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Concordia

university magazine

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LinkedIn to inspirational profs

Alumni on LinkedIn answer the query: Who was your most inspirational professor at Concordia?



Cover: Panellists (from left) Ian Orti, BA 05, Craig Silverman, BA 99, and Chuck Klosterman in Concordia's J.A. DeSève Cinema at the Summer Literary Seminars Montreal 2010.

Credit: Julia Blaukopf



University for the people

Continuing education, study enrichment and community development are among the varied mandates of Concordia's School of Extended Learning.

By Patrick McDonagh



Literary immersions

The Concordia-based Summer Literary Seminars offer a creative, inspiring and international outlet for writers.

By Julie Gedeon

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Au cœur du labyrinthe du savoir

L'Université internationale d'été en pédagogie universitaire permet aux membres du corps professoral de Concordia de parfaire leurs compétences en enseignement et de partager leurs expériences avec leurs collègues, à Québec et à Bordeaux, en France.

Par Patrice-Hans Perrier

28

Faculty spotlight: John Molson School of Business

JMSB students continue to take home competition prizes while the faculty expands its community outreach.

By Mai-Gee Hum



Proud to make a major contribution

Before I began working at Concordia, I was a career professional with the Montreal YMCA. I had the privilege of being the executive director of the downtown branch and it was there that I, along with countless others, realized the dream of opening, in 2001, a new flagship YMCA in the former Norris Building—once the site of our own Sir George Williams University.

To put this into context, the Downtown Y re-development project had been on and off the drawing boards for almost 30 years! Truly, it took generations of volunteers, staff and donors to create the conditions for a breakthrough. At the time, the practice of asking staff and volunteers to donate themselves to the cause seemed somehow counterintuitive. Luckily, there were inspirational leaders in our midst—many of very modest means—who took up the unpopular challenge of reminding us that we could not take the legacies of yesteryear for granted and that we, the staff and volunteers, needed to step up and set the example by joining our donors and giving ourselves. I carry their teachable moments with me every day: remain upbeat and stay focused on the big idea, understand what your volunteers

are facing by becoming a volunteer yourself, and make a donation of your own that demonstrates “stretch.” This is exactly what I did at the time.

That naturally set the stage for me to ask, upon joining Concordia in 2003 as director of Recreation and Athletics, what would constitute a leadership-level donation that would clearly demonstrate my personal commitment to realizing our goal of developing and expanding our Recreation and Athletics facilities. I learned then that a donation at the major gift level would be a bold target to set. I am pleased to report that, after six years, I just met my goal of contributing a major gift to our Recreation and Athletics campaign.

I am a proud alumna, proud staff member and proud donor, and I know that contributing to our continued efforts and successes at developing new Recreation and Athletics facilities will help to transform the student life experience here at our university. It doesn't get much better than that!

Katie Sheahan, BA 78

*Director, Recreation and Athletics
Concordia University*

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Photographic memories

The following conversation was recently overheard in the offices of **Concordia University Magazine**:

Hey, what's with the new photo?

The last one was about five years old. I thought I hadn't really aged—it always amazed me that the new students who arrive at Concordia each year keep getting younger while I stay the same. I guess the photographic evidence proves otherwise. And while I'm not fond of posing, at least it allows me to empathize with the folks whose photos we take for the magazine articles.

I can see you're definitely getting older. But at least your photo is in colour. What's with those professors' black and white head shots? (See "LinkedIn to inspirational profs" on page 8.)

We used black and white to capture the historic aspect of the story. Some of those photos are 20 to 30 years old. The article reproduces an online discussion on LinkedIn, the professional networking site. Concordia graduate Richard Brow asked fellow alumni to name their most memorable professors. The



response was quite impressive—we only used a portion of the many replies. The discussion and story certainly serve as a reminder of the importance of our faculty members and how many great ones we've had—and still have—at Concordia. It's also a fitting tribute to some of the professors who are no longer with us. Those include Sociology and Anthropology's Herbert Guindon. He was also praised in our last issue's Enough Said piece (page 40) by Roberta Hamilton, the sister of Professor Guindon's former colleague, the late Susan Russell. Another grad fondly recalls Jaan Saber, who was among the four Engineering faculty members tragically murdered in 1992.

Also commended—by several grads—is the ageless Henri Habib, Concordia Political Science professor emeritus.

In the next issue, we'll look more thoroughly at Professor Habib's remarkable 50-plus-year career at the university. And it's also a nice link to our coverage of the Henri Habib Distinguished Lecture Series with Liberal MP Bob Rae, held February 8 at Concordia. (See Association News on page 26). Rae is the Liberal foreign affairs critic and spoke with knowledge and passion about the current crises in the Middle East and why it's vital for Canadians to pay close attention to them. He also handled some tough questions admirably—I would've lost my patience.

That's why you're not a politician.

Among many other reasons. But this job does offer some perks. For instance, I had the chance to speak to Concordia's new chancellor, L. Jacques Ménard, in his comfortable BMO office in Old Montreal. (See "Striving to achieve" on page 6.) M. Ménard was very welcoming and forthcoming. He's done great things for education in Quebec. And he told me he's writing a book on achievement and recently interviewed David Suzuki, Jean Béliveau and Céline Dion, among others—including Felipe Alou!

Glad you're an Expos fan, although I have to ask: What does a chancellor do, anyway?

Some of the duties are ceremonial, a bit like the governor general of Canada's. And he needs a lot of stamina because he individually confers degrees to about 6,000 students at each year's convocations. But it's an important role because he publically represents the university and may offer advice to our senior administrators.

But, looking at Jacques Ménard's photo, why doesn't he seem to get any older?

Friends in high places, I guess: he was taught by the Jesuits. ■

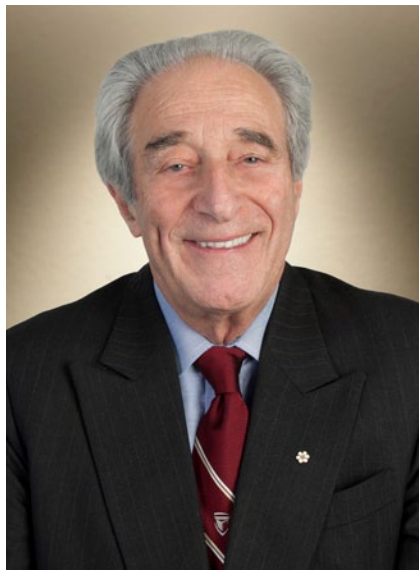


Concordia appoints Fred Lowy president

In January, Concordia's Board of Governors voted unanimously to appoint Fred Lowy, LLD 08, as Concordia's president on an interim basis, beginning February 1. Former president and vice-chancellor Judith Woodsworth stepped down in December.

Dr. Lowy served as Concordia's president and vice-chancellor from 1995 to 2005. He was named President Emeritus the year he left and the university awarded him an honorary doctorate in 2008. "Dr. Lowy's extensive interest in the university and its culture will assure a smooth transition and provide continuity and stability during the search for a new president," said Peter Kruyt, chair of Concordia's Board of Governors. "His experience as a university administrator, his leadership style and his commitment to this institution make him the ideal person to oversee Concordia in the months ahead."

Since leaving the university nearly six years ago, Dr. Lowy has served as interim executive director of the Sauvé Scholars Program (2007-2008) in



Fred Lowy

Montreal and was elected to the Sauvé Scholars Foundation board of directors in May 2008. He is senior advisor to the president of the Trudeau Foundation and has been a consultant to universities in Ontario and Quebec.

During his Concordia tenure, Dr. Lowy earned a strong reputation for his emphasis on education, research,

creative activity and community partnerships. A key element of his mandate this time is to carry on with the implementation of the university's strategic framework. He will also oversee the process leading up to the launch of a comprehensive campaign. "The university has made great strides in recent years and its prospects for further success have never been better," Lowy said. "Concordia's strategic initiatives are well in hand, our projects are on budget and on time and our community engagement activities are flourishing."

In December, the Board announced the departure of Judith Woodsworth. "I am deeply grateful to Judith and wish to recognize her leadership, achievements and commitment over the past two and a half years," Kruyt said at the time. "Concordia has thrived under her direction, with significant progress and an enhanced reputation on the local, provincial, national and international scenes."

The Board of Governors will soon launch a search for a permanent replacement. ■

Jacques Ménard named Concordia University's new Chancellor

In January, Concordia welcomed L. Jacques Ménard, L BComm 67, LLD 06, as its new chancellor. Ménard succeeds Chancellor Emeritus David P. O'Brien, L BA 62, who completed his five-year term. Ménard is chairman of BMO Nesbitt Burns and president of BMO Financial Group, Quebec. He sat on the university's Board of Governors from 1994 to 2000 and was its vice-chair from 1996 to 1999. He was named deputy chancellor in 2009. "The career of

this remarkable business leader has been marked by his extraordinary philanthropy and his commitment to helping society overcome significant problems," said Peter Kruyt, chair of Concordia's Board of Governors. Kruyt noted that Ménard helped lead fundraising efforts during the institution's last capital campaign, from 1996 to 1999. Ménard is a graduate of Collège Ste-Marie, Loyola College and the University of Western Ontario, and has received honorary doctorates from Concordia, Université de Montréal and Université de Sherbrooke. He's also an Officer of the Order of Canada and Ordre du Québec. (See "Striving to achieve," next page.) ■

Concordia university magazine

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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Striving to achieve

New Concordia Chancellor L. Jacques Ménard says ensuring high academic achievement for students is a shared responsibility

L Jacques Ménard, L BComm 67, LL.D. 06, knows something about achievement.

Concordia's new chancellor (see Concordia News, previous page) has climbed the ranks to become chairman of BMO Nesbitt Burns and president of BMO Financial Group, Quebec. Ménard recently interviewed a few dozen high achievers, including Céline Dion, Jean Béliveau and David Suzuki, for an upcoming book. "I've met many extraordinary people," Ménard says. "I thought, what if I go back to draw from them the lessons they learned, to understand the DNA of their achievements and the choices they made that led to their success?"

Achievement of another kind—academic—is also his passion. In 2008, Ménard established the Groupe d'action sur la persévérance et la réussite scolaires (Task Force on Student Retention and Academic Success), which reported its recommendations to the Quebec government in 2009, and then published a book on the high school retention issue, *Beyond the Numbers... a Matter of the Heart*. He is also chairman of Youth Fusion, a non-profit, Montreal-based organization that establishes partnerships between high schools and universities in an effort to counter secondary-school dropout rates and provide counselling and coaching in various fields.

It was at an announcement of a BMO gift to Concordia in 2007 that Ménard met student Gabriel Bran Lopez, BA 08, who told him about his Youth Fusion project. "Gabriel inspired me," Ménard says. "I accepted to chair Youth Fusion and gave him office space and support of its initial steps." Youth Fusion has since sent about 100 university students to speak at more than 20 high schools across Quebec. "M. Ménard has helped at all levels," Bran Lopez says. "He's been a driving force for us."



LINDA RUTENBERG



New Concordia Chancellor L. Jacques Ménard in his BMO offices in Montreal. "If we are to reach our potential as a society, then our youth has to be supported and surrounded by not only teachers but also parents, civil society and employers," Ménard says.

Ménard cautions that Quebec's high-school dropout rate—about 30 per cent—should concern us all. "When we look at the research about school dropouts, they subject themselves and their families to future economic sacrifices, have a shorter life expectancy, are less likely to get involved and more likely to have depression," he says. "Furthermore, the correlation between university graduation rates and economic success is tight. And students need to succeed in high school before they migrate to university, so it's a *passage obligé*."

Universities like Concordia play a vital role in helping Quebec society increase its academic achievement. "It is a shared responsibility," Ménard explains. "It's the responsibility of the university to create the conditions to stimulate a quality learning experience, the responsibility of governments to support a significant part of that, the responsibility of civil society and people in business and its citizenry to make a contribution with their knowledge and support, and the responsibility of the students themselves. And Concordia has done a great job in aligning these interests."

In January, Ménard was named Concordia's chancellor, a position previously held by David P.

O'Brien, L BA 62. "I'm aware that the role of the chancellor is beyond being an advisor to the president and the chair but also to represent the institution in the community and with the government and other institutions," he says.

Ménard was a member of the university's Board of Governors from 1994 to 2000 and was chair of the Campaign Leadership Gifts Division of Concordia's Campaign for a New Millennium from 1996 to 1999. "Ten years ago, Concordia was an extremely prestigious and well-recognized institution within the academic milieu itself," Ménard says. "If anything, its standing in the academic community and society has increased by virtue of its research and students. In some fields—like engineering, communication studies and business—Concordia is up there with the best in class. It's also extremely diverse and is as good as any representative of society that we have today.

"I'm proud of my alma mater," he adds. "Concordia stands for inclusiveness, academic excellence, social harmony. And when you look five, 10, 20 years from now at Montreal, or even Quebec or Canada, you'll see a lot of fingerprints of Concordia people." ■

—Howard Bokser

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Maintaining our momentum

Hello Concordians.

It's great to be back at the university where I had the privilege of serving as president for 10 years, and which has always remained close to my heart.

In my previous term, from 1995 to 2005, I presided over a plan to reinvest in Concordia's students, faculty and infrastructure. I was also determined at the time to reunite the Concordia community under shared values and common objectives, and that is what I hope to achieve over the course of my current tenure.

This is a resilient university and I am confident that we can maintain our momentum toward becoming one of the top five comprehensive universities in Canada within the next decade. All of us—faculty, students, staff, alumni and supporters—have the best interests of Concordia and its people at heart.

My mandate has four priorities—strategy, finance, governance, and talent and culture.

Our university has accomplished much in recent years and its prospects are very good. Our Strategic Framework is in place and we are developing the initiatives that will move us toward our goals.

Concordia's finances are on solid footing, as we have one of the lowest accumulated deficits of any Quebec university. This is the result of diligence in managing revenues and expenses while funding capital projects and other initiatives that are completed on time and on budget.

I think it is clear that we have work to do in the area of governance, and we are taking practical steps in this regard.

Since I took up my new post on February 2, I have been meeting with Concordia constituents so that I can quickly gain a better understanding of their concerns. The goal is to develop



Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Frederick Lowy joined the CBC Radio morning show "Daybreak" during a live broadcast on February 16 from Concordia's Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex.

concrete solutions and a definitive plan of action.

At the time of this writing, Senate has approved the establishment of an external three-person governance review committee, including at least one current or former faculty member, and has designated the Senate's Steering Committee to work with me to set the mandate and approve the membership of this new committee. This dovetails nicely with the Board's resolution of the previous day. My intention is to consult in an ongoing manner with both Senate and Board representatives.

The Board has been reviewing the issue of governance for quite some time and is reviewing specific proposals designed to make the Board itself more effective. This includes a proposal to reduce the size of the Board and integrate new members who are representative

of the university's diversity and mission.

In the meantime, the business and activities of the university are progressing as planned. Student enrolment is up and we are gaining wider attention in Canada and internationally for our research activities.

Together, I know that we can accomplish much more in the months to come.

I will do all I can to foster a spirit of openness and collaboration so that we meet our goals and reaffirm our reputation as an outstanding institution of higher learning, creativity and community engagement. ■

Fred Lowy
President and Vice-Chancellor
Concordia University


LinkedIn to inspirational profs

Alumni recall their favourite Concordia professors on the professional networking site

*The Concordia University Alumni Association hosts a group on the popular professional social networking site LinkedIn. In mid-2010, Richard Brow, BA (poli. sci.) 83, posted a question on the group's discussion page:
**Who was your most inspirational professor at Concordia? Why?
And how did [he or she] influence your subsequent life/career?**
The following is a (slightly edited) sampling of the many responses.*



Richard Brow, BA (poli. sci.) 83, VP for University Advancement, American University of Beirut, Lebanon

My own was Dr. **Henri Habib**,  who taught international relations and politics of the Middle East. He was also a long-serving chair of the Department of Political Science, totally dedicated to his students and staff. His surveys of the history and politics of the Middle East were absolutely fascinating, rich in detail and anecdotes about the many personalities that transformed the region. He made complex issues so accessible. He brought a few students and staff to Libya in the mid-1980s—giving us a unique insight into a controversial regime. I was hooked.

After Concordia, I studied Middle East affairs at the graduate level, followed by working several years on Middle East-related projects with former [U.S.] president Jimmy Carter. International affairs and the Middle East remain ongoing personal and professional areas of interest. In fact, I recently joined the American University of Beirut [AUB] in Lebanon, as Vice

President for University Advancement. AUB is Professor Habib's alma mater—so how's that for influence!




Michael Hiles, BSc 72, MSc (physics) 74, owner, A. Michael Hiles & Associates, Human Capital Management, Beaconsfield, Que.

Charles Fox (Mathematics). He was an eminent mathematician. He had retired from McGill and kept busy by teaching (me) methods of mathematical physics. He invited me to his apartment once and showed me his small collection of mathematics texts. He had a 1,000-year-old Euclid geometry text in Arabic, which he kept in a glass display case, open at the proof of Pythagoras's famous theorem. I couldn't read the text, but the diagram of the proof was clear and beyond language. He was inspiring, and gave me a lifelong interest in the truths to be found in mathematics. Charles Fox deserves to be remembered with fondness and respect. *Charles Fox, LLD 76, was a McGill University Mathematics professor. He retired in 1967 and for the next eight years*

was visiting professor at Sir George Williams University and Concordia. He died in 1977.



Lawrence-David Bissé, BA (poli. sci.) 10, parliamentary assistant to Liberal MP Alexandra Mendes, Ottawa
Political Science

professor **Pierre Fréreau**,  BA 76, was particularly influential, helping to steer the course for a future I had scarcely envisioned prior to making his acquaintance. He is an exceptional instructor. Armed with undeniable legal expertise, boundless charisma and an evident passion for teaching, Maitre Fréreau goes above and beyond what can be expected from a professor.

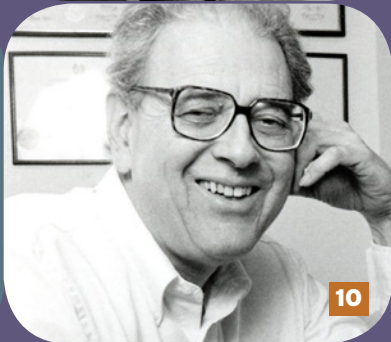
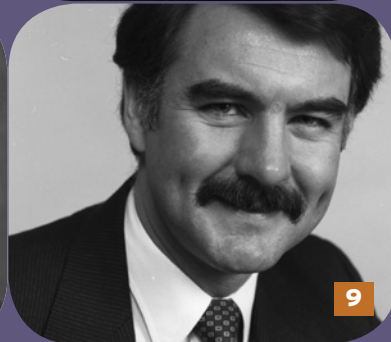
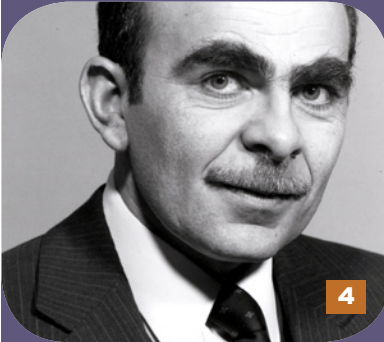
In September 2007, I returned to Concordia after a three-year hiatus with the goal of entering the Communication Studies program. My enrolment in his Quebec Civil Law class in January 2008 led me to reconsider the decision and continue my studies in the Department of Political Science. Thanks to his guidance and continuous encouragement, I felt an uncanny connection with the study of law, and



RYAN BLAU/PBL PHOTOGRAPHY



ANNA GUNARATNAM, JMSB



[1] Distinguished Professor Emeritus Henri Habib (1997). [2] Pierre Fréreau (2011) was Concordia's Assistant Secretary-General and General Counsel and is now a Political Science adjunct faculty member. [3] Brent Pearce (2010) is a Marketing lecturer at the John Molson School of Business. [4] Jaan Saber (1990) was a Concordia Mechanical Engineering professor. Saber and colleagues Matthew Douglass, Michael Hogben and Phoivos Ziogas were murdered at Concordia in 1992. [5] Former Concordia Philosophy professor Sister Prudence Allen (1996). [6] Martin Singer (1997) is a former Concordia History professor, dean and provost. He is now dean of the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies at York University in Toronto. [7] Tom Gray (c. 1970s) is a former Concordia Psychology professor. [8] Gail Fayerman (1995) is a senior lecturer of Accountancy at the John Molson School of Business. [9] Harold Simpkins (c. 1980s) is a Marketing lecturer and academic director of the Marketing Co-op Program at the John Molson School of Business. [10] Taylor Buckner (c. 1994) is a former Concordia Sociology and Anthropology professor. [11] Linda Kay (2005) is an Assistant Professor and Chair of Concordia's Department of Journalism. [12] Hubert Guindon (c. 1985) was a Concordia Sociology and Anthropology professor. He died in 2002.

Dr. Jaan Saber was an extremely intelligent human being and a wild-and-crazy guy all rolled into one. I still miss him.

decided that its exploration would become my principal pursuit.

Professor Fréreau's mentorship extended to advising me on particular areas of law, helping me decide which law school to attend, and even allowing me to serve as his research assistant. Since completing my bachelor's degree in August 2010, I have been serving as parliamentary assistant to Liberal MP Alexandra Mendes, and have recently been admitted to McGill University's Faculty of Law. None of this would have been possible without Professor Fréreau. It is he who introduced me to the study of law and challenged me to surpass myself in its exploration. His willingness to provide guidance beyond the classroom is furthermore worthy of praise, and I cannot thank him enough for his assistance.

His contributions to my personal development stand among the main reasons why my time at Concordia has been so fulfilling and memorable. Because of his devotion to student success for more than 30 years, Professor Fréreau epitomizes the values of Concordia's academic community.

Tomy Royer, BFA 05 (film anim.),
Illustrator, Quebec City

No doubt about it. It is **Stefan Anastasiu** (Cinema). Great animator and artist but a motivator like no other. Thanks a million, Stef.

Stefan Anastasiu is a Concordia Cinema professor.

Susan Draca, BComm (mktg.) 07, Freelance Marketing and Social Media Specialist, Montreal
Brent Pearce 3 (Marketing), without a doubt! I took three classes with him—Customer Service Excellence, Product Strategy and Innovation and Direct Response Marketing—and not once did he make a business class all about theory. He made a point to relate each

class to real-world experience. We worked on solving issues and coming up with plans for current situations that actual companies were dealing with. Brent is also exceptional because he makes a point of helping advance and keeping in contact with as many students as he can after they graduate. In fact, we currently are co-workers and I owe him credit for helping me advance my career one step further. Thanks, Brent!



Claudio Girolami, BEng (mech. eng.) 77, Vice-President - Automotive Systems, Robinson Solutions, Richmond Hill, Ont.

My all-time favourite is the late Dr. **Jaan Saber** 4 (Mechanical Engineering). He was an extremely intelligent human being and a wild-and-crazy guy all rolled into one. He was a great coach and motivator. I still miss him.



Len Rudner, BA (Eng.) 77, Regional Director, Ontario, Canadian Jewish Congress, Toronto

I was blessed with a number of great profs. In the English Department, there was **Dorothy Proctor**, who helped me discover my words; **Malcolm Foster**, who was both a mentor and a friend; and **Michael Brian**,

who opened my eyes to Shakespeare. But the prof who had the greatest, lifelong impact on me was **Christine Garside Allen** [now Sister Prudence Allen]. 5 I studied Existentialism with her in 1973 (I met my future wife in that class) and then took two Women's Studies courses with her when the Simone de Beauvoir Institute was barely a twinkle in anyone's eye!

Olivier de Sousa, BA (econ.) 91, Program Manager, S40 Connect Clients, Nokia, Montreal
Easy... Professor **Martin Singer** in History. I took his History of Japan course back in '90 or so and it led me to fall in love with that country. I had always had an interest in Japan and Professor Singer put it all in place. I visited that country for the first time two years ago.

Sam Drori, BA (comp. sci. & hist.) 91, Software Engineer, Ajilon Consulting, Syracuse, N.Y.
My own was **Martin Singer**. 6 At the time, he was a History professor and I took all his courses in Chinese and Japanese history. I haven't seen Dr. Singer in many years, but in addition to being a great lecturer, he was the coolest guy I had ever met, with his fedora and suspenders. Dr. Singer was probably the most inspiring and demanding teacher I had at Concordia. He set the bar higher for research and written work, and for that I am grateful. I hope York University realizes how fortunate they are to have him as a dean.



David Harper, BAdmin 85, BA (psych.) 96, Managing Principal, The Advisory Alliance, Savannah, Ga.
Dr. **Tom Gray**

7 in Psychology, who challenged, encouraged and taught you to think critically. Assumptions, assertions and conclusions were to be thoughtfully considered and thoroughly examined. It made for interesting discussion, lively conversation and exceptional learning. I'm grateful for the experience.



Tania Clarke, BComm 90, GrDip (acct.) 91, Director, The Games For Hope Foundation, Montreal

I had a few but the

forerunner was **Gail Fayerman,** 8 who taught in the undergrad and CA prep program. She ran her class well and engaged most of us in the topic. She was also a great motivator and very straightforward and accessible. I have never forgotten her.



Richard (Rick) Hobbs, BA (psych.) 95, BComm (mktg.) 99, Vice President, Research Ottawa, Léger Marketing, Ottawa

Harold Simpkins, 9 S BA (psych.) 67, MBA (mktg.) 78, is a wealth of knowledge, insight and, most importantly, advice. I still rely upon him for advice and insight 10+ years after graduation. He is always available to students for academic and professional advice.

Sylvie Marie Héroux, BA (stats.) 89, MA (soc.) 92, BA (Span. lit.) 09, Senior Advisor, Capability Development, Rio Tinto, Montreal

Taylor Buckner, 10 now retired from the Sociology department, was my mentor for many years (during my grad studies in the early '90s and beyond) and inspired many of the things I have done in my life. In particular, he inspired me to follow my passion for learning and to explore paths without knowing what the endpoint might be. Serendipitous findings are often the most meaningful!



Derek Cassoff, BA (journ. & poli. sci.) 93, Director of Communications, Office of Development and Alumni Relations,

McGill University, Montreal

I took a course with **Henri Habib** (Political Science), great prof. But as a Journalism grad, I have to go with

Lindsay Crysler, who really ignited in me the passion for the written word and served not only as a great teacher but also as a guide and mentor as I navigated the channels from graduating student to the work force. And his liberal use of the "f" word was actually quite charming.

Samana Siddiqui, BA (journ.) 96, Writer and Columnist, *Chicago Crescent*, Chicago I'd say it was a tie between Lindsay Crysler and **Linda Kay,** 11 MA 01 (media studies), of the Journalism department. While their teaching styles were very different, they were both committed to their students, offering wonderful mentoring and

Dr. Singer, in addition to being a great lecturer, was the coolest guy I had ever met, with his fedora and suspenders.

encouragement, while being open about their critiques of assignments and other work. I learned from and respected all of my professors at the department, but Lindsay and Linda both stand out as inspirational. They gave me the confidence I needed to push myself harder and improve my writing without making me feel like an amateur.



Martine Dupuis, BA (poli. sci.) 87, MA (PP&PA) 91, Payroll Assistant, Payroll Compliance Practitioner, Bell Canada, Montreal

After 20 years, the best professor is still the late **Hubert Guindon** 12 (Sociology and Anthropology). He was so intelligent, modest and respectful. He let me discover [20th-century philosopher] Hannah Arendt.



Cindy Woodland, BSc (bio.) 90, MSc (bio.) 94, Environmental Risk Evaluator, Health Canada, Ottawa
It was **Dan**

McLaughlin (Biology). As an undergrad

at Concordia, I asked Dan if I could do a research project with him in parasitology. He agreed, but on the condition that I first try out a few environmental courses. Dan could see that I would be much happier in environmental science. I did what he suggested and he was absolutely right. I went on to complete graduate work in aquatic toxicology and ecotoxicology. I now work in regulatory environmental toxicology with the federal government. If Dan hadn't seen what he did in me 20 years ago, I would likely be in a job that doesn't give me the immense satisfaction that environmental risk assessment does.

Additionally, Dan was by far one of the best professors I've ever had. He was one of the most captivating lecturers I've ever seen. He put so much work into the preparation of each class—which began promptly at 8:30 a.m.—that they were so interesting that you didn't mind getting up early. He was tough and made you work hard, but it was great!
Dan McLaughlin is a former Concordia Biology professor.

To read more or to participate in this and other discussions, join the Concordia University Alumni Association group on LinkedIn. ■



UNIVERSITY FOR THE PEOPLE



LINDA RUTENBERG

Concordia's School of Extended Learning aims, among its several goals, to help students succeed at their studies, enhance their career and skills, and engage in community development.

BY PATRICK MCDONAGH • ILLUSTRATION BY SARA HEPPNER-WALDSTON

Imagine this: you have just returned to university after an absence of several years, or even after years in the workforce or raising children. You enrol in your new courses brimming with enthusiasm at the prospect of making changes in your life.

But university proves to be a strange new experience, and a disheartening first transcript is dotted with Ds and Fs. At Concordia, about 10 per cent of students struggle with their studies and risk failing or dropping out. "But very few students fail courses because they don't have an aptitude for their discipline," says David Gobby, director of the new Student Transition Centre. "In

most cases, they fail because of external factors."

Since fall 2009, Concordia students in failed or conditional standing, as well as new independent studies students, have been directed to the Skills for Success in University Study course to hone their capacities in everything from time management, motivation and information literacy to exam anxiety and note-taking: all things that research shows are central to student success but are not related to specific disciplinary knowledge.

The course, and the Student Transition Centre itself, are part of Concordia's five-year-old School of

The School of Extended Learning's management team (from left): John Dickson, assistant director, Continuing Education; David Gobby, director, Student Transition Centre; Mireille Landry, interim director, Institute for Community Development; and Dean Noel Burke.

Extended Learning. "Our central mission is to make the university accessible to the broader community and to make the community accessible to the university in non-traditional ways," says Noel Burke, the School's founding and current dean. "So a lot of our efforts focus on innovative practice, from pedagogy to interactions between the university and the community, to address the needs

OUR MISSION: To make the university accessible to the broader community and individuals in it AND to make the community accessible to the university in non-traditional ways.

STUDENT TRANSITION CENTRE



CENTRE for

communications

digital graphics

computer programming

languages

CONTINUING EDUCATION

CONCORDIA SCHOOL of EXTENDED LEARNING



INSTITUTE for



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

UNIVERSITY of the STREETS CAFE



StHSeacola

of our three sets of clients: Concordia students, potential students and the broader community.”

Concordia has had a longstanding commitment to the ideals of accessibility and community engagement. The School was founded to consolidate programs and services to focus specifically on access. Some established programs, such as the Centre for Continuing Education and the Institute for Community Development, are now part of the School of Extended Learning, where they are transforming their aims and services. In 2008, for example, the Institute developed a new plan to continue exploring further means of engaging the world beyond academia. The Centre for Continuing Education offers extensive courses in computer programming, digital graphics, communications and languages, particularly intensive programs in English

advisors. They may be entering higher education for the first time, or re-entering after a long absence, and they bring significant baggage that needs to be unpacked and repacked so they can complete this journey,” says Burke.

While these students may have no difficulty with their subject material, they are untrained in the strategies that make for successful studies. The Student Transition Centre clarifies the education process by advising and otherwise supporting “non-mainstream” students—from independent and mature students to non-credit, continuing-education students to those struggling in their courses. “We want to help students think actively about how they learn and what they need in order to succeed,” Gobby says.

That led to the creation of Skills for Success in University Study, a four-credit course designed for mature and independent students, as studies have

bad habits after they’ve been here.”

Before launching Skills for Success, Gobby and the course’s development team studied many examples from other universities, especially the acclaimed first-year seminars offered at the University of South Carolina. Indeed, John Gardner, the architect of the South Carolina program and author of many books on student success, served as an external evaluator. “The academic content is very, very comprehensive,” Gardner wrote in his assessment of Skills for Success. “Your course syllabus is as ambitious as any I have seen of the genre... [and] I am VERY impressed with your combining the three-credit course with a one-credit information literacy course taught by your librarians.”

Gardner has been joined by a chorus of students asked to provide feedback. “I think this course should be manda-

We want to help students think actively about how they learn and what they need in order to succeed.

as a Second Language. Meanwhile, the School has launched a new set of undergraduate business certificate programs in human resources, marketing and business practices, a reflection of its focus on professional development. The School also includes some newly formed services, such as the Student Transition Centre and the Quebec English-Speaking Communities Research Network.

Repacked baggage

The School’s commitment to accessibility starts at home, with a new approach to students. “Concordia has always offered support services but they have not always been integrated into a coherent program for students who need help,” explains Burke. Many independent and mature students are accepted into open programs in the Faculty of Arts and Science while trying to qualify for specific programs, often in other faculties. “Qualifying students often need to spend more time with

shown these students are likeliest to struggle at the beginning of their programs—for all sorts of reasons. “One thing that struck me was how many hours students are working these days—many are working full time while also studying full time,” says Gobby. “And most who fail do so because of things like time management, study habits and motivation. It is not because they can’t understand the material.” The course addresses these problem areas in detail and also includes a unique section on information literacy, developed and taught by Concordia librarians to help students find, validate, use and properly cite information.

While the course was originally designed for students entering university, so far it has been offered primarily to students in conditional or failed standing. “We’d like to change that, so more students entering the university take this course right away,” says Gobby. “It’s a lot easier to establish good habits in new students than to teach students to change

tory in the first semester,” said one student. Another wrote: “Learning that there are basic tools and techniques that work if I just apply them every day was really eye-opening for me because I realized that I can do this and maybe even do it well.”

The perspective from the front of the classroom is also positive. “I believe that it is a most worthwhile learning experience for students from beginning to end,” says Sharyn Sepinwall, who taught the Skills for Success course in fall 2010. “It is pedagogically so well-organized and designed, covering topics that are in a large measure life skills as well as effective skills necessary for university success.” Thus far, the results are bearing out these accolades, Gobby reports. “They come in getting Cs, Ds and Fs, but after they are getting Bs and even As.”

Building on this achievement, the Student Transition Centre is working with Concordia’s John Molson School of Business and Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science to develop a set

of customized qualifying courses that would focus on the specific knowledge required in these faculties; for example, by designing one course stressing the mathematics skill set for business and another emphasizing that for engineering. Such courses would allow non-mainstream students to qualify more easily for these faculties.

the learning process and ask questions about where they want to go in the future." Community groups also gain from the energy and focus the students bring to these projects.

Another example is the Open University courses offered in 2008 by the Institute in collaboration with Concordia's Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling. The

knowledge at a level non-specialists can understand and profit from. For example, we've invited a scholar researching the out-migration of young people to talk about her work. And people in places from Gaspé to Gatineau, who are affected by this migration, will be able to ask questions and discuss the issues," O'Donnell explains. "Our ultimate goal

Qualifying students may be entering higher education for the first time, and they bring significant baggage that needs to be unpacked and repacked so they can complete this journey.

Knowledge and community

Concordia's commitment to accessible education expands beyond its campus grounds. "Knowledge has as its purpose the evolution of the community. Everything we do is community-based," says Burke. Since 1993, the Institute for Community Development has embodied this notion, finding innovative ways to bring university and community knowledge together. "We think of our work as creating collaborative spaces for those inside and outside the university, spaces for learning and reflection and citizen engagement," says interim director Mireille Landry.

Last year, the Institute introduced Problem-Based Service Learning, a pair of courses bringing undergraduate students from all faculties to work together on projects relevant to community partners. The classroom introductory course features community practitioners and site visits, and is followed by a 90-to-120-hour practicum. "For instance, an Urban Planning student worked with a community council in Notre-Dame-de-Grace [NDG, in Montreal] on a new housing complex that had a public space. The student surveyed residents and created a process to help define how that public space would look and be used, in the process helping build ties for the people living there," recounts Landry. "Students are hungry for these experiences. They want to connect with communities. This course helps them zoom in on their interests, appropriate

courses were based at an NDG community centre and at l'Abri en Ville, a Montreal long-term-care facility for people with mental illness; both focused on oral history and community building. "Our goal in these endeavours is to support learning opportunities that are accessible to all," Landry says.

The Institute has a long history in this area. It has run the Summer Program in Community Development for more than 16 years and has developed a vast network in the process. The innovative and popular University of the Streets Café extends this web of community connections by bringing professors, researchers and community members to share their knowledge in the city's cafés for public conversations. "All of these programs are ways of diminishing the barriers between the university and its communities, making spaces in which all kinds of collaborative projects can emerge," Landry says.

Similar spaces are being created by the newly formed Quebec English-Speaking Communities Research Network. Lorraine O'Donnell, Communities Research Network's coordinator/researcher, has developed several projects to this end. In one pilot project in collaboration with the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN), researchers present their findings via phone and web-conferencing to QCGN member groups across the province. "Academic researchers usually aim at their peers, but this program transfers

is to be very supportive of community priorities, sharing research that could be used to better understand Quebec's English-speaking communities and perhaps even develop public policy."

Building a community relationship through a particular research project is only the first step, though. "We want to have ongoing relations so that we can develop truly meaningful collaborations," says Landry. With this goal in mind, the School of Extended Learning is taking part in laying the foundation for a sustainable communities partnership that will bring together stakeholders from the university and communities to define how to forge mutually beneficial long-term relationships.

Burke underlines that these relationships, like the School's other projects, are not frills decorating the university's margins but central to Concordia's mission. "This university has always emphasized community engagement," he says. "The work we are doing now further enhances Concordia's signature." ■

Patrick McDonagh, PhD 98, is a Montreal-based writer.

Montreal-based illustrator Sara Heppner-Waldston, BEA 83, facilitates business meetings and group dialogue through her graphic recordings. saragrafix.com



L I T E I M M E R

Julie Gedeon describes how the Summer Literary Seminars, based at Concordia, bring novice and award-winning writers together to share and improve their craft in a dynamic milieu.

Photos by Julia Blaukopf



Above : Participants on a café tour/walk in Vilnius at SLS Lithuania 2009.
Next page: Obie-Award-winning New York playwright and three-time SLS faculty member Mac Wellman reads at SLS Lithuania in 2009.

Andrew Battershill, BA 10, will never forget how wonderfully strange it was to sit at a café in the whimsical Republic of Užupis in Vilnius, Lithuania. The artists populating the 0.6-square-kilometre area declared the district an independent micro-nation in 1997. “It has this odd constitution posted everywhere asserting things like, ‘No-one has the right to make another person guilty,’ and, ‘A dog has the right to be a dog.’” Battershill says. “A place like that really opens you up to things that are fundamentally different and, instead of being intimidated by them, you’re more willing to experience and learn from them.”

That’s exactly what Mikhail Iossel, associate professor of English and Creative Writing at Concordia, had in mind when he started the Summer Literary Seminars (SLS) program 12 years ago. The SLS program invites writers of various genres and levels of accomplishment to step out of their routine for at least two weeks and into an unfamiliar location to join other writers keen to share and improve their work and discuss their craft. “We choose locales that have a special energy that comes from being places in transition,” explains Iossel, the program’s CEO and executive director. “We then accelerate that energy by creating an environment for participants to learn from acclaimed writers, editors, publishers, scholars, artists and each other.”

Concordia is an integral SLS partner. It provides a home base and affiliation with a university known for its strong Creative Writing program. It also supplied the classroom and auditorium space for last year’s inaugural Montreal program, which I attended along with Battershill and many other local writers. This year’s programs will take place in Montreal, Lithuania and Kenya.

Different worlds

The concept started when Iossel paid a visit to his native Russia. Before immigrating to the U.S. in 1986, he belonged to a circle of underground *samizdat* (self-publishing) dissident writers in Soviet Russia. SLS derived from Iossel’s desire to share his hometown of St. Petersburg with his American

R A R Y
S I N S



colleagues and give Russian writers a chance to meet their U.S. counterparts. St. Petersburg had changed beyond recognition when he first returned in 1993, and was still in chaotic transition when he asked bestselling author Francine Prose, renowned essayist Phillip Lopate and acclaimed poet C.K. Williams (who went on to win the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry) to join him as SLS's first faculty members in St. Petersburg in 1999. "Returning with American writers, and being one myself, allowed me to re-evaluate my recollections of St. Petersburg," says Iossel, who came to Concordia in 2004. "Enabling others to look at their memories, ideas of writing and their writing practices in the sheer strangeness of a different locale and its state of transition usually accelerates understanding and has become an underlying purpose of SLS."

Melissa Bull, BA 08, participated in the 2007 St. Petersburg seminar. She recalls the disparity between the harsh existence of the old women selling their sewn wares on Nevsky Prospekt and the architectural opulence of the Mariinsky Opera and Ballet Theatre. "I was able to inject myself into this new space and interpret it by writing stories I wouldn't have written otherwise," she says.



Programs coordinator Mike Spry at SLS Montreal 2010.

SLS programs coordinator Mike Spry, BA 07, is delighted with the influence the programs in different countries are having on literature globally. "Padgett Powell [an American novelist of the southern literary tradition] has this wonderful story about [former Russian president Boris] Yeltsin that he would have never written if we hadn't invited him to be an instructor in St. Petersburg, and Ed Pavlic would have never written his book of prose poetry, *But Here Are Small Clear Refractions*, based on his trip to Siu from Lamu, Kenya," Spry says. "Our narratives are influenced by our surroundings and there's often something incredibly creative that happens when we're taken out of our comfort zones."

Spry experienced such creative discomfort the instant he landed in Kenya. "It was the first time I felt what it's like to be a visible minority," he says. He also realized he was in a different world after Iossel warned him that lighting a cigarette at the airport would probably get him mugged. "My senses became a lot keener from that point," Spry says. "And we enable writers to experience different worlds within the knowledge and safety of our program."

The Kenyan program began in 2002, the year that former president Daniel arap Moi's increasingly authoritarian regime collapsed. "Everyone was extremely excited," Iossel recalls. "People were lining up to buy newspapers at 5 a.m. to read about the presidential run."

During an earlier visit, he had a chance meeting with Binyavanga Wainaina, a prominent Kenyan writer who had returned home after years of self-imposed exile. "After speaking with him only a short time, I realized this energetic man was on the same path as me in wanting to put Kenya in the literary spotlight," Iossel says. Wainaina became instrumental in helping to assemble the first Kenyan program.

Having English as the main language in Kenya made the country more accessible than Russia in some respects, but when the program launched, there was no way for Kenyans to obtain books or for writers to connect with each other. "We took established and beginner North American writers to Kenya to help people get to know each other and start literary projects to bring Kenyan writers to the attention of North American editors and readers," Iossel says. "And some have been published here."

Iossel describes Kenya as an African microcosm, with its spectacular national parks occupying the large vistas between seacoast and mountains. The week spent on Lamu is like "floating in timelessness," he says, with the island much as it was 800 years ago. "This birthplace of the Swahili language is a town of 30,000 people with not a single car because the widest road is narrower than my office. Instead, you have 20,000 donkeys pulling carts, and small boats transporting people and goods from different islands."

European crossroads

In a very different part of the world, SLS Lithuania began as a result of participants still wanting a European component after the St. Petersburg program was put on hold in 2009. "Russia became less vital as a transitional place, with its political regression," Iossel says.

He describes Vilnius as an undiscovered treasure at the crossroads of eastern and central Europe. "It's beautiful, with its cobblestone streets in Europe's largest Old Town, and impossible to pin down architecturally with its Renaissance buildings on one corner and Marc Chagall-like Jewish *shtetl* cityscape off to the side and Austro-Hungarian rococo around the next corner, and the fishbone cathedrals atop the rolling hills that look like threads of rain whenever it pours at night," he says.

Being Jewish, Iossel is also drawn to Vilnius by its past. "Vilnius had once been home to the most learned and cultured Jewish community in Europe, but that came to a tragic end between 1941 and 1943, with 95 per cent of the Lithuanian Jews—the highest per cent in Europe—being exterminated," he says. "Vilnius has tremendous energy, but also solitude and the energy of desolation rising from its past. And, of course, for Jewish people, there is the constant sense of what has been discontinued, and its absence has a powerful meaning and a presence of its own."

SLS Lithuania will join the celebrations this year marking

the birth a century ago of poet and 1980 Nobel laureate Czeslaw Milosz, who lived and studied in Vilnius before the Second World War. He later settled in the U.S. and lectured at the University of California, Berkeley, fostering a generation of influential American poets, including Ed Hirsch, Robert Pinsky and Adam Zagajewski. SLS has invited friends of Milosz's to be 2011 faculty members in Vilnius.

Montreal-bound

The Montreal program that I attended last year was SLS's first foray into North America. Over the course of two weeks, my days were packed from about 9:30 a.m. until at least 10 p.m. (and typically much later, of my own accord) with workshops, lectures, readings, panel discussions and spirited conversations.

I'm not usually a fan of poetry readings, preferring to read poems on my own, but Erin Mouré and Oana Avasilchioaei delivered their innovative collaboration with such rhythmic and emotive strength that I was literally moved to tears. Famed visual artist Vitaly Komar presented a fascinating slide show on how Russian artists have transformed the "neon noise" of North American signs into an art form that artists are ironically picking up here, and theology scholar Olivier Bauer humorously yet persuasively conveyed Quebecers' religious-like worship of the Montreal Canadiens.

Such a daily array of text and theories was delightful, but my favourite part was getting to know writers from around the world. I learned so much in workshops and unhurried conversations with the bassoonist/writer from Maine, the former Hong Kong businessman-turned-poet now living in Iceland, the PhD prof from Michigan undergoing the workshop process to relate better to her students, the vuvuzela-blowing soccer nut/author/poet from Kenya, the New York writer/performer teaching acting techniques to overcome writer's block, and the shy Prairie firefighter accepted into SLS based on the first (and excellent) short story he had ever written. There were also dozens of impressively creative people still in or fresh out of creative writing programs who showed great imagination.

Marty Sartini Garner, who's pursuing a Concordia MA in English and Creative Writing, had volunteered to pick up the out-of-towners from the airport. "When I arrived home after midnight, I kept my wife up for an hour and a half telling her about all the amazing people I had just met from all over the world," he says.

He especially appreciated the down-to-earth approach of the instructors. "School puts a premium on the avant-garde high-stylists of each era, but I think that's an unfair expectation to put on everyone," he says. "So it was great to get to know writers like [essayist] Chuck Klosterman and [novelist and short-story writer] Kevin Canty and realize they were normal guys making a living at writing good stories and not worrying about whether the academy will study them 50 years from now."

This year promises to be another packed two weeks. "It just seemed natural for us to have a program in the city we love," Iossel says. "Montreal is a free-wheeling, good-natured open space with a multitude of cultural and literary influences that

make it a terrific and natural place to invite friends to share their writing."

Like other SLS locales, Montreal also has a transitional—occasionally jittery—energy about it that derives from linguistic and cultural differences. "For people in the rest of North America, it's the gateway to Europe and offers that different context by having a vibrant English literary community within a predominantly French milieu," Spry says. "For out-of-town



CEO and executive director Mikhail Iossel celebrates the last night of SLS Montreal 2010. "Enabling others to look at their memories, ideas of writing and their writing practices in the sheer strangeness of a different locale and its state of transition usually accelerates understanding and has become an underlying purpose of SLS," Iossel says.

alumni, SLS is a chance to return to Montreal and experience its broader literary community. And for people who call Montreal home, SLS is bringing some of the world's best writers to your doorstep, which makes it unlike any other literary event in Montreal, and perhaps North America."

Montreal poet Jeffrey Mackie welcomed the opportunity last year to obtain detailed feedback from award-winning poet Sina Queyras. "She and the participants in my workshop really helped me to take my writing to a different level by showing me how to question everything so that it stands up when I'm not there as an intermediary for my poems," Mackie says.

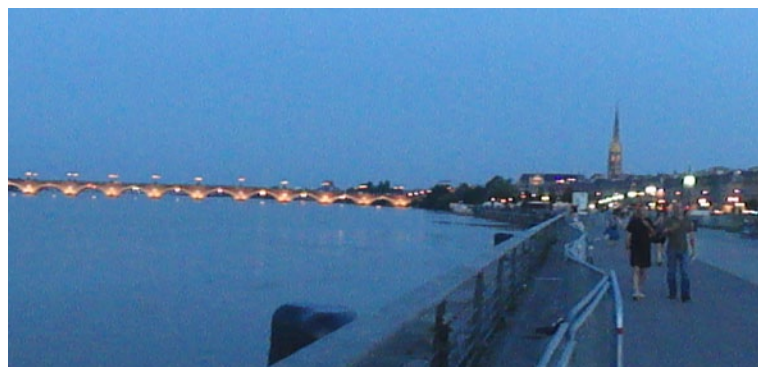
He also gained confidence by sharing his writing at participant readings. "When Governor General's Literary Award nominee Elizabeth Bachinsky comes up to you afterwards and says, 'I like your work,' it feels so great," Mackie says. "Being with people who love writing and are doing it well is reinvigorating." ■

Julie Gedeon, BA 99, BA 01, MA 09, is a Montreal-area writer planning to attend SLS Montreal again in June.

The 2011 Summer Literary Seminars will take place June 12-25 in Montreal, July 31-August 13 in Lithuania and, tentatively, December 7-21 in Kenya. Those attending both the Montreal and Kenya programs in the same year receive a special rate. SLS also sponsors writing contests, with the winners awarded a full tuition waiver for the program of their choice. Finalists receive a partial scholarship. For more information or to help support the program, visit sumlitsem.org.



internationale d'été en pédagogie universitaire, à Bordeaux, Montréal et Québec



L'université n'est pas seulement un lieu de transmission du savoir ou la dépositaire d'une somme de connaissances accumulées au fil des ans. Il s'agit plutôt d'une communauté d'apprentissage partageant différentes approches dynamiques quant à la compréhension du monde qui nous entoure.

La passion d'enseigner

À l'heure des médias sociaux et de la dématérialisation des sources d'apprentissage, dans un monde où il importe plus que jamais de faire le tri dans la masse d'information qui nous submerge, l'être humain demeure une courroie de transmission vitale. C'est dans cet état d'esprit que l'Université Concordia, l'Université Laval et l'Université de Bordeaux ont décidé d'unir leurs forces autour du thème de la *passion d'enseigner*. Cette première formation intensive s'est déroulée dans les murs de l'Université de Bordeaux, en France, l'été dernier. Elle aura permis à une trentaine d'intervenants d'échanger dans un climat propice à l'innovation et au réseautage.

Le labyrinthe de la connaissance

Depuis le Moyen Âge — époque où sont apparues les premières universités d'Occident —, la pédagogie a fait de grands pas, à telle enseigne que l'éducation se trouve désormais à la croisée des chemins, entre la transmission et l'acquisition d'un savoir global dans un monde où les sources se multiplient.

Dans le célèbre roman *Le nom de la rose* d'Umberto Eco, le savoir des clercs est représenté sous la forme emblématique

d'une bibliothèque construite comme un labyrinthe impénétrable. Ce roman, ficelé sur le mode de l'enquête policière, met en scène un bibliothécaire qui monopolise le savoir en interdisant l'accès à certaines sources jugées compromettantes pour l'ordre établi. C'est en transgressant les préjugés que le disciple — ou l'étudiant — parvient à se doter d'une carte mentale du monde. Autrement dit, la lecture d'un manuscrit est aussi une entreprise d'interprétation.

Prendre conscience du cheminement d'apprentissage

Ollivier Dyens, vice-recteur adjoint aux études à Concordia, était présent à l'Université d'été en qualité de formateur. Il montre du doigt le danger de la surcharge de données qui guette les étudiants à l'ère de la société de l'information.

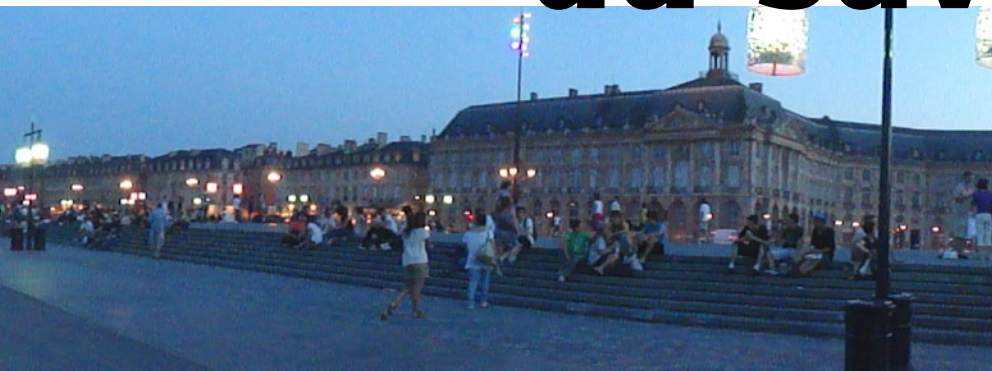
Soulignant la rapidité des changements en cours, M. Dyens estime que le monde universitaire est de plus en plus centré sur les besoins de l'étudiant. Le rôle de l'enseignant serait d'« aider l'étudiant à prendre conscience du cheminement d'apprentissage et de sa responsabilité dans ce processus ». Il va sans dire que la formation de l'esprit demeure toujours un enjeu fondamental.

La culture comme contexte premier

Philippe Caignon, directeur du Département d'études françaises à Concordia, a lui aussi participé à cette semaine intensive à Bordeaux. Il a surtout apprécié le fait de suivre des ateliers qui lui auront permis de mieux « identifier les



Au cœur du labyrinthe du savoir



Par Patrice-Hans Perrier



Dans l'ordre habituel : Université Bordeaux Segalen; vue de la Garonne, de la place de la Bourse et du miroir d'eau à Bordeaux; des professeurs et des animateurs travaillent en équipe, y compris (au premier plan de gauche à droite) Joël Rich et Patrick Zimmermann de l'Université de Bordeaux; Université Bordeaux Segalen, École Doctorale des Sciences de la Vie et de la Santé, Université de Bordeaux et académie de Bordeaux; des professeurs discutent lors d'un atelier (de gauche à droite) : Soufiane Rouissi de l'Université Bordeaux 3 avec Kathleen Lechasseur et Charlotte Morneau de l'Université Laval; des professeurs à l'intérieur de l'amphithéâtre Gintrac, Université Bordeaux 2.

différents types d'apprenants », pour reprendre ses mots. Les participants ont été regroupés en équipes afin d'élaborer un cours tenant compte des objectifs pédagogiques qu'ils avaient choisis d'un commun accord. M. Caignon précise que « de ces objectifs découlaient les concepts à enseigner, la manière et les outils à utiliser ainsi que les méthodes de contrôle retenues ».

Ce linguiste s'intéresse plus particulièrement à la transmission des idées d'une langue à une autre. Il nous fait remarquer à ce sujet que « le jugement humain représente un facteur décisionnel de première importance quand vient le temps de formuler une éthique du travail ». Il souligne l'importance de la curiosité et du sens du jeu dans le domaine de la traduction. « La souplesse intellectuelle fera toute la différence dans un contexte où le traducteur doit faire coïncider une langue de départ avec une langue d'arrivée », précise-t-il.

Un nouveau paradigme d'apprentissage

L'originalité de cette formation intensive d'une semaine aura été de mettre l'accent sur l'interaction et le partage entre les participants, afin qu'ils bénéficient d'expériences pédagogiques issues des différentes cultures universitaires en présence.

John Bentley, coordonnateur des programmes et développeur d'outils pédagogiques au Centre des services d'enseignement et d'apprentissage (CSEA) de Concordia [voir l'encadré pour plus d'information à propos du CSEA], était lui aussi de la partie à cette université d'été vivifiante. M. Bentley aime à comparer les nouvelles technologies à « un océan qu'il peut être ardu de traverser sans être équipé de solides

outils de communication ». Il estime qu'il est important de « ne pas se sentir dépassé dans un contexte où la transmission des données se déroule sur un mode continu ». Selon lui, c'est « la qualité des messages et la transmission d'une communication intelligible qui importent ».

M. Bentley croit que les nouvelles technologies peuvent être au service du développement de la création sous toutes ses formes. En fait, il affirme que « la tradition n'empêche pas les nouvelles idées d'émerger dans un contexte où les médias sociaux peuvent être employés comme outils de diffusion permettant de mettre en ligne des tutoriels performants », entre autres.



Des professeurs partagent leurs idées pendant un atelier (de gauche à droite) : Josée Proulx et Nadir Belkhitir de l'Université Laval.

La créativité comme ingrédient de base

Nathalie Dumont enseigne la typographie au Département de design et d'arts numériques de la Faculté des beaux-arts de Concordia. Elle a vivement apprécié la formule des présentations faites en équipes dans le cadre des ateliers de l'Université d'été. Ayant déjà l'habitude de diriger des séances où des étudiants viennent présenter leurs travaux pratiques, elle aime « mettre à contribution une variété de méthodes d'enseignement ».

À l'instar des autres participants, elle considère qu'« il est vital de pouvoir compter sur un réseau d'échange afin de discuter de nos méthodes d'enseignement et d'échanger des idées nouvelles avec nos pairs ». La réseautique devient donc un facteur important de communication, si l'on se fie à cette intervenante pour qui « il importe de sortir d'un modèle rigide d'enseignement et d'amener les étudiants à s'impliquer davantage dans un processus où l'esprit critique est vital ».

La clef de l'énigme

À une époque où l'enseignement n'est plus la chasse gardée d'une caste de privilégiés, la créativité pourrait faire toute la différence en définitive. Ollivier Dyens tient à préciser : « Nous n'avons plus le choix, il faut que la qualité de l'enseignement soit placée au même niveau que la recherche universitaire. » Il croit qu'« il ne suffit plus de présenter un plan de cours en début de session, mais bien de préciser les objectifs pédagogiques qui aideront l'étudiant à prendre conscience de son parcours d'apprentissage ».

Au-delà de l'apprentissage des matières enseignées à proprement parler, c'est l'acquisition de ce que M. Dyens nomme les « soft skills » (compétences non techniques) qui devient un enjeu stratégique. On parle ici du « quotient émotionnel » d'un étudiant, de sa capacité à prendre conscience des enjeux éthiques ou environnementaux, par exemple. Ainsi, le développement d'une pensée critique sera la pierre angulaire des nouvelles valeurs d'apprentissage en cours de développement.

L'été prochain, l'Université Concordia sera l'hôte de la deuxième édition de l'*Université internationale d'été en pédagogie universitaire* (du 27 juin au 1^{er} juillet). Cela augure un important changement de paradigme dans le domaine de la pédagogie. Ollivier Dyens fait partie du comité organisateur qui s'active à faire de cette rencontre un événement porté par la créativité sous toutes ses formes. En effet, « les participants seront invités à penser de façon innovante la pédagogie », précise notre interlocuteur. « Nous allons utiliser l'approche créative de l'enseignement des arts — une des forces de Concordia — afin de dépasser les lieux communs de l'enseignement », conclut-il. ■

Patrice-Hans Perrier, BA 1990, est journaliste à Montréal.

L'équipe du Centre des services d'enseignement et d'apprentissage (de gauche à droite) : Janette Barrington, la directrice Olivia Rovinescu et John Bentley.



L'enseignement : un apprentissage permanent

Portrait du Centre des services d'enseignement et d'apprentissage (CSEA)

PAR PATRICE-HANS PERRIER

Le Centre des services d'enseignement et d'apprentissage (CSEA) de Concordia s'occupe de proposer de nouvelles pistes afin d'améliorer les approches pédagogiques et de promouvoir l'utilisation des nouvelles technologies au sein de la communauté universitaire.

L'équipe de recherche du CSEA tente de réunir des membres du corps enseignant et des étudiants des cycles supérieurs autour de discussions visant à favoriser des échanges sur les meilleures pratiques d'enseignement et d'apprentissage. Des séminaires sont ainsi organisés, tandis qu'Internet et d'autres modes de communication sont mis à contribution afin de maximiser le partage des expertises dans le domaine pédagogique. Une équipe chevronnée est disponible en permanence afin d'aider le corps professoral à améliorer ses pratiques.

De nouveaux outils de connaissance

Olivia Rovinescu, directrice du CSEA, souligne « l'importance de trouver de nouvelles façons d'améliorer les aptitudes pédagogiques et les méthodes d'évaluation de l'enseignement ». Elle a vu beaucoup d'eau couler sous les ponts – en matière d'innovations dans le domaine de la pédagogie universitaire – depuis qu'elle est en poste. Elle insiste sur le fait qu'il est primordial que les enseignants puissent aider leurs étudiants à trouver de nouvelles façons d'aller chercher l'information, ce qui les aidera à résoudre les problèmes auxquels ils font face ».

L'enseignement n'est pas seulement une affaire de transmission des connaissances, si l'on se fie à notre interlocutrice. « C'est une nouvelle façon d'appréhender la connaissance qu'il faut développer, en mettant l'accent sur la facilité à établir des connexions et à maîtriser de nouveaux outils », poursuit-elle. À une époque où l'autonomie est vitale, il faut donc « aider les étudiants à apprendre par eux-mêmes et à développer leurs propres perspectives ». On revient ici à la notion centrale d'esprit critique.

Développer l'esprit critique

M^{me} Rovinescu souhaite vivement que « les étudiants deviennent des penseurs indépendants. De nos jours, l'enseignant n'est plus le centre absolu d'intérêt ou un modèle qui dicterait l'unique façon d'assimiler des connaissances ». Elle précise que « la nouvelle génération d'étudiants aime participer à l'apprentissage, mettant à contribution de nouveaux outils technologiques qu'ils maîtrisent aisément ».

Il appert que la communication interpersonnelle, en relation avec les problématiques pratiques et théoriques, est de première importance à l'heure des nouvelles technologies. C'est à partir de ce prédictat que le CSEA organise des séances qui permettent à des étudiants des cycles supérieurs et à des professeurs d'apprendre à mieux communiquer entre eux et à développer de nouvelles aptitudes pour résoudre les problèmes.

Le travail d'équipe fait toute la différence

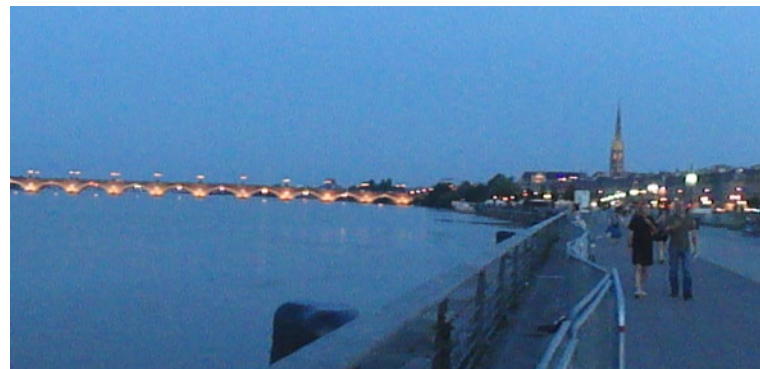
Nous avons assisté à un séminaire organisé par le CSEA le 10 décembre dernier. Les participants ont échangé sur les problèmes de transmission et de rétention de l'information dans le cadre d'un cours universitaire.

Carmen Kuczewski, professeure à l'École de gestion John-Molson et consultante dans le domaine de la comptabilité, a soulevé le problème important de la capacité de concentration des étudiants. Elle souligne le fait qu'il est difficile de retenir l'attention de l'apprenant quand il s'efforce de prendre des notes en écoutant une présentation.

En fait, « c'est souvent le travail d'équipe autour de la résolution de problèmes concrets qui permettra aux étudiants de mieux assimiler la matière », précise-t-elle. Les autres participants à ce séminaire semblaient tous d'accord sur un point central : une approche dynamique, à travers des échanges fréquents entre étudiants, est plus bénéfique qu'un simple processus d'apprentissage linéaire. Plusieurs expériences semblent d'ailleurs confirmer que le travail d'équipe aide à développer une meilleure conscience du monde professionnel. Un monde où les aptitudes de l'« intelligence émotionnelle » peuvent faire toute la différence en définitive.



the International University Summer Teaching Program in Bordeaux, Montreal and Quebec City.



University is not simply a place of knowledge transfer or the custodian of a wealth of knowledge accumulated over the years. Rather, it is a learning community sharing different dynamic approaches for understanding the world around us.

The passion to teach

During this time of the rise of social media and the decrease of traditional learning sources, in a world where it is more important than ever to sort through the masses of information that overwhelms us, human beings remain vital to disseminating knowledge. With this in mind, last year Concordia, Université Laval in Quebec City and Université de Bordeaux in France joined forces to create the International University Summer Teaching Program around the theme of the passion to teach. They held their first intensive training program last summer at Université de Bordeaux. The program allowed some 30 speakers to share in a climate conducive to innovation and networking.

The labyrinth of knowledge

Since the Middle Ages—when universities first arose in the West—pedagogy has made great strides, so much so that education is now at a crossroads between the transmission and acquisition of global knowledge in a world where sources are multiplying.

In Umberto Eco's renowned 1980 novel *The Name of the Rose*, the clerics' knowledge is represented by a library built as an impenetrable maze. The novel, set around a murder investigation, features a librarian who monopolizes access to information because he fears that entrée to certain sources would compromise the established order. By transgressing these prejudices, the disciple—or student—manages to conjure a mental map of the world—his reading of a manuscript leads to the interpretation.

Awareness of the learning path

Olivier Dyens, Concordia's Vice Provost of Teaching and Learning, attended last year's International University Summer Teaching Program as an instructor. Dyens points to the potential danger of data overload for students in our information era.

Underscoring the rapid changes taking place, he believes that the academic world is increasingly central to the needs of the student. The teacher's role, he says, is to "help students become aware of the learning path and its responsibility in this process." It goes without saying that training of the mind remains a fundamental teaching issue.

Culture as the first context

Philippe Caignon, chair of Concordia's Department of French Studies, also participated in the intensive week in Bordeaux. Caignon especially appreciated the workshops that allowed

At the heart of the labyrinth of knowledge



by Patrice-Hans Perrier



Clockwise, from top left: Université Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2; view of la Garonne Place de la Bourse and le Miroir d'Eau in Bordeaux; faculty members and facilitators working in groups, including (in foreground, from left) Joël Rich and Patrick Zimmermann from Université de Bordeaux; Université Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2, medicine and life sciences centre, Université de Bordeaux and the Academy of Bordeaux; faculty members discuss ideas during a breakout session (from left): Soufiane Rouissi of Université Bordeaux 3 and Kathleen Lechasseur and Charlotte Morneau of Université Laval; faculty members meet inside the amphithéâtre Gintrac, université Bordeaux 2.

him to better “identify the different types of learners,” he says. Participants were grouped into teams and developed a course taking into account the educational goals they had selected together. Caignon reports that “objectives developed were to teach the concepts, ways and tools to use and control the methods selected by the participants.”

Caignon, a French Studies professor, was particularly interested in the transmission of ideas from one language to another. He points out that human judgment plays a prime role in deciding how to formulate a work ethic. He stresses the importance of curiosity and sense of play in the field of translation. “Intellectual flexibility will make all the difference in a context where the translator has to match a source language with a target language,” he says.

A new learning paradigm

The goal of the intensive one-week program is to focus on interaction and sharing among participants from diverse backgrounds so that they benefit from educational experiences from the different academic cultures involved.

John Bentley, program coordinator and instructional developer for Concordia’s Centre for Teaching and Learning Services (see sidebar for more information), also participated in the invigorating summer program. Bentley likes to compare new technology to “an ocean that can be difficult to cross without having the proper communication tools.” He believes it is important “not to feel overwhelmed from continuous data transmission. It’s the quality of the messages and transmission that matter.”

Bentley believes that new technologies can serve the development of creativity in all its forms. In fact, he asserts that “tradition does not prevent new ideas from emerging, such as

social media being used as dissemination tools for successful online tutorials, among other uses.”

Creativity as a basic ingredient

Nathalie Dumont is an assistant professor of Design and Computation Arts in Concordia’s Faculty of Fine Arts. Dumont says she highly appreciated the team-presentation format in the summer school’s workshops. Since she is accustomed to running sessions where students present their work practices, she likes to “draw upon a variety of teaching methods.”

Following the example of other participants, Dumont considers that “it is vital to be able to exchange ideas to discuss our teaching methods and to trade novel ideas with our peers.” Networking becomes an important communication factor if one trusts the speaker for whom “it is important to get out of a rigid model of teaching and engage students to become more involved in a process where the critical spirit is vital.”

The key to the riddle

At a time when education is no longer the preserve of the privileged, creativity can make all the difference in the end. Ollivier Dyens explains: “We have no choice; it is necessary that the quality of education is placed at the same level as academic research.” He believes that “it is no longer enough to present a lesson plan early in the session, but rather specify the learning objectives that help students become aware of their educational journey.”

Beyond learning the subjects taught, it’s important for students to acquire what Dyens calls “soft skills.” He describes the “emotional quotient” of a student, that is, the ability to recognize ethical or environmental issues, for example. Thus, the development of critical thinking will be the cornerstone of the new and developing learning values.

Next summer, Concordia will host the second edition of the International University Summer Teaching Program from June 27 to July 1, reflecting a significant paradigm shift in the field of pedagogy. Dyens is part of the organizing committee that’s working to make the program an event driven by creativity in all its forms. “Participants will be encouraged to think innovatively about pedagogy,” he says. “We will use the creative approach to arts education—a strength of Concordia—to move beyond educational clichés.” ■

Patrice Hans-Perrier, BA 1990, is a Montreal journalist.



Faculty members discuss ideas during a workshop breakout session (from left): Josée Proulx and Nadir Belkhitir of Université Laval.

The Centre for Teaching and Learning Services team (from left): Janette Barrington, director Olivia Rovinescu and John Bentley.



Education: lifelong learning

Concordia's Centre for Teaching and Learning Services

BY PATRICE-HANS PERRIER

Concordia's Centre for Teaching and Learning Services (CTLS) offers ways to improve pedagogical approaches and promote the use of new technologies within the university community.

The CTLS research team seeks to bring together faculty members and graduate students to discuss best practices for teaching and learning. It organizes seminars and uses the internet and other modes of communication to maximize the sharing of teaching expertise. Its experienced team is readily available to help faculty members improve their practices.

New tools for knowledge

CTLS Director Olivia Rovinescu stresses "the importance of finding new ways to improve teaching skills and methods of teaching evaluation." Rovinescu has witnessed a lot of water under the bridge regarding university teaching innovations in her time at Concordia. She insists that "it is essential that teachers help students find new ways to get information that will help them solve the problems they face."

Teaching is not just about imparting knowledge, Rovinescu adds. "It's a new way of understanding the need to develop knowledge, focusing on the ability to establish connections and to master new tools," she says. At a time when autonomy is vital, we must "help students learn by themselves and develop their own perspectives." That's where the central notion of critical thinking comes into play.

Develop critical thinking

Rovinescu says that "students become independent thinkers. Nowadays, the teacher is no longer the absolute centre of interest

or a model that would dictate the only way to assimilate knowledge." She states that "the new generation of students like to participate in learning, involving new technology tools they have mastered easily."

Interpersonal communication in connection with the practical and theoretical issues is key in an era of new technologies. Therefore, the CTLS organizes events that allow graduate students and faculty members to learn to communicate better and develop new problem-solving skills.

Teamwork makes all the difference

I attended a seminar organized by the CTLS on December 10. Participants discussed the problems of transmission and retention of information in the context of a university course.

Carmen Kuczewski, an accounting consultant and instructor at Concordia's John Molson School of Business, raised the important issue of students' attention span. She stressed that it is difficult to maintain students' attention when they try to take notes while listening to a presentation. "It's often teamwork, during the solving of practical problems, that allows students to better assimilate the material," she said. Other participants in the seminar seemed to agree on one central point: using a dynamic approach, through frequent interaction between students, is more beneficial than a simple linear learning process. Several experiments also seemed to confirm that teamwork helps develop a better awareness of the professional world. A world where the skills of "emotional intelligence" can make all the difference in the end.

John Molson MBA Community Service Initiative: bridging theory and practice by making a contribution • BY MAI-GEE HUM

Concordia University's John Molson School of Business (JMSB) and its MBA program have received wide acclaim from such international publications as *The Economist*, *Corporate Knights Magazine* and *The Princeton Review*, supporting its strong reputation for academic quality, innovative research and outstanding student learning experiences. The MBA Community Service Initiative (MBA CSI) was recently added to the business school's offerings and reflects JMSB's philosophy of preparing students for future business environments that are global, complex and sustainable.

Launched in 2009, the MBA CSI provides students opportunities for experiential learning. The initiative features three components: the three-credit elective course, MBA



Pictured (from left) are MBA students Adam Levitt, Lisa Tsakalian and Ivonne Medina, who organized the Tata Cup Sustainability Case Competition 2010.

695I – Internship, in which students, guided by faculty members, provide in-depth consulting to businesses; Volunteer Assistance and Service Opportunities, which capitalize on MBA student and faculty expertise by allowing students to share their knowledge with organizations across the city; and the Community and Economic Development Training Programs, which are customized to help community managers improve their governance and leadership skills and for unemployed or underemployed individuals seeking the tools and knowledge to start a business.

JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF

JMSB gives science grads a competitive edge

JMSB and the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI MUHC) have joined forces to establish a program to provide business training to science graduate students and researchers. This new partnership—a first of its kind in North America—will open new doors for science graduates and represents an exciting new collaboration between the two institutions. The business certificate, officially called the Graduate Diploma/Certificate in Business Administration program, was inaugurated in 2009 for researchers from across disciplines seeking graduate business training. "This initiative between JMSB and the RI MUHC is historic," says JMSB Dean Sanjay Sharma. "The JMSB learning experience is rich because of the focus on practical and applied learning. Students in the

program will develop business knowledge and skills that are transferable across all industries."

Bright Minds Big City

MBA students (pictured at right, from left) **Michael Gerstel, Jessica Bernstein, Marina Zervogiannis** and **Jeffrey Talajic** were recently recognized for the advertising campaign they developed for the Association des agences de publicité du Québec (AAPQ) as part of their MBA-level Integrated Marketing Communications class. The AAPQ was so impressed by the students' innovative marketing strategy that they invited the four to join them for Advertising Week in New York City last September.

Alberta Energy Challenge

JMSB started the case competition season with a victory at the inaugural edition of the Alberta Energy Challenge held in September at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. Congratulations to (pictured at right, from left) coach **Amr Ezzat** and students **Jonathan Lawrence-Ruel, Christopher Labreque, Alain Grenier** and **Benoit Chevrier**, who represented JMSB so well.

And more than 100 JMSB students were crowned champions at the 23rd edition of the Jeux du Commerce, held at the University of Ottawa's Telfer School of Management in January. The event brought together 1,200 students from 13 universities across Eastern Canada. ■



JMSB Dean Sanjay Sharma (left) and Dr. Miguel Burnier, Associate Director, Clinical Research and Training, RI MUHC.

According to MBA CSI founder and coordinator Dave McKenzie, GrDip (DIA) 93, MA 03, the program is making a difference in the community. Over the past year, 11 students completed five internships; a trade-show-style showcase featuring 26 not-for-profit organizations educated students, faculty members, staff and the general public about volunteering and employment opportunities in the not-for-profit sector; training programs were completed by public service senior managers and staff of the Cree Nation of Waswanipi in Northern Quebec; and nine budding entrepreneurs graduated from the Starting Your Own Business: Entrepreneur Training Program, one of the Community and Economic Development Training programs.

“The momentum has been great,” says Alan Hochstein, associate dean and MBA program director. “Students want to explore new environments and learn how business approaches are applied in different work contexts. The community also benefits from JMSB’s faculty guidance on how to run a business or organization effectively and sustainably.”

The experience provided to students by the MBA CSI is

proving to be a key asset. “The best senior students are attracted to completing the various internships and more faculty members are getting involved as supervisors and trainers,” says McKenzie. “Increasingly, students, faculty and staff are acting locally and impacting globally.” For example, one volunteer assistance project had MBA students mentoring students in an entrepreneurship program at The Study high school in Westmount, Que. The interns advised the younger students how to conduct market studies and select a Quebec-made product to market in China.

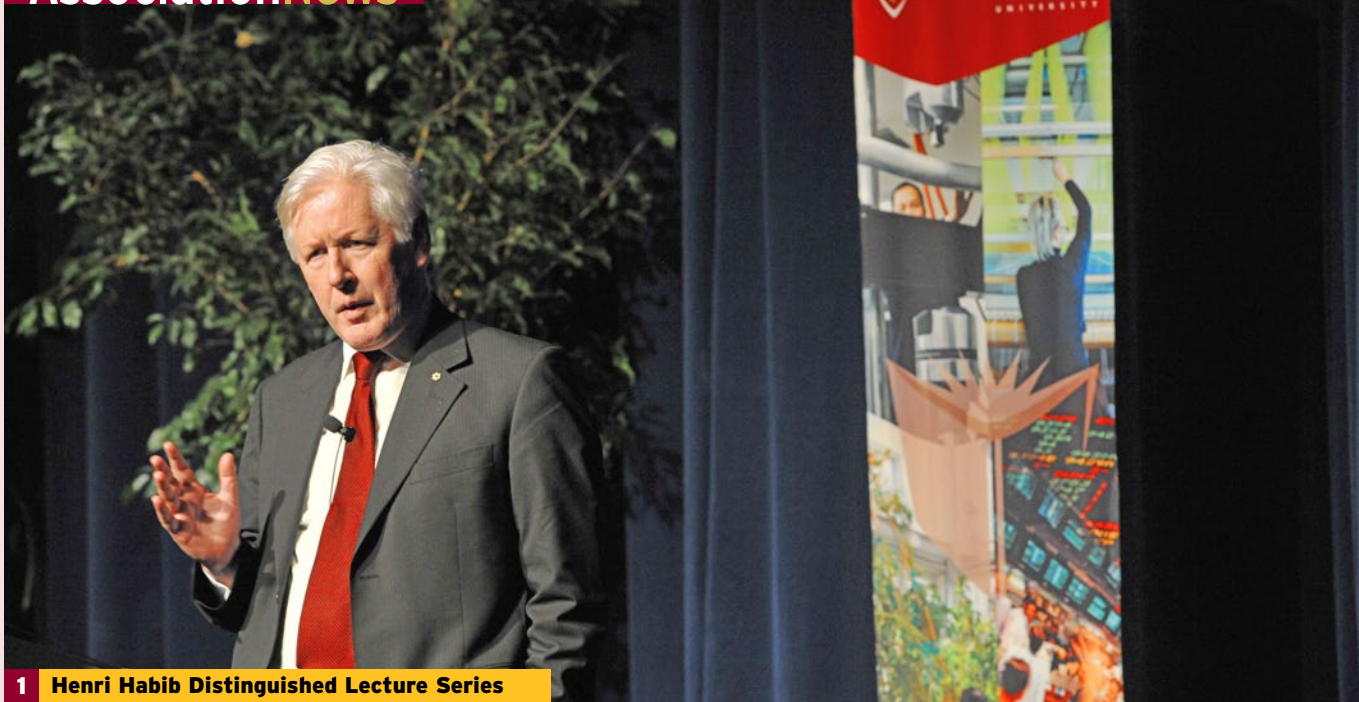
MBA CSI’s global impact continues to grow. Students recently completed internships with Trade Facilitation Office (TFO) Canada and developed export market studies for different companies based in Ecuador and Bolivia. TFO is a not-for-profit organization specialized in developing trade in transition economy countries. The interns served as consultants and gained cross-cultural business skills by analyzing market data, pricing structures and competition trends in a global export environment. MBA student Antoinette Cobham, a TFO intern, describes the project: “We served as consultants and created a strategic guide on how to enter the Canadian market. Since the partnership was formed in collaboration with TFO and MBA CSI, the export market study will be used to benefit not only its original subject but any other company under the TFO umbrella. We integrated varying components of our MBA training and produced a report tailored to the client’s needs.”

Another student team, Adam Levitt, Ivonne Medina and Lisa Tsakalian, planned, coordinated and implemented the 6th Annual Tata Cup Sustainability Case Competition 2010, a one-day business case competition that gathered 15 universities from across Canada and the U.S. In a report that summarizes the internship activities, the three students state: “Through this experience, we were able to acquire a significant amount of hands-on knowledge which is not always easy to obtain through regular classes. The opportunity to analyze, execute and measure real-life situations is something that cannot be taught—just experienced. There is no doubt that this internship will pay dividends as we enter the workforce after graduation. Moreover, through planning this event, we were given an incomparable opportunity to network with reputable industry professionals and top MBA students from across North America.”

The future of the MBA CSI remains bright. In 2011, a new cohort of interns will develop the documentation to design a website for the McGill University Health Centre and Montreal Neurological Hospital. The site will be used as the key tool to recruit and retain the best nurses locally, nationally and internationally. Other interns will work with Financial Alliance for Sustainable Trade to develop a business plan to implement a service that matches lending institutions with small and medium-sized enterprises in Africa, Asia and Latin America. ■

BUSINESS





1 Henri Habib Distinguished Lecture Series

HENRI HABIB DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

Liberal Member of Parliament

Bob Rae **1** delivered a timely and enlightening address on February 8 at Concordia's D.B. Clarke Theatre for the Henri Habib Distinguished Lecture Series on Peace, Conflict and Global Politics. About 265 students, faculty members, alumni and others listened to the Liberal foreign affairs critic talk about "A vision of Canadian foreign policy: Afghanistan, the Middle East and the World." He underlined the importance for Canadians, in our ever-shrinking world, to pay close attention to events on the other side of the globe: "As I like to say, Canada is in the world and the world is in us."

Concordia Provost and VP, Academic Affairs, David Graham introduced Rae and Henri Habib, who was in attendance. Habib has been associated with Concordia's Department of Political Science for more than 50 years and was named Distinguished Professor Emeritus in 1999. The speaker series was created in 2004 by a group of Concordia alumni and friends led by Susan Raymer, L BA 71, to honour their former professor.

GARNET KEY

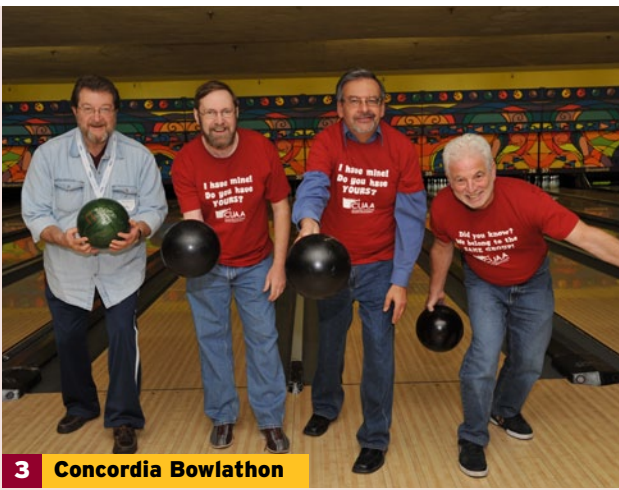
About 30 past and current members of Concordia's storied Garnet Key Society gathered on November 10 for an entertaining evening at the Irish Embassy Pub and Grill in Montreal. Patrick Samborsky, BSc 08, 50th Key, Garnet Key Alumni Chapter president, welcomed the lively crowd, which included (from left) **Paul Graif**, BA 93, 34th Key, **Jonathan Bourget Murray**, BSc 09, 51st Key, **Molly Kohli**, BA 07, 49th Key, Garnet Key chapter VP **Natasha Krsteski**, BA 09, 51st Key, and **Ashley Araneta**, BA 10, 51st Key. **2**

CONCORDIA BOWLATHON

The university's annual Bowlathon proved another enjoyable afternoon for alumni, family and friends on November 14 at Montreal's Laurentian Lanes. The Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University created the event 18 years ago and is proud to continue the tradition of raising money for scholarships and bursaries. Pictured (from left) are Sir George Williams alumni association secretary **Paul Reisman**, S BA 69, 1st VP **Donald Chambers**, BComm 76, immediate past president **Steven Avram**, S BEng 71, MEng 85, and president **Mardy Weigensberg**, S BComm 74. **3**



2 Garnet Key



3 Concordia Bowlathon



4 JMSB



5 Book to Big Screen

STORYTELLING: CELTIC MAGIC

Montreal-based storyteller Jan Gregory delighted an audience of 75 alumni and friends on November 17 at Concordia's John Molson School of Business Building. Gregory, a founding member of the Montreal Guild of Story Tellers, recounted magical stories from the mists of Celtic Britain.

JMSB PUB NIGHTS

Despite the rain and cold, more than 60 alumni gathered on November 30 at the JMSB Alumni Chapter Pub Night at Decca77 Supper Club in Montreal. And on January 25, (from left) **Jim Kellett**, MBA 06, JMSB chapter VP of alumni services, **Gabriela Zorrilla**, chapter president **Adriana Molluso**, MBA 09, and **Robert Valdmanis**, BA 89, joined more than 50 alumni and friends at Le Pois Penché in Montreal for another pub night. **4** Each event featured a warm atmosphere and plentiful fare

and allowed alumni to network, catch up with old friends and make new ones. The chapter will host its final pub night of the academic year on March 28 at Café Ferreira.

BOOK TO BIG SCREEN: *THE OTHERS*

About 40 Concordia and McGill University alumni and friends gathered December 1 at McGill University's Martlet House for a screening of the award-winning film *The Others*, which is based on Henry James's *The Turn of the Screw*. They then enjoyed an animated discussion of the adaptation of the novella to the film led by **Jennifer Beauvais**, BA 98, MA 01 (pictured at left), a part-time Concordia English professor, and **Alanna Thain** (right), who teaches film and cultural studies at McGill. **Bonnie Birollo** (centre), EMBA 06, GrCert 10, former executive VP of the Concordia

University Alumni Association (CUAA), moderated. **5** Among other topics, participants questioned perceptions of reality and explored the implications of the film director having changed the gender of the elder child.

FINE ARTS

An enthusiastic group of nearly 100 alumni and friends enjoyed a panel discussion on The Art of Art Collecting on December 2 in the York Amphitheatre in Concordia's Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex. The panel included seasoned art collector Maurice Forget, artist, art collector and former gallery owner John Schweitzer and Art Mûr co-founder Rhéal Olivier Lanthier. The discussion was moderated by François Morelli, BFA 75, a Concordia Studio Arts professor. The group then joined a cocktail reception and visited the Undergraduate Student Exhibition at Concordia's FOFA Gallery, guided by its director, Jake Moore, BFA 93, MFA 06.

BOOK CLUB: *LITTLE BEE*

In collaboration with the Westmount Public Library, 30 alumni gathered to discuss Chris Cleave's profound novel, *Little Bee*, with moderator Stephanie King, MA 01.

STINGERS HOLIDAY SKATING PARTY

At what has become a yearly ritual, more than 200 Concordia alumni, faculty members, staff, friends and their families skated alongside Stingers mascot Buzz and the women's and



6 Stingers Skating Party

men's hockey teams on December 11 at the Stingers Holiday Skating Party at Loyola Campus's Ed Meagher Arena. Participants warmed up with hot chocolate and cookies, courtesy of the CUAU and the Advancement and Alumni Relations Office. Pictured are Stingers football head coach **Gerry McGrath** (left) with his children, **Ryan** and **Meghan**, and Santa. **6**

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HOLIDAY PARTY

Concordia's International Students Holiday Party marked its 11th anniversary in style as more than 300 students from about 35 countries turned out December 23 to celebrate at the Nouvel Hôtel and Spa in Montreal. Dominique McCaughey, Acting VP, Advancement and Alumni Relations, welcomed students and university dignitaries. "Tonight's dinner is unique because it brings together so many cultures in one room and for good reasons—goodwill, great company and great food," McCaughey said. The dinner, which was hosted by the CUAU and the Advancement and Alumni Relations Office, included a hot buffet of international cuisines. Pictured (from left) are international students **Yitian Su** and **Khalil Daldoul**. **7**

ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

On January 20, the Engineering and Computer Science Alumni Chapter (ECAC) kicked off the year with an informative talk by **Viswanath Tata**, BEng 81, MEng 88, Executive VP of Aerospace Concepts Ltd. in Montreal. Tata spoke to the appreciative audience of 45 alumni and others about Executive Aircraft Completions: Technical and Management Challenges.

ANNUAL RUGBY AWARDS BANQUET

Spirits were high on January 29 at Montreal's Molson Brewery as current and former members of the Stingers men's and women's rugby teams celebrated the accomplishments of the 2010 season and the history of the sport at Concordia. Roger Côté, Concordia's acting VP of Services, and Katie Sheahan, BA 78, director of Recreation and Athletics, welcomed the lively crowd. Players from both the women's and men's squads received awards for their high level of athleticism, dedication and leadership. Chris Regimbal, BComm 90, GrDip 93, and Tom Smith, BA 81, were named to the Concordia Rugby Wall of Honour for their contributions as rugby program builders.

GEOGRAPHIC CHAPTERS Edmonton

On November 4, 17 dedicated alumni and friends came out to the CUAU's Edmonton Chapter dinner at Cosmos Greek Taverna. They caught up with former classmates and made new acquaintances over a tasty dinner.

Beijing

Beijing Chapter president Chen Zhang volunteered for the PhD Workshop China 2010 recruitment event on November 27 and 28 at the Swissôtel in Beijing. The workshop provided overseas graduate schools such as Concordia an opportunity to meet top graduates from the most important Chinese colleges and universities. Concordia's Arts and Science Dean



7 International Students

Brian Lewis and Paula Wood-Adams, associate dean of the School of Graduate Studies, attended the event and shared a meal with Beijing-based Concordia alumni.

Calgary

On December 4, a dozen Concordia alumni and friends enjoyed a cocktail reception and then got into the spirit of the season with Theatre Calgary's annual staging of the classic Dickens tale, *A Christmas Carol*.

Ottawa Alumni Business Networking Luncheon

The Ottawa Chapter's 12th Business Networking Luncheon attracted 60 eager participants who exchanged business cards and made many new connections on January 27 at the Minto Suite Hotel. A portion of the proceeds went to support the Ottawa Chapter Bursary, which continues to raise funds towards its endowment, which now provides a \$500 bursary to a deserving Ottawa student every year.

Homecoming '11

SAVE THE DATE! September 15 to 25

Take part in these fun and exciting events and activities:

- ▶ Homecoming Football Game: Concordia Stingers vs. St. Francis Xavier X-Men
- ▶ Family Fair Day
- ▶ President's Reunion Dinner and Campus Tours
- ▶ AbitibiBowater Lecture
- ▶ Shuffle 22
- ▶ Career Speed-Networking & Cocktail Reception
- ▶ Engineering and Computer Science Alumni Reunion and Tours

... and much more!

For more information, contact Valerie Roseman, Alumni Officer, Affinity Chapters, at valerie.roseman@concordia.ca or 514-848-2424, ext. 5647.

homecoming.concordia.ca



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Upcoming geographic chapter events

Watch for your invitation to 2011 events or visit alumni.concordia.ca for more information about upcoming events.

Register for events online at alumni.concordia.ca/register, or call 514-848-2424, ext. 4397, toll free: 1-888-777-3330.

Calgary

Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra

March 24

North Carolina (new region)

Meet & Greet

March 26

Dubai

Networking cocktail

with the Consul General of Canada

March 30

London

Networking cocktail

with James Finley, L BSc 72, Rolls Royce

April 5

Vancouver

April 28

Networking with Darcy Rezac, MBA 78

Boston

Peabody Essex Museum

May 1

Edmonton

Dinner

with Todd Babiak, MA 98

May 4

Ottawa

Annual Dinner

with Brian Marley-Clarke,

S BComm 63

May 11

Toronto

Annual Theatre Night

May 18

Texas

Meet & Greet

May 26

New York City

Networking event

with John Parisella, L BA 67,

Quebec Delegate General

June ■

SAVE THE DATE

The Concordia University Alumni Association's 20th Annual Alumni Recognition Awards Banquet

Monday, May 16, 2011

Hyatt Regency Montreal

1255 Jeanne-Mance St.

Special tribute to Henri P. Habib

Watch for your invitation soon.

For more information:
alumni@concordia.ca
or 514 848-2424, ext. 8946



NOTICE

is hereby given that the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University will hold its

74th Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 2011
6 p.m.

Alumni and the general public are welcome to attend the meeting, held for the purpose of receiving reports and the election of the 2011-2012 board of directors and executive.

Henry F. Hall Building, Room H-767
1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Montreal

RSVP by May 4, 2011

Online: alumni.concordia.ca/register

Phone: 514-848-2424, ext. 4397.

Information:

nancy.wada@concordia.ca or

514-848-2424, ext 3882

SAVE THE DATE

Garnet Key Society Annual Alumni Banquet

Saturday, May 7, 2011

Reconnect with former members of the Garnet Key Society and induct the 54th Key

By invitation only
Information: valerie.roseman@concordia.ca
or 514-848-2424, ext. 5647

Call for Class Reunion Champions: President's Reunion 2011!

Graduates from the classes of pre-1961, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006 are invited to celebrate their graduation anniversaries at the President's Reunion this year. If you would like to volunteer as a Class Champion for your reunion class, please contact Erin Mullins at erin.mullins@concordia.ca or 514-848-2424, ext. 3881. Help us bring your former classmates together to celebrate this special occasion.

Are you interested in participating in exciting research about aging, language and memory?

Concordia's Cognitive Psychophysiology Laboratory on the Loyola Campus is seeking healthy older adults (60 years plus) whose primary language is English. Participants receive \$10/hr. and free parking is available. Call 514-848-2424, ext. 7546.



Hingston Hall-Langley Hall residences alumni:

Looking to reconnect with fellow alumni who used to live in Hingston or Langley Hall from 1970 to 1976? Contact Myra Dodick, BA 75, BComm 76, at mdodick@aol.com or Barbara Dorrington-Bowers, BA 75, at bdorrington@yahoo.com. Reunion date to be confirmed.



To all Sir George Williams University alumni

We are contacting more than 8,000 Georgians around the world in anticipation of the 75th Anniversary of the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University next year.

An anniversary committee is planning a dinner-dance for Sir George Williams alumni. It will take place during Homecoming 2012 in September and alumni are also invited to participate in some of the many other planned Homecoming activities, including campus tours, fine art displays and the President's Reunion.

To aid us in our preparations for the dinner-dance, we ask that you take a few moments to answer a few survey questions by filling out and returning the reply form, below, or visiting alumni.concordia.ca/sgwsurvey.

We are also compiling the largest memory book of Sir George Williams University alumni ever produced. Please take a moment to tell us about your experiences at Sir George Williams and any major events in your life. Now is the time to strut your stuff! (We ask that you limit your submission to one page.)

Send us your memory by email for publication in the Association's 75th Anniversary Memory Book to hstoliar@videotron.ca.

Help us make our diamond jubilee a great success! We look forward to seeing you all.

Sincerely,

Harvey Stoliar, S BComm 62, and Robert Barnes, S BComm 71
Co-Chairs of the 75th Anniversary Dinner-Dance Planning Committee

To fill out our survey, visit alumni.concordia.ca/sgwsurvey or fill out, tear off and return the reply form below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Degree and year (if applicable): _____

Do you plan to attend the Sir George Williams alumni Dinner-Dance at Homecoming 2012 in September?

Yes No

Will you bring a spouse/friend?

Yes No

Will you require hotel accommodation?

No 1 night 2 nights 3 nights more than 3 nights
(please specify) _____

Will you be travelling to Montreal by air?

No Yes, from (please specify city): _____

Will you be travelling to Montreal by train?

No Yes

Please complete and return to:

Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University, Concordia University
1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., FB 520
Montreal, QC, Canada H3G 1M8
Email: alumni@concordia.ca
Website: alumni.concordia.ca/sgwsurvey

Some graduates in this listing have received more than one degree from Concordia, Sir George Williams and/or Loyola. These people are listed under their earliest year of graduation.

49 Lorne A. Booth, S BA, S BComm 57, writes, "After a year at McGill University and time in the army, I entered Sir George Williams in 1945. This proved to be a wonderful four-year experience. Professor Arthur Lermer really turned me

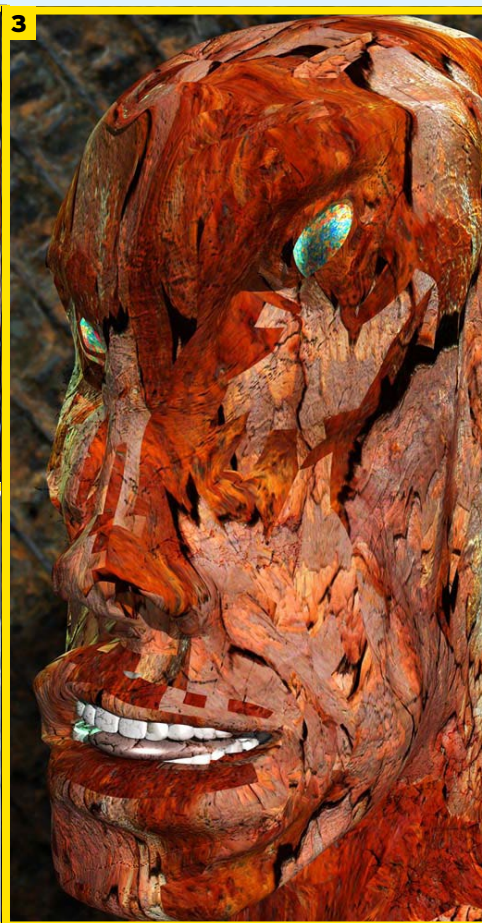
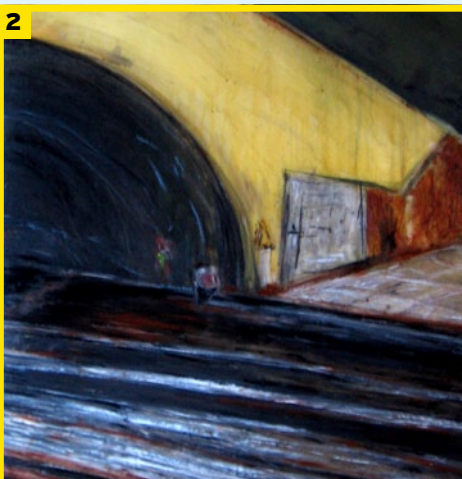
on to economics. My business career included direct sales, quite a few years as a regional manager of branch operations and as an international credit and treasury manager for Continental Can. I was always interested in education and became president and director of the Executive Development Institute. After I moved to Toronto in 1970, I became very active with the Credit Institute of Canada and eventually became its president and dean. I've been married a very long time to

Ruth (Archibald), a wonderful former teacher, and we have two sons and two terrific granddaughters. After cruising around much of the world, we now just hang around Toronto and catch some theatre."

69 Donald H. Bunker, S BA (econ.), holds law degrees from McGill University. Don and his wife, Pamela, just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They live in Dubai, U.A.E., where he practises aviation law. Don is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

40TH REUNION

71 David Wynne, S BA, has more than 30 years' experience in international business development, venture capital, finance and operations. David has held board and senior management positions in a number of high-tech and investment companies, including Zecotek Photonics Ltd., where he remains as advisor and Senior VP of Strategic Planning. He is currently president and CEO of Ozonator International



1 > Raymonde Jodoin, BFA 83, was one of 30 visual artists and artisans who participated in the Christmas Arts & Crafts Show and Sale at the Centre d'exposition L'Imagier in Gatineau, Que., from December 17 to 22. raymondejodoin.com 1) *Vert*

2 > Rochelle Mayer, BFA (studio art) 83, held a solo exhibition called "Dans le métro, prise 2," at La maison de la culture Mercier in Montreal from December 4 to January 16. Rochelle presented 40 of her works on the theme of Montreal's Metro. 2) *Le tunnel*

3 > LiQin Tan, MFA 93, held a solo exhibition called "Refractive Brain Therapy" at the Dalet Art Gallery in Philadelphia, Penn., from January 15 to February 26. The exhibition featured LiQin's recent conceptual animation installations and digital print series. Tan is

a professor and the co-director of the Art Program at Rutgers University-Camden, N.J. animation.com 3) *Rusty Freshness*

4 > Illyse Segal, BFA (graphic design) 84, held an exhibition entitled "Aesop's Fables" at the Gallery at Victoria Hall in Westmount, Que., from February 17 to March 6. Illyse has been a quilter since 1973 and has specialized in watercolour quilts for the last 20 years. 4) *The Tortoise and the Hare*

5 > Susan Garfield-Shulman, BFA (studio art) 96, participated in the "TROYART International Exhibition" at Museu Brasileiro da Escultura in São Paulo, Brazil, from January 15 to 30. 5) *Kalibot*

Pte Ltd., which specializes in biohazardous waste management and is based in Singapore. Before entering the private sector, David served as Canada's representative to the APEC Budget and Administration Committee and the Canadian Deputy Chair of the APEC Economic Committee in South Korea, Japan and Singapore. He holds an MA in Public Administration

and Economics from Carleton University, Ottawa.

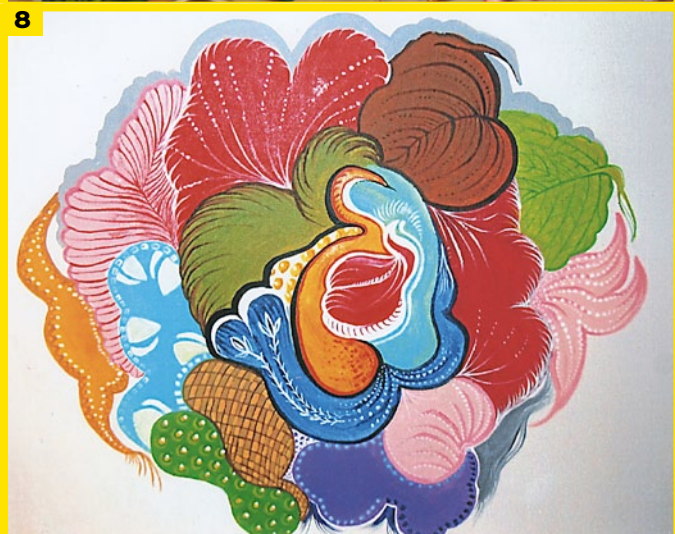
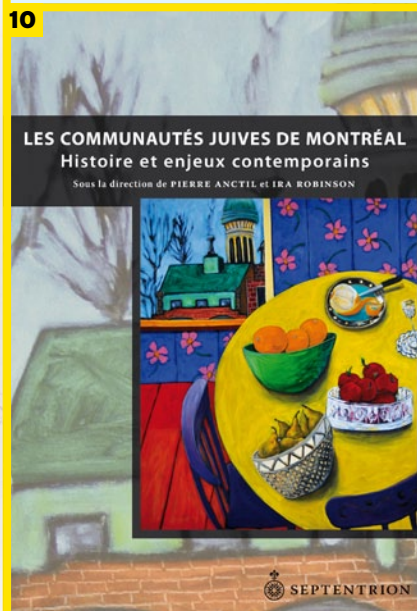
75 Serge G. Morin, MBA, recently received a Docteur en Histoire de l'art degree from La Sorbonne in Paris. Serge's thesis, titled "Jean-Philippe Dallaire (1916-1965) et l'art mural," was accepted without correction and received the second-highest rating granted by La Sorbonne. He previously

earned a BSc from the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont., in 1957; a BEng in 1958 and Diploma in Management in 1967 from McGill University; and an MA from Université du Québec à Montréal in 1995. Serge held many engineering and administration positions during a long career.

77 Linda Rae Dornan, BFA, received the \$15,000 Strathbutler Award on October 6 at a gala event. The Strathbutler Award is presented by the Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation. Linda lives in Sackville, N.B., and was chosen in recognition of her pioneering embrace of interdisciplinary media and her significant community contribution to the visual arts in New Brunswick.

Latchman Singh, BComm, lives in New York City. "I will always carry the wonderful experiences of my undergrad life at Concordia/Sir George Williams."

78 John Antonides, BSc, lives in Clearwater, Fla. "A lot has happened since 1978: I moved to New York City after my graduation; became a paramedic; married my college sweetheart, a Loyola graduate; have a 27-year-old son, an airline pilot, and a 21-year-old daughter, a college student; worked for New York City EMS; lived for 10 years in Greece, where I was the EMS director of Athens Medical Centre; wrote an EMS manual for Greek paramedics; and now am back in the U.S., still working as a paramedic for a major hospital. Concordia is in my heart ... forever!" johnantonides.ws



6 > Doreen Wittenbols, MFA (studio art) 02, was shortlisted for the U.K.'s Marmite Prize for Painting 2010. Doreen's painting, DIRTYGERTY100410, is now part of the Marmite Prize for Painting exhibition tour, which began at the Central Art Gallery in Tameside from December 8, to February 26, and is now at Lanchester Gallery Projects in Coventry until April 2. It moves to the Nunnery in London from April 7 to May 1. The prize winners will be selected at the final exhibition. *6) DIRTYGERTY100410*

7 > Mathieu Laca, BFA (painting and drawing) 05, took part in several recent collective exhibitions at the Patrick John Mills Gallery in Ottawa. During the show titled "I am not afraid," from January 6 to 29, a major private collection acquired most of Mathieu's paintings. His work will also be featured in the book *100 Artists of the Male Figure* to be released in April by Schiffer Publishing. mathieulaca.com, patrickjohnmills.ca *7) Manhunt*

8 > Isabey (Iby) Siemens, BFA (art ed.) 05, participated in the Annual Juried Art Show and Sale by the Women's Art Society of Montreal at the Ogilvy department store's Tudor Hall from January 8 to 12. *8) La joie des couleurs*

9 > Claudine Ascher, MA (art ed.) 06, held an exhibition of her pencil drawings entitled "People I Have Known: Drawing" at Galerie de la Ville in Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Que., from November 18 to December 22. Claudine has been exhibiting in solo and group shows for more than 25 years. *9) Colour pencil on Stonehenge*

10 > Erik Slutsky, BFA 86, is a Montreal-based artist, illustrator and teacher and has recently sold several of his paintings. Erik's work illustrates the cover of a new book, *Les Communautés juives de Montréal: histoire et enjeux contemporains*, edited by Pierre Ancilil and Ira Robinson, professor of Judaic studies in Concordia's Department of Religion.

Kudos



ANTON CORBIJN

Montreal-based indie group Arcade Fire captured Album of the Year honours for its third album, *The Suburbs*, on February 13 at the Grammy Awards ceremonies in Los Angeles. Two days later, the band won best International Album and best International Group at the BRIT Awards in London. The seven-member Arcade Fire, fronted by lead vocalist and songwriter Win Butler, features Concordia alumni **Régine Chassagne**, BA (comm. studies) 98, a multi-instrumentalist and singer who's married to Butler; **Richard Reed Parry**, BFA (electroacoustic studies) 03, also a multi-instrumentalist and singer; and violinist **Sarah Neufeld**, BFA (electroacoustic studies) 03.

Jeffrey S. Davis, BA, is the chairman and founder of Mage, LLC, a Boston-based management consulting firm. Jeffrey is co-author of the book *The 24-Hour Turnaround*, which offers entrepreneurial and business-building advice. He is also co-host of *Mind Your Own Business*, a radio talk show that focuses on entrepreneurs and airs on WBNW 1120 Needham, Mass., and myobtheradioshow.com.

80 Joanne E. McNeish, MBA (admin.), earned her PhD in Management from Carleton University in Ottawa in November 2010. Joanne's thesis was called "Consumers' Resistance to Discontinuing the Paper Bill." In August 2010, she joined the Ted Rogers School of Business at Ryerson University in Toronto as an assistant professor of Marketing.

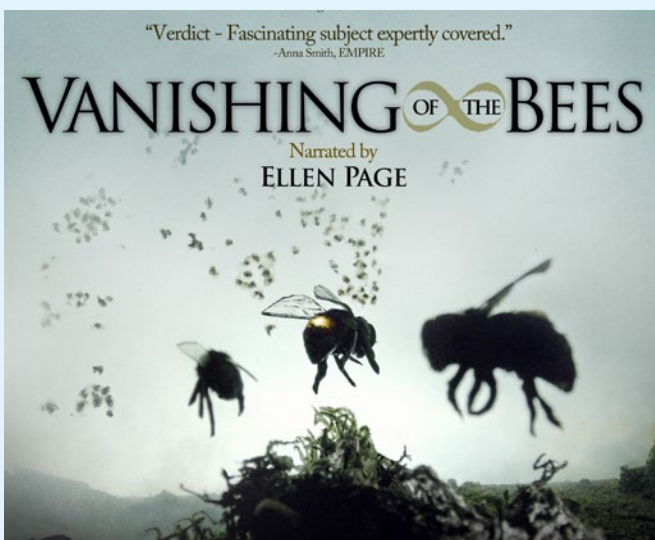
30TH REUNION

81 Robert Courteau, BComm, was named president of SAP's North

American operations in January. Robert is responsible for all business operations in the U.S. and Canada for SAP, a Newtown Square, Penn.-based software company. He had previously served as COO for SAP's global field operations.

84 François Longpré, BComm (acct.), has been practising law for more than 20 years with the Montreal firm Borden Ladner Gervais, and is now the National Practice Group Leader of its Labour and Employment Practice.

85 Madeleine Chenette, BA (rec. & leisure studies), recently was named president of Le Cercle Canadien de Montréal/The Canadian Club of Montreal, only the sixth female president in its 105-year history. Madeleine is also the chair of the board of directors and global lead of all intellectual capital enhancement and development for SECOR Group in Montreal. Madeleine has sat on the boards of the Orchestre Symphonique des jeunes de Montréal, Women



Maryam Henein, BA (journ.) 96, is a writer and filmmaker based in Los Angeles. Maryam is the co-director of *Vanishing of the Bees* (vanishingbees.com), a documentary film that investigates the economic, political and ecological implications of the worldwide disappearance of the honeybee. The film is narrated by Oscar-nominated Canadian actress Ellen Page. *Vanishing of the Bees* screened at Concordia on March 14, as part of the Cinema Politica series. cinemapolitica.org/concordia



Several Concordia alumni were involved in the recent Tableau D'Hôte Theatre production of *Dark Owl*, which ran November 16-28, 2010, at MainLine Theatre in Montreal. Director **Jessica Abdallah**, BFA (theatre and dev.) 07, and Tableau D'Hôte Theatre artistic director **Mike Payette**, BFA (theatre and dev.) 07, are workshop leaders and teaching assistants in Concordia's Department of Theatre. **Léa Rondot**, BFA (theatre perf.) 10 (pictured, top left), played Delcia. *Dark Owl*, written by Laval Goupil, tells the tragic story of an Acadian family trying to break from a haunting past that has isolated them in a gossip-infested New Brunswick fishing town in the 1970s.

Take part in our exciting alumni travel program to benefit from unique educational and cultural experiences. Join fellow alumni and explore the artistic wonders of Sicily or the idyllic Dalmatian Coast, cruise along Alaska's spectacular Inside Passage, or embark on an adventure down the Danube, Rhône or Yangtze rivers.

Prices are in Canadian funds and per person based on double occupancy and do not include airfare, unless otherwise specified.

The Culture and Arts of Sicily: Italy

April 1-10, 2011

From US \$2,395

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May 6-14, 2011

From US \$2,395

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June 20-28, 2011

From \$3,120

Cruising Alaska's Glaciers and the Inside Passage: Alaska

July 21-28, 2011

From \$3,695, including airfare

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September 10-24, 2011

From \$3,895

China and the Yangtze River

September 10-24, 2011

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in Finance, Women at the Top and the YWCA and, in 2008, sponsored the fundraising event of Les filles électriques, a creative organization for interdisciplinary events related to poetry. She holds a master's degree in business management from École des Hautes Études Commerciales in Montreal.

99 Dan Goldman, BFA (integrative music studies), and his contemporary music project Luxury Pond performed at the Indie Band Festival in Waterloo, Ont., in November. CBC Radio's Laurie Brown acted as host and curator for the evening, which she described as "a great musical happening." Luxury Pond, which includes Dan's wife, Daniela Gesundheit (a.k.a. Snowblink), performed with the Penderecki String Quartet. luxurypond.com

00 Mouna Andraos, BA (comm. studies), and Melissa Mongiat were awarded

the Phyllis Lambert Design Montreal Grant in October 2010. The \$10,000 grant will enable them to make a month-long research and creation trip to the Open Design City Lab in Berlin, and to attend the DMY Berlin design festival in June 2011. Mouna is the creative director at the Montreal firm Bluesponge and has earned many awards for her designs. She holds a master's degree in Interactive Telecommunications from New York University, where she also taught.

07 Lucie Bélanger, BCSc, earned a master's degree in Computer Science at Université de Montréal, where she specialized in interactive and adaptative projection systems for stage performances. Lucie provided the video integration for *Cité Contact*, a multidisciplinary dance-theatre production that played January 12-29 at the Théâtre Denise Pelletier in Montreal. She lives in Saint-Hyacinthe, Que. ■

Vincent Gladstone Scully, L attendee 36, died on January 10 in Montreal. Vince is survived by his wife, Dorothy Keddie, and his son, John. He was 98.

Alec (Sig) Fineberg, S BComm 42, died on January 26 in Montreal. Alec is survived by his wife, Audrey Kert, and his children, Elaine, Ruth and David. He was 89.

Miriam (Weiner) Kage, S BA 44, died on January 18 in Cote St. Luc, Que. Miriam is survived by her sons, Ian, Allan, Steven and Tom. She was 86.

Esther (Goldenberg) Heller, S attendee 48, died on November 23 in Montreal. Esther was 90.

Harry Raymond Churchill, S BComm 49, died on December 24 in Montreal. Harry is survived by his wife, Joyce, and his daughters, Peggy and Linda. He was 84.

Ralph Pritzker, S BComm 50, died on January 13 in Toronto. Ralph is survived by his wife, Eileen, and his children, Lisa and Mark. He was 91.

Douglas L.C. Rennie, S BSc 50, S BA 51, died September 29 in Winnipeg. Douglas is survived by his wife, Eva Keilson, and his sons, Michael and Harold. He was 91.

Keith Campbell, S BA 51, died on December 7 in Morin Heights, Que. Keith is survived by his wife, Anita. He was 88.

Milton G. Sweeney, L BComm 53, died on

December 3 in Oakville, Ont. Milton is survived by his wife, Jeannine, and his children, Michael, Sharon and Lorraine. He was 79.

Dr. George Donato, L BA 56, died on January 30 in Montreal. George is survived by his wife, Virginia, and his sons, Michael, Christopher and Mark.

Konstanty Jablonski, S BSc 60, died on December 12 in Montreal. Konstanty is survived by his wife, Rose. He was 89.

Raymond Henripin, S BSc 61, died on December 15 in Kirkland, Que. He is survived by his wife, Thérèse, and his children, Lyne, Danielle and Mary Beth. He was 80.

Harry (Goldfisch) Wagschal, S BA 61, died on January 31 in Dorval, Que. He is survived by his children, Gerry, Steven and Tarina. He was 71.

Imants Steprans, S BA 67, died on January 28 in Montreal. Imants is survived by his wife, Marija, and his sons, Juris and Janis. He was 87.

John Graham Akin, S BA 64, died on October 28 in Guelph, Ont. John is survived by his wife, Heather (Lang), and his children, David, Kathryn and Chris. He was 73.

Murray Paul Orlando, L BSc 63, died on December 20 in Kazabazua, Que. Murray is survived by his wife, Ann, and his children, Julia and Matthew. He was 68.

Quin C. Filgiano, L BComm 66, died on December 22 in

Keep in Touch

New job? Just moved? Just married? Or just want to let your former classmates know what you've been up to? Visit

alumni.concordia.ca/keepintouch

Or mail or email us any information about yourself—don't be shy—you'd like to appear in Class Acts.

Please include: your name (including name at graduation); year(s) of graduation and degree(s) from Concordia, Loyola or Sir George, and other universities; street address, phone number(s) and email address; and any other relevant personal or business info and messages that you'd like to appear.

By email: alumni@alcor.concordia.ca Subject: Class Acts

By mail: Class Acts, Advancement and Alumni Relations, Concordia University, 1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., FB 520, Montreal, QC H3G 1M8

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Lancaster, Ont. Quin is survived by his children, Tom, Ellen, Gerry, Dan and Paul. He was 83.

Bertha (Olfman) Avrith, S BA 67, died on December 15 in Montreal. Bertha is survived by her children, Shelley, Marcie and Charles.

Phyllis M. Eperon, S BA 67, died on December 7 in Montreal. Phyllis is survived by her children, Ted and Margaret. She was 91.

Marilyn Ann Manchen, S BA 70, died on November 19 in London, Ont. Marilyn is survived by her brother, Ronald.

Nancy Sugar, S BA 71, died on December 2 in Montreal. Nancy is survived by her husband, Steve, and her children, Lorne, Scott and Daniel. She was 64.

Mark Dranov, S MBA 73, died on January 23 in Montreal. Mark is survived by his wife, Ruth, and his children, Dusty, Robbie, Cheryl and Mahra.

Pamela (Wrigglesworth) Rosholt, BA 75, died on November 23 in Montreal. Pamela is survived by her stepmother, Nan Wilkins. She was 83.

Vito Valela, BComm 75, died on January 17 in Oakville, Ont. Vito is survived by his mother, Caterina, his wife, Cathy, and his daughters, Amanda and Diana. He was 58.

Peter Joseph Fogl, BComm 76, died on December 20 in Montreal. Peter is survived by his parents, Rose and Alois, and his sister, Anita. He was 56.

Timothy Keith Nelson, BEng 76, died on November 30 in Montreal. Timothy is survived by his daughter, Alyssia, and his companion, Maureen. He was 59.

Tawfik Tadros, GrDip 77, MSc 79, died on December 19 in Montreal. Tawfik is survived by his children, Randa and Howaida. He was 81.

Douglas Preston Howes, BA 80, died on June 22 in Montreal. Douglas is survived by his mother, Betty, and his sisters, Deborah and Dorothy. He was 57.

Farokh Monajem, BA 80, died on December 15 in Toronto. Farokh is survived by his wife, Janet, and his son, Devin. He was 57.

Louise Perry, BComm 80, died on December 12 in Cowansville, Que. Louise is survived by her sister, Carole, and her brother, John. She was 53.

Donna L. (Hart) Sauriol, GrDip 82, died on December 11 in Montreal. Donna is survived by her children, Pauline and Terry. She was 79.

Tina Dell'Aquila, BComm 84, died on January 22 in Toronto. Tina is survived by her parents, Teresa and Salvatore, and her husband, Brendan Flynn. She was 48.

Rose-Marie Berberian, BA 85, died on December 15 in Montreal. Rose-Marie is survived by her mother, Marguerite, her husband, Dave, and her sons, Adrian and Nicolas. She was 48.

Mary Karavassily Doucas, BA 85, died on December 16 in Montreal. Mary is survived by her children, Michael, Philippe, Oresti and Flory. She was 82.

Catherine Mary Potter, BA 85, BFA 89, died on December 3 in Montreal. Catherine is survived by her parents, Gwen and Al, her twin sister, Carole Anne, and her brothers, Murray and David. She was 52.

Israel "Issie" Nachshen, BA 86, MA 94, died on November 1 in Montreal. Issie is survived by his daughter, Shiffy. He was 89.

Beatrice "Betty" R. (Cohen) Segal, BA 86, died on November 1 in Montreal. Betty is survived by her husband, Moe, and her children, Marilyn and Arlene. She was 87.

Agnes (Skivington) Capus, MA 87, Cert 91, died on January 7 in Montreal. Agnes is survived by her husband, Joseph, and her children, Andrew and Christina. She was 83.

Thomas Hopkins, MFA 87, died on January 23 in Montreal. Tom is survived by his wife, Joan Marshall, his children, Anna and Jacob, and his stepchildren, Michel, Gabrielle, Catherine, Benno and Leah. He was 66.

Murray Marmor, BFA 87, died on November 16 in Israel. Murray is survived by his children, Gila, Schelemo and Tamar. He was 76.

Winston Prince, BA 87, died on January 2 in Hong Kong. Winston is survived by

his mother, Magdalen, his wife, Chantal, and his son, Kyle. He was 57.

Thomas David Crowdis, BA 88, died January 11 in Lac Guindon, Que. Thomas is survived by his wife, Carole Forget, and his daughters, Karine and Mylene. He was 56.

Rosanna Altavilla, BA 89, died on September 21 in Richmond Hill, Ont. Rosanna was 42.

Ronald Capanna, BFA 90, died on November 6 in Montreal. Ronald is survived by his wife, Margaret (Fung-A-Ling). He was 58.

Kingsley Johnson, BA 91, died January 25 in Montreal. Kingsley is survived by his mother, Isme Agard, and his daughters, Karen and Kelly. He was 70.

Emanuela Ciarla Mastrogiacomo, BComm 93, died on November 7 in Stamford, Conn. Emanuela is survived by her parents, Giuseppe and Filomena, her husband, Michael, and her sons, Luca and Matteo. She was 40.

Kelly Davis Collins, MBA 94, died on December 7 in Toledo, Ohio. Kelly is survived by her mother, Karen, her husband, Chuck, and her children, David and Stephen. She was 46.

Henryk Górecki, LLD 98, died on November 12 in Katowice, Poland. Henryk is survived by his wife, Jadwiga, and his children, Mikolaj and Anna. He was 76. ■

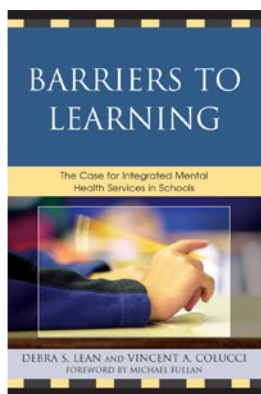
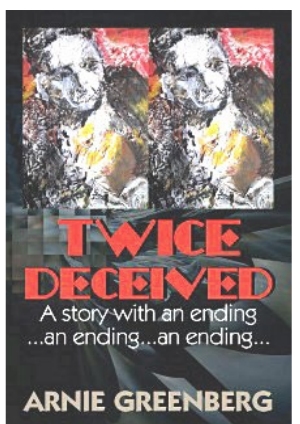
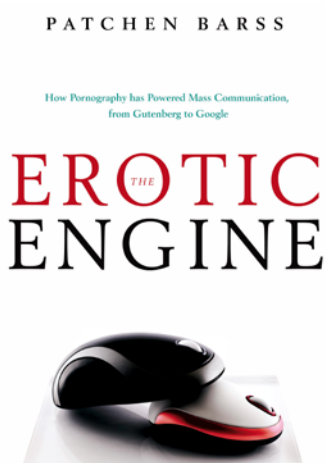
Obama, Sondheim and the erotic engine

In ***The Erotic Engine: How Pornography has Powered Mass Communication, from Gutenberg to Google*** (Doubleday Canada, \$32.95), **Patchen Barss**, GrDip (journ.) 93, argues that pornography has been at the vanguard of emerging mass communication tools since

on some real incidents that took place in the City of Light almost a century ago. That's when author Gertrude Stein commissioned Pablo Picasso to paint her portrait and then had a replica made by a skilled Russian copyist. When Stein died, the original was left to New York City's Metropolitan Museum.

presenting a solution to this in ***Barriers to Learning: The Case for Integrated Mental Health Services in Schools*** (Rowman Littlefield Education, \$24.95). The book offers a distinctive classification and review of various mental health and learning issues, and suggests a support model that

sur ***editions-harmattan.fr***), **Pierre Hurteau**, MA 1983 (histoire et philosophie des religions) et PhD 1984 (sciences des religions), examine comment l'hindouisme, le bouddhisme, le judaïsme, le christianisme, l'islam et les religions afro-américaines abordent cette question et d'autres enjeux liés à la



the time of cave paintings. Barss contends the internet wouldn't have grown so rapidly nor e-commerce developed as quickly without it, nor online news clips without the video streaming software exploited for porn sites. As its description states: "This smart, witty and well-researched history shows how a vast secret trade has bankrolled and shaped mainstream culture and its machines."

Arnie Greenberg, S BA 56, has a passion for Paris. His latest novel, ***Twice Deceived*** (Eloquent Books, \$14.07), is a work of fiction based

Or was it? Experts discover it's not the original Picasso and embark on a quest to find the original work. ***Twice Deceived*** weaves in a study of 1920s Paris and features renowned artists living there at the time.

Up to 20 per cent of children and teens have mental-health issues and up to 80 per cent don't receive proper intervention. These obstacles to learning concern educators, administrators, parents and professional support-services personnel. **Debra S. Lean**, MA (app. psych.) 82, PhD (psych.) 87, is among the authors

provides a framework for integrated and collaborative services to reduce, manage and prevent barriers to students' learning.

Depuis 25 ans, le débat sur la reconnaissance de l'union civile ou du mariage homosexuels occupe une place considérable dans les sociétés occidentales. Aujourd'hui, les traditions religieuses en dehors de l'hémisphère Nord doivent également se prononcer sur la protection des droits des homosexuels. Dans son livre, ***Homosexualités masculines et religions du monde*** (Harmattan, 38 €, en vente

sexualité masculine et à l'homosexualité. M. Hurteau est l'auteur de plusieurs articles sur l'homosexualité et la religion au Québec.

The purpose of ***The Obama Effect*** (State University of New York, \$27.28) was to collect works that place Barack Obama's historic rise in the context of America's experience with race and the media. The editors, including **Heather Harris**, BA (journ.) 88, bring together essays that were presented at a national conference on the meaning and impact of the nomination of the first presidential candidate of African

heritage. “*The Obama Effect* provides a refreshingly balanced interrogation of many issues the candidacy and presidency of Barack Obama has unearthed in American society, politics, and identity construction,” writes one reviewer.

Diary of My Past Lives (Xlibris Corporation, \$17) is based on events from the life of author **Svetlana Miskovic**, MA 88. The collection of short stories blurs the lines of reality, rendering them as

Nathalie Wendling, BA (Fr. studies) 93, and her son, Thomas Glatzmayer, who turned eight in December 2010. Wendling’s daughter, Melanie, has a rare condition called Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS). There are only 100 known cases in Canada, but Wendling says researchers estimate one in 10,000 people live with it. She wanted to write this picture-packed children’s book to broaden awareness of CdLS, while Tommy’s goal

(poli. sci.) 95, explains how to collaborate successfully with other organizations, including steps on how to search for the right partner-brand and how to align partnership marketing objectives to resources.

It Takes Two, a CD released by London-based Rich Rogue Arts (available at dresscircle.co.uk, £13.99) to celebrate Stephen Sondheim’s 80th birthday, honours the songmaster with 16 new recordings of

and realizes their love is part of a series of events that allows the course of history to change—and yet ultimately advance without being altered. Kombarozos’s other novels include *The Last Odyssey*, *Blue Infinity* and *Tempus Fugit*.

Veteran animator and filmmaker **Steven Woloshen**, BFA (cin.) 95, MFA (studio arts) 10, has published the second edition of ***Recipes for Reconstruction: The***



much fiction as fact. Aside from mytho-poetic tales, the author skilfully incorporates hospital experiences to evoke strong emotions about how cancer treatments and the as-yet unsuccessful pursuit of its cure affect a woman’s life. Miskovic will donate a minimum of \$3 to Concordia’s Stanley E. Horner Fund for each book sold. Contact the author at lanache@bell.net to purchase the book.

Melanie & Tommy Have Two Pet Rats and One Syndrome (Ardith Publishing, \$15.41), is a children’s tale from the heart by

was to educate his friends while still entertaining them. The story follows Melanie, Tommy and their pet rats through an adventure-filled week. **2petrats.com**

The adage “many hands make light work” holds true for the business world as well. Nurturing an affiliation with the right partner allows both parties to achieve successes neither could attain on their own. ***Partnership Marketing: How to Grow your Business and Transform your Brand through Smart Collaboration*** (Wiley, \$36.95) by **Ron Kunitzky**, BA

his duets. **Steven Sparling**, BFA (studio arts) 97, lends his voice to half of those songs, which come from, among other musicals, *Company*, *A Little Night Music*, *Passion*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Evening Primrose*, *Assassins*, *Do I Hear A Waltz?* and *Sunday In The Park With George*.

Writing under the pen name E. Agape, **Costas Kombarozos**, BA (Eng. lit.) 06, offers ***Forward Stream*** (PublishAmerica, \$20.12), a story of the power of love to move history forward and progress humanity. A couple dreams of their honeymoon

Cookbook for the Frugal Filmmaker (Scratchtopia Press, \$40). In *Recipes*, Woloshen introduces “a variety of simple artistic strategies to create decay and to re-assemble damaged film prints into new experimental visions.” The book includes a DVD with nine short films created for this hands-on manual. Woloshen’s cameraless animation films have screened at festivals around the world and he has been nominated for several Jutra Awards in animation. Contact the author at swoloshen@hotmail.com for a copy. ■

The Road to Comi

BY RICHARD M. HALPERN,
BSc 03

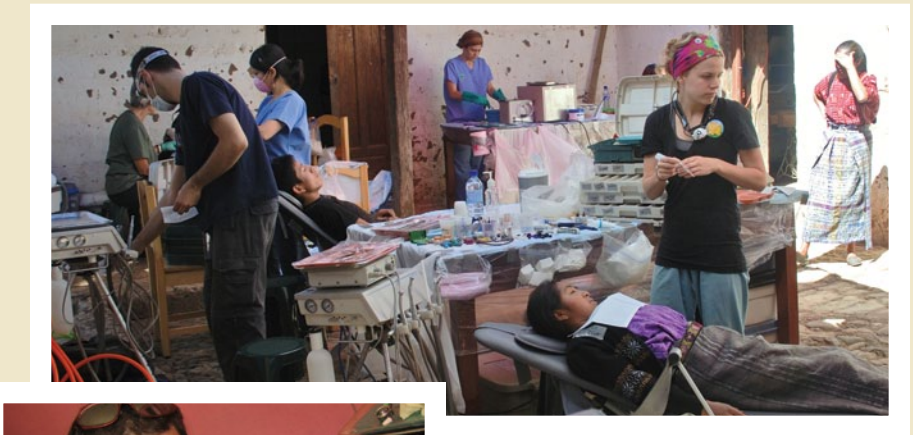
Richard Halpern completed a degree in dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon in 2007 and advanced pediatric dental training at the Winnipeg Children's Hospital in 2009. Halpern earned an MSc at the University of Louisville in Kentucky in 2010 and will begin an MSc in Orthodontics at the University of Manitoba in July. He now provides dentistry to northern Manitoba native communities.

Each spring since 2008, I have spent between two and four weeks in remote regions of Guatemala with the volunteer organization Dentistry For All/Odontologia Para Todos.

The reward I receive for climbing winding, unpaved, bumpy roads for hours—repeatedly falling on my seat—in the Western Highlands of Guatemala is to reach regions and provide care where no other dentists do.

We set up our clinic in Comitancillo (Comi), the town centre for about 55 smaller surrounding communities. These communities have no regular dental services except for when our dental team visits, as it has since 1996. The team comprises 17 volunteers, including seven dentists. Each day, half our group remains in Comi while the other half heads to a farther-removed community. When we arrive in these outlying villages, we're greeted by a fleet of men, women and children eagerly waiting to help us unpack three pick-up trucks full of supplies and help set up our mobile dental clinic.

The people we treat place their names on a waiting list well in advance, often suffering for months in pain. For most residents, a visit to a Guatemalan dentist would take days to reach and is unaffordable: a root canal could cost



Above: A Dentistry For All mobile dental clinic in a courtyard in one of the outlying communities of Comitancillo, Guatemala.



Left: Richard Halpern with an appreciative Guatemalan patient.

a family a quarter of its yearly salary. We charge a relatively small fee, and we donate the funds to a local self-run community development association. We pay for the cost of delivering treatment with sponsorship, fundraisers and each team members' financial contributions.

Through the organization's 16 years, we have advanced from pulling teeth to doing fillings, cleanings and root canals. Most of the people of Comitancillo have never learned proper dental care, and so we now support an individual who provides oral health education and preventive services throughout the year. Our group is also preparing to build a permanent clinic in Comi.

I remember the first time I looked in a patient's mouth, during my first trip in 2008, and saw, to my surprise, three corners of his teeth full of cavities but one corner with proper fillings. I soon learned that the patient was on the four-year treatment plan: for each annual visit, he was allotted enough time with

the dentist to get one corner of his teeth treated.

Sometimes when I show up at the clinic and see a seemingly endless line of patients, many of whom have been waiting since 2 a.m., and realize we won't have enough time to treat them all, I wonder if my efforts make a difference. Then I think of the time I saw an elderly patient, missing many of her teeth, reclined in my dental chair with the back of her wrist on her forehead, laboured breathing and a swollen left cheek, pointing to a badly broken tooth. I listened to one translator interpret her words from Mam—the local language—to Spanish, and then a second person translate from Spanish to English. Looking at her facial expression, I understood her grief. While removing her abscessed tooth seemed like a drop in the ocean, the amount of thank-yous and bless-yous I received from that patient reminded me of the ripples that my drop makes across the ocean.

My education has allowed me to make a difference. With it also comes the responsibility to use my knowledge and skills to improve the lives of others. I thank the people of Comitancillo for inspiring me. ■

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