

THE

# LiNK

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# WEL COME TO CONCOR DIA



• special insert



Massive Administrative Overhaul • Page 5

SAFE IS SEXY: STUDENT-RUN SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRE A FIRST AT ConU

# Party Planning 101

Concordia Student Union to Spend \$270,000 on Orientation

• ADAM KOVAC

Throwing a two-week long party for over 30,000 students filled with concerts, speeches (and, of course, beer) doesn't come cheap. The final budget for this year's Orientation is due to come in at over a quarter million dollars.

With anticipated revenues of \$150,000 from the CSU budget, over \$90,000 combined from sponsors and an orientation fund, there will need to be over \$30,000 in alcohol sales in order to break even, said Jordan Lindsay, CSU VP Finance.

"Last year, [alcohol sales] made around \$30,000, but now we [...] have the airPORT [an open-air bar on the Reggie's terrace], which is going to be pretty much a constant pub that will hopefully fill in demand for students that will not normally go to the particular events where booze is being served, but may want to go for a drink or two between classes," said Lindsay.

Previous Orientations have been marked by boundless spending and a lack of budgetary foresight—something Lindsay says the CSU was conscious of while planning for this year's edition. One area in which money was saved was the Orientation concert. While still featuring major headliner Stars among the four booked acts, the concert will cost a total of \$80,000, with only \$30,000 of that going towards artist fees. The concert will be held on the Loyola Quad for the second year in a row. In previous years, the CSU had either booked a concert venue or set up the stage on Mackay above de Maisonneuve.

"We felt that last year the concert at the Quad went so well, there was no reason to try and hold it downtown," said Laura Glover, CSU VP Student Life & Sustainability. "I think it's a great venue, it has a capacity of almost 6,000 people, and I think it's a really great opportunity to bring the students out to the other campus."

Not every event that will garner public attention is as expensive as the concert. At least one event will feature a controversial figure from the uni-

versity's past, as the CSU is co-hosting a reading by David Bernans of his book *North of 9/11* at the Co-op Bookstore. The reading will also mark the launch of the e-book edition of the novel.

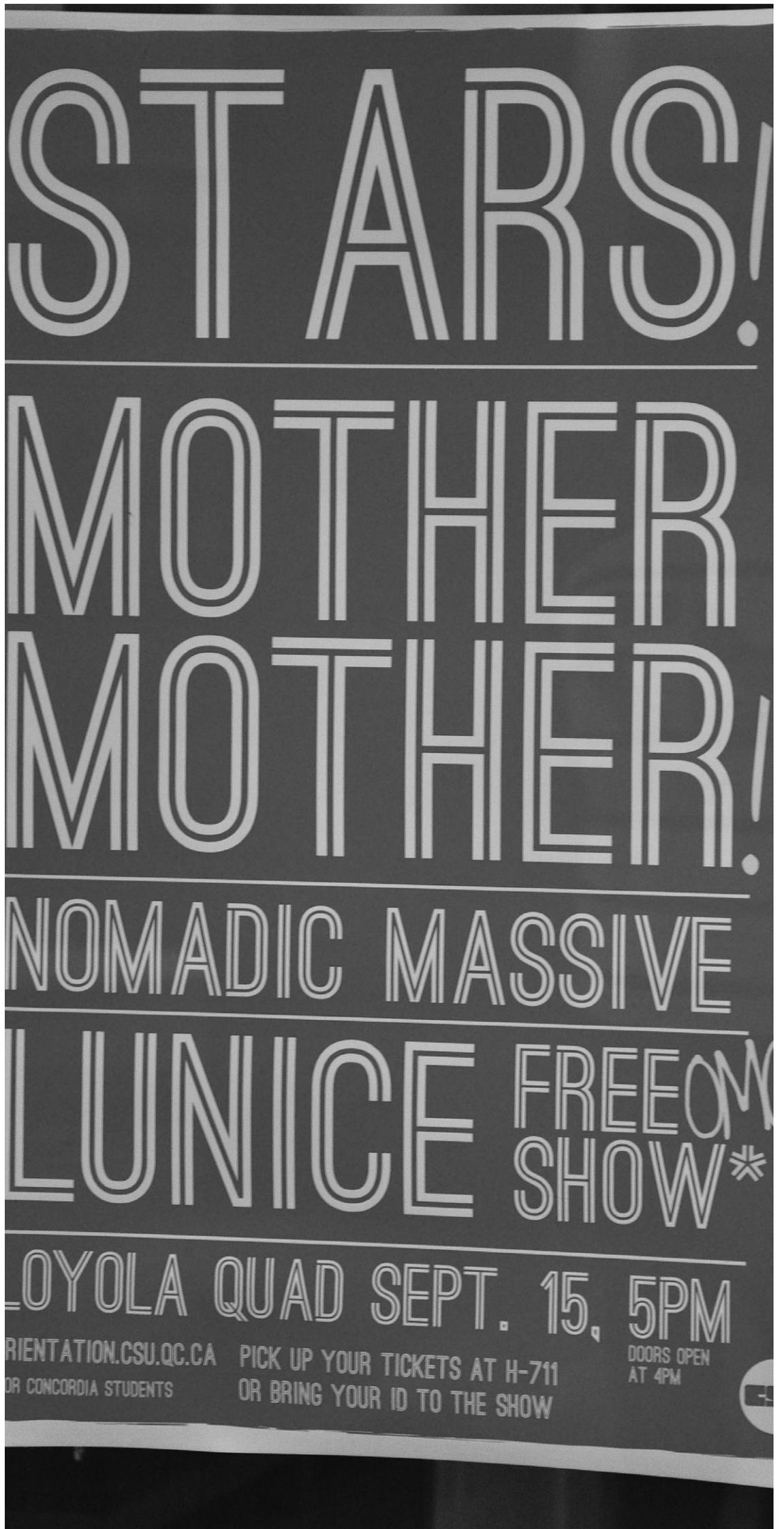
**"I think there's a lot of controversial things that the administration does and the CSU does and students do, and I don't think that's ever really stopped anybody from collaborating together significantly over time,"**

—AJ West  
BoG Representative

Bernans, a former Concordia student, was prevented from giving a reading of the book in 2006, which led to the discovery that he was being monitored by the school's Risk Assessment Committee. Glover said the event is part of an effort to strengthen ties between the Co-op Bookstore and the CSU, while AJ West, the Orientation director, explained that controversy is normal at the university.

"I think there's a lot of controversial things that the administration does and the CSU does and students do, and I don't think that's ever really stopped anybody from collaborating together significantly over time," said West.

The reading is not alone among the events in having a political bent. Along with a keynote speech featuring Ilona Dougherty of Apathy is Boring and Lou Piensa of rap group Nomadic Massive—who will also be playing at the Orientation concert—the list of events also includes a bicycle tour co-hosted with on-campus activist group The Quebec Public Interest Research Group, as well as the annual Sustainable Food Festival.



The concert is just a small part of the orientation budget.

PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

# Missing MUNACA



PHOTOS ERIN SPARKS

## McGill's Non-Faculty Employees Strike

• ADAM KOVAC

The area in front of McGill's Roddick Gates were even busier than usual on Sept. 1, as students mingled with members of the McGill University Non-Academic Certified Association's as they picketed during day one of the union's strike.

"What we're seeking here is parity with the other universities in Montreal and the province, if not the entire country," said MUNACA President Kevin Whittaker.

Whittaker cited lack of control over MUNACA pension funds as a key sticking point on which McGill has not budged since nego-

tiations between the union and university began in January. Also at stake is the lack of a proper overtime wage system.

"Every other university has [overtime and weekend premiums] set, and McGill does not," said Whittaker. "We're asking for the same premiums that every other university is offering, [which is] 25 per cent for Saturdays, 50 per cent for Sunday, and McGill is not willing to go there. McGill is paying a \$200 per year [flat rate], if you happen to do some overtime work. Some do much more, some do less."

The first day of picketing saw

MUNACA workers marching in circles at the corners where McTavish St. and McGill College Ave. intersect Sherbrooke St.

Maggie Knight, President of the Students' Society of McGill University said she had heard of some students joining the picket line, reflecting SSMU's official support for the non-faculty staff.

"We are supporting the rights of MUNACA workers to strike," said Knight. "We're asking the university to work with them to resolve it as quickly as possible as it affects a lot of students. MUNACA workers really make McGill go 'round as far as students are concerned."

While Knight acknowledged that the strike would adversely affect students—especially during the first weeks of school when they are most likely to have to use the bureaucratic services that are primarily staffed by MUNACA members—she said that SSMU would stand fast with the union, even if popular opinion turns against them.

"We have a policy that was passed by a general assembly a few years ago that mandates us to support workers struggles," said Knight. "That's our official stance, but obviously we're open to hearing all students' opinions, and we hope to create a space where stu-

dents can access information to understand the real issues that are going on."

While Whittaker said that there has been little movement from the university on the key issues, he did remain optimistic there will be a settlement eventually.

"I'm very hopeful that there will be. I'm hoping that McGill will understand that the 1,700 members who come in here daily and work for the betterment of the students are a necessary part of this university and should be respected."

Officials at McGill did not return phone calls by press time.

# Overhauling the Board



PHOTO PIERRE CHAUVIN

*"This is sending a message that students are inconsequential to university governance," said CSU President Lex Gill of the bylaw reforms.*

## Undergrads Face Reduced BoG Presence in Bylaw Reforms

• ADAM KOVAC

When the Concordia Board of Governors meets for the first time this school year on Sept. 28, odds are good that when they vote on whether to adopt a series of bylaw changes, they decide to reduce the size of the Board from 40 voting members to 25.

They will also likely vote to reduce undergraduate voting representation on the Board from four students to one, an idea that has raised eyebrows despite the otherwise almost unanimous praise for the report issued by the External Governance Review Committee in June, on which the proposed changes are based.

"I think in general, everyone supports moving the Board from 40 people down to 25, but the reality is [undergraduate and graduate students] have 12.5 per cent representation now, and it's understood that when you move from 40 people down to 25, you're going to lose people, but proportionally we should still have 12.5 per cent," said AJ West, one of the undergraduate representatives on the Board.

Concordia Student Union President Lex Gill, who also sits on the Board, echoed West's frustration at the reduced role undergraduate students are facing.

"Effectively this is sending a message that students are inconsequential to university governance," she said. "[It says] we are taken for granted as meaningful constituents of the university, even though the decisions made at the Board level can most directly impact students."

Bram Freedman, Concordia's VP Institutional Relations and Secretary General, insisted that

the lowered representation was brought up in discussions, but a decision was made to move forward in the interest of preserving the immediacy of the report.

"The challenge that the committee had was, when the board received the report in June and referred it to the ad hoc committee [on governance] to study and review, the Board gave a pretty strong indication that it wanted to accept the report as much as possible as a whole," he said. "The difficulty is that once you start cherry-picking recommendations, then the process will take a very long time, and you will get into all sorts of discussions and debates, and I think there was a commitment to move forward."

Freedman noted that undergrads were not alone in voicing concerns about their representation, as alumni would also face a reduced presence. Pensioners, who currently have a single non-voting observer, would also lose that position under the bylaw changes.

"The challenge is that it's impossible to satisfy the legitimate aspirations of all of the different constituencies. Everything was a compromise."

Though undergraduates will only have one voting member, they will also have an alternate member who will have speaking rights, and who can vote if the primary member is not present, as well as be able to vote at the committee level.

"To me, this is a token measure," said Gill. "It's meant to sweeten the deal a bit, and in the end I [think neither] students nor their elected representatives find it satisfactory."

### Limit the Leaders

Freedman also discussed some other issues that have dogged the Board of Governors over the past year, and which were also addressed in the EGRC report, which was commissioned following a public uproar in the wake of the dismissal of former Concordia president Judith Woodsworth.

One of the primary complaints regarding the Board was governors staying beyond the two terms limit. In the current bylaws, terms are limited to three years, however, as Freedman pointed out, "There actually were not term limits in the bylaws." In the revised bylaws, governors are explicitly limited to three terms of three years each, as opposed to the EGRC's recommended two terms of four years. Anyone elected to the Chair position, currently held by Peter Kruyt, will not have their prior time on the board counted, and can serve in that position twice, meaning a Chair may be on the board for up to 12 years.

"There were guidelines, a policy adopted by the Board many years ago, that talked about normally and so on," he explained. "This time, they are formally enshrined in the bylaws."

Another common complaint was that the makeup of the Board did not reflect the community at large. The perception that captains of industry dominated the Board is also addressed in the proposed revisions, which state, "A variety of experience and expertise profiles must be sought in appointing members of the Board of Governors."

"I know that there's a perception as to the profile of the external members of the board, but they're

not all people that are in business," said Freedman. "We already have people with different profiles, but I think that message was received loud and clear."

Freedman also addressed the most notorious phrase in the EGRC report, which said that there exists a "culture of contempt" at Concordia. He pointed to unprecedented joint meetings of the Senate steering committee and the executive committee of the Board, as well as calls for consultation from the community as examples of an effort to make the administration more inclusive.

"I think its important to clarify that, from the university's perspective, the comment about culture may have dealt with some challenges or difficulties that were happening at the governing levels at the university, but we certainly never felt there was a culture problem within the daily life of the 45,000 students, or the 7,000 employees who come to work every day," he said. "You adjust culture issues at the governing levels, slowly and in phases. The first thing you have to do is work on the structures. That's this piece. You clarify roles and responsibilities, and hopefully people's behavior and attitudes flow from that. Changing words on a page doesn't change culture."

Before the Board of Governors is able to discuss the proposed changes, the Senate will meet on Sept. 9, where it will debate the recommendations in the EGRC report that pertain to it. Once they have come to their own conclusions, a report will be issued to the Board, though Freedman admitted that should Senate and the Board disagree on the restructuring, the Board will have final say.

## Bylaws for Undergrads: What the Rules Represent

• COMPILED BY LAURA BEE-STON

There are major, imminent changes to the Concordia Bylaws and Charter over the next few months that will affect the undergraduate student representation. Here is what will be reported to the Board of Governors on Sept. 28.

### Undergraduate Representation:

Article 23 (g): This is by far the most contentious article of all the recommendations for students, as undergraduate representation goes from four members down to only one, despite Concordia undergraduates—at 30,000 plus strong—accounting for the largest demographic of the campus community. As a point of comparison, the graduate students will maintain their single Board representative, despite having approximately one tenth as many students.

### The Alternate Governor:

The committee has proposed, however, that the CSU may nominate an undergrad student as an "Alternate Governor," who will stand in for the other undergrad rep in cases of their absence. This member shall have the right to be present but not to speak at all regular and special meetings as well as in closed sessions.

They will also be considered as an internal Governor, with voting and speaking powers, as a member on the Standing Committees of the Board.

### The New President:

Article 53 (h): The Board's Human Resources Committee has been given the mandate to put together a profile on what to look for in a new president. While who will take over from current Interim President Frederick Lowy is not yet clear, the selection process has already included the larger Concordia community. Board Chair Peter Kruyt sent out a mass e-mail in August soliciting nominations and ideas on who should fill the position. You can fill that out until Sept. 16 at [surveymonkey.com/s/H7GZVJN](http://surveymonkey.com/s/H7GZVJN)

Staff, faculty and students are encouraged to send written comments about the recommendations to [danielle.tessier@concordia.ca](mailto:danielle.tessier@concordia.ca).

# Breaking Ground

## First Anti-Sexual Assault Group Arrives at Concordia

• LAURA BEESTON

Concordians for a Safer Community Now, a new operation run out of the 2110 Centre for Gender Advocacy, have big plans for November.

The first student-run sexual assault resource centre at Concordia, the coalition—calling themselves S.A.C. Now!—are currently spearheading policy creation, developing a 24-hour crisis hotline and implementing survivor support networks, as well as creating awareness on campus about sexualized violence and consent.

Campaign Coordinator Laura Ellyn hopes that the new initiatives, through meaningful services and community dialogue, will realize expanded services to survivors of sexual abuse at Concordia, while making this campus safer for everyone.

When it comes to the university's current policies outlining sexual assault and harassment, Ellyn told *The Link* that there's a lot of room for formal improvement.

"To be frank, the policies at Concordia and the procedures [surrounding sexual assault] are often very alienating, discouraging and inaccessible for survivors," she said. The services currently available to students vary by department.

"Health services has a very clear confidentiality policy concerning cases of assault and don't report cases to the police unless

[the survivor] has made it explicit they want that action taken, while security has a completely different procedure," Ellyn said. "[Security] won't take any information, they don't take a statement, they do no documentation; they just call the police—regardless of whether or not the survivor wants them to do so."

Ellyn also took aim at Security's "Sexual Assault Prevention Tips," which currently make up the only material on the Concordia

website regarding assault.

Peppered with victim-blaming language and seemingly putting the onus on individuals to avoid getting raped—instead of sending the message to perpetrators not to rape—Ellyn believes preventative information "shouldn't solely [focus on] young women's responsibility from being raped. It erases the fact that people can get sexually assaulted at any age and be of any gender."

Current statistics suggest one

in four women and one in six men are victims of sexual assault, but Ellyn told *The Link* these figures "are problematic."

"Though stats are really good education tools and valuable to have, [...] it's important to remember that they are part of a much larger discussion. We don't know what those figures are for non-gender-conforming people, for example, because they're so marginalized that research just isn't being done.

"Transgender women are also disproportionately targeted, as well as racialized women, especially indigenous women in Canada." Knowing the real number, Ellyn added, is a "huge challenge—especially at Concordia."

Unlike SACOMSS—a similar coalition at McGill University that was introduced in 1988 after a violent gang rape on campus—S.A.C. Now! is not basing their movement around any one incident, but around the knowledge that "sexualized violence is a major, systematic problem in society as a whole, but it's also a problem at Concordia. It happens at Concordia, it just does."

S.A.C. Now! is participating in the "Another Word for Gender" orientation series put on by the 2110 this month, and organizing a safety audit walking tour of the downtown campus.

On Sept. 23, a panel will also bring Students Active for Ending Rape on Campus—or SAFER, a nation-wide organization that does large-scale policy reform at campuses across the U.S.—to Concordia for their first Canadian event to host a workshop on how to mobilize as a student community against sexual violence.

For more information about Concordians for a Safer University Community, visit [sacconcordia.wordpress.com](http://sacconcordia.wordpress.com)



Laura Ellyn is the Campaign Coordinator for S.A.C. Now!

PHOTO PIERRE CHAUVIN

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PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

# Navy Blues

## Military Recruitment Posters Appear in Hall Building

• ADAM KOVAC

Most days, when Concordia Student Union VP Advocacy Morgan Pudwell walks through the Hall Building towards the CSU offices, the posters that surround her are from your average student group, promoting their usual student events. But on the morning of Aug. 31, she saw one poster that was not like the others—a recruitment ad for the Canadian Armed Forces.

"I was coming up to the office and saw two people carrying around a big stack of posters," said Pudwell. "I thought 'Wow, those posters look large.' As I walked around the corner, I saw these military posters.

I walked past them and thought 'Hmm, maybe I should go back.'" Pudwell then turned around and explained that they didn't have the right to poster on campus.

The ads, which promote a tour of the naval branch of the CAF's on HMCS Montreal frigate, included the line "Wanted: The Next Generation of Sailors"—a clear violation of the CSU's policy against military recruitment on campus. The CSU also must approve and stamp all posters put up on its poster boards. Pudwell said that members of the CSU had gone to the nearest recruitment center to ask for explanations about the posters, but found it closed.

Pudwell wasn't the only mem-

ber of the CSU executive to see the posters and take issue with them. Upon coming across them, CSU VP Clubs & Space Gonzo Nieto promptly began taking them down.

"Later, Gonzo came up and said he had seen more posters, I had only seen two," said Pudwell. "By the time he came back to the office, there was more around. I think he said he took about 25 of them down."

Concordia spokesperson Chris Mota said that the school has no relationship with the Armed Forces, and that most poster space on campus is the domain of the CSU.

Phone calls to the local recruiting centre have not yet been returned.



# Commemorating a Tragedy

PHOTO PIERRE CHAUVIN

## Vigil Marks the 39th Anniversary of the Blue Bird Café Fire

• ADAM KOVAC

Older and grayer, survivors, friends and family of those who perished in the second-worst fire in Montreal's history came back to the site of the Blue Bird Café, where an act of arson claimed 37 lives almost four decades ago.

"I'm going to be 39 in December, and it's the 39th anniversary today," said Sharon Share, who organized the vigil. "Year after year, looking in the media, noth-

ing's been happening. It's time that something's been done and remembered."

Share lost her father Jerry in the fire, months before she was born. She started a Facebook page in 2008, with the goal of getting the city to recognize the spot with some kind of official memorial. That page evolved into plans for the candlelit vigil, with family members lighting candles for their lost loved ones, and more candles in the shape of the

number 37.

Heather Lowengren was one of the last people to get out of the building. She had been at the Blue Bird to celebrate her 21st birthday, and turned 60 on the night of the vigil.

"I'd like to see at least a small memorial with the names of the people," she said. "I didn't lose anybody, but it really affected my life. It's time. Next year, I'm 61, and I'd like to see at least a plaque."

While the mood was somber, many there shared the frustration at the lack of a formal memorial marking the spot, with some comparing it to other tragedies in Montreal that have monuments, such as the École Polytechnique shooting that left 10 women dead in December 1989.

"We heard about this and thought it would be kind of nice that they could have some kind of memorial put up here," said Heather Breedy, whose brother

Larry died in the fire. "The lives of 37 people [ended], and the city hasn't really done anything. [They should] put a plaque, at least."

In July, *The Gazette* reported that the director of the Culture and Heritage Division at the city of Montreal, Jean-Robert Choquet, had promised to look at options for a memorial in September, but as of now, there have been no reports of any definite plans.

# Fixing a Financial Fiasco

## CUSACorp Aims to be Auditable

• ADAM KOVAC

Called "un-auditable" by an accounting firm due to shoddy inventory-keeping practices, big changes are coming to CUSACorp, the for-profit wing of the Concordia Student Union.

"We're on draft three [of the new bylaws] now, and we've sent it to our lawyer to look over," said CSU VP Advocacy Morgan Pudwell, who sits on the CUSACorp Board of Directors.

In September 2010, a report from accounting and consulting firm Deloitte, who acts as the CSU's auditor, stated that "[CUSACorp] derives revenue from cash sales, the completeness of which is not susceptible of sat-

isfactory audit verification."

According to CSU President Lex Gill, the nebulous status of CUSACorp's finances can be traced back to Reggie's. The campus bar, which accounts for a large portion of CUSACorp's income, is a cash business—that is, a business that deals primarily in cash payments, which are much less trackable than debit or credit card payments—and has suffered from a lack of proper inventory and Point of Sale systems, including a way to control how much alcohol is poured into a drink, or a way to monitor drinks given away for free.

"We're putting in a liquor control system," said Gill in an interview with *The Link* in August.

"Shots are measured, pints are measured. This will go a long way towards getting us audited. We think we will be auditable by the end of the year."

Another problem that has plagued CUSACorp is abuses of power by members of its Board of Directors. Pudwell noted that in the past, it was not uncommon for members of the Board to go behind the bar and start serving up free drinks.

"That was sometimes a problem, because it took away tip opportunities for the staff that have been working there regularly," said Pudwell. "The Board, as it should be, is about choosing the direction for the company and not about the day-to-day operations

and getting behind the bar."

Along with the new systems in place at Reggie's and the changes to the Board's power, the Board that controls CUSACorp is also facing significant structural changes, beginning with the removal of the position of president.

"It's a huge restructuring," said Pudwell. "The Board looks like it will be seven people, [made up of] five students and no more than three CSU executives. [There will also be] two external members, people from the community like lawyers or accountants, that will be able to add a professional sort of tone and insight into how to run a business properly, and allow for continuity."

Pudwell also explained that the

VP Finance of the CSU, a position currently held by Jordan Lindsay, will be required to serve as the Treasurer of CUSACorp and will have to give regular reports to the CSU Council, the sole shareholder of the corporation.

Changes may also be coming to other CUSACorp-controlled areas, such as the Java U in the mezzanine of the Hall Building. Pudwell expressed a desire to have CUSACorp implement new ethical and sustainable standards in all its operations, which could include actions such as negotiating a bottled water ban in the café when its contract comes up for renewal. The new systems at Reggie's may also expand to the as-yet unopened Hive Café.



WHO'S WHO AT CON U?

• ADAM KOVAC  
GRAPHICS ERIC BENT



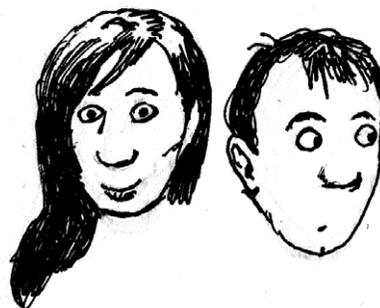
LEX GILL —  
CSU PRESIDENT

The Concordia Student Union's President Lex Gill was the head of the *Your Concordia* slate in the 2011 CSU elections, one of the more contentious in student council history. Gill entered office on a platform of fighting tuition hikes, fiscal responsibility and some much-needed T&A (that's transparency and accountability, you perverts). As a CSU councillor last year, she developed a bit of a reputation as a rabble-rouser—so much so, in fact, that the *Mirror* named her one of the top 10 loudest activists in Montreal this year. Gill's job is to serve the interests of students, and it's your job to make sure she does. (For you graduate students with issues, however, Gill can't help you. You'll need to go see Robert Sonin, the president of the Graduate Students' Association.)



PETER KRUYT —  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The Chairman of Board of Governors, Peter Kruyt, loves Concordia so much that he essentially refuses to leave. Though the policy for BoG councillors has been a limit of two terms of three years each, Mr. Kruyt has been around since flannel was fashionable and everyone was looking to Seattle for rock music. He's not alone. A majority of those representing the community at large on the Board have overstayed their term limits by significant margins. At the first BoG meeting of the year on Sept. 28, reforms to the bylaws will be debated and seem destined to pass, which means that, after 16 years, Mr. Kruyt might finally graduate and get into the real world, where his job as President and CEO of Victoria Square Ventures will occupy most of his time.



LAURA BEACH & AJ WEST —  
STUDENT BOG REPS

The Concordia University Board of Governors is a wretched hive of scum and villainy—it is literally the Mos Eisley to Concordia's Tatooine. That might be taking it a bit far, but in recent years, the BoG has become awash in controversy after it dismissed former presidents Judith Woodsworth and Claude Lajeunesse with hefty severance packages over the last three years. Luckily, students have a Han and Chewbacca to defend them, as two undergrads are elected to represent them on the BoG. This year, those reps are Laura Beach and AJ West. Beach is the founder of TAPthirst, a student group responsible for getting the school to commit to banning bottled water on campus. West spent his time last year as president of the Cinema Students Association.



FREDERICK LOWY —  
CONU PRESIDENT

Older than God and twice as controversial, this is President Lowy's second rodeo when it comes to being *capo di tutti capi* of Concordia. During his original run from 1995 to 2005, Lowy was most notable for being in charge during the event that put ConU on the map and in the news. Unfortunately, that event was a massive riot (See ConU WTF 101 on p. 14 for details). Stepping in for the recently-dismissed Judy Woodsworth, Lowy will leave when the Board of Governors selects someone to take his place, and will ostensibly return when they go through the biannual firing of the president.



ANDREW WOODALL —  
DEAN OF STUDENTS

So you have a problem, and nobody on this list has been able to help you. Luckily, Here's where the Dean of Students comes in.

You want to book non-student space? Woodall. Got a problem with your student association? Woodall. It burns when you pee? Well, Woodall can't help you there, so get your ass to the campus clinic.

(See Resources on page 4 for clinic details, and for God's sake remember: no glove, no love)



HUGGY DA MUGGY —  
SUSTAINABILITY MASCOT

Looking like a mixture of Grimace from the old Mickey D commercials and an alcoholic's nightmare, Huggy da Muggy is your friendly campus sustainability mascot. Spreading hugs and his/her/its message of environmental friendliness and the three 'R's to all in its path, Huggy has created havoc and joy all over campus since it was born/hatched in 2010.

Don't let its peaceful exterior fool you. If Huggy sees you being wasteful, it will literally eat your soul and vomit out a recycling plant.



DAVID GRAHAM —  
PROVOST

If all David Graham did was tend to his amazing mustache, that would have been enough to make this list. But there is much more to Graham than his positively epic whiskers. As Provost, Graham is the big cheese of book learnin' at the university. He is in charge of hiring profs and shaping the academic direction of the school. He also chairs the Senate, which is the highest academic body on campus, except for that prof who smokes a massive joint before he teaches. We kid, we kid.



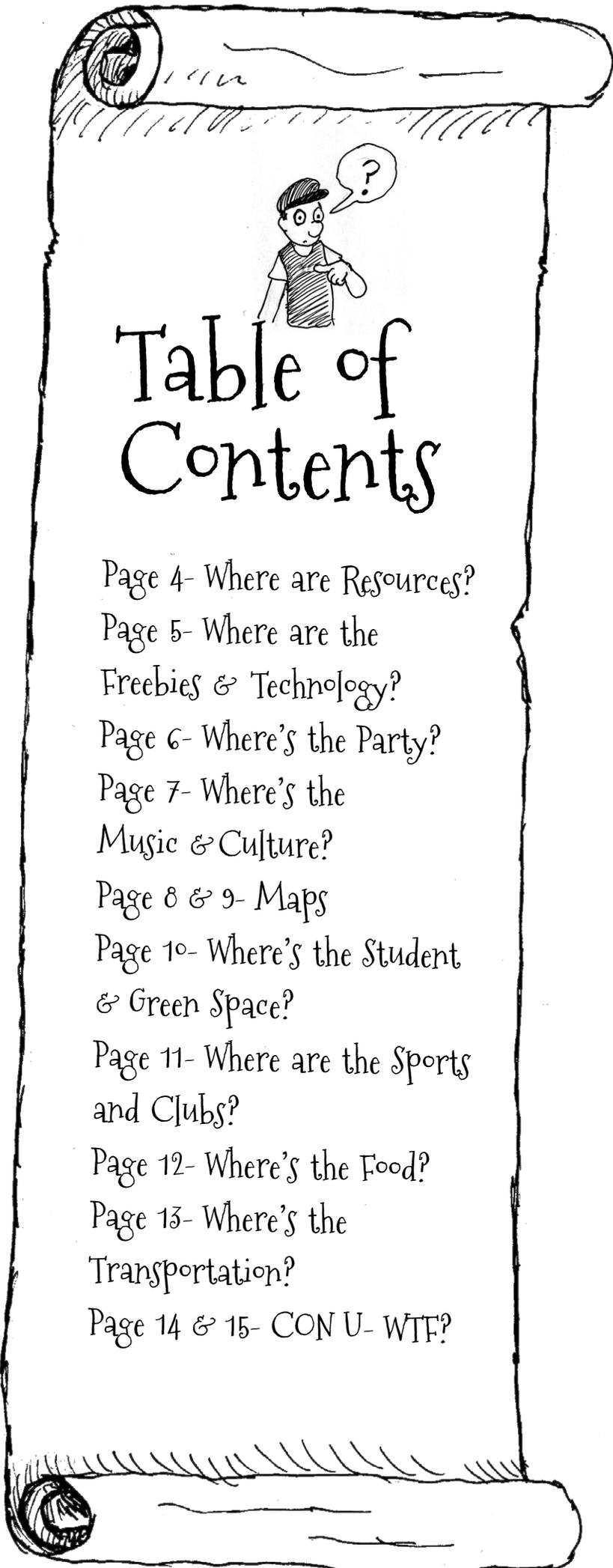
YOU —  
THE STUDENT

Yeah, yeah, yeah. It's a sappy sentiment that nobody else on this list matters without you guys. But without thousands of ConU students behind them at a tuition protest, Gill, Sonin and their politico buddies will look pretty stupid shouting slogans into bullhorns. Woodall would be out of a job without you students, as would Graham. And Lowy probably stays fit on the job by feeding on the souls of the young. Heck, even the photogenic and lively staff of *The Link* would have no reason to put out a paper if there was no one to read it. So, yeah. You matter—a lot—so now you gotta get informed, get involved and make sure to make your voices heard. Let's raise hell.

# ORIENTATION



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O, YOU FRESH-FACED ONES, YOU NEWBORN BABES OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. YOU, PLUCKED STILL WET FROM THE WOMB OF HIGH SCHOOL; YOU, LED STRAIGHT OUT THE DAYCARE OF CEGEP. YOUNG OR OLD, UNIVERSITY MAKES UNCERTAIN, FUMBLING TODDLERS OF US ALL.

WE WILL ALL END UP LOOKING FOR A CLASS IN THE WRONG BUILDING, ON THE WRONG FLOOR, DOWN THE WRONG HALLWAY, IN THE WRONG ROOM. WE WILL ALL BE SHY AROUND THE LEGIONS OF OUR NEW CLASSMATES; WE WILL ALL BE TENTATIVE AS WE EXPLORE NEW NEIGHBOURHOODS, AS WE ORDER COFFEES AND SANDWICHES IN UNEXPLORED CAFÉS. WE WILL ALL FIND OURSELVES PRESSED UP AGAINST THE BUREAUCRACY OF STUDENT LIFE FAR TOO BRUSQUELY. BUT WE WILL PRESS ON.

IN THIS SPECIAL PULLOUT ISSUE OF THE LINK, YOU WILL FIND THE SECRETS TO YOUR SURVIVAL. WITHIN THEM WE IMPART TO YOU OUR WISDOM OF AGES.

WHETHER YOU'RE A LIFELONG MONTREALER OR STILL WRAPPING YOUR MOUTH AROUND THAT MOST NECESSARY OF INCANTATIONS—"MERCÍ"—THERE'S A PERFECT, UNIQUE TRUTH FOR EVERY STUDENT BURIED WITHIN OUR ORIENTATION ISSUE. EVEN YOU HAUGHTY SECOND - AND - THIRD - YEARS WOULD DO WELL TO SKIM THROUGH THESE NEXT FEW PAGES, LEST YOUR PRIDE BE THE SOURCE OF YOUR END.

WE'VE COMPILED A TESTAMENT OF THE BEST PLACES TO PARTY, THE HOLIEST JOINTS TO FIND GREASY EATS AT 3 A.M., THE MOST SUBLIME PUNK CLUBS TO SEE THE HOLY SPIRIT SPIT FLAMES INTO A MICROPHONE. WE'VE DRAWN FOR YOU THE PATH TO UNIVERSITY SALVATION.

FOR THOSE THAT SEEK TO GET THEIR GROOVE ON, LOOK YE NO FURTHER THAN THE SIXTH PAGE.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAIL FROM MOOSE JAW, FROM PALOOKAVILLE, FROM NOWHERELAND, TURN YE TO THE SEVENTH PAGE TO LEARN WHAT A REAL NIGHTLIFE IS LIKE.

FOR THOSE SPORTING ONES EAGER TO BAPTIZE THEMSELVES IN THE BLESSED SHADES, MAROON & GOLD, AND DEVOTE THEIR MORTAL LIVES TO SAINT CONCORDIA AND HER BUMBLING BEESERVANT, BUZZ, BOW THEE DOWN BEFORE PAGE THE TENTH.

AND FOR THOSE BRAVE ONES AMONG YOU—THOSE WHO FEAR NOT THE WRATH OF A VENGEFUL PROF, OR THE EMPTINESS OF A SOCIAL LIFE SPENT IN THE WRONG BARS—WE HAVE MADE FOR YOU A LITTLE GAME ON THE INSIDE COVER, SUCH AS A CHILD MIGHT PLAY, LOOKING FOR SOME WALDONIAN MONK. SEARCH AMIDST THE CACOPHONY FOR CONCORDIA LANDMARKS AND PASS YOUR SLOWLY TRICKLING TIME, YOU CLEVER ATHEISTS.

BY THE TIME OCTOBER GETS HERE—AND TRUST ME: YOU WILL FEEL ITS BREATH ON THE BACK OF YOUR NECKS FAR SOONER THAN YOU THINK—THE PIOUS AMONG YOU FIRST-YEARS WILL SEEM JUST AS ACCOMPLISHED AS THE HARDENED FOURTH-YEAR VETERANS, THEIR FACES TOUGH AND LEATHERY, ERODED BY THE SEMESTERS OF STRESS, THE TUG AND PULL OF THE MANIC MID-TERM MIDNIGHTS.

UNTIL THEN, THOUGH—WELCOME TO CONCORDIA. WE REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS LIKE WHEN WE STOOD WHERE YOU STAND NOW, ON THE BRINK OF A GREAT PRECIPICE, ALL WRINKLED AND NEW, THE WIND IN OUR EARS. THIS ISSUE IS FOR YOU.

- Erin Sparks & Julia Wolfe,  
Orientation Issue Coordinators

# 4

# ORIENTATION

## WHERE ARE THE RESOURCES?

### • JULIAN WARD



#### CONCORDIA SECURITY SERVICES:

Call 514-848-3717 for 24-hour safe-walk services anywhere on both campuses.

CSS also hosts ConU's lost and found. Go to [security.concordia.ca](http://security.concordia.ca) for a list of lost and found locations and for all other services provided by CSS.



#### CONCORDIA'S DIGITAL STORES:

For all your printing, copying, scanning, etc. needs, visit [digital-store.concordia.ca/](http://digital-store.concordia.ca/), or the digital stores at Loyola in room CJ-1.422 and at SGW in room LB-115.

#### CONCORDIA COMPUTER STORES:

For all your computer, computer accessories, and computer repair needs, visit [ccs.concordia.ca/](http://ccs.concordia.ca/) or the computer stores at Loyola in room CJ-1.422 or at SGW in room H-224.

#### CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORES:

The place to find all textbooks, course packs, Concordia swag, pens, pencils and piles of paper. The Bookstore will also buy your used books from you.

Visit the Bookstore at Loyola in room CJ-1.422 or at SGW in LB-103

Visit [web2.concordia.ca/Bookstore](http://web2.concordia.ca/Bookstore) to order your books online.

#### CO-OP BOOKSTORE:



A "not-for-profit alternative to corporate bookstores" located at 2150 Bishop St. just up from the Hall Building. Memberships (which cost a one-time fee of \$10) allow customers even greater benefits and discounts. The co-op also runs a consignment service for used books.

Visit [co-opbookstore.ca](http://co-opbookstore.ca) for more details.

#### CONCORDIA STUDENT UNION:

The CSU is your source for student representation both on and off campus. Their reception office is located at SGW campus in room H-711. In addition to hosting events, they also provide a number of essential services, including:

#### HOJO:

The Housing and Jobs Office is located on the SGW campus in room H-260. They're your source

for all information on housing and employment. Whether you're looking for housing or a job or are unsure if your landlord or boss is screwing you, go to the Hojo office or check out [hojo.csu.qc.ca](http://hojo.csu.qc.ca).



#### LEGAL INFORMATION CLINIC:

The go-to centre for all of your law-related questions. Volunteer law students are on hand to provide information on immigration, consumer law and discrimination. (Note: they do not provide legal advice, only legal information.)

Go to their office on the SGW campus in room H-731.

#### CSU STUDENT ADVOCATE CENTRE:

The CSU-SAC is the place to go if you have a grievance with something or someone within the university. Student advocates are on hand to inform you of your options and what you can do to take action.

Visit their office on the SGW campus in room H-729 or their website at [advocacy.csu.qc.ca/](http://advocacy.csu.qc.ca/) for more information.



#### CSU HEALTH AND DENTAL PLAN:

All students are automatically registered for the health and dental plan through the CSU at a cost of \$170. Check out [ihaveaplan.ca](http://ihaveaplan.ca) to find out all of your benefits.

If you would like to opt out of the program and get your money back, you must do so between Sept. 7 and Sept. 20.

#### CSU INTER-FACULTY BOOK EXCHANGE:

Yet another source for you to sell your books—this time with no one getting between you and the buyer of the book. That means—you got it—more money for you!

The service is located online at [bookx.csu.qc.ca](http://bookx.csu.qc.ca) or after Sept. 6, will be located in the 2nd floor Mezzanine in the Hall building at the SGW campus or in the Vanier Library atrium at Loyola campus.

#### BIRKS STUDENT CENTRE OF THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR:

A one-stop-shop for many vital services for every student at Concordia, located in the Library Building in room LB-185. Go to Birks to: get your student ID, obtain letter requests, pay tuition and process official transcript requests, among

many other things.

#### CENTRE FOR NATIVE EDUCATION

An on-campus centre for all Métis, First Nations, and Inuit students to go to for support before, during, and after their university experience.

Visit their office at in the Hall Building in room H-641 or check out their website at [supportservices.concordia.ca/nativecentre](http://supportservices.concordia.ca/nativecentre).

#### ACCESS CENTRE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

This centre exists to support all students with disabilities "to facilitate their right of access to educational opportunities and services as well as their integration into university life."

Visit their office in the Hall Building in room H-580 or check out their website at [supportservices.concordia.ca/disabilities](http://supportservices.concordia.ca/disabilities).

#### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICE

A place for all international students to go for all their international-student needs. They are there to ensure the successful transition into Concordia and Montreal life.

Visit their office in the Hall Building in room H-653 or check out their website at [supportservices.concordia.ca/iso](http://supportservices.concordia.ca/iso).

#### STUDENT ADVOCATE PROGRAM

This program is set up to help students who are "facing charges under the 'Academic Code of Conduct' and the 'Code of Rights and Responsibilities.'"

Visit their office at SGW in room H-645 or their website at [supportservices.concordia.ca/studentadvocateprogram/](http://supportservices.concordia.ca/studentadvocateprogram/).

#### SHUTTLE BUS SERVICES:

To get back and forth between Loyola and SGW all you need is your student ID. Schedules are posted online and at each bus stop. The bus comes every 10-15 minutes during peak school hours, and takes 20-25 minutes to get from one campus to the other.

#### OFFICE OF RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

If you feel you've been the victim of harassment, discrimination (according to Quebec's Charter of Rights and Freedoms), violence or

theft, you may want to meet with one of their advisors. Visit their office in the Guy Metro Building in room GM-1120 or check out their website at [rights.concordia.ca/](http://rights.concordia.ca/).

#### FINANCIAL AID & AWARDS OFFICES

For all of your scholarship and bursary needs, visit their office in the Guy Metro Building in room GM-220.

#### CONCORDIA COUNSELING AND DEVELOPMENT

Career and Placement Services  
Unsure of what you'd like to do when you're finished at Concordia?

Need help getting into the job market? Then check out the Career Resource Centre, located in the Hall Building in room H-440.

#### COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Professional counselors, psychotherapists and psychologists are available for free for you to speak with about any issues you're dealing with. Students first go through a triage service so they can be placed with the person who best meets their needs.

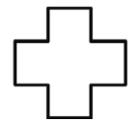
Visit their offices on the SGW campus in the Hall Building, room H-440 or at the Loyola campus in the Administration Building, room AD-103, or check out their website at [counselling.concordia.ca](http://counselling.concordia.ca).

#### STUDENT LEARNING SERVICES

If you want to learn the best studying techniques, how to stop procrastinating, how to prepare for exams and how to improve your writing skills, check out SLS. Their website ([learning.concordia.ca](http://learning.concordia.ca)) has information on all of their services, or you can visit their offices located in the Counseling and Development offices mentioned above.

#### NEW STUDENT PROGRAM

This program is set up to offer first-year students all the help they need to have a successful first year at Concordia. The program is run out of the Student Success Centre.



#### HEALTH SERVICES

If you need to see a doctor or nurse while at Concordia, visit the Health Services centres located on the SGW campus in room GM-200 or at Loyola in room AD-103-10. You can either make an appointment or go to the walk-in clinic.

Head & Hands, not affiliated with Concordia, is another option for students who are looking for health care. They offer free walk-in clinics most Tuesday and Thursday nights. Check out their website at [headandhands.ca](http://headandhands.ca) for more information on all services they provide.

#### OMBUDS OFFICE

If you have any problems with Concordia's policies, rules or procedures, the Ombuds office is there for you. They are independent of the university, impartial and confidential.

Visit their office in the Guy Metro Building in room GM-600-42 or check out their website at [concordia.ca/services/concerns](http://concordia.ca/services/concerns).

#### STUDENT EMERGENCY & FOOD FUND

Check out the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy's office at 2090 Mackay St. If you need help making ends meet during the school year. The chaplaincy gives out gift cards to grocery stores to help you pay for food.

#### CU STUDENT PARENTS CENTRE

If you're both a student and a parent, then this is the resource for you. Check out their lounge, where you can do schoolwork, play with your child, find out about more resources available to you, or just relax.

Visit their office at 1410 Guy St., room 24, or check out their website at [cusp.concordia.ca/](http://cusp.concordia.ca/).

Childcare is available on both campuses for students, faculty and staff. At SGW campus, visit 1185 St. Mathieu, GN-110. At Loyola, check out 3500-3502 Belmore street.



#### TUTORING

If you need tutoring while at Concordia, call the university at 514-848-2424 ext. 3517 or 4239 for a full list of tutors. Tutors are available at \$20 an hour for a wide variety of subjects.

# ORIENTATION



## WHERE'S THE TECH?

• CLÉMENT LIU



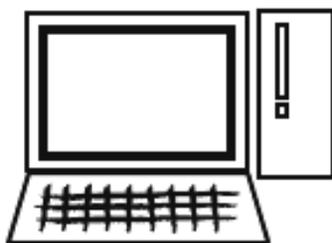
### SAFETY

If you just got a new laptop or a new phone, you'll probably want to keep it safe. First thing you do is: Never! Ever! Leave your belongings unattended! This includes relatively safe-seeming public areas like quiet cafés, and insane madhouses like Concordia's libraries during exams. It's not uncommon to hear of people who have had their laptops pulled right out of their bags as they were drinking coffee, none the wiser. If you want to take the extra step and spend a few bucks to protect your gear, there are a ton of things you can do. Cable locks are an easy and basic solution for all laptops, but if you'd prefer something more discrete, there are devilishly handy apps like Prey ([preyproject.com](http://preyproject.com)) that can track down your lost/stolen smartphone or laptop.



### FREE PUBLIC WI-FI

Don't feel like writing your paper in your bedroom? There are plenty of places on and around campus that will get you access to some free, delicious wireless internet. First off, every Concordia building has Wi-Fi for students, and now that we're in the 21st century, every Second Cup, Café Depot and Starbucks (You can't drop your knapsack around here without hitting one of these) does too. A brand-new worldwide service named Eduroam also allows you to have internet access on the campus of other universities around town. Participating Montreal schools include Concordia, McGill, Université de Montréal, École Polytechnique and HEC Montreal. Eduroam allows you to connect to their networks the same way you would at Concordia.



### COMPUTERS

If you're in need of a computer, you can head to the IITS Computer Labs, located at both the downtown (Hall Building, ninth floor) and Loyola (Central Building, second floor) campuses.

If you're a Fine Arts student, you can also pay the CDA lab fee and gain access to their fancy computer labs. Here, you get server space with which to store things, and you can host websites on it too. If you're a gamer and you're looking for a quick StarCraft 2 fix between classes—and the school connection is preventing you from playing a game without disconnecting—you can head over to Neo Internet Café (1839 Ste. Catherine St. W., Suite 110) or Le Net (1684 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.).

### APPS

If you have an iPhone or Android phone and you're looking from some sweet apps to help you get around town or just do your work, here are six crucial apps that'll run you under six crucial dollars between the lot of them:

Epic Win, by Supermono Limited, is an app that turns your daily to-do list into an adventure game! You gain video-game-esque experience points for completing otherwise-mundane tasks. Buying toilet paper has never been so exhilarating. ([\\$2.99](http://epicwinapp.com). Available for iPhone.)

Drink Owl gives you a daily listing of the bar specials in Montreal (or any other major city), so you can get your drink on in the most technologically enhanced, cash-efficient manner possible. One caveat, though: it will not tell you about the high skeeviness level of a given bar's average patrons. ([drinkowl.com](http://drinkowl.com). Free. Available for iPhone and Android.)

Dictionary.com's Dictionary & Thesaurus app is, well... It's a dictionary. For all those tip-of-your-tongue moments, or when you want to figure out whether you're being insulted or complimented

by the guy in the back of your class in the beret and black turtleneck. ([dictionary.reference.com/mobileapp](http://dictionary.reference.com/mobileapp). Free. Available for iPhone, Android and Blackberry.)

The Société de Transport de Montréal's official app, STM Mobile, allows you to check the bus or metro schedule from your phone. Which is nice to have when it's February, 20 below, and you're at a stop whose schedule has been vandalized beyond readability. ([directionfilms.net/stmmobile/index.html](http://directionfilms.net/stmmobile/index.html). \$0.99 Available for iPhone.)

The mighty WolframAlpha app combines knowledge with computational powers to give you solutions to virtually any math problem that could ever exist, ever. Highly recommended if you need answers fast. ([products.wolframalpha.com/mobile/](http://products.wolframalpha.com/mobile/). \$1.99 Available for iPhone and Android.)

Allrecipes.com's Dinner Spinner is the app you need if you a) have a kitchen, and b) are willing/brave enough to cook more than just Ramen noodles. ([allrecipes.com/features/more/android.aspx](http://allrecipes.com/features/more/android.aspx). Free. Available for iPhone and Android.)

## WHERE'S THE LIBRARY?



PHOTO CHRISTOPHER HELD

• PIERRE CHAUVIN

No matter what you're studying, at some point in your student life, you will have to go to the library. It's an inevitable step in university, for better and (often) for worse.

Concordia has two libraries—Webster on the Sir George Williams Campus, and Vanier on the Loyola Campus, both of which are open 24/7 and provide many resources.

The library lets you borrow up to 30 documents for three weeks, which are renewable three times if no other student requests them. If the document you are looking for is not available at Concordia, get a CREPUQ card at the circulation desk, which will allow you to borrow documents from any Quebec university. You can also request

that the documents be shipped from other universities to Concordia, free of charge, just as you can request documents to be transferred from Vanier to Webster.

If you require more resources, there's Colombo, which allows you to search the libraries of other Canadian universities. You will then either receive a digital copy of the document, or a printed copy will be shipped to Concordia for you, usually at no charge. The interlibrary loans can also search for resources worldwide. "We have requested items in the past from as far as Australia, China, South America and Africa" says Andréa Harland, head of Interlibrary Loans & Media Services.

### ASK A LIBRARIAN

The wide span of available resources (such as the academic

journals the library subscribes to, of which there are more than 1,000) may seem overwhelming, which is where a librarian can come in handy. Many librarians are specialized in a specific program (such as sociology or political science), and can give you advice about anything from writing papers to information about plagiarism.

### ALL EQUIPPED

There are 210 laptops and 300 workstations available at the libraries, as well as 19 rooms for group study. Booking these rooms can be done online and rooms may be reserved for up to 3 hours. Printing services are offered any time, day or night.

Additionally, most textbooks and course packs are on reserve for students. The library also sub-

scribes to various daily newspapers, and after a couple of weeks, they are archived in microfilms, which can be viewed with the library reader, or scanned and sent to you.

### DID I SAY IPAD ?

The Concordia Library will be the first in Quebec to offer an iPad-borrowing service. The service, set to begin at the end of September, will allow students to borrow iPads and download whichever application they need. To begin, the library will be stocked with 25, second-generation iPads.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EXPLANATIONS, AND AWESOME FEATURES, VISIT [LIBRARY.CONCORDIA.CA](http://LIBRARY.CONCORDIA.CA)



# ORIENTATION

## WHERE'S THE PARTY?

ONE OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT MONTREAL'S NIGHTLIFE IS THAT—ON ANY GIVEN DAY OF THE WEEK, NO MATTER WHAT NEIGHBOURHOOD YOU'RE IN—YOU'RE BOUND TO FIND SOMETHING FUN TO DO TO GET OUT ON THE TOWN.

WHAT WE LIST HERE IS JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG IN TERMS OF WHAT'S AVAILABLE, BUT TO START YOU OFF, HERE ARE THE LINK'S PICKS OF SOME OF THE COOLEST PLACES AROUND.

• ERIN SPARKS

PHOTOS AMANDA LAPRADE



**BRUTOPIA**—ONE OF THE BEST BREWPUBS FOUND DOWNTOWN, THEY BOAST AMPLE SEATING, TRIVIA GAMES ON MONDAYS, LIVE MIC NIGHTS ON SUNDAYS AND TASTY, SEASONAL BEER. (1219 CRESCENT ST.)

### Centre Ville

-**Crobar** (1221 Crescent St.)

-**Reggie's**—Run by the Concordia Student Union and conveniently located in the Hall Building, Reggie's offers cheap beer (made even cheaper by their daily specials), which can be enjoyed meters away from where you go to class. Head down there for "Thirsty Thursdays" if you like a crowded bar scene, or any other night of the week for a more laidback feel. (1455 de Maisonneuve W.)

-**Cock n' Bull** (1944 Ste-Catherine St. W.)

### St. Denis

-**Panda Bar**—Full disclosure: Our Editor-in-Chief is responsible for plying people with vodka on Wednesday nights, but this new venue is worth a perceived conflict of interest. Tall PBRs are \$4, and shots are 4 for \$10. (2021 St. Denis St.)

-**Salon Officiel**—A laidback venue featuring a decently-sized bar and dance floor, Salon Saturdays is the place to go party, usually packed with sexy French folks. It's in a residential neighbourhood, so don't piss off the neighbours while you're in the alley shot gunning beers. You should also make sure to say hi to

the bouncer, as there's just the one who works year round. He's a really nice guy. (351 Roy E.)

-**La Rockette**—Rock n' roll, especially on "Deadly Mardi," with bartenders and DJs from local bands Dutchess Says and We Are Wolves. (4479 St. Denis St.)

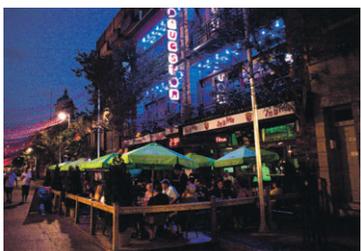
-**Cheval Blanc**—Our favourite microbrewery in town, Cheval Blanc has some of the nicest bartenders in the city. Pints will cost you around \$6, which might seem like a lot for someone on a student's budget, but it's worth it. The beer is incredible and it changes often enough that you can try a new one every time. They also make a killer grilled cheese. (809 Ontario Ave. E.)

### Mount Royal

-**Tamtams**—Montreal's weirdest outside party takes place every Sunday near the George-Étienne Cartier Monument in Mount Royal Parc. Drum circles, vendors selling things from hacky sacks to carpets and elaborately dressed LARPer (that's right, complete with crests and coats of armor) can be found beginning in May until the end of September.

-**Mont Royal Ave, in general**—there are literally a hundred bars, pubs and places to crawl from St. Laurent Blvd. to Papineau worthy of checking out. Check it out.

### The Village



**DRUGSTORE**—FEATURING SOME OF THE MOST GORGEOUS DRAG QUEENS IN THE CITY, DRUGSTORE IS A MASSIVE CLUB/BAR WITH MULTIPLE FLOORS AND REASONABLY PRICED DRINKS. WITH NIGHTLY DRAG SHOWS, A LADIES LESBIAN NIGHT AND FRIENDLY STAFF, DRUGSTORE IS AN AWESOME PLACE TO GO, REGARDLESS OF YOUR ORIENTATION. (1366 STE-CATHERINE ST. E.)

-**Club Date**—Karaoke all week starting at 11 p.m. with a fab host that does a mean Whitney Houston. 'Nuff said. (1218 St. Catherine St. E.)

### St. Henri

-**Burgundy Lion** (2496 Notre-Dame W.)

-**Black Jacks** (3814 Notre-Dame W.) (Thursday Nights)

### NDG

-**The Wheel Club** (3373 Cavendish)

-**Maz Bar** (5617 Sherbrooke W.)

-**Honey Martin's**—With its cozy décor and soft lighting, this snug Irish pub is the perfect winter bar. With a super friendly staff and reasonably priced Guinness, it's a great place to relax. Plus, Wednesdays through Saturdays, you'll also enjoy live music. (5916 Sherbrooke St. W.)

### St. Laurent



**LES FOUFOUNES ÉLECTRIQUES**—THIS PLACE IS HOME TO PROBABLY THE CHEAPEST BEER IN TOWN. IT'S HUGE, BUT LINEUPS FREQUENTLY STRETCH DOWN THE BLOCK—ONE LINE FOR THOSE NOT WILLING TO BRIBE THE BOUNCER, AND THE OTHER FOR THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO FORK OVER SOME CASH TO GET IN FASTER. (87 ST. CATHERINE ST. E.)

-**Cabaret Café Cleopatre**—Stripping on the first floor and cabaret upstairs. This legendary burlesque bar has kept the gentri-

fication of the neighbourhood in check. (1230 St Laurent)

-**Midway**—Where the strippers from Cleo's go to drink after

their shifts. Hilariously québécoise live music on Saturdays. (1219 St Laurent)

-**Katacombs** (1635 St Laurent)

-**Lambi** (4465 St Laurent)

-**Bluedog Motel**—Head into the 'Dog on Tuesdays for some righteous disco. (3958 St Laurent)

-**Korova**—Every Thursday Korova holds a Motown-themed night, playing a decent mix of oldies on what is usually a packed dance floor. Saturdays and Mondays are also busy evenings—though the Monday crowd tends to be a bit McGill heavy. Proceed with caution. (3908 St Laurent)

-**Snack'n Blues**—Snacks and jazz in a legendary venue. (5260 St Laurent)

-**The Royal Phoenix**—The newest queer dance party offering open to everyone. Great vibe, great food. (5788 St Laurent)

# ORIENTATION



## WHERE'S THE MUSIC & CULTURE?



PHOTO ADRIAN SOUSA • COLIN HARRIS & ALEX MCGILL

Paul's Boutique on Mont Royal Ave.

### Culture

For you res kids who want to stick close to home, Concordia has its own galleries. **The VAV** is located in Concordia's VA building and is student-run. There is also the **FOFA Gallery** in Concordia's EV building. The two host a ton of student work, so it's a great way to support your colleagues.

In March, be sure to check out Concordia's **Art Matters**, an amazing student-run art festival showcasing the huge creativity of Concordia students.

Sticking to downtown, there is, of course, our neighbour the **Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal** (1380 Sherbrooke St. W.), that is host to a number of

big-ticket exhibitions, including the current Jean Paul Gaultier retrospective. Steps from our own Hall Building, it's definitely worth checking out. There is also the **Canadian Centre for Architecture** at (1920 Baile St.), which has a pretty awesome bookstore. **Optica** (372 St. Catherine St. W.) will introduce you to a host of contemporary artworks.

If you find yourself taking in the beauty of Montreal's Old Port, you should also stop by the **DHC/ART** (451 St-Jean) Foundation for Contemporary Art, which has film screenings and educational workshops.

St. Henri, just a short walk or metro ride away from our downtown campus, is host to a multi-

tude of gallery spaces, including the newly located **Galerie Coatcheck** (5180 Notre-Dame W.), where both art exhibits and vintage clothing sales are found. There is also **Parisian Laundry** (3550 St. Antoine W.), an airy warehouse space that's almost as beautiful as the works it houses.

In the Plateau/Mile End, you'll find a variety of artist-run spaces, catering to both emerging and established artists working in many different forms. **Article** (262 Avenue Fairmount W/), **CTRL LAB** (3634 St. Laurent Blvd.), **la Galerie ESPACE** (4844 St. Laurent Blvd.), **Eastern Bloc** (7240 Clark) and **La Centrale Galerie** (4296 Blvd St Laurent) are just a few worth checking out.

### Venues

For those who like their live music a little rough around the edges, you can't beat \$5 punk shows on St. Denis. The street is great to experience a whole different nightlife than downtown, so head into **l'Absynthe** (1738 St. Denis St.) or **l'Esco Griffé** (4467 St. Denis St.) to brush up on ordering drinks in French and jump into the mosh. Stop at **Chez Baptiste** (1045 Mont-Royal Ave. E.) for a casual drink and a decent bar band, but you better be a Habs fan if it's game night.

Get off the beaten path at **Il Motore** (179 Jean-Talon St. W.), an old converted garage that you'd miss walking down Van Horne Ave. if it wasn't for the music. The only thing separating the stage from the street is the giant garage door. Enjoy the music on the elevated bar or at the heart of it all in front of the stage.

In the Mile End, you can catch student performers, side projects and solo acts at **Le Cagibi** (5490 St. Laurent Blvd.), but don't expect to get your drink on until they upgrade their license. You can see the city's latest buzz band or touring act at historic Montreal cultural centre **La Sala Rossa** (4848 St. Laurent Blvd.), or—if you're the type that likes to be the first to see an act—head across St. Laurent to sister venue **Casa Del Popolo** (4873 St. Laurent Blvd.) The sound may not be the best, but it's hard to beat \$5 pints of beer in the intimate live setting, and their nachos are to die for.

### Record stores

For the audiophile who swears by the warmth of vinyl, there are an abundance of independently owned record stores in the city. Get your tickets for all the shows at **l'Oblique** (4443 Rivard St.), a little store where you'll find new releases and obscure local pressings.

If you're downtown, swing by **Cheap Thrills** (2044 Metcalfe St.), where their dollar-record bins hold the odd gem among countless French folk and Beethoven albums. They've got a good used book collection too, if you'd rather not look through slightly overpriced new releases.

Excite your inner DJ (and scare off your inner pack rat) at Paul's Boutique (112 Mont-Royal Ave. E.), a yellow house filled to capacity with old records, VHS tapes, video games and seemingly random literature. It's a challenge to flip through overstuffed milk crates of vinyl, but you'd be hard pressed to find a better place to gather material to mix and match.

Head further east down Mont Royal to Au 33 Tours (1379 Mont-Royal Ave. E.) for a great selection of recent releases. If you can't find tickets for your fave band's upcoming gig try here, it's worth the trek even if you're not the type who insists on unwrapping new vinyl.

## WHERE ARE THE FREEBIES?

• JASON ROUSELL

Having been a student on a tight budget for the past four years, I've had to be pretty resourceful in this city to be able to eat, make art and have fun.

The most essential place to know about for the average hungry Concordian is **The People's Potato**, located on the 7th floor of the Hall building. They give out vegan meals every weekday between 12:30 and 2 p.m. Donations are welcomed, but no one is turned away. The food is delicious and if you have a bit of time to spare they are always looking for volunteers to help out with the cooking, serving and cleaning.

"The Potato" is also a pick-up spot for the city wide **Good Food Box**. Every other week you can sign up for one of three sizes.

The small box starts at \$7 and has enough fruits and veggies to feed the average student for two weeks. Look for the sign up table during the People's Potato serving times.

Every Sunday, **ISKCON** gives out a free vegetarian feast starting at 5 p.m. They are located at 1626 Pie IX Blvd., and though they are a religious institution, there is no pressure from anyone and everyone is welcome.

**Food Not Bombs Montreal** is also fairly active during the non-winter months and give out free meals around town—find them on Facebook to see when their next event is.

If you fancy a pint with your meal, **McKibbin's Pub** has three locations around town, one right on the downtown campus, and they have a free buffet for

their customers during happy hour, Monday to Friday, from 5 to 7 p.m.

More beer? **Les Foufounes Electrique** is one of the cheapest bars in town. On Tuesdays, pitchers of beer can be bought for around \$5. The bar also has good happy hour specials, and is located at 87 St. Catherine St. E.

For all you art lovers, the **Musée des Beaux Arts** has free entrance on Wednesday nights from 6 to 9 p.m., with new exhibits every few months.

If you're into movies, **Dollar Cinema** is a short ride down the orange line at Namur Metro. A movie ticket costs just \$2.50 and all snacks are \$1. They mostly play newly released Hollywood movies, but at times show classics or B-rated movies as well.

Every Monday night during

the fall and winter semesters, **Cinema Politica** plays documentaries in the Hall Building Auditorium. Donations are welcomed and after the screenings there is always a discussion, often with the director, or with someone associated with the documentary.

If you're looking for something a little more XXX-rated, **Cinema L'Amour** at 4015 St. Laurent Blvd. is free for couples on Mondays and Tuesdays. They also offer a VIP service, featuring a tour of the private rooms at cost of \$35. Not for the sexually timid.

One a similar note, **Queer Concordia** located in the P-Annex on Mackay St. often has free condoms and lube for everyone! They are also a great resource for anything LGBT related.

Another club on campus, **Überculture**, has a monthly **Really, Really Free Market**, usually held on the 7th floor of the Hall Building. At the RRFM, you can find clothes, books, and kitchen supplies—basically anything that has been donated by other people! Check the boards around campus for event flyers.

The **loading docks** of the Hall Building is also a great place to find scrap metal, wood, and other supplies. Enter beside the mailroom, find the big blue dumpster and dive in! The apartment complex near Mackay and Notre Dame also often has tons of furniture, canvases and other 'junk.' While you're there, you might as well stop by **The Salvation Army** just around the corner on Notre Dame.

Happy thrifting!

# 8

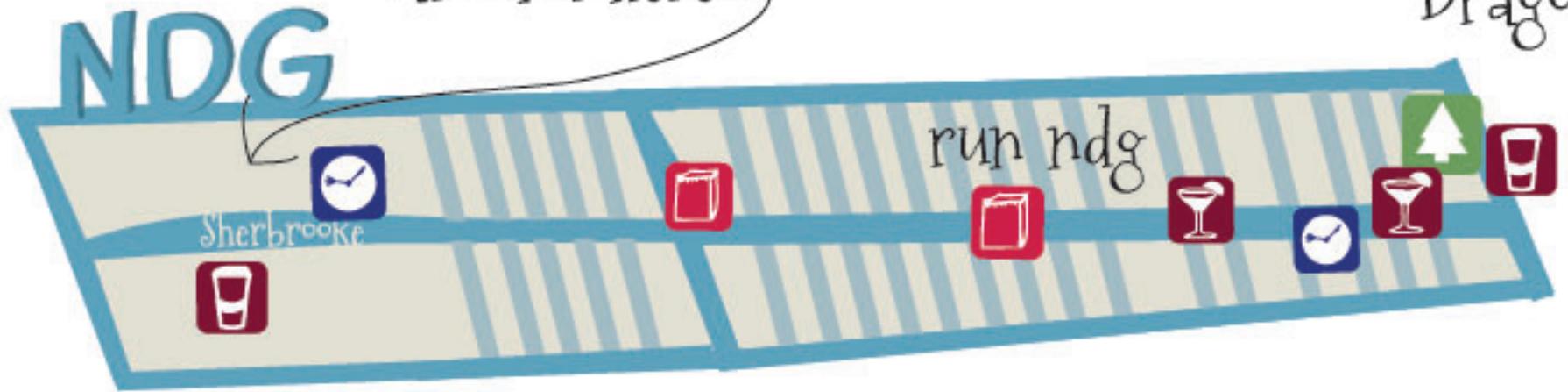
# ORIENTATION MAP



son of chinatown

rumor is we have a campus around here...

Here be Dragons



## KEY:



Music- page 7



Free- page 7



Late night grub- page 12



Green Space- page 11



Ride- page 13



Groceries- page 12

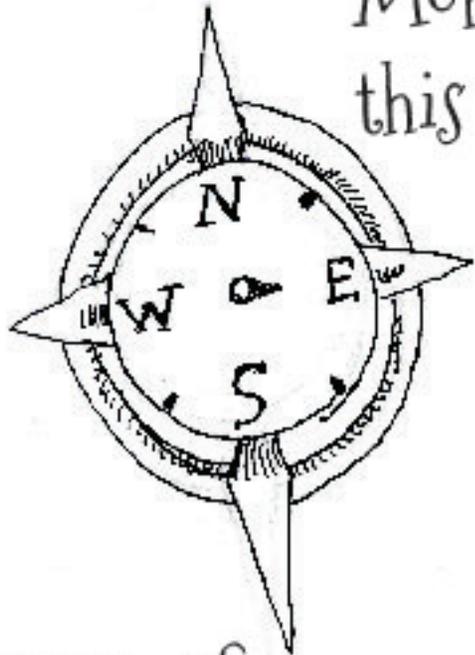


Coffee- page 12



Party- page 6

# ORIENTATION MAP



More Irony  
this way

Beware of  
curbstomping

## MILE-END (Ish)



## PLATEAU



plateau  
rat

COMPILED BY ERIN SPARKS,  
GRAPHICS BY JULIA WOLFE &  
ERIC BENT



# ORIENTATION

## WHERE ARE THE SPORTS?

• DAVID KAUFMANN

Are you in the mood for some bone-crushing, hard-hitting action? Perhaps you would like to watch some slam-dunking, or some goal scoring? Or maybe painting yourself maroon and gold is just your thing. (Fall colours, brah.)

Look no further than Concordia's Athletic Complex located at the Loyola campus and easily accessible from the downtown campus by shuttle bus. There you can feast your eyes on all the college football (Canadian rules, mind), basketball, hockey, soccer, and rugby the Stingers have to offer.

If watching a ball getting hit out of the park is more your thing, the Stingers also have a baseball team that plays at Trudeau Park in Côte-St-Luc.

FOR INFORMATION ON EVERYTHING STINGERS CHECK OUT [STINGERS.CA](http://STINGERS.CA).



PHOTO AMANDA LAPRADE

## CONCORDIA INTRAMURAL LEAGUES

### Ultimate Frisbee

Beginning Sept. 11, make your way down to the Loyola fields, and learn more about that mysterious and probably hippie-related plastic disc you once played with as a child. The Ultimate Frisbee league meets every Sunday night between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

### Basketball

As of Sept. 13, gather 'round a bunch of your tallest buds and make your way over to the Loyola Gym to join in on some friendly basketball. The action starts at 7:40 p.m. and continues until 11:00 p.m.

### Soccer

ConU has got you covered with both its outdoor and indoor soccer leagues. On Sundays between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., get a group of people to the Loyola fields and play a game of soccer the way it was meant to be played—outdoors.

If you hate letting the elements

control your game, bring your cleats to the Loyola Gym Wednesday nights. The Gym will be opening its doors to footy fans starting Sept. 14. The balls start flying at 6:30 p.m. and will continue until 11:00 p.m.

### Volleyball

Feeling a distinct lack of pain in your forearms? On Monday and

Thursday nights, feed your need and get your volley, serve and spike on between 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CONCORDIA'S INTRAMURAL LEAGUES, SEE [ATHLETICS.CONCORDIA.CA](http://ATHLETICS.CONCORDIA.CA).

## WHERE ARE THE CLUBS?

• PIERRE CHAUVIN

Associations and Clubs at Concordia represent a hugely important part of student life—and there are so many to choose to match your interests.

Clubs and associations range to cover faculty organizations, different countries, religious associations, political beliefs, sports, etc. Each of the groups hold events and workshops throughout the year.

Most associations fall under the authority of the Concordia Student Union, which decides how much funding to allocate to each of them, or under the relevant faculty federation.

There are also a whole variety of unique associations. **StarCraft Concordia** brings together Con-

cordia students to play the world-famous RTS. **The Concordia Women's Self-Defence Association** teaches fundamental defence, distributes safety tips and has resources to help victims of sexual or physical abuse. **STAND Concordia** is the local branch of STAND Canada, aiming to inform about current human rights violations in the world, as well as convincing governments to intervene. **The Typhon Dragon Boat Club** provides students with the opportunity to play a 2,500-year old Chinese team paddling sport.

Check out these spaces, and the complete list of the clubs at [studentgroups.csu.qc.ca](http://studentgroups.csu.qc.ca)

There are also 13 associations part of the Fee-Levy Association at Concordia (FLAC), who get their

funding directly from students. Being a fee-levy association guarantees financial stability and independence.

**The People's Potato** has been providing Concordia students with free vegan meals every weekday of the school year for the last 12 years. **Cinema Politica**, a now worldwide organization that started at Concordia, screens political documentaries every Monday. **Art Matters** is a festival organized each year in March, aimed at displaying student's creations and up-and-coming artists in Montreal galleries.

**The Quebec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG)** mobilizes all kinds of activists for social change. It currently has 29 working groups, such as the Montreal Anarchist Book-fair, TAPthirst (a group

that led the fight against bottled water on campus last year), Solidarity Across Borders or the Collectif Opposé à la brutalité policière (COBP).

**CJLO Radio**, based on the Loyola Campus and run by Concordia students, has been broadcasting 24/7 since 2003 and has won several national radio awards. It was listed by *The Huffington Post* in the nine best college radio stations in 2010. CJLO broadcasts all kinds of music as well as news; you can listen to CJLO on 1690AM or on their website.

Other members of FLAC are **student-run print media**, including *L'Organe*, *The Concordian*, and, yours truly, *The Link*.

The Concordia Volunteer Abroad Program, the Sustainable

Action Fund and the FEUQ (a provincial lobby group for student's rights, the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec—pronounced 'fuck' in French) are also part of FLAC.

Since there are so many associations, it's not always easy to get information about them. The best thing to do is to go to the CSU Club Fair organized on September 9th on Reggie's Terrace or to the QPIRG club fair part of the Disorientation week on September 21st. Associations & Clubs will be tabling at both of these events, and will give you the opportunity to discover Concordia's rich student life.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [CSU.QC.CA](http://CSU.QC.CA) OR [QPIRGCONCORDIA.ORG](http://QPIRGCONCORDIA.ORG)

# ORIENTATION



## WHERE'S THE GREEN SPACE?



PHOTO ERIN SPARKS

• JULIA JONES

If you want to get some green downtown, your best bet is to leave. That's right, get out of Centre Ville. Climb the mountain, take the shuttle to the green pastures of Loyola, or—fuck it—go visit McGill.

Or, if going to McGill would hurt your pride and Loyola seems too far away, here are some slices of nature in an otherwise concrete jungle:

### The Greenhouse

The Concordia Greenhouse is located on the rooftop of the Hall Building (follow the arrows when taking the stairs from the 12th floor), and is an all-organic space for education, skill development, research, sustainable horticulture, and above all a peaceful, welcoming environment.

### Grey Nuns

Unknown to those of us who never lived there, access to the Grey Nuns Garden is limited to current residents. The building was bought by the Grey Nuns (Soeurs grises) when they moved uptown from Old Montreal. Back in the day, all the land from Guy St. and Ste. Catherine St. to St. Mathieu and René-Lévesque Blvd. belonged to the sisters. In 2004, Concordia bought the building and in 2007 students moved in for the first time. It was the sisters, however, who cultivated the orchards and care for the green space where you can now take a nap or read a book in between classes (provided you live in residence).

### Architecture Park

Not far from the downtown campus in front of the Canadian Centre for Architecture (1920 Baile

St.), there is a long stretch of majestic, carefully groomed grass. Although the overall appearance of the locale might resemble a mansion, it is a really cool museum definitely worth checking out.

### Tiny VA Courtyard

The Fine Arts building, although underfunded, has a little green patch with one tree and one picnic table! This spot is great for a picnic lunch after browsing the VAV Gallery.

### Norman Bethune Square

Tim Horton's front yard. It's only green-ish, but it's a known spot for protests and pigeons in the downtown area.

### Mount Royal

If you can't find the green you

need on campus, you might as well go exploring. A hike to the mountain is a great way to see almost the entire city. Take the 80 Parc bus from Place des Arts and put your legs to work. Or just walk straight up de la Montagne. The mountain is full of people exercising, bearded playing guitars and/or drums, and creepy dudes trying to sell you pot—but don't be intimidated! Go up the mountain! Heck, go all the way to the cross!

### LOYOLA

Between the architecture of old and the brand new buildings, the mighty native statue and incessant construction, there's a sunny green patch for everyone on the Loyola campus.

### The Quad

The quad is right along the side

of the Administration building, and is where most Loyola events take place. BBQ's, concerts, club fairs and more take advantage of this quintessential "Loyola" space.

### RealTEA garden

Behind the Hingston Hall Residence at Loyola lies the RealTEA garden, a partnership of many projects, including P3 Permaculture and the People's Potato Vegetable Garden. RealTEA is a tea garden focusing on educating community members through workshops and activities, on, well, growing herbs.

### People's Potato Garden

A neighbor to RealTEA, the People's Potato Vegetable Garden grows herbs and produce to help maintain the People's Potato, Concordia's vegan soup kitchen that serves daily lunches downtown.

## WHERE'S THE STUDENT SPACE?

• LAURA BEESTON

You might assume, as the university is an institution for educating and enlightening students, that all the space that students occupy on campus would (technically) be considered "student space." But this is simply not so, my friends. Not so.

From the exclusivity contracts outlining the food we eat, to the advertisements bombarding our eyeballs, to the security procedures controlling how and where we organize, "student space" has long been contested ground at Concordia.

Did you know that the Hall Building's mezzanine and lobby were gathering and mobilizing spots for students until Tim Horton's and university-installed, bolted-down leather couches—all part of a "Space Plan"—displaced

them?

Did you know that Concordia has already had *two* Student Centres that both campuses have failed to maintain?

And that, currently, there's a 2009 Student Centre contract between the CSU and the administration that needs to be finalized?

Upon completion, it would mean students will be coughing up \$10 million in fee-levy savings towards a down payment on the Faubourg shopping centre.

It's important to know the politics of the places you occupy so that informed decisions can be made. Here is a brief history of our space case:

**Jan. 29, 1985:** Plans for a new Student Centre on the Mezzanine of the Hall Building, due to the new Library Building plan freeing up space.

**2000:** "The Space Plan" suggests Student Services, clubs and associations to move from Hall Building to the GM Building. The student associations rebel, calling for a student centre between the GM and the future EV building.

**June 2003:** The CSU sends the Dean of Students a Space Plan Analysis for the Mezzanine, the Greening of the Hall Building Terrace—to be completed by August 2003. The budget for the mezzanine is \$15,000 and the greening has a \$10,000 budget. In other words, those four bench/planter hybrids you smoke and sit at are \$10,000 worth of student space.

**2003:** The student body votes to institute a \$1 per credit levy towards a student centre on the SGW campus. Today, we have \$7 million.

**May 29, 2009:** After starting up the Student Centre project with a CSU/Admin working committee, former CSU president Keyana Kashfi signs an agreement with Concordia.

**March 2009:** 72 per cent of Concordians who cast a ballot vote against paying an additional \$2.50 per credit to fund a Student Centre. No locations for the site of the centre are revealed by the CSU before the vote.

**Nov. 2010:** 69 per cent of voting students reject an increase to a staggered Student Centre fee levy. Over \$7 million has been collected in fees to date. It is revealed that the Faubourg shopping centre is the destination.

**Today:** Throughout the Student Centre campaign, former CSU executives have been resolute that the building would give students greater decision-making power and autonomous ownership over our space.

But if you read the contract (check out [thelinknewspaper.ca/article/735](http://thelinknewspaper.ca/article/735)) it's been made legally apparent how this space might actually work—the administration will retain 100 per cent control over it.

Moving forward, it's necessary that students reclaim their space and, more importantly, help shape and define it. Aren't we the reason this space exists in the first place? So occupy it. Send a message to your student reps, contact your administrators and read up on what's going down.

## WHERE'S THE FOOD?

## INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

## ARMENIA

*Arouch*  
1600 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.

## CHINA

*Soupe et Nouilles*  
1871 Ste. Catherine St. W.  
*Wok Café*  
1845 Ste-Catherine St. W.

## FRANCE

*Paris Crêpe*  
3000 Crescent St.  
*Le Paris*  
1812 Ste. Catherine St. W.

## GREECE

*Arahova*  
1825 Ste. Catherine St. W.

## INDIA

*Étoile d'Inde*  
1806 Ste. Catherine St. W.

## ITALY

*Angela Pizzeria and Restaurant*  
1662 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.  
*Chez Ennio*  
1978 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.

## JAPAN

*Kazu*  
1862 Ste. Catherine St. W.  
*Tokyo Sushi*  
1805 Ste. Catherine St. W.  
*Kanda*  
2045 Bishop St.

## LEBANON

*Amir*  
1333 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.  
*Boustan*  
2020A Crescent St.  
*Nilufar*  
1923 Ste. Catherine St. W.

## MEXICO

*Rimal*  
1800 Ste. Catherine St. W.  
*3 Amigos*  
1657 Ste. Catherine St. W.  
*Burritoville*  
2055 Bishop St.  
*Mesa 14*  
1425 Bishop St.

## POLAND

*Wawel*  
1413 St. Marc St.

## TURKEY

*Avesta*  
2077 Ste. Catherine St. W.

## USA

*Buns*  
1855 Ste. Catherine St. W.  
*Cocktail Hawaii*  
1645 de Maisonneuve Blvd W.  
*Le Gourmet Burger*  
1433B Bishop St.



## LATE NIGHT LIFESAVERS

• MEGAN DOLSKI

## Le Gourmet Burger

1433B Bishop St., Open Daily 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m. For the first round of late-night snackers only. Get creative and build your own masterpiece of a burger by choosing from a wide range of standard and not-so-standard toppings. Be sure to try the sweet potato fries—om nom nom—and whatever you do, don't leave without a) trying all their different mayos and b) checking out their jaw-droppingly beautiful bathroom.

## Boustan

2020 Crescent St., Open Mon-Sat 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m.; Sun 5:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. This Montreal institution is currently up for sale, so get it while you can! A tiny Lebanese place that has been feeding drunk, hungry, and drunk and hungry Montrealers for years. Drop by for some shawarma, falafels, kebabs, hummus and/or garlic potatoes. P.S. To keep the experience enjoyable for all involved, a package of gum is useful for extreme post-consumption garlic breath.

## Angela Pizzeria &amp; Restaurant

1662 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. Open Mon-Thu & Sun 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 a.m.; Fri-Sat 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. It's late at night, you're craving pizza, but you don't just want to grab a slice and go? Head to Angela's; grab a table, sit back and enjoy... It's actually good pizza.

## Cocktail Hawaii

1645 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Sun-Thu 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., Fri-Sat 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. Waffles at 2 in the morning? Yes. Crepes? Yes. Smoothies? Yes. Head here for the breakfast of champions—before breakfast or after a serious night out.

## Dad's Bagels

5732 Sherbrooke St. W., Open 24 hours. Late night fare for NDG-ers. Bagels and Indian food. Whether you are craving a classic Montreal bagel, or need a midnight curry fix, Dad's is a gem of a place that will totally help you out.

## Moe's Diner

1455 Lambert-Closse St., Open 24 hours. Infamous greasy spoon close to Atwater. Some people swear by it as the place for hangover breakfasts and late night poutines. But don't take your traditionalist friends with you—they use cheddar instead of curds.

## Souvlaki George

6995 Monkland Ave., Open 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. If you live on or around Loyola, this restaurant should become your second home. When the good people at Chartwells aren't there to serve your needs, George always is. He'll even deliver right to res, and will probably remember your order. If you're really lucky, you may even convince him to sing for you.

## FILL YOUR FRIDGE

For fruits and veggies downtown, **PA Groceries**, located at 1420 du Fort St., is your go-to. Despite the chaos, the produce is fresh and reasonably priced. PA also has a great selection of fresh bread.

If you are looking for a complete selection of pre-made foods, **Provigo**, at 1953 Ste. Catherine St. W., will have everything you need. It can be a little soulless, but it's also open until 1:00 a.m. every day, so it balances out.

For something a little different, try **Mourelatos**, at 1621 Ste. Catherine St. W., for Mediterranean groceries. Here you will find a great selection of homemade hummus, salads and fresh pita—healthy and delicious.

If you live in NDG, you are situated amongst tons of affordable, international grocery stores. Be sure to try **Marché Akhavan** (6170 Sherbrooke St. W.), a Persian marketplace filled with cheap produce and delicious exotic specialties. There's also a **Provigo** at 6485 Sherbrooke St. W. in NDG for anything else you might be missing.

For a special treat, both the **Atwater** and **Jean-Talon** markets are very accessible to downtowners by Metro. These are great for stocking up on loads of fresh... well, fresh everything, really. A selection of butchers, bakeries, farmers, florists and more will all be at your disposal. If you live on your own, or do groceries independently from your roommates, it might be best to bring a friend along to split baskets, however, because the produce often comes in rather large quantities.

## WHERE'S THE BREW?

If you don't feel like leaving school, **Café X**, located in the EV Building, can provide you with all the java you need, along with some pretty awesome art for you to feast your eyes on, and there's a hard-to-miss **Java U** on the second floor of the Hall Building for when you need an extra jolt to conquer the non-functioning escalators.

If you're willing to head off-campus, you won't have to go far to experience tons of options, as a veritable ecosystem of coffee places has sprung up to cater to the panicky Concordia student's caffeine needs.

First things first, no article about coffee in relation to Concordia would be complete without mentioning **Café Myriade**. Located just across from the Library Building at 1432 Mackay St., Myriade is must-try for anyone that appreciates good, strong coffee and friendly baristas. Slightly pricier than other options, this place is worth the splurge. Filter coffee here isn't anything too special, but the lattes and espresso are fantastic, and come complete with beautiful, swirling designs traced onto the surface of your beverage. Also, if you need a snack, try the vegan raspberry chocolate chip muffin—serious yum!

**Kafein** is another great Concordia go-to, just a 30 second walk from the Hall Building at 1429A Bishop St. This place is great for coffee and not too pricey for the amount of coffee you get. If you aren't a coffee drinker, you can also choose from their large selection of

loose-leaf teas, and their avocado-and-Halloumi-cheese sandwich makes for an incredible beverage companion. Plus, if you feel like hanging around later on, the place turns into a pretty chill lounge at night.

**Le Frigo Vert**, meanwhile, is just across from the Hall Building at 2130 Mackay St., and sells fair trade coffee for \$0.99 a cup—a stellar deal for those who are trying to stretch their budget. And, of course, if your tastes run a little more mainstream, there are Tim Horton's, Starbucks, Second Cup and Café Depot branches (in some cases several of each) within a couple blocks of the Concordia campus.

If you're a Loyola student, your caffeine selection may be slightly more limited, but all hope is not lost. **The G Lounge** serves cheap coffee on the fourth floor of the CC Building, along with a bunch of snacks. This year, the CSU's **Hive Café** (also in the CC Building, above the G Lounge) will be open in full force (pending electrical renovations—it's currently slated for an October opening), staying open for longer hours and promising fair-trade organic coffee served in Mason jars.

If you're willing to make a bit of a trek during a break, **Café Shaika** (5526 Sherbrooke St. W.) is a short 105 bus ride away from the Loyola Campus and boasts excellent coffee, sandwiches and a cozy atmosphere that is perfect for either studying or catching up with friend—just look for the place with tons of laptops and the fogged up windows.



# ORIENTATION

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## WHERE'S YOUR RIDE?



GRAPHIC JULIA WOLFE

• JULIA JONES

As a student in Montreal, even if you live downtown, you will probably be a commuter as well. Whether it's a class at Loyola, there's a party in the Plateau or you just want an adventure around the island, the city has a wide range of options to choose from that will get you where you need to go.

### BIKES

Biking is a cheap, fast and ecological way of getting around. Montreal is generally a bike-friendly city, with bike paths on major streets and parks. Check out *pédalMONTRÉAL* for an interactive map of bike paths in the Montreal area. If you don't have a bike, check out some options below.

#### Bixi

Bixi ([montreal.bixi.com](http://montreal.bixi.com)) is a public bike-sharing system with stations all around the island of Montreal. Bixi was designed for short urban rides, so if you have a credit card, for five dollars you can rent a bike for 30 minutes at a time, for up to 24 hours.

They can be very convenient and especially worth it if you have the \$78-per-year membership, letting you rent a bike for 45 minutes at a time. You will, however, get charged \$1.50 for every extra half hour you spend on the bike, and if you live in NDG, consider buying your own bike, since most stations are located between the Decarie and Pie-IX.

#### Right to Move/La Voie Libre

Tucked away in the alleyway behind the Hall Building between Mackay and Bishop,

is this little Concordia gem. Right to Move ([www.rtm-lvl.org](http://www.rtm-lvl.org)) accepts donation bikes, fixes them up and either gives them away or sells them for a low price. They also have a drop-in bike shop where you can fix and tune your bike with the help of volunteer mechanics. RTM is a membership-based organization with \$20-per-year fee to join.

#### Mile End Bike Garage

The Mile End Bike Garage ([bikegarage.org](http://bikegarage.org)), located at 135 Van Horne Ave., on the second floor, has a mandate of making bike maintenance knowledge accessible for all. For five dollars a month, you can have access to the shop, tools, and the help of a volunteer mechanic.

### SKATEBOARDING

In Montreal, riding your skateboard anywhere that isn't a bike path or a skate park can get you a fine. Even at Victoria and Peace Park, notorious skateboarding spots, you might go home with a \$680 ticket. Montreal is home to the enormous TAZ skate, bike and roller park though, located at 8931 Papineau Ave. You can check out its opening hours and fares at [taz.ca](http://taz.ca).

### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Most likely you live by a Société de transport de Montréal metro station or bus route. The metro and bus are a good one-two punch, since they have complementary strengths and weaknesses. While the metro is a much quicker way to travel—fewer stops, no traffic—there are only a few dozen metro stops on the island, leaving many neigh-

bourhoods out. Buses, though slower, will often be able to get you closer to your destination than the metro thanks to the plethora of lines running all over the island. That being said, it's often worth taking a metro-bus combination, since one STM fare will allow you a free connection, acting as a transfer for two hours after you first embark.

#### OPUS Card

If you are a full-time student under 26 years old and live on the island of Montreal, you can get a deal for reduced STM fares. For that, you need an OPUS card ([stm.info/english/tarification/a-opus.htm](http://stm.info/english/tarification/a-opus.htm)). To get your card, you need to bring all the necessary documents (see [stm.info/english/tarification/a-etudiants2.htm](http://stm.info/english/tarification/a-etudiants2.htm)) to the STM Photo Studio (2020 University Ave., McGill Metro level, Suite B315), or to the Library Building on September 19 and 20.

#### Night Buses

Night buses (even though some lines are not so reliable in terms of schedule) can come in handy in times of need—say, when you find yourself stranded in St. Henri at 4:00 a.m. on a Sunday. But do your research ([stm.info/info/nuit2011.pdf](http://stm.info/info/nuit2011.pdf)) before hopping on the bus. Night routes, though generally similar to daytime routes, have different numbers (The 80 Parc becomes the 365, the 55 St. Laurent becomes the 363, and so on.), and aren't always exactly the same as their diurnal cousins (The 356, which runs along Sherbrooke, goes all the way out to the West Island instead of curving up to Villa-Maria metro like the 24, for instance.).

#### 747 Bus

If you need to get to or from the airport, don't waste your money on a \$45 flat rate

cab ride. The 747 bus runs 24/7 and stops at Lionel-Groulx and Berri-UQAM metros, among others. A ticket costs \$8.00 (coins only, and you need exact change), but it also lets you use the STM transit system (both metro and bus) for 24 hours, which is handy if you're just getting into town and don't have a monthly pass yet.

### SHUTTLE

Concordia offers a shuttle bus service that goes from the downtown campus to Loyola. It comes every 20-25 minutes on weekdays during the school year, but every now and then something will go wrong and you'll find yourself waiting upwards of a half hour. Lines can get pretty long, but the wait will buy you time to finish your coffee before the shuttle driver tells you can't bring it (or any other food or drink) onboard. (Check out the schedule at [concordia.ca/about/contact/campus-map/shuttle-bus-schedule](http://concordia.ca/about/contact/campus-map/shuttle-bus-schedule))

### RIDESHARING

If your destination is beyond the city limits, sharing a car might be a good alternative to the bus. Apart from Craigslist's rideshare, ([montreal.en.craigslist.ca/rid](http://montreal.en.craigslist.ca/rid)) you have other options. Allo Stop ([allostop.com](http://allostop.com)) is very similar to the CL rideshare, except francophone and a little safer, since all users have to register at an Allo Stop office. CommunAuto ([communauto.com](http://communauto.com)) is more of a car sharing service. You reserve the car online and use it as much as you like, and at the end of the month you get an invoice. Useful if you plan on using a car on a regular basis but don't quite have the scrilla for leasing or owning.

# ConU WTF 101

THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS ABOUT CONCORDIA'S PAST YOU WOULD NEVER FIND IN THE GLOSSY, UNIVERSITY-ISSUED ORIENTATION PAMPHLET. THIS SCHOOL HAS A LONG, ACTIVE AND DAMN CRAZY RECORD OF HEADLINE-MAKING (FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE) AND INSPIRING MOBILIZATION AND CONVERSATION FROM COAST TO COAST.

IT'S AN INCREDIBLE, DYNAMIC INSTITUTION AND YOU, DEAR STUDENTS, ARE WALKING ON HISTORIC ACADEMIC GROUND.

AT CONCORDIA, THE ISSUES ARE CYCLICAL, AND IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHERE YOU CAME FROM. SO, HERE'S A QUICK HIT OF WTF HAS GONE DOWN AT THIS CRAZY UNIVERSITY, WHICH MIGHT OFFER US A CLUE AS TO WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE YEARS TO COME.

COMPILED BY LAURA BEESTON

## 1969: "COMPUTER CENTRE INCIDENT"—AKA THE LARGEST OCCUPATION IN CANADIAN UNIVERSITY HISTORY

Before both campuses formally merged into Concordia, the Hall Building has long been marked by the "incident"—the first major clash over race relations, freedom of expression and, perhaps most importantly, the relationship between students and administrators.

Tensions were mounting in January of 1969 after several West Indian students accused a professor of systematic racism. Affecting more than simply their grades, black students on campus organized themselves around the official proceedings against the professor, and took their frustrations to the student newspaper *The Georgian*, one of two papers that later merged to form *The Link*.

*The Georgian* gave the black students total control of the issue that hit stands on Jan. 28, 1969. Now known as "The Black Georgian" the issue disseminated their concerns over the happenings on campus, as well as information suggesting that the Computer Centre in the Hall Building was a vulnerable location for security.

The administration's response was swift and furious: the paper was culled from all the stands, the RCMP was called and the paper was locked down. The student council also fired *The Georgian's* Editor-in-Chief, David Bowman.

Later, Bowman told *The Link* "there were people who were very upset that we gave the black students a platform. *The Georgian* was not the free press we thought it was. We were told the publication of the newspaper was a privilege, not a right, and for abusing that right, we were closed down."

The next day, Jan. 29, students gathered for the hearing of Perry Anderson, the professor accused of racist conduct. Held by an all-white panel of four professors in H-110, hundreds of students walked out of the panel in protest after a few



The Computer Center "Incident" rocked our downtown campus. PHOTO FROM CONCORDIA ARCHIVES

hours—and went straight for the Computer Centre.

What followed was chaos. There were 13 days of occupation, \$3 million in damages and 30 years of paperwork and data destroyed. Computers were thrown from the ninth floor of the Hall Building to the streets below, and 97 students were arrested.

Though many things that came from this incident, the most concrete legacies are an Official Code of Rights and Responsibilities, as well as hermetically sealed windows in the Hall Building. What can't be quantified when looking back on the Computer Riot, however, is how the university set a precedent in terms of dealing with dissenting students.

—With files from Justin Giovannetti.

## 1970: THE STRIKE FOR SANTHANAM

Dr. S. Santhanam was a professor so admired at Loyola College in the 1960s that students and faculty mobilized, created petitions, demonstrations, sit-ins and occupations to reverse the non-renewal of his teaching contract.

Though the college's Senate was willing to discuss the issue, the College's Board vetoed their reconsideration of Santhanam's contract, prompting 50 people to demonstrate in the auditorium overnight in July 1969.

Things escalated in early 1970, after a sit-in organized outside of the President's office turned into a five day "quasi-occupation" of the Administration Building. They closed down the school for a week after calling in 150 riot squad police officers to forcefully remove over 500 people from the building.

Dr. Santhanam was eventually given a full year's salary, had the cost of his legal fees covered, and was given a letter of recommendation in April of 1970.

## 1992: THE FABRIKANT MURDERS

One of the more chilling pages in the university's history books happened on Aug. 24, 1992, when former Mechanical Engineering Professor Valery Fabrikant—believing there was an academic conspiracy against him—opened fire on the ninth floor of the Hall Building. He killed the Mechanical Engineering Department Chair and three other professors.

Choosing to defend himself after firing 10 lawyers at his trial, Fabrikant was found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to life

imprisonment.

After the shooting, ConU enforced new codes of ethics and signed a Coalition for Gun Control petition calling the federal government to legislate tougher firearm laws.

A permanent memorial of four tables in the lobby of the Hall Building was created shortly thereafter to commemorate the four who died.

## THE 1987 DAY OF ACTION

Rising tuition—and students protesting it—is hardly a new thing.

In 1987, Concordia students united for a "Day of Action" against the possibility of doubling tuition fees and chronic underfunding from the provincial government.

Besides a huge letter-writing campaign that saw over 10,000 letters sent to local MNAs and the Quebec Premier, the Day of Action sent a protest delegation to the National Assembly in Quebec City to speak with the Education Minister.

Over 1,000 students followed Concordia reps to Quebec and hundreds of students and staff held public demonstrations in Montreal. Quebec government offices were also inundated with calls from protestors against the hike.

Mass student protests continued across the province during the '90s, and by 1999, Concordia's student movement took a more radical turn after students held a referendum and voted overwhelmingly in support of a strike, which lasted from November 3 to 5.

Though student representation in the Senate and increasing corporate presence on campus were cited as additional reasons for striking, the real ire of students who mobilized came after Quebec announced provincial education cuts to the tune of \$1.9 billion over a six-year period.

Three thousand students took to the streets of downtown Montreal, with the Concordia Student Union leading the way. The University granted academic amnesty for students participating in the demon-

# ORIENTATION



strations. Concordia's Senate also supported the students' call for the restoration of the \$1.9 billion.

From 1999 to 2001, the CSU also organized a series of mass mobilizations on campus, including a two-day student strike which succeeded in lowering student fees by \$90 a year.

(All this to say: student action works, historically.)

## 2000: THE CSU EMBEZZLEMENT SCANDAL

In October of 2000, the CSU announced that \$193,000 had been embezzled from its funds. After an official investigation, the Montreal Police charged former CSU VP Finance Sheryll Navidad with fraud. Concordia students learned a valuable lesson on the subject of giving a damn about what the student government is doing with their money. (Incidentally, you can find this year's budget at [csu.qc.ca](http://csu.qc.ca).)

## 2002: THE NETANYAHU RIOT

Suspiciously absent from the Concordia Archives search engine, yet one of the most famous clashes on campus, the Netanyahu Riot is the reason you may have heard this institution being referred to in passing as "Gaza U."

When then-former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu—who is currently back in power—came to speak at Concordia on Sept. 9, 2002, things got crazy.

An estimated 2,000 people came out to protest the speech—which reportedly planned no time for a question and answer period, and selectively chose audience members—and tempers flared. Windows in the Hall Building were smashed, tear

gas filled the mezzanine and violence erupted as student demonstrators clashed with police. Five students were arrested and 12 were suspended.

It was the third time in a two-year period that Netanyahu had his talks cancelled at North American universities after UC Berkeley and Northwestern University had also protested his presence on campus.

After the riot, former (and now current) University President Frederick Lowy orchestrated a huge expansion of the security apparatus on campus, and expelled many student activists. A month-long moratorium was put on all Mid-East related events.

But perhaps the most controversial security post-riot move was Lowy's creation of a Risk Assessment Committee—a highly elusive administrative body made up of an unknown number of unknown members that's responsible for vetting all on-campus events for "security risks." It remains active today.

Eventually, the National Film Board of Canada made *Discordia*, a documentary about the events on campus, which can be seen at [nfb.ca/film/Discordia](http://nfb.ca/film/Discordia).

## 2005: THE FAUBOURG DEAL

See page 11 for more details.

## 2009: CFS DEFEDERATION DENIED

A couple years back, the Concordia Student Union became one of 13-plus schools currently attempting to leave the Canadian Federation of Students, a national student lobby group.

In September of 2009, a suc-

cessful petition campaign began circulating on campus, soliciting signatures from Concordia's undergraduate and graduate students to hold a referendum to break off from the CFS.

The relationship between both student groups had disintegrated over the years, with the CFS coming under fire for alleged misspending of fees, stagnating campaigns, failure to lobby the government for students' rights and interference in local elections.

At the CFS Annual General Meeting in November 2009, Concordia delegates were reportedly harassed and intimidated. Concordia's reps—along with seven other delegations from across Canada—eventually walked out during plenary.

Inciting this protest was "Motion Six," a proposal to change the minimum percentage of student signatures required to hold a referendum to leave the CFS from 10 to 20 per cent, which was passed despite being two per cent shy of the votes required for approval.

After the AGM, the CFS retroactively applied it to Concordia's 288-page petition, which had garnered the signatures of 16.9 per cent of Concordia students.

The CFS also claimed the union owed them \$1,033,278.76 in unpaid fees, despite both the CSU and Concordia University finding no proof of outstanding dues.

In March 2010, 72 per cent of Concordians who cast their ballot voted to leave the CFS, yet the referendum has yet to be recognized by the national lobby group.

A few months later, at a May 28 general meeting in Ottawa, the CSU called for a motion from the CFS to recognize their referendum. The

motion was shot down immediately and ruled as being "out of order."

The CSU has since withheld \$600,000 in unpaid fees in protest, paying their legal fees with the interest on the dues. On March 17, 2011, the CSU became the 8th student union in Canada to attempt to sue their way out of the organization. So we're going to court. Stay tuned.

—With (many) files from Justin Giovannetti.

## 2000 – PRESENT: THE GOVERNANCE CRISIS

Since 2000, the university has reportedly given out \$10 million in settlements to 45 departed administrators. Since 2005, five of the university's VPs have resigned. Since 2007, the university has dismissed two presidents. On paper, something seems terribly amiss in the upper echelons of this administration, and the figures—both monetary and public—tell an interesting tale of tension between Concordia's academic vision and its governing body.

Notably, in 2007 former president Claude Lajeunesse walked away with a \$1.3 million severance package after a closed-door meeting with the Board of Governors. His successor, Judith Woodsworth, who came into the fray in November 2008, was let go two-and-a-half years into her mandate with \$703,500.

While Woodsworth was in office, three VPs and a number of high-level administrators either stepped down or were fired with severance packages. VP Finance Larry English left in 2009. In September 2010, Concordia's award-winning VP Alumni relations Kathy Assayag re-

signed her post. A few weeks later, Concordia's longtime VP Services Michael DiGrappa left the university to pursue a job at McGill.

In the aftermath of this administrative exodus—especially after the dismissal of Woodsworth on Dec. 22—intense public scrutiny was fixed squarely on Concordia's Board of Governors, who hand-picked Interim President Frederick Lowy to serve a second term.

Since Lowy's reinstatement, nearly every major union and association representing the university's 41,000 students and 7,000 staff has called for a radical overhaul of the Board, demanding that Chairperson Peter Kruyt resign. Last March, he told reporters he would "not walk away" from his duties.

Since the unanimous call for their resignation, the Board of Governors approved the formation of an independent External Governance Review committee, whose report was published on June 15, 2011.

Making 38 recommendations of the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Governors, the Senate and the President, the report will go to Senate on Sept. 9 and then to the Board for approval. It is expected that phase one of the restructuring plan will begin as early as Sept. 28.

Currently, Concordia University is putting out a call for nominations of Board members and the President. And yes, the average student (that means you) can make suggestions, by going to [surveymonkey.com/s/H7GZVJN](http://surveymonkey.com/s/H7GZVJN). Stay tuned.

—With files from Christopher Curtis and Justin Giovannetti.

— With files from [archives.concordia.ca](http://archives.concordia.ca) (Thanks!)

## BE PART OF SOMETHING.

### The Link Meet & Greet, Friday Sept. 9th, 4 p.m. H-649





# LINK

A SPECIAL ORIENTATION ISSUE

# Catch The Room 22's Wave

## “Art Is Art Because We Say So.”

• JULIA JONES

On Sept. 10, The Room 22, a Montreal art collective, will have their first formal reading and the launch of the third issue of their zine, *We Send the Wave to Find the Wave*, at the newly resuscitated Friendship Cove.

The collective was founded by folks who felt the need to make art together. In their manifesto, the group wrote, “art is suddenly greater than any interconnection to the present culture. Its existence is untouchable, it is not subject to debate; art is art because we say so.”

The Room 22 publishes a zine on a semi-regular basis, matching poetry and photography from members and non-members of the collective.

“I just do it instinctively,” said Marie Jane, one of the organizers and Concordia creative writing student. “I don’t ask people to stage the photos to match the poetry. People can submit old or new work. I read the work of people and [from] the vibe I get from [them], I try to find artists who visually talk to me in the same way.”

This issue of the zine will be available for \$5 will feature words from Frankie Barnet, Trevor Barton, Mike Chaulk, Gillian Sze, Adam Wilcox and Jane herself, among others.

*The Wave* will also feature artwork from Richmond Lam, Le Pigeon, Robby Reis, David J. Romero, Celia Spenard-Ko, and Claire Boucher, a.k.a. Montreal chanteuse

Grimes.

“We have a certain aesthetic that is kind of sensual and sexual, and a lot of our writing goes into sexual places and I think that’s what I look for visually, in artists. I like images that make me want to travel there... dreamy, naked girls,” said Jane.

The collective has recently changed their direction and has taken a quieter path. “We used to organize big parties, with artwork on the wall, in different venues, with live photo shoots and performances, [...] but now our events are more [often] in small lofts, not bars,” said Jane. “We are also very happy to be doing it at The Cove. If those walls could talk...”

To turn these readings into exciting soirées, the collective

usually serves food and has music acts and performances. The music for *We Send the Wave to Find the Wave* will be performed by Doldrums and Alex Cowan, from the band Blue Hawaii.

“We try to make the events unoboring. A lot of poetry readings are not very well attended and in the corner of a bookstore, so we try to breathe a little bit of life into poetry,” said Devin Charitonidis, also a Concordia creative writing student and one of the organizers of The Room 22.

“But we want to make it homey too, we want people to feel like we are inviting them into our little world,” said Jane.

Their ultimate goal is to make poetry more accessible to the

general public, interest them, and hook them. “In that sense, we are closing the wall. I am very thankful for this group because I’m bringing together people from different walks of life; I feel like we are successfully bridging the gap with people who aren’t necessarily lit people,” said Charitonidis.

With most of its active participants working on their B.A.s, The Room 22 might be missing in action for the next couple of months. “This is our last attempt at a reading for the next couple of months, so we want to make a good one,” said Charitonidis.

*We Send the Wave to Find the Wave* / Sept. 10 / The Friendship Cove (215 Murray St.) / 6 p.m. / PWYC

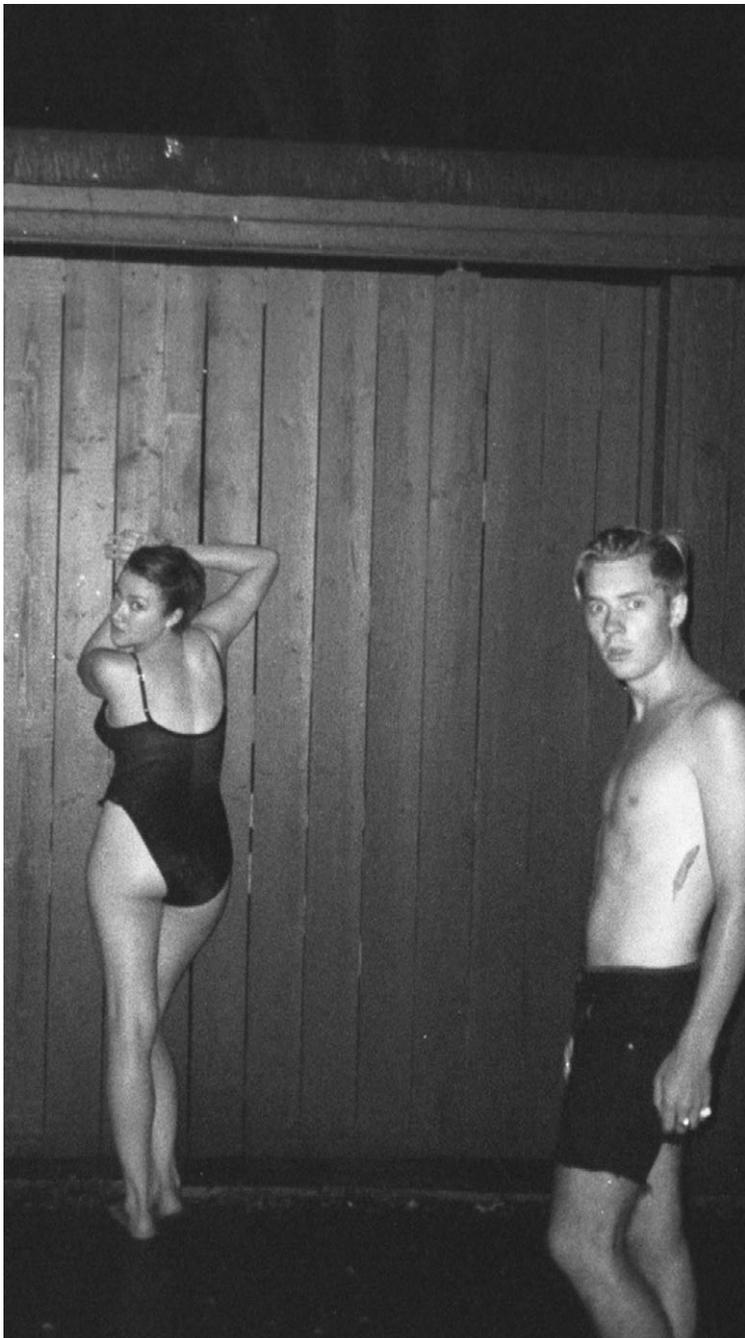


PHOTO MARIE JANE



Marie Jane and Devin Charitonidis, Concordians of the Room 22.

PHOTO JULIA JONES

# Vintage Pop-Up Shop

## Happening at a Venue Near You

• CAITLIN LEROUX

Anyone who has spent hours scouring a Value Village only to find one designer piece from last season that is actually kind of ugly once you get it home can appreciate the digging being taken out of vintage shopping.

With fall seemingly already at our doorsteps, vintage lovers are likely finding they have less time to hunt for second-hand, one-of-a-kind treasures. Luckily for all of us busy students, thrifting will be much easier this week with the third edition of Pop Montreal's Vintage Pop shop.

The event, which is happening at Studio OFF Interarts in the Plateau, is perfect for those who are pressed for time to put together that cozy chic fall wardrobe of pre-loved goods.

Tessa Smith and Marilis Cardinal, the duo who share the organization process of Puces Pop events, are the driving force behind the project. The two also cu-

rate craft fairs, vintage fairs and record fairs through Pop Montreal over the course of the year—so keep your eye out for those, coming soon to a festival near you.

Vintage Pop will feature a number of finds by Montreal-based vintage pros. The best part about this event is that you won't have to spend the three hours digging through flea markets, as a great collection of fall pieces have been put together, alongside a trove of fun accessories and housewares.

These vintage hunters have spent countless hours hand-picking the perfect pieces to add to your wardrobe.

When asked about the secret behind assembling a crack team of Montreal's finest second-hand hunters, Cardinal explained that the process involved the team at Citizen Vintage, a local clothing shop that recently opened on St. Laurent Blvd.

Montreal's best kept vintage se-

cret, Little Shoppe, will also be participating. The shop has assembled a nice collection of hats for all of your fall/winter head-covering needs.

The show will be held this week from Sept. 7 until Sept. 10.

Get there quickly before someone else snatches up that floral armchair or fall jacket that you've been dreaming about!

But be sure to stop by your bank on the way, as the sale is cash only.

**Vintage Pop Sale / 5143 & 5145 St. Laurent Blvd. / Sept. 7 through Sept. 10 / 11 a.m. to 7 or 9 p.m. / pop-montreal.com/puces**

**For a more permanent collection of second-hand wares, Citizen Vintage can be found at 5330 St. Laurent Blvd. and the elusive Little Shoppe can be found on the Southwest corner of Ogilvy Ave. and Birnham St. in Parc Ex.**



# Choose Your Own Adventure

## Les Escales Improbables Offers Interactive Art



• ALISHA MASCARENHAS

Les Escales Improbables de Montréal, an international multidisciplinary arts festival, is celebrating its eighth year this week, bringing together 70 artists to make magic in the city—wild and frenzied, grasping at these last remaining weeks of summer weather.

Les Escales Improbables awkwardly translates into 'Improbable Stop-overs,' though "it is very poetic in French," promised the lanky and bright-eyed artistic co-

ordinator Romain Varenne.

Unlike their contemporaries, Les Escales Improbables won't be handing out a schedule of events. Instead, it is strategically orchestrated to encourage a curious audience to travel from one piece to the next fluidly, making unplanned and spontaneous "stop-overs."

The festival, in this way, invites exposure to art forms that may have otherwise gone unexplored by the audience. One could begin at a collective live painting project, skip over to wit-

ness a floating dress, just to move to a giant mechanical insect sculpture, ending up leading them to a musical parade.

The festival hopes "to reach every community in Montreal, bringing all art fields to everyone," said Varenne. "We can't be specific about the audience we are looking to attract because we want to touch the maximum variety."

The venues, to be found mostly around the Quays of the Old Port, are often placed in unconventional or, well, improbable locations.

"Last year, for example, we had a piece at Hangar 16 in a space which is now just a parking lot," said Varenne.

By placing the festival in these kinds of environments, Varenne explained, Les Escales Improbables "help citizens feel they own their space" and "re-discover the city with artistic performances" as they are invited into this expansive and fantastical artscape.

With all daytime events free and reasonably inexpensive events at night, the festival is highly accessible. This year Les Escales has crept further north to the Quartier Latin, joining forces for two performances with the new and multidisciplinary OUMF

festival.

One piece in the fest by the Ktha Compagnie, hailing from France, is mysteriously described as involving a container, two actors, 30 spectators, a video projector and 100 dolls.

Present in the city year after year, the festival continues to change and evolve naturally.

"We don't have a quota," said Varenne. "We don't decide beforehand that we will have this many theatre pieces or this many musical pieces; it depends on the propositions of the artists, and it is through their propositions that the festival designs itself."

Les Escales Improbables encourages collaboration between artists as well. This year, about half of artists in the program are local, the others welcomed from France, Switzerland, New Zealand and the US. Many of the artists press past disciplinary separations in their own right: dancing, mixing, strumming, and playing with the boundaries and borders of artistic form.

Something to be especially excited about is no doubt "Lies My Gramma Told Me: World Beat Mash Up," held the night of Sept. 7. This is a collaborative performance of local "hip-hop klezmer" music-and-magic-maker Socalled

and the much-worshipped clarinetist David Krakauer from New York.

Enthusiastically explaining the significance of this show, Varenne noted "the creativity of Socalled and the virtuosity of Krakauer," and the thrill of this unique opportunity to have the two together.

Many will also be intrigued by the rhythms of the "Sieste Musicale" at the Old Port, where musicians will change sets every half hour for an all-afternoon kick-back.

This is something "people come back for"—to stretch out on the grass or cushions and have the chance to "really take time to enjoy and discover musicians."

**The Daytime Escales run Sept. 9, 10 and 11 in the Quays of the Old Port of Montreal (at Jardin Eau Canada in front of the Montreal Science Centre) from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Events are free.**

**Night Escales are Sept. 7 and Sept. 8 at the Fonderie Darling (745 Ottawa St.).**

**Tickets are \$16 presale or \$20 at the door. Doors open at 7:30 p.m**

# SWARMinG the Field



PHOTO DYLAN MALONEY

## Stinger Student Group Aims for a Culture Change

• JULIAN WARD AND JULIA JONES

Stinger pride is on the rise at Concordia. At least that's the goal of a new student-run group founded this summer on campus.

SWARM, Students With Athletes Representing Maroon'N'Gold, was created to sting Concordia sports apathy in the butt. "We're aiming at a culture change," said Emran Ghasemi, president of the group.

When Concordia played Bishop's University at the home opener last year, Ghasemi noticed that even though Bishop's fans were only a quarter of the audience, they made their presence noticed, while Stingers fans were less

than enthusiastic.

That was when Ghasemi, a hooker for the Stinger's rugby team, decided to start SWARM.

Ghasemi had been involved in other activities before, but it was co-founder Pepe Garcia who brought the know-how to the group.

Though not officially a Concordia Student Union club, the group received financial help from multiple CSU affiliates, including the Arts and Science Federation of Associations and Hillel. "We had a lot of obstacles, and I'd ask myself, 'Why am I doing this?' But when the promo items arrived, I realized 'Oh, it worked.'"

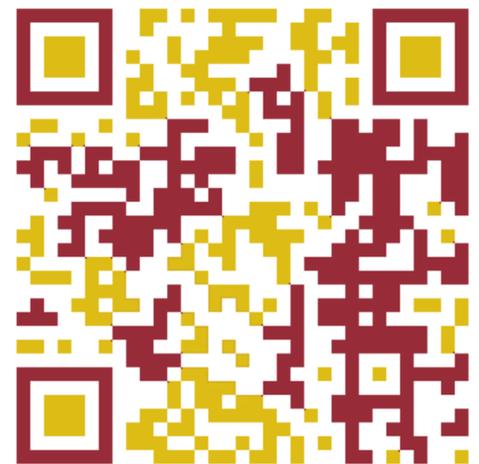
With an executive team consist-

ing of athletes and student leaders, SWARM has set its sights on getting more students out to the games to cheer on their Stingers. "At the end of the day, we're all Stingers," Ghasemi said.

Focusing on getting freshmen involved, the group aims to create or improve ways for students to enjoy sports on campus. Whether it's pre-game, during the game, or post-game, SWARM will be bringing their A-game to the party.

SWARM's co-presidents encourage all students who are interested in the group to visit their Facebook page.

— with files from Julia Wolfe



Scan this QR Code to access SWARM's facebook page, and learn about upcoming events.

# Stingers Fall Apart in Fourth

## Wheels fall off in fourth quarter as Stingers allow 23 points

• PAOLO MINGARELLI

An inability to play a full 60 minutes caused the men's Stingers football team to collapse in the fourth quarter on Saturday, as the visiting Laval Rouge et Or crushed them with a 36-8 trouncing.

"That score is not what our defence deserved today," said Stingers head coach Gerry McGrath, accounting for a total of five sacks and two interceptions against the number-one ranked team in the country.

Though the score was close for the majority of the match—it was 13-6 through three quarters of play—it appeared as though the game could go either way, but a devastating 23-point surge by Laval, along with a lackluster performance by the Stingers offense ultimately cost them the game.

Standing out for Concordia on defence was defensive end Matthew Meyer, whose three sacks totalled 21 yards lost, the most significant being towards the end of the first half when he broke through the line of scrimmage and decimated the Laval quarterback for a loss of 13 yards.



PHOTO DYLAN MALONEY

Though the Stingers offence put up a total of 185 yards during the game, their inability to score a single touchdown was a major factor in the loss.

"We just didn't play well on offense... And that's the game," said

McGrath.

The struggles began early when ConU was on the wrong end of a slew of dropped balls. Quarterback Terrance Morsink held nothing against his receiving core; he held himself accountable for the mis-

takes made.

"That's part of football. I have to accept that, and it happens every game. I don't blame anything on my receivers; I threw two interceptions and made some wrong reads."

Morsink was pulled in the fourth quarter, giving Reid Quest the opportunity to make a few throws in his first year with the team. He was not subject to any less pressure, as he also threw an interception in his short field time. McGrath said the QB change wasn't necessarily a sign of things to come against Bishop's next week.

"We'll evaluate the film and see where we go from there," he said.

Though the lopsided score was hard to swallow, Stingers defensive end Louis Taillon wouldn't point the blame to any one aspect of his team's game.

"Football is a team sport... There is no separation between offense, defense and special teams. We're a whole package," he said.

Next week, the Stingers face off on the road against the Bishop's Gaiters, where they hope film from this week can help them get back to .500 on the season and make a run for the playoffs. Expect them to be hungry going into Lennoxville; each member of the roster brought up that it will not be an easy task, and as Taillon said it, "No way we take it easy."

# No Offense

## Stingers End Pre-season With Scoreless Draw

• PAOLO MINGARELLI

Concordia's women's soccer team closed out the pre-season yesterday by shutting down the opposition Middlebury College from Vermont—but unfortunately failed to score a goal themselves.

"First, I think you have to get your defence down before you start working on offense," said Stingers defender Lindsey Brooks.

The Stingers played some very stingy defensive soccer for an extended 120-minute exhibition matchup on Monday afternoon.

"We spent a lot of our pre-season being well organized defensively. Other than a free-kick where our goalie had to make a pretty big save, they didn't really have any dangerous opportunities on our net," stated head coach Jorge Sanchez.

The keepers noticed this lack of scoring chances. "It felt good to be there for the team," said goalkeeper Brittany O'Rourke of

saving the free kick. "They didn't have a lot of opportunities."

This defensive system was especially irritating to the opposition during the first portion of the game, when Middlebury was consistently attempting to play the ball towards the middle of the box and was just as often being sent back towards the sidelines.

"Players are starting to understand the tactics. They can still get better, but at least they are understanding what we're asking them to do," noted Sanchez.

Both the flow and strategy of the team's game seemed to change at times, but this was not the Stingers' intention.

"Because we were making so many changes, the players that were coming off were not getting the chance to right away apply what we were asking for," said Sanchez. This was an issue for both teams, as they wished to give as many players as possible some playing time before the real season started.

One Stinger who showcased

her talent on the pitch was Brooks, who was a dominant force in shutting down not only the opposition's strikers, but also putting together a number of runs up and down the sidelines, giving Concordia ample chances to break the deadlock.

Brooks focused more on the team's overall defensive strength, however.

"It was a lot of soccer, and in the first 40 minutes I definitely believe we played very well, making great passes, communicating a lot, which is key," she said.

Asked about the upcoming season, Sanchez was optimistic about his team's chances given their strong work ethic. "It's going to be a lot of hard work to make the playoffs, but I think we're going to surprise some people. It's one game at a time; you give it your best and adjust accordingly."

The Stingers open up their regular season at home Sept. 9 against Laval. Kickoff is scheduled for 8:30 p.m.



PHOTO DYLAN MALONEY

# The Ride of Their Lives

## 35 Cyclists Complete Cross-Country Bike Ride



The entire Tour du Canada group enjoys a glass of champagne after finishing their cross-country ride.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VANESSA RONDEAU

• MEGAN DOLSKI

This summer, two pairs of wheels, two pairs of tires, two pairs of pedals and two pairs of very strong quadriceps took Maria Millang and Vanessa Rondeau across the country.

On June 22, both Millang and Rondeau dipped the rear wheels of their bicycles into the Pacific Ocean in Victoria, BC. Last week, on Sept. 2, the two triumphantly rode their front wheels into the Atlantic Ocean at Signal Hill, NL.

What happened in between was just less than 8,000 km of pedaling across ten provinces over the course of 72 days—through both a record-breaking heat wave and a hurricane.

Millang and Rondeau weren't alone in undertaking this journey. The two are among 35 participants to complete this year's Tour du Canada, an annual bike ride that takes participants literally from coast to coast.

Millang is a 25-year-old native of Camrose, AB who is set to begin her Masters of Education degree in Counselling Psychology at the University of Alberta this fall. Rondeau is a 20-year-old Montrealer who will be entering the Social Work program at McGill this week.

The pair said they both stumbled across the tour while perusing bike routes online. "I signed up for the adventure, for a change of pace in life and to do something different," Rondeau said. "I thought this would be a great way to see Canada—by biking you really get to see more of the country and it's more personal because you are really out there, it's not the same as seeing it through the

window of a car."

In order to prepare for the tour, Millang took spinning and cross-training classes five to six times a week, and then began riding outside once weather permitted. Rondeau rode between 30 and 50 km up to four times a week, in addition to taking spinning and PowerWatts classes at Mansfield gym several times a week. The tour recommends that riders complete at least 2000 km of pedaling before embarking on the trip.

Rondeau said daily distances of rides varied between 50 and 170 km. One thing that was made very clear on the tour was that it was not a race, she said.

This year's group consisted of both male and female riders aged 19 to 69. About one third of the group was under the age of 30 and two thirds aged over 55—with only a handful of participants falling in between. Out of over 30 participants, only about a third were female.

Only three of the riders that started the tour were unable to complete it. Two of the three obtained injuries during the ride that prevented them from finishing, while the third had to return home for personal reasons.

When signing up for the tour, participants paid a fee to the Tour du Canada, in exchange for receiving access to a truck and two drivers, which would transport their tents and personal belongings from campsite to campsite—yes, after all that biking, tents were their nightly sleeping accommodations. The organization also took care of doing groceries for riders, paying for campsites and ferries, and guiding them across the

country.

The riders were divided into six groups for "galley duty". The groups took turns preparing meals for one another at camp. Breakfasts always included oatmeal, fruit and yogurt and either pancakes, French toast or eggs. Dinners varied from a pre-determined menu. As for eating on the road—let's just say that copious amounts of peanut butter were consumed (some riders were maxing out at seven PB&J sandwiches a day!).

Both Rondeau and Millang agreed that while the cycling was difficult, the hardest part of the trip was getting up and back on their bikes each morning—regardless of, well, anything. "It was hard waking up and hearing the rain on your tent in the morning when your legs were killing you and you just didn't want to get out of bed," recalls Rondeau.

But neither of them regrets the experience, not even a little bit. Both say they learned much about the landscape and quirks of both the people and terrain of Canada—one of which was that this country certainly has more hills than either of them had bargained for.

"It exceeded all expectations. I saw more in Canada than I knew existed, and was struck by so much beauty and diversity," said Millang. "I also learned more about myself than I thought—like just how far I could push myself and that I can do whatever I set my mind to."

Rondeau says that the idea of what she has just done has not quite sunk in yet, but she did offer some pretty simple advice to anyone thinking about going on the tour: "Don't be scared, just breathe and go for it."



Maria Millang and Vanessa Rondeau on the first day of the ride.

## The War On Our Future

### Fighting around the Globe for Education



Thousands of students protested tuition hikes in December 2010

PHOTO JULIA JONES

• MEGAN DOLSKI

This year has seen major protests on three separate continents, opposing the plans of three separate governments, all boiling down to the same single issue: affordable—or rather, increasingly un-affordable—post-secondary education.

While most, if not all, university students in Quebec are well acquainted with our lengthy history of fighting to keep tuition rates low, this past year has proven that our generation's plea for accessible education extends far beyond the borders of *La Belle Province*.

Governments both here and overseas are slashing public spending in order to ease themselves out of tough financial situations, and in doing so are forcing students to take the hit—but it has become evident that we aren't going to take it, and we shouldn't have to.

A world in which higher education is only an option for the financially privileged most certainly will not be beneficial for anyone. Both students and prospective students can seem to understand this—so why can't those who are dishing out the budgets?

It's not because no one has tapped them on the shoulder and pointed out the flaws in their thinking—just look at this past year. First it was England. In a Jan. 29 rally, thousands of students took to the streets in Manchester and Leeds. The mobilization, called "A Future that Works: National Rally for Young People" protested the

Tory government's plans to terminate their Education Maintenance Allowance and raise tuition fees.

Then it was Chile. This summer saw between 70,000 and 80,000 students marching on the streets of Santiago, and an estimated 150,000 on side streets calling for the reformation to the country's education system. Unfortunately, what started out as peaceful demonstrations ended in the arrests of nearly 900 people and an estimated \$2 million in property damage, plus a flurry of tear-gas and street clashes.

It's sad that this is what wanting an education has come to. But if there is anything to learn from the chaos that broke out in Chile it is that students aren't taking this issue lightly; we want our education—and we want it bad.

And now, once again, the movement is building here in Montreal. On Sunday, Aug. 21 the Fédération étudiante collégiale du Québec and the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec officially kicked off their campaign against rising tuition fees.

The campaign is running under the slogan "\$1,625 More Won't Pass!" in reference to the amount provincial tuition is set to increase over the next five years, as per the Quebec government's most recent budget.

FEUQ plans to escalate pressure, leading up to a massive student rally slated for downtown Montreal Nov. 10th.

As part of their campaign,

the FEUQ has published a 58-page guide that offers an in-depth explanation as to why the \$1,625 hike in Quebec's tuition fees is illogical, unfair and blatantly unacceptable. The guide includes in-depth financial and budgetary analysis as well as a detailed explanation of the benefits of post-secondary education.

This comprehensive guide is great—read it at [1625wontpass.ca](http://1625wontpass.ca)—but I don't think anyone needs 58 pages to understand why rising tuition is not a beneficial solution.

It comes down to this: who, exactly, do the governments across the globe think they are helping by making university an exclusive privilege? Yes, cutting public spending to the education sector might provide some fast cash for a flailing economy, but in the long term, this is petty change and isn't worth the consequences. This band-aid solution isn't going to heal any long-term wounds.

Raising an uneducated population to take over from, and ideally mend, the hurting financial sector, is a pretty dumb idea. To learn from the economic and social mistakes of the past in order to move forward, we need an educated population. But if we can't afford to attend university, how exactly are we supposed to learn to clean up this mess?

It seems that those who have the most incentive to fix our beaten economy and lead our governments are those who are not going to be equipped with the tools to do so.

The number one documented reason listed for students choosing to not pursue their education at a university level is financial. With this reality, students graduating high school are faced with choosing the lesser of two evils; graduating in debt—only to enter a less-than-promising job market—or skipping out on university altogether. This predicament is one that can be avoided, or at the very least minimized.

How? Lets go back a few years to 1999—when the student movement in Quebec won arguably its greatest victory, ever. After mass rallies and demonstrations, students succeeded in pressuring the government to freeze the province's tuition fees for almost an entire decade. This freeze was responsible for making the average student debt in Quebec an astounding \$18,000 less than anywhere else in Canada.

To my knowledge, Quebec's students are the only students worldwide to have ever spoken out to such a groundbreaking success. Now that we need to get back out there fighting, we have to remember that is possible to incite change. It's been done before. Let's use the past as motivation to make it happen again and to show our peers in London and Santiago that the fight for accessible education is not futile.

Mark your calendars for November 10th, and when that day comes—get ready to speak up.

## HEARD IN THE HALL

### Why Concordia?

• PIERRE CHAUVIN

With the start of every school year there comes a slew of new students roaming the hallways. With four major universities to choose from in the city, we asked them—why ConU?

"I know that Concordia Fine Arts has a reputation for itself. I've personally looked into the film production program and I've been impressed by the work that students have done. I know it's pretty selective because of the quality of the program. I tried it out, I didn't think I was going to get in—but they are looking for people with new ideas [and] that personally appeals to me."



—Yan Eric Chalain  
B.F.A. in Film Production

"Concordia rocks, man! Concordia rocks more [...] at partying. McGill sucks, they don't have enough labs, and they are all, like, technical. They're uptight! They have sticks up their asses."



—Joanne Bouchard  
B. Civil Engineering

"I went to a private CEGEP and [as] the faculty of Political Science expanded at Concordia, I was invited to come to school. The school is amazing, I'm happy with my choice."



—Terrence Adams  
B.A. Political Science

"I know McGill, my Dad works for McGill. But I know at Concordia there are a lot more projects. I prefer schools that are on the upturn, and I felt like Concordia is one of those schools trying to make a name for itself, especially internationally. It's important [...] not only participate [at school], but to make them better and help the school rise because it makes your education much better."



—Nick Sweet  
B. Engineering

"My mom and my dad came and did their studies here. Then my mom switched to Université de Montréal, but told me that out of both schools this was the best one. It had a wider range of classes and topics. I've heard that the school is packed with students."



—Justin Durent  
B.A. English

# That Transsexual Guy

## An Introduction to *The Link's* First Trans Column

• OLIVER LEON

To the alarm of my parents, I am a transsexual.

I am on the female-to-male spectrum of this gender brouhaha but I have never once identified as female. I just went along with the label until I could no longer handle the mess that was my unconscious.

In January 2010, I started exploring gender, using a neutral nickname and being read more and more as male. I liked it a lot. It felt right. On July 15th 2010, I came out to myself as transsexual. On Jan. 2nd 2011, I came out to my parents. They are supportive, but are still processing what everything means. My 13-year-old brother is bewildered, but happy for me.

I have lost two friends, gone through a nine-month-long depression and experienced suicidal feelings. I needed to figure out, if I had to do this, what would happen if I didn't and what would happen if I did—those nine months were long, long months.

But this is not a sob story.

Though I have heard the tales and the hurts of trans folk and experienced the personal gender insecurity some people get upon seeing me, and though have dried the tears and ignored the stares, I am not asking for your pity. I am asking for your ears and eyes.

I want to share my transition. I want to write to you about public bathrooms, navigating my name change and taking hormones. I want to tell you about the scary parts, the fun times and share with you the celebrations that come along with transitioning. I want to tell you all of this because I think that it is important that you know about it.

This issue is important to understand so that transsexual, transgender, and gender non-conforming folks do not have to deal with the stares, the harassment, the paranoia and the violence anymore. I want that to stop, so this is my contribution.

My name is Oliver Leon. I am 19 years old. I am studying English and Creative Writing at Concordia University, with a minor in Women's Studies (which, by the way, could be renamed Gender Studies). I want to be a college professor when I grow up. I enjoy poetry, Harry Potter, and kayaking.

On Aug. 29th 2011, I received permission from my psychologist to start hormones in the form of a letter. This is a legal requirement for transsexual folk and this

step is a large piece of red tape for many people because it requires you to go through three months of psychotherapy. How many people can afford this? Not everyone. I have a trans friend who can't afford therapy and now has no idea what to do with this life.

My psychologist is a kind and gentle man. He didn't seem concerned when I told him I didn't think I was a straight guy. He did not seem worried that I came into his office wearing a hot-pink t-shirt. He has never asked me the invasive questions you get when going through the Montreal General Hospital. (The triage there will ask you questions like "Are you a top or a bottom?" and "What do you fantasize about?" I was confused, so I told them Robert Downey Jr. just to be flip-pant.)

Anyway, this letter says some fun things. I asked my psychologist if I could include some quotations here and he said yes.

*"My client became aware, in childhood, of a persistent discomfort with his gender..."*

*My client's presentation is consistent with the criteria for [a] diagnosis of Transsexualism...*

*He meets the DSM-IV criteria for Gender Identity Disorder Adulthood...*

*[He] has followed the Standards of Care to date, and in my opinion, is highly likely to comply in the future."*

*I trust, Dr., that you will consider Mr. Leon's candidacy for hormone therapy...*

My psychologist is a great guy. He's complying with the rules because that's how transsexuals get help. Sure, I could buy hormones off the street—but that could kill me. I don't know if the needles are clean, or if the dosage is healthy. Nobody knows the long-term effects of injecting hormones into a body, because nobody has cared to study the subject.

Why? Well, transsexuals are scary. Suitable for talk shows and examinations at length in airports. Someone who wants to be a gender other than the one they were born with at birth? Oh my God, send them to a bucket-load of therapists—surely it's just a mental thing! Notice that I have been diagnosed with Gender Identity Disorder.

Really though, I've never been so happy to be diagnosed with a medical condition in all of my life. And I am incredibly grateful to

my psychologist. I get to take testosterone, get facial hair and a deeper voice. I will lose my hips and become narrow like the other boys. I'll get more body hair and gain muscle mass easier. This will be great. (To the dismay of my little brother, I will not grow huge muscles. I need to go the gym for that.)

**I want to share my transition. I want to write to you about public bathrooms, navigating my name change and taking hormones. I want to tell you about the scary parts, the fun times and share with you the celebrations that come along with transitioning. I want to tell you all of this because I think that it is important that you know about it.**

—Oliver Leon

And so, I am off to the endocrinologist's office to get me some needles and testosterone. I'll update you regularly on how my fabulous transsexy life is going. I will even give you all the little details, like if the colour red suddenly becomes brighter or if I suddenly stop understanding girls. What is a girl, anyway?

Certainly not me. Shall we find out who I am together, then? Excellent.



## Wait, You Mean Girls Do It Too?

*My boyfriend recently found out that I masturbate on occasion and, though I know he masturbates as well, he was surprised and found it weird that I do it because I'm a girl. Now I feel insecure about it and am confused about the double standard...*

Despite it being one of the least shocking things I can think of, a woman masturbating is still pretty taboo. Although, I'm not even sure if I'd necessarily call it taboo because the real issue seems to be that a lot of people think that girls just don't do it.

It's almost as if the general consensus is that women can only be sexual if there's someone there for them to be sexual for. The worst part is that we, as women, reinforce this idea by being ashamed of what we want and what we do when we're alone. If we only think of ourselves as sexual in the presence of a partner, then that really calls into question whether we're really doing it for ourselves or someone else.

Now, I identify as female, I masturbate, and I do it because I enjoy it. I really believe that touching yourself is knowing yourself. Cheesy, I know, but sadly too many people don't know their own bodies well enough. Even worse, some people are scared to want to because of cultural and societal norms. Just to be clear: I'm not saying that every woman masturbates or even wants to. And (here's a shocker) the same goes for men, because, believe it or not, not all men are interested in masturbation, either. Whichever side you find yourself on, no one should feel singled out or weird for doing it or not doing it.

This all begs the question, though: why are so many people surprised to find out that women masturbate? Maybe it's because we don't talk about it (well, except when we print newspaper articles about it... ahem). The point is, you have no reason to be ashamed or insecure about it, because you were just being yourself and frankly if it's too "weird" for your boyfriend, well that's really his problem.

But let's also look at the situation from a "your boyfriend's not a dick" perspective. It is possible that no other girl has ever told your boyfriend that she masturbates and so the news was shocking to him because he just didn't know. There is, however, a difference between initial shock of a "Hmm, really?" reaction and a "Holy shit, you're messed up" one. You should talk to him about it and see where he really stands once he's had time to reflect a bit.

—Melissa Fuller

Send questions to [sexpancakes.thelink@gmail.com](mailto:sexpancakes.thelink@gmail.com) and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook.

# Nah'msayin?

## McGill Frosh Must Die

It's that time of year again. McGill frosh.

Yes, the Christmas in September has rolled around again—and when it's not rolling around black-out drunk in the gutters of the McGill ghetto, it must be one of those oh-so-equally-rare excursions when the McGill froshies muster up the chutzpah to cross the imaginary boundaries that seem to keep them campus-bound the rest of the year to run around getting their stupid frosh song stuck in your head.

Yes, the only thing worse than the attitude espoused in the lyrics is how humiliating it is to find yourself humming a song where stereotypes mock you in an extremely crass manner. I bet this is how

women feel when they listen to Chris Brown's music.

*I'd rather be a Redman than a fucking bumblebee, sing the extremely drunk froshies, I'd rather be a doctor than flip burgers at McD's. I wouldn't wipe my ass with a Concordia degree, so fuck you bumblebees!*

This is one of those instances where the insult says more about the insulter than the insultee, if you ask me.

First, the Redman isn't even their mascot (It's the Martlet—the women's teams' logo. I won't get into the fact that their male and female athletes compete under different names, but I do think it's wise that they don't have an actual red man as their mascot), and, for the record, bumble-

bees are a good deal more important to the survival of the world's ecosystems than any 'Redman,' however totally bad-ass bro he seems.

As for every McGill student being doctor material, don't make me laugh; I've read overheardatmcgill.com. And if we did a count of all the Concordia grads flipping burgers at McDonald's franchises, I'm sure we could fit them all, along with the combined IQs of a couple of hundred plastered teenagers in garish clothing traipsing around downtown yelling profanities at top volume into the navel of a bumblebee—and still have room for three caraway seeds and a Redman's forebrain.

Listen. I know that it's important for students to come together socially in the

early going of their time together in order to create lasting networks, decrease the sense of isolation and culture shock (for many, this will be their first time north of the border!). And I'm sure Concordia frosh, if I ever saw evidence of it actually happening, probably engages in mindless, petty bullshit too.

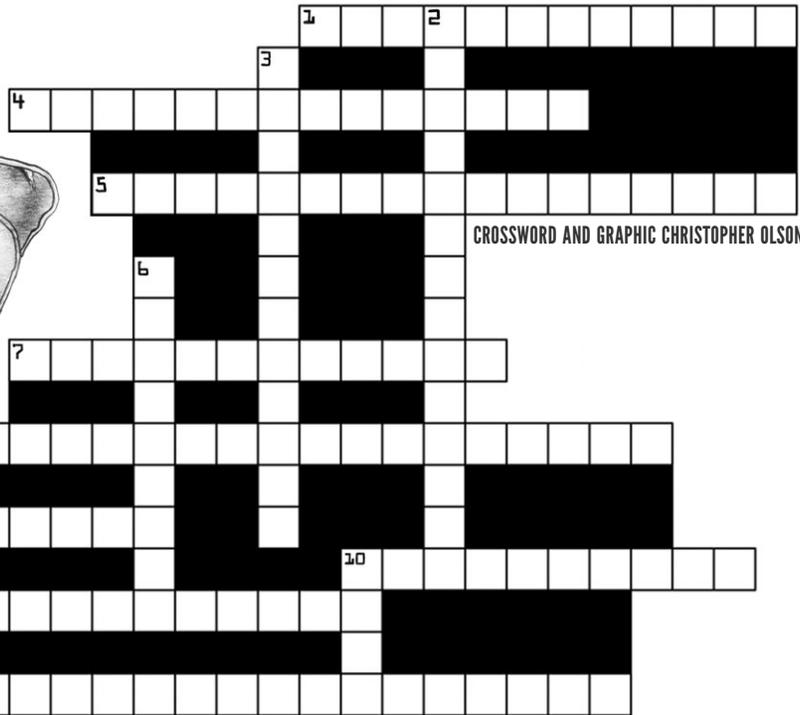
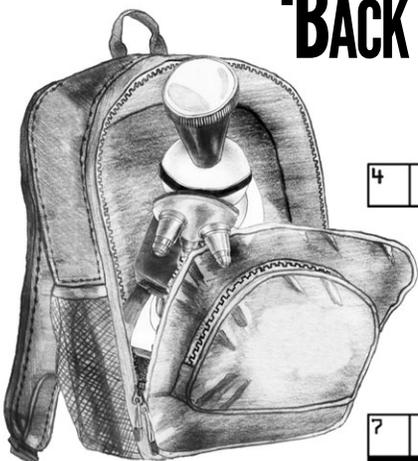
I'm not so stupid that I don't realize that demonizing an opponent is a great team-building strategy. But if McGill students are really the mental giants they're claiming to be, shouldn't they be above using the backwards, repressive and divisive strategies of the stupid people they claim to despise?

- Alex Manley  
Copy Editor

Notice something that just doesn't make sense? Got an axe to grind? Send in a rant to Nah'msayin? 300 words max. opinions@thelinknewspaper.ca

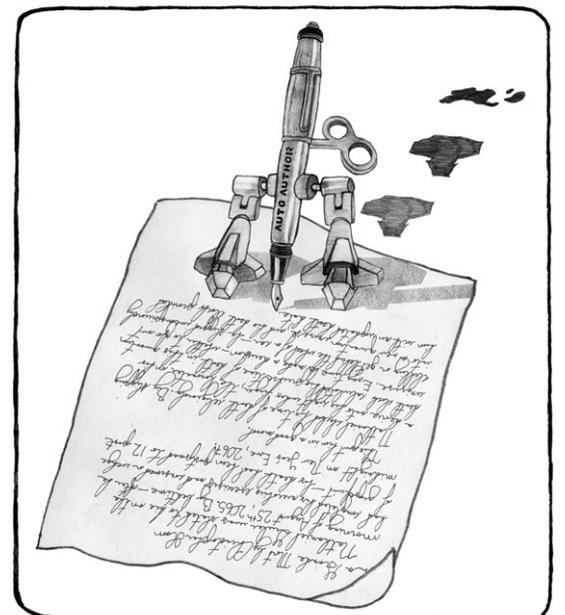


## 'BACK TO SCHOOL'



## Tremendous Tales

by Christopher Olson



His creative writing teacher taught him to avoid using cliches, but since 2010, Christopher's novels had been writing themselves.

### Across

1. Television producer David E. Kelly took a break from quirky legal dramas where kids try to sue God for giving them cancer or some stupid shit to make a quirky show about public schooling, set in the same city as *Boston Legal*. (2 words)
4. Despite starring future heavy-hitters Seth Rogen, Jason Segel and James Franco, this high school

- “dramedy” was just too good for a second season. (3 words)
5. A high school where everyone breaks out into original songs—technically a made-for-TV series of movies. (3 words)
7. Beautiful blonde fights crime... with good detective work. (2 words)
8. What I thought was a faithful retelling of tea-party candidate Christine O'Donnell's high school years turns out to

- be a TGIF adaptation of an *Archie Comics* series. (4 words)
9. Although there have been four iterations of this show over the years, only three of them have been set in high schools. All of them were set in Canada, though. Toronto, Ontario, to be exact.
10. Two things I remember about high school? Girls and the relentless gossip. This one's the giveaway, because I don't watch that show. (2 words)

11. Launched the careers of Mario Lopez, Tiffani-Amber Thiessen, Elizabeth Berkely... who the fuck are these people? (4 words)
  12. Beautiful blonde fights crime... with a stake. (4 words)
- Down**
2. A young Fred Savage has his heart brutally stomped on time and time again. You might even say... savagely. (3 words)

3. James Van Der Beek and that guy from *Fringe* do their best impression of teenagers. Many shows continue to pay homage to it by casting older actors as adolescents. (2 words)
6. JFK is the jock, Joan of Arc is the morose hipster and Ghandi is just a non-stop party animal. No research was conducted. [2 words]
10. A high school where everyone breaks out into covers of pop songs.

# United on our Government

“Last year, in a very weird way, has been a success.”

This interpretation may not exactly be the way many have described the full-fledged governance crisis and public relations nightmare that recently rocked the upper administration at Concordia—and inspired sweeping changes in the future of our university’s Bylaws and Charter—but it’s certainly something to think about.

Delivered at the Open Forum meeting to discuss the recommendations of the report from the External Governance Review Committee on June 28, this sentiment specifically spoke to the spectacular show of solidarity between faculty and students that became apparent as our upper administration unraveled.

Today, certainly, there are big changes ahead of all of us in terms of our leadership. If we can take anything away from Concordia’s communications cataclysm over the last year, it should be that when students and faculty speak up together, we can change the way things are going.

United, we really do have a powerful voice on campus.

Criticisms about how the university

is going to run its business—especially from undergraduate students, who will see their representation on the Board struck down significantly—are vital at this point in the process, and are actually being welcomed.

As the Board begins to phase itself out—with members retiring as early as Sept. 28—they are also inviting nominations for representatives from the community to take their place. Staff, faculty and students are encouraged to send written comments about the recommendations and nominations to [danielle.tessier@concordia.ca](mailto:danielle.tessier@concordia.ca), or fill out [surveymonkey.com/s/H7GZVJN](http://surveymonkey.com/s/H7GZVJN).

**Please do.**

Now that the smoke is beginning to clear from the administrative wreckage of 2011 and the Board seems willing to fast-track changes and overhaul rules, we must stay vigilant and unrelenting in our involvement to create the governance we want from the ashes.

Interim President Frederick Lowy even said so himself at the forum. “The more input that we have, the more likely the final actions will reflect people’s views,” he said.

So—while the people upstairs claim to be listening, and while public pres-

sure maintains focus on this controversial affair—now is the time to make our demands. Our role is hugely important in the search for a new Board and a new President.

And as was also so emphatically stated at the forum, we don’t need a President like Lowy, handpicked by the people at the target of our contempt, to be “a therapist to cure our problems”—what we need is an administrative government that is accessible to whom it serves. We need a strong President as the face of our university moving forward—and one who isn’t bullied by the Board that appointed them. We need a senate that is run by academics, not administrators. And, most importantly, we need to know about the ENTIRE process as it unfolds over the next 12 months.

It’s extremely troublesome that the report made a recommendation not to disclose a short-list of candidates—and basically preserves the status quo in the Board’s favour—concerning the nomination process of the President. This cannot stand.

Accountability is at the very heart of this issue, and the Board must respect our united call for transparency

throughout this procedure. In solidarity, students and faculty must demand to know as much as possible about the nomination process and appointment of our future Board Members and President, as well as the impending changes to our Bylaws and Charter.

In order for last year’s upheaval to truly be remembered as being “a success,” students and faculty must continue to work together—loudly—as our new government is created. We also must demand an equally attentive and accountable follow through from the Board—who, quite frankly, still has some questions to answer about the decisions that were made last year.

The External Governance Review Committee, who took 60 days to lay the groundwork that will overhaul our administrative makeup at the end of the month, cost Concordia \$78,000. If we are to ensure that this is the last public payout in this sad chapter of Concordia’s governance crisis, students and faculty must stay informed, focused, vocal and united, as a community.

—Laura Beeston  
Editor-in-Chief



## Letters

@thelinknewspaper.ca

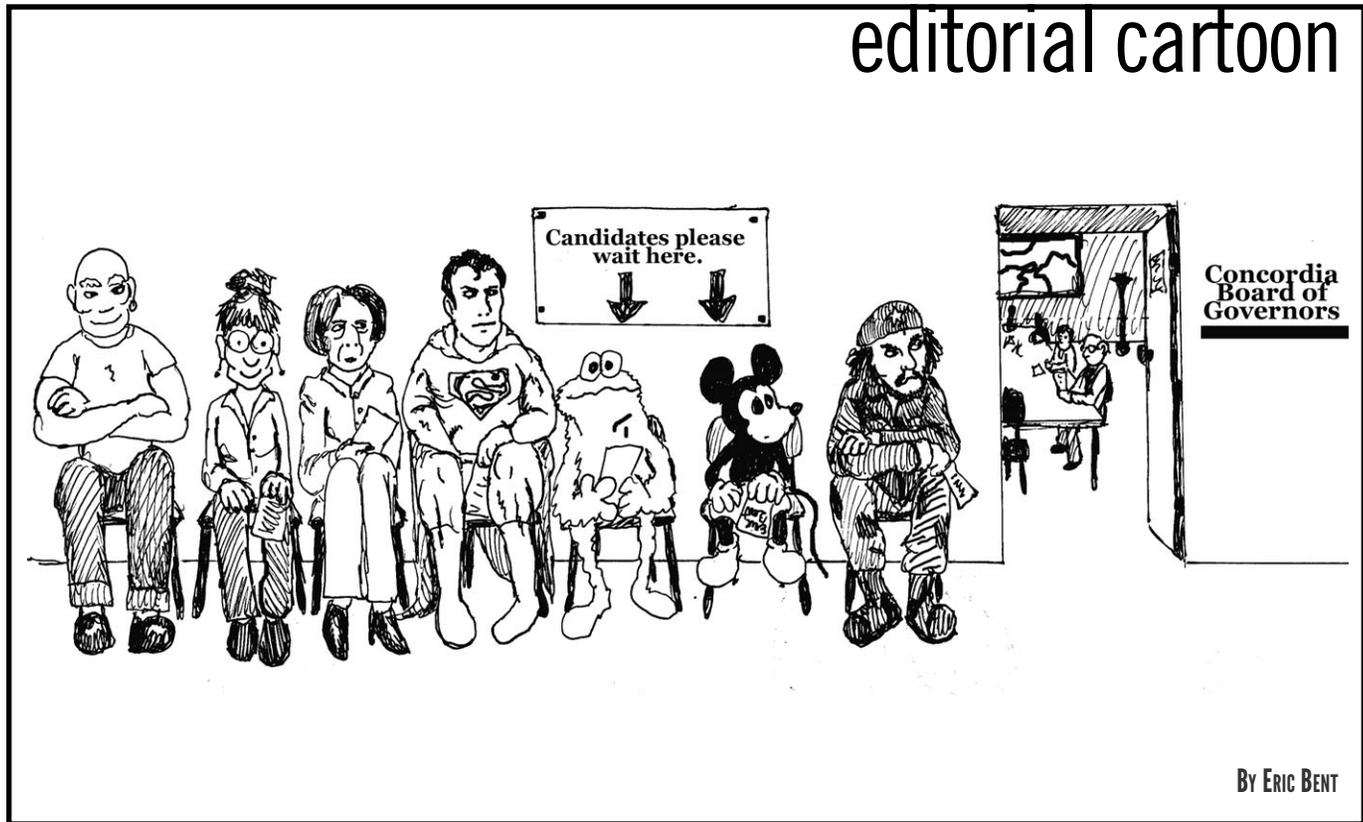
### What Say You, Lowy?

Fantastic editorial by Alex Manley (“Students could use \$35,000 too,” *The Link* Vol. 32, Issue 1). One can clearly see, with much satire, how many of the true leaders of today are students. We are not the ones that are truly obsessing over money and finance, or we wouldn’t be in university. Lowy must speak up for his fiscal actions or face the disgust Concordia students have attained for him.

—Sheridan Polinsky  
Philosophy Major

**The Link’s letters and opinions policy:** The deadline for letters is 4 p.m. on Friday before the issue prints. *The Link* reserves the right to verify your identity via telephone or email. We reserve the right to refuse letters that are libellous, sexist, homophobic, racist or xenophobic. The limit is 400 words. If your letter is longer, it won’t appear in the paper. Please include your full name, weekend phone number, student ID number and program of study. The comments in the letters and opinions section do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board.

## editorial cartoon



By ERIC BENT

**ISSUE 1 CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS**  
**'FAMOUS PIGS'**

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P I G G Y B A N K
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M I S S P I G G Y L
  M P O R K Y P I G
P U M B A A P R E
  L I D T E
  F G A N O N E A
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**THE LINK**  
CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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