

THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980



Concordia pays for its research to be patented and commercialized, but it hasn't always been that way. Jane Gatenby looks at the national trend of commercialization, how we got here—and whether or not it's a good investment. [P3-5](#)

SCIENCE FOR SALE

All That Jazz

Remembering Montreal's Most Iconic Jazz Club

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THE FUTURE OF THE HIVE

Healthy options to come to Loyola—but not for a while. **P6**

MOVING TOWARDS MORE SUSTAINABLE FOOD ON CAMPUS?

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CONCORDIA'S BUDGET

But will it be the first of many this year? **P8**

ON YOUTH ISSUES AND PUBLIC TRANSIT

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REMEMBERING THE GOLDEN DAYS OF JAZZ

Legendary jazz promoter Rou  -Doudou Boicel looks back at his contributions to the jazz scene in Montreal. **P10-11**

LET IN THE LIGHT

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NEW CHIEF IN TOWN

Former Habs director of hockey operations takes over Concordia's athletics department. **P15**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Enough is enough: Concordia needs a better food service provider. **P16**

RESEARCH COMMERCIALIZATION AT CONCORDIA

In recent decades Canadian universities, including Concordia, have gained intellectual property rights over their researchers' work and are attempting to capitalize from it. But returns are slim and costs are high, and the practice has raised ethical concerns. What really makes Concordia want to commercialize?

"My job here is to invent new ideas," Concordia engineering professor Muthukumaran Packirisamy told *The Link* in July, sitting in his office in the EV building.

Packirisamy is known in the academic world for developing micro-sensors used in medical diagnosis and telecommunications.

"It's like giving a knife—you can use it for a million applications," he said.

Packirisamy's work has won him acclaim at Concordia. Not the least of his achievements, he was the first person at the university to successfully commercialize an invention through Valeo Management.

Over the past 13 years Concordia has paid a total of \$1.75 million to Valeo, a company that patents Concordia researchers' inventions and licenses them out to third parties. During this time, revenues from licensing have generated about \$595,000 for the university. But almost all of these revenues were made from the licensing of a single invention in 2006—an innovation of Packirisamy's in the field of micro-electromechanical systems.

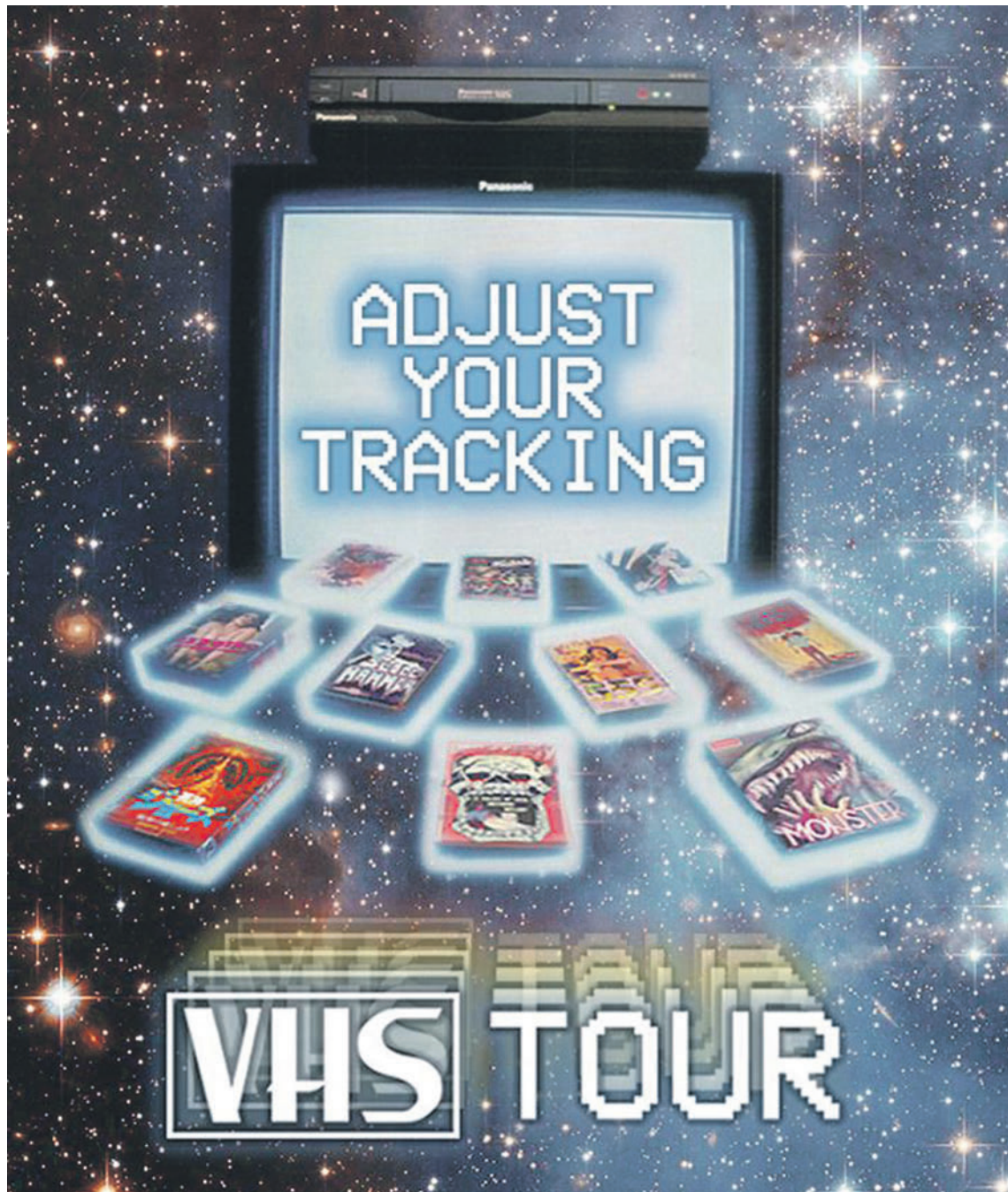
Though research commercialization is not well known to the general public, it's a fact of life in many university departments. Whenever a Concordia academic makes a dis-

covery, they are required to detail it in a "declaration of invention."

From there, Concordia's Office of Research can, with the inventor's permission, send the declaration to Valeo, whose offices are located in downtown Montreal. Valeo then takes on the process of patenting the technology, and looks for companies or organizations that will either pay to use it or fund its further development. If the technology generates revenue, the university and the inventor share the profits.

But so far these profits have been less than astounding.

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DVD KILLED THE VHS STAR

A documentary about eccentric VHS collectors screens in Montreal. **P12**

THE LINK ONLINE

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CONU STUDENT SUES MONTREAL POLICE

Since the beginning of the 2012 student strike, Katie Nelson has received over 30 tickets from Montreal police—now she's suing them for allegedly targeting her. She sits down with *The Link* later this week.

DIPLOMAT STRIKE HALTS VISA APPLICATIONS

Canada's foreign service officers are on strike, bottlenecking visas and study permits for international students. *The Link* has the story; check online later this week.

EXPERIENCE ORIENTATION

Dada Life and Tommy Trash were announced Monday as headliners for CSU Orientation this year. Find out online why it's called "Experience."

SCIENCE FOR SALE: EXAMINING RESEARCH COMMERCIALIZATION AT CONCORDIA

Why Does Concordia Pay a Company to Patent and Sell its Research Results?

by Jane Gatensby @JaneGatensby

► Continued from page 3.



When Valeo's president and CEO, Anne-Marie Larose, was asked how she justified the gulf between what Concordia pays Valeo and what it makes from commercialization, she said that it was important to remember that Valeo is a "relatively young" company and that "to have revenues that compensate [for expenses], it takes time."

"It's utopic to think that, on a short-term horizon, we can get to the break-even point," she said, mentioning that the University of British Columbia took 17 years to break even on its commercialization activities. She also explained that Valeo helps the university find grant money and corporate research funding directed towards maturing technologies toward commercialization.

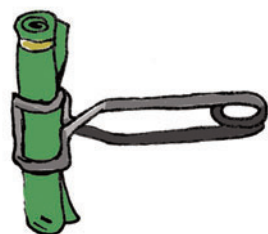
Concordia's administration doesn't seem concerned by the lack of returns. According to VP Research and Graduate Studies Graham Carr, profitability is "really not the issue" when it comes to commercialization.

"The reality for most universities is that you invest in technology transfer but you're not necessarily expecting to make a profit on it," he said. "The goal is to help develop the larger innovation capacity for Quebec universities and for Quebec as a whole."

Carr pointed out that because Valeo provides its services to multiple universities at once—six schools in the Université du Québec network are also partners in the company—it can do the work more cheaply than if Concordia were to take on the costs itself. According to an email from Valeo to *The Link*, the company has spent \$1.2 million on Concordia's patent expenses alone over the years, which it says saves the university in human resources costs.

But universities didn't always patent their researchers' discoveries. Historically, academics have shared research results freely, letting the public use them as it wished.

So why does Concordia want to hold and protect intellectual property rights over the innovations created in its labs?



The Push to Innovate

To answer that question, it's useful to go back to where Valeo's story begins. In 1999, the Quebec government launched Valorisation Recherche Québec, an organization to which it gave \$50 million to expand research commercialization in the province's universities. The money was used to establish four *sociétés de valorisation*, companies that patent researchers' discoveries and find other companies to buy them.

Valorisation Innovation Plus (later renamed Valeo Management) was one of these companies, and Concordia was invited to take part. After a closed-session discussion at the university's Board of Governors—VIP's business plan was kept confidential until after the meeting—Concordia joined the project in November 2000.

The administration was optimistic. "The commercial success that is expected from commercializing the work of our researchers will contribute to the self-financing, at least in part, of Concordia University's obligations once the initial five year start-up process is completed," wrote Jack Lightstone, Concordia's then-Provost and Vice-Rector, Research, in a document recommending the partnership.

Lightstone's hopes must have seemed natural at the time. American universities had been patenting inventions left and right since it became possible in 1980. In Canada, a 1991 regulatory change under the Mulroney government transferred the intellectual property rights on federally financed research results from the Crown to the research institutions themselves, allowing universities the option of commercialization. Technology transfer was seen as an exciting opportunity across the country, a chance to get ahead in the new "knowledge-based economy."

In 1999, the federal government released a report entitled "Public Investments in University Research: Reaping the Benefits." It was authored by a panel of mainly businesspeople and chaired by Pierre Fortier, an ex-MNA with strong corporate links. He'd been Robert Bourassa's Minister of Privatization and was at the time a senior advisor to In-

novitech Inc., a management and consulting firm that would go on to establish an aerospace research consortium using VRQ funds.

"Research-based innovation originating in universities has the potential to contribute much more than it does now," read Fortier's report, promising that commercialization would "increase the return to Canada on the investment in university research made by taxpayers."

A clear message had been sent: commercialization was a top priority for the Canadian government, and it should be everyone else's as well.

"Ever since then, there's been a number of policies and programs [...] to promote commercialization," said Claire Polster, a University of Regina sociologist who specializes in higher education, in an interview with *The Link*. "Some policies are put into place, some offices are put into place, and things then sort of just begin to transform."

Governments at both the provincial and federal level were eager for commercialization to be a success, and invested heavily in Valeo in its early years. In addition to its universities' yearly contributions and the \$10.5 million in start-up funds it received from VRQ, the company was granted a \$2-million repayable contribution from Canada Economic Development in 2004. While it's unclear how all of these funds were used, Valeo was able to spend over \$530,000 to directly fund Concordia research projects with commercial potential, mostly between 2000-2007. This investment made Concordia researchers eligible for an additional \$700,000 in Quebec funding.

Although Valeo proved a lucra-

tive conduit for government money, its commercialization gains didn't hold up to expectations. Documents from Concordia show that in 2000, it was hoped that VIP would achieve more than 100 licences or marketed technology transfers, and create 50 spin-off companies in its first seven years. However, a 2007 document states that Valeo had produced only eight licences and four spin-offs for all of its university partners since its founding. Since then, Valeo has produced 22 licences and nine spin-offs for all its partner universities.

VRQ went defunct in 2006, but Valeo is still very much in business. The company is currently in the process of merging with another *société de valorisation*, McGill's MSBiV. Although Valeo has only obtained a handful of patents for Concordia in recent years, one invention—an energy-efficient heat exchanger—has recently been licensed to a local firm. It's expected to generate revenue within two years.

In 2009, Canadian universities and research hospitals spent \$56.7 million on identifying, protecting, promoting and commercializing intellectual property, while income from intellectual property came to \$67.4 million. That makes for a \$10-million profit margin—but of course, not every university benefits equally.

And those numbers don't take into account the millions that federal and provincial governments spend every year to fund industry-oriented university research. In recent decades, federal funding councils like the National Science and Engineering Research Council and Canadian Institutes of Health

“The reality for most universities is that you invest in technology transfer but you’re not necessarily expecting to make a profit on it. The goal is to help develop the larger innovation capacity for Quebec universities and for Quebec as a whole.”
Graham Carr,
Concordia VP
Research and
Graduate Studies



“Not only are [universities] often losing money, but also they’re losing their capacity to be independent and critical centers of research,” since “the goal of the research is not really to publicize the science, it is to make a profit.” **Howard Woodhouse,**
University of
Saskatchewan
education professor

Research, as well as Quebec funding organizations, have dedicated an increasing amount of grant money to “partnership research,” awarding grants to academics only if they collaborate with an outside company to develop an innovation that will be useful on the market.

In fact, the importance of partnership research may be one of the reasons that Concordia is so loyal to Valeo. In order for its researchers to have access to partnership grants, Concordia needs contacts with corporations who are willing to match government contributions, and Valeo provides these contacts.

“We find partners,” Larose said. “A company might not necessarily want to take a licence today, but might still [want to] do collaborative research.”

Taking grant money and corporate research contracts into account, “The gains [from Valeo] are much greater than just the revenues from licensing,” Larose said. “I find it reductive to just calculate in terms of licences.”

In an email to *The Link*, Concordia’s Communication Services said that Valeo has “little to do with our research partnerships with industry.” However, Valeo lists the total dollar amount of “grants, financing and research contracts for [Concordia] files managed by Valeo” at \$3.6 million.

The Knowledge Debate



The partnership grant system is not without its critics, much like research commercialization itself. Making research serve the needs of industry—and using government dollars to do it—is a contentious issue in the academic community.

Howard Woodhouse, a University of Saskatchewan education professor and author of *Selling Out: Academic Freedom and the Corporate Market*, expressed his concerns in an interview with *The Link*:

“The costs and the risks [of research are] borne by the public, and the gains and the profits are privatized,” he said. “The public are paying for what they then have to pay again for on the market.”

Woodhouse argues that with commercialization, “Not only are [universities] often losing money, but they’re also losing their capacity to be independent and critical centers of research,” since “the goal of the research is not really to publicize the science, it is to make a profit.”

Like Woodhouse, Polster is critical of commercialization. In fact, she believes that universities shouldn’t be in the intellectual property business in the first place.

“The universities’ mission is to produce and disseminate knowledge,” she said. “It’s kind of perverse, I would say, for universities to be in the business of preventing other people from using knowledge, rather than making knowledge as freely available as possible.”

She argues that even from a business perspective, the utility of patenting research is dubious. If innovations were free to use, she said, “people could still use the knowledge, but the access would be less restricted [and] the benefits could be increased.”

“As the universities privatize

knowledge that may have been helpful to other industries to develop themselves, it becomes inaccessible,” she explained. “[Businesses] have to pay for it, if they want to use it. That increases their cost, which can decrease their competitiveness.”

Polster also pointed out that Canadian industry doesn’t invest very much in research and development. “And why should it, if it gets all this publicly-subsidized research being done for it?” she said.

So if commercialization, in addition to being so expensive, has questionable benefits for both science and the economy, the question remains: why do we keep doing it?

Polster thinks that the reason commercialization still has so much support within universities is that certain well-placed actors—businesses that want subsidized research, administrators hoping for a windfall, governments looking to develop an innovative economy, academics who profit personally—find or perceive an interest in it, but “don’t understand the larger implications.”

Concordia’s Office of Research, however, sees things quite differently.

“Commercializing intellectual property is vital to the continued success and growth of Concordia’s research capacity and contributing to Canada’s economy and social systems,” wrote Shelly Sitahal, associate director of the Office’s Research Partnerships and Innovation Unit, in an email to *The Link*.

“The protection and commercialization of university intellectual property not only provides universities the opportunity to contribute to our nation’s economic growth, but also increases their capacity to generate direct financial returns and ultimately re-

cruit and retain professors and students,” Sitahal continued, quoting the Fortier report.

Governors and Goals



Polster thinks that the rise of commercialization cannot be linked back to a single ideology or entity, but that it’s “become a process or a dynamic that’s expanded and developed in all kinds of complicated ways.”

But, she says, “a lot of people who are at the top, the policymakers and the people who run the institution and the powerful people within the institution, and industry [...] they’re perpetuating it.”

The decision of whether or not to keep using Valeo’s services is vested with Concordia’s Board of Governors. And here might lie another reason why Concordia, despite years of tight budgets, keeps pursuing the project.

A large percentage of Concordia’s current and former board members have come from Montreal’s business community. These governors—higher-ups at Power Corporation, SNC-Lavalin and Hydro-Quebec, to name a few—could all conceivably see the benefits for their companies from

having an infrastructure in place to facilitate corporate research contracts and commercialize the university’s research results.

When the board decided to join VIP in 2000 only two members voted against the plan; both were student representatives. Subsequent motions on Valeo have always passed.

What’s more, every time the board has been asked to make a decision on Valeo, it has received briefings from research administrators who were favourable to the project, highlighting its benefits and downplaying its cost. In his interview, Graham Carr said that he “absolutely” wanted Concordia to continue its partnership with Valeo into the future.

The goal, he says, is to “make better connections between what is happening on campus to what could be the transferrable benefit of those to society and to corporations and other groups.”

“Sociétés de valorisation like Valeo, they perform that role.”



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Graphics Graeme Shorten Adams

NO BUZZ AT THIS HIVE

Café Plans Stung by Reality



by Katie McGroarty @katiecmcg

At the end of last semester, the incoming CSU wanted to have The Hive open by this September.

The café was to be their answer to the lack of food choices for students on the Loyola campus, and would have provided a cheaper and healthier alternative to the monopoly Chartwells has on campus.

Originally, The Hive was going to be opened in phases.

It was to start off as a coffee and pre-made pastry café only, then move on to a full-fledged cafeteria-type establishment.

However, that's no longer the case.

"We didn't really see the point in opening it halfway," said VP Loyola Crystal Harrison. "We've been figuring out how we want to operate and also how we want it to look—which all takes a lot of time."

"Fortunately, we've decided that it will be run by an independent student group, and ultimately not by the CSU. It's going to be based on a solidarity co-operative model. It will be founded by students, then there will be a board of directors that will start and operate the café."

While the plan to work its way up gradually remains, the CSU also hopes to have more to offer students when the café opens, as coffee and limited pastries are already available at multiple Chartwells locations nearby, according to Harrison.

Chartwells is a subsidiary of Compass Group, the world's largest cafeteria service operator in the world.

"Hopefully, there will be a lot of stuff that can be prepared behind the counter—some salads, smoothies, lots of coffee variations as well as to-go items. Sandwiches would be ideal," Harrison said. "A little more complex than pastries and bagels, but not a full-fledged café either," she continued, noting the lack of current access to kitchen facilities

as one of the reasons for the delay.

Once it's up and running, however, Harrison says the Hive "is supposed to be a healthy, cheap alternative for students on campus. It won't be fully functional, but it will be more functional than [we previously planned for]."

If all goes accordingly to plan, the final stage will see a full café open all day long and offer full meals, as well as feature a student-run bar serving organic beer and wine.

"Ultimately, if we could prove to the school that a student-run café is capable of providing food to a large amount of students, us being incorporated into the meal plan would be awesome," Harrison said.

Harrison added that she hopes that food at The Hive could eventually be paid for with "flex dollars," an ancillary package part of residence students' meal plans used to buy non-cafeteria food. Currently, only locations operated by Chartwells take flex dollars.

"It's hard to say right now; a lot of stuff that we thought would be accomplished right now [isn't]. There has kind of been some backtracking going on, making sure that we've been covering all of the bases," she said.

As of right now, the CSU is hoping to open the first phase by January.

"But, it's nerve-racking to say that will be the opening," said Harrison. "You never know what will happen, but it helps us to have that timeline."

A New Co-Operative

How exactly The Hive would operate was unclear until it was decided in early summer that it would be a "solidarity co-operative."

"We spent a lot of time educating ourselves and debating about the proper governance," said Benjamin Prunty, VP Sustainability. "Because it isn't necessarily standard or intuitive that we would go for the solidarity model."

"Not only do we think it's the most

democratic model, but we're existing within a context of turnover," Prunty continued. "So there's not a lot of institutional memory."

In choosing the solidarity model, the CSU is aiming for a sustainable structure. The solidarity model means, essentially, that it will draw its membership from workers, supporting members and user members in order to represent diversity in the co-operative.

"We will elect the board, but then they can kind of steer it yearly and they can, of course, call an [annual general meeting] if they're not comfortable with the way the organization is going."

Right now, the CSU is looking to recruit a board of directors of at least nine members. Currently unconfirmed but potential board members include one faculty member, one student at large, one graduate student and two CSU executives. Looking for a board of directors will be the first step in the co-operative side of things.

The solidarity co-operative is a new form of co-operative, which is called the "multi-stake holder co-operative" outside of Quebec.

Prunty said that it is unlikely that 50 per cent of the allocated \$350,000 to be shared between the renovation and reconstruction of Reggie's and The Hive will be used for the new Loyola café.

"We don't have to spend [all of the allocated money]—we're not trying to," said Prunty. "It's more like a cushion so that it's available if it's absolutely necessary."

Currently, the CSU is looking for community funding in order to cover assets and the salaries of workers, as well as to ensure that taking out loans would not be needed.

"There's a lot of things that we want to figure out but at this point what's most important is getting the basics down so we can expand from there," said Prunty.

"If we can make this become a reality, I will be really happy."

The final plan for The Hive Café, pictured above, includes a student-run bar and an extensive menu. Photos by Benjamin Allard.

TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE, STUDENT-RUN EATING OPTIONS?

Discussions Begin on the Future of Concordia's Food Services

by Michael Wrobel
@michael_wrobel

A dialogue between students, faculty and administrators on the future of Concordia's food system began in earnest this summer.

The university's contract with food service provider Chartwells is set to expire in May 2015. With that in mind, a new group has been called together—the Food Advisory Working Group—to evaluate Concordia's food system and look at possible ways in which it could be improved.

A More Sustainable Direction

The Concordia Food Coalition, a student group involved in the discussions, hopes to improve or even replace the university's current food system with affordable, sustainable and student-run initiatives.

"We are trying to engage [the working group] in a broad discussion about what sustainability means to Concordia and what specific actions we can take to get there," said Mikayla Wujec, a researcher at the CFC.

Wujec told *The Link* that there's "clear dissatisfaction" with the current food system among students, faculty and staff. A common complaint, she said, is that the food is too expensive and unhealthy. Many people also feel that Chartwells-operated retail outlets aren't open long enough.

According to Wujec, there are feedback mechanisms in place that allow concerns to be voiced to Chartwells, but a locally-operated food service would still be more responsive to the needs of the Concordia community.

"I think it's extremely possible to have a food system that doesn't rely on one of the large food service providers," she said, adding that Concordia already has many student-run food initiatives on campus. It also has fewer students living in residence—and thus fewer mouths to feed on a consistent and daily basis—than other similarly sized universities.

Research conducted by the CFC shows that Concordia can learn a lot from other universities that are lowering their environmental impacts through waste reduction, composting and the use of locally grown produce.

The University of British Columbia, for example, operates its own food service, as opposed to having a contract with an industrial food provider.

Around 45 per cent of its food is sourced within 240 kilometres of the university, and only organic and fair-trade coffee is sold. Eateries and cafeterias on campus also serve only non-endangered species of fish and seafood, adhering to the standards of the Ocean-Wise conservation program created by the Vancouver Aquarium.

Meanwhile, the University of

Winnipeg has a mixed model, with both self-operated and contracted retail outlets on campus.

Between 44 and 66 per cent of its food is locally sourced, and students enjoy a culturally diverse menu with many options for those with dietary restrictions. The university's food service also provides training and employment to individuals who face barriers to meaningful work, Wujec said.

And even if Concordia's administration chooses to sign a contract with one of the large food service providers once again, there are ways of making the university's food offerings more environmentally friendly. Wujec said a lot of other Canadian universities have included specific environmental benchmarks in their contracts, requiring, for instance, that their food service provider buy produce grown in campus gardens.

"There's been a great evolution in the sustainability of these companies," she said, noting nevertheless that the large-scale industrial nature of these multinational corporations means that they're still "not necessarily the best solution."

Chartwells is owned by Compass Group PLC, a British multinational that operates in over 50 countries worldwide. Its main competitors include U.S.-based Aramark Corporation and France-based Sodexo.

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Infographic Clément Liu

► Concordia's Proposal Timeline

A document on Hospitality Concordia's website outlines the timeline that the university will follow in the lead-up to the expiry of the Chartwells contract.

The Food Advisory Working Group will meet regularly until December to share research on best practices in the food services industry with regards to nutrition and sustainability. The group will then provide Concordia's vice-president of services

with a list of recommendations.

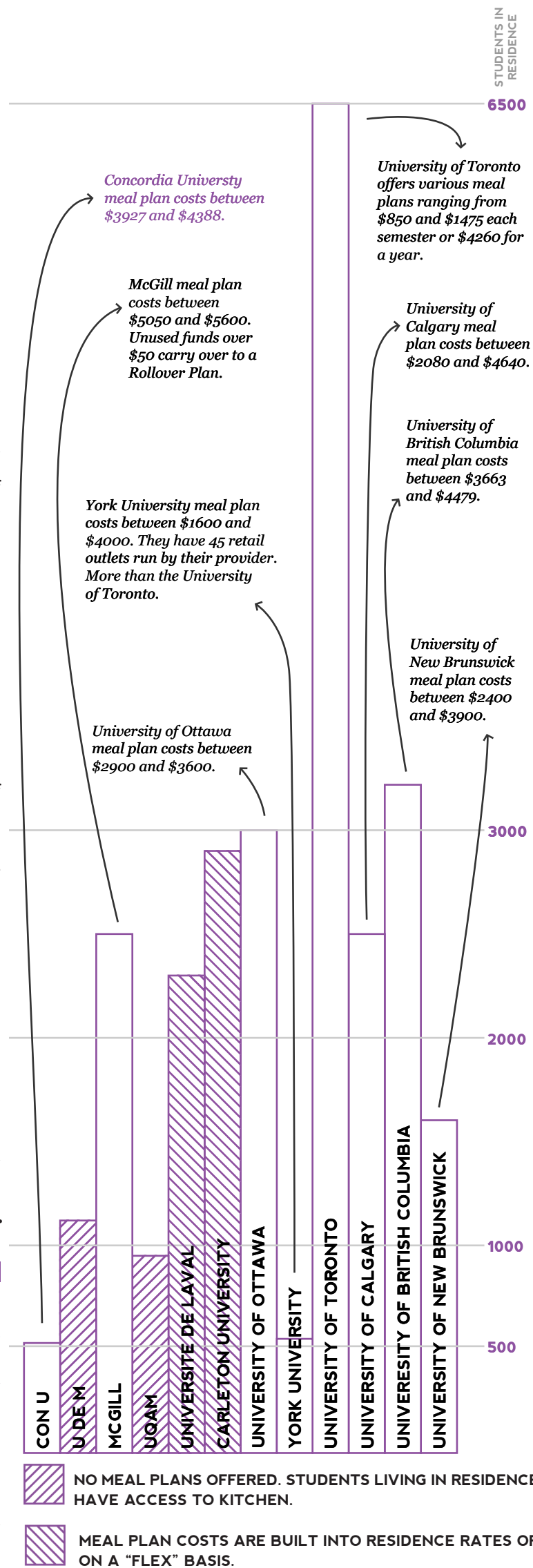
In winter and spring 2014, using the working group's recommendations, Concordia's administration will develop its own list of criteria—in a document known as a request for proposals—which will outline how the university will judge the different proposals that it will receive from food service providers.

Once that is done, a formal request for proposals will be made public and posted on the Système

électronique d'appels d'offres, the Quebec government's website for public procurement.

Proposals received from food service providers will then be evaluated according to the criteria outlined in the RFP document between mid-2014 and early 2015.

Finally, a contract will be awarded to the company with the winning bid, with the new food service program beginning in the summer or fall of 2015.



CONCORDIA'S BUDGET, TAKE ONE

Funding Gap Leaves ConU CFO Looking For Cuts

by Colin Harris @colinnharris

In a climate of uncertain government funding, Concordia is working to balance the books following cuts and cancelled tuition hikes.

At the last Board of Governors meeting before summer break, Concordia Chief Financial Officer Patrick Kelley presented the budget for this academic year. But if this year is anything like last year, it may only be the first of many he'll need to prepare.

Due to changing information from the provincial government last year, Concordia's 2012-2013 budget needed to be revised four times.

"We can't include numbers that come from a press release," said Kelley at the June 7 meeting, referring to the Parti Québécois' public statements pledging to narrow what Quebec university administrators say is a funding gap.

When the PQ formed a minority government after defeating Jean Charest's Liberals last year, party leader Pauline Marois pledged to cancel the 80 per cent increase in tuition for students stretched over seven years before she was even sworn in. The announcement meant a loss of an estimated \$4 million in revenue for Concordia for the 2012-2013 school year.

Then, in December, with most of the academic year behind them, Quebec universities faced an unexpected \$124-million cut in grant money, resulting in a \$13.2-million loss for Concordia.

This left Concordia's Board with little choice but to approve a deficit of up to \$7.5 million—the third-highest in Concordia's history—when a surplus of \$600,000 had been predicted for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Kelley cautioned that things could change when presenting the budget for the 2013-2014 year, and that budget reduction targets were on the assumption that there would be no further cuts to their operating grant, which will make up 76.33

per cent of Concordia's revenue, up from 63 per cent last year.

The current budget sees a 2.5 per cent (\$5.7 million) cut to the academic sector, and a 6.81 per cent (\$7.49 million) cut to all others, including the services portfolio, which oversees facilities management and human resources. Concordia's academic sector makes up more than two-thirds of the university's budget.

For students, these cuts mean a reduced number of courses and fewer courses available in multiple semesters.

"Every area of the university will feel something—you can't go through what we've gone through in the last year and a half and not have an impact," Concordia President Alan Shepard told *The Link* last spring.

At the Summit on Higher Education in February, the provincial government announced tuition would no longer be frozen, and instead indexed to the rise in average household disposable income.

This amounts to a 2.6 per cent increase in tuition this year, which translates to about \$1.1 million for Concordia.

While Concordia has a high number of international students, who bring in far more tuition than Quebec residents, that money is redistributed to other post-secondary institutions in the province.

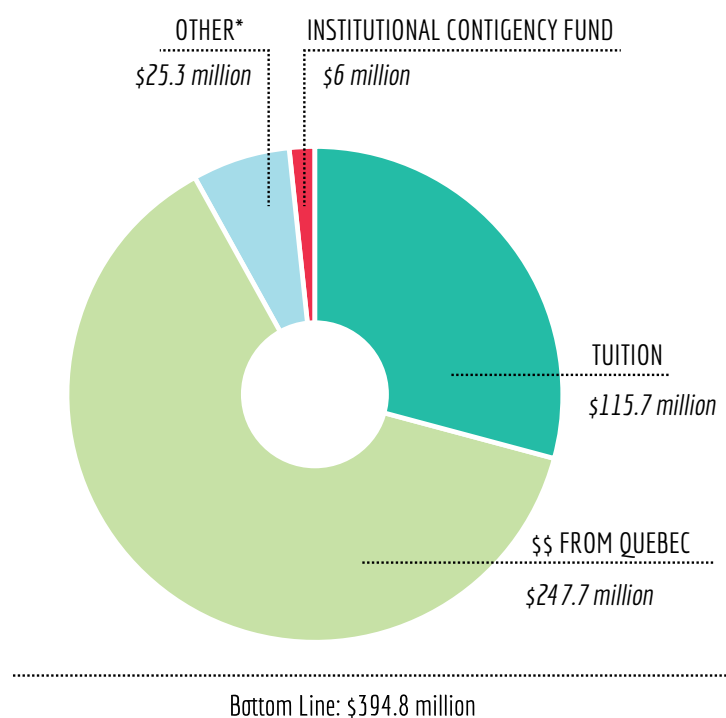
In his presentation to the Board of Governors, Kelley said that this year \$45 million of tuition from international and non-Quebec students goes through this process, with Concordia expected to get 10 to 11 per cent back.

It was suggested at the meeting that tuition be lowered at Concordia to attract more international and out-of-province students, but Kelley said "discounting tuition to siphon students from other universities is a slippery slope," in that it can lead to even less revenue for Quebec universities as a whole.

.....
Infographic Julia Wolfe

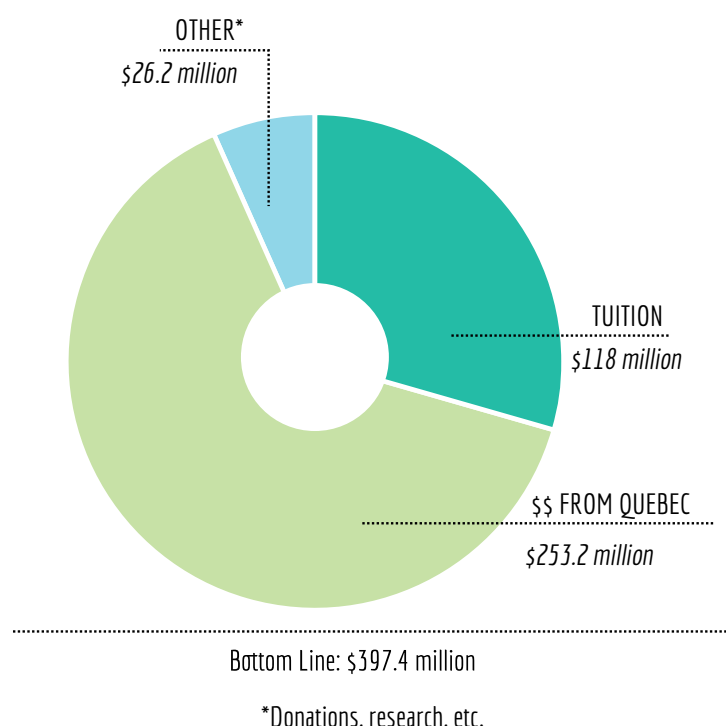
REVENUE PROJECTIONS

2013-2014



2014-2015

(Projected Budget)



*Donations, research, etc.

BRIEFS

by Corey Pool and Erin Sparks
@coreyriver @sparkserin

The Lowy Loan or "How Not to Sell a Condo"

Remember way back in 2011 when Concordia bought our then-dear old president Frederick Lowy that nice new condo?

Six months after its due date, the \$1.4-million loan given to Lowy interest-free for the purchase of his 2,600-square-foot crib on Doctor Penfield Ave. is still outstanding.

The loan was given to Lowy as a perk for taking on the job of president after the untimely departure of his predecessor, Judith Woodsworth, who left the university with over \$700,000 in severance pay. The understanding was that the condo would be resold and Lowy would repay it when, he too, left the university.

But times are tough in Montreal. The market isn't competitive, and the luxury condo that Concordia paid for sits empty.

Condo party, anyone?

Concordia Student Suing SPVM for Harassment

Concordia philosophy student Katie Nelson is currently facing \$6,500 in fines, but she has no intention of paying them. Nelson racked up the fines, which range from participating in an illegal protest to cursing in public, during the 2012 student protests.

Constitutional lawyer Julius Grey, who is seeking \$24,000 in damages, will represent Nelson in court. Nelson sees her case as one of political profiling, something that Montreal police Cmdr. Ian Lafrenière has denied the SPVM engages in.

There is a chance that many of the charges Nelson currently faces may be dropped; a Ville-Marie bylaw specifically states that many of the articles within the city's rules against loitering are invalid within the borough, an area where Nelson was ticketed numerous times.

In total, Nelson has been ticketed over 30 times.

Check online at thelinknewspaper.ca later this week for an interview with the Concordia student and activist.

RUSSELL COPEMAN ENTERS MUNICIPAL ELECTION RACE

Concordia's Associate VP External Affairs Running for Borough Mayor of C.D.N.—N.D.G.

by Michael Wrobel
@michael_wrobel

Concordia's associate vice-president for external affairs will run for borough mayor of Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce in the Nov. 3 municipal election.

Russell Copeman announced his candidacy on Aug. 19, joining Montreal mayoral candidate Marcel Côté's coalition.

Copeman told *The Link* it was the recent scandals at city hall—from the resignation of mayor Gérald Tremblay to the arrest of interim mayor Michael Applebaum on 14 charges including fraud and breach of trust—that led him to decide to run.

"If people with experience and who feel they have something to offer don't [step] up to the plate [...] then the situation will never improve," he said.

This is not the first time Copeman has run for public office. Before working at Concordia, he represented the electoral district of NDG in the Quebec National Assembly from 1994 to 2008.

Since 2008, Copeman has acted as a liaison between Concordia and

officials at all levels of government, working under the direction of Bram Freedman, the university's Secretary General and VP Development and External Relations. Copeman will go on an unpaid leave of absence from his position as associate vice-president for external affairs in September.

Copeman says the job has given him a deeper understanding of the importance of municipal government.

"I learned a great deal about urban planning and how institutions can have an impact on urban planning and urban development," he said.

On Transparency

Copeman's campaign has promised integrity, transparency and accountability if he is elected borough mayor this fall.

"If information is not easily available to the public—and in a useable form—then the information might as well not exist," he told *The Link*. "I think one of the ways in which we could reduce the level of cynicism [about] politics is to make the process more transparent, which I think will in turn

encourage people to get involved."

When asked what he thought about the open-data movement calling upon governments to disclose more information to the public, Copeman said he believes there are some types of information that shouldn't be made public—such as certain data on personnel—but that on the whole, Montreal's administration can be much more accessible.

"The general rule ought to be: 'Make information available to the public,'" he said. "And the exceptions ought to be just that—exceptions—and [they] should be few and far in between."

Copeman added that something as simple as explaining online how the borough selects roads for repaving, for example, would go a long way towards demystifying how the city works and restoring residents' confidence in the municipal government.

On Public Transit and Affordable Housing

Copeman said two major residential development projects—one on

the government-owned site of the former Montreal Hippodrome, and the other in the triangle formed by Jean-Talon Blvd., De la Savane St. and the Décarie Expressway—are offering the borough an opportunity to build a model community with residents' input.

"When I say a model community, I mean one with a mix of housing—social housing, low-income housing, single-family dwellings," he said.

According to Copeman, a major challenge in the borough is affordable, quality housing.

"Today, when you look at the housing market, whether it's rental or purchasing, it is almost prohibitively expensive for young people and young families to purchase a home—and that's why we're seeing so many young families establish themselves off the island of Montreal," he said. "We've got to find ways of reversing the trend."

Copeman wouldn't commit to any specific proposals just yet, but said he would consider offering first-time buyers and young families property tax breaks.

As for public transit, Copeman didn't dismiss the idea of building

a tramway along Côte-des-Neiges Rd., but said money that would go towards the new tramway line could perhaps be better invested in other ways.

"Tramways are pretty expensive," Copeman said. "I wouldn't say they should be completely disregarded, but I think we should really try to optimize the public investment we can make in these areas and move the greatest number of people."

"My own view is that [...] the city of Montreal needs to work on repairing and consolidating its existing municipal infrastructure before launching huge, new projects which are going to require massive amounts of investment from the public purse."

A feasibility study made public in April found that the proposed tramway line would improve residents' quality of life, but would also cost an estimate \$1 billion. Richard Bergeron, the leader of rival municipal political party Projet Montréal, is a long-time proponent of tramways.

C.D.N.—N.D.G. is Montreal's most populous borough, with 165,000 residents.



Photo Olivier Archambault Bouffard.

MAYORAL HOPEFULS LOOK TO WIN OVER YOUTH VOTE

Candidates Debate Public Transit, Youth Involvement

by Michael Wrobel
@michael_wrobel

Half of the first debate between Montreal's mayoral candidates revolved around youth issues in front of a student-heavy audience on Aug. 16.

Denis Coderre, the longtime Liberal Member of Parliament for Montreal's Bourassa electoral district; Marcel Côté, an economist and founding partner at consulting firm Secor; Mélanie Joly, a 34-year-old lawyer and communications expert; and Richard Bergeron, an urban planning expert and former

university professor, took part in the debate organized by the Institut du Nouveau Monde.

Coderre, the leader of municipal political party Équipe Denis Coderre pour Montréal, said that the mobilization of students around the issue of university tuition fees in the spring of 2012 revealed the need "to canalize this energy and ensure that our youth can feel they're part of the decision-making," despite many disagreeing with the protesters' demands. Coderre promised to ensure that young people are hired by the city, and to create new ways

for residents to engage with their municipal administration online.

Bergeron said only his Projet Montréal party—the smallest of the parties currently represented in city council—could make "an absolute guarantee of integrity." Of the 65 candidates it has already nominated for city and borough council positions throughout the city of Montreal, Bergeron said 19 are less than 35 years old. Bergeron also outlined an ambitious program of urban renewal, promising to revitalize the downtown core by eliminating street-level parking lots and adding 50,000

new residents to the downtown population by 2025.

Joly, who is running as an independent, said Bergeron's plans would greatly increase the city's debt. "The reality is that our [young] generation is already going to inherit a huge bill from other generations," Joly said of Bergeron's plan to create a \$1-billion tramway network. "Every time you have a project, you create a debt for our children." She said she will turn Montreal into an "innovative, entrepreneurial and efficient" city, and promised to create a rapid transit system uniting the

east and west of the city with an express bus network.

Côté, the leader of a loose coalition of candidates running for city council, promised to make all full-time students, regardless of age, eligible for reduced-fare monthly transit passes. Currently, only students under the age of 25 have access to the reduced fare of \$45, with older students paying the full price of \$77. The city—and not public transit corporation Société de transport de Montréal—would cover the \$9-million cost of making the change.

Elections will take place in all of Quebec's municipalities on Nov. 3.

THE BEATING HEART OF MONTREAL JAZZ

Looking Back at the Rising Sun Club and
Legendary Jazz Promoter Rouè-Doudou Boicel



"His club was like Paris in the '30s, New York in the '40s."

Taj Mahal, Blues legend



Boicel and Jazz legend Ray Charles
Opposite: Boicel and Dizzy Gillespie



Buddy Guy feeling tha funk outside Rising Sun Celebrity Jazz Club.
Photos courtesy of Roué-Doudou Boicel

by Jesse Feith @jessefeith

On a smotheringly hot mid-1950s day in French Guiana, a teenage Roué-Doudou Boicel paces impatiently, waiting for his mother to leave the house. She had recently come home with a Luis Mariano vinyl record, intended to be hidden away and eventually offered as a birthday gift to his stepfather.

Once alone, Boicel brings the gift to the local record shop and exchanges it for his favourite jazz album, Dizzy Gillespie's *The Champ*.

"Dizzy's music spoke to me like nothing else before," he says looking back today. "I loved that album more than anything."

Nearly three decades later, Gillespie had become a regular performer at Boicel's Rising Sun Celebrity Jazz Club in Montreal, a bar and music joint he opened on Ste. Catherine St. in 1975.

"After so many years, Dizzy was playing for me, in my club. That beats everything," says Boicel.

Now 75 years old, Boicel is sitting in the living room of one of his NDG residences, surrounded by scrapbooks overflowing with pictures from his promoter days.

On one page Boicel is shaking hands with Ray Charles; on another he's posing with Muhammad Ali. In what he calls one of his favourite pictures, he's flanked by blues greats John Lee Hooker, Muddy Waters and Willie Dixon—all four men bursting with laughter.

"What we had during those days will never be repeated in Montreal," says Boicel, nostalgia visibly building as he flips through the pages of one of the books.

The Rising Sun's family-like atmosphere set it apart from other venues in the city at the time, and that atmosphere stemmed from its owner.

"Doudou ran music in Montreal for many years," says Jim West, president of Montreal's Justin Time Records, which later released a series of recordings from the club.

"He knew everybody, he befriended them all, and it's pretty unique to have a character like that."

Boicel's passion for music started at an early age, playing bass and the helicon in his pre-teenage years before later picking up the trumpet and conga.

Before moving to Montreal in 1970, he worked a variety of jobs—as a grave keeper, as an electrician, a short stint in the Cayenne military—travelling across Europe and eventually to North America.

His arrival in Montreal wasn't supposed to be anything more than another stop along the way, but Boicel quickly fell in love with the city's free spirit in the early '70s and decided to stay. He had witnessed the jazz and blues scene present in Harlem during his last stop before

Quebec, and thought the same type of scene could thrive in Montreal.

"The Rising Sun opened at the same time that jazz music was disappearing from the musical scene, but I knew it wasn't dead," he says.

He was right, and within a few years of its opening, the tiny club was regularly packing more than 300 people into a space made to hold no more than half of that for shows by some of the era's greatest jazz and blues performers.

Boicel made it a point to promote black culture within the city, and it wasn't long before his reputation as one of the only black promoters around helped him land some of the period's biggest names.

In the summer of 1978, two years before the inaugural Montreal International Jazz Festival, he founded a festival of his own called the Rising Sun Festijazz, featuring a set by acclaimed guitarist B.B. King.

When King returned to Montreal and played at Place des Arts the following year, he spent the rest of the night across the street at the Rising Sun.

"He came here afterwards, took off all his fancy clothes and played until five in the morning," recalls Boicel. "And the fans that followed, they would be here, ripping their jackets off and swinging their ties in the air."

Year by year, the Rising Sun started harvesting a reputation as a must-play place.

"His club was like Paris in the '30s, New York in the '40s," blues legend Taj Mahal says over the phone from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

"It was a crossroads of all kinds of music. The atmosphere was so good because he attracted a very musically excited audience—poets, singers, dancers," he says.

Dave Turner, who teaches at Concordia and has been a mainstay of the Montreal jazz scene since the early '70s, sat in with Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers a few times at the Rising Sun.

"It was a life-changing experience to play there," he says.

"You can't really know if you're at that level until you play with people like that. And Boicel was a big inspiration to a lot of people for being able to bring those acts to the city."

Boicel himself had become somewhat of a public figure in Montreal.

"People would come to see both the artists and him," says his son Alex, now a promoter in his own right based in Harlem.

"He would dress like an African king and it became part of the mystery for people," he says. "As his son at the time, it wasn't always so easy to deal with him. For me, it was not only the Rising Sun, but it was also Doudou who was rising."

Later, in his home office, Boicel starts pulling out letters from an

old filing cabinet, all of them acknowledging his contributions to the culture of Montreal.

The first is from former Montreal mayor Gérald Tremblay, followed by others from former Quebec premier Jean Charest, former governor general Michaëlle Jean and Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

As he opens a fifth letter, he bursts into a loud, raspy laugh.

"This girl, I tell you," he says with a smile draped across his face, the same one seen in all of the pictures from so long ago.

It's a letter from 1995, penned by Jazz singer Nina Simone and containing about as much character as any one-page letter can hold.

In it, she jokingly asks Boicel for \$10,000 of royalties to be sent to her address in France "for every month until you die."

"A queen like me is very expensive, I'll hunt you down," Boicel reads from the letter, breaking out into a chuckle.

"She called me after that letter and we laughed for hours," he says.

In 2003, eight years after that letter was sent, Simone died in her sleep after a long battle with breast cancer.

"It hurts, it really hurts," he says, no longer laughing. "All these artists I've lost, I really loved them. We were all part of the international jazz family."

The original Rising Sun burned down in March of 1990. At the time, the closest fire station was nearly 20 minutes away on Ontario St., and in the time it took the firemen to respond to the call, nearly everything was gone. The stage had been destroyed and hundreds of concert recordings were lost.

Boicel tried twice to reopen the club at different locations, but could never quite regain the feeling and atmosphere of the original. The third incarnation closed only a year and a half after opening and left him \$100,000 in debt.

Since then, Boicel has focused his time on writing and painting—the recent student protests inspiring both—as he prepares to release his third book this summer, a collection of poetry and essays.

Two days after the incident that ruined the original Rising Sun, he tried to salvage anything he could from the wreckage. In what he now calls a miracle, he was able to save a few concert recordings that had been stored away in an old defunct freezer.

For Boicel, those recordings, his pictures and his many memories are all that are left of the Rising Sun today.

"I would do it all again like this," he says, snapping his fingers together, a smile inching back across his face as he revisits those days that loom so large in his memory.

"Of course I would."

ADJUST YOUR TRACKING

VHS: A LOVE STORY

Documentary About VHS Tape Hunters & Collectors Hits Montreal
On International Screening Tour

by Jake Russell @jakeryanrussell

For many of us, VHS tapes are reminders of our childhood—recording home movies on clunky VCR cameras, watching *The Lion King* and other Disney films over and over, and falling asleep to a *Barney* tape in your jam-jams without having loud, repetitive menu screens wake you from your precious, drooling slumber.

The VHS represents a bygone era, and tapes are relics of the past—and that's precisely what has sparked a second wave of VHS lovers, collectors and hunters.

Adjust Your Tracking: The Untold Story of the VHS Collector is a feature-length documentary by first-time filmmakers Levi Peretic and Dan Kinem, who travel across the United States analyzing the newfound phenomenon of "tape rescuing."

The film itself was shot on a digital camera but edited on VHS, creating the all-too-familiar aesthetic of scratchy-but-lovable analog. An appropriate soundtrack of 1980's-style synths completes the time warp.

Adjust Your Tracking begins with the birth of VHS, with many interviewees laughing as they recall the outrageous prices and sizes of the first VCRs—hundreds of dollars for tape-playing machines as large as mini-fridges.

The rise of Blockbuster outlets and DVDs and the subsequent demise of mom-and-pop video

stores and VHS are briefly mentioned, but the true focus of the film is on the collectors themselves and the crazy lives they lead hunting for tapes.

Kinem admits he was naïve in thinking that the move from VHS to DVD would be seamless, and that nothing would be left behind in the transition.

"It took a few years, but I realized that was never going to be the case," he said. "There's so many movies that people have forgotten about, and so much obscure stuff that was released on VHS. I was like, 'I have to start writing these titles down, I want to see these movies, see why they might be lost or forgotten.'"

VHS being forgotten is one of the film's main themes. The collectors see themselves as treasure hunters, even archeologists, responsible for rescuing abandoned and neglected tapes. If not for these collectors, what didn't survive the switch to digital could be lost forever.

"With most collections, you're not going to find old '50s movie posters in the trash, or Star Wars collectibles, or old comics," said Kinem. "Most of the public knows these things are at least somewhat collectable and valuable. With VHS, people throw those out."

"That's what sets it apart from other collections, that rescue factor—you want to archive and save these [tapes]."

Eccentricity 101

Cheesy, outrageous and ridiculous films are currently experiencing a kind of cinematic revival—*Rubber*, *Teeth* and most recently *Sharknado* are only a few examples. But VHS is the true ruler of this domain. When the first camcorders became available to the public in the '80s everyone could become a filmmaker, and the results were often hilarious.

"So much stuff was released, almost anything you can think of—from how-to videos, to regional shot-on-video movies that were made in people's backyards," explains Kinem. "It became a whole new world, a whole new subculture, these over-the-top and ridiculous movies. That's part of the joy of hunting for tapes, finding all these weird things that you can't believe even got a release, let alone were made."

It's this craziness that drew Kinem into collecting in the first place—seeing a laughably low-budget horror film on tape.

"The first movie that got me into hardcore collecting was *Birds II: The Land's End*. It was a TV-made sequel in 1994 to Hitchcock's *The Birds*, and it's terrible," Kinem laughed. "The movie was just garbage, and it piqued my curiosity and I really wanted to see why this movie was made, and from that point on it was full speed ahead."

A few of the outlandish horror films mentioned in the documentary released solely on VHS include

classic titles like *Vampire Hookers*, *Zombies Vs. Mardi Gras* with the caption "Beads, Breasts, Blood!," *Woodchipper Massacre* and much more. To the collectors, the crazier the film, the better. One collector described such films as "bad decisions that have been released."

One Tape to Rule Them All

The most bizarre and obscure of these "bad decisions" is *Tales From the Quadead Zone*, a 62-minute self-released horror film from 1987.

"It's just so poorly done—they sing songs in it, the audio is hard to hear, the sound effects are so bad," says Kinem. "Sometimes it sounds like you're listening to a commentary track, because the audio is so off and sounds like it's in the distance. The stories don't make any sense."

"The movie is called *Tales From the Quadead Zone*, meaning four, but there's only three stories in the movie; it's almost as if they ran out of money halfway through and decided not to make a fourth story at all," he said with a laugh.

Kinem claims the Internet and word-of-mouth boosted *Quadead Zone* to cult status. It is indeed rare—it's estimated that only 100 copies of the film exist, and an eBay auction for one of the tapes sold for nearly seven hundred dollars.

"People were blown away that a VHS tape was selling for so much money," Kinem said. "And it was this shitty movie that nobody had seen."

Hitting the Road

Kinem says he has travelled across the United States twice before—once with a band and once to get all the interviews for the film. Now he'll traverse the States once again, this time for a month-long cross-country screening tour that stops in Canada briefly for screenings in Ontario and Montreal in late August.

"The response has been amazing, tons of sold-out screenings. I knew this was a worthwhile documentary to make," said Kinem. "I knew it would appeal not only to the collectors, but also have a wider appeal, entertaining people that might not know anything about VHS."

After screenings, the event will transform into a VHS swap and sale, giving viewers a chance to talk to real collectors and experience a VHS hunt first-hand. The swap in Montreal, however will take place before the film.

"Our car is packed with almost a thousand VHS tapes and we're taking them to every screening," said Kinem. "The documentary does bring that out in people, gets them excited about buying tapes."

"There's an immediate bond and friendship between VHS collectors that I've never experienced with anything else."

Adjust Your Tracking: The Untold Story of the VHS Collector // 5860 Ave. de Lorimier, Broue Pub Brouhaha // Aug. 31 // 9:00 p.m. // VHS swap meet @ 8:00 p.m.

FROM ILLEGAL TECHNO PARTIES TO WORLDWIDE TOURS

Ambient Electronic Trio Moderat Release Sophomore Full-Length *II*

by Jake Russell @jakeryanrussell

When different musicians come together and collaborate, the results can transcend the sum of their parts. What would the world of music be like today if The Beatles and The Rolling Stones had collaborated on a super-album, perhaps even adorning the name The Rolling Beatles? The history of music would be altered forever.

Perhaps an equally epic fusion is that of Berlin's Modeselektor and Apparat—you may have bumped and/or grinded in the club to Modeselektor's banger techno beats, and you may recognize Apparat's slithering minimalist melodies from *Breaking Bad* or *Skins*. The two heavyweight electronic acts come together to form Moderat.

But while Modeselektor, composed of DJ duo Gernot Bronsert and Sebastian Szary, and Apparat, better known as Sacha Ring, may differ in their solo styles of music, their roots are very much the same.

"One thing all three of us share is the way we grew up," says Ring. "We all come from East Germany, and in the early '90s the same thing happened to all of us."

Specifically, that would be lots and lots of partying.

"After the [Berlin] Wall came down, suddenly techno came over,

and there were lots of illegal techno parties in all these abandoned buildings we suddenly had, like military and industrial buildings," Ring explains. "That's what I did in my teenage years, and that's what they did as well. We were just throwing techno parties in the weirdest spaces."

After meeting in Berlin at a festival for emerging electronic acts some years later, it's no wonder the three quickly became friends.

"I programmed software back in the day, and they were really into that because they played their whole set with hardware, so I gave them the software and we connected through that," Ring said.

"Just because it was possible to sync three computers with my software and play together, we were like, 'Yeah, fuck, let's play together!'"

And that's exactly what they did, surprising fans and show coordinators alike by playing together as Moderat when only one group was booked to play. The trio would eventually put out an EP in 2002, but Ring says it's one which "doesn't really count, because it was more for fun."

When A Recreational Project Takes Off

After that first EP, the two groups

separated for a few years to focus on their own musical endeavors.

"Apparat and Modeselektor was our work basically," Ring said. "We of course had to survive and do something in a serious way and we did that—we were selling records and playing shows and doing our solo acts very intensely for six or seven years."

"At that point, we were like, 'Let's do something else to have a bit of contrast,'" he continued. "That was the first Moderat album—it was our little vacation from both our projects."

Their debut full-length *Moderat* was released in 2009, igniting a massive response, which surprised the trio.

"We only planned to play a few shows in the beginning, and in the end we played 150 shows, which took one and a half years," Ring recalled.

Despite the group being voted "No. 1 Live Act of the Year" by online electronic music magazine *Resident Advisor*, Ring nonetheless insists Moderat's success came from nothing more than playing together for their own amusement.

"We didn't really do it for the people and to make a crazy live show," he says. "We were just like, 'Hey, let's do something really fuckin' cool together.'"

Moderat II: Ambient Electro Returns

Moderat's second album was released worldwide on Aug. 6, and is aptly named *II*.

"We couldn't really agree on anything else," Ring admitted.

He says the first Moderat album was done mostly through recycling, remixing and file transferring of old music by the three members, never truly writing new music together. But the trio united to write *II*.

"This time we went to the studio for six months and worked like crazy on a record, but all together, all in the same room," Ring said.

The tracks on *II* are more reminiscent of Apparat than Modeselektor—the beats chug along like a train in the night, and many songs make you feel as if you're swimming to the surface from bottomless depths, or perusing an abandoned museum of memories. While the melodies don't exactly evoke despair, they do ring of loneliness.

"It's big city night-time music, and those are mostly the moments when you have ideas," Ring said.

"Back in the day, I only worked at night; I couldn't even work during the daylight. When I first have a song idea, it happens in moments like that—when I'm alone on the metro, or waiting for someone in a bar or something, I write down some ideas. That's the spirit

that goes into it, the spark that goes into the song you will write the next day."

Ring also credits the spirit of his hometown as inspiration for his work.

"Especially Berlin, it's still kind of a rough city, and we wrote that album during winter. You live in Montreal, you know how fucked the winter is," Ring laughed.

"So basically it was fucking gray and cold and the city was empty. It looked like Russia after the war. That's probably a feeling that ends up in the music."

Embarking on a global tour for the new album, Ring says he is excited to play in Montreal once again, having performed at the MUTEK Festival as Apparat for a number of years.

Nicer weather this time of year is a plus, as well.

"It's the same thing in Berlin: once the first sunbeams come out, people get crazy and they're half-naked," he laughed.

"The thing is, I like the States, but it's funny: when you cross the border and go to Canada, it's like suddenly life is so easy. That's the feeling I connect with Montreal; it's always a bit of a release."

Moderat // 1280 rue Saint-Denis, Theatre Telus // Sept. 1 // 10:00 p.m. // Tickets \$28.75



FRINGE CALENDAR AUG. 27 - SEPT. 2

MUSIC

1 Hip Hop Karaoke: "Do It With a Friend" edition
Aug. 29
Le Belmont (4483 St. Laurent Blvd.)
11:00 p.m.
\$5.00 before 11 p.m., \$10.00 after 11 p.m.
The monthly HHK is back, featuring karaoke artists spitting rhymes on old school and new school tracks, friendly competitions of hip hop trivia, \$3.00 biscuits and a barbecue to mix it up.

2 Digitalism + guests [18+]
Aug. 31
Société des Arts Technologiques (1201 St. Laurent Blvd.)
10:00 p.m.
\$17.00 + service fees
Put on your dancing shoes—the German electronic duo Digitalism are bringing their beats and remixes to the SAT alongside Thomas Von Party and Gus da Hoodrat.

THEATRE

3 Life Lessons with Keith Waterfield and Aural Turpitude
Aug. 30
Theatre Ste. Catherine (264 Ste. Catherine St. E.)
9:30 p.m.
\$8.00 students / \$10.00 regular
A comedic talk show about the trials of life and finding humour in even the most embarrassing or shameful circumstances.

27	28	29	30	31	1	2
		1				
			2			
			3			

Check out more listings online at
thelinknewspaper.ca/calendar

STINGERS SEASON PREVIEWS

A Look at What's to Come

Football

When the Concordia Stingers take the field this Saturday afternoon, they will undoubtedly be feeling the pressure as they look to move past a tumultuous 2012 season.

Following a season shaped by trials and tribulations—including forfeiting two wins due to fielding an ineligible player—the team has high expectations for the coming year and is determined to bounce back from its disappointing 1-8 record.

“We have a better football team this year,” said head coach Gerry McGrath. “We feel secure in that we should make the playoffs and hopefully bring home a championship.”

To do so would be a feat the team hasn't accomplished in the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec since 1998.

As with the end of any football season, the Stingers saw some key seniors graduate last year, but gained a number of talented rookies for the season to come.

“We are very happy to have some promising student athletes on our team this year,” said former Montreal Alouettes player and assistant offensive coordinator Bryan Chiu. “These first few games of the season will be challenging, but I have no doubt our players will continue to improve and gel as a team.”

Alongside veteran quarterback Reid Quest, the Stingers have a

number of strong receivers that will be returning to the lineup this season, including Mike Harrington and All-Star Kris Bastien. Also on the must-watch list this year are rookie running backs Axel-Andy Kabal and Jamall Hamilton, both of whom McGrath feels are sure to have a “strong and explosive season.”

The Stingers kick off their season at Concordia Stadium against the Université de Montreal Carabins Saturday, Aug. 31 at 1:00 p.m.

-Tiffany Pearce

Men's Soccer

Greg Sutton has high hopes for his men's soccer team as he undertakes his first year as head coach at Concordia.

“We can always get better,” said the former Montreal Impact goaltender. “It comes down to mentality and having the right attitude when you step on the field.”

The Stingers had a less-than-average season last year, picking up five victories—three of which came from forfeits by the opposing team—to go along with their six losses and one tie.

However, last season could still be considered a success, as the Stingers earned their first postseason berth since 2003, losing to Laval 1-0.

Hoping to make it two playoff

appearances in a row, the Stingers have begun this preseason with two ties, as Sutton and his players have been experimenting with new lineups, tactics and philosophies.

“We cannot be satisfied with where we're at,” Sutton told his team. “Confidence is great to have but you need to improve so you can further grow that confidence.”

With Sutton at the helm, a change in the function of the team has come, and many are confident that positive results on the pitch will follow.

The Stingers start their season against the Université de Montreal Carabins on Sunday, Sept. 9 at the CEPsum at 1:00 p.m.

-Vanik Kechian

Women's Soccer

After losing a win-and-in regular season finale 2-0 against Laval last season, Concordia's women's soccer team is hoping its defence will be able to lead it to the playoffs this year.

“I don't think we'll be winning games four or five to nothing, but if we defend well and take advantage of the scoring chances we get, we should be in competition for a playoff spot,” said Stingers head coach Jorge Sanchez.

The Stingers will be without star forward Jennifer Duff this year, but Sanchez will be looking

for new recruits Alyssa Ruscio and Steph Dilemme to deliver on the defensive end.

Despite losing some important players, Sanchez is confident his team can finish among the top three teams in the conference.

“We have some really solid returnees and because of the experience of last year, they've all worked hard over the summer to get fitter and stronger,” said Sanchez. “We want to set the bar high and work towards it.”

The Stingers open their season at Concordia Stadium against Bishop's University on Sept. 6.

-Vanik Kechian

Baseball

Starting his 19th season as team manager of Concordia's baseball club, Howie Schwartz is as excited as ever for the season ahead.

“I don't remember ever having such a strong list of recruits,” said Schwartz, who will be adding a wealth of talent to his roster this year. “We had a good run last year,” he said. “But this year we're much stronger; on paper, we're better in every department.”

The club finished atop the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association Northern Conference with an 11-5 record last season, but lost to the Carleton Ravens in the

conference semifinals.

To spark his offence this year, Schwartz will be counting on Ontario native Peter Zidros to add power to his batting lineup. According to Schwartz many teams have shown interest in the 6-foot-3, 220-pound first baseman, including Major League Baseball's Boston Red Sox.

On the mound, the addition of pitcher Roberto Zapata is a big plus to the team's rotation. Zapata was named the 2012 pitcher of the year in the Quebec Baseball Junior Elite League after finishing the season with an excellent earned run average of 1.068 and registered 88 strikeouts for the LaSalle Cardinals.

Schwartz hopes his newfound depth will allow the Stingers to make the nationals for the fifth time in the past seven years.

“We're going to have a lot of guys that we can call on in critical situations that are extremely dependable,” said Schwartz. “I think we're going to be fine. We've already had a couple of team practices and the guys seem to play well together. That team chemistry is very important.”

The Stingers start their season on Sept. 7 against the McGill Redmen at Pierre-Elliott Trudeau Park at 12:00 p.m.

-Yacine Bouhali



Photo credits from left to right: Alice du Lac, Vanik Kechian, Clement Tagney.

OFF-SEASON BRIEFS

A Quick Update on Your ConU Stingers

by Yacine Bouhali @MyBouhali

Women's Hockey Team Adds Top Prospects

Defender Marie-Joëlle Allard, a top prospect coming out of CEGEP Limoilou, will be joining the Stingers women's hockey team. Allard was highly sought-after by other Canadian and American universities after scoring five goals and adding 14 assists in 20 games this past season.

Centre Jesse Keca from British Columbia has also committed to the Stingers. In 2012, Keca attended

Canada's national under-18 training camp in Calgary before playing for the Dawson College Blues.

Former Impact Star Named Head Coach of the Stingers

Former Montreal Impact goaltender Greg Sutton has been named head coach of the Stingers men's outdoor soccer team. Sutton was an assistant coach for the team from 2011-2012 before taking over the reigns for the indoor team this past winter. He was also an assistant coach with the Université de Montréal Carabins in

2002 and 2003.

As head coach of the Stingers, Sutton's task will be to reintroduce a winning attitude to a Concordia team that has made the postseason just once in the past nine years.

Three Stingers Drafted in the CFL

In March's Canadian Football League draft, nine players from the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec were drafted. Concordia stood out as the university with the most players drafted in RSEQ division, with a total of three being scooped up by CFL teams.

Defensive back and return specialist Kris Robertson was the first Stinger to hear his name called as he was selected by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers 11th overall in the second round.

Punter Dumitru Ionita was then selected 59th overall in the seventh round by the Calgary Stampeders before defensive back Paul Spencer was selected by the Toronto Argonauts with the very next pick.

Ed Meagher Arena Renovation Near Completion

Concordia's ice hockey rink is ex-

pected to reopen by early November. The newly renovated arena, which comes with a price tag of \$7.75 million, will feature a new eco-friendly refrigeration system, bigger changing rooms and a better quality rink surface that meets National Hockey League specifications.

The new refrigeration system will give the facility the ability to operate 11 months out of the year, as opposed to only seven with the old system.

With the renovations, Concordia expects to save about \$40,000 per year on energy and maintenance costs.

IN GOOD HANDS

Concordia's Recreational Athletic Dept. Will Be Led By Ex-Hab

by Yacine Bouhali @MyBouhali

Like many Canadians, Patrick Boivin started playing hockey at a young age.

But that's likely where the comparisons between Boivin and most Canadians end.

Soccer, skiing, cycling, golfing, you name it—Concordia's new director of Recreation and Athletics has done it all. The son of former Montreal Canadiens president Pierre Boivin, Patrick even played football for his high school while studying across the border.

"I was a free safety," says the former Habs director of hockey operations, nestled in his new office at the PERFORM Centre on the Loyola campus. "It was a lot of fun. I had to read the play and react, all from the back."

It's a similar task to what Boivin must do during his first months at Concordia University, where he'll be working in a completely different environment than the one he had gotten accustomed to at the Bell Centre the past three years.

"Right now, first and foremost, my goal is just to get to know the people I'll be working with, get to understand what we do right as a department both on the recreation

and the varsity level," said Boivin. "But I also want to understand what we do wrong as well."

"Then I want to start identifying the areas of improvement, in order to get to the ultimate goal, which is delivering on some very aggressive objectives."

At Concordia, Boivin wants to emphasize guiding the university's varsity teams to more wins and championships than what their fans were used to over the last few years.

"On the athletics side, my goal in the future is nothing short of winning championships," he said. "I think the varsity teams weren't left aside, but maybe [they] weren't as much of a priority."

Of course, athletics isn't all Boivin will be responsible for.

"On the recreation side, it's all about upping the service we're offering to students," he said. "I think that students here at Loyola are pretty well served; I think there's a lot to go around. But I think downtown could probably use a lot more work."

For Boivin, that work includes bridging the gap between campuses.

"Yes there's a gym downtown, Le Gym, but that's it," he says. "Without making any promises, there's nothing to say that a couple years

down the road, there won't be any basketball or hockey [downtown].

"These are all possibilities, and these are all things I want to make sure that we're offering to the student body in general; not just to the people who either have a car or can take the shuttle bus to come to Loyola."

The downtown campus is a highly occupied area where free space to create future sports facilities is hard to find, but that doesn't worry Boivin.

"If there's a willingness to do something and it becomes a priority, then there's always a way to do things," he says.

Perhaps the biggest of those priorities for Boivin is one that goes beyond making Concordia one of Canada's top universities in terms of varsity sports and in terms of the services offered to students.

"The real goal in all this is to create an engagement fabric [between the student and their school]. Students will go to classes, but their life doesn't just revolve around that," said Boivin, who plans to get Concordia's students more involved socially through sports and recreational events.

"If you could create a social fabric, especially for the students that

are downtown where there's 30,000 students, their ties and engagement to the school are going to be much stronger," he continued.

And it all starts with getting everyone on the same page. "A word that I want to use a lot is 'accountability,'" he said. "I want everyone including co-workers, team coaches, athletes and students to be responsible and held accountable for what they do."

A Bullheaded Leader

Before joining the Concordia staff, Boivin decided to leave his position as director of hockey operations with the Montreal Canadiens when Habs general manager Marc Bergevin said that he'd have fewer responsibilities in the future.

"[Bergevin] wanted to split my job in two, the other being a lawyer," said Boivin. "That was his decision and that was okay. But it wasn't enough for me, so we just parted ways."

Boivin was among many others who decided to apply for the director's position that was left empty after Katie Sheahan's retirement last May.

"We were looking for someone to lead the way in recreation and athletics, and someone who's really fo-

cused on the student experience and who could also connect with faculty, staff, alumni and our community members," said Deputy Provost Lisa Ostiguy, who was on the selection committee that chose to give the key position to Boivin.

"[Boivin] was my first choice without hesitation," she says. "And each person on the committee independently selected him as their first choice."

His past with the Habs obviously played a role, but that wasn't all Ostiguy and the rest of the committee saw in Boivin.

"He's really enthusiastic, a realistic enthusiasm—he brings new energy and new ideas and I'm really looking forward to work with him," said Ostiguy.

As for Boivin, the renovation of the Ed Meagher Arena and the plans to improve the football field, among others, will make for a large workload ahead of him. Fortunately, it's not one that fazes him one bit.

"I'm young, I'm dynamic and I think I'm a little bit bullheaded," he says. "So I'm not going to be afraid to fight for my teams and for the department, [...] to fight the battles we have to and to look for great opportunities to grow the department and its programs."

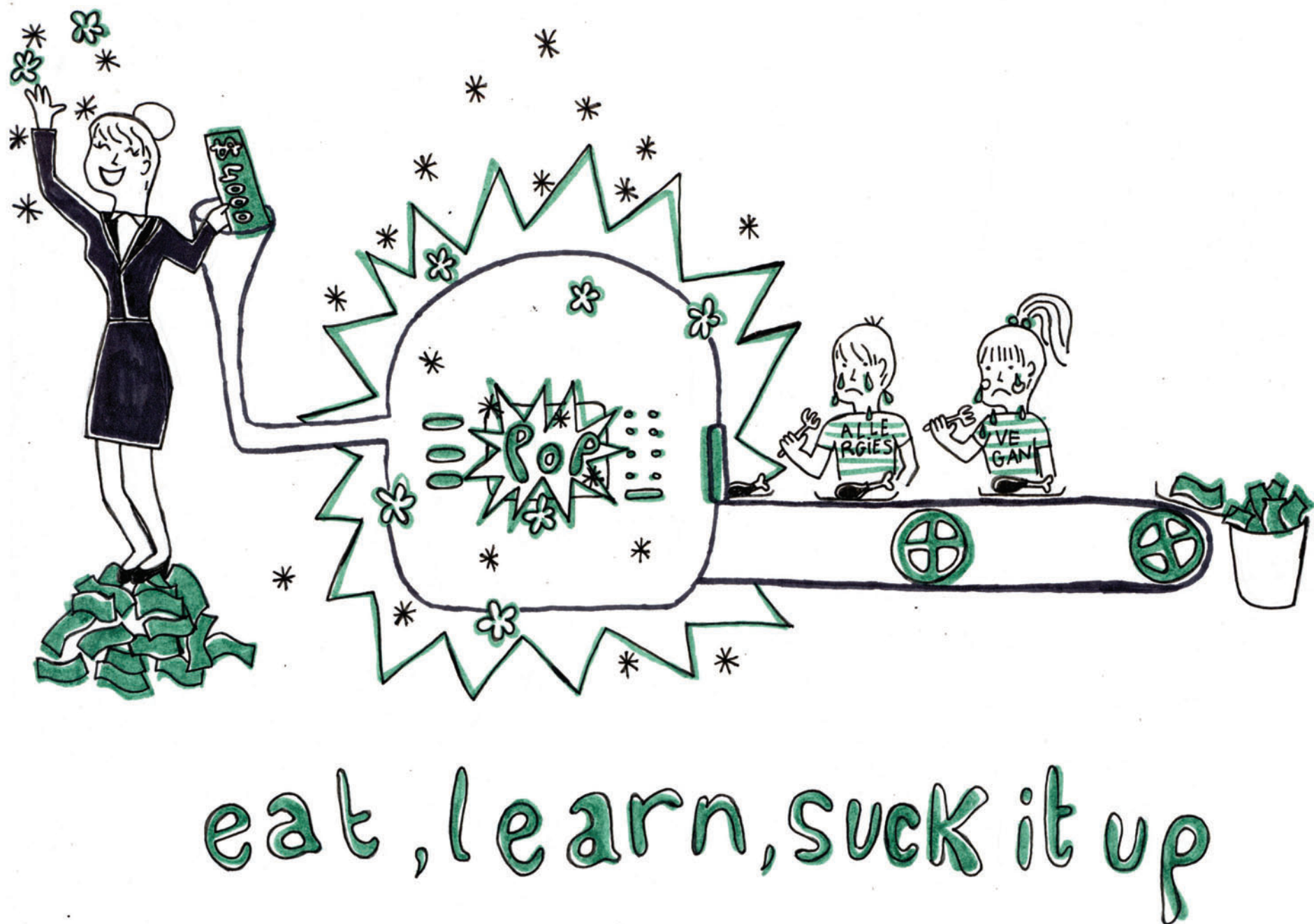


"If there's a willingness to do something and it becomes a priority, then there's always a way to do things."
Patrick Boivin, Director of Recreation and Athletics

New Director of Recreation and Athletics Patrick Boivin hopes to guide Concordia's varsity teams to victory. Photo Erin Sparks.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT ABOUT CHARTWELLS

One Student's Dream of Better Eating



by Mary Alberti

The thing that no student plans for when they move to a new city is what to do when most of the food available to you is entirely unhealthy, incredibly expensive and for some, inedible. Living on campus during your first year can be great for many reasons, but part of living in residence means signing a mandatory contract with Chartwells, the food service provider for Concordia.

The cheapest plan offered by Chartwells costs close to \$4,000 for the nine months that students stay in residence, and at the end of the day the plan does not cover the needs of many. The plan only gives each student ten meals per week, meaning that on some days they can't even eat in the cafeteria. The flip side of this is that if the allotted meals are not used

up at the end of the week, they don't roll over to the next week, and the money you paid is wasted.

While flex dollars—the money students can use to purchase food at various spots around campus—help to supplement the ten meals, the food offered in the other on-campus dining spots is far from healthy.

Living on campus means not having easy access to a kitchen, which in turn means that students with dietary restrictions are forced to spend even more money supplementing the already expensive meal plan that doesn't factor in their needs.

Students with allergies or intolerances are told that they will be accommodated by the cafeteria, but Chartwells ultimately does not uphold their side of the deal—students with major allergies have to get their food elsewhere or make it them-

selves, all the while being forced to pay thousands of dollars for food they are unable to eat.

The lack of accessible kitchens makes it unrealistic for a new student to make all of their own meals while still living in residence. The only easy way to get out of the contract with Chartwells is to move out of residence altogether, which is not something a student should have to resort to in order to have access to healthy meals.

The contract with Chartwells expires in 2015, and whatever replaces it needs to be better at catering to the needs of students. The most ideal alternative to Chartwells would be a cafeteria where students are in charge, or at least where their voice plays a significant role. The perfect food service at Concordia would be one that uses more of the

fresh produce we have available to us in Montreal, a city with numerous markets and city farms.

The plans offered through a student-run cafeteria might very well cost the same as a plan with Chartwells, but students would likely be happy to pay for quality, possibly organic or local products. Perhaps a partnership with the greenhouse could be developed so students could have tea or veggie options made from ingredients grown right above their classes. The most important thing any cafeteria should be emphasizing is the freshness of their products, something that Chartwells seems to overlook.

Concordia needs a cafeteria that works with its students to understand what they need. We need a place to eat that cares more about the people it's serving than

the money they it's raking in. A place where students don't feel cheated when they spend \$4,000 on two semesters' worth of food. A place for students to eat that respects the dietary restrictions of a wide range of people—something that is not unheard of on university campuses across the country.

The University of Waterloo manages to make custom meals for individuals with allergies, and has mandatory training in cross-contamination for staff, while universities like Mount Allison publish the ingredients to the cafeteria meals so students can be aware of what they're consuming.

It's not impossible to make Concordia's food situation better. Perhaps a fresh start is all we need.

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Graphic Flora Hammond

ANALYZE THIS

I'm a 24-year-old male and have been dating my girlfriend of the same age for a few months now. Our sex is great, but I've really wanted to just bury my face in her ass and lick it as well as her vagina. Would it be pleasurable for her if I lick her asshole, and can it be done safely?

—Asking for a Friend

----Unfortunately, I have no idea if this would be pleasurable for your girlfriend since she's the only person who can tell you for sure. Some women really love oral stimulation of the anus and some really don't. Just like any other sex act it's a matter of personal preference, so if this is something you're really interested in doing, ask her! If that sounds intimidating or you're not sure how to lead into the topic, try starting a general conversation with her about what you both like in bed and lead into fantasies and things you'd like to try, while ensuring the tone is fun, reciprocal and hot. It might help to let her talk first and listen without judgment since she might have

something of her own to bring up, and it helps to keep an open mind if you're hoping she does the same. She might be into the idea or she might not, but either way, only good things can come from learning to better navigate these conversations together—even if that means being able to say no to each other when one of you isn't interested in trying something new.

To answer your second question, analingus is considered a low-risk sex act and can be pretty safe, provided the right precautions are taken. The risks that come with unprotected analingus are the transmission of herpes, HPV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and hepatitis, as well as the exchange of bacteria

and parasites that the body regularly disposes of through fecal matter. Luckily, there are a few simple steps you can take to make it safer for both of you.

Dental dams are the easiest way to protect against STIs during oral sex on the anus. A dam is a sheet of latex that you place over the parts you're pleasuring. You can pick them up for free at the 2110 Centre or buy them at any sex shop. If you have a condom handy, you can also cut the tip off and then cut it lengthwise for a makeshift dental dam that works just as well. Putting lube on the receiving partner's side of the dam can make it a little more comfortable and enjoyable.

The receiving partner can also clean up with a moist soft towel beforehand to reduce risks. This should be done gently and without fragranced soaps or anything that could irritate the skin, since irritations and small cuts or scrapes can act as an easy entry point to bacteria. It's also important to always go vagina to ass and never the other way around if performing oral sex on both, because introducing bacteria from the anus into the urethra can cause a urinary tract infection or other vaginal infections.

Finally, if you and your partner are sexually monogamous, consider getting tested together if you're thinking of doing anything unprotected. Many STIs don't show

symptoms, so it's always a good idea to get tested after having new sexual partners or when entering a relationship. For a list of testing resources, go to the Sex & Pancakes website mentioned below!

—Melissa Fuller @mel_full

The 2110 Centre is located at 2110 Mackay St. and you can visit genderadvocacy.org for more info.

Submit your question anonymously at sex-pancakes.com and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook.

Got a quick health question? Just need a resource? Text SexEd to 514-700-0445 for a confidential answer within 24 hours!



Graphic Flora Hammond

MTV VMAS

by Liana di Iorio @MsBerbToYou

Across

- ▶ 4. Back when girls kissing girls was apparently scandalous, Britney and Christina locked lips with this pop icon.
- ▶ 8. Madonna started this whole shock-rock tradition at the inaugural VMAs in 1984, dressing up as a bride and writhing around the stage during her hit "Like A ___."
- ▶ 10. It's official: twerking is mainstream. Drake averted his eyes as she "performed" a not-so-Disney single this year. (2 words)
- ▶ 11. Before she attacked paparazzi with an umbrella, Britney made the crowd go nuts when she wrapped this animal around her shoulders in 2001.

Down

- ▶ 1. This boy band reunited for this year's awards, and (2) freaked out, along with everyone else who grew up in the '90s.

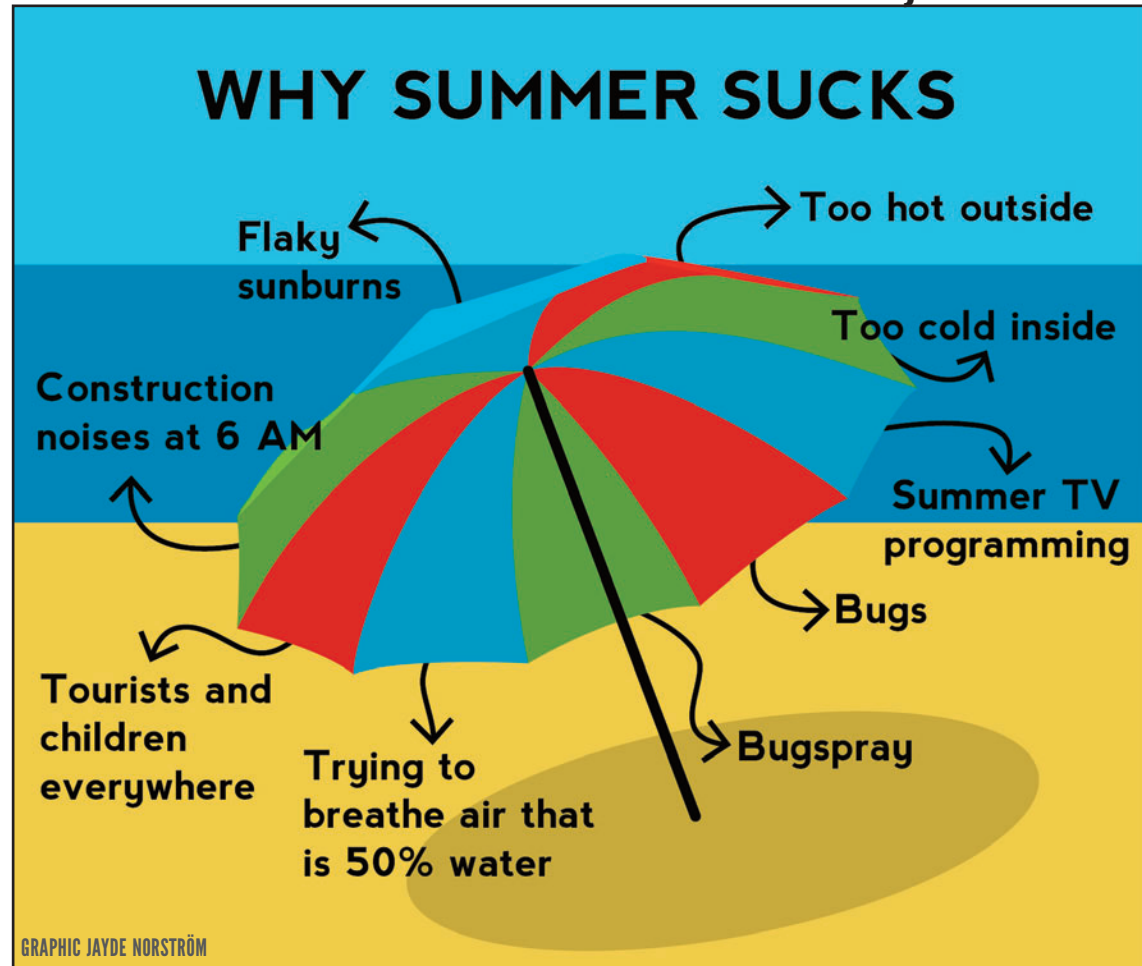
- ▶ 2. MTV's resident Yeezus promised to let this star finish her speech in 2009 when he made what was possibly the best interruption of all time. (2 words)
- ▶ 3. Remember when Diana Ross felt up this female rap star wearing seashell pasties in 1999? (2 words)
- ▶ 5. In 2010, Lady Gaga received the VMA for "Video of the Year" from another music video icon who seems to have found a way to "turn back time."
- ▶ 6. The entire world cringed as Michael Jackson shared a truly awful kiss at the 1994 awards with then-wife Lisa Marie, daughter of this man, the King of Rock & Roll.
- ▶ 7. Before she was Blue Ivy Carter, she was revealed as this famous mama's baby bump during a performance of "Love on Top" in 2011.
- ▶ 9. 1993 saw Frances Bean make her VMA debut with mom Courtney Love and dad, frontman of this self-hating pop band.

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LINKOGRAPHY MORE LIKE BUMMER, AMIRITE?



FALSE KNEES COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



NAH'MSAYIN?

We Must Top the Cronut Burger

There's been a whole lot of talk about this cronut burger. So much so, that Montreal is dangerously close to losing its title as Canada's capital of gastro-absurdity.

We need to step up our game. Losing our coronary crown to joggers and Bay St. is unacceptable; after all, we're the ones staggering around at 4:00 a.m. with a big bottle of Molson Dry in one hand and a juicy La Banquise concoction in the other.

The ante has been upped by the media attention this burger has received. Our response needs to send people into ecstatic trances, build a cult following and earn a hashtag that raises blood pressure.

There's no doubt we can top Toronto—

especially considering we're the home of Joe Beef and Epic Meal Time. The only trace of bacon on the so-called "Epic Burger" invention was in the maple bacon jelly.

Our response must glisten with the grease of 1,000 pigs, strips of bacon layered between each flaky level of deep-fried croissant.

There should be foie gras involved in some capacity. La Belle Province must join forces with the most artisanal pastry shop we can find.

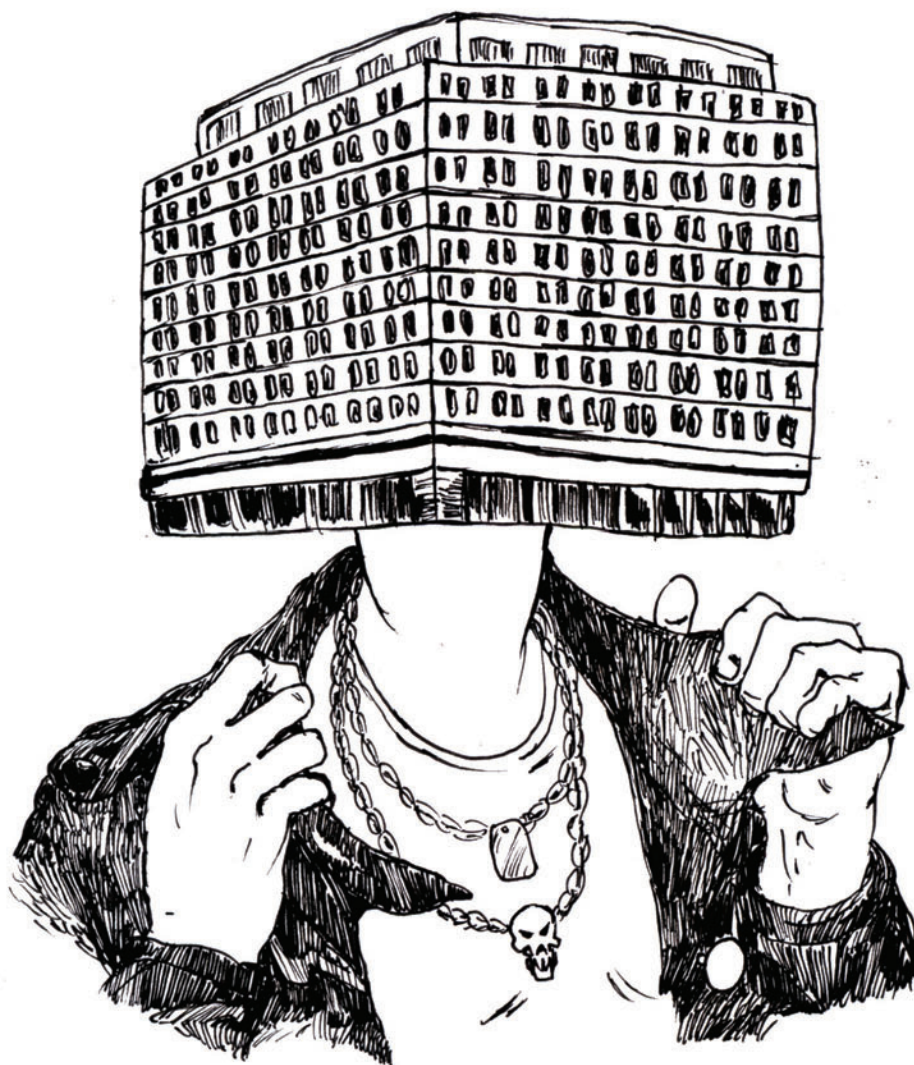
To top the cronut burger we need a true culinary coup de fat, with poutine sitting obediently atop, humbled as its garnish.

—Colin Harris, Editor-in-Chief



Graphic Flora Hammond

Editorial



CONCORDIA'S IDENTITY COMPLEX

Nobody wants to admit it when it happens, but Concordia, this might be your midlife crisis.

Nearly 40 years ago our university was but a small community college in the heart of downtown Montreal. Through the years it gained notoriety for its progressive students, its edgy politics, its protests and its fair share of scandals, like any good institution.

But the university has come a long way since its relatively humble beginnings. Today, we're seeing a university—already one of Quebec's biggest—expanding in more ways than just sheer numbers. But the big question is, where are we going, and what is Concordia ultimately building itself up to be?

See, a midlife crisis has a lot of strange symptoms.

For example, you might start

wearing weird new clothing. As the inner workings of Concordia's governance are being restructured, the university is also pouring money into a very noticeable aesthetic rebranding. Slowly the Hall Building is morphing, getting a stained wood and pane glass facelift to match the university's newer downtown buildings.

Piece by shiny, lacquered piece, the university's grungier side is being covered up. But as a smattering of buildings pops up around downtown, the lack of student space around campus has yet to be addressed.

Nearing midlife you might start buying strange, unnecessary toys, like those big "C"s that have popped up around campus, or that enormous neon sign that lights up the tunnel in the Guy-Concordia metro.

You might get a car that raises some eyebrows, for example, or try to reconcile with your estranged children. These things are normal.

But different parts of Concordia are moving at different speeds. As the visual landscape changes quickly, unions face a looping cycle of negotiations, some working without a collective agreement in place—arguing little progress is made at the bargaining table.

President Alan Shepard says we can't move forward if we're always looking back, and while the past may have been tumultuous in our books, it was formative. And while some still see Concordia as a hotbed for liberal politics, others now see it as window dressing for our business school.

Sometimes a midlife crisis can lead to divorce, multiple divorces,

or maybe even some affairs, similar to the administrative shuffling Concordia's been engaging in over the past decade. Since 2000, the university has doled out over \$10 million in severance pay to administrators. But those days might be over, with Concordia's Board passing reforms at the beginning of the summer that put limits and safeguards on the "golden parachutes" that have grown in ConU infamy.

But with the university in such a state of flux, there's really no better time for students to make a real imprint on this school's future.

Partnerships are forming, a notable example being the forthcoming Sexual Assault Resource Centre, where Concordia Counselling and Development is working with a team of student volunteers headed up by the 2110 Centre for Gender Advocacy,

which itself is funded directly by students. A coalition of students is also working to present the administration with criteria for food services when our contract with cafeteria provider Chartwells expires in 2015.

These new bouts of cooperation will be tests—to see if the new face of Concordia can really mean effective change resulting from students and administration working together, if Concordia's governance reforms are for real, and if our school's historically progressive values have a place in the new Concordia, whatever we decide to make of it.

Concordia just needs to remember that it doesn't need to give up its youthful idealism as it learns to button a suit and tie.

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Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

THE LINK

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