

FALL 2017



CITY CENTRE

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UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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CITY CENTRE

Concordia experts weigh in on emerging urban issues in Canada and around the world; plus, meet four grads helping advance major Montreal construction projects.

By Julie Gedeon



NOT YOUR PARENTS' MBA

Concordia's business school introduces its updated graduate program.

By Wayne Larsen



IRVING LAYTON AWARD FOR CREATIVE WRITING: FICTION

An abridged version of this year's prize-winning story, *WunderHorse II*.

By Fawn Parker



WHAT'S THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF OUR ROUTINES?

Our love of food and travel has a cost – Concordia researchers are examining sustainable solutions; plus, profiles of four alumni already making a difference.

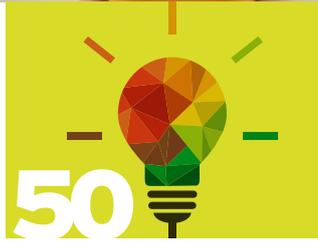
By Maeve Haldane



FINDING THEIR INSPIRATION

Motivation by Concordia professors drove these high-achieving alumni toward their successes.

By Richard Burnett, Vanessa Bonneau, James Gibbons and Simona Rabinovitch



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Concordia's largest faculty recently hosted a series of high-profile public events.

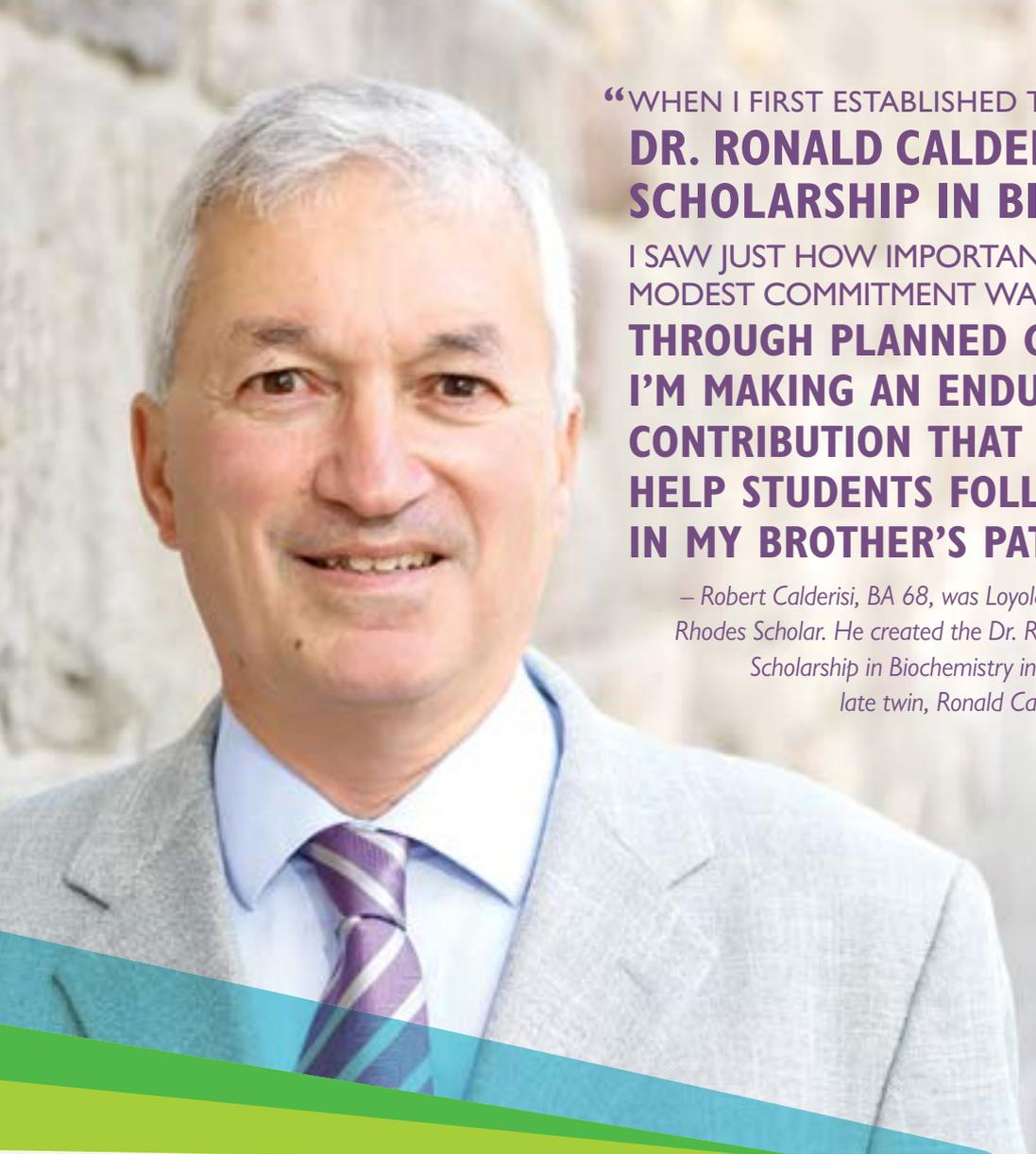
By Elisabeth Faure



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Cover credit: Thinkstock

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“WHEN I FIRST ESTABLISHED THE
**DR. RONALD CALDERISI
SCHOLARSHIP IN BIOCHEMISTRY,**
I SAW JUST HOW IMPORTANT MY
MODEST COMMITMENT WAS.
**THROUGH PLANNED GIVING,
I’M MAKING AN ENDURING
CONTRIBUTION THAT WILL
HELP STUDENTS FOLLOW
IN MY BROTHER’S PATH.”**



Ronald Calderisi, brother
of Robert Calderisi

– Robert Calderisi, BA 68, was Loyola College’s first
Rhodes Scholar. He created the Dr. Ronald Calderisi
Scholarship in Biochemistry in memory of his
late twin, Ronald Calderisi, BSc 68.



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New horizons

HOWARD BOKSER, MBA 85

Number 80. This is my 80th issue as editor of *Concordia University Magazine*. It's also my final one. Although bittersweet, I look forward to taking on new challenges at another position at Concordia after 21 years at this publication's helm.

Much has changed for the magazine since I arrived in June 1996, stepping in for Kathleen Huggessen. Back then each issue was 32 pages — only half in colour — and mailed quarterly to about 40,000 alumni and friends. Today the full-colour magazine, between 64 and 72 pages, is sent three times a year to about 150,000 of our 200,000-strong alumni community.

The university has undergone even more dramatic shifts in that time. Today's total student body exceeds 48,000, up by about 35 per cent since the mid-1990s. Even more impressive is the increase in the university's research focus and output. These advances have been recognized in international rankings, such as Concordia's recent placement in the world's top 500 universities by the Shanghai Rankings (see the news story on page 13).

These steps are the result of careful planning, exemplified by the first item on the list of Concordia's nine strategic directions, "double our research." This issue features a number of faculty making impressive headway in research



on cities (see our cover story, "City centre," on page 24) and sustainability (see "What's the environmental impact of our routines" on page 40).

Concordia has invested more than \$600 million in the past 15 years to transform its footprint to meet the needs of student growth. Graduates who return here for Homecoming or other reunions and events are often blown away by how the Sir George Williams and Loyola campuses have been renewed over the past two decades with major new buildings and other upgrades.

To keep the university moving from strength to strength, Concordia will soon reach out to alumni and others with a major new fundraising campaign. That means when my successor writes his or her own final column, the numbers above will be ancient history.

The magazine pages you're holding are the result of the contribution of many committed individuals, too many for me to thank here. I would like to point out that the distinctive skills of two guys made each of the 80 issues better. This editorial page wouldn't be complete without cartoonist Frederic Serre, BA 86 — who's as funny in person as his cartoons are. And the magazine's lead creative designer Christopher Alleyne, BA 09, has provided his ingenuity since before my time here. Chris is everything a designer should be and needs to be: professional, dedicated, talented — and patient.

I thank my directors — including my current boss, Sylvain-Jacques Desjardins, BA 97, who was also the first of my many dedicated interns — and all the hardworking writers, photographers, proofreaders and colleagues, as well as the countless alumni and faculty who agreed to appear in these pages. Your efforts made this publication as good as it could be.

And of course, I thank all our readers for your profound support and interest. You all make it easy to feel proud of Concordia. ■

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE Concordia

Concordia University Magazine welcomes readers' comments. Letters should include the writer's full name, address, school(s), degree(s) and year(s) of graduation for alumni. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. No letter will be published without the full name of the correspondent.

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setting an example

Married grads give back to their alma mater



Bob and Marie Baird in their Calgary home

Marie-France Racicot-Baird, BA 78, and Robert Baird, BEng 82, established the Marie and Bob Baird Scholarship in 2012 for students in translation in the *Département d'études françaises* and in the *Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science*, in alternating years.

“I started university elsewhere but had to quit to be a caretaker for my father. When I was thinking of going back into engineering, I saw that Concordia offered night courses. After doing that for one semester, I switched to full time.

Concordia gave me a chance when I wanted to come back and finish my degree. I always felt an obligation to give back the opportunity that the university gave to me.

My wife Marie and I were intrigued by the idea of having a scholarship set up in perpetuity. So in 2012 we donated to Concordia to help people who deserve to get aid for their educations.”

— Robert Baird, BEng 82, senior VP, Downstream, Husky Energy, Calgary

“I’ve worked in many different fields through the years, as a reviser, editor, assistant librarian, university lecturer and co-owner of a small translation firm. I tell students that you have to expect to change careers as you go along, and you have to expect to do different things than you thought you would. Sometimes, your courses won’t reflect what you’ll end up doing.

Bob and I met while we were studying at Concordia. Ours is a partnership that endures to this day, and we thought it would be nice if our alma mater could benefit from it.

As you age, you realize that a lot of people helped you along the way. The Marie and Bob Baird Scholarship is our part in helping others, part of our shared belief in doing good for the community.”

— Marie France Racicot-Baird, BA 78, retired translator

Find out how you can join Marie and Bob Baird in contributing to Concordia.

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CHRISTINE LENGVARI GIVES \$1 MILLION TO SUPPORT RESEARCH IN NUTRITION AND WOMEN IN FINANCE

Before she even began her studies at Loyola College — one of Concordia’s two founding institutions — Christine Lengvari, BSc 72, already felt connected to her alma mater. Her older brother George Lengvari, BA 63, was a Loyola graduate, and she had her mind set on following suit. “My mother was my mentor,” says Lengvari. “Having lost everything after the war, she always said that education was the one thing that could never be taken away from us.”

The alumna has now given back to her roots with a \$1-million planned gift to the university. “I think Concordia has become a founding element in Montreal,” she says. “To be able to give back to the university now — and into the future — is energizing.”

Lengvari, who is president and CEO of Lengvari Financial Inc. — a boutique insurance firm in Montreal — made the announcement at Concordia’s John Molson School of Business (JMSB) on April 19, 2017.

The Christine Lengvari Endowment Fund will support scholarships for female students in JMSB’s Kenneth Woods Portfolio Management Program and will also promote research at Concordia’s PERFORM Centre.

“Christine is investing in the future of next-generation leaders and researchers,” says Concordia President Alan Shepard. “Her generous gift will contribute to supporting and empowering our students to go beyond expectations and pursue bold ideas.”



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY



ABOVE: CHRISTINE LENGVARI, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF LENGVARI FINANCIAL INC., ANNOUNCED HER \$1-MILLION GIFT TO CONCORDIA ON APRIL 19, 2017; RIGHT: LENGVARI WITH HER PARENTS GEORGE AND TRUDE AT HER GRADUATION FROM LOYOLA COLLEGE IN 1972.

Lengvari’s relationship to Concordia extended into the 1980s when she was invited to join the Loyola Alumni Association. In 1997, after several years living overseas, Lengvari became the chair of the 25th Alumni Reunion as part of Homecoming and continued her involvement in various capacities. She was a member of the Alumni and Friends division of the Campaign for a New Millennium, 1996-99, and later joined Concordia’s Board of Governors, where she served for nine years.

She also helped found Concordia’s planned giving program. “I’m a great believer in planned giving,” Lengvari says. “I think that when we are part of a community, we have to be involved. It’s an opportunity to allocate funds to the causes you care about.”

WOMEN PROMOTING WOMEN

As a strong advocate for the empowerment of women, Lengvari understands the

importance of helping those around her. She gives her time as advisory board chair of the Concordia Alumni Women and Leadership Program; is a member of the executive committee for the Montreal chapter of the International Women’s Forum; and was previously a mentor for the John Molson Women in Business Club.

Since its inception, Lengvari has been part of the client committee for the Kenneth Woods Portfolio Management Program — where she has directed part of her endowment. “I think it’s necessary to promote women and to encourage

women to be involved,” she says. “We need support and I’ve certainly felt that throughout my own career.”

The Christine Lengvari Endowment Fund will help propel the next generation of women leaders and will also enable innovative research to encourage healthy living — two causes Lengvari is personally committed to.

“I feel I’ve been very fortunate during my lifetime with the organizations I’ve been involved with,” she says. “They’ve given a lot to me. To me, ‘giving’ means giving back.” ■

—Marta Samuel

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DEUTSCHE WELLE

ANDRÉ GAGNÉ, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES AND DIGITAL FELLOW AT THE MONTREAL INSTITUTE FOR GENOCIDE AND HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES, SPOKE AT THE GLOBAL MEDIA FORUM IN BONN, GERMANY, ON JUNE 20, 2017.

MIGS LENDS ITS EXPERTISE TO GLOBAL MEDIA FORUM

Concordia's Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies (MIGS) hosted a panel discussion, called Identity and diversity in the age of populism and religious extremism, at the 2017 Global Media Forum. The conference was held in Bonn, Germany, from June 19 to 21.

The panel addressed the issue of terrorist attacks by religious extremists fuelling right-wing populism in the United States and Europe, and the difficulty of countering that populism without further disillusioning voters.

Kyle Matthews, executive director of MIGS, spoke alongside André Gagné, associate professor in Concordia's Department of Theological Studies and a MIGS fellow. Marie Lamensch, project coordinator, communications manager and researcher at MIGS, moderated the panel, which included journalist Nalan Sipar and

freelance producer and editor Laura Wagenknecht.

Matthews examined multiculturalism and nationalism in a panel discussion called Managing diversity in a time of turmoil, hosted by the Global Diplomacy Lab, of which Matthews is a member.

The Global Media Forum is an annual conference organized by Germany's public international broadcaster Deutsche Welle. It brings together academics, journalists, politicians and other influencers to consider media trends, global development and international relations.

MIGS has plans for other partnerships in the near future. Together with Parliamentarians for Global Action and the mayor of Milan, Italy, it will co-host the Milan Forum for Action on Preventing Violent Extremism and Mass Atrocities from November 27 to 28, 2017. ■

—Matthew Scribner

\$52.75 MILLION INVESTMENT TO ACCELERATE NEXT-GENERATION RESEARCH

The Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec are joining forces with Concordia by investing \$52.75 million into a research and innovation hub at the university. "This is a high-water-mark moment for Concordia's next-generation approach to education," says Concordia President Alan Shepard.

The hub will house activities with commercial potential for Concordia's current and future industrial partners and entrepreneurs. "Our researchers are producing outstanding, internationally renowned work," says Graham Carr, Concordia's provost and vice-president of Academic Affairs. "This new funding ensures they will have the most appropriate environment to support their research, develop partnerships and train students for the jobs of tomorrow."

Chemists, engineers, health scientists and biologists will work in an environment that encourages transdisciplinary thinking with applications

in biomedicine, sustainable manufacturing and beyond.

The hub's team of researchers will include incoming faculty and graduate students from Concordia's new Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering. The hub will also house the Centre for NanoScience Research and the Centre for Microscopy and Cellular Imaging.

An integrated space devoted to Concordia's District 3 Innovation Center will provide laboratories to support entrepreneurs developing products based on scientific discoveries and ideas. "This project reflects Concordia's drive to provide top researchers with innovative and collaborative laboratory environments, and to provide access to the infrastructure they need to take their projects to the next level," says Justin Powlowski, interim vice president of Research and Graduate Studies.

"The ultimate commodity in the 21st century is knowledge," says Shepard. "The new funding is transformational." ■

—Mary-Jo Barr



CONCORDIA PRESIDENT ALAN SHEPARD, QUEBEC MINISTERS KATHLEEN WEIL AND HÉLÈNE DAVID, CANADIAN MINISTER MARC GARNEAU AND MP DAVID LAMETTI AT THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE \$52.75 MILLION INVESTMENT IN CONCORDIA, ON LOYOLA CAMPUS ON JULY 11, 2017.

MARION EUSSALDE



CONCORDIA PRESIDENT ALAN SHEPARD ADDRESSED THE MONTREAL COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS ON MAY 10, 2017.

ALAN SHEPARD: "WE'RE WELL POSITIONED TO TAKE A LEADERSHIP ROLE"

How do we square technological change's awe-inspiring pace with the continued suffering of so many? That question anchored an address by Concordia President Alan Shepard to the Montreal Council on Foreign Relations at Plaza Centre-Ville last spring.

Gaps in prosperity and safety are leading to fear and regressive nationalism, Shepard said. "It's at times of acute suffering that a society might turn inward, raise the drawbridge, withdraw into itself. We see this in the election of Donald Trump [in the United States] and the Brexit vote in the U.K." At such times, he continued, "Liberal democracies need to get more serious about reducing the gaps between citizens."

How? Through education, green technology, innovative infrastructure and global networks. Rather than surrendering to cynicism, "We should double down on

working together, and across borders, to build a better world," he added.

As Montreal marks its 375th anniversary and Canada its 150th, "We're well-positioned to take a leadership role," Shepard said. He pointed to the green tech industry as a way to boost the local economy. "The energy of the technology revolution can be marshalled for good." Noting Montreal's rich start-up culture, "Deep democracy craves innovation, entrepreneurial energy, the collision of competing ideas."

Concordians contribute via initiatives such as the District 3 Innovation Center, the Temps Libre community workspace and experiential learning programs such as the Institute for Co-operative Education. "We have a duty to help students cross the boundaries of their formation and imagination, while enabling them to experience difference and discovery," Shepard said. ■

—Tom Peacock



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3

CONCORDIANS CONNECT WITH CANADA'S PRIME MINISTER

Several Concordians had the opportunity to meet Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in recent months.

Concordia President **Alan Shepard** attended the Public Policy Forum's 30th annual testimonial dinner in Toronto on April 20, 2017. At the event, **Prime Minister Trudeau** spoke to more than 1,000 leaders from all sectors of Canadian society gathered to pay tribute to those who have made outstanding contributions to the quality of public policy and good governance. **1**

Many grads from Concordia's Department of Journalism have enjoyed illustrious careers. A case in point is sportswriter and bestselling author **Jonah Keri**, BA 97. Keri chatted with Prime Minister Trudeau for the *Jonah Keri Podcast*, which was posted April 24, 2017. It was the prime minister's first podcast since taking office in 2015.

The two exchanged thoughts on Canadian identity and the future of journalism, among other topics. As a student, Keri covered sports and the Concordia Stingers for *The Concordian* student newspaper. **2**

Concordia's School of Irish Studies welcomed Prime Minister Trudeau and the Republic of Ireland's Prime Minister **Enda Kenny** (second from right) on May 4, 2017. Pictured with them is **Michael Kenneally** (right), principal of the school, who presented the PMs with copies of the book *Ireland and Quebec*. The book of essays includes contributions by four Concordia faculty: Kenneally, Gearóid Ó hAllmúráin, Jean-Philippe Warren and **Rhona Richman Kenneally**, professor in the Department of Design and Computation Arts, also in the photo. **3**

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Academics Without Borders reception

October 19, 5 - 7 p.m.
 McGill Faculty Club, 3450 McTavish St., Montreal, QC

Learn how Concordia is helping create sustainable programs at developing-world universities through Academics Without Borders. Since 2009, the Montreal-based organization has sent 100 volunteers to participate in more than 90 capacity-building projects.

RSVP: Mindy Gordon, mgordon@awb-usf.org

CONCORDIA ALUMNI AT THE EMMYS

Hollywood has given the work of three Concordians the thumbs up. HBO's hit *Big Little Lies*, starring Nicole Kidman and Reese Witherspoon among other big names and helmed by celebrated Quebec director Jean-Marc Vallée, was nominated for 16 Emmy Awards. Concordia grads held two of those nominations.

Yves Bélanger, BFA (film studies) 84, was up for Outstanding Cinematography for a Miniseries or Movie, and Gavin Fernandes, BSc (biochem.) 88, was short-listed for Outstanding Sound Mixing for a Miniseries or a Movie together with his co-mixer Louis Gignac and production mixer Brendan Beebe. Concordia grad James Tupper, BFA (theatre perf.)

92, co-stars in the series.

Bélanger and Fernandes previously joined Vallée on the Academy Award-winning *Dallas Buyers Club* (2013) and other projects. They are currently teamed with Vallée again to make *Sharp Objects* for HBO, starring Amy Adams.

Bélanger has worked on more than 40 TV shows and films — including the Academy Award-nominated *Brooklyn* (2015), co-produced by Pierre Even, GrDip 90. He learned his way around a film set in the early 1980s at Concordia's film department, now known as the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema.

Fernandes, who has more than 160 movies and TV episodes on his resumé, started his sound-recording career in the 1980s at Concordia's



YVES BÉLANGER (ABOVE) EARNED AN EMMY NOMINATION FOR OUTSTANDING CINEMATOGRAPHY AND GAVIN FERNANDES (BELOW) WAS RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING SOUND MIXING, BOTH IN THE MINISERIES OR MOVIE CATEGORY, FOR *BIG LITTLE LIES*.

radio station, now CJLO.

Barry Julien, BA 94, co-executive producer and head writer of *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, was co-nominated in the category of Outstanding Writing for a Variety Series. The 69th Emmy Awards ceremony was held September 17, 2017. ■

—Matthew Scribner



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Governor General Award-winning novelist to be Concordia's next Richler Writer in Residence

MATTHEW SCRIBNER

Novelist, scriptwriter and short story writer Peter Behrens, BA (hist.) 76, will become Concordia's third Richler Writer in Residence in fall 2017

Behrens's first novel *The Law of Dreams* (2006) won the Governor General's Award for English language fiction. It was followed by *The O'Briens* (2011) and *Carry Me* (2016), which was selected as one of National Public Radio's Best Books of 2016. Behrens held a Wallace Stegner Writing Fellowship at Stanford University and was named a fellow of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study and of Harvard University's Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

Kate Sterns, associate professor of English and co-ordinator of Concordia's creative writing program, is thrilled to have Behrens at the university. "His research and writing intersect with a lot of different faculty members' interests, not only within creative writing and the academic side of the English department but also in fine arts, Irish studies and beyond," she says.

In 2015 the family of Mordecai Richler established the Richler Writer in Residence, which allows writers to work on their own writing, meet with Concordia students who are aspiring writers, teach classes and organize events. Behrens follows Ann-Marie MacDonald and Matthew Forsythe as Writer in Residence. He talks about his career and his plans for his upcoming residency at Concordia.

Please tell us a bit about your background.

Peter Behrens: "I grew up in Montreal with grandparents and 17 cousins. My family, like a lot of Montreal families we knew, spent part of our summers in Maine. I lived in California for about 15 years, mostly writing screenplays. I moved back to Maine 17 years ago. Maine is home, though we spend the school year in Cambridge, Mass."

How did your career in writing begin?

PB: "I spent my youth trying to figure out what being a writer meant. I didn't know anybody who had that career and it didn't seem entirely viable in Canada at that time. My first story was published in *Best Canadian Stories* 1978. My second published story was in *Best Canadian Stories* 1979.

I spent some years in Alberta — working on a cattle ranch, on the grain harvest, on trail crews. Standard stuff for a lot of writers. I wrote about harvest-hand life and ended up moving to Cambridge in 1985. My first story published in the U.S. appeared in *The Atlantic* the following year. After that I was a Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford — which gave me time to write."



PETER BEHRENS WILL BE CONCORDIA'S THIRD RICHLER WRITER IN RESIDENCE.

How did you move from fiction writing to scriptwriting and then back?

PB: "I published my first book, a collection called *Night Driving*. I was living in L.A. at the time and a major producer wanted to adapt a short story from the collection as a feature film. They hired me to do it, and that started me writing scripts.

What was frustrating for me, and for a lot of writers in L.A., was writing and getting paid for it, but few projects ever went beyond the scriptwriting stage, for all kinds of reasons. I had a viable career, but it wasn't particularly satisfying. I started writing fiction again — which became my first novel *The Law of Dreams*.

It took years to write. After it was done I spent three years going around New York City with everybody wanting to meet me, telling me how marvellously written it was, and why they couldn't publish it — until suddenly they wanted to. I don't know what changed.

In the novel I imagine my great-great-grandfather's experience of the Irish Famine in the 1840s and the coffin ship emigration up the St. Lawrence River. Since then I've published *The O'Briens*, about a Montreal Irish family in the 20th century, and *Carry Me*, about Germany going to hell in the 1930s. I'll be working on my fourth novel in Montreal. It's largely set in Montreal of the 1970s though in other places as well — Europe, Provincetown, Banff, L.A., to name a few."

What will you be doing as Richler Writer in Residence?

PB: "Leading a workshop class. Writing feature scripts and teleplays. And I'll be teaching a master class for the Faculty of

Fine Arts. Some talks and other things. And digging back into Montreal, which was my home and my family's home. I haven't lived here for almost 40 years. Yikes."

What is your approach to teaching writing?

PB: "Teaching encourages a writer to think about process as a writer. You can't really teach writing — but you can guide writers and perhaps save them a little bit of time."

What does Mordecai Richler mean to you?

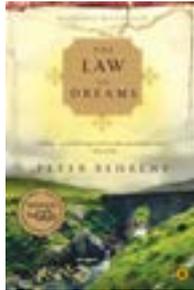
PB: "Duddy Kravitz first of all. I remember reading *St. Urbain's Horsemen* in 1971 when I started at Sir George Williams University [one of Concordia's founding institutions]. This was the first time that I read fiction by a master whose world was familiar to me. I did not grow up on St. Urbain Street, and my family wasn't Jewish. Nonetheless, that world was a piece of the world that I recognized. I watched how Richler turned these familiar things into something strange, mysterious and wonderful."

Who are your mentors?

PB: "The U.S.-Canadian writer Clark Blaise started me down the track to writing. He founded the MA in creative writing program at Concordia in the mid-'70s. While I was an undergraduate at Concordia studying history, Clark invited me to take part in his creative writing workshop, which I did. I wasn't officially an MA student but I was in the workshop, which was really important to me."

Other than Clark, my mentors are the people I read. Alice Munro was a mentor, though I've never met her. She certainly showed how to handle a world in fiction in a deceptively clear and very powerful way. John McGahern. Alice McDermott. Poets like Larry Levis, David Rivard and John Newlove.

Another mentor whom I did get to know a little bit was Alastair McLeod, an astounding writer. Maybe he saw that I had some ability to handle the language. His confidence in me helped me along. I met Irving Layton and he encouraged me to keep going, even when the shape of a career was vague."



THE LAW OF DREAMS, PETER BEHRENS'S FIRST NOVEL, WON THE 2006 GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S AWARD FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE FICTION. HE PLANS TO WORK ON HIS FOURTH NOVEL WHILE AT CONCORDIA IN 2017.

How is writing scripts different from writing novels or short stories?

PB: "One, the pay is better. Two, as a screenwriter, you're not really the person in control of the project. It's a collaborative enterprise — it has to be. If a film belongs to anyone, it belongs to a director — but even not entirely to them. In TV, writers have more influence, but that's 'writers' — plural, more than one. There's a lot of other people involved. So you're part of a creative process. Which can be fabulous and energizing."

What is your advice to budding writers?

PB: "One, read. Two, read. Three, pay attention to your intuition. Cultivate it. Four, revise. Writing well means a) cultivating your powers of intuition and b) revising ruthlessly." ■

—Matthew Scribner is a writer and English teacher.

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THINKING OUT LOUD 2017

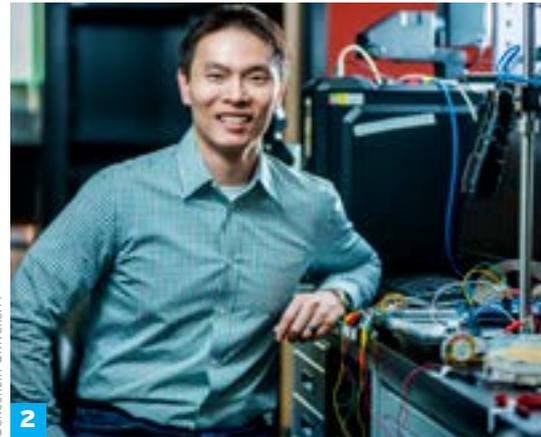
CONCORDIA'S BIG THINKING

Concordia's Thinking Out Loud (TOL) events returned in 2017 with another successful series of sold-out conversations. This series of live events brings together Concordia researchers and faculty members with external thought leaders, in conversation about ideas, big and small.



1

In addition to the live events, TOL has launched an audio podcast in miniseries format. *TOL 2067* is about university research and the future, hosted by Francine Pelletier, part-time faculty in Concordia's Department of Journalism. *TOL Expo67* provides a fresh take on the 1967 World's Fair seen through the new contemporary art, hosted by



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
2

Monika Gagnon, professor in Concordia's Department of Communication Studies.

Stay tuned as TOL continues through 2017-18 with conversations about cities and more from the live events series.

And Concordia faculty will once again participate in the Walrus Talks, a national series of events about Canada and its place in the world.

The Walrus Talks Disruption events will be held in fall 2017:

- **October 10, Toronto**, on cities, with **Karen Li, 1** professor of Psychology; and Rilla Khaled, associate professor of Design and Computation Arts;
- **October 24, Ottawa**, on health, with Jennifer McGrath, associate professor of Psychology, PERFORM Chair in Childhood Preventive Health and Data Science; and Adam Radomsky, professor of Psychology;
- **November 9, Calgary**, on cities, with **Steve Shih, 2** assistant professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering; and **pk langshaw, 3** professor and chair of Design and Computation Arts.

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ROBERT RUBY
3

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CONCORDIA MAKES THE WORLD'S TOP 500

It's official — Concordia is one of the world's top 500 universities. That's according to the recently released 2017 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), also known as the Shanghai Rankings. This is the first time since 2013 that Concordia has made the top 500, and only the fourth time since the rankings began in 2003. More than 1,300 universities were ranked in total.

"This result is validation that we're moving in the right direction in terms of our research output and academic priorities," says Graham Carr, Concordia's provost and vice-president of Academic Affairs.

ARWU is widely regarded

as one of the top three most influential university rankings, along with the Times Higher Education World University Rankings and the QS World University Rankings, both British outfits. It is often lauded for its objective methodology and its reliance on third-party data sources to compile results.

Universities are ranked using multiple indicators of academic and research performance, including the number of alumni and staff winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals, papers indexed in major citation indices, highly cited researchers, papers published in *Nature* and *Science* and per capita academic performance.

This year Concordia recorded solid scores in several categories, in particular published and indexed papers and per-capita performance. And given that the university has no Nobel Prize or Fields Medal winners, its ascension to the top 500 this year is even more impressive.

Nineteen Canadian universities made the top 500 bracket, with Concordia coming in tied with Simon Fraser University in 18th position in the country. One hundred and thirty-five American universities made the cut, with Harvard and Stanford ranking first and second respectively.

This year, ARWU premiered the Global Ranking of Academic



Subjects, which looked in depth at 52 subjects across five fields — natural sciences, engineering, life sciences, medical sciences and social sciences — at 4,000 institutions worldwide. Concordia was ranked in four subjects in social sciences and seven in engineering. ■

—Cecilia Keating

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CONCORDIA WELCOMES NEW AND RETURNING APPOINTMENTS

Concordia Chancellor Jonathan Wener, BA 71, will continue for a second three-year term. The university's Board of Governors confirmed his reappointment as chancellor at its June 9, 2017, meeting.

Wener began his first term in January 2015; he held other roles on the Board of Governors since 1995. As founder, chairman and CEO of the Montreal-based real estate firm Canderel, it is appropriate that he took an active role in overseeing Concordia's construction during his time on the board. It was under his leadership and influence that the university built the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex and the John Molson Building.

The last few months also saw important new appointments at the university.

Anne-Marie Croteau, BSc 86, began her five-year term as dean of the John Molson School of Business (JMSB) on June 1. Croteau, the first female dean of Concordia's business school, joined the university in 1997 as an assistant professor of Management Information Systems. She was promoted to professor of Supply Chain

and Business Technology Management in 2012. Her research investigates the governance and control of information technology and health information systems, topics that she also covers in her undergraduate and graduate classes.

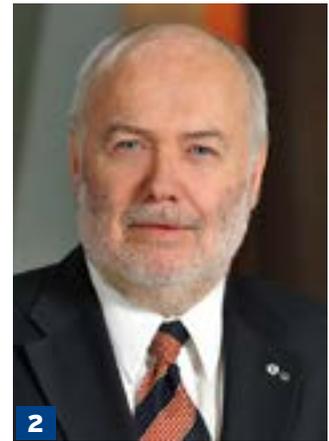
Croteau and her team are already ushering in exciting new changes to Concordia's business school, including streamlining the John Molson MBA program (see "Not your parents' MBA" on page 34).

There is also a new incumbent in the office of the vice-president of Research and Graduate Studies. Christophe Guy started a five-year term in the role on August 1. Guy comes to Concordia from École Polytechnique de Montréal, where he had been chief executive officer since 2007. He has published and taught widely in the field of chemical engineering, authoring or co-authoring more than 110 scientific papers and holding eight patents.

A respected entrepreneur in addition to being an academic, Guy co-founded Odatech Inc. in 1998 alongside one of his former graduate students. Odatech



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
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1 JONATHAN WENER IS BEGINNING HIS SECOND TERM AS CONCORDIA'S CHANCELLOR.

2 CHRISTOPHE GUY BRINGS MANY AWARDS AND ACCOLADES TO HIS NEW ROLE AS THE VICE PRESIDENT OF RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES.

3 ANNE-MARIE CROTEAU BEGAN HER TERM AS DEAN OF THE JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ON JUNE 1.

4 AS THE NEW VICE-PROVOST OF INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND LEARNING, SANDRA GABRIELE'S JOB IS TO LEVERAGE CONCORDIA'S RESOURCES TO ASSURE STUDENTS GET THE BEST EXPERIENCE.

engineers products that use sustainable biotechnology to resolve odour and corrosion problems and has offices in three countries.

Guy is a member of the Order of Canada, an Officer of the Ordre national du Québec, a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering and a Chevalier in France's prestigious l'Ordre des Palmes académiques and sits on the boards of various Montreal-area groups.

As the new vice-provost of Innovation in Teaching and Learning, Sandra Gabriele, PhD 04, will work to leverage Concordia's

resources to assure students get the best experience.

Gabriele, who took up the position on June 19, has been a faculty member and chair of the Department of Communication Studies.

Her portfolio includes overseeing the Centre for Teaching and Learning and facilitating the use of Concordia's many teaching tools. Gabriele has plenty of first-hand experience when it comes to teaching at Concordia — and learning as well, as she earned her PhD in communication studies from the university. ■

—Matthew Scribner

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CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



AT KPMG'S GIFT ANNOUNCEMENT AT CONCORDIA ON MARCH 29 ARE (FROM LEFT) BRAM FREEDMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS; CONCORDIA PRESIDENT ALAN SHEPARD; MICHAEL BARATTA, KPMG PARTNER; ROBERT NASON, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND ACADEMIC DIRECTOR OF THE KPMG-JMSB ENTREPRENEURIAL INDICES INITIATIVE; AND STÉPHANE BRUTUS, INTERIM DEAN OF JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS.

KPMG INVEST \$250,000 IN CONCORDIA BUSINESS EDUCATION

A new gift will have a big impact. KPMG, one of the world's largest professional services firms, has donated \$250,000 to Concordia's John Molson School of Business (JMSB). Announced on March 29, 2017, the gift supports scholarships and a report on entrepreneurial activity in Quebec.

A \$20,000 award and a \$5,000 one will, respectively, be granted to a PhD and MSc student each year on the basis of academic merit. Moreover, a new *Annual KPMG-JMSB Entrepreneurial Indices Report* will receive \$25,000 each year in funding. The document will summarize private enterprise activity in Quebec.

"KPMG is committed to improve business studies in Quebec," says Michael Baratta, BComm 95, GrDip 97, partner and consumer markets lead for Quebec at KPMG. "To be effective,

however, we need to not only share our expertise and knowledge, but our financial involvement has to be significant and long term. With this new endowment, this is precisely what we will achieve."

Bram Freedman, Concordia's vice-president of Advancement and External Relations, says the donation will illuminate entrepreneurship. "This further affirms KPMG's commitment to education. Our graduate students have robust projects that enhance knowledge in their field," says Freedman. "The report this gift supports will be an asset."

"KPMG has a history of giving to our university," says Concordia President Alan Shepard. "We appreciate their contribution to our momentum and position as Canada's next-generation university." ■

—James Gibbons



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LESLIE SCHACHTER

PAULA WOOD-ADAMS, DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING, HAS BEEN WITH CONCORDIA SINCE 2001.

Meet Paula Wood-Adams, dean of Graduate Studies

LESLIE SCHACHTER

Concordia's School of Graduate Studies oversees more than 7,000 students. They are registered in more than 100 graduate programs leading to master and doctoral degrees, graduate diplomas, and certificates for professionals who want to upgrade their knowledge and skills.

Heading the school is Paula Wood-Adams, who was appointed dean of Graduate Studies in 2013 after previously serving as associate dean and later interim dean. Wood-Adams began her career at Concordia in 2001 as an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. In 2006, she became the department's graduate program director.

Wood-Adams took some time to talk about her role as dean as well as some of the changes she's seen at Concordia over the last 16 years.

Please talk a bit about your background.

Paula Wood-Adams: "I was born in England but we immigrated to Canada when I was very young. I grew up in Fort McMurray, Alta., and completed a BSc in chemical engineering at the University of Alberta. I then moved to Montreal to go to McGill University in 1993 to complete my graduate studies.

After a couple of years in a temporary teaching position at McGill, I got a job at Concordia in 2001 and I never left."

Describe the role of dean of the School of Graduate Studies.

PWA: "I see myself as an advocate for graduate studies. The school acts as a facilitator for our graduate programs, graduate students and supervisors. Our main roles are to provide information, support and oversight as well as professional development opportunities for students. We get involved in things like curriculum development and approval.

We work on graduate student recruitment, look after a big portion of graduate students' funding and also monitor their progress through programs. We try to ensure that our programs have everything they need to offer the best possible experience to students. We also work to make the great things that our students achieve known so we can all take pride in their accomplishments."

What are some of the changes you've seen at Concordia since you started?

PWA: "The changes have been huge! When I joined in 2001, my department was celebrating its 100th PhD. Now my department has 150 PhDs in the program at any one time. It's a completely different order of magnitude just in terms of the number of graduate students. And that's been really exciting.

Another big change has been that our campus has expanded quite a bit since I started. When I came to Concordia, we didn't have the Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex, the John Molson School of Business Building and the Grey Nun's Building, not to mention the great new buildings at Loyola like the genomics building and PERFORM Centre.

I believe that our students, professors and staff now have the best facilities to work in, which is such an enormous change."

What would you say makes Concordia an ideal place to pursue graduate studies? And how important are graduate students to Concordia?

PWA: "To me, one of the great things about Concordia is how we're so open-minded and how we work with all kinds of people and focus on so many different kinds of research, across various disciplines. It's really about the possibilities that Concordia provides for so many people."

One of Concordia's main goals is to double our research, and we absolutely can't do that without graduate students, especially the most talented graduate students. They make the biggest contribution to our research productivity and as such they're absolutely essential to our success."

Can you talk about some challenges that graduate programs face?

PWA: "I think one of the big challenges is trying to make sure our PhD students are properly trained for all kinds of careers. It used to be that PhD students were most likely to remain in academia and become professors, yet that's become less and less common. We have to ensure they are well prepared for many different possibilities. But I also think that's very exciting because it means they get to use their knowledge in very different ways."

What are your thoughts about Concordia's future?

PWA: "I think Concordia's headed in a fantastic direction. If you look around, you'll see that our students and professors are becoming more and more active in research and we're winning more awards. I just heard that one of our PhD students [Nadia Naffi] won a SSHRC [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council] storyteller award, a national award, at a recent conference."

We see this happening more and more. We're getting increasingly recognized for the quality research that we're doing."

Can you share some thoughts on the importance of women entering STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields?

PWA: "It is really clear that the most diverse teams are the most productive teams; research has consistently shown this. So to me the low numbers of women in many STEM fields present a missed opportunity for our society, our economy. I'm not so sure that the problem is the input into academic programs — a lot of times people talk about bringing more women into those disciplines yet nobody really looks at what we do when they're in there."

We need to make sure that career opportunities are as available to women in these fields and we need to make sure that the environment is conducive to a successful career."

What needs to be looked at is how universities can train all students such that they form structures and emulate behaviours in the workplace that will help everybody be successful."

What are you most proud of in your tenure as dean of Graduate Studies?

PWA: "One thing that I'm proud of is that the School of Graduate Studies is a great place to work, and that my staff, my associate deans and I all work together as a super effective team. It's a really healthy environment and that's led to a lot of success. Graduate students and graduate programs have benefitted from this as well." ■

—Leslie Schachter, BA o3, GrDip (journ.) 13, is a Montreal freelance writer.

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MY PRESENT (SECOND PANEL OF A TRIPTYCH) BY LOUISE. HER ACCOMPANYING POEM IS CALLED ABSTRACT/CONCRETE. THE ART, COMPLETED BY LOUISE DURING HER ART THERAPY PROCESS, HELPED HER DEAL WITH HER BREAST CANCER.

CONCORDIA'S ROSEMARY REILLY CHAMPIONS ART THERAPY'S POTENTIAL FOR DEALING WITH ADVERSITY

They were women battling breast cancer. Many were making art for the first time since childhood. Yet the activity gave them insights so valuable, they figure at the heart of a public outreach program and a new publication initiated by a social science researcher at Concordia.

When Rosemary Reilly, associate professor in Concordia's Department of Applied Human Sciences, read the data from a pilot study on art therapy for women with breast cancer, she was deeply affected. The initiative was championed by Cedars CanSupport director Andréanne Robitaille and conducted by McGill University Health Centre nurse researcher Virginia Lee and art therapist Kate Laux, MA (creative arts therapies) 09, who worked with CanSupport on the project.

"Witnessing women talk about how art and art therapy helped them make sense of and grow from their experiences with breast cancer was both touching and exciting," Reilly says. "I immediately thought, 'Everyone should know about this.'"

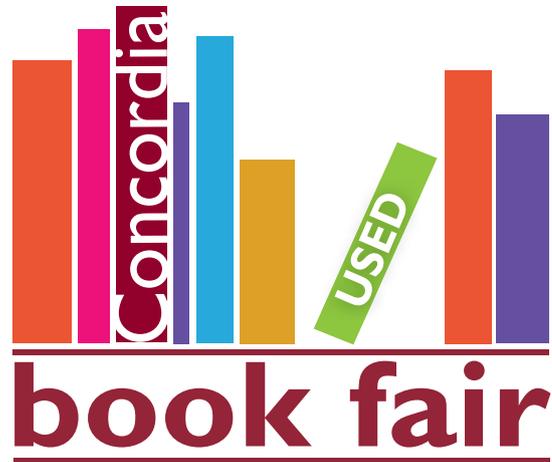
The study's investigators had initially asked Reilly to help analyze their findings in her capacity as a qualitative social science researcher. She and the team discerned several related themes: art-making in the context of art therapy created self-reflective spaces for these women to cope with their diagnosis and treatment, build resiliency to adversity and find inner peace and a renewed sense of meaning and purpose.

The key strength of the art therapy approach, according to Reilly, lies in promoting existential and post-traumatic growth. "That we, as individuals, can use these adverse things that happen to us in a way that can help us grow is a revelatory thing," she says. ■

—J. Coady

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CONCORDIA MOURNS PASSING OF JOHN LEMIEUX

JAMES GIBBONS

Prominent lawyer John Lemieux, BA 66, passed away in Montreal on July 15, 2017. He was 72.

“This is a big loss for our community. John Lemieux had a remarkable ability to inspire others to join forces for a common good,” says Concordia President Alan Shepard. “He was committed to a better world and led by example, through tireless volunteer work and charitable giving.”



JOHN LEMIEUX SPENT HIS 45-YEAR CAREER AS A LAWYER.

Lemieux lent his leadership — which he exercised professionally as a senior counsel at the law firm Dentons — to Concordia for several decades. He served on the university’s Board of Governors for three terms, beginning in 2006. He was a member and secretary of the Loyola Alumni Association, now part of the Concordia University Alumni Association (CUAA).

For his dedication to his alma mater, Lemieux was recognized with the Humberto



JOHN LEMIEUX WITH DOMINIQUE MCCAUGHEY, BA 96, MA 02, AT THE LOYOLA JESUIT HALL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, WHICH OPENED IN 2011.

Santos Award of Merit — the highest honour awarded by the CUAA — in 2012.

“He was a proud alumnus who made giving back to Concordia a significant part of his life,” says Bram Freedman, vice-president of Advancement and External Relations. “Our community has lost a great friend and advocate for higher education.”

A LIFETIME OF SCHOOL SPIRIT

Lemieux graduated from Loyola College, one of Concordia’s two founding institutions, in 1966. He would follow its ethos, “men and women for others,” throughout his life.

“One of his qualities was that he was brilliant at encouraging those around

him to give back, myself included,” says Donal Ryan, BComm 67, who knew Lemieux since their varsity days. “Concordia was very near and dear to him. He devoted much of his energy, thought and influence to giving back to his alma mater.”

Along with fellow grads who included Ryan, Lemieux led the Loyola Refectory Restoration Campaign, which raised \$4 million in donations from some 600 graduates. The investment transformed the century-old building into a modern assembly space for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

“It’s a building that’s almost 100 years old, and it’s satisfying to know that it will serve the university and the community for another

100 years,” Lemieux said at the 2011 inauguration of the Jesuit Hall and Conference Centre.

Lemieux was also an ardent supporter of human rights. Following the 1994 Rwandan genocide, in which 800,000 people were killed, he was appointed by the Government of Rwanda to serve as an honorary consul for Quebec in 2012.

In 2015, he established the John F. Lemieux Fellowship in Genocide Studies at Concordia’s Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies (MIGS). Lemieux expressed hope that his support would have a multiplier effect, attracting others to give to an important cause.

The lawyer also co-founded Myeloma Canada, which supports patients with blood cancer, and acted as the organization’s first president. ■

The Concordia community is invited to donate to MIGS in support of a cause that was important to John Lemieux and pay tribute to his memory. Make a gift online at concordia.ca/giving or call 514-848-2424, ext. 3884.

LEMIEUX WAS A QUARTERBACK FOR THE LOYOLA WARRIORS IN 1965 AND 1966.



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Super study spots at Concordia

As anyone who's needed to concentrate intensely on reading or other activities for school, work or pleasure can attest, a good, quiet spot can make all the difference. Fortunately, Concordia offers dozens of peaceful spaces across both campuses. And they aren't only available to students. The general public has access to the many of the library and other sites, and Concordia graduates can gain library borrowing privileges with an Alumni ID Card. concordia.ca/alumni/benefits

Here are a handful of the many campus areas that might be just right for hunkering down and hitting the books.

Grey Nuns Reading Room: For those looking for silence, the Grey Nuns Reading Room is ideal. Located at 1190 Guy St., the beautiful and newly-renovated chapel space operates on a strict no-talking rule, so it's an ideal place to get down to business. library.concordia.ca/locations/grey-nuns.php 1

Concordia Greenhouse: An oasis in Montreal's winter, the Concordia Greenhouse on the Henry F. Hall Building's 13th floor has several tables set up for studying. Visitors can sit it down, relax and pour a cup of tea — there's a kettle available for boiling water — amid the greenery. concordiagreenhouse.com 2

Multi-faith and Spirituality Centre: The Multi-faith and Spirituality Centre at 2090 Mackay St. provides a relaxed space, and the company of a kitchen and free coffee or tea, plus people from diverse backgrounds. concordia.ca/students/spirituality 3

Dissertation writers' rooms: While thesis writing is crucial in a graduate student's academic journey, it can also be an isolating experience for many. Because Concordia knows it's important to support its grad students both intellectually and psychologically, the Webster Library, at 1400 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., offers three dissertation writers' rooms. library.concordia.ca/about 4



Vanier Library: The Loyola Campus facility at 7141 Sherbrooke St. W. features nine study rooms; four offer digital collaboration technologies and multiple power outlets. Or visitors can just sit by the window to enjoy the view of Loyola Stadium. library.concordia.ca/about 5 ■

—Meagan Boisse

For information about the Alumni ID card, visit concordia.ca/alumni/benefits.

Margaret Atwood's time at Concordia

LUCAS NAPIER-MACDONALD

Margaret Atwood, LLD 79, is having a big year. Her novel *The Handmaid's Tale* (1985) was made into a hit Hulu TV series, recently nominated for 13 Emmy Awards. Another of her novels, *Alias Grace* (1996), is being serialized by the CBC together with Netflix and will be launched November 3.

Atwood has also been granted a life-time achievement award from one of the world's oldest literary organizations, PEN Center USA, which she will accept at the group's annual Literary Awards Festival in Beverly Hills, Calif., in October.

Five decades before this triumphant 2017, Atwood spent a year as an English instructor at Sir George Williams University, one of Concordia's founding institutions. She was turning 28 and she had only one publication, her collection of poems *The Circle Game* (1966) — which won a Governor General's Award.

As Atwood wrote in her essay for the 1977 *Illustrated Companion History of Sir George Williams University*, "I'm not sure why Sir George hired me — I didn't have my PhD, and at that time, 1967, I'd published only one volume of poetry. Maybe it was because I was cheap. Low-level lecturing females were, in those days."



RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND ARCHIVES

While Atwood may have been humble, Sir George Williams was prescient in hiring the up-and-coming author. In the decade after her teaching stint, Atwood would become an icon of Canadian literature. After she published three novels and a steady flow of short fiction, non-fiction, poetry and other works, Concordia invited Atwood back in 1979, this time to present her an honorary degree.

As English professor Wynne Francis, BA 42, said in Atwood's citation: "She has travelled widely, and wherever she or her books are known, we can be sure that the image of Canada is enhanced. For Ms. Atwood has a proud, firm, unsentimental faith in this country. She has devoted not only her impressive creative talents but also much of her time and energy to promoting the worth of Canadian culture." ■
—Lucas Napier-Macdonald, *GrDip 17*, is a Montreal freelance writer.

MARGARET ATWOOD, WHO TAUGHT ENGLISH AT SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY IN 1967-68, IS PICTURED AT A POETRY READING ON LOYOLA CAMPUS IN OCTOBER 1974.



Cities are constantly evolving. Their infrastructure, transportation, communications, housing, sustainability and energy consumption, among other factors, are always works in progress.

How well they progress, however, depends greatly on the depth and quality of the planning, design and innovative thinking of those in charge.

That's why the mounting research that Concordia faculty have been conducting on cities over the past decade is especially relevant. Today the university can boast of a wide spectrum of experts across all faculties who explore such fields as integrated building design, clean-energy technology, smart technologies to optimize community operations, and geo-environmental sustainability,

comes to developing more sustainable urban solutions.

"Designers focus not only on aesthetics, but also how people actually engage with objects, environments and each other," says Cucuzzella, who's also associate professor in the Department Design and Computation Arts in the Faculty of Fine Arts. "We explore how to improve existing ways of being and doing to make innovations more convenient, flexible and sustainable."

For example, local governments need to take workplace culture into account when switching urban technologies to avoid upsetting workers. The same applies for home and other cultural settings. "Integrating a better understanding of what prompts human beings to change their behaviour is essential," Cucuzzella emphasizes.

"We can design highly efficient show-

and use to the public. "The shelter's canopy lit up at dusk and, as the evening progressed, the canopy reflected the depleted solar energy by resembling a battery icon," Cucuzzella says.

The project also showed how a design as simple as a bus shelter could be constructed with a larger canvas to accommodate a variety of activities during off-peak hours. "The expanded design could be used to engage the local community in innovative ways, such as showcasing Concordia's research, or even setting up a weekend vegetable market, second-hand bookstore or used clothing exchange."

Depending on the project, designers, planners, engineers, geographers, sociologists, anthropologists and even gamers may be able to work together to find the best urban solutions. "CoLLaboratoire has focused on smaller local projects to see how we may be able

**CONCORDIA EARNS ITS REPUTATION AS A HUB OF RESEARCH EXPERTS
MAKING CITIES IN CANADA AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
MORE SUSTAINABLE AND SOCIALLY AMENABLE**

to name a few. It's also involved in a number of city-focused projects outside the university walls, such as our Next City Vanguard Conference held at Concordia in spring 2017 and the Solar Decathlon in China in 2018 (see our sidebar on page 29).

These cross-disciplinary initiatives give rise to approaches to complex urban challenges and to forward-thinking networking and partnerships.

CoLLaboration

Carmela Cucuzzella, who holds the Concordia University Research Chair in Integrated Design, Ecology and Sustainability for the Built Environment (IDEAS-BE), is working to increase urban sustainability. Her goal is to make innovations conducive to the current and future lifestyle of city dwellers so that people make the fullest use of new sustainable technologies. She collaborates with students and peers to bridge the gap between design and engineering when it

erheads to conserve water, for instance, but if people continue to take 10-minute showers, we haven't solved the problem with the new technology," she explains. "If we incorporate a mechanism that alerts people when three minutes are up, we have a better chance of making individuals aware of unsustainable behaviour and perhaps help to change their shower habits."

Cucuzzella set up CoLLaboratoire at Concordia to explore how collaborative efforts among artists, engineers, architects and other experts in a community can innovatively create public spaces that advance urban sustainability and heighten public awareness about climate-change issues.

CoLLaboratoire partnered last year with Concordia's Centre for Zero Energy Building Studies to invite young innovators to come up with a model for a solar-powered bus shelter. The competition attracted 26 proposals from several countries. The winning project devised a fun way to relate solar energy collection

to scale them up," Cucuzzella says. "It would be quite rewarding if Montreal, with the help of Concordia's research, becomes a city lab for this kind of collaborative multidisciplinary approach to innovative urban sustainability."

One of Cucuzzella's next steps with colleagues at the Centre for Zero Energy Building Studies is to build the solar bus shelter at Loyola Campus, now that funding has been secured. "It will be a great way for Concordia to engage with the local community," she says.

AN APP FOR THAT

Zachary Patterson, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Transportation and Land Use Linkages for Regional Sustainability, uses smartphone technology to help urban planners in Canada and as far away as Ghana anticipate future transportation requirements. "Current data is needed to figure out what new roads, bridges, subways, bus routes and bicycle paths will be needed to ease congestion 20

CARMELA CUCUZZELLA, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN DESIGN AND COMPUTATION ARTS, LOOKS AT HOW TO MAKE URBAN INNOVATIONS THAT CAN HELP CITY DWELLERS BEST TAP INTO NEW SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGIES OR LEARN ABOUT EVERYDAY ACTIONS THEY CAN TAKE TO BE MORE SUSTAINABLE.

years from now,” explains Patterson, associate professor of Geography, Planning and Environment in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

While transportation-related data used to be effectively collected through home telephone surveys, fewer people — especially in younger generations — have landlines now. Patterson has worked with his students and peers to develop a smartphone app to capture information through GPS about the daily route and mode of transportation from willing participants.

“The information tends to be more accurate because it’s easy for people to forget to report in a survey when they’ve taken a slight detour, for example, to pick up groceries on the way home,” Paterson says. “Such apps can help capture trips that survey respondents might otherwise forget to report.”

The Concordia community was the first invited to download an initial app, called DataMobile. The app posed a few socio-demographic questions to



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

each user regarding age, gender, role — student or staff — typical trips and transport modes, and subsequently logged each participant’s daily trips for up to two weeks.

“People were incredibly receptive to the project, with many welcoming the opportunity to participate in a study that could help make future transportation more sustainable in the city,” Patterson reports.

A variant of the app became CFSSMobile, designed to meet the needs of the Canada Food Study by the University of Waterloo to gather data

on the travel and nutritional habits of young people in five different cities. DataMobile was also tailored to become the MTL Trajet app for a large study by the City of Montreal, recording the travel time of commuters, depending on their itinerary and mode of transportation.

Other current uses include a study by the Société de Transport de Montréal and BIXI Montréal of the public’s integrated use of public transit and the bicycle-sharing system. The University of Toronto is using it to examine whether accessibility to public transit from suburban residential towers is a factor in social exclusion.

“We’ve learned so much in the process of making these different apps and realize that it’s far beyond the capabilities of most transportation researchers to develop a data-collection app,” Patterson says. “So we applied for a SSHRC [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada] Partnership Development Grant to create a smartphone travel survey platform to make it easy for researchers to use smartphone travel surveys in their work.”

The web platform gives researchers an account in which they create their own questions and surveys. Respondents can then install Concordia’s travel survey app, called Itinerum, to participate in a specific researcher’s tailored version of the app.

Patterson and other Concordia researchers will help process this information while at the same time learning



SCREENSHOT OF THE DATAMOBILE APP DEVELOPED BY ZACHARY PATTERSON



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THROUGH HIS RESEARCH, ZACHARY PATTERSON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPS SMARTPHONE TECHNOLOGY TO HELP URBAN PLANNERS AROUND THE WORLD TACKLE FUTURE TRANSPORTATION ISSUES.

how to provide more functionality to the platform and its app. "Our goal is to completely automate the process so that it readily produces a list of the trips that a person makes over the course of a day with the associated mode and itinerary," he explains. "It's harder to do than it seems."

GLOBAL SOUTH FOCUS

Govind Gopakumar, associate professor at Concordia's Centre for Engineering in Society, is also currently researching urban transportation, although he's taking another route. Gopakumar is studying the sociopolitical repercussions of the enormous increase and reliance on private automobiles in metropolitan centres within the Global South — Africa, Asia and Latin America.

"I am concerned about the highly consumptive, high-carbon lifestyle that I am finding in Global South cities because of the increasing reliance on private automobiles for transportation," he says.

This comes at a time when the developed world is moving in the opposite direction, toward more sustainable transportation options. "People are now figuring out how to undo past choices," Gopakumar says of decision-makers in Western cities. By comparing the more developed cities with those of the Global South, Gopakumar adds, "The goal is to focus attention on the differences so that we can all move towards greater sustainability."

Gopakumar notes that this increase in "automobility," as he terms it, is happening at the expense of other available, low-carbon-emission choices that are not being well prioritized. His research, outlined in his upcoming book and partially documented in his film *Social Life of a Bus* (available on YouTube), attributes the persistence of automobility to strong cultural and political influences from political elites and middle classes. The steady use of cars is also influenced by individual priorities that frequently override government policies designed to encourage more sustainable options.

"Within this context, new

"We've learned so much in the process of making these different apps and realize that it's far beyond the capabilities of most transportation researchers to develop a data-collection app."

infrastructure, such as high-speed expressways, road flyovers and signal-free corridors, privileges the circulation of private automobiles, while cyclists, pedestrians and a range of other street uses are actively being marginalized to reserve more road space for vehicles," Gopakumar explains.

"Change will only happen if multidimensional concerted efforts are made to provide infrastructure for sustainable mobility and then motivate people to use it," he adds.



GOVIND GOPAKUMAR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AT CONCORDIA'S CENTRE FOR ENGINEERING IN SOCIETY, STUDIES THE TROUBLING REASONS AND EFFECTS OF THE INCREASING RELIANCE ON PRIVATE AUTOMOBILES IN CITIES IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH.



GOVIND GOPAKUMAR'S RESEARCH LOOKS AT THE INCREASING USE OF PRIVATE CARS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH, AS SEEN IN THIS RECENT PHOTO FROM BANGALORE, INDIA.

DEVELOPING AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

As Meghan Joy, assistant professor in the Department of Political Science in the Faculty of Arts and Science, can attest, northern urban centres have their own share of complex issues.

Joy researches how age-friendly communities in the City of Toronto

are responding to mobility issues, climate change, immigrant settlement, homelessness and other concerns as they relate to their aging populations. "I'm looking at what local governments and non-profit organizations are doing separately and in tandem to design innovative policies and initiatives that might also serve as possibilities for

other communities,” she says. “I’m also looking at how the roles of government and non-profits are changing.”

Personal reasons prompted Joy’s curiosity about age-related urban policy. “I could see how my own family was being challenged to provide care for my aging grandparents,” she says. “I also was very affected by an elderly neighbour who my husband and I occasionally helped with groceries and errands: she provided care for her sick husband on her own until she fell down a flight of stairs and passed away.”

Joy’s qualitative research included extensive interviews with 82 people involved in local government or non-profit/volunteer organizations to get the full story on what’s working and what has to be improved. For instance, cities and non-profits are increasingly spending their limited budgets on providing care and shelter for homeless seniors in a pricey real-estate market. A lot of non-profit money is likewise going to accessible transportation that organizers hope their city will improve as they invest in new infrastructure.

“The problem is that even when a program works well, such as a public bus service that takes seniors to the library and other places on designated days, there isn’t always the money to extend that service into additional neighbourhoods,” Joy says.



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MEGHAN JOY, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, LOOKS AT THE CHALLENGES FACED BY AGING COMMUNITIES IN THE GREATER TORONTO AREA.

“The same can be said of new community paramedicine programs that organize visits to seniors in social housing or that alert non-profits when seniors are taken to a hospital. These programs improve quality of life, but their funding is often insecure.”

Such issues raise the need for provincial and federal governments to assist financially and otherwise in providing cities with the resources to better accommodate independent and assisted senior living. Improved urban design and emergency preparedness are essential in all city neighbourhoods. “When Toronto had an ice storm a few years ago, volunteers walked up 20 flights to provide meals to seniors, but the organization could

only do that at one building,” Joy says.

Computer-savvy baby boomers will change the nature of the aging population’s challenges and open up new economic opportunities for companies to provide more door-to-door services, such as for groceries offered online for home delivery. “More seniors are already booking Wheel-Trans services [Toronto’s door-to-door specialized transit service] online so that less of the staff is involved in phone bookings,” Joy reports.

While computer technologies are now widely used, she emphasizes that cities must remain aware that not everyone has access to a smartphone, computer or Wi-Fi service. The isolation that many seniors tend to experience in larger cities also calls for engaging community programs. “Libraries are particularly strong these days at providing activities,” she says.

Joy is writing a book on her research. “It’s not always possible to cut and paste solutions into new communities, but there’s much to be gained by sharing experiences,” she says. “After all, policies should be about human beings, and people face many of the same or similar challenges as they age. What’s exciting is the abilities of cities and non-profits to tailor support to the diverse needs of senior citizens and, therefore, it is crucial to understand their role and capacities to do so.” ■

—Julie Gedeon, BA 89, BA 01, MA 09, is a Montreal writer, editor and writing instructor/coach.

“It would be quite rewarding if Montreal, with the help of Concordia’s research, becomes a city lab for [a] collaborative multidisciplinary approach to innovative urban sustainability.”





MARION ELISSALDE

THE SOLAR DECATHLON TEAM WELCOMED VISITORS, INCLUDING CONCORDIA PRESIDENT ALAN SHEPARD, KATHLEEN WEIL, QUEBEC MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS, AND H EL ENE DAVID, QUEBEC MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION, TO THE DEEP-PERFORMANCE DWELLING ON THE LOYOLA CAMPUS ON JULY 11, 2017.

TeamMTL'S DEEP-PERFORMANCE DWELLING

The test assembly of the net-zero energy Deep-Performance Dwelling (DPD) began on Concordia's Loyola Campus in June. Designed and realized by TeamMTL, the structure is Canada's sole entry in the 2018 Solar Decathlon China. It's a collaborative effort between students and faculty from McGill University and Concordia.

Reaching the test assembly stage was a milestone in the long journey to the competition, which will be held in July 2018 in Dezhou, Shandong Province. "We are extremely grateful to the dozens of dedicated people who have come together to make this possible," says Michael Jemtrud, faculty lead and associate professor at the McGill School of Architecture.

Construction of the dwelling is taking place in the parking lot next to the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall and is open to the public. "We're very pleased to host this stage of the project at Concordia," says Justin Powlowski, interim vice-president of Research and Graduate Studies. "The DPD is an exciting collaboration between our two universities. It's a great opportunity for students to apply their technical skills at this crucial step."

"It's exciting to see the team's efforts finally materialize," says Alex Gareau, a Concordia civil engineering undergrad and a key member of the project management team. "I've been talking about this amazing project for the past year and I'm eager to share the final product," he adds.

The team received great news in August, when Hydro-Qu ebec announced it would provide \$250,000 in funding and in-kind support to help complete the construction. Forty students are currently working on the many aspects of the project, from architecture and design to engineering, finance and communications.

Inspired by the archetypal Montreal row house, the dwelling is designed to be adaptable and flexible for the contemporary urban family. Its ambitious concept addresses the pressing global need for affordable, low-impact and dense urban housing. The house will later be disassembled and rebuilt in China.

"It's a complex, extraordinary project for the students and faculty involved," says Jemtrud. "We're continuing to bring together numerous public and private sector partners with deep shared concerns for building a sustainable world. At the same time, we're educating the best and brightest young thinkers and doers from our community."

—Andy Murdoch

VANGUARD THINKING

Concordia hosted the 2017 Next City Vanguard Conference from May 31 to June 3, 2017, marking the first time the event has ever been held outside the United States. The conference attracted 43 thought leaders from across North America, as well as two international Vanguard Fellows. They shared knowledge and brainstormed solutions to urban challenges, particularly regarding the conference's theme of accessibility.

"The conference provided an ideal platform for Concordia to leverage its already deep relationships with the City of Montreal and community-based leaders," says Karen McCarthy, Concordia's director of Internal Communications and a steering committee member.

A Montreal 101 orientation, including tours of several neighbourhoods, gave the Vanguards front-line perspectives that covered everything from access to community services to the city's walkability.

Kyle Matthews, executive director of the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights, had collaborated with *Montreal Gazette* columnist Celine Cooper to submit Montreal's winning bid to host the conference. After the bid's acceptance, Matthews formed a host committee with Carmela Cucuzzella and Zachery Patterson (see main story), as well as Silvano De la Llata, assistant professor in the Department of Geography.

Andy Nulman, co-founder and CEO of Play the Future, emceed the Big Ideas Challenge, which teamed the Vanguards with community organizers to come up with proposals that would leave a positive impact on the city, with awards going to the top ideas. Next City Vanguard also provided experiential learning for Concordia students and the public.

—Julie Gedeon



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

AS PART OF THE NEXT CITY VANGUARD CONFERENCE AT CONCORDIA, COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS DEVELOPED PROPOSALS FOR A BIG IDEAS CHALLENGE.

BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

While Concordia experts keep a close eye on cities around the world, we introduce you to four graduates who have helped advance major construction projects around Montreal

PATRICK LEJTENYI

HEALTH CARE FROM THE INSIDE OUT

As Fady Gabriel, MEng 15, describes it, designing and building superhospitals like Montreal's Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM) requires an approach that's the reverse of other projects. "Most buildings are built from outside to inside," he says. "A hospital is from inside to outside."

The native of Cairo, Egypt, explains that hospitals need to put the patients' needs first, so their builders have to keep that foremost in mind when planning them.

"A simple example: when you do an electro-mechanical installation in an operating theatre, it can affect the life of a human being," he says. "As well, infection control is very important, because hospitals are about infections. If they aren't controlled, it can be very dangerous."

Gabriel is something of an authority on the matter. He has been involved in building hospitals off and on since he earned his bachelor's degree in architectural engineering from Cairo University in 1995. Between then and 2011, when he emigrated to Canada, he worked on major projects around the Middle East, including hospitals and hotels in Egypt and the \$1.8-billion Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, and at the Burj Khalifa in Dubai — currently the world's tallest structure.

So when Construction Santé Montréal, the consortium created to build the CHUM superhospital began hiring, Gabriel leapt at the chance to work on that huge project.

Not long after being hired, he moved to Montreal and began working as a senior construction project manager on the CHUM. As if that wasn't enough, in fall 2012 he enrolled in Concordia's Master of Building Engineering and Construction Management program, graduating three years later.

Gabriel chose Concordia because of the reputation its Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering's construction management specialization enjoyed internationally, including in the Middle East.

"Most buildings are built from outside to inside. A hospital is from inside to outside."



FADY GABRIEL, PICTURED IN FRONT OF THE BURJ KHALIFA SKYSCRAPER IN DUBAI IN 2009, TAKES PRIDE IN THE WORK HE HAS DONE ON MANY MAJOR PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE CENTRE HOSPITALIER DE L'UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL. "YOU FEEL LIKE YOU ARE HELPING TO BUILD AND SHAPE THE FUTURE FOR MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC AND CANADA."

When he began researching the various programs offered by the different universities in the city, he was most impressed by Concordia's, which he describes as "one of the best in Canada for civil engineering."

Gabriel feels he never lost the sight of the bigger picture while working on the CHUM. "You're building something for your own family, for the people of Quebec, considering how many people and families will benefit, how the technology and the equipment inside it are so advanced."

NEW DIRECTION

Gabriel joined SNC-Lavalin in November 2016 for another massive, near \$6-billion Montreal infrastructure project, the Réseau électrique métropolitain (REM) rapid-transit line that will link Montreal's West Island to the South Shore. He says his studies at Concordia helped prepare him for such megaprojects.

The courses offered in his master's program "give you a lot of knowledge about construction in Canada — laws, cost, contracts, methods and means — and a lot of good feedback about construction in North America as a whole. There are a lot of courses about contracts in Canada, about contractual obligations, about labour laws," he says. "Also at Concordia, we were very well connected with major companies, local and international. For example, some of our classes were offered by project directors at SNC-Lavalin, which gave us good connections with the company."

Gabriel found the program's mix of graduate and undergraduate students and its students' diverse backgrounds were benefits that had real-world applications. "When you share experiences about international projects, it gives you more of a sense of how to do things regarding conceptual construction design," he says. "In Montreal, there is a limited number of major projects, but around the world there are a lot of big projects. So sharing information about these is very nice."

INFRASTRUCTURE AS A HEALTH PRIORITY

When you mention health care and hospitals, engineering is — quite naturally — not usually the first thing that comes to mind. Yet keeping health care institutions in tip-top shape and ensuring that the day-to-day maintenance and renovations of their infrastructure run without a hitch can be just as challenging as diagnosing an illness or setting broken bones. And if you do it wrong, the consequences can be almost as serious.

As a project manager working for the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), Muriel Sabbag, BEng 96, knows how important proper planning is. Much of her work involves the careful preparation and execution of building and renovation jobs large and small, each with its own set of challenges and each needing special consideration.

“In a hospital, there are so many different sectors, and projects are often awarded as funds become available,” she says, describing the constantly shifting nature of her work. And the budget of the project doesn’t always correlate to how difficult it will be. “We’ve had projects that cost as low as a few thousand dollars and others of a few million,” she says. “All have their own level of complexity. If it is less costly, it is no less challenging.”

“The philosophy of engineers is,
‘Work hard and play harder.’
It was all incredibly fun.”

Sabbag has been at the MUHC for the past dozen years. She’s keenly aware that attention to detail is critically important when working on planning for such a large and vital institution. “We can’t miss a plug or a light; someone might die,” she says.

The MUHC has certainly been front and centre in Montreal’s infrastructure boom of the past few years. The long-gestating superhospital at the Glen Yards site in the city’s west end finally opened its doors in spring 2015. While Sabbag wasn’t involved with the MUHC’s amalgamation of the Montreal General, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal Children’s Hospital and Montreal Chest Institute under one roof, she remained as busy as anyone else.

“Because certain existing buildings have remained open, we must keep them operational and strive to offer the same standard as the Glen,” she explains. “All project managers in our department work diligently towards that goal.”

CONCORDIA CAMARADERIE

Sabbag joined the MUHC following project manager stints working at Montreal’s Jewish General Hospital and for the City of Cote-Saint-Luc, Que. She relates that she was always attracted to engineering, describing herself as “very much a tomboy” when she was younger and being good at math. Sabbag adds that she “liked to challenge male-dominated fields like engineering.”

She also credits Concordia for giving her the skills to work with colleagues in a way that is cooperative rather than cut-throat, where teamwork is more important than trying to elbow your way into the spotlight. “There was a spirit of camaraderie at Concordia that you don’t necessarily find elsewhere. That had a big part to play,” she says. “You get this feeling that we’re all in this together, that it’s really a joint effort.”

Two decades after she graduated, Sabbag remains in touch with some of her former classmates, finding time to catch up and meet for a cup of coffee. She is quick to point out that although her hours in the classroom were busy and challenging, the time spent outside university with her fellow students had its own rewards. “The philosophy of engineers is, ‘Work hard and play harder,’” she says. “It was all incredibly fun.”



LESLIE SCHACHTER

MURIEL SABBAG, PICTURED NEAR THE FORMER ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL, IS A PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE MCGILL UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTRE.

BACK HOME, BUILDING BRIDGES

Brian Kelly, BEng 83, spent most of the past two decades overseas, working on engineering projects in over half a dozen countries. It was a rewarding and lucrative career for him. Nonetheless, the veteran civil engineer says he's happy to come home to his native Montreal. Not that he'll be taking things all that easy.

Kelly will be spending the next several years working on the construction of the new Champlain Bridge, a massive project awarded to Quebec engineering and construction giant SNC-Lavalin two years ago. Specifically, Kelly will be designing the many complex temporary works the project requires, such as cranes, some of which will be bigger than anything he's done before.

"I'm quite proud to work there," Kelly says. "It's a huge job. There's never been one like it in terms of size and budget — it's the biggest civil engineering job in North America."

Ground was broken on the \$4.23-billion project in June 2015. Kelly wasn't around, though — he was still in Angola, working on a separate project for SNC-Lavalin, his employer for the past 15 years. He returned from southwest Africa only recently and says he called contacts he had in the company to get a position working on this most iconic of Montreal infrastructure projects.

While all the senior management positions had been filled for some time, Kelly was offered a position in temporary works — a job he says attracted him because of the sheer scale of what was involved. "Temporary works is huge," he explains. "Everything is 20 times the scale of what we're used to doing. For instance, on most projects we use a 60-ton crane. Here we're using a 1,000-ton crane."

Those gigantic cranes, placed on two big barges in the St. Lawrence River, are used to position the bridge's pre-cast footing sections within 50 millimetres of their proposed position, in deep, fast-flowing water. "It's never been done before," he says.

If Kelly sounds enthusiastic about his work, it may have something to do with the nomadic nature of his career as a footloose engineer. While he's been with SNC-Lavalin for a decade and a half, he's never been "home" for very long. And it's hard to get bored of somewhere if you're only there a few years at a time.

After graduating from Concordia came a parade of smaller jobs and a succession of employers, "I worked for 10 different companies in 10 years," he says. And that was just the start. Kelly's career has taken him from James Bay, Que., to

Venezuela, the Philippines, Iran, back to Montreal, Algeria for an eight-year stretch, the Dominican Republic, Libya — where he was stuck at the outbreak of the civil war in 2011 — and Angola for three-and-a-half years.

NATURAL DRAW

Kelly was naturally drawn to engineering, coming from a family long involved in the construction industry. It sounded like a fun way to make a living. Encouraged by his academically accomplished older sister Cassie Kelly, BSc (civil eng.) '77 — she skipped two grades on her way to getting her own engineering degree — he decided to pursue a professional rather than academic career.

While studying at Concordia, Kelly was particularly fond of faculty like Oscar Pekau, Matthew Douglass and Adel Hanna. Those professors helped turn a self-admitted "not-so-great" high school student into someone, he says, whose "main goal was to get out and do well."



BRIAN KELLY WILL BE DESIGNING THE MANY TEMPORARY PROJECTS NECESSARY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CHAMPLAIN BRIDGE.

"[The Champlain Bridge is] a huge job. There's never been one like it in terms of size and budget — it's the biggest civil engineering job in North America."



“Pride is a big part of it. We’re building Montreal’s future.”

LESUE SCHACHTER

RIAD DARWICHE IS AN OPERATION MANAGER WORKING ON TRAFFIC MOBILITY ISSUES FOR THE TURCOT INTERCHANGE PROJECT.

BUILDING THE INTERCHANGE OF A LIFETIME

There’s little chance that visitors to Montreal can miss the place of business of Riad Darwiche, BEng 13. It’s the gigantic, 12-kilometre construction site that greets motorists heading in and out of the city’s west end along Highway 20, where the Turcot Interchange is being built anew.

And as an operation manager working on the Turcot Interchange’s traffic mobility issues, Darwiche is down in the dirt in the midst of the biggest civil engineering roadway project in Quebec’s history — and, with an estimated budget of \$4-billion, among its most expensive.

It’s a mammoth task, and engineers like him are expected to put in punishingly long hours to get the project completed on time, on budget and as painlessly as possible to the hundreds of thousands of Montrealers who live nearby. It’s a lot of work, a lot of stress — and Darwiche loves it. “The hours are insane,” he says. “I usually get to work at 5:30 a.m., and if I leave by 6 or 7 p.m., that’s a short day for me.”

Part of what keeps the Montreal native motivated is the knowledge that once this project is completed, it will outlast him. Its design life is set for 75 years, so the new Turcot Interchange is here for a long time. “Pride is a big part of it,” he says. “We’re building Montreal’s future.”

Darwiche has reason to be proud, and at least a little nervous. He’s been with Kiewit Construction, a United States-based engineering and design corporation that’s partnering on the Turcot Project, since graduation, and interned with them — twice — in 2012.

The interchange has been the dominant factor in his still-young career. “I looked at the plans when they were just hand sketches and highlights on a piece of paper,” he says of the Turcot Interchange. “Now that I see it open up in front of me — that’s what keeps me going.”

MULTIPLE ROLES

Darwiche has shifted portfolios a number of times. He has been a planner, an estimator, a scheduler and a superintendent before switching into his operation management position. And with the job scheduled to run until 2021, it’s possible he’ll move somewhere else before too long.

The experience Darwiche received at Concordia helped him deal with the sheer size and scope of the project, he says. While he had a passion for physics, he wasn’t interested in a purely academic career, so moved into engineering. And while Darwiche was accepted at other universities, he chose Concordia’s Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science due to its hands-on and collaborative approach.

Concordia remains close to his heart: Darwiche still occasionally meets for a coffee or quick chat with his concrete design teacher, Khaled Galal, professor and associate chair in the Department of Building, Civil, and Environmental Engineering. And Darwiche has made lifelong friends who still get together despite working and living as far away as Japan and Costa Rica.

He credits the department’s focus on teamwork for not only forging those friendships but also for being a major factor in his professional life. “It was all the projects we had to do together, especially the [final year, two-term] Capstone project,” Darwiche says. “Learning to work as a team, how to delegate, how to trust your teammates — that was huge.” ■

—Patrick Lejtenyi, GrDip 99, is a Montreal freelance writer.



Not your parents' MBA

John Molson School of Business streamlines its flagship graduate program to emphasize ethics, accessibility and hands-on experience

WAYNE LARSEN

How do you make one of Canada's best business programs even better?

The MBA program at Concordia's John Molson School of Business (JMSB) certainly is already thriving. Most recently, the John Molson MBA placed ninth in Canada by Paris's Eduniversal Business School Ranking, and it consistently appears near the top of other Canadian and world rankings.

Still, evolving trends in both business and education mean that a few tweaks are sometimes necessary — and in 2017 the program is being revamped to keep up with those trends.

The most obvious modification starts in September. John Molson MBA students will need just 45 credits to graduate instead of 57, the equivalent of 15 courses instead of 19. "We needed to make it shorter so students can complete it more quickly — in about two years for full-time students," explains Anne-Marie Croteau, BSc 86, dean of JMSB.

She welcomes the changes as an opportunity to renew the orientation of the program and stay on par with other major universities. "The trend with other MBA programs around the world is that instead of 53 or 57 credits it's now at 45. So this was a realignment with what the market needs, and what students need."

"That's the one big change everyone focuses on — the fact that it's shorter," says Sandra Betton, champion of this new MBA program and an associate professor in the Department of Finance. "While it is basically a shortening by one semester, the changes are actually much more fundamental than that."

EMPHASIZING BUSINESS ETHICS

Betton cites shifting requirements for modern business leaders as a guiding factor in the planning. "When we looked at our old MBA program, we asked ourselves, if we were designing an MBA today, what would we want it to be?" she recalls. "We came up with the goal of educating managers

who can lead innovative and agile organizations — who can adapt and answer to big-picture issues such as sustainability. And the first thing we wanted was to establish a foundation of ethics."

Betton, who has been teaching at Concordia since 1994, points out that, much like other MBA programs, the John Molson MBA introduced the topic of business ethics in a dedicated course at the end of the program. Now, she says, that teaching begins in the first semester with the mandatory Responsible Manager course. "So right from the start, students will be given the foundation of thinking about the ethics of the decisions they're making," she says. "For example, who is a manager answerable to? Is it the shareholders? Is it the employees? Is it society or future generations?"

Croteau agrees that training ethical managers is a major goal of the revamped program. "We're very proud of our Responsible Manager course, which is all about ethical behaviour

ANNE-MARIE CROTEAU, PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY CHAIN AND BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT, BECAME THE JMSB'S FIRST FEMALE DEAN IN JUNE 2017. SHE HAS BEEN AT CONCORDIA SINCE 1997.

SANDRA BETTON HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF THE JOHN MOLSON MBA PROGRAM SINCE 2011 AND IS NOW THE ASSOCIATE DEAN RESPONSIBLE FOR PROFESSIONAL GRADUATE PROGRAMS.



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

“We came up with the goal of educating managers who can lead innovative and agile organizations – who can adapt and answer to big-picture issues such as sustainability.”

— making responsible decisions, how to be a manager who will foresee the long-term sustainability of a business and not just run a business short-term,” she says. “These are also our values at the JMSB; we want our students to be successful, but in a responsible way.”

Everything is built on that ethical foundation, Croteau points out. From there, students can go on to study more traditional topics such as business analytics, marketing, economics and finance. “Then the next level is about managing people, and such things as how to improve your business process and how to make proper decisions when it comes to accounting,” she says.

IMPROVED ACCESS

The John Molson MBA has long been noted for its accessibility to part-time students — many of whom are working professionals — by offering several courses at night. Evening courses have now been extended to make life easier for both full- and part-time students. One of the main reasons for shortening the program was to increase accessibility for working students who need to put their careers on hold to study.

“This market is mainly for those who have been working and are coming back to school to do a two-year program, and that can be a real sacrifice,” says Croteau. “If you have a career, it means you have to pause. But how long can you pause?”

Croteau and Betton both hope that this improved access to the MBA program will not only attract more students but also encourage more gender diversity. “One of the characteristics of MBAs in general is that they’re only about 25 to 30 per cent female,” says Betton. “We hope that with this redesign we’ll make it more accessible to people who, for whatever reason, felt that it was too much of a commitment before or had too many other things going on, such as young families. I don’t know if we’ve got that right mix yet, but it’s all part of it.”

Although the MBA is a relatively small program — with some 100 students admitted per year, about 60 per cent on a full-time basis — Betton says there’s plenty of diversity when it comes to their backgrounds. “About 40 per cent are engineers,” she reports. “The rest come from every sort of background you can think of. We have a lot of students from the health care field and bio-med. In the four years I’ve been program director, the most unique backgrounds I’ve seen are an acrobat and a cordon bleu chef!”

“The students who come to us and go through our new MBA will get what they were expecting, and even more.”

HIGHLIGHTING REAL-LIFE BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

While the academic requirements have been reduced by 12 credits, Betton is quick to point out that all the main features of the former MBA program have been retained. Most of these are oriented toward providing students with real-life business experience.

One is the popular Concordia co-op program, which sends students to work with local companies, applying their skills in a real-life environment. This often requires a considerable time commitment, yet Betton expects the new structure to offer more flexible scheduling. “With the redesign of the program, it should be even more interesting to do co-op because students will be able to find a job placement and still graduate in a reasonable length of time,” she says.

“Other opportunities include the Concordia Small Business Consulting Bureau, which we’ve had in the MBA for quite a while,” Betton adds. “It’s run almost like a little consulting company; the students actually act as consultants. They have to go and find clients, they have to price their services, they have to collect on their bills and they have to deal with annoyed clients who might not feel they got value for their money — all the issues associated with actually being a consultant, as opposed to being a student in consulting course where it’s a class project.”

This real-world experience is valuable for the students. “It’s a lot different when you’ve got a customer paying you,” Betton points out. “The students often start out underpricing their services, then realize they just worked for about \$4 an hour.”

Students can also participate in the Community Service internship, where they work on consulting projects with local schools or non-profit community organizations such as Share the Warmth. “A team of students acts as consultants to develop a business plan or marketing plan, or sometimes even a redesign of their organization,” Betton says. “Basically dealing with the same types of problems that small businesses often face, except now you’re dealing with non-profit.”

This works well for everyone — the students get the experience while the organization benefits from their knowledge. She describes this as a real eye-opener for those students who have only had experience in the business world, as non-profit organizations often work differently.

The John Molson MBA International Case Competition — one of the program’s most popular annual events — will remain in place. “We host it every year and it’s a huge endeavour for our students to organize,” Betton says. The week-long event has been attracting international teams of MBA students from universities the past 37 years — it was the first of its kind when it kicked off in 1981, and it’s still the largest.

The competition consists of 36 four-member teams from MBA programs around the world who pit their presentation skills and problem-solving abilities against each other as they tackle actual business cases. Concordia student volunteers plan and run the event each year, often raising as much as \$250,000 to finance it. “It’s a wonderful experience for them,” Betton says.

THREE YEARS OF PLANNING

Making changes of this scale to an academic program is no easy task; it requires a great deal of discussion, and the logistics are complex. This redesign has been in the works for about three years.

“Last year was our transition,” Betton reports, adding that students already enrolled in the program were given a “very generous” transition plan. “Whether you start the program in September, or already started in January, you still get the advantage of our new curriculum.”

She adds that maintaining the program’s academic integrity was a guiding factor throughout the long planning process. “That was one of our main concerns with reducing the length of the program,” she says. “It’s a rigorous program, and we wanted to keep it so that John Molson MBA students have an excellent education rather than just the three letters. And we’ve kept that.”

Both Betton and Croteau have high expectations for the refurbished program. “Hopefully, the students who come to us and go through our new MBA will get what they were expecting, and even more,” says Croteau. “It’s our goal to provide them with the foundations, not only to make them better at their job now but also to give them something they’ll remember five years from now. It’s not just a matter of getting the degree but what they need to get the career they want.” ■

For more information about the John Molson MBA, visit concordia.ca/mba.

—Wayne Larsen, BA 98, MA 14, is a Montreal freelance writer.

NEW GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS A PRIMER FOR BUDDING ENTREPRENEURS

Negotiating the tricky world of business can be confusing – and costly – to those setting up shop for themselves.

Permits, tax implications, how to protect intellectual property, how to read a contract – these are just some of the topics covered in the John Molson School of Business's Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship, a new program designed for non-business students with a marketable talent or skill yet no previous business experience.

From artists and freelancers to therapists and contractors, students in this short, five-course program will be taught what they need to know to get started and successfully earn a living as self-employed professionals.

"We will teach such things as the differences and implications of being registered versus being incorporated, and where to get funding," says program director Anne Beaudry, associate professor of Supply Chain and Business Technology Management. "There's a whole world beyond going to your bank manager to get started."

Beaudry spearheaded the program's creation after extensive consultations with students in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Faculty of Fine Arts and Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science. Those surveys, carried out through Concordia's Department of Institutional Planning, asked whether students would be interested in learning how to start their own business. The positive results, Beaudry reports, were beyond her expectations.

As with the JMSB's other programs, the Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship emphasizes learning under real-life conditions. In this case, students will apply the curriculum to their own actual businesses. "We want students to move their business forward," says Beaudry. "Each will develop their own marketing plan. How do I advertise? How do I figure out the price list for my services? Who is my audience? Whether the business is online or physical, how do you get the word out? All assignments will require them to apply the knowledge to their individual projects."

The program is open to all students with an undergraduate degree in any non-business discipline. They must have a minimum of a 2.7 grade point average and provide a statement of purpose describing their business and what they want to do with it.

Anne-Marie Croteau, dean of JMSB, says she's thrilled to see the new program in place and credits Beaudry for recognizing the needs of people in small businesses. "This program is designed for someone who does not want to do an MBA," she says. "It's not about giving them the whole accounting and finance foundation, but more about how to think about their business and make it sustainable. It's very exciting."

For more information about the Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship, visit concordia.ca/jmsb/programs/graduate/certificate-entrepreneurship.



IRVING LAYTON AWARD FOR CREATIVE WRITING: FICTION



FAWN PARKER

FAWN PARKER

Each year, Concordia's Department of English honours outstanding work in English literature and creative writing. The Irving Layton Awards for Creative Writing, worth \$500, are given to undergraduate students for works of poetry and fiction. Fawn Parker is the 2017 fiction winner for her story *WunderHorse II*.

WunderHorse II

Please note: This text contains adult material.

My office was moved to a split room by the front entrance of the factory. They said it was so I could be more readily available to offer my wealth of knowledge. You might not believe it but I was one of the best and most precise at WunderHorse II. I had the steadiest hand in the factory and sometimes I even painted other employees' copyrights and years on their horses' bellies for them. When Gary Malkez came to me and confessed he was having trouble with the gradient pattern on the dapple gray, I got him doing it in an afternoon. That was the first day Gary Malkez kissed me.

Gary Malkez was somewhat of a hero in my opinion. He had it rough growing up, as he was born in the middle of a lake. He floated up one day, a full grown man, and now a buoy marks that place, marked "Gary Malkez." He took the hardship of being born out in the middle of a lake and turned it into a talent. Now Gary Malkez was one of the best swimmers you'd ever meet.

When the others' office doors were shut, me and Gary Malkez would paint our horses together and come up with made-up names for new horse breeds. Gary Malkez would joke that he would start painting them on the horses' bellies and wait for them to become integrated into normal horse-lovers' vocabulary. When I thought of a really funny one he would laugh for a long time and then kiss me. I loved Gary Malkez.

Sometimes I would ask Gary Malkez to tell me the story of his birth. I would start to cry, and then maybe once in a while Gary Malkez would start to cry, too. His tears came out not salty at all, but like lake water. I would kiss his eyes, left and then right.

—

My new office was beside the receptionist's office, Sarah. I should mention my name is Sarah, but I am a painter of the small plastic horses. Sarah the receptionist is in charge of answering the telephone to let companies know when the small plastic horses were being shipped out and what colours were available and was there a discount if one were to buy a sufficient amount of the small plastic horses? I liked Sarah the receptionist because she got to go through the returned shipments of small plastic horses and pick out all the defects, and if I asked her she would give them to me.

Me and Gary Malkez set up a shallow shelf in his office and lined up my defect plastic horses all in a row, and labelled them with the funny new horse breeds. He gave me a spare key so I could go in and see whenever I wanted to.

One evening I stayed late and re-painted a defective plastic horse sky blue and painted "Gary Malkez" on its belly. Gary Malkez had already gone home so I used my key to go into his office and put the sky blue horse on his shelf. [N]ear the end was a palomino missing one of its front legs, which I had not seen before. I took Gary Malkez's mystery palomino and put it in my purse.

The next day I saw that Sarah the receptionist was in her office so I went in and said, Please, please other Sarah, tell me about this palomino horse. She refused to look at the horse but she told me Gary Malkez had kissed her.

I went back into my office and dropped the defect palomino out the window. On my smoke break I went to the staff bathroom and made myself orgasm thinking about Gary Malkez kissing the Sarah girl who answers the phone.

I kept my mouth shut around Gary Malkez. When he saw the sky blue defective plastic horse, he kissed me for a very long time.

Me and Sarah became good friends and it was easy because I'm nice and she's nice and we're both very pretty. She invited me

over to hang out and we sat on her couch and put our hands in each other's pussies. She had a way of smoking a cigarette that didn't crinkle up her mouth, and she said that it was on purpose.

When I got home I cut up my driver's license and my library card and all of my pieces of paper and plastic that said Sarah, Sarah, Sarah.

Gary Malkez sent me an email and attached a spreadsheet with all of our made-up new horse breeds. I went up to visit Gary Malkez in his office and we laughed about the spreadsheet and then we kissed.

In the factory an alarm began to go off and the lights were flashing. The receptionist Sarah called Gary Malkez's office and told him that a pipe had burst and employees were evacuating the building. Gary Malkez felt upset thinking about all of that water and his birth.

I waited in Gary Malkez's office while everyone evacuated the building. In his desk drawers he had notepads and journals and a photo album. I looked through all of Gary Malkez's documents one by one.

A woman came with a stack of plastic buckets. I followed her up and down the halls placing buckets down by leaks in the ceiling and then I went back to the first one that had half-way filled up, and I brought it back to Gary Malkez's office.

I poured the water over Gary Malkez's documents and I felt like I'd eaten him and swallowed him up whole. I paged Sarah who wasn't in her office because she'd evacuated but I'd already swallowed her whole too, anyway. I'd made both Sarah and Gary Malkez cum and I'd read both of their diaries. Then I went to the shallow shelf with all of the defect plastic horses and I paired them up in twos so that they looked like they were kissing. ■

To read an unabridged version of WunderHorse II, visit concordia.ca/magazine.



What's the environmental impact of our routines?

KREGG HETHERINGTON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY, IS PICTURED ON LAND THAT WAS ONCE A FOREST RESERVE BUT WAS BULLDOZED IN THE LATE 1990S TO MAKE ROOM FOR SOY CROPS. HE BELIEVES THAT DESPITE THE CHALLENGES, LIFE WILL FIND A WAY TO PREVAIL. FOR INSTANCE, "THESE FUNGUSES THAT ATTACK SOYBEANS HAVE THESE WEIRD WAYS OF LIVING AND SURVIVING DESPITE ALL OF THE IMPRESSIVE ATTEMPTS TO ERADICATE THEM!"

Concordia experts discuss the repercussions of travel, food buying and other regular activities – and how to find solutions

MAEVE HALDANE

It's hard to avoid: from travelling to work to buying food to watching TV, we inexorably reduce or damage our planet's limited resources.

Using these raw materials responsibly and sustainably appears so dauntingly complex that Raymond Paquin, associate professor in Concordia's Department of Management, has been called "Dr. Doom" for asking tough questions to his students on their first day of class. "I say to them, 'This is when I tell you how we're going to hell in a handbasket and I spend the rest of my course talking about how we're going to get out of it,'" Paquin says.

Hired explicitly by the John Molson School of Business to focus on sustainability in business — a rare move nine years ago — Paquin is now also principal of the Loyola College for Diversity and Sustainability.

At Concordia there are many people who tackle sustainability issues by re-framing questions, thinking broadly and deeply, being skeptical and finding hope.

In 1987, the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development put out the *Brundtland Report*, which presented sustainable development as heeding the three pillars of environmental, social and economic needs. Using its suggestions, we can begin to balance the needs of the present with the needs of the future generation currently gnawing on eco-friendly rubber giraffes. We need global initiatives such as the Paris Accord and small quotidian actions such as recycling.

The challenge for the modern world is to figure out how to keep most carbon-based fuels in the ground while building

resilient economies and well-balanced societies. In addition to the climate crisis, "We're returning to inequality rates that make today look like the gilded-age of robber barons at the turn of the 20th century," Paquin says. "What does that mean for societal stability?"

And what about the parts of the world where large swathes of people live crushingly below the poverty level? This requires serious reworking. "Who among us is going to turn off their phones and computers and heat so others can keep getting Netflix?" wonders Paquin. "How do we tell developing countries you can't industrialize and raise the quality of life for your population because we want to keep our air conditioning in the summer?"

"Who among us is going to turn off their phones and computers and heat so others can keep getting Netflix?"

SOY DIFFICULT

Kregg Hetherington, associate professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, prefers not to use the word "sustainable" because he sees nothing sustainable about our practices now. He says it's an economic term that doesn't apply well to environmental matters.

"You have to think more radically about how to change, whether it's in food systems or transportation systems, or general energy consumption systems," he says. Scale back first, then figure out the route.

Hetherington researches global agriculture systems, particularly the Paraguay soybean trade and its infrastructure,

which has brought him to "Big Ag" monocrop farms and the ports of Rotterdam. Soybean production has boomed since the 1980s — not from love of tofu but because more people are eating meat. And the easiest way to raise meat is in feedlots that force feed animals huge amounts of soybeans. Paraguay exports loads of soybeans to Asia, as well as to Germany and the Netherlands, to feed their dairy cattle.

The industry causes severe land degradation and deforestation, and strains the global infrastructure of transport and silo storage. Hypocritically, soy farmers can claim to use sustainable practices because they rarely operate diesel-burning plows to till the fields — mainly because it is easier to plant soy seed directly on old crops. They can actually earn carbon-offset credits on the

global carbon market despite bulldozing forests and spraying chemicals on fields.

Back home in Montreal, Hetherington eats as locally and organically as possible. Still, he worries that the term "organic" succumbs to faddism and only signals self-righteousness and extra disposable income.

"People with less means tend to live in what we've come to call 'food deserts' in cities, where it's difficult to access food in general, and certainly good food at a decent price," he says. "That's a much bigger problem than the question of, 'Is the tomato I'm going to eat for lunch organic or not?' We have to think about how food is distributed through cities and how accessible it is to people."

MOVING CHALLENGES

Transport is another huge area that threatens sustainability.

Anjali Awasthi, associate professor at Concordia's Institute for Information Systems Engineering, specializes in transport, how goods and people move through cities. We all want the convenience of home delivery — groceries, books, party supplies — but we don't want trucks rumbling through our streets.

She studied in France and saw how European companies are exploring methods such as platooning trucks — when vehicles drive closely in a row to use the slipstream for fuel efficiency — and dropping off goods at neighbourhood consignment boxes, which helps city logistics.

Awasthi hoped to see even better advancements in Canada when she arrived. Yet when she realized the Canadian environment is so different than in Europe, her hopes were quickly dashed. Even though Canada has the luxury of space, congestion is still a problem. There's frequent construction, many intersections, more highway exits and entrances and, in winter, snow blocking the street. "The problems are common, but the reasons associated with them are different," she says.

Nonetheless, Awasthi lauds how Quebec is moving towards biodiesel and electric or hybrid cars, and finds Montreal's culture open to innovation. "We are multicultural, we are more open to acceptance of things and have diverse perspectives. Here we're always seeing ups and downs, so if a new technology comes into the picture we are willing to experiment," she says.

Montrealers aren't resistant, she finds. "You'll see executives all piled up in the same train, and everyone is biking," Awasthi says. "It doesn't really matter if you don't have a car!"

She's a huge fan of dividing up the usage of automobiles. With initiatives such as Communauto and Car2go, "Quebec is at the forefront of sharing in Canada," Awasthi says. She also sees more private citizens carsharing their own vehicles.

When there are fewer vehicles, cities need fewer parking spaces. Health improves as people walk more and experience less road-rage stress from waiting in traffic jams.

Air flight is another concern. "Plane travel is the single biggest awful thing I do, yet is a critical component of what I do," Hetherington admits.

Although there are now specific improvements that can increase fuel

"We have to think about how food is distributed through cities and how accessible it is to people."

efficiency easily by 25 per cent to 35 per cent, Paquin is concerned that won't be enough to keep up with the overall growth of the aviation industry. "So instead of doubling carbon emissions, we're only going to increase them by maybe 150 per cent," he says, skeptical about the idea of sustainable aviation.

Hetherington is addressing this by creating a different model for academic conferences. He's organizing a virtual meeting next year for the Society for Cultural Anthropology. "We're going to find ways to get people together in different cities across North America

and Europe and meet virtually through Skype," he says. While it can't fully replace the fertility of face-to-face intellectual exchange, it will be more climate friendly.

SOLUTIONS

With so many large-scale issues, what is there to do? Concordia researchers believe in even small gestures, from composting to bicycling, eating locally produced food, reducing meat consumption, educating kids and just talking to people to raise awareness. Awasthi suggests that schools could engage students through competitions or posters,

and create environmental ambassadors who will spread the word as they move through the education system.

Certainly, sharing resources by living in cities goes a long way. Green roofs and urban agriculture are growing in popularity. And Montreal is on the right track by steadily introducing municipal composting.

Hetherington is "very excited about composting." The value doesn't only come from reducing the amount of waste that goes into landfills, he says — it also helps people think about "how the city is a living organism."

Administrative and governmental bodies at all levels should be involved in changing people's habits, encouraging citizens and industries with, say, tax incentives and rebates, even at the residential level. "If I'm a big contributor to recycling or compost, they should keep track of that," Awasthi suggests. And penalties, such as taxes for large-scale pollution or waste dumping, can also play a role.

Paquin insists that tax credits work. For home building, he would like policies that "support greener renovations, such as increased insulation and newer technologies for greater efficiency and energy-use reduction." As well, we still need to train our trades to use newer and more sustainable building materials and methods.

Paquin worries about Quebec's slow adoption of newer energy technologies. Just across the border in Vermont,



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

RAYMOND PAQUIN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND PRINCIPAL OF THE LOYOLA COLLEGE FOR DIVERSITY AND SUSTAINABILITY, PRACTICES WHAT HE PREACHES: HE BIKES TO WORK FREQUENTLY AND LOVES HOW BIKE PATHS ARE SOMETIMES CLEARED OF SNOW EVEN BEFORE STREETS ARE.



TRANSPORT EXPERT ANJALI AWASTHI IS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AT CONCORDIA'S INSTITUTE FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS ENGINEERING. "WHAT KIND OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY FUELS OR TECHNOLOGIES CAN WE PUT IN PLACE SO WE'RE CONSUMING LESS, POLLUTING LESS?"

for example, household and small-scale solar energy is increasingly taking hold. "There's no technical reason we couldn't also be that way in Quebec," he says. "Until now, it's been a policy issue, though that is changing."

How about a rethink of centralized utilities, from telephony to electricity to water? Need we have centralized infrastructure, or might we be better served by smaller, localized systems? Paquin's been inspired by innovations in developing countries where mobile connectivity has bypassed the need for large-scale wired telephony infrastructure, and has contributed to people connecting in new ways.

Similarly, Paquin's a fan of the advances in small-scale solar-based energy, bio digesters, water provisioning and other technologies that many remote villages and otherwise unconnected communities are using. These are great low-carbon alternatives to the centralized infrastructures we often see in the more industrialized countries, he says, and have super potential

for improving the quality of life in those settings and for exploring new development models.

GOOD IDEAS

Since modes of transportation are such a huge part of our economy, Awasthi suggests regulations to create dedicated delivery zones or drop off points, or specific and limited hours for delivery. The same can be done for environmentally friendly vehicles, by adding double-decker buses or introducing vehicles that carry passengers and goods at the same time.

Maybe we could radically rethink how

"We are multicultural, we are more open to acceptance of things and have diverse perspectives. So if a new technology comes into the picture we are willing to experiment."

city centres are built, Awasthi muses: "Should work places be created near residential places, so the need to travel is drastically reduced?"

Paquin believes we need more than science to guide us. We also need other disciplines such as humanities,

design and art that can help us grasp and communicate these larger issues in different ways. He cites the example of Concordia's Human Impact Lab's Climate Change Clock, a digital art installation showing a countdown to global warming levels of plus-1.5 per cent and plus-2 per cent that was projected on the side of the Concordia's Guy-De Maisonneuve Building in 2016. (Visit humanimpactlab.com/climateclock.)

With all these good ideas about sustainability, progress is possible. Hetherington remains an optimist. "I'm driven by a kind of amazement in the

capacity of both people and other natural entities to do amazing things," he says.

"Making the planet green is not something we should have

to think about, not obliged or forced," Awasthi adds. "It should be part of everyday life." ■

—Maeeve Haldane, BFA 91, is a Montreal freelance writer.

THINKING SUSTAINABLY

CONCORDIA'S NEXT-GENERATION APPROACH TO CREATING A GREEN ENVIRONMENT

A next-generation university must be ready to face modern problems — and Concordia is up to the challenge. Every day, Concordia researchers across many departments work to solve environmental, social and economic problems around the world.

Change, however, begins at home, and Concordia students and staff members do their part to make the university as sustainable as possible. The enthusiastic and creative sustainability team in the Environmental Health and Safety Office (concordia.ca/about/sustainability) coordinates much of this work as key drivers behind strategic initiatives like the recently released Sustainability Policy and other initiatives on campus or as supporters of student-led projects.

Sustainability coordinator Chantal Forgues, MBA 09, MEnv 13, reports that the university follows the reporting system set by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

The university already does well in many realms. Forgues proudly says that 85 per cent of faculty and staff take some form of sustainable transportation, as do 91 per cent of students. Most of the new buildings are LEED certified and many older buildings have been updated. For instance, the Molson Building, which opened on Guy St. in 2009, features a “solar wall” that generates both heat and electricity from the sun. “We’re one of the most energy-efficient universities in Quebec,” Forgues says.

The office is also involved with the Sustainability Action Fund, started in 2007, which is supported by student fees. This fund, in partnership with the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, embarked on a Sustainable Curriculum Project (safconcordia.ca/sustainable-curriculum-project).

Faisal Shennib, MEng 10, the university’s environmental coordinator, explains that students can now look online for an inventory of sustainability-related courses. There are



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR FAISAL SHENNIB HELPED INTRODUCE DESKTOP TRASHBINS IN CONCORDIA OFFICES, WHICH REDUCE THE NEED FOR PLASTIC GARBAGE BAGS.

plans for new academic programs in sustainability, too.

The Environmental Health and Safety team also audits garbage cans. “We’ll have volunteers suit up in lab coats, and train them as to what should go in what bin,” Shennib says. A 2013 study showed that only 17 per cent of the contents really was garbage, while the rest should have been recycled or composted; a similar distribution is found in municipal and commercial trash.

“Coffee cups make up the largest single item that ends up in the garbage,” Forgues says, “That’s why a lot of our activities focus on coffee cups.” Five years ago cups were trash. Then student-run cafés such as Café X and The Hive started using compostable ones. A year later, Concordia’s recycling service provider looked into recycling the cups, seeing as they’re wax-lined like milk cartons.

Although the City of Montreal’s recycling program wouldn’t find it worthwhile to recycle coffee cups, Concordia has such a concentrated amount of cafés, the independent service is able and willing to give it a go.

MINI BINS

Shennib regularly brainstorms with Concordia’s Facilities Management. Recently they reconsidered office trash bins, which often have the bag changed even when there is only a single item inside. A custodial supervisor suggested simply removing them. They came up with cute desktop bins that could then be emptied into larger containers in central locations.

Students run several sustainability programs. Waste Not Want Not lets people know where the compost bins are. Then there’s the Reusable Dish Project (dishproject.ca), which rents out dishware for events. Users bring them back and use the program’s industrial dishwasher or pay a small fee for the student volunteers to do the dirty work.

The Environmental Health and Safety office helps run a Sustainability Ambassador Program, recruiting students and, as of summer 2017, staff to spread the good word. They also sell through Concordia Stores notebooks made of paper that's already been printed on one side, giving a second life to paper before recycling.

KITCHEN WORK

The university's kitchens have also veered towards better sustainability. Sustainable food system coordinator Isabelle Mailhot-Leduc was hired in 2015 to coordinate Concordia's food procurement, which feeds the 900 student residents, and team up with the other food venues and groups on campus. She works with the food services company Aramark and their distributors to track the amount of locally sourced food and ensure it conforms with agreed upon targets.

"It's not necessarily more expensive to go local. The key is to plan menus and select food products on a seasonal basis."

The targets shift with the seasons. For instance, in the summer 75 per cent of fruits and vegetables must be local while in deep winter only 25 per cent is. "It's not necessarily more expensive to go local," Mailhot-Leduc says. "The key is to plan menus and select food products on a seasonal basis."

Mailhot-Leduc also successfully coordinated the efforts that led to Concordia being designated as a Fair Trade Campus (concordia.ca/campus-life/sustainability/fair-trade).

GREEN ZONE

The Concordia Greenhouse (concordiagreenhouse.com, hydrofloraconcordia.com) is not only an excellent hangout for students looking for a little green and warmth in winter — it also holds various workshops and sells plants.

Created in collaboration with the Department of Geography, Planning and Environment, the greenhouse runs along a salvaged space in the Henry F. Hall Building. It boasts myriad hydroponically grown plants — all you need for a ratatouille.

The Greenhouse grows microgreens and sprouts to sell at the Concordia Farmer's Market and The Frigo Vert, and to supply The Hive and Café X. "We're looking into making the greenhouse as sustainable as possible," says Marian Thomas, operations manager of HydroFlora Concordia. He finds the space helps students understand the food chain better.

PROVIDING SUCCOUR

Walk into a basement space of the Henry F. Hall Building that looks like a subterranean garage sale, and you're walking into two tons of diverted waste.

This Ali Baba cave is CUCCR — Concordia University Centre for Creative Reuse (cuccr.ca). Pronounced "sucker," or more amiably, "succour," CUCCR stems from Anna Timm-Bottos's Concordia MA in art education in 2017. During her research she looked at similar projects in Toronto and Winnipeg and thought, "Hey, why not here?"

The concept is simple. Instead of throwing something out, internal departments and groups can arrange to donate unwanted materials. Those in the CUCCR community can drop by and take it for free. Open since March 2017, CUCCR already has some 300 members. "We set it up so you really have to touch and see the stuff," Timm-Bottos says. "You find something that calls to you."



ANNA TIMM-BOTTOS HELPED ESTABLISH THE CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR CREATIVE REUSE, WHERE PEOPLE GO TO DISCARD AND THEN RECUPERATE ITEMS.

The varied members range from artists looking for inspirational materials to engineers who need to build a project. One homeowner made a funky wall-to-wall floor covering with carpet scraps.

CUCCR requires members to sign out the goods so they can keep track of the weight being diverted from the waste-stream and asks users how much they believe the items might have cost. "That kind of action gets people to think about the object," Timm-Bottos says. "Now even at home when you see something familiar that you'd just get rid of, you'll think about what else you can do with it."

—Maeve Haldane

Sustainable alumni

WE INTRODUCE YOU TO FOUR CONCORDIA GRADUATES WORKING TO MAKE OUR PLANET A LITTLE GREENER

SUSTAINABILITY IN THE MARVELOUS CITY

Since early 2015, Anna Polatschek, BA (poli. sci. & soc.) '11, has dedicated herself to promoting corporate social responsibility and sustainable development in her hometown of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. "I always believed in the power of business to contribute to society," says Polatschek, senior consultant for climate change and sustainability services at the city's Ernst & Young (EY) office.

Among the various projects conducted by EY as an official supporter for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, one particular initiative stood out. The Olympic Legacy Volunteer Program, spearheaded by Polatschek, connected 27 EY professionals from across multiple areas and eight different countries to a handful of local non-governmental organizations. In the three months leading to the Olympics, volunteers working remotely offered their expertise to community organizations that would not have been able to afford their services.

In the last week of the program, all volunteers were flown to Rio to submit their reports and attend the Olympic and Paralympic Games in August 2016.

For Polatschek, the opportunity to participate in a project that focused on a corporate social responsibility initiative was especially attractive. "I usually work for external clients," she says. "This time I looked inwards and we did a

"It made sense to me that I could have a career in the business sector and make a positive contribution to society."

program that was also benefiting EY professionals. That was particularly interesting."

And of course, being involved with the Rio Games was a great bonus. "It was an awesome experience! I got to attend many games and saw some of the finals. I had some really epic moments at the games with the EY group."

Polatschek has always been attracted to the idea of contributing to society. It wasn't until she took a class on globalization and the environment at Concordia, however, that she began to direct her career towards using business as a force for positive change.

The research she was able to do in the class highlighted the concept of corporate social responsibility. "It made sense to me that I could have a career in the business sector and make a positive contribution to society," she says.

Beyond developing her own interests, she is grateful to



COURTESY OF ANNA POLATSCHEK

WORKING IN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY, ANNA POLATSCHEK DEALS WITH A RANGE OF PEOPLE AND IDEALS. "IN MY AREA OF EXPERTISE, THE MORE OPEN TO DIFFERENCES YOU ARE, THE BETTER AT AGGREGATING THEM YOU BECOME."

Concordia for having introduced her to a rich and diverse environment. "I thought it was quite interesting to study political science in Montreal, having the whole dynamic of Quebec politics really close by," Polatschek says.

A BETTER WORLD

After graduating, Polatschek quickly jumped at the opportunity to work in social responsibility for the public sector. She moved to Halifax to work for the Nova Scotia Provincial Lotteries and Casino Corporation.

Four years later, she yearned to return to her native country. Leaving Canada for Rio, she was immediately attracted to EY's purpose statement: Building a better working world. "This made complete sense to me," Polatschek says. "I myself had been working in corporate social responsibility and trying to build a better working world."

Polatschek is excited to be part of a professional field that is constantly developing. "In Rio and Brazil as a whole, there is so much opportunity," she says. "So many areas are still in early stages of development."

Upon her return to Rio, Polatschek joined a program called Rio+B, developed in collaboration with B Corporations and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. The program aims to engage companies based in the Rio area, and assist them to efficiently improve their social and environmental impacts.

"I think there's an opportunity for Rio to be at the forefront of a new movement of socially responsible companies, transitioning to a new and more collaborative and circular economy," Polatschek says. "The idea is to replicate this movement in other cities and make this whole movement much bigger."

—Jeremy Glass-Pilon

ADVOCATING FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

When Bradford Dean, BA (human env.) 11, GrDip (env. assessment) 16, earned his undergraduate degree from Concordia, he found that he had enjoyed his time so much that he immediately decided to stay on and pursue a graduate diploma in environmental assessment.

"My experience was such a positive one. So many of our courses were so hands-on and beneficial to what we were studying," says Dean, coordinator for the Sierra Club's Quebec chapter. The club actively works with grassroots and other like-minded organizations to advocate for the environment.

"I think one of the things I remember the most — it was quite unique to the Concordia experience — was working as a lab monitor at the Aboriginal Centre, where I had the opportunity to meet with Indigenous people from all over the country and the U.S. We often live in isolation in our own communities and this allowed me to make friends and gain a better understanding of where I come from."

Indeed, Dean comes from Northern Manitoba. As a member of the Cree First Nations, he was certainly concerned about the adverse impact of exploitation on First Nations' territories in Canada. Yet it wasn't until he started really studying and seeing the sharp contrast between environmental policies and priorities and those of extraction industries that he was able to see why he was interested in the field.

"My studies at Concordia in human environment and environmental assessment, as well as my minor in urban studies, allowed me to really see the visible proof — in the form of 'before' and 'after' satellite data and images — that clearly showed how an area could be altered because of extraction industries," he says.



COURTESY OF BRADFORD DEAN

THE SHARP CONTRAST BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND ACTUAL POLICIES WAS WHAT PUSHED BRADFORD DEAN — SEEN HERE AT A MEET-THE-CANDIDATE' BBQ — TO ENTER POLITICS AND RUN FOR THE GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FOR THE LAC-SAINT-LOUIS, QUE., RIDING IN 2015.

"I think one of the things I remember the most was working as a lab monitor at the Aboriginal Centre. This allowed me to gain a better understanding of where I come from."

THE POLITICS OF PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Ultimately, the sharp contrast between environmental objectives and actual policies was what pushed Dean to enter politics and run for the Green Party of Canada in the Lac-Saint-Louis, Que., riding in 2015. "If you're concerned about environmental damage, you will, at some point, have to become vocal and get actively involved in politics," Dean says. "The environment can't speak for itself; you must advocate on its behalf."

Since First Nations' rights are very connected to environmental issues, the Green Party platform spoke to Dean and reflected his values. "It was a very positive experience for me and something I would certainly consider doing again," he says. "It brought me much closer to First Nations' issues."

Dean has been with the Sierra Club's Quebec chapter since March 2017. "Once again, I find myself in the position to be able to work with local organizations on the preservation of green spaces and marshlands on the island of Montreal," he says. "The Sierra Club supports people who have been affected by environmental change and industrial development, and also supports First Nations' concerns, such as opposition to the pipeline development, which will run through First Nations' territory."

The Sierra Club is also against fossil fuels and advocates for more sustainable sources of energy, an area in which, Dean contends, Canada lags behind. "I wake up in the morning and I have some anxiety about it all," he says. "Yet it is gratifying that I'm able to do something about it, and it's gratifying to work with people and organizations that are on the same page as I am. Sustainable Concordia and the engineers at the Concordia Institute of Aerospace Design and Innovation are doing some really incredible work exploring alternative energy sources."

Dean also recently met with supporters of the Leap Manifesto, a document that outlines a vision for a justice-based transition away from fossil fuels in Canada.

"Whether within or outside of Concordia, it's about collaboration and the sharing of knowledge and resources to better advocate for the environment, and I'm all for that," he says.

—Toula Drimonis

“I’m in the position to be able to help make a difference. It’s gratifying for me to see the political engagement for sustainable practices for all three countries based on our work.”

MAKING A POSITIVE (CLIMATE) CHANGE IN THE WORLD

When Danielle Vallée, BA (geog.) 89, MA (public policy & public admin.) 95, decided in her early 20s to study the world and its environment, it was probably because she had moved around a lot as a child. “My father was in the Canadian Armed Forces and we never lived anywhere for more than two or three years,” says Vallée. “Because of all that early travel, I became interested in the rural and urban connection and its role in our lives.”

After she earned a BA specializing in urban-economic geography in 1989, Vallée learned that Concordia would be offering a master’s program in public policy and public administration for the first time. She thought it would be a good opportunity to better understand the link between her chosen academic field and the decision-making process.

“The fact that both my undergraduate and graduate degrees were in small departments really contributed to my enjoyment of my university experience,” says Vallée. “The largest class I might have had at the time was 30 students, and I had one seminar course with a total of four students. The teachers were great as well.”

Vallée, who since 2006 has been with the Montreal-based Secretariat of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) of North America, is certainly tapping into the knowledge gained from her Concordia degrees. As a project coordinator she, along with the small team that comprises the Environmental Quality and Climate Change program, is responsible for the development and delivery of a handful of projects and initiatives.

They include the *North American Pollutant Release and Transfer Register* project, which brings together data and information to provide a more complete and accurate picture of the sources and management of industrial pollutants across North America, to support decision-making relative to pollution prevention and sustainability.

“We’re basically three countries — Canada, the United States and Mexico — working together to protect our shared



COURTESY OF DANIELLE VALLÉE

DANIELLE VALLÉE SAYS IT'S IMMENSELY GRATIFYING TO SEE, IN HER WORK WITH THE COMMISSION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION, THE POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES FOR NORTH AMERICA.

environment,” explains Vallée. “There are, of course, differences in how each country does things and what each country’s environmental priorities are, but we try to bring together the relevant information and expertise, exchange best practices, and find solutions that benefit everyone. It’s a very collaborative effort.”

North America shares vital natural resources including air, oceans and rivers, mountains and forests, which form the basis of a rich network of ecosystems that sustain our livelihoods and well-being. If they are to continue being a source of future life and prosperity, these resources must be protected.

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation routinely brings together a wide range of stakeholders and aims to exchange information and best practices to protect the environment, raise the profile of issues deemed most important, and promote sustainable communities and ecosystems.

SATISFACTION IN SHAPING FUTURE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

The intergovernmental organization was established by the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation and is supported financially by all three governments. Part of what makes Vallée’s work interesting is that they must deal with any given political reality at the time. “I really love my work and I’m in the position to be able to help make a difference,” she says.

“It’s gratifying for me to see the political engagement for sustainable practices and the implementation of environmental priorities for all three countries based on our work. For example, through trilateral collaboration in one project, Mexico is currently assessing the feasibility of establishing a maritime emissions control area similar to that in Canada and the United States, which will result in a decrease in air pollutants and a positive impact on human respiratory health,” Vallée says.

“Some of our projects address both human health issues — related to air contaminants — and climate change — such as greenhouse gas emissions. I think working at the CEC is a great way to make a difference when it comes to pressing environmental issues.”

—Toula Drimonis

PRESERVING A WAY OF LIFE

As the ice in the Canadian North melts, a new project is helping Northern communities monitor and adapt to the changes.

Misha Warbanski, BA (journ.) 08, is a member of the Arctic Eider Society (AES) team that won a \$750,000 prize in the 2017 Google Impact Challenge. The challenge supports Canadian non-profits with innovative, world-changing projects. The AES is a registered Canadian charity working with Inuit and Cree communities to address issues of food security, safety and environmental stewardship for sea ice and marine ecosystems.

AES's prize-winning project is called SIKU (pronounced: see-coo), a new online social media and mapping platform that will harness social media, wiki and digital mapping technologies to address these challenges.

NASA reports that Arctic sea ice is declining at over 13 per cent per decade. *Siku*, the Inuktitut word for sea ice, is integral to the way of life of tens of thousands of Inuit living along Hudson Bay and Canada's Arctic coastline.

The SIKU platform will provide a set of open-source tools to help Inuit communities map changing sea ice, and build a living archive of Inuit knowledge to help inform decision-making for stewardship and sustainable development. "We are currently working with Hudson Bay and James Bay communities to address local priorities and to share what's happening in each other's communities," Warbanski says. "We'll be working to expand SIKU across the Arctic."

Warbanski believes that SIKU will be fully launched in three years. "There's a lot of back-end development time since this is a web platform as well as a mobile app," she reports. "We have a prototype online that links five communities already doing their own monitoring, which is giving us a bigger picture of environmental change in Hudson Bay. Every time a community researcher goes out onto the ice, takes measurements and makes observations, that is being shared on this platform."

"We have a prototype online that links five communities. Every time a community researcher goes out onto the ice, that is being shared on this platform."



MISHA WARBANSKI IS THE ARCTIC EIDER SOCIETY'S LOGISTICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR. SHE SAYS THE SMALL GROUP SHARES MANY RESPONSIBILITIES. "IT'S A TEAM EFFORT AND WE ALL PITCH IN WHEREVER WE CAN."

That step is just the beginning, though. "We want to take that to the next level, add tools and features to expand it beyond the five communities we already work with, expand more broadly across the north."

Although they are collaborating with Google, the AES team working on this project is modest-sized: about five people, plus their collaborators in the communities. "Because we are such a small team, we each wear many hats," Warbanski says. "I am the logistics and administrative coordinator, but I do everything from writing grant applications to communications and helping out on field work. It's a team effort and we all pitch in wherever we can."

AN UNUSUAL CAREER

Warbanski first got involved with AES in 2010, after graduating from Concordia's journalism program. "I had gotten entangled in the film industry in British Columbia, culminating in the award-winning AES documentary *People of a Feather*," a film about survival in the changing Canadian Arctic.

It's a rewarding effort, too. "It feels good to wake up in the morning knowing I work with a group that is trying to make a difference in our world," Warbanski says. She also recognizes that her career path has not been traditional. "I think for a lot of people of my generation, it hasn't always been a straightforward, linear route to a career," she says. "Concordia gave me a lot of really valuable tools and skills to be flexible in this kind of strange time."

Even in a changing world, some old-fashioned skills still come in handy. Warbanski says, "Journalism gave me a lot of hands-on experience that I use in my work, dealing with people and building relationships, harnessing communications tools and helping people in the communities tell their stories and represent themselves in the world." ■

—Richard Burnett

FINDING
THEIR

INSPIRATION



**These successful
alumni are grateful
for the mentorship
they received from
Concordia faculty**

KEEPING LGBTQ PEOPLE HEALTHY AND HAPPY

Research scientist Robert-Paul Juster, BA '06, says he is extremely pleased as a proudly out gay man to be conducting studies on LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) populations to better their health and happiness. "Absolutely!" Juster says. "As scientists we are force-fed this notion that our research has to be objective and completely non-personal. But once you form a hypothesis, you cease to be objective. This area of research is one I always wanted to get into."

A postdoctoral fellow with the Program for the Study of LGBT Health in the Division of Gender, Sexuality, and Health at Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute, Juster is researching chronic stress in LGBTQ populations that are still subject to institutional discrimination, harassment and bullying, as well as high rates of suicide, HIV/AIDS and other diseases.

"My main area of focus the last five years has been stress biomarkers on the LGBTQ communities in order to understand how stress affects them and how coping strategies in the communities lead to profiles that are quite healthy and demonstrate quite a bit of wellness," he explains. "My research shows how coming out of the closet actually garners health benefits that make the LGBTQ community a bit more resilient than mainstream society."

Juster is also exploring stress levels among the Stonewall generation — those who were marked by the so-called "Stonewall Riots" of 1969 in New York City that ignited the modern-day LGBTQ civil rights movement in America.

"One area I'm looking at is older gay and lesbian New Yorkers who would actually have been at Stonewall," Juster says. "We really don't know anything about the health of these older LGBTQ individuals, though our research is showing — especially among double minorities, such as black lesbians — that the effect of stigma doesn't seem to be having the negative health effects that we would expect."

MAKING SCIENCE ACCESSIBLE

Juster credits his time at Concordia for helping shape his career. He especially points to James Pfaus, a professor in the university's Department of Psychology whose area of expertise is measuring sexual desire and pleasure in men and women. "Jim is a really amazing sex researcher. I was a student in his Hormones and Behaviour class," he says.

"Jim was such an inspiration — he is one of the top researchers at Concordia, but he is so down to earth and very pure in his passion for science," Juster adds.



JAMES PFAUS IN HIS LAB ON CONCORDIA'S LOYOLA CAMPUS.

"He had a way of making science very accessible, and that was really important for me to find my own voice as a researcher. I wasn't a great student in his class, but he was a great supporter of my ideas. I fell in love with the fields of psychoneuroendocrinology, and he has been a strong supporter of my career. We have even co-authored two papers together."

Juster's research has been front-page news in *The Globe and Mail*. He shares the results of his work at international conferences and on social media and even writes specific press releases for LGBTQ and other media. "Taxpayers are paying for these studies, so it is important that all people know what the results are," says Juster. He adds that his research can help "not just LGBTQ people, but all people."

—Richard Burnett

PROFESSOR: JAMES G. PFAUS

James Pfaus is a professor in Concordia's Department of Psychology and researcher in the Center for Studies in Behavioral Neurobiology. His research in human sexual function focuses on subjective and objective measures of sexual desire and pleasure in women and men, and how such measures are altered by different types of erotic stimulation.

"I could tell from the outset that Robert-Paul was a 21st-century Renaissance man. His interests in science extended far beyond the course material and he had the uncanny ability to see the big picture and maintain sophisticated knowledge of the details. He graduated with what I think must be a world record number of publications from his undergraduate and graduate research, topping well over 40. What contributes to his incredible meteoric success is his ability to ask questions that are outside the box but squarely inside the phenomena he examines."



COURTESY ROBERT-PAUL JUSTER

ROBERT-PAUL JUSTER IS PROUD TO BE CONDUCTING STUDIES ON LGBTQ POPULATIONS.

PUTTING SCIENCE AND TECH TO WORK

Sometimes great scientific ideas need a little help getting into commercial markets.

That's where Rina Carlini, BSc (chem.) '93, CEO and president of Haltech Regional Innovation Centre, comes in.

Based in Oakville, Ont., Haltech supports entrepreneurs and tech startups in Ontario's Halton Region with free business advice and mentorship to help them monetize, fund and grow their businesses.

"How do you get a product into the marketplace? It may be important for science and technology, but can you make it important for a consumer?" These are the kind of questions Carlini poses to her clients.

The quality of service Haltech provides is inspired by Carlini's time at Concordia.

"The kind of personalized attention I give my clients is what I first experienced myself at Concordia's Co-op program in chemistry," she says. "Haltech's service is a big part of our success. You attract quality clients if you give quality personalized service."

Carlini thrived in the demanding chemistry Co-op program. In addition to maintaining an A average, students had to complete four work terms.

"Working cemented the chemistry subject matter in my head," she says. "I could practice what I had just learned in class in real life — you just can't learn it any better than that."



ANN ENGLISH AND RINA CARLINI AT THE 100TH CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR CHEMISTRY CONFERENCE, HELD IN TORONTO IN MAY. CARLINI NOMINATED ENGLISH FOR THE 2017 CLARA BENSON AWARD.

Through her work terms, Carlini built a professional network that, alongside her professors, helped her pick the right career path.

"The program was well structured and we were tremendously supported," she says. "Professors called you by name from year one at Concordia."

Carlini worked on an undergraduate research project with Ann English, professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and Concordia University Research Chair. English then nominated Carlini for the 1993 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Centennial Scholarship for Doctoral Studies. She won.

With the scholarship, Carlini chose to study synthetic organic chemistry at the University of Waterloo in Ontario.

"The scholarship changed everything," says Carlini. "Had Concordia not chosen to nominate me, I might not have continued to pursue this career path."

RESEARCH AND CONSULTING

As an industrial research and development scientist, Carlini spent 14 years at the Xerox Research Centre of Canada in Mississauga, Ont.

"I grew up professionally there," says Carlini. It's where she discovered her passion for finding and developing applications for scientific products.

At the culmination of her time at Xerox, Carlini was honoured with the 2012 Clara Benson Award from the Canadian Society for Chemistry, which is given to a female scientist who has made a distinguished contribution to her field in Canada.

In 2012 Carlini founded Optimal Science Consulting. Businesses were eager to learn from her years of experience in tech development and commercialization.

Carlini has stayed in touch with her mentor, Ann English, and supported the successful nomination of English for the 2017 Clara Benson Award.

"She's done so much for the society, for Concordia and for me — she's an outstanding scientific leader and mentor," says Carlini.

PROFESSOR: ANN ENGLISH

Ann English, Concordia Research Chair in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and founding director of the Centre for Biological Applications of Mass Spectrometry, is currently leading a team researching cell aging.

"It was a joy supervising Rina's BSc thesis project in 1992.

Even as an undergraduate, her remarkable talent for basic science and its practical applications was clearly obvious. I have followed her career with interest, from her many years in industrial research at Xerox Canada to her current leadership role in promoting innovation and technology entrepreneurship. Rina's knowledge, enthusiasm and energy never cease to amaze me. She is a fast rising star on tech innovation scene in Canada and the sky is the limit for Rina!"

In addition to her tireless work for entrepreneurs, Carlini volunteers as a board member for organizations such as the Waterloo Institute for Nanotechnology and Nano Ontario. She also gives career talks aimed at bringing more women into technology and science.

How does she fit it all in? Carlini says, "You make time for the things you care about."

—Vanessa Bonneau

CONCORDIA GRAD HAS OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD JOB – LITERALLY

On a quaint farm in rural Saskatchewan, Tim Haltigin, BSc '03, would sit out on his deck at night and be filled with a sense of awe from looking up at the starry sky. That awe has steered Haltigin's career ambitions. He is now senior mission scientist at the Canadian Space Agency, operating out of Saint-Hubert, Que.

His position, Haltigin explains, involves "everything from executing experiments, operating instruments in flight and planning future contributions Canada can make to different missions."

The self-proclaimed space nut's route to the cosmos began closer to home. Haltigin is an expert in geomorphology, the study of why landscapes look the way they do. "In the beginning I was concentrating on rivers — that was my honours project at Concordia," says Haltigin. He continued along that path as a graduate student. "A few of my friends entered this competition on how you could find ice on Mars. I said, 'Listen, I don't

know anything about this but I want to help.'"

Though Haltigin didn't win the competition, a professor who had supervised the project encouraged his student to pursue a PhD. "My work compared landscapes in the Canadian high Arctic to similar ones on Mars," he says.

The Canadian Space Agency provided funding for Haltigin's project. They hired him six days after he defended his dissertation in 2010.

A good deal of Haltigin's time is spent keeping tabs on a spacecraft that is making a 1-billion kilometre round-trip to Benu, a 492-metre long asteroid in the sun's orbit that might shed light on big questions, including the origin of life itself. "Think of an asteroid as a time capsule," he says. "They were formed at the beginning of our solar system and haven't changed much since."

OSIRIS-REx

Haltigin and a team of 50 helped create a laser that will take a three-dimensional scan of the asteroid. That's one of many gadgets on the Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security,

Regolith Explorer (OSIRIS-REx). "Between the entire suite of instruments we're going to know exactly what it looks like, its shape and its chemical and thermal properties," he says.

The encounter between OSIRIS-REx and Benu will last only five seconds. Because of the spacecraft's distance from earth, it can't be controlled by people on the ground. The whole procedure is programmed into the vehicle. "As soon as the head makes contact with the asteroid, it releases pressurized gas which sets off a flurry of particles," says Haltigin. Those are captured in a canister. "Think of it as giving a gentle high-five to the asteroid."

Over-and-above the usual excitement of his day job, Haltigin was among 72 finalists in Canada's search for its two newest astronauts, who were announced in August 2017. "They tested an awful lot of things," says Haltigin of the experience. "Your role is to push limits in all directions," Haltigin says.

"I owe much of my scientific career to my time at Concordia," he says. Haltigin describes how Pascale Biron, professor in the Department of Geography, Planning and Environment, "called me after class one day. She said, 'I put your name in for this thing called NSERC. And if you're selected you're working for me this summer.'"

Haltigin ended up winning that scholarship. "She taught me how to observe things, how to ask questions," he says. "She really set the foundation for my career as a scientist."

—James Gibbons

PROFESSOR: PASCALE BIRON

Pascale Biron is professor in the Department of Geography, Planning and Environment and currently serves as its chair. She researches sustainability and rivers, especially how to make them more habitable for Atlantic salmon and other fish — and more useful for humans.

"I remember Tim as an undergraduate student from my Landform Evolution course. I very quickly spotted that he was an excellent student, which is why I suggested that he apply for an NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award and had him work on a very challenging three-dimensional numerical modelling project. He did very well, with very little guidance. It was truly a pleasure working with Tim. He has a great personality and a vivid intelligence."



TIM HALTIGIN IS SENIOR MISSION SCIENTIST AT THE CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY.

THE VALUE OF LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Typically, industrial engineers' primary roles involve optimizing complex processes. However, Danielle Nguyen, BEng (ind. eng.) 04, plant manager at Coca-Cola Canada in Montreal, explains that success in the field can also depend on more personal elements. "I'm very passionate about improving processes — including from the human side," she says.

When she talks to students or others entering the field, Nguyen underlines the importance of soft skills in her profession. "I find engineers are great with math, physics, data analysis," she says. "Yet when you lead change, it's not about the processes, it's not about the machines — it's all about the people. It's about leadership skills. In order to influence others, the first thing you have to do is recognize yourself."

Nguyen's first jobs after Concordia were at the Montreal offices of L'Oréal and the biopharmaceutical company Pfizer. She moved on to aluminum products manufacturer Montebello Packaging, where she was in charge of Canadian operations. The timing for her, however, wasn't ideal. "I loved the job, but the travel was too much for me," she says. "I have a daughter. Coca-Cola offered me the opportunity to become plant manager in Montreal, so I took the opportunity."

She's has been managing the daily operations of the Coca-Cola manufacturing plant for over a year now — and relishes her work.



DANIELLE NGUYEN, PLANT MANAGER OF COCA-COLA'S MONTREAL FACILITIES, RECENTLY SPOKE TO CONCORDIA ENGINEERING STUDENTS. SHE ALSO ACTS AS A STUDENT MENTOR AND SAYS HER OWN MENTORS "ACCELERATED" HER CAREER.

"Every day is a new challenge, and that's what I love about my job," she says. "I oversee employees, production, quality, warehouse, maintenance and continuous improvement, to make sure the plant runs efficiently, effectively and safely."

Based on her own experience, Nguyen acknowledges that the engineering field remains male-dominated, although that's been changing in recent years. "I remember being in the amphitheatre classes at Concordia, mixed with industrial and mechanical engineers. Often out of 100 students there were 90 men and 10 women," she recalls. That never really bothered her, though. "I work very well with both men and women. As long as people are professional, work hard and have good values, I don't see a difference."

STRONG INFLUENCES

Nguyen is also passionate about Concordia. She recently became a member of the Industrial Advisory Board of the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and returned to the university to speak to engineering students.

She expresses pride in her education from the university's Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science and gladly gives back. "I would say the best four years of my life were at Concordia," Nguyen says. "I enjoyed everything about it. I loved the teachers. The classes I took influenced me until today. I'm still using the techniques I learned."

Ali Akgunduz, associate professor in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, especially stood out for Nguyen. "He was a big influence on me," she says. "He was very genuine in helping students learn, and that motivated me."

Nguyen's family also guided her career choices. She was fascinated by math and physics as a child and was steered into engineering by her mother. "I'll be honest: my mom was very strict. She gave me three options: become a doctor, a dentist or an engineer," Nguyen says.

Of her four siblings, two are engineers, one is a computer scientist and one is a chemist — "That's because of my mom," Nguyen admits. "She gave us limited, but good, choices, which I guess is a good thing!" ■

—Simona Rabinovitch

PROFESSOR: ALI AKGUNDUZ

Ali Akgunduz is professor of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering and associate dean of Academic Programs in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science.

"Danielle was in the first batch of students I had the chance to work with at Concordia. She was outspoken, never shy of taking responsibility for failures and extremely self-confident when it came to giving credit to others when there was a success. I had the chance to visit her at Pfizer and Coca Cola. She has all the necessary qualifications to be a strong leader."



"The classes I took influenced me until today. I'm still using the techniques I learned."



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An eventful spring and summer

ELISABETH FAURE,
BA 07, GRDIP 10

WELCOMING INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

The Faculty of Arts and Science recently hosted four intensive interdisciplinary summer schools and two field schools that brought together master's and PhD students from various disciplines and from around the world. "Our goal was cultivating innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to research, teaching and learning," explains André Roy, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Led by Concordia professors in collaboration with international guest lecturers, selected students immersed themselves in a challenging and vibrant intellectual environment.

One graduate summer school, a collaboration between the School of Community and Public Affairs and the Department of Political Science, grew out of an increasing appetite for better understanding of the Canadian Syrian refugee initiative.

A critical museology field school course examined how museums might enhance democracy, belonging and dialogue about national and global heritage. Participants designed their own "curatorial dreams" and presented them to an international audience during the Museum Anthropology Futures conference.



1

A field school course on Quebec performing arts on the world stage brought together artists, intellectuals, critics and scholars to examine the socioeconomic context that allows the arts to thrive in Quebec. Students analyzed performing arts productions as part of the Montréal Complètement Cirque festival.

A summer school on planetary futures asked students to rethink concepts and practices of environment, ecology, difference and technology. Students analyzed topics from science fiction and technology to life and earth sciences. A media archeology summer school mined Concordia's Residual Media Depot collection, allowing students to demystify hardware modification, software hacking and digital forensics.

And a science journalism summer school course offered by the Department of Journalism in partnership with the World Federation of Science Journalists and the Canadian Science Writers' Association challenged participants to rethink how science is communicated within society.

"I am extremely proud of all the faculty members who stepped forward to organize these summer schools," says Roy. "They allowed us to showcase and leverage many of the faculty's



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3

1 ANDRÉ ROY, DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE, WAS AMONG THE SPEAKERS AT THE BEYOND DISCIPLINES EVENT SHOW AND TELL: EXAMINING THE INFLUENCE OF ART IN RESEARCH, AT CONCORDIA ON APRIL 13, 2017.

2 RECEPTION FOR THE BEYOND DISCIPLINES EVENT ON THE ROLE OF ART IN RESEARCH.

3 THE BEYOND DISCIPLINES SERIES INVITED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO CONCORDIA TO DISCOVER THE ROLE OF ART IN RESEARCH.

research activities while bringing experiential learning and international collaborations to another level."

EMBARKING ON A SCIENCE ODYSSEY

Concordians were treated to a display of science-related events as part of Science Odyssey. This summer, the university took part in the national series organized each year by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

Science Odyssey unites universities and colleges, museums and science centres, libraries, government departments, community organizations, science promoters, researchers and scientists, teachers and students.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate science at Concordia," says Kim Sawchuk, associate dean of Research and Graduate Studies for the Faculty of Arts and Science. Sawchuk spearheaded the initiative with a group of graduate

students. "I am tremendously proud of them and the wide variety of events they've been working on."

Science Odyssey was supported by Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science, Office of the Provost and Office of the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies. Events included the keynote speech "Jar of Fears: Do We Fight CO₂ or Embrace It?" by Canadian nanoscience pioneer Geoffrey Ozin of the University of Toronto, and a Junior Science Odyssey day for families.

"We really do have something for everyone," says lead organizer Paola Andrea Rojas Gutiérrez, a graduate student in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. "Our goal with Science Odyssey is to make science exciting and accessible in creative and unexpected ways, including collaborations with the humanities and fine arts."

Rojas Gutiérrez is part of Concordia's Lanthanide Research Group, led by John Capobianco, associate dean of Management and Facilities in the Faculty of Arts and Science. Her research uses lasers to advance chemotherapy, with the goal of making drug delivery systems more targeted and patient-specific.

Sawchuk hopes Science Odyssey will further highlight the faculty's strengths in the sciences. "I'm really looking forward to sharing the great work we are doing in the sciences with the broader community," she says.

GOING BEYOND DISCIPLINES FOR A SECOND SEASON

Following a successful inaugural season, the Faculty of Arts and Science's signature public event series Beyond Disciplines celebrated another year of interdisciplinary exploration.

The series examines issues of the day through a variety of perspectives. The five events held during 2016-17 covered

sensory exploration, the role of community in research, connections between the mind and body, the role of art in research and the difference between science facts and fiction.

"The series has grown significantly over the last two years, and it is a project that really showcases the wide range of experts in our faculty," says Roy.

Beyond Disciplines also led to a podcast series, which will return for a third season beginning October 11, 2017.

Aaron Lakoff, BA 12, and Simone Lucas, both pursuing an MA in Media Studies, are producing season two of the *Beyond Disciplines* podcast (concordia.ca/artsci/events/beyond-disciplines-podcast). "The exciting thing for me about this podcast is how it can take ideas that are quite complex and make them accessible beyond the university's walls," says Lakoff. "Podcasting is a quickly growing medium, and I love putting ideas out there in a form that anyone can download, listen to and engage with."

Roy promises more surprises in store for the coming year. "We plan to keep thinking outside the box," he says. "Every year we try to set the bar higher, and this year will be no exception." *Listeners can subscribe to the Beyond Disciplines podcast on iTunes, Stitcher and Soundcloud.*

THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

The Faculty of Arts and Science recently introduced Montreal 2050. In partnership with the United Nations Future Earth research platform, Montreal 2050 will convene academics, students, business, government and the public to imagine sustainable cities through urban design and planning.

"Our university is fortunate to be home to many leaders in all of these areas," says Roy. "Together, I look forward to seeing what they will envisage as Montreal of the future." ■

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Concordia welcomes nine new honorary degree recipients

Twice each year, at Concordia's convocations, the university awards honorary degrees to individuals who have achieved a high level of success in their respective fields. The nine spring 2017 honourees included four Concordia graduates.

Below are excerpts from the inspiring speeches delivered by the honorary degree recipients at Concordia's spring 2017 convocation ceremonies, held June 5 to 7 at Montreal's Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier. Some 5,700 graduates also joined Concordia's alumni community, now 200,000 strong.

To see videos of the full speeches, please visit concordia.ca/graduation-convocation/ceremonies/past.

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE, JUNE 5

Chantal Petitclerc, LLD 17, is an inspirational Canadian wheelchair racer and now a member of the Senate of Canada. With 14 gold medals in wheelchair racing, five from the 2008 Summer Paralympics in Beijing, China, Petitclerc is among the most decorated athletes in Paralympic history.

"In a situation when you lose control over everything, the only control you have left is over your own attitude. I learned very quickly that whatever happens to you, your life does not stop. It changes directions, sometimes, but you always have more potential than limits." **1**

Kim Thúy, LLD 17, fled communist Vietnam with her family in 1979 when she was 10, eventually arriving in Granby, Que. Today Thúy is a celebrated novelist whose best-selling first effort, *Ru*, earned her a 2010 Governor General's Literary Award and has been translated into more than 20 languages.

"My words now exist in languages I



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
1

cannot read, and countries I did not know existed. This has been possible because of small steps, but mostly because of small gestures. They have not only made my life better, but much greater than myself." **2**

Robert Calderisi, BA 68, LLD 17 (pictured at right with Concordia President Alan Shepard), an economist and acclaimed writer, was the first Rhodes Scholar from Loyola College, one of Concordia's founding institutions. He occupied senior positions at a number of international non-governmental organizations and also spent two decades at the World Bank in Africa. Calderisi's 2006 book *The Trouble with Africa* has become a touchstone in the international debate on the politics of foreign aid.

"The most impressive person I've met in my life was a simple nurse [from] West Africa. [To fund her clinic] she had decided not to wait for the state to meet its obligations, but instead had asked the mothers in the area to make a small contribution. People in western business schools would call her a social entrepreneur. I thought of her simply as a saint." **3**

JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, JUNE 6

The son of poor Dutch immigrants, **Sebastian van Berkomp**, BComm 69, LLD 17 (pictured at right with Abraham Brodt, professor emeritus), is the portrait of a self-made man.



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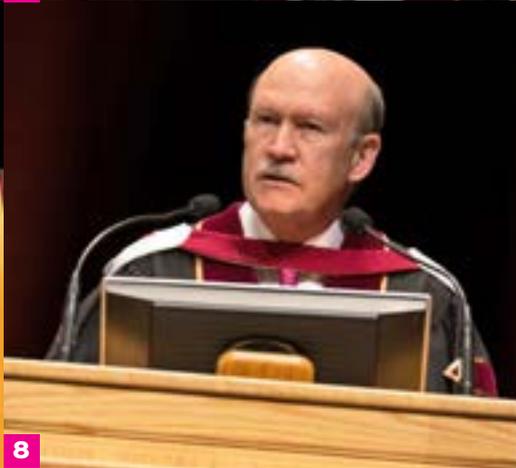
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He is president, CEO and founder of two successful investment firms. Van Berkomp's philanthropy includes donations to the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and Concordia.

"I've tried to let you know how important it is to have a good education, but more importantly how determination and focus on something that you dearly love to do each and every day of your life can lead to great success." **4**

John Molson School of Business (JMSB) graduate **Kenneth Woods**, MBA 75, LLD 17, co-founded TAL Investment Counsel, one of Canada's largest and most successful investment firms. In 2000, he launched the Kenneth Woods Portfolio Management Program, which gives a select group of talented JMSB undergraduates a chance to manage a real-life portfolio.

"A lot of people are giving back, even today at your young age. I think you



should give while you live. Give of your time and maybe even your money. If you do it early, you'll have the time, such as I have, to see and really enjoy the results." **5**

Lise Watier, LLD 17, is the founder of Lise Watier Cosmetics and the head of the Lise Watier Foundation, which aims to help women become financially independent. Lise Watier Cosmetics has been at the forefront of the Canadian cosmetics industry for over 40 years.

"Wherever you come from, and whatever social status you were born into, everything is possible, the world is yours to conquer... Young women: take your place, your fair place, as all the young men will without discrimination. Doors are open equally to all of you." **6**

ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, JUNE 7

Jahangir Mohammed, MAsc 93, LLD 17 (pictured at left with Concordia

Chancellor Jonathan Wener), is one of the early pioneers of the Internet of Things (IoT). He founded Jasper, a global, cloud-based IoT platform, now used by more than 10,000 companies worldwide. In 2015, the World Economic Forum named Mohammed Technology Pioneer for his early IoT contributions.

"I want to share with you one practice that I followed that has helped me tremendously in my career and in my life. It's so simple that you could actually start it today: you must ask for what you want in life." **7**

David Martin, BSc 71, LLD 17, is founder, chairman and chief technology officer of Nureva Inc., a company that specializes in facilitating distance collaboration. Martin is also co-founder of SMART Technologies Inc., creators of the SMART Boards. These interactive whiteboards are found in many classrooms and boardrooms around the world.

"With little sales and lots of obstacles,

we continued. We continued because we believed in what we were doing. We believed in each other, and we believed if we worked harder, we would succeed." **8**

FINE ARTS, JUNE 7

Measha Brueggergosman, LLD 17, is a world-class soprano known for her vocal range and versatility. The New Brunswick-born singer performed the opening hymn at the 2010 Olympic Games in Beijing and was nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Classical Vocal Performance in 2010.

"I think we should stumble into place. I think we should fail forward. There are a lot of stupid mistakes that go into a wise person. There's no way, I believe, to be effective and pretty. At some point, you have to choose one." **9**

—*Lucas Napier-Macdonald, GrDip 17, is a Montreal freelance writer.*

For news on the full slate of recent and future Concordia Advancement and Alumni Relations events in Montreal, across Canada and the world over, visit concordia.ca/alumni.

To listen to podcasts or watch videos of Advancement and Alumni Relations events, please visit concordia.ca/alumni/podcasts and concordia.ca/alumni/videos.



ALUMNI RECOGNITION AWARDS

Every year the Concordia University Alumni Association honours alumni, students, friends, faculty and staff who have made significant contributions to the Concordia community both locally and abroad. More than 100 guests gathered to pay tribute to the 2017 recipients at the awards banquet at the Delta Montreal hotel on May 11, emceed by CTV Montreal news reporter Caroline Van Vlaardingen, BA 84.

The honourees are (from left):

- **Robert Frances**, BComm 87, MBA 91, founder and president of PEAK Financial Group, Benoît Pelland Distinguished Service Award;
- **Philippe Caignon**, professor of translation in Concordia's Département d'études françaises, Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching;
- **Paul Desbaillets**, BFA 03, co-owner of the Burgundy Lion Group, Alumnus of the Year;
- **Sudhir Jha**, MEng 05, manager of Community Infrastructure Planning for the Government of the Northwest Territories, Young Alumnus of the Year;
- **Ghislain Arsenaault**, BComm 85, owner of Truck'N Roll, Humberto Santos Award of Merit;

- **Michel Gendron**, Concordia's Distribution Services, Outstanding Staff Award;

- **Sandra Paikowsky**, BA 67, professor emeritus in Concordia's Department of Art History, Alumna of the Year;
- and **Julia Sutera Sardo**, political science and community, public affairs and policies student, Outstanding Student Award. **1**

WOMEN AND LEADERSHIP

Concordia's Women and Leadership initiative had two gatherings in spring 2017.

At the Politics of Leadership event in Montreal on April 26, guests heard from a panel of high-achieving women discuss how they rose to the top of their professions. Pictured are **Geneviève Mottard**, BComm 98, GrDip 99, president and CEO of the Ordre des comptables professionnels agréés Québec, **Anne-Marie Croteau**, now dean of John Molson School of Business, **Christine Lengvari**, BSc 72, president and CEO of Lengvari Financial Inc., and **Dana Ades-Landy**, MBA 83, CEO of the Heart and Stroke Foundation, Quebec **2** and **Brigadier-General Jennie Carignan**. **3** Ingrid Chadwick, assistant professor in Concordia's Department of Management, also participated on



the panel, which was moderated by CTV Montreal news reporter Caroline Van Vlaardingen.

Women and Leadership's Rise Up: Women's Resistance, Activism and Education event was held at the Princeton Club in New York City on May 9. The panel discussion on feminism, activism and the history of female resistance was moderated by **Caroline Van Vlaardingen** and featured social justice educator **Ileana Jiménez**, **Radha Hedge**, New York University professor of media, culture and communication, and **Kimberley Manning**, principal of Concordia's Simone de Beauvoir Institute. **4**



GARNET KEY ALUMNI BANQUET

Each year, the Garnet Key Society invites 12 of Concordia's brightest undergraduate students to join the society and participate in activities throughout the university. At the historic Atwater Club in Montreal on May 13, Concordia President Alan Shepard honoured the 59th Key for its accomplishments and inducted the society's 60th Key. Pictured are **Coleen Stoute** and **Brent Stoute**, BEng 84, 26th Key, **6** and **Nadia Sheikh**, 60th Key, and **Emilia Alvarez**, vice-president of the Garnet Key Society. **9**

CONCORDIA HERITAGE SOCIETY COCKTAIL RECEPTION

The Concordia Heritage Society was established to emphasize the importance of planned gifts and recognize donors. On May 18 at Concordia's Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex, society members heard from Concordia President Alan Shepard, CTV Montreal chief news anchor Mutsumi Takahashi, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13, and Emmy-award winning journalist **Ann Shatilla**, pictured with **Jonathan Feist** and **Anthony Feist**. **10**

CHINA

Concordia's Bram Freeman, vice-president of Advancement and External Relations, Leisha LeCouvrie, senior director of Alumni Relations, and Graham Carr, provost and vice-president of Academic Affairs, made the 11,000-km trip to visit alumni in three chapters in China in June.

THE FUTURE OF TALENT: CALGARY

Calgary alumni came out to hear Concordia President Alan Shepard discuss The Future of Talent at Canada's Sports Hall of Fame on May 2. Shepard described how Concordia prepares alumni to lead the changing world. He was joined by Bram Freedman, vice-president of Advancement and External Relations, and Leisha LeCouvrie, senior director of Alumni Relations. Among the guests were **Leila Kazemian**, **Seyedbabak Alin**, MBA 05, and **Abutalib Dandia**, BComm 76. **5**

AN EVENING WITH THE HONOURABLE JEAN CHAREST, FORMER PREMIER OF QUEBEC

Jean Charest (centre), former premier of Quebec, spoke at Concordia's Henry F. Hall Building on May 8, part of the university's Workshops on Social Science Research. CTV Montreal News' **Aphrodite Salas**, MA 99, moderated the

talk, and they were joined by **André Roy**, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science. Charest addressed the challenges he faced as leader of the province, the steps he took to improve intra-provincial cooperation and the ways in which Canadian democracy and its agents might work toward a better union. **6**

HOW SECURE IS YOUR PASSWORD? NEW YORK CITY

At the Loews Regency Hotel on May 16, **Jeremy Clark**, assistant professor at Concordia's Institute for Information Systems Engineering, cautioned New York City alumni and friends on the risks of a weak password. As Clark explained, it can be more dangerous to your computer's security to lose your iTunes password than to accidentally reveal your online banking information — since people often use the same password for most of their online accounts. **7**



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On June 12, Concordia hosted a cocktail reception for its Hong Kong alumni in the Renaissance Harbour View Hotel. **Graham Carr** (centre) was joined by **Dickson Jun Him Tim**, BComm 13, **Phoebe Wu**, BA 16, and **Kenneth Wong**, BComm 79. ¹¹

In Beijing on June 14, Canadian Ambassador to China **John McCallum**, pictured with **Bram Freedman**, spoke to the crowd at the glamorous Beijing Hilton. ¹² Also present were **Peifei Li** and Concordia field school students **Yingyan Lin**, **Sophie Gagnon** and **Saratou Issoufou**. The students were in Beijing as part of an educational and cultural immersion offered by Concordia International. ¹³

And at the cocktail reception at Shanghai's Fairmont Peace Hotel on June 15, guests included **Si He**, BSc 08, and **Yang Bian**, BComm 11. ¹⁴

—Lucas Napier-Macdonald



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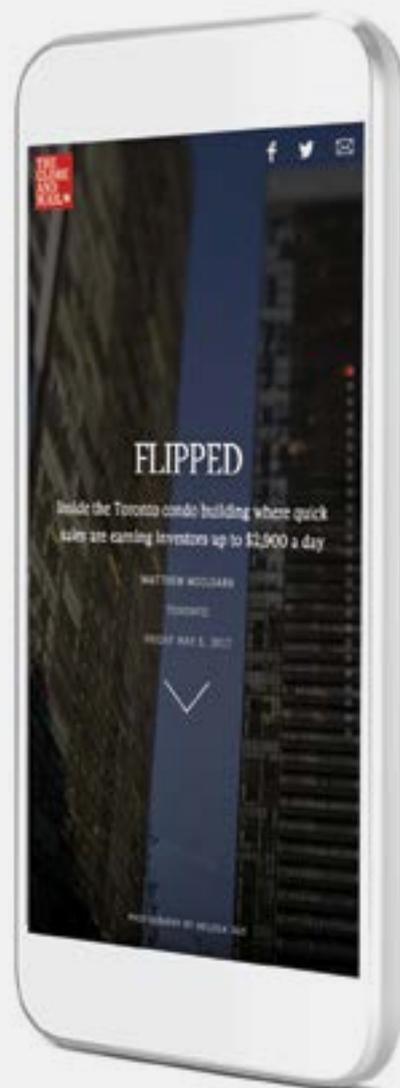
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Alumni with more than one degree from Concordia, Sir George Williams and/or Loyola are listed under their earliest graduation year.

64 Brian Robinson, BA, spent a long career at British Colombian branches of what is now known as the Boys and Girls Club, eventually ending up as executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Vancouver. Brian is now retired and lives in Coquitlam, B.C., and volunteers for community activities.

78 René Balcer, BA (comm. studies), LLD 08, is co-executive producer of the limited TV series *Law &*

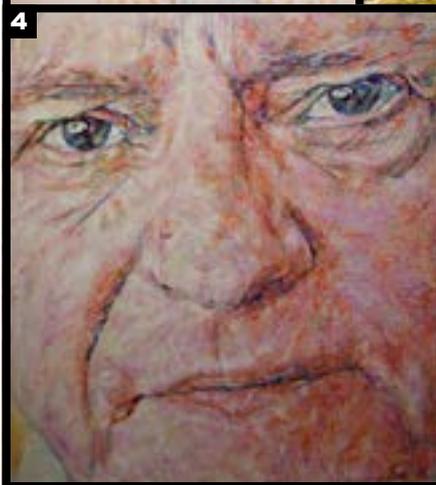
Order True Crime: The Menendez Murders, starring Edie Falco. The eight-episode first season will focus on the infamous case of brothers Lyle and Erik Menendez, who were convicted in 1996 of murdering their wealthy parents seven years

earlier. The series premieres on NBC September 26, 2017.

Antoinette Bozac, BA (hist.), vice president of Governance and Corporate Secretary at Meridian Credit Union in Toronto, was awarded the 2017 R.V.A. Jones

Award from the Canadian Bar Association's Canadian Corporate Counsel Association, recognizing exemplary service in her profession. Antoinette is also currently a member of Concordia's Board of Governors and sits on the boards of various Canadian charitable organizations.

André Desmarais, BComm, LLD 07, was ranked number one, with his brother, Paul, in *Report on Business Magazine's* "The Power 50"



for 2017. André is president and co-chief executive officer at Power Corporation of Canada in Montreal.

79 Mutsumi Takahashi, BA, MBA 95, LLD 13, won the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Radio Television Digital News Association in May 2017. Mutsumi is chief news anchor for CTV Montreal, where she's worked for 30 years, and actively volunteers for local charities.

85 Anna Martini, BComm, GrDip 86, was named chief financial officer of the Montreal Canadiens and the Groupe CH in June 2017. Anna was previously head of Groupe Dynamite, an international fashion company based in Montreal.

30TH REUNION

87 Alfonso Maiorana, BA (comm. studies), is co-director of *Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World*, which won the World Cinema Documentary Special Jury Award for Masterful Storytelling at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, in January 2017. *Rumble* uses concert footage, interviews and

recreations to showcase the significant contributions of Indigenous musicians like Link Wray and Robbie Robertson to 20th-century music.

89 Robert Coallier, MBA, is now chair of the Human Resources and Governance Committee at iA Financial Group in Quebec City, where he has served as a board member since 2008. Robert is also CEO of Agropur coopérative in Longueuil, Que.

90 The Hon. P. Andras Schreck, BA (phil.), was appointed a judge of the Superior Court of Justice in and for the Province of Ontario in Toronto in June. Andras had been a judge of the Ontario Court of Justice.

93 Mary-Jo Barr, BA (journ. & poli. sci.), was named Concordia's spokesperson and director of Public Relations in May 2017. Mary-Jo previously was director of English Services for CBC News in Quebec, and held senior editorial positions at CTV's newsrooms in Montreal and Toronto and with two pharmaceutical multinationals. She replaces **Chris Mota,** BA (Eng. & poli. sci.) 77, who retired in May. Chris recently

won a Concordia Council on Student Life Outstanding Contribution Award.

Brian Sloan, GrDip (sports admin.), was named president of the West Coast League in June 2017. Brian is long-time baseball executive and marketing specialist. The West Coast League is a summer wood-bat league for college-eligible student athletes, based in Bellevue, Wash. He remains director of Business Development with Alexander Global Promotions in Bellevue.

96 Ronald Alepian, BA (poli. sci.), became head of corporate and public affairs and chief communications officer for TD Bank in Toronto in July 2017. Prior to TD, Ronald led the corporate, financial and investor advisory practices for National Public Relations.

98 Régine Chassagne, BA, LLD 16, is a member of the Grammy Award-winning band Arcade Fire and co-founder of KANPE, a non-profit organization that works on relief for Haiti. Régine was awarded the title Compagne des arts et des lettres du Québec at a ceremony at the PHI Centre in Montreal on May 29, 2017.

99 Apostolos Peter Kouroumalis "Toly A.K.," BFA (cinema), won a Best Shorts Competition Award of Recognition for his film, *A fable*, in June 2017. The Best Shorts is a worldwide avant-garde competition in its sixth year. Toly is a Montreal-based filmmaker and artist.

00 Janet Dorozynski, PhD (humanities), has been trade commissioner of Wine, Beer, Spirits, Tourism and Travel at Global Affairs Canada in Ottawa since 2004. Janet ensures that appropriate Canadian wines are served at diplomatic events, thus promoting Canadian goods to international decision-makers and encouraging their export. According to her recent profile in the *National Post*, Canada has nearly doubled the value of its wine exports over the past four years.

15TH REUNION

02 Elie Hanna, EMBA, was named president of Ericsson Mexico, Central America and Caribbean in June. In his new role, based in Mexico City, Elie will be responsible for building on

1 Claudine Ascher, BFA 83, MA 06, curated the art show "L'Art Chez Soi / Art At Home," which ran at Fairview Pointe Claire in Pointe-Claire, Que., from April 8 to 28, 2017. The show featured paintings and sculptures from 16 local artists, including Claudine. 1) *At home*

2 Rochelle Mayer, BComm 83, BFA (studio arts) 10, participated in the "Salon du printemps," the Association des Artistes de LaSalle's juried art show, from April 6 to 22, 2017, at Galerie Les Trois C of the Centre Culturel et Communautaire Henri-Lemieux in LaSalle, Que. 2) *Poudre d'escampette*

3 Mitchell Kotansky, BEng 86, exhibited some of his bronze sculptures at the McCord Museum in Montreal from May 18 to 24, 2017. 3) *Le depart*

4 Hoda Ackad, BComm 81, BFA (studio arts) 01, exhibited her portrait of Gradimir Pankov at Place des Arts in Montreal on May 25, 2017. For 18 years, Pankov was the artistic director of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, and the event honoured his long career. 4) *Gradimir Pankov*

5 Sundus Abdul Hadi, BFA (art hist. & studio arts) 06, GrDip 09, was one of three artists featured in the art show "Generation" at Telfair Museum's Jepson Center in Savannah, Ga., from May 26 to September 10, 2017. The show challenged prevailing narratives about the Middle East, diaspora communities and women in the Arab world. 5) Pages from *Souls Land Closing*

6 Patricia Belmar, BFA (studio arts) 14, had a painting featured in the "Annual Juried Arts Show and Sale" of the Women's Art Society, held at Concordia's Grey Nuns Residence from May 12 to 14, 2017. The show's theme was "Celebration." 6) *Sunset Mood*

7 Ann Kruzelecky, BFA (painting & drawing) 14, donated an original work she painted to a fundraiser benefitting NOVA West Island, an organization in Beaconsfield, Que., that provides in-home care for chronically ill children and the elderly. Her painting and those of her co-participants were raffled off following an exhibition held from April 21 to 23, 2017, at Fritz Farm in Baie-D'Urfé, Que. The event was organized by the Lakeshore Association of Artists and raised enough money to provide patients with 173 hours of free nursing care at home. 7) *Spring Trillium #9*

Catherine Sidorenko, 1 BA 72, was among the first 10 inductees into the new Hall of Distinction of John Abbott College in Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Que. The induction ceremonies took place May 26, 2017. From 1974 to 2009 Catherine held several positions at John Abbott, including dean of Social Science and Related Technologies. She and her husband, Alex Sidorenko, BA 72, are now retired and live in Wentworth-Nord, Que.



1

Radu Zmeureanu, PhD (building studies) 87, BA (psych.) 01, and **Muthukumaran Packirisamy, 2** PhD (mech. eng.) 00, were named fellows of the Canadian Academy of Engineering in June. The academy elects its members to honorary fellowships based on their distinguished achievements and career-long service to the engineering profession. Radu, professor in Concordia's Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering, is considered an authority in the energy analysis of buildings. Muthukumaran, professor in Concordia's Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering, is being recognized for his pioneering work in nanobiotechnology.



2

Order of Canada

On June 30, 2017, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, announced 99 new appointments to the Order of Canada, which represents one of the highest civilian honours in the country.

Marguerite Mendell, 3 BA 72, was appointed a member. Marguerite is an economist and long-time Concordia professor, as well as co-founder and director of the Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy. Since joining the university in 1984 as a postdoctoral fellow, she has been a significant contributor to Concordia's School of Community and Public Affairs.



3



4

Peter McAuslan, 4 BA 72, was named a member for "his pioneering contributions to the development of Canada's craft brewing industry and for his support of arts, heritage and culture initiatives in Montreal." Peter co-founded McAuslan Brewing, known for its award-winning St-Ambroise and Griffon brands, in 1988. He has also lent his support to a number of non-profit organizations and cultural events around the city.

Ashok K. Vijh, LLD 88, was named a Chevalier of the order. Ashok's discoveries in electrochemistry and energy conservation have had applications in cancer treatment and batteries. He is a member of the Order of Canada and the Royal Society of Canada.

Mary Anne Eberts, LLD 93, was appointed an officer for her work as an advocate and litigator. The Toronto-based constitutional lawyer is a strong proponent of civil liberties and human rights. She is a former faculty member of the University of Toronto Faculty of Law.

Alanis Obomsawin, LLD 93, was awarded the title of Commandeure, the order's highest distinction. A prolific film writer and director, Alanis has worked with the National Film Board of Canada since 1967 documenting the struggles, victories, history and culture of Indigenous Canadians.

Michèle Stanton-Jean, LLD 95, was appointed an officer "for her contributions to the advancement of women's history and for her international leadership in the field of medical bioethics."

The ceremony also formally inducted members of the former Académie des Grands Montréalais who had not attended the transition ceremony last year. They include two Concordians, who now hold the rank of Commandeur in the Ordre de Montréal:

Ordre de Montréal

The Ordre de Montréal recognizes Montrealers with great achievements in the cultural, economic or social realms. The order took over from L'Académie des Grands Montréalais last year, as part of the city's 375-year anniversary celebrations. The induction ceremony took place on May 17, 2017, at Montreal's City Hall.

Paul Gérin-Lajoie, LLD 66, was honoured for being Quebec's first Minister of Education and his subsequent philanthropic work.

Aldo D. Bensadoun, LLD 12, was recognized for founding the ALDO Group of companies, which has nearly 3,000 retail stores across 60 countries.



STEPHANIE POIRIER

When the 2017 Daffodil Ball, which benefits the Canadian Cancer Society, needed entertainment appropriate to their theme IMAGINE: The Beatles and Beyond, they could do no better than REPLAY. The Beatles tribute band is led by **John Oriettas**, BFA 81, pictured above left, who portrays Paul in the band. The ball, held at Montreal's Windsor Station on April 20 and attended by celebrities and other leaders, attracted the attention of the local press and *The Globe and Mail*.

Ericsson's business to support new and existing customers. He has held various international executive positions for Ericsson over the past 10 years.

03 Stine Linden-Andersen, BA (psych.), GrCert (clinical psych.) 05, PhD (psych.) 13, became dean of Student Affairs at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, Que., in July. Stine joined Bishop's in 2013 as a sessional lecturer in the Department of Psychology and was hired into a tenure-stream position the following year.

04 Eric Corneau, BA (poli. sci. & comm. public affairs & policy studies), is the new regional dean for the South Okanagan-Similkameen, for Okanagan College in Kelowna, B.C. Eric previously was vice president at Nunavut Arctic College in Iqaluit. He holds an MA in public administration and a graduate certificate in public management and governance from the University of Ottawa.

Lili Fortin, BComm (int'l. bus.), was named president of Tristan Canada in June. Lili was previously director of Business Development of the Montreal-based retail clothing chain, which has 42 stores.

David Mollet, BFA (film prod.), received the Marcel-Tassé Prize (Damage Insurance category) from the *Chambre de l'assurance de dommages* in March 2017. The award recognizes excellence among specialists in the damage insurance field and carries great prestige for new professionals. David works at Assurart, a Montreal-based firm that provides insurance to the arts industry.

Jeffrey Scholten, BA (soc.), was inducted into the New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame in May 2017. The honour recognizes Jeffrey's achievements in speed skating, which include setting two world records over his career. Jeffrey was inducted into the Speed Skating Canada Hall of Fame in 2000.



TOM DOWD

Quebec bishops, including **Tom Dowd**, BComm 92, pictured above right, was among the Quebec bishops who enjoyed a three-hour meeting with **Pope Francis**, left, in Rome, Italy, on May 4, 2017. Bishop Dowd was featured in the fall 2013 issue of *Concordia University Magazine*, where he talked about his duties as the episcopal vicar to Montreal's 200,000 English-speaking Catholics.

05 Harley Finkelstein, BA, COO at Shopify, was named one of Canada's 2017 "Top 40 Under 40" by *Chief Investment Officer* magazine in June 2017. The Ottawa-based e-commerce company Shopify develops computer software for online stores and retail point-of-sale systems. Harley has been with Shopify since 2010.

Sudhir Jha, MEng, received the 2017 Northwest Territories Outstanding Volunteer Award in the Individual Category. The Government of the Northwest Territories grants the award to those who have improved the quality of life of

its inhabitants. Sudhir works in the territorial government at the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, where he manages the financing of public infrastructure projects. He also was named 2017 Young Alumnus of the Year by the Concordia University Alumni Association.

06 Adir Glick, BA (cr. writing), GrDip (journ.) 07, was named in July to the sixth annual "Double Chai in the Chi: 36 Under 36" list of young Jewish movers and shakers in Chicago, Ill. The list is presented by the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago's



Concordia Chancellor **Jonathan Wener**, BComm '71, is the recipient of the 2017 Samuel Bronfman Medal from Federation CJA. Wener, chairman and CEO of Montreal-based property development firm Canderel, is a highly regarded Canadian business leader and philanthropist. The Samuel Bronfman Medal is the most prestigious award granted annually by Federation CJA, recognizing extraordinary service and leadership in the Jewish community.

Concordia's Centre for Continuing Education workshops with Cinema Politica

In fall 2017, the Centre for Continuing Education will offer a series of workshops in association with Cinema Politica, a Montreal-based non-profit network of community and campus locals that screen independent political film and video. The workshops, led by Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema assistant professor Ezra Winton, will complement the screenings of Cinema Politica's regular programming.

Workshops will be held Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Sir George Williams Campus; screenings are scheduled Monday evenings in the Sir George Williams Alumni Auditorium, Henry F. Hall Building, 1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Montreal.

- Film as Education: Sept. 23 - Oct. 21, 2017**
- Film as Community: Oct. 28 - Nov. 25, 2017**
- Film as Campaign: Jan. 20 - Feb. 17, 2018**
- Film as Network: Feb. 24 - Mar. 24, 2018**

Cost: \$325 per workshop; early-bird registration (deadline dates vary per workshop): **\$292.50**

To register or for more information, visit concordia.ca/cce/courses and search for the workshop by name.

Young Leadership Division and Oy!Chicago. Adir is rabbi of West Suburban Temple Har Zion in River Forest, Ill.

Ivan Soltero, MBA, earned his Accreditation in Public Relations (APR) in December 2016. The APR certification indicates a high standard in professionalism and ethics in the field of public relations. Already a 16-year veteran, Ivan is currently director of Strategic Marketing at Conwed Plastics in Minneapolis, Minn.

Dana Michel, BFA (contemp. dance), won the Silver Lion for Innovation in Dance at the Biennale Danza 2017 in Venice, Italy, in June.

10TH REUNION

07 Jeremy Loveday, BA (poli. sci.), is a councillor for the City of Victoria. Jeremy was chosen to participate in the 2017 Vanguards conference, held at Concordia from May 31 to June 3. The conference was organized by Next City, a non-profit organization that works for urban improvement across North America.

10 Christophe Truong, BComm (fin.) '10, was named by *Chief Investment Officer* magazine as one of the "Top 40 Under Forty" investment managers from around the world. Christophe is a pension plan investment manager at Air Canada in Montreal.

11 Ben Rogers, BA (western soc. & cult.), who practises criminal defense and regulatory law, was chosen to clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada for Justice Michael Moldaver

in 2018. He has previously clerked for judges at the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

5TH REUNION

12 Nadia Naffi, MA (ed. tech.), was among the five finalists in the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's Storytellers Contest in May 2017. The contest encourages researchers to present their work in an accessible way in three minutes or 300 words. Nadia is a doctoral candidate in Concordia's Educational Technology Program.

Hugo Pilon-Larose, BA (journ.), won a National Newspaper Award in the Short Feature category for his story in *La Presse* on sexual abuse allegations against the late film director Claude Jutra. Hugo's story contributed to a re-evaluation of Jutra's legacy across several Quebec institutions.

13 Lex Gill, BA (poli. sci. & comm. public affairs & policy studies), GrDip (comm. econ. dev.) '15, was chosen to clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada for Justice Richard Wagner in 2018. Lex is a law student at McGill University and a legal researcher at the Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

Christine Harries, BEng (building eng.), MA (building eng.) '17, recently received the Hommage *Émergence* award given to an Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec member younger than 35. Christine is a building structural engineer at SNC-Lavalin in Montreal. ■

Max Goldman, BA 49, Feb. 24, 2017, Montreal. He was 92.

Gordon James Odell, BComm 49, Feb. 28, 2017, Toronto. He was 96.

Colin McKinnon, BSc 52, Jan. 28, 2017, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Que. He was 94.

Herbert William Haberl, BComm 53, Jan. 25, 2017, Vancouver. He was 88.

John R. Simpson, BComm 54, Feb. 10, 2017, Bowie, Md. He was 85.

Geralde Bazinet, BA 55, March 20, 2017, Montreal. He was 83.

John Michael Wade, BComm 55, June 22, 2015, West Vancouver, B.C. He was 80.

Joseph Drazin, BComm 56, Jan. 27, 2017, Montreal.

John Olizar, BSc 56, Dec. 28, 2016, Côte-Saint-Luc, Que. He was 81.

George P. Staples, BA 57, Jan. 27, 2017, Columbia, S.C. He was 86.

Miriam Braunstein, BA 58, Jan. 24, 2017, Hollywood, Fla. She was 79.

Paul D'Allmen, BA 58, Jan. 13, 2017, Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts, Que.

Lawrence Glazer, BA 59, Jan. 11, 2017, Montreal. He was 81.

Alexis S. Troubetzkoy, BA 59, Jan. 22, 2017, Toronto. He was 82.

William Zaslowsky, BA 59, Feb. 15, 2017, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Que. He was 86.

Robert Douglas Melville, BEng 60, Jan. 25, 2017, Perth, Ont. He was 80.

Anne Elisabeth Dalgaard, BA 61, GrDip 78, Jan. 11, 2017, Pointe Claire, Que. She was 81.

Amelia Ayre, BA 63, Dec. 12, 2016, B.C. She was 97.

Brian Fisher, BSc 63, March 4, 2017, Bedford, N.S. He was 75.

Joan Elizabeth Dunlop, BA 64, Jan. 9, 2017, Oakville, Ont. She was 85.

Origène Pat Roy, Cert 64, Nov. 27, 2016, Pointe-Claire, Que. He was 74.

Russell B. Murray, BComm 65, Feb. 4, 2017, Montreal. He was 75.

Norman D. Hawkins, BComm 66, Feb. 22, 2017, Montreal. He was 71.

Maurice J. Daoust, BComm 67, Jan. 28, 2016, Montreal. He was 79.

Walter Bruce Galt, BSc 67, Oct. 22, 2016, Denver, Colo. He was 72.

Roman Johann Jarymowycz, BA 67, Jan. 19, 2017, Beaconsfield, Que. He was 72.

Harold Rupert Bradford, BSc 68, Feb. 28, 2017, Cowansville, Que. He was 88.

Harry Cling, BA 68, Jan. 30, 2017, Montreal.

Max Haberkorn, BA 68, Feb. 22, 2017, Montreal.

Eytan Glouberman, BA 70, Feb. 2, 2017, Montreal.

Sophie Stachrowski, BA 70, GrDip 78, Jan. 17, 2017, Montreal. She was 72.

Salvatore A. Monaco, BComm 71, Oct. 31, 2016, Montreal. He was 67.

Millicent Joyce Murphy, BA 72, GrDip 83, Jan. 27, 2017, Victoria. She was 85.

Joyce Yudkovitch, BA 72, Dec. 10, 2016, Montreal.

Sarah Morris, BA 73, Cert 83, Jan. 18, 2017, Montreal. She was 98.

Arcangelo Canci, BA 74, Feb. 10, 2017, Montreal. He was 72.

Robert Hindle, BComm 74, Jan. 9, 2017, Saint-Lambert, Que.

Ilene Sheiner-Stattnr, BA 74, May 20, 2016, Montreal.

Christina Pratt-Humphrey, BA 75, July 25, 2016, Cowansville, Que. She was 69.

William Raymond Osterman, BA 78, March 4, 2017, Ottawa. He was 91.

Verna Vowles, BFA 78, July 25, 2016, Kingston, Ont. She was 98.

Dolores Sandra Kumps, BA 80, Jan. 28, 2017, Montreal. She was 71.

Royston R. S. Seaman, BA 80, Feb. 23, 2017, Ajijic, Mexico. He was 80.

Keturah Shoucair, BA 80, Jan. 26, 2017, Brossard, Que. She was 91.

Eileen Taylor, BA 80, Jan. 3, 2017, Châteauguay, Que. She was 84.

Doris Sanders, BA 85, Feb. 12, 2017, Montreal. She was 95.

Myrna Brooks Bercovitch, BFA 87, Jan. 15, 2017, Montreal. She was 74.

Seta Anoush Soukiassian, BA 87, Jan. 28, 2017, Montreal. She was 52.

Craig Lagendyk, BA 88, Jan. 13, 2017, Kirkland, Que. He was 55.

Éric Bitar, BA 89, March 1, 2017, Mont-Royal, Que. He was 50.

Janet Doutre, BA 89, MA 03, Feb. 20, 2017, Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Que. She was 64.

Marguerite Joyce King Sargeant, BFA 89, Feb. 3, 2017, Westmount, Que. She was 88.

Zofia Dunin-Borkowski, BA 90, March 3, 2017, Kingston, Ont. She was 51.

Marie-France Power, Cert 90, Jan. 14, 2017, Saint-Lambert, Que. She was 69.

Jo-Anna Downey, BA 91, Dec. 1, 2016, Toronto. She was 49.

Lorraine Olynyk, BA 93, Jan. 28, 2017, Lachine, Que. She was 70.

Susan Nicoriuk, BA 97, MA 04, Jan. 31, 2017, Montreal. She was 66.

Gordon John Burnett, BA 98, Jan. 7, 2017, Montreal. He was 87.

Audrey Erenyi, BA 00, March 5, 2017, Montreal. She was 40.

Lawrence Capelovitch, MA 12, Jan. 4, 2017, Montreal. He was 85.

Matthew Schreindorfer, BEng 12, Feb. 27, 2017, Laval, Que. He was 27.

Correction: Concordia University Magazine included **R. Glenn Bullett**, BA 88, in the spring 2017's In memoriam section. We're glad to report that Mr. Bullett is doing well. *Concordia University Magazine* regrets the error.

Rock radio, Golems and fugitives

MATTHEW SCRIBNER

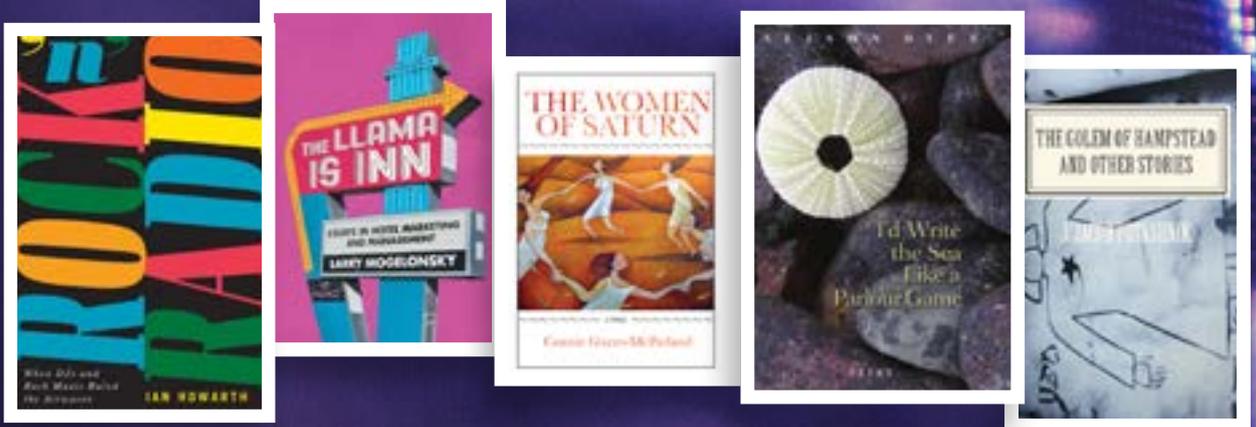
Though he later became a freelance journalist, **Ian Howarth**, BA (soc.) 72, got his first brush with working in media when he hosted a show on Radio Loyola at Loyola College, one of Concordia's founding institutions. His

high-profile clients across the hospitality industry. His experiences gave him material for his series of essay collections. The fourth, ***The Llama is Inn*** (AuthorHouse, \$37.95), advises hoteliers on how to stay flexible in a trade continually influenced by new technologies. The

book is a direct sequel to Guzzo-McParland's debut, *The Girls of Piazza d'Amore* (2013), which the Quebec Writers' Federation shortlisted for their First Book Prize — an award sponsored by Concordia. Guzzo-McParland lives in Montreal.

Memorial University and lives in St. John's.

After earning a name for himself in film and working with the likes of Denys Arcand, **Jacob Potashnik**, BA (comm. studies) 82, has published his first book of short stories. Potashnik wrote the tales in ***The Golem of Hampstead and Other***



passion for radio continued throughout his life and led to the publication of his first book, ***Rock 'n' Radio: When DJs and Rock Music Ruled the Airwaves*** (Véhicule Press, \$19.95), a history of Montreal's important role in Canadian rock radio, based on interviews with radio personalities known from the 1960s to 1980s.

The hotel business has changed enormously over the past decade, yet **Larry Mogelonsky**, BEng (civil) 75, has kept up with it all. Mogelonsky is the founder of LMA Communications, a marketing company with

Toronto-based Mogenlonsky has won more than 75 awards from Hotel Sales and Marketing Association International and holds an MBA from McMaster University.

Family can be complicated, especially when a family is spread out over multiple generations and continents. That is one takeaway from ***The Women of Saturn*** (Inanna Publications, \$22.95), the new novel by **Connie Guzzo-McParland**, BA (Eng.) 76, MA (Eng.) 07. The novel is set in 1980s Montreal, although its scope extends back to the 1950s

Physical geography might not seem like a field of study that would lead to poetry, yet the poems in the first collection by **Alison Dyer**, BA (geog.) 81, are packed with a sense of place. ***I'd Write the Sea Like a Parlour Game*** (Killick Press, \$14.95) explores the lands and seas of Newfoundland, and the people and animals who live there, through both fine detail and grand themes. Dyer, a two-time winner of Newfoundland Arts and Letters Award, has previously published poems and stories in various journals. She holds an MSc from

Stories (Penny-a-Page Press, \$20) over the past 30 years, so it is no surprise that the collection seems to have a life of its own. Montreal, too, comes alive as the stories convey the vibrant cultures of those who live here. Potashnik himself still lives in town in his childhood home.

With Canada celebrating its 150th anniversary, many Canadians are thinking about what it means to be Canadian. **Keith Henderson**, MA (Eng.) 86, is certainly no exception. From 1993 to 2003 he led the now-defunct Equality

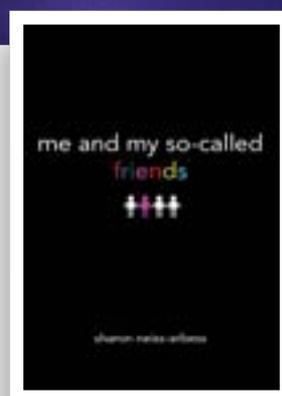
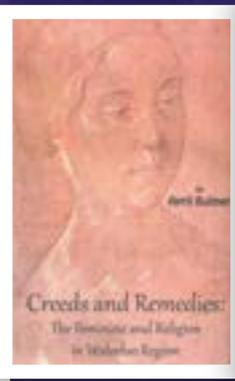
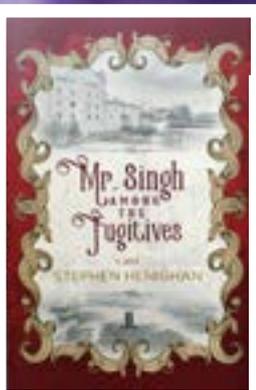
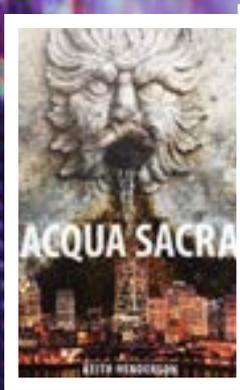
Party, a Quebec provincial political that represented anglophones. His career as a writer has likewise given him opportunity to reflect on Canadian national identity. Identity inevitably comes up in his latest novel, **Acqua Sacra** (DC Books, \$21.95), a story of a woman who is torn between

rises above favouritism and political patronage. Yet what if it's all a cover for petty feuds and jealousies? That is the uncomfortable question raised by **Stephen Henighan**, MA (Eng.) 86, in his latest novel, **Mr. Singh Among the Fugitives** (Linda Leith Publishing, \$18.95). Mr. Singh comes to Canada

of insurance adjuster Paula Savard, who investigates a suspicious house fire. Calder's previous Paula Savard novel was greeted with positive reviews when it was published in 2011. Calder, who has also published several short stories, teaches at the Alexandra Writers' Centre Society in Calgary.

verse — all express a hope for divine transcendence.

For teenagers, falling out with friends can seem like the end of the world. It is hard for them to understand that most high school drama will fade away. That is one message **Sharon Neiss-Arbess**, BA (comm. studies) 93, wants to impart to young



her floundering life in Montreal and her mother's demand to rehabilitate the family home in Italy. An earlier novel, newly relevant in light of Canada's sesquicentennial, explores the Fenian raids in the lead up to Confederation. *The Roof Walkers* (DC Books, \$21.95) takes the form of official reports from a young Irish-Canadian spy operating in the 1860s. Henderson lives in Montreal, where he taught English for many years.

Canadians like to think of themselves as tolerant people, engaged in an egalitarian project that

from India seeking a relaxing life of letters, only to find that even a multicultural society demands a price from newcomers. Henighan has written more than a dozen books and teaches at the University of Guelph.

Montreal may be famous for summer festivals, but Calgarians can boast of the Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth: The Calgary Stampede. The Stampede forms the backdrop of *Ten Days in Summer* (Books We Love, \$15.95), the second mystery novel by **Susan Calder**, BA (urban studies) 88. The book continues the story

Religious experience can be difficult to put into words. Perhaps it is appropriate, then, that **Creeds and Remedies: The Feminine and Religion in Waterloo Region** (Serengeti Press, \$20) defies categorization. This book, the latest by **April Bulmer**, MA (Eng.) 90, relates the spiritual beliefs and practices of Waterloo women through poetry, short stories and direct transcriptions of interviews. Though these real-life women confided many different religious views and experiences to Bulmer — who shares her own religious thoughts in

readers in her first novel, **Me and My So-Called Friends** (Ahava Chai, \$9.99). The book has more to offer than lessons, however: it has humour, fun characters and an easygoing style. Neiss-Arbess lives in Toronto. ■

—Matthew Scribner is a writer and English teacher.

Well prepared for life on the Hill

SHERRY ROMANADO, EMBA 11

Sherry Romanado, EMBA 11, is Member of Parliament for Longueuil—Charles-LeMoynes, Que., on Montreal's South Shore, and is Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence.

still become overwhelmed when I look up at the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill, despite being elected nearly two years ago, on October 19, 2015. Who would have thought that one day I would be a Member of Parliament representing my home town? Then again, who would have thought that I would successfully complete my MBA degree despite not having an undergraduate degree?

I decided to pursue my MBA in 2009. After researching various programs, I felt that the EMBA offered at Concordia's John Molson School of Business was the best fit for me; its schedule would allow me to continue to work full-time and, as a non-traditional student, I found the support offered by the program reassuring.

I wasn't wrong. Once I was accepted into the program, I quickly learned that not only would I obtain the competencies in strategic planning, finance, human resources and operations management, among other areas, but, importantly, also learn to master time management. If I were to succeed, I would need to do my required readings during every moment of downtime



SHERRY ROMANADO'S OFFICIAL SWEARING-IN AS PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE IN OTTAWA IN JANUARY 2017.

COURTESY OF SHERRY ROMANADO

— my daily commute to work became my reading time — and to become hyper-organized. I proudly crossed that convocation stage and earned the coveted MBA in 2011.

I've been involved in politics since 1998 and, in fact, was class co-president during my MBA. In late 2013, I decided to take the leap and run for public office. I was named the official candidate in the Longueuil—Charles-LeMoynes riding for Team Trudeau in May 2014 and went on to win the election in October 2015.

Once elected, those same competencies I learned in my MBA were a huge asset: setting up offices in the constituency and on Parliament Hill, hiring staff, managing a budget and, of course, managing incredibly demanding schedules in Ottawa and in the riding.

My first year in office was a whirlwind. I had the opportunity to serve on two standing committees of the House of Commons — Veterans Affairs and National Defence — as well as on the Special Committee on Electoral Reform.

While most MPs sit on one or two

committees, there I was on three — again, the time management and hyper-organization skillsets kicked into high gear and I was often asked how I was able to juggle everything at once.

Then came the surprising phone call from our Prime Minister in late January 2017 telling me my hard work on the Hill hadn't gone unnoticed: I was asked to take on the role of Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veterans Affairs and the Associate Minister of National Defence.

I still get a lump in my throat when I think about it — my two sons are currently serving in the Canadian Armed Forces and so the ability to help change public policy to support our brave women and men in uniform and those who have served our country is the reason I decided to run for office.

As I type this from my riding office, I'm staring at my framed MBA diploma proudly displayed on my wall. I have a similar reminder of my time at Concordia in my Parliament Hill Office: a class photo with the other 24 EMBA students. I'm still in touch with many of my MBA classmates and consider them friends for life.

If I ever wondered whether pursuing my MBA at Concordia had prepared me for life on the Hill — I don't have to wonder any longer. It absolutely did. ■

“Who would have thought that one day I would be a Member of Parliament representing my home town?”



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