Translation Studies from Concordia.

**Deborah Lunny – PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science)**

Deborah received her PhD in Humanities (Arts & Science) from Concordia in 2016. She is currently a Humanities teacher at John Abbott College in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec, where she teaches courses in feminism, anti-racism and decolonization. Along with colleagues from other cegeps and Indigenous educators and students, Deborah is actively involved in grassroots Intercollegiate Indigenizing Initiatives Network (IIIN).

MIRIAM AARON ROLAND FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

The Miriam Aaron Roland Family Scholarship is offered to fifth year students pursuing a PhD in Humanities demonstrating leadership, community service, extra-curricular activities. The scholarship was established by Miriam Roland's children, Tobey, Aaron and Lexann in recognition of their affection and admiration of their mother in all her roles and capabilities.. The scholarship value is \$20,000 annually.

The following student received the Miriam Aaron Roland Family Scholarship in 2019-20:



Mayra Angelica Morales Gallardo – PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts)

Mayra is currently pursuing her PhD in Humanities (Fine Arts) at Concordia. She is a dancer, choreographer and interdisciplinary artist. She has founded and co-founded choreographic creation projects and has performed on various stages both in Mexico, London, France, Canada, United States, Germany, Vienna, Belgium, Australia and Brazil. Mayra's training includes ballet and contemporary dance since she was a child in Puebla, Mexico. She holds a B.Dance from Universidad de las Américas Puebla (UDLAP) in Mexico, and an MA in Theatre Dance from the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London, graduating from both with honours and scholarships of excellence.

MIRIAM AARON ROLAND FELLOWSHIP IN BUSINESS ETHICS

The Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in Business Ethics was established to recognize the importance of ethics in today's business context. The John Molson School of Business is proud to offer a unique and mandatory course to its MBA students that will champion the teaching of ethics and social responsibility.

The fellowship is \$25,000 annually and renewable. It is awarded to a tenured or tenure-track professor, whose mandate is to teach the MBA course.



Timothy Field – Miriam Roland Fellow in Business Ethics

Timothy joined Concordia in 2000. He is currently teaching in the Management Department of the John Molson School of Business in the areas of Strategy, Entrepreneurship and Business Ethics in both the MBA and undergraduate programs. In addition, his industry experience includes, ten years in the Aerospace industry, five years as an entrepreneur in both the automotive and marketing fields and currently as a management consultant having provided services to the Retail, Biotechnology, Telecommunications, Aerospace, Manufacturing, IT and Brewing industries.

“The Miriam Roland Fellowship allowed JMSB to not only launch a core course in Ethics in the MBA program (this course is now called Responsible Manager) but has also been a major supporter of expanding our case competition program and various student-based initiatives. Simply put, the Miriam Roland Fellowship in Business Ethics provides crucial resources to student programs. In particular, funding is used to support the ICOP Case Competition, the MBACCC Case Competition Program and Social Enterprise Case Competition - organizations that are all student managed. Case Competitions provide an important experiential learning opportunity and through donations such as the Miriam Roland Fellowship, students have been able to make this opportunity available to their peers. Thank you, Miriam for your support in building ethical business leaders!”

– Timothy Field



MIRIAM AARON ROLAND EMERGENCY NEEDS BURSARY PROGRAM

The Miriam Aaron Roland Emergency Needs Bursary Program was established through the Miriam Aaron Roland Emergency Needs Endowment of \$50,000. The purpose of the bursary program is to assist full-time students who are experiencing difficult circumstances which are creating considerable financial hardship for them, and which requires an urgent, financial response.

Student recipient profile 2019-20

– Anonymous Student –

Age: 29

Program: BFA, Specialization Design for Theatre

Credits required: 108

Registration: Full-time

Background: This student needed help to fly back to Vancouver. The student's grandfather is a resident of the Lynn Valley Care Centre where there was an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus. He tested positive for the virus, and the student's mother and aunt had been caring for him, as the Centre was low-staffed. The student's mother and aunt also started to show symptoms of the virus, and the student was trying to get home to support her family.

Student recipient profile 2018-19

– Anonymous Student –

Age: 26

Program: BA, Sociology

Credits required: 108

Registration: Full-time

Background: This student is originally from Alberta and was refused residency in Quebec for student loans, despite having lived here for numerous years. The student tried to apply for student loans in Alberta and was also refused. The experience brought on a great deal of stress, as the student was born in Canada but seemed to be without residence.

Student recipient profile 2016-17

– Anonymous Student –

Age: 40

Program: BA, Women's Studies

Credits required: 108

Registration: Full-time

Background: The student is disabled and has been ill while waiting for government aid file to be updated for additional assistance. The student has six children and sole custody of a niece. Emergency funds were issued to the student in order to address an urgent financial situation in the household.

Student recipient profiles 2015-16

– Anonymous Student 1 –

Age: 21

Program: BSc, Biochemistry

Credits required: 120

Registration: Full-time

Background: The student is from a single-parent household. The student's mother fell ill late during the fall semester and was unable to work. Emergency funds were issued to the student in order to stabilize the situation and to be able to continue their full-time studies during the mother's illness.

– Anonymous Student 2 –

Age: 44

Program: BA, Political Science

Credits required: 90

Registration: Full-time

Background: The student is a single parent whose only child is studying at a university in another province. Her son experienced financial difficulties and she sacrificed her own government aid funds to assist him. Emergency funds were issued to the student in order to improve her financial situation.

– Anonymous Student 3 –

Age: 24

Program: BA, Philosophy

Credits required: 108

Registration: Full-time

Background: The student was physically assaulted before the holidays, and had to stop working. Emergency funds were issued to the student in order to assist with urgent personal expenses, as well as physiotherapy and counseling.

Student recipient profiles 2013-14

– Anonymous Student 1 –

Age: 24

Program: BA, Sociology

Credits required: 90

Credits remaining to completion: 60

Registration: Full-time fall & winter

Background: In late October the student was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Although she was able to continue her studies her chemotherapy and the need to reduce her stress levels left her unable to work. She was faced with mounting personal debts and was not able to obtain basic living necessities. The bursary was issued to her and the Financial Aid and Awards Office attempted at that time to have her governmental student aid file adjusted in order to provide greater assistance in the future.

– Anonymous Student 2 –

Age: 40

Program: BA, History

Credits required: 90

Credits remaining to completion: 69

Registration: Full-time fall & winter

Background: The student has a disability, and has a young autistic child. She was recently faced with the sudden dissolution of her marriage and had to find a new dwelling on short notice late in the summer. Although her ex-spouse had initially promised to assist with child-care expenses he suddenly refused, leaving her in financial difficulty since August. The Financial Aid and Awards Office is had the student's government assistance file adjusted to reflect the loss of spousal child support.

Student recipient profiles 2011-12

– Anonymous Student 1 –

Age: 30

Program: MA, Creative Arts Therapies

Credits required: 45

Credits remaining to completion: 15

Registration: Full-time fall & winter

Background: The student has a functional disability and has been on her own without family support since the age of 16. The processing of her student assistance from Ontario was severely delayed due to a number of errors on her application form, and also the length of time the Ministry took to correct her file and assess her for possible additional assistance as a student with a disability. An emergency bursary was issued to her in order to allow her to purchase her medication, and also cover basic living expenses while awaiting the correction of her aid file.

– Anonymous Student 2 –

Age: 27

Program: BComm, Management

Credits required: 120

Credits remaining to completion: 66

Registration: Full-time fall & winter

Background: The student has a learning disability, receives governmental student assistance, and is a new father. During childbirth at the hospital his wife unexpectedly contracted C. Difficile and she had to stay in quarantine for several days at the hospital, at the cost of the student. The bursary was issued to him in order to offset the hospital fees incurred and also alleviate associated financial stresses.

– Anonymous Student 3 –

Age: 44

Program: B.Eng, Electrical Engineering

Credits required: 129

Credits remaining to completion: 101.50

Registration: Full-time fall & winter

Background: The student is a parent with school-age children and his wife does not earn a high income. There was an error with the assessment of his government student aid file, which lessened the amount of calculated assistance at a time when he was faced with unexpected school fees. The bursary was provided to him in order to assist him through an unexpectedly difficult time.

– Anonymous Student 4 –

Age: 43

Program: MA, Social Science

Credits required: 45

Credits remaining to completion: 24

Registration: Full-time fall & winter

Background: The student is divorced, lives on her own and relies on governmental student assistance to fund her studies and cover living expenses. An error was identified in the assessment of her governmental student aid file and the Financial Aid and Awards Office notified the government to take corrective action. The government did not make the corrections in a timely manner and the student faced financial hardship. The bursary was issued to her in order to cover basic living necessities.

Student recipient profiles 2010-11

– Anonymous Student 1 –

Age: 21

Program: BComm, International Business

Credits required: 90

Credits remaining to completion: 42

Registration: Full-time fall & winter

Background: The student's father put her brother in charge of administering an educational fund account for her and her sister. The brother developed an alcohol and substance abuse problem, and also began exhibiting increasingly abusive, manic and psychotic behaviour. The brother used the account to support his alcoholism and substance abuse, and he depleted all funds. Being abroad and from a different cultural background, the student's father offered no support to the student and her sister. With no funds left to pay for schooling, and faced with a potentially dangerous situation, the student and her sister were faced with having to find safety in a new dwelling while suddenly having to work in order to live and pay for their schooling.

– Anonymous Student 2 –

Age: 45

Program: PhD, Religion

Credits required: 90

Credits remaining to completion: 12

Registration: Full-time fall & winter

Background: The student is a single parent with no family in Quebec. Throughout fall 2010, she struggled in the aftermath of a sexual assault on one of her two teenage daughters. During this time she was unable to work due to numerous medical and mental health appointments, as well as meetings with police detectives, lawyers, and ultimately court dates. The student fell behind in her studies, fell behind in her rent and was concerned she might be evicted, and she was also not able to provide for herself and her daughters.

FINAL THANKS TO A CONCORDIA CHAMPION

Miriam J. Roland: On behalf of the many students, faculty and staff who have been touched by your generosity, we offer sincere thanks. We are grateful for your continued support and how you have helped chart Concordia's course as a next-gen university!



MR

- Learn how Concordia's most ambitious campaign to date will empower tomorrow's leaders: concordia.ca/campaign.
- Discover what Concordia achieved first in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and the world at concordia.ca/concordiafirsts.