



NEXT-GEN LIBRARY REOPENS

TECHNOLOGY-RICH WITH 22 TYPES OF STUDY SPACES, THE PIONEERING PROJECT FACILITATES ACTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

Three years of renovation and expansion work have produced a forward-looking 21st-century library that stands as a landmark on Concordia's downtown Sir George Williams Campus.

The transformed library was inaugurated this spring in the presence of H  l  ne David, Quebec minister for Higher Education and minister for the Status of Women, as well as Fran  ois Croteau, borough mayor of Rosemont-La-Petite-Patrie and the member of Montreal's Executive Committee responsible for the smart city, information technologies, innovation and higher education.

Pictured above at the library opening on March 23 are, from left: **Graham Carr**, provost and vice-president of Academic Affairs; **Martine Lehoux**, director of Facilities Management; Concordia President **Alan Shepard**; **H  l  ne David**, Quebec minister for Higher Education and minister for the Status of Women; **Fran  ois Croteau**, borough mayor of Rosemont-La-Petite-Patrie and the member of Montreal's Executive Committee responsible for the smart city, information technologies, innovation and higher education; **Cathy Wong**, Montreal city council speaker; and **Guyline Beaudry**, university librarian and vice-provost of Digital Strategy.

"The newly transformed Webster Library is a shining example of the fundamental role of university libraries in support of world-class teaching, learning and research," said Concordia President Alan Shepard. "It provides students with the spaces, collections and services to take charge of their own education and engage in the big thinking that moves society forward."

The updated library delivers a technology sandbox allowing digital exploration, a visualization studio featuring interactive artwork, 3,300 study seats — a 113 per cent increase — 22 types of study space, 21 kilometres of books, dissertation writers' rooms — even plant-covered "green" walls to improve air quality.

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François Croteau, borough mayor of Rosemont-La-Petite-Patrie and the member of Montreal's Executive Committee responsible for the smart city, information technologies, innovation and higher education



From left: Phyllis Lambert; Maureen Clapperton, director general of the National Library, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec; Richard T. Stilwell, BA 68, president of the Stilwell Foundation; Miriam Roland; Jonathan Birks, president of the Birks Family Foundation; and Andrew Molson, co-chair of the Campaign for Concordia



Hélène David, Quebec minister for Higher Education and minister for the Status of Women, applauded Concordia for prioritizing the \$37-million Webster Library transformation in its administration of funds from the Government of Quebec's Plan quinquennal d'investissements universitaires.

WEBSTER LIBRARY REOPENING

(continued from page 1)

STUNNING NEW SPACES & TECHNOLOGY

“From large silent reading rooms, zero-noise rooms, presentation practice rooms, and a technology sandbox where the Concordia community can experiment with 3-D printing, virtual reality and other cutting-edge equipment, it’s a next-generation library that’s been met with great enthusiasm by Concordia undergraduate and graduate students alike,” said Graham Carr, provost and vice-president of Academic Affairs.

“At every phase of decision making, university librarian Guylaine Beaudry and her team carefully consulted with Concordians and especially with our students to ensure

that the Webster Library emerged as the environment most fitting to support their research, study and intellectual pursuits.”

“The Webster Library now combines the fundamentals of a university library and a deep dive into rich and diverse digital environments that is at once inviting, warm and filled with beauty, where students can take charge of their own learning,” said Beaudry, who is also Concordia’s vice-provost of Digital Strategy.

Learn more about Concordia’s libraries at [concordia.callibrary](https://concordia.ca/library).

CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



Our most ambitious appeal ever — **The Campaign for Concordia: Next-Gen. Now** — is off to a great start! As honorary co-chair of the campaign which we launched last November, I've been heartened by our continued progress. We're well past the halfway mark, having raised over \$140 million toward our \$250-million goal.

My wife Susan and I recently announced our \$10 million gift to Concordia. We chose to create a Centre for Real Estate in the John Molson School of Business and support deserving students through bursaries and scholarships.

As proud donors investing in Canada's next-generation university, we're in good company. A former colleague on the Board of Governors and long-time friend of Concordia,

Miriam Roland, recently announced a \$3-million gift. In the keystone builder section of this newsletter, discover how she came to love Concordia 40 years ago.

Other ambitious builders have joined us — and there will be two transformational gift announcements made in fall 2018. We honour these philanthropists through ongoing ad campaigns in *The Globe and Mail* and the *Montreal Gazette*. We are truly grateful for the generosity of those who advance our university. Learn more about the campaign and our 29 funding priorities at concordia.ca/campaign.

In this issue of our *Chancellor's Builders Newsletter*, you'll learn about new funding for engineering students designing and launching their own satellite. We also have news about research, including Alzheimer's prevention, and accomplishments of the Concordia community. We touch on recent milestones, including our Donor and Student Awards celebration and our regional tour, **This is Concordia. Now.**

I hope to see you at this year's Chancellor's Builders Dinner on October 25. Please hold the date.

Happy reading and have a safe and pleasant summer!

Jonathan Wener, BComm 71
Concordia Chancellor

CELEBRATING NEXT-GEN ARTISTS

Each year, the coveted \$60,500 Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Fellowship in Contemporary Art is awarded to two emerging artists in Montreal — one from Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) and one from Concordia.

On May 3, our community gathered at the Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery to celebrate this year's winners, UQAM's Émilie Serri and Concordia's Frédérique Laliberté, who will benefit from the prize generously provided by the Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation.



From left: Mutsumi Takahashi, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13, chief news anchor, CTV Montreal News; Frédérique Laliberté, 2018 Bronfman Fellow, Concordia; Claudine Bronfman, co-chair, Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation; Stephen Bronfman, co-chair, Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation; Émilie Serri, 2018 Bronfman Fellow, Université du Québec à Montréal; Jean-Christian Pleau, dean, Faculty of Arts, Université du Québec à Montréal; Rebecca Duclos, dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia

\$4.5 MILLION FOR RESEARCH IN SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE



THE CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION LENDS SUPPORT FOR TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECTS

Concordia has received \$4.6 million in new infrastructure funding to study net-zero-energy building practices, electron microscopy and quantum technology.

The funding comes from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. It includes matching amounts from the Government of Quebec and the university, as well as in-kind contributions from industry partners and equipment suppliers.

“The facilities and equipment supported by this funding will enable Concordia researchers to continue to compete at the leading edge of research that has huge potential to benefit society,” says Christophe Guy, vice-president of Research and Graduate Studies. Learn more about research at Concordia: concordia.ca/research.

\$3.9 MILLION FROM HYDRO-QUÉBEC TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN FOR CONCORDIA

Hydro-Québec has empowered the Campaign for Concordia by financing three industrial research chairs that will focus on security from cyberattacks on our power grids, renewable-energy technologies and high-performance buildings. Hydro-Québec’s donation will also fund dozens of graduate and undergraduate scholarships, helping the university attract top students in engineering, business, arts and science.

“To thrive as a next-generation university, our nine strategic directions include doubling our research and experimenting boldly,” says Concordia President Alan Shepard. “This gift allows our scientists to deepen research and experiment in areas that are critical to industry, sustainability and, ultimately, to society. We are grateful that Hydro-Québec has invested in Concordia to propel student and research talent.” Learn more about the Campaign for Concordia: concordia.ca/campaign.



Concordia and Hydro-Québec representatives at the gift announcement on October 12, 2017. From left to right: Professor Mourad Debbabi; Professor Pragasen Pillay; Professor Andreas Athienitis; Concordia President Alan Shepard; Réal Laporte, President, Hydro-Québec Innovation, équipement et services partagés; Gabriel Vanasse, Hydro-Québec scholarship recipient; Bram Freedman, Concordia vice-president, Advancement and External Relations.



UNESCO TAPS CONCORDIA'S EXPERTISE IN COUNTER-TERRORISM EDUCATION

PROFESSOR VIVEK VENKATESH NAMED A CO-CHAIR FOR THE PREVENTION OF RADICALIZATION AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has named Concordia researcher Vivek Venkatesh a co-chair for the Prevention of Radicalization and Violent Extremism. Venkatesh is director of Concordia's Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance.

The first of its kind in the world, this chair underscores the role of education as a tool to counter the spread of terrorism. Venkatesh and his co-chairs — a political scientist

at the Université de Sherbrooke and a psychologist at the Université du Québec à Montréal — will promote pedagogies that encourage reflexivity and critical thinking among key stakeholders in schools, communities and public policy contexts.

Their work will include developing, sharing and promoting research and action in the field of preventing terrorism, with a focus on developing and evaluating youth programs.

"We are proud to host the network of this new chair, with its unique governance model uniting three major universities — a first in Canada and in the world," says Sébastien Goupil, secretary-general of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. "We look forward to working with the chair to counter the rise of radicalization and violent extremism in Canada and the world." Get more Concordia news at: concordia.ca/news.

CONCORDIA CRACKS TOP 100 FOR ART AND DESIGN WORLDWIDE

It's official — Concordia is one the world's best universities for studying art and design. According to the 2018 QS World University Rankings by Subject, Concordia ranked among the top 100 art and design universities.

Out of 1,130 institutions worldwide, Concordia ranked 51-100 in the QS Art and Design category. That's a 100-place jump in a year and nearly 200 places in two years.

"This faculty is on fire! Every day I'm reminded of why the world needs the kind of thought and action we generate: we think about what it means to inhabit this planet with grace, we pose radical questions that deploy all the senses, we toggle constantly between the material and immaterial — and we do so with humour and conviction and joy," says Rebecca Duclos, dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts. Learn more about Fine Arts at Concordia: concordia.calfinearts.



CELEBRATING PHILANTHROPY

Concordia honoured its generous donors and student award recipients at the Donor and Student Awards Celebration on March 22, 2018. Hosted by Concordia President Alan Shepard, the inspiring event enables students and their benefactors to meet.

1 Graham Carr, provost and vice-president of Academic Affairs; Concordia President **Alan Shepard**; **Mutsumi Takahashi**, BA 79, MBA 95, LLD 13, chief news anchor, CTV Montreal News; **Keroles Riad**, student award recipient; **Christine Lengvari**, BSc 72; **Valerie Charles**, student award recipient

2 Aaron Fish, LLD 16, (centre) with student award recipients

3 Mahesh Sharma, professor at Concordia's John Molson School of Business

4 From left: **Suman Mukerji**, BComm 77, **Silvia Ugolini**, Concordia's director of Planned Giving, and **Michel Rainville**

5 Richard Renaud, BComm 69, LLD 09, and his wife **Carolyn Renaud**

6 Richard and Carolyn Renaud pose with recipients of the many student awards they fund

Learn more about our alumni at concordia.ca/alumni.





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THIS IS CONCORDIA. NOW.

Since the launch of the **Campaign for Concordia: Next-Gen. Now**, we've visited alumni from Vancouver to Los Angeles to New York City and beyond. Alumni learned about the campaign and our vision as Canada's next-generation university. It was an opportunity to meet Concordia President Alan Shepard and hear from innovative researchers.

7 **Stephen Campanelli**, BFA 83, and **Nastaran Dibai**, BA 83, in Los Angeles on January 31

8 From left: Delegate General of Quebec in New York **Jean-Claude Lauzon**; **Bram Freedman**, vice-president of Advancement and External Relations; Quebec minister for Higher Education and minister for the Status of Women, **Hélène David**; **Steve Shih**, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering; Concordia President **Alan Shepard** in New York City, March 14

9 From left: **Peter Webster**, of the R. Howard Webster Foundation; **Kenneth Woods**, MBA 75, LLD 17; and **Rudy Kerklaan**, BSc 75, MBA 77, at This is Concordia. Now in Vancouver on April 24

10 Consul General of Canada in Los Angeles **James Villeneuve** and Concordia President **Alan Shepard** on January 31

11 **Louise Kelly**, MBA 91, PhD 96, and **Roxanne DeNobrega**

12 From left: **Roy Firth**, BComm 75; **Gina Cody**, MEng 81, PhD 89; **Jeremy Clark**, assistant professor with the Concordia Institute for Information Systems Engineering; **Antoinette Bozac**, BA 78; and **Bram Freedman**, vice-president of Advancement and External Relations, in Toronto on April 12

CELEBRATING MILESTONES

1 Concordia Chancellor **Jonathan Wener** (left) and **Susan Wener** with **Adam Radomsky**, professor of psychology, at a Thinking Out Loud event in Montreal on March 21

2 Montreal mayor **Valerie Plante** (centre right) visited Concordia's next-gen Webster Library on April 24. Pictured with her are Concordia President **Alan Shepard**, University Librarian **Guyline Beaudry** (centre left) and **Sylvie Bourassa**, executive director of Government Relations

3 **Pierre Saint-Gelais**, Conseiller partenariat et commandite at Hydro-Québec, with a student award recipient at Concordia's Hydro-Québec Networking Reception on February 12

4 **Claudine** and **Stephen Bronfman** at the celebration announcing the winners of the Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Fellowships in Contemporary Art, at Concordia on May 3

5 **Madeleine Féquière**, BA 85, president of the Montreal chapter of the International Women's Forum; Concordia President **Alan Shepard** and **Christine Lengvari**, BSc 72, at a Concordia Alumni Women and Leadership event in Montreal on April 17

6 From left: **Ingrid Chadwick**, professor of management; **Angela MacKenzie**, GrDip 14; **Sarah Sajedi**, BSc 91; **Georgiana Laudi**, BA 04; **Tamara Close**, MSc 01; **Noor Elhuda El Bawab** with **Kim Fuller**, BFA 96, Concordia University Alumni Association president, at the Women and Leadership panel on entrepreneurship in Montreal on May 3

7 Alumni at the Goodman Institute annual reunion in Montreal on February 1

8 From left: Department of Communication Studies chair **Charles Acland**, GrDip 86; **Brendan Kelly**, MA 92, of the *Montreal Gazette*; and film producer **Don Carmody**, BA 72, on April 5, at the Communication Studies Distinguished Alumni Series featuring Don Carmody

9 Concordia's women's hockey team — bronze medallists at the nationals in March — at the Stingers Hockey Banquet on April 7



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CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SCIENCE HUB BEGINS



LOYOLA CAMPUS BUILDING PROJECT EXPECTED TO LAST 18 MONTHS

As shovels break ground on Concordia's new Science Hub, the countdown begins for the delivery of this ambitious project — expected to open its doors in fall 2019.

With complementary architecture and landscaping designed to act as outdoor living spaces, “the Hub” will provide the Concordia community with state-of-the-art scientific facilities to support ongoing research, innovation and training at the university.

“This will be a next-generation space to foster next-generation education,” says Kirsten Sutherland, senior director of Project Management in Facilities Management.

The entire space was designed keeping interdisciplinary research in mind, as many of the research activities that will be housed in the new space will be transdisciplinary in nature.

NEXT-GENERATION SPACE

The Hub's team of researchers will include those studying aquatic biology, microscopy, cellular imaging, nanoscience,

bioprocessing, chemical and materials engineering. The expansion will also host science and engineering teams working with Concordia's District 3 Innovation Center that require wet lab space.

“In order to facilitate movement between the existing Science Pavilion and the new Hub, an elevated walkway will connect the spaces, making the Hub an expansion of the campus's existing science facilities,” says Sutherland.

Housing activities with commercial potential for Concordia's current and future industrial partners and entrepreneurs, the space will include infrastructure to support the scaling up of projects created in the labs.

Foundation work is expected to be complete by the end of summer 2018, the full exterior by early 2019 and delivery in fall 2019. Learn more about research at Concordia: concordia.ca/research.



\$2.4 MILLION FOR CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS AT CONCORDIA

FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOWS FOR THREE APPOINTMENTS AND ONE RENEWAL

Concordia has received funding for three new Canada Research Chairs and one renewal, a total investment of \$2.4 million over five years.

Biologist Michael Hallett, artist Nadia Myre and management expert Alex Bitektine are joining the ranks of the country's more than 1,600 chairholders, while psychology professor Jean-Philippe Gouin is receiving a second mandate.

"With the support of the Canada Research Chair (CRC) program, Concordia has been able to attract and retain these

four exceptional researchers, who enhance our understanding of critical issues through their rigorous investigations," says Christophe Guy, Concordia's vice-president of Research and Graduate Studies.

"Funding through the CRC program will allow this cohort of chairholders — Alex, Michael, Nadia and Jean-Philippe — to push the boundaries of their work and make the kind of advances that benefit society in general." Learn more about research at Concordia: concordia.ca/research.

CONCORDIA STUDENTS TO DESIGN AND LAUNCH THEIR OWN SATELLITE

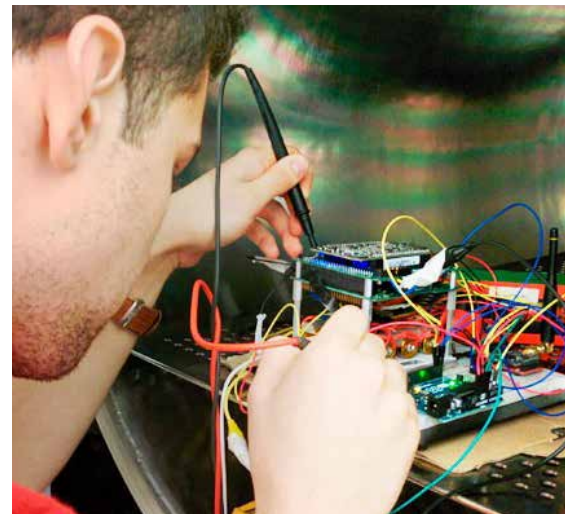
CANADIAN SPACE AGENCY AWARDS \$200,000 TO THE TEAM, LED BY PROFESSOR KHASHAYAR KHORASANI, TO PURSUE ITS MISSION

Concordia's engineering and computer science students who have always dreamed of taking part in a real space mission now have an opportunity to make it happen.

As part of the Canadian CubeSat Project, the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) has awarded \$200,000 to Concordia engineering professor Khashayar Khorasani to lead a team of 10 professors from across the

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science and more than 25 graduate and undergraduate students from Space Concordia through the process of creating and launching a satellite.

The CSA awarded 15 grants, ranging from \$200,000 to \$250,000 each, to post-secondary institutions across the country. Learn more about research at Concordia: concordia.ca/research.



CANADA-WIDE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SUPERCLUSTER



CONCORDIA JOINS FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT THAT PROPELS CANADIAN COMPANIES TO BECOME GLOBAL LEADERS

Concordia has received \$4.6 million in new infrastructure funding to study net-zero-energy building practices, electron microscopy and quantum technology.

Concordia’s data science and information systems security expertise will play a key role in a new nationwide effort to bolster Canada’s leadership in artificial intelligence (AI).

The Government of Canada’s new Innovation Superclusters Initiative channelled \$950 million in funding into five projects — including SCALE.AI (Supply Chains and Logistics Excellence.AI), the artificial intelligence-powered supply chain supercluster.

Led by the Institute for Data Valorization in Montreal and the University of Waterloo in Ontario, the Quebec-based SCALE.AI will focus on defining a global supply chain platform that will boost AI and data science in Canada. Results will benefit the retail, manufacturing and infrastructure sectors.

“SCALE.AI will rely on Concordia’s research capacity in big data, information systems security and blockchains, as well as logistics, transportation and supply-chain management,” says Christophe Guy, vice-president of Research and Graduate Studies.

“Additionally, we will be involved in developing research-based training opportunities for graduate students looking to apply their knowledge to related industries after graduation.”

Members of the consortium will also evaluate the impact of the AI revolution on the workforce, and look at how workers at risk of losing their jobs to automation may be retrained in other roles. Learn more about Concordia research at concordia.ca/research.

“LEONARD COHEN AS I KNEW HIM”



Adrienne Clarkson, LLD 04, former Governor General of Canada, delivered the keynote at Concordia’s Max and Iris Stern International Symposium. The event coincided with the closing of the hugely popular exhibition on Leonard Cohen, “A Crack in Everything,” at the Musée d’art contemporain de Montréal:

“I never asked Leonard Cohen if he read the speech I wrote for my installation (as Governor General of Canada) in which I quoted him: ‘There is a crack in everything. That’s how the light gets in.’ To me it’s beautiful, and essentially Leonard — out of the wound comes a gift. Out of total darkness comes illumination. And underlying it all is suffering, which is the bond between us all as human beings. I think that’s why we all respond to Leonard, individually or as a group, because we know that he really does understand suffering. He comprehends the wound. His hand has been in it.”



BILINGUALISM COULD OFFSET BRAIN CHANGES IN ALZHEIMER'S

CONCORDIA STUDY SHEDS LIGHT ON HOW LANGUAGE HISTORY RELATES TO BRAIN PLASTICITY

A new Concordia study explores how speaking a second language affects patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD) and mild cognitive impairment (MCI).

"Having two languages exercises specific brain regions and can increase cortical thickness and grey matter density. Our study extends findings by demonstrating that these structural differences can be seen in the brains of multilingual AD and MCI patients,"

says Natalie Phillips, professor in the Department of Psychology.

Phillips and her team investigated language and cognitive control areas in the frontal regions of the brain, and medial temporal lobe structures that are important for memory — brain areas known to atrophy in MCI and AD patients. By using high-resolution, whole-brain MRI data rather than the CT scans used for previous studies,

the results were more comprehensive and accurate.

"Our study suggests that multilingual people are able to compensate for AD-related tissue loss by accessing alternative networks or other brain regions for memory processing. We're investigating that hypothesis now," says Phillips. Learn more about Concordia research at concordia.ca/research.

FORMER STINGER OPENS SCHOOLS FOR YOUNG QUARTERBACKS

Trenton Miller, MBA 17, is about to open his second football academy. He started the Next Gen Quarterback Academy (nextgenqb.com) in 2017 to provide personalized training to young quarterbacks.

The former Stingers quarterback led Concordia to the playoffs in 2016 and won the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec MVP Award in 2015. Learn more about the Stingers at stingers.ca.



Former Stinger Trenton Miller, MBA 17, works in pharmaceutical sales in Tampa, Fla., and runs a football academy for young quarterbacks.

NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



4 Concordians appointed to Order of Canada

Four members of the Concordia community are among the newest appointments to the Order of Canada — one of the highest civilian honours in the country — announced by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada.

The honourees are **1 Norman E. Hébert Jr.**, BComm 77, chair of Concordia's Board of Governors; **2 Jean-Pierre Desrosiers**, a member of the Board of Governors; social and economic advocate **3 Nancy Neamtan**, LLD 15; and television producer and Olympian **4 Sylvia Sweeney**, attendee 77, who also played basketball for the Stingers. Learn more about our alumni at concordia.ca/alumni.

CONCORDIA AWARDS 11 NEW HONORARY DOCTORATES

The distinguished recipients include Indigenous leaders, a chief scientist at NASA and a Rwandan government official

During spring convocation ceremonies at Place des Arts this June, Concordia will present honorary doctorates to 11 individuals who have made their mark in the fields of law, art, Indigenous rights, journalism, nanoscience, business and philanthropy. The honorands join more than 5,600 students from four faculties and the School of Graduate Studies who will be receiving their diplomas.



1 Edith Cloutier, executive director of the Val-d'Or Native Friendship Centre; **2 Serge Chapleau** and **3 Terry Mosher**, editorial cartoonists at *La Presse* and the *Montreal Gazette*, respectively; **4 Grand Chief Wilton Littlechild**, one of three commissioners who led Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission; **5 Meyya Meyyappan**, nanotechnology researcher; philanthropists **6 Lorne Trottier**, co-founder of Matrox, and **7 Louise Roussele Trottier**; **8 Clare Akamanzi**, international trade and investment lawyer; **9 Cornelia Hahn Oberlander**, premier landscape architect, **10 Robert Briscoe**, BSc 67, MBA 73, investment leader and philanthropist, and **11 Peter Schumann**, visual artist and author.

Do you know someone extraordinary? Nominate them for an honorary degree.
Visit concordia.ca/nominate for instructions.



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

KEYSTONE BUILDER: SPOTLIGHT ON MIRIAM ROLAND

“I have a personal attachment to Concordia,” says Miriam Roland, a long-time supporter, donor and former member of the university’s Board of Governors. “The first week I arrived in Montreal, I became a student here. It’s my neighbourhood university.”

Roland’s deep sense of pride in and connection to Concordia moved her to make a generous \$3-million donation to establish the Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowships.

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

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

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

“Miriam Roland is an incredible advocate and champion for our university,” says Concordia President Alan Shepard. “Her generosity will help propel our research and encourage our talented students to experiment boldly to answer some of the most urgent questions facing our society. We are deeply grateful for her gift and take great pride having Miriam as a leader in our Concordia community.”

On philanthropy, Roland adds, “I think I grew up with it. The same way we eat three meals a day, we give to those in need. It was just the ethos of the family. It was never put into words, it was just always what was done.”

From California to Concordia

Roland caught her first glimpse of Concordia from her condo window in 1978. She had just moved back to Montreal after spending 32 years in California and as she gazed south towards Ste. Catherine St., something caught her eye. “What’s that big, white building?” she asked a friend, pointing at the Henry F. Hall Building. “That’s Concordia University,” her friend replied.

Roland wasted no time and made her way down the street and registered for two courses, all before her movers had arrived with her furniture.

Over 40 years, Roland’s relationship with Concordia has grown and evolved. She began as a student, taking several courses and attending many lectures and speaking events over the years.

“I was grateful that I was so near Concordia, where I could have some mental stimulation,” she says. “When other people play bridge, I go to lectures.”

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

Expanding knowledge

Higher education and learning have always been priorities for Roland. A professional psychotherapist, with degrees from Stanford University in California and Adler University in Chicago, she is always seeking to expand her knowledge.

At 87 years old, Roland still challenges herself by regularly attending Concordia events. “Now I like going to lectures where I know I’m not going to like the orientation of the speaker, whereas a lot of people would stay away — I like to hear different perspectives.”

BRAM FREEDMAN NAMED PRESIDENT AND CEO OF JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS, FREEDMAN BROUGHT FUNDRAISING TO RECORD LEVELS AND LAUNCHED THE CAMPAIGN FOR CONCORDIA: NEXT-GEN. NOW.

After 20 years of service, Bram Freedman leaves Concordia on July 6, 2018. For the last five years, Freedman has served as vice-president of Advancement and External Relations and helped bring fundraising to record levels at the university. Indeed, the sector went from a five-year average of \$10 million in funds raised to one of over \$25 million in recent years.

“We are grateful to Bram for his exceptional leadership and dedicated service to our university,” says Concordia President Alan Shepard. “He’s played a vital role in Concordia’s growth and momentum, most notably with the launch of our most ambitious fundraising appeal to date.

“Bram has put together an extremely competent leadership team and I am confident that, in partnership with our campaign volunteers, we will continue advancing our university to remarkable new levels.”

“Concordia is a very special place and I intend to be a lifelong ambassador,” Freedman says. “There are very few opportunities that would entice me to leave a place where I have spent the vast majority of my working life.”

Marcel Dupuis, currently associate vice-president, has been named interim vice-president, Advancement and External Relations while an international search is conducted for Freedman’s permanent successor.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 6 P.M.

2018 CHANCELLOR’S BUILDERS CIRCLE AND FRIENDS DINNER

Salon Richmond 1861, 550 Richmond Ave., Montreal

SAVE THE DATE! JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENING.

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Our podcasts: concordia.ca/alumni/podcasts

Our publications: concordia.ca/alumni/ourpublications

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Share your #CUpride and #CUalumni stories via @ConcordiaAlumni



concordia.ca/campaign

© Concordia University, Advancement and Alumni Relations, 2018. Editor: Louise Morgan. Writers: Carolyn Shaughnessy, Howard Bokser, Joseph Léger, Renée Dunk, Andy Murdoch, James Roach, Joanne Latimer, Tatiana St-Louis, Yuri Mytko, Shannon Baker, Marta Samuel and Fiona Downey. Design: Trevor Browne, Stephen Pan.