NROVATE PRESIDENTE PRE

EARN

SCOVER

ENGAGE



his report comes at a time when the status quo has radically changed. With the upheaval of life as we knew it, we at Concordia are adapting and responding in unprecedented ways. We are rethinking the greater role universities play and how we can best prepare students for entering an uncertain world beyond the classroom. As the crisis evolves, it is more important than ever to exemplify how a next-generation university is bold, resilient and creative in meeting the challenges facing our sector and society.

The theme of this first *President's Report* of my mandate is: learn, discover, engage, innovate. In this disruptive moment for higher education, we strive continuously to think differently about the role of universities in service to society. Our strength as the top-ranked young university in Canada, our commitment to next-generation learning and research, and our desire to be leaders setting the benchmark for civic engagement shine through clearly in the pages ahead.

Increasingly, we're positioning Concordia as *the* place where exciting research happens. We are becoming a destination of choice for highly talented individuals working in breakthrough fields. Whether it's developing new techniques to arrest the progression of cancer, aligning cybersecurity with the social implications of AI, helping cities adapt to the effects of climate change or incubating entrepreneurship and design thinking, Concordia is where discoveries flourish. Now, more than ever, the world needs Concordia.

I want to thank our alumni and the wider community of supporters who are ambassadors for Concordia. They celebrate our important contributions and recognize the positive difference Concordia makes in the lives of our students.

GRAHAM CARR PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

from the president



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ALIGNING TEACHING AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE GRAND CHALLENGES FACING SOCIETY

AS A NEXT-GENERATION UNIVERSITY, CONCORDIA SETS ITS SIGHTS FURTHER AND MORE BROADLY THAN OTHERS. WE ALIGN THE QUALITY OF RESEARCH AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES WITH LARGER TRENDS AND SUBSTANTIAL CHALLENGES FACING SOCIETY. WE PURSUE TECHNOLOGY WITHOUT LOSING SIGHT OF OUR HUMANITY. WE FIND INSPIRATION THROUGH NARRATIVE AND DIALOGUE.

WE DIG DEEPER FOR THE NEXT CHALLENGE.

LEARNING

Next-gen teaching is about disrupting the traditional classroom providing opportunities that are open, flexible, experiential and lifelong. Innovative teaching includes face-to-face interaction, blended learning, flipped classrooms, eLearning and extended experiential opportunities for students in local and international settings.

DISCOVERY

Concordia researchers have an impact on our society's future through solutions-oriented inquiries and discoveries across disciplines in formal and informal research endeavours. Our commitment to discovery extends beyond the campus to include collaborations with external partners equally focused on delivering change.

ENGAGEMENT

Concordians directly connect to the greater community by sharing knowledge and bringing our understanding, expertise and commitment to public engagement. Our role of anchor institution in the community speaks to innovation and inclusivity.

INNOVATION

Concordia uses a design mindset to rethink current practices, engage in experimentation and develop bold ideas that positively affect society.

SPACES

Next-gen campus buildings and spaces offer open concepts in a collaborative atmosphere.



Enhancing the teacher/ student experience

HIGHLIGHTS

\$10 million to develop tools and strategies for zero-carbon communities

Ursula Eicker, a global leader in green urban energy systems, began as the Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Smart, Sustainable and Resilient Communities and Cities at Concordia. Eicker brings more than two decades of innovative research and industry experience to the position — which comes with \$10 million in funding spread over seven years.

The funds allow Eicker to develop and lead an ambitious research program to establish pathways toward new tools, technologies and strategies for zero-carbon municipalities.

Launched in 2008, the prestigious CERC program supports Canadian universities' efforts to build on the country's growing reputation as a global leader in research and innovation.



Jurist-in-residence partners with Court of Quebec

Since fall 2017, Concordia's jurist-in-residence Morton Minc has been acting as a bridge between the university and the field of law in Quebec through mentorship and event programming.

Beginning in 2019, he took that role one step further. In collaboration with the Faculty of Arts and Science, Minc is partnering with the Court of Quebec on a three-year pilot project. The court will host up to eight students from the Law and Society minor in the Department of History.

City of Montreal awards close to \$500,000 for Concordia-led projects

Concordia Continuing Education and the District 3 Innovation Center were among the five recipients to receive a combined \$494,100 from the City of Montreal to help local companies recruit, integrate and develop talented employees, as well as acquire skills for the future.

Artist Nadia Myre named member of Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec

"Nadia Myre has shifted the way contemporary art in Quebec is seen, is made and is experienced," says Rebecca Duclos, dean of Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts.

In recognition of that influence, Myre, MFA 02, was named a Compagne de l'Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec. The assistant professor of studio arts is a member of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg Algonquin First Nation and a major figure in Québécois, Canadian and Indigenous contemporary art. Her multidisciplinary work addresses themes of identity, language, resilience, memory and desire.



Students tackle urban challenges through CityStudio Montreal

As rapid urbanization and new technologies transform cities, experts are faced with the serious challenge of equipping citizens for a largely unknown future.

To bridge a connection between researchers, students and city officials, Concordia, Maison de l'innovation sociale and Espaces temps founded CityStudio Montreal. The new platform brings together municipal officials, community members, faculty and students to design projects that make the city a better place to live, work and learn.



Teaching machines to improve their own software security

From flying a plane to paying taxes to simply turning on a computer in the morning, there are very few activities that don't involve software in some way. Yet poor software code can damage computer systems or, worse, expose users to data breaches from malicious actors.

Using data from various software systems, Yann-Gaël Guéhéneuc, professor in the Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering at the Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science, is teaching machine learning algorithms to develop their own rules for software quality — what's acceptable and what might represent a security risk to the user.

Students go behind the scenes with Montreal Impact executives

As part of Summer@Concordia, student members of the John Molson Sports Marketing Committee met face-to-face with some major league sports executives.

In June, the group sat down with Montreal Impact president Kevin Gilmore at Saputo Stadium to discuss professional sports event management, tour the facilities and take in the Impact's game against the Seattle Sounders FC, courtesy of the Mirella and Lino Saputo Foundation.





Jason Edward Lewis wants ethical AI with Indigenous worldview

Two years ago, Jason Edward Lewis, Concordia University Research Chair in Computational Media and the Indigenous Future Imaginary, read a sentence in an unpublished book by his doctoral student, Suzanne Kite, which discussed algorithmic bias and artificial intelligence (AI).

Afterwards, Lewis co-founded the Indigenous Epistemology and AI Working Group, an international hub of Indigenous scholars whose goal is to define an ethical relationship to AI informed by Indigenous knowledge and philosophies.

Lewis received grants worth \$130,000 from the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to explore AI theory and practice through a series of workshops. Kite's initial sentence turned into a \$10,000 prize-winning essay.

Concordia's CEO shadowing program takes off

"Not many people consider business ownership because they don't know what it means, what it takes or how hard it is to do," says Bill Meder, BComm 65, director of the Bob and Raye Briscoe Centre in Business Ownership Studies in the John Molson School of Business (JMSB).

In 2019, in partnership with Concordia's Institute for Co-operative Education, the centre introduced the CEO shadowing program for John Molson MBA students after a successful pilot run, which matched students with chief executives of four companies of varying sizes and industries.

Co-op student encounters Elon Musk

Concordia's Institute for Co-operative Education offers students in the university's four faculties more than 3,000 job postings on an annual basis.

One Co-op student, computer engineering student Samrat Debroy completed internships at CAE Healthcare, Autodesk and Tesla Motors in Palo Alto, Calif. He was able to talk to the co-founder and CEO of Tesla. "I met Elon Musk — how many people can say that?" Debroy says. "And it's all thanks to Co-op."

HIGHLIGHTS

More than \$1 million for interdisciplinary explorations on aging

Members of Concordia's engAGE: Centre for Research on Aging will be able to advance their work thanks to more than \$1 million from the Fonds de recherche du Québec. The funds will go toward studies on sleep, memory and creative community engagement.

Engineering research team receives \$5 million to re-evaluate oil-spill responses

Fisheries and Oceans Canada awarded over \$5 million to Chunjiang An, assistant professor at the Gina Cody School, for two research projects looking to improve oil-spill clean-up processes.

One project will develop ways to decrease environmental risks during an oil-spill clean-up process by accelerating degradation and removal of the pollutant, while the second will help fill the gap between the available surface washing techniques and the increasing application need.

An will collaborate with fellow researchers from the Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering — Ashutosh Bagchi, Zhi Chen, Catherine Mulligan, Samuel Li and Biao Li — as well as academic and industrial partners from Canada, the United States and Norway.



Stress and screen time closely connected 🔻

While humans love using their screens, millions have become mentally and emotionally absorbed by their devices and experience real-life health consequences as a result.

In a paper published in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, Najmeh Khalili-Mahani, a neuroscientist at Concordia's PERFORM Centre, explored how screen use links to stress in humans, particularly in self-confessed screen addicts.

"Those who considered themselves screen-addicted were indeed the ones spending more times on screens," she says. "And those who considered themselves addicted were more likely to have higher scores in all types of stress." The reverse was not found to be the case.





Graduating student's Indigenous video game wins major prize

Maize Longboat's first video game effort, Terra Nova, won the award for Best Emerging Digital or Interactive Work at the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. Developed for Longboat's master's thesis in Media Studies, Terra Nova invites players to experience first contact between settlers and Indigenous people in the future.

Performing groundbreaking research across disciplines

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY 16



Memories strengthened via brainwaves produced during sleep

A study published in the journal *NeuroImage* brings better understanding to how learned information turns into reliable memories during sleep.

For the study, Thanh Dang-Vu, associate professor in the Department of Health, Kinesiology and Applied Physiology and Concordia University Research Chair in Sleep, Neuroimaging and Cognitive Health, and his team used medical imaging to map areas involved in recalling learned information while we slumber.

The researchers compared brainwaves during sleep on nights when the subjects learned new information to nights when they didn't. They found that on learning nights the regions of the brain instrumental in recalling faces were reactivated.



Engineering students build oceancleaning aquatic drone prototype

During their final year, Gina Cody School undergrads apply what they've learned to a practical problem through a Capstone project.

At the 2019 Capstone showcase event, the project by Marouane Elouaraa, Lam Son Vo Ngoc, Zihao Guan, Nikko Badoles and Eric Kwarteng garnered particular interest. The team built an aquatic drone prototype capable of detecting and collecting plastic on the surface of the water.

Can gold ash help slow cancer-cell progression?

Subhathirai Subramaniyan, postdoctoral fellow in mechanical, industrial and aerospace engineering at the Gina Cody School, is looking to "bridge the gap between traditional and modern medicine," by using gold ash.

"Gold ash, or Swarna bhasma as we call it in the Siddha and Ayurveda medical systems, has been used to treat cancer and a number of other chronic ailments since medieval times," says Subramaniyan, a physician of Siddha medicine with a PhD in micro-engineering. "It could offer clues for fine-tuning the properties of the nanoparticle synthesis intended for cancer-targeted drug development and delivery."

CO₂ emissions cause lost labour productivity

Climate change may be making outdoor labour more dangerous, according to a study published in *Scientific Reports* by Yann Chavaillaz, a former Concordia postdoctoral researcher, and Damon Matthews, professor and Concordia Research Chair in Climate Science and Sustainability in the Department of Geography, Planning and Environment.

"The thresholds of heat exposure leading to labour productivity loss are likely to be exceeded sooner and more extensively in developing countries in warmer parts of the world," says Matthews.

Growing up in poverty doubles diagnoses of psychosis-spectrum illnesses

Being raised in impoverished urban neighbourhoods more than doubles the average person's chances of developing a psychosis-spectrum disorder by middle adulthood, according to a study involving nearly 4,000 families monitored over 30 years. Lisa Serbin, Concordia University Research Chair in Human Development, was one of the paper's co-authors.

The study suggests intervention through social policies and investment in neighbourhood improvements could prevent future debilitating illnesses and the societal and personal costs associated with them.

Firms better off revealing environmental practices

According to a paper by Michel Magnan, professor of accountancy at the JMSB, honesty is the best policy when it comes to being green.

In their article for Sustainability Accounting, Management and Policy Journal, Magnan and his co-author found that companies that respected environmental guidelines were more likely to disclose hard information as a way of building trust and earning public goodwill, which pays dividends down the line.



Study shows link between disordered eating and substance use in adolescents

A paper published in the *International Journal of Eating Disorders* shows the link between disordered eating and substance use in about 200 teens who received outpatient treatment.

Linda Booij, associate professor of psychology in the Faculty of Arts and Science, co-authored the paper, which compared teens with eating disorders who used substances to those who did not. "We found that those who use substances are more likely to have bulimia nervosa or anorexia nervosa binge/purge subtype," says Booij.



\$540,000 from NSERC to help cities adapt to climate change

Liangzhu Wang, a Concordia researcher whose work focuses on methods to combat and adapt to climate change, will receive \$540,000 in funding via the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC).

The associate professor in the Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering at the Gina Cody School will use the funds to develop means of assessing summertime overheating risks during heat waves in buildings housing vulnerable populations.

\$100,000 for Indigenous research **V** capacity and reconciliation activities

Two Faculty of Fine Arts professors were awarded \$50,000 each through SSHRC's special Indigenous Research Capacity and Reconciliation Connection Grants competition.

Heather Igloliorte, an art historian and Concordia University Research Chair in Indigenous Art History and Community Engagement, and Nadia Myre, a contemporary artist and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Material Practice, were funded for outreach activities in support of important and holistic contributions to Indigenous knowledge systems.





Creating an added layer of protection for cloud-based technologies

Smartphones. Smart watches. Smart homes. As the scope of fifth-generation technologies expands, so too does the infrastructure to support it. Yet as network applications move from physical to more agile and scalable virtual platforms, new threats and vulnerabilities arise.

The research of Azadeh Tabiban, PhD candidate at the Concordia Institute for Information Systems Engineering, focuses on making virtual environments more transparent and accountable. It especially looks at cybersecurity as it relates to cloud and network function virtualization (NFV) technologies.

"NFV enables software-based network applications for example, firewalls, intrusion detection systems, etc. — to run on virtual machines," Tabiban says.

NATO invests \$422,000 toward a new international cybersecurity team

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has tapped Concordia expertise in order to enhance its cybersecurity measures.

Thanks to \$421,987 from NATO, Khashayar Khorasani, professor in the Gina Cody School and the Concordia University Research Chair in Control of Autonomous Network of Unmanned Systems, and researchers from Qatar University and the University of Melbourne will investigate methods of preventing cyberattacks on sensor-rich and actuator-rich networked systems.

Trudeau Scholars bring Indigenous approach to their research

PhD candidates Suzanne Kite and Diane Roberts apply an Indigenous lens to their respective fields. Kite, a Lakota artist, and Roberts, an Afro-Indigenous dramaturge and director, each received a 2019 Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Doctoral Scholarship, which provides leadership training and up to \$180,000 per scholar.

Kite's work addresses the application of traditional philosophies of the Lakota people in the shaping of new technologies. Roberts addresses questions of race, memory, belonging and identity, with a focus on African and Indigenous ways of knowing.



Bringing insight and expertise to our city, country and world

HIGHLIGHTS

Concordia-led investigation prompts governments to take action against lead

In response to a collaborative investigation from Concordia's Institute for Investigative Journalism, *Le Devoir* and Global News, the governments of Quebec and Montreal announced plans to address high levels of lead in the province's drinking water.

The investigation brought together 24 students and journalists to test homes in five cities across Quebec. Eighty-four residents and their families volunteered to take part in this citizen scientist effort. The investigative team then compared their results to municipal data that it obtained through freedom of information legislation.

The investigation revealed that the province's lead testing method underestimates exposure levels and 300,000 Montrealers could be at risk.

...



Concordia launches Indigenous Directions action plan

Concordia launched its Indigenous Directions action plan — Concordia's Path Towards Decolonizing and Indigenizing the University, drafted and implemented in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's 2015 Calls to Action. The plan signals Concordia's commitment to move the university towards a more equitable and inclusive future in full engagement with Indigenous communities.

"The action plan is envisioned as a guide and tool to enable all Concordians to embrace meaningful reconciliation with confidence," says Concordia President Graham Carr. "With this document, we pledge to take tangible steps to co-construct a hopeful future based on shared responsibility, reciprocity and respect."

Making Toronto friendlier to seniors is a big-city challenge

As the City of Toronto — like many other metropolises — struggles to meet the needs of its senior citizens, Meghan Joy, assistant professor of political science in the Faculty of Arts and Science, questions whether its overall approach needs a rethink.

In a paper published in the *Journal of Aging Studies*, Joy argues that large cities like Toronto should regard older adult populations as residents to be served.

John Molson MBA sits among world's most sustainable

The John Molson MBA, offered by the JMSB, placed 24th in the world in the 2019 *Corporate Knights* Better World MBA Ranking, moving up nine spots from its position in 2018.

The survey assesses MBA programs based on five sustainability-related indicators: number of institutes and centres dedicated to sustainable development; percentage of core courses that integrate sustainable development; faculty research publications and citations on sustainable development themes; faculty gender diversity; and faculty racial diversity.



Music helps women survivors of violence heal and challenge sexism

For an industry that is all too often dominated by men, music can still be a vehicle for women to get themselves heard — and to heal, says Sandi Curtis.

The recently retired Concordia professor of music therapy capped off a long academic and teaching career with the publication of *Music For Women (Survivors of Violence): A Feminist Music Therapy Interactive eBook.* Over the course of 10 chapters, she says, the book "looks at how pop culture in general and pop music specifically have been used to keep women in their place but also how they can be used as subversive voices to challenge the status quo."

Concordia University Foundation aims for 100% sustainable investments by 2025

The Concordia University Foundation has committed to end investments in the coal, oil and gas sectors within five years. Going one step further, it became the first university foundation in Quebec to set a target of 100 per cent sustainable investments by 2025. This move will include doubling its social or environmental impact investment.

Concordia also became the first Canadian university to issue a sustainable bond, which will generate environmental and social benefits as defined by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

StartUP Nations brings Indigenous youth to Concordia

More than 50 Indigenous youth from 10 communities across Quebec came to Concordia in May to learn the tools for succeeding as entrepreneurs in their communities at the second edition of StartUP Nations.

The event aimed to teach Indigenous teens and young adults about social and collective entrepreneurship and support them in becoming economic engines in their own contexts.





Concordia welcomes senior director of Indigenous Directions and director of decolonizing curriculum and pedagogy

Concordian Manon Tremblay, BA 03, returned to her alma mater to advance the Indigenous Directions Action Plan and support Indigenous Directions. The university's new senior director of Indigenous Directions began her five-year appointment in December.

As senior director, Tremblay, a *nêhiyaw iskwêw* (Plains Cree woman), will support ongoing efforts to obtain and maintain funding for research with and by Indigenous peoples.

Anne Whitelaw, Concordia's interim provost and vice-president, academic, thanked Donna Kahérakwas Goodleaf for serving as interim senior director of Indigenous Directions and welcomed her as director of decolonizing curriculum and pedagogy. "I look forward to continue to work with Donna on building a strong curriculum and pedagogy plan for Concordia in her new role," Whitelaw says.

U.lab offers a unique blendedlearning experience

Concordia's u.lab Social Innovation Hub began its fourth year in fall 2019. "We are breaking boundaries with this new approach to education," says facilitator Eva Pomeroy, Concordia's social innovator in residence. Pomeroy is based in the Department of Applied Human Sciences in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

The u.lab's novel immersive-learning approach invites participation from students taking the Leadership, Change and Social Innovation course for credit and from community members. Together they attend the 11-week course both in-person and online.

Concordia launches Canada's first sustainable investing university practicum

The JMSB signed a partnership agreement with Manulife Investment Management that will establish the first sustainable investing practicum at a Canadian university.

The three-credit practicum will enable undergraduate business students to better understand the principles of environmental, social and governance investment in a capital market environment.

In addition to the hands-on learning opportunity the practicum represents, Manulife will sponsor up to 12 scholarships awarded annually to top performing students.



Adopting purposeful experimentation to emerging fields

HIGHLIGHTS

Théo Chauvirey uses mushroom roots to imagine future metro design

The state of the environment continues to make headlines, and the news is usually bleak. It's hard not to get discouraged.

Luckily, some people are channelling that anxiety into positive change — including Concordia master's student Théo Chauvirey, who is using the power of biomaterials as a sustainable approach to metro design.

His means to get there might seem like an unlikely one: fungus. Chauvirey is working with mycelium, which is the white filamentous matter that grows in soil and produces mushrooms.

"It's lightweight, strong, fire retardant and completely compostable," he explains. "My research aims to investigate how to integrate mycelium-based biomaterials in public transport design, as well as how to phase out oil-based fibreglass-reinforced composites."



\$1.8 million to improve cybersecurity with the arrival of 5G technology

By 2024, there will be 4.1 billion cellular Internet of Things connections, according to the June 2019 *Ericsson Mobility Report.* The fifth-generation (5G) telecommunications networks would be a cornerstone to leverage these devices in different industries, from smart cities to smart cars.

In foresight, Concordia has partnered with Ericsson and NSERC to create a new Industry Research Chair in Software-Defined Networking and Network Functions Virtualization Security.

Valued at \$1.8 million over five years, the chair in the Gina Cody School brings together graduate students, professors, industrial researchers and subject matter experts to strengthen cybersecurity for the networks of the future. The chairholder is Lingyu Wang, professor at the Concordia Institute for Information Systems Engineering.

Groundbreaking Genome Foundry places Concordia at synthetic biology forefront

Concordia's pioneering Genome Foundry is delivering significant increases in the speed and scale of synthetic biology research, thanks to its use of robotic instrumentation.

Synthetic biology fuses the design principles of engineering with the tools of biology to create meaningful systems. By automating notoriously labourintensive lab procedures, the Genome Foundry eliminates bottlenecks in the rapidly evolving field.

Engaging Indigenous knowledge in the study of physics

For two science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) researchers and an Indigenous scholar, the study of light provided the nucleus of an unconventional opportunity.

After winning the university's first New Frontiers in Research Fund award, valued at more than \$163,000, Tanja Tajmel, Louellyn White and Ingo Salzmann began collaborating to reimagine approaches to physics education and research. Their project aims to decolonize contemporary physics research and attract Indigenous students.



HIGHLIGHTS

Concordia launches 4TH SPACE, a dynamic public venue for learning and discovery

4TH SPACE, a vibrant lab and immersive venue designed to bring knowledge and ideas to life, officially opened on Concordia's downtown campus in January.

The public space hosted a number of public events in 2019, including Let's Talk About Artificial Intelligence, Protests & Pedagogy, and Contemporary Circus: Research-Creation, Creative Practices and Meaning-Making. It was conceived as a hub where researchers, students and community members can come together to foster diverse, stimulating conversations and translate these into projects that will benefit Montrealers and people all over the world.

4TH SPACE embodies Concordia's commitment to Embrace the City, Embrace the World, one of the university's nine strategic directions. It takes Concordia's reputation as one of Canada's most open and connected universities a big step further. Agile and responsive, it expands the blueprint of what a university can be and represents what knowledge creation and outreach will look like in the future.

Concordia readies its new Science Hub

Concordia moved forward on the expansion of the Richard J. Renaud Science Complex on Loyola Campus. The state-of-the-art \$62-million facility will create rare and interesting opportunities for collaboration.

Built according to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, the onsite research will include aquatic biology, microscopy, cellular imaging, nanoscience, bioprocessing, and chemical and materials engineering. The hub will also host science and engineering teams.

The area surrounding the hub will be landscaped to improve the campus's biomass.



Developing buildings and facilities for maximum physical and environmental adaptability, multidisciplinary collaboration and long-term viability



Concordia is most energy efficient of Quebec's six major universities

Concordia continues to lead the way when it comes to sustainability and green building.

For the 21st year in a row, it was named the most energy efficient of Quebec's six major universities.

Data from the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur showed that from 2016 to 2017, Concordia again had the lowest energy consumption per unit area among the institutions evaluated.

A modern — and modular — approach to temporary classrooms

Concordia prepared to breathe new life into an old parking lot on De Maisonneuve Boulevard West, which will be used for classrooms for hundreds of students and their professors.

The Learning Square will feature modular units tailored to the space but able to move to a new location, on Concordia land or elsewhere, and will serve students and faculty during five years of larger scale work on the Henry F. Hall Building.



#1 in Canada University under 50 years **75% of courses** have fewer than 60 students **#1 in North America** favourite student city

We are a next-generation university, one that reimagines the future of higher education on a continual basis. Located in the vibrant and multicultural city of Montreal, Concordia is among the most innovative universities in its approach to experiential learning, research and online education.

CONCORDIA.CA/ABOUT

NURTURING MONTREAL'S CULTURE OF INNOVATION

The Concordia community contributes to the vitality of our metropolis by performing relevant research, fostering innovation and hosting exciting cultural events.



SUSTAINABILITY From student initiatives and strategic planning to courses and volunteer opportunities, sustainability permeates every level of Concordia's thinking.



ENGAGEMENT

The university puts community engagement at the heart of its mission, vision and purpose by building mutually beneficial relationships and responding to local priorities.



MONTREAL The cosmopolitan hub, which affords residents and visitors an unmatched *joie de vivre*, is officially among the best places in the world to be a student.



HISTORY Concordia helps preserve the city's rich and storied past with archival collections and a heritage site.

#1 in Canada Quality Education toward UN Sustainable Development Goals, THE Impact Rankings

PROMOTING FITNESS AND PREVENTIVE HEALTH

Concordia's PERFORM Centre offers its preventive health programs to the public, who can also cheer on the university's sports teams.

on-campus medical clinics

community programs

fitness classes

50+

Stingers varsity teams & clubs

1 .



DIVERSE AND ENGAGED STUDENT BODY

In Montreal, North America's favourite student city, the critical mass of youthful enthusiasm creates a palpable feeling that anything is possible.

> 51,900 students

9,600+ international students

3,000+ co-op students

150 countries represented

HAVING AN EYE FOR OUR FUTURE

Our strategic directions set out our vision for the future and exemplify our daring and transformative approach to some of the most important issues of our time.



GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY Use rich experiences outside the classroom to deepen learning and effect change.





EXPERIMENT BOLDLY Be inventive and enterprising in creating



GROW SMARTLY Add capacity where our strengths and emerging enrolment demand intersect.



GO BEYOND Push past the status quo and go the extra mile for members of our community.

TAKE PRIDE a legacy.

Celebrate successes and be purposeful about building

24

FACULTY WITH STRONG TIES TO INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY

Whether working with businesses or citizens, the most enriching learning involves hands-on experiences beyond the classroom, ensuring the material is always current and relevant.

2,150+ professors and librarians

119 Research Chairs

\$56 million+

research income

COMMITTED TO DECOLONIZATION AND INDIGENIZATION

Concordia acknowledges that it is situated on unceded Indigenous lands and recognizes the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation as the custodians of the surrounding lands and waters. The university is committed to truth and reconciliation and engaging with ongoing Indigenous issues.

1st First Peoples major in Quebec **1992** Aboriginal centre opens

Indigenous Directions Action Plan

30 Indigenous graduate scholarships

PREPARING FOR WHAT'S NEXT

There is no better time to be part of our community than right now. We are rethinking the role of universities with the **Campaign for Concordia: Next-Gen. Now**. As the most ambitious in the university's history, our campaign will raise \$250 million to help us lead as Canada's next-generation university.

Chaired by business leaders and philanthropists **Gina Cody**, MEng 81, PhD 89, **Andrew Molson** and **Lino A. Saputo Jr.**, BA 89, the Campaign for Concordia will shape next-gen teaching and learning.

We thank our community of steadfast supporters in helping us leverage next-generation ideas, talent and impact to benefit our more than 50,000 students and 220,000 alumni around the world.

Learn more at **concordia.ca/campaign**.





THANK YOU!

2019 marked the third consecutive year that funds raised exceeded **\$35 million**.

As philanthropy continues to gain momentum, we are grateful to our generous donors who help us go beyond. Around the world, people are taking notice: Concordia is the ideal place to shape the future.

A MILESTONE CELEBRATION

Concordia Chancellor **Jonathan Wener**, BComm 71, hosted the fifth anniversary of the Chancellor's Builders Circle and Friends Dinner on October 15.

With more than 130 donors and friends in attendance, the evening included speeches from Concordia President **Graham Carr**; **Jonathan Wener** and **Susan Wener**; **Norman Hébert Jr**., BComm 77, outgoing chair of Concordia's Board of Governors; Lino Saputo Jr., BA 89, co-chair of the Campaign for Concordia; **Ursula Eicker**, Canada Research Chair in Smart, Sustainable and Resilient Communities and Cities; and **Rachel Downey,** GrDip 18, PhD candidate in Concordia's Department of Psychology.



The event, at Old Montreal's St. James Theatre, was emceed by **Anne Whitelaw**, BFA 87, GrDip 92, PhD 96, Interim provost and vice-president, academic. It also featured a special performance by students in Concordia's Department of Contemporary Dance. **1 2**

MAJOR GIFTS \$5.6-MILLION GIFT TO SPARK CREATIVE DISCOVERY

A transformative gift from the Peter N. Thomson Family Trust became the largest in the history of Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts, and the largest in Quebec history, towards a university-based fine arts program.

This exceptional \$5.6-million support, celebrated on March 14, 2019, supports three key areas across the faculty's nine departments: graduate student scholarships, field school awards and an arts innovation fund.



"The fine arts are already very much oriented towards the next generation in terms of resilience, creativity, flexibility and entrepreneurship," said **Leslie Raenden**, representative of the Peter N. Thomson Family Trust and stepdaughter of the late Peter N. Thomson. "It feels good to know that we've spread out the initiatives to have both shortand long-term benefits. We're going to touch a lot of people." Pictured are **Swapnaa Tamhane,** master's student in the Department of Studio Arts, **Rebecca Duclos**, dean of Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts, and Raenden.

VISIONARY \$10 MILLION DONATION TO SUPPORT A FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND SOCIAL INNOVATION CENTRE

A visionary gift of \$10 million from the Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation and the Amelia & Lino Saputo Jr. Foundation allowed the creation of a first-of-its-kind multi-stakeholder collaboration centre at Concordia.

The new SHIFT Centre for Social Transformation will allow Concordia and its partners to drive and support community-based social transformation projects in Montreal, Quebec and Canada. The gift — among the largest in the university's history — supports the Campaign for Concordia: Next-Gen. Now.





SHIFT will unite academic knowledge, communityheld expertise and entrepreneurial students. Together, they will develop sustainable and transformative solutions to complex societal challenges such as environmental degradation, political polarization, wealth inequality and a rapidly changing labour market.

"Our family takes great pride in supporting this transformative project, since advancing social innovation is a family priority," said Mirella Saputo, president of Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation.

Lino A. Saputo Jr., BA 89, co-chair for the Campaign for Concordia, and chair of the board and chief executive officer of Montreal-based Saputo Inc., said this major gift is a pragmatic investment for his family.

"The SHIFT Centre for Social Transformation will support tomorrow's social entrepreneurs to solve critical issues — from the ground up in partnership with community groups," he said. "Marrying academia and entrepreneurship with grassroots social innovation at Concordia will go a long way to improving society." The new centre will grant resources and accompaniment to projects that link Concordians with community members and groups. Project teams will benefit from hands-on support for grant writing, project management, evaluation and strategic guidance.

"The SHIFT Centre for Social Transformation will allow Concordia to build on its longstanding reputation as a trusted, community-engaged and socially progressive university," said Concordia President Graham Carr. "The centre, its staff and our students will support underrepresented and overstretched frontline organizations and communities."

Thanks to this donation, SHIFT will operate from a welcoming, physical space where students, faculty, staff and external community members and groups can train, network, skill-share and collaborate on existing and emerging social transformation initiatives. 4

SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION MAJOR GIFTS TO THE CAMPAIGN FOR CONCORDIA: NEXT-GEN. NOW

The McConnell Foundation gave **\$600,000** towards Concordia's Institute for Investigative Journalism.

A gift from **Telus Corporation** of **\$300,000** will support the engAGE Enhancing AGEncy Project at Concordia.

The **Doggone Foundation** gave **\$300,000** towards the Elspeth McConnell Fine Arts Awards, which support students in the Faculty of Fine Arts undertaking internships in non-profit arts organizations and projects.

JSVB Investments Inc. gave **\$250,639** towards the Van Berkom Small-Cap Investment Management Program at the John Molson School of Business (JMSB).

The **Aune Foundation** pledged **\$176,400** to create the Ruth P. Glenen Awards at Concordia's JMSB.

Jean E. Douville gave **\$150,000** to create student bursaries at JMSB.

A pledge from **Manulife Investment Management Limited** of **\$100,000** will support the Concordia Canadian Equity Student Fund at JMSB.

Eileen Curran, BA 70, gave **\$100,000** to establish the Sarah Anne and Henry John Hemens Graduate Scholarship to Advance Aboriginal Women, in honour of her parents. Curran's father, the late Henry John Hemens, BA 32, LLD 82, was the first chancellor of Concordia.

An anonymous donor gave **\$100,000** to the Campaign for Concordia toward an endowment for a mature student bursary. **Mark Sherman** gave **\$100,000** to support the Media Experts Bursary at JMSB.

A pledge of **\$100,000** from **Shane R. Hollett**, BSc 70, will advance the Marjorie Dalwood Hollett PhD Scholarship in English Literature.

A **\$100,000** gift from the **Entwistle Family Foundation** will support the Entwistle Family Bursary at Concordia.

Piero Pomponio, BComm 90, pledged **\$100,000** towards the Pomponio Family Undergraduate Awards at JMSB.

Aaron Roland, Tobey Roland, MBA 83, and Lexann Richter — the children of Miriam Roland, LLD 18 — made a gift of **\$100,000**. The gift supports the Miriam Aaron Roland Family Scholarship Fund for fifth-year students in the Humanities PhD program who demonstrate leadership and community service and are involved in extra-curricular activities.

The **Concordia University Hong Kong Foundation** gave **\$90,000** in support of the Campaign for Concordia.

PricewaterhouseCoopers gave **\$87,500** to support the PwC Awards in Accountancy and Computer Science.

The **Canadian Irish Studies Foundation** will advance the Johnson Chair in Quebec and Canadian Irish Studies with a gift of **\$86,667**.

Roy Firth, BComm 75, gave **\$70,000** to support JMSB students through the Roy Firth Bursary.

De Grandpré Chait S.E.N.C.R.L. pledged **\$75,000** towards the De Grandpré Chait Speaker Series in Real Estate at JMSB. The **Naim S. Mahlab Foundation** gave **\$70,000** towards the Naim Mahlab Fellowships Endowment.

A gift from **La Fondation Luigi Liberatore** of **\$55,000** to the annual Concordia Golf Classic will support student scholarships.

Brad McAninch, BEng 97, and Mark Fazio,

BEng 94, of Modern Niagara Group Inc., gave **\$52,000** towards the Modern Niagara Scholarship in Engineering at the Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science.

Marie France Racicot-Baird, BA 78, and Bob Baird, BEng 82, gave **\$50,000** to the Marie and Bob Baird Scholarships Endowment, which will support students at the Gina Cody School, as well as in the Department of Études françaises at Concordia.

A **\$50,000** gift from **Decarie Motors** towards JMSB will create the Decarie Motors Women Who Drive Bursary.

Fondation J.A. DeSève gave **\$50,000** towards the Fondation J.A. DeSève Graduate Fellowship at the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema in Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts.

With her siblings, **Andrea J. Schwartzman** gave **\$50,000** to establish the Alex E. Schwartzman Scholarship in Psychology Endowment in memory of their father, Alex. E. Schwartzman, a distinguished professor emeritus in Concordia's Department of Psychology.

GIFTS IN KIND

A new gift from **Croesus Finansoft Inc.** will give JMSB students hands-on experience through a portfolio management software valued at **\$293,760**.

Electronic Arts Inc. gave equipment to Concordia's Department of Music. The Avid S6 Board, a mixing board for sound engineers, is valued at **\$144,000**.

Natalie Voland gave **\$110,000** for studio space at Montreal's Complex Canal Lachine. The space will benefit students in the individualized and humanities PhD programs at Concordia.

PLANNED GIFTS

Guylaine Beaudry, Concordia's vice-provost of Digital Strategy and university librarian, made a planned gift of **\$150,000**, along with her spouse, **Gérard Boismenu**. The Guylaine Beaudry and Gérard Boismenu Fund will help advance Concordia's nextgeneration libraries.

The **Estate of Ragai Ibrahim** will support the Ragai Ibrahim Graduate Award in Biology with a gift of **\$139,079**.

A final distribution from the **Estate of Kurt Ekler** of **\$110,000** on an estate gift of \$410,000 will advance the Kurt Ekler Endowment for Graduate Support in Judaic Studies.

A gift of **\$91,336** from the **Estate of William Phalen** will support Concordia's Greatest Needs. It was the final distribution of a \$680,000 bequest.

A gift of **\$82,417** from the **Estate of Tanneke De Zwart** will support Concordia Libraries and the Faculty of Fine Arts. The gift completes a total bequest amount of \$297,000.

An anonymous donor made a bequest of **\$75,000** in support of Concordia's Greatest Needs.



COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

Concordia's generous community lends its support to our annual Community Campaign. Nearly 11,000 of our steadfast ambassadors alumni, faculty, staff, parents, friends and students contributed close to **\$2.2 million** to the 2018-19 Community Campaign.

More than 700 members of our leadership circles supported our Community Campaign: members of our Deans' Circle made annual gifts of \$500 to \$1,999 and members of our President's Circle made annual gifts of \$2,000 to \$24,999.

Whether it's \$100 in support of student scholarships or \$20,000 to advance research in cybersecurity, every gift helps set the pace — and every dollar contributes to our Campaign for Concordia: Next-Gen. Now.

Join our momentum. Visit concordia.ca/communitycampaign.

KEY EVENTS

Concordia Alumni Women and Leadership hosted its first-ever event in London, England a panel discussion on authentic leadership. Panellists included Anne-Marie Croteau, BSc 86, dean of the JMSB; Andrea C. Martin, BComm 83, CEO of PRS for Music U.K.; and Stacey Jackson, BA 91, singer-songwriter and entrepreneur. Daniele Hamamdjian, BA 06, correspondent for CTV National News, London Bureau, moderated the discussion.

Concordia's annual Shuffle fundraiser — a 6.5 km faculty and staff walk between Sir George Williams Campus and Loyola Campus — raised **\$130,000** for its 30th anniversary. More than 700 Shufflers raised the record-breaking total through 2,000 donations in support of student bursaries and scholarships.

The annual Concordia EPIC Used Book Fair netted a record **\$32,643** during its fall event. With 100 per cent of proceeds directed towards student support, the book fair has raised more than \$240,000 to date, while providing a new life for countless books.



The Concordia University Alumni Association celebrated its annual Alumni Recognition Awards, where 12 recipients — Concordia students, faculty, staff and alumni — were honoured for their outstanding achievements and contributions to their community at Concordia, and in Montreal, Canada and around the world. The sold-out event took place at the Pointeà-Callière Museum in Old Montreal. Pictured at the event are **Mutsumi Takahashi**, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13, honorary chair of the Campaign for Concordia; **Constantina Roumeliotis**, Outstanding Student Leader Award recipient; and **Jaymee Shell**, BSc 14. The 2019 recipients were:

- Morton Minc, BA 67, John F. Lemieux Medal
- Peter Kruyt, BComm 78, Humberto Santos
 Award of Merit
- Alan Shepard, Honorary Life Membership
- Christine Lengvari, BSc 72, Benoît Pelland
 Distinguished Service Award
- Vivek Venkatesh, MA 03, PhD 08, Alumnus of the Year
- Kenneth Brooks, MBA 99, MBA Alumnus of the Year
- Winston Kan, BAdmin 81, International Excellence Award
- Eva Pomeroy, Alumni Award for Innovative Teaching
- Alain Tessier, Outstanding Staff Award
- Antoine Labranche, BA 09, Young Alumnus
 of the Year
- Brandon Montour, Outstanding Student
 Leader Award
- Constantina Roumelioutis, Outstanding
 Student Leader Award

The lecture series **This is Concordia. Now. 2.0** explored the theme of storytelling. Rebecca Duclos, Tranna Wintour, BA 10, Johanne Pelletier, Emma Lanza and Taylor Tower shared their personal stories at this sold-out event.

The annual **Concordia Golf Classic** tournament and dinner raised a record **\$427,600** for student scholarships and bursaries. Thanks to the support of sponsors and participants, the event has raised close to \$6 million since its inception in 2004.

More than 300 guests gathered for Concordia's annual **Donor and Student Awards celebration**. Emceed by Jamie Orchard, BA 91, senior anchor and assistant news director at Global Montreal, the event

highlighted the importance of philanthropy and the student recipients of donor support. Speakers included alumni Katherine Purchase, BComm 19, William Gagnon, BEng 17, and Stéphanie Jasmin, BFA 99. 10

More than 1,500 people attended Concordia's 2019 Homecoming festivities. Main events included the Resolute Forest Products lecture with **Kathy Reichs**, LLD 11, mystery writer and producer of the *Bones* television series, pictured with moderator **Caroline Van Vlaardingen**, BA 84, CTV News Montreal award-winning broadcaster **11**; and the Wild Talks lecture with **James Tupper**, BFA 92, *Big Little Lies* co-star, pictured (centre) with **Erin Hogg** and **Rebecca Duclos**. **12** Members of **Concordia's Heritage Society** gathered for the annual recognition event of planned giving donors. Speakers at the event included Guylaine Beaudry, vice-provost of Digital Strategy and university librarian, and Chelsea Okankwu, JMSB student in accountancy, and the event was emceed by Amanda Kline, BA 11, reporter for CTV News Montreal.

TAKE PRIDE IN OUR AWARD-WINNING ALUMNI

The City of Montreal honoured **Gina Cody**, MEng 81, PhD 89, pictured with Montreal mayor **Valerie Plante**, as Chevalière to the Ordre de Montréal. I She was also inducted as a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering. **Tony Loffreda**, BComm 85, was appointed to the Senate of Canada by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Loffreda sits as an independent, representing Quebec.

Deepa Mehta, LLD 13, was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television for her impact on Canada's entertainment industry.

Nadia Myre, MFA 02, Indigenous artist and assistant professor in the Department of Studio Arts, was named a member of the Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec. Myre is a member of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg Algonquin First Nation and is a major figure in Indigenous contemporary art in Quebec and Canada.



Business leader and Campaign for Concordia cochair **Lino A. Saputo Jr.**, BA 89, was awarded the marquee prize at the inaugural Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton – John Molson School of Business Person of the Year Awards gala.

The Association of Fundraising Professionals awarded the late **L. Jacques Ménard**, BComm 67, MBA 70, LLD 06, the Award for Outstanding Philanthropic Commitment. The Molson family — which includes **Eric Molson**, LLD 06, and Campaign for Concordia co-chair **Andrew Molson** — received the Award for Outstanding Philanthropist. **Morton Minc**, BA, 67, Concordia Jurist-in-Residence, was named officer of the Ordre national du Québec.

ORDER OF CANADA

Officers: Graham Fraser, LLD 12; James A. O'Reilly, BA 60; Caroline Ouellette, LLD 19

Companion: Alanis Obomsawin, LLD 93

Members: Hana Gartner, BA 70; Brenda Harris Singer, BA 67; Lynn Zimmer, BA 69



IN MEMORIAM

Our Concordia community mourned the loss of several university supporters and ambassadors, including:

DONALD L. BOISVERT, BA 75, MA 79

Boisvert, retired affiliate associate professor in the Department of Religions and Cultures, was an active member of the Concordia and LGBTQ+ communities. He endowed the Donald L. Boisvert Scholarship for Gay and Lesbian Studies at his alma mater.

FRANÇOIS-MARC GAGNON, LLD 92

Gagnon was a teacher, researcher, writer, lecturer and tireless promoter of the art and visual heritage of Quebec and Canada. He was the founding director of Concordia's Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art and affiliate professor in the Department of Art History.

AVRUM (AVI) MORROW

A long-time supporter of Concordia, Morrow was a philanthropist and businessperson — posthumously revealed to be Montreal's famous Bikeman — who supported education, the arts and community.

JO VELLACOTT

As the first regular full-time faculty member at Concordia's Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Vellacott was a pioneer in the study of women's history. She taught and pursued her research at the institute from 1982 to 1987.

VIC VOGEL, LLD 10

A premiere musician, Vogel held a pivotal role in establishing Montreal as a world jazz capital. He also supported musicians in developing countries gain access to instruments.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay up to date. Read about our latest news and events by following @ConcordiaAumni on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Flickr. #CUalumni #CUpride

Watch our videos at **concordia.ca/** alumni/videos.

Discover what Concordia achieved first in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and the world: concordia.ca/concordiafirsts See how Concordians around the world take pride in our community: **concordia.ca/takepridevideo**

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THANK YOU!

Concordia's generous community helps us lead

as Canada's next-generation university. We introduce recognition circles to acknowledge the support of our dedicated donors.

"Concordia's donors contribute enormously to the success of our university. Our giving circles recognize the generosity of 4,000 supporters. Thank you! We are immensely grateful for your commitment."

- GRAHAM CARR, PRESIDENT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Learn more at concordia.ca/DonorRecognition



• Lifetime gifts of \$100,000 or more



- Gifts for five or more consecutive years
- Lifetime members give for 25 years or more



Deans' Circle: Annual gifts of \$500 to \$1,999
President's Circle: Annual gifts of \$2,000 to \$24,999



• Planned gifts or bequests that leave a legacy

