

THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980



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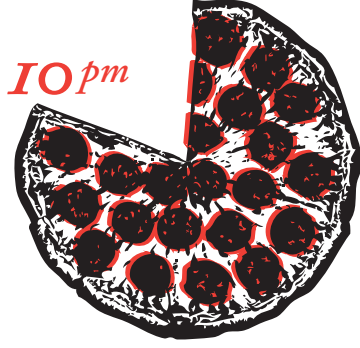
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CUTV

by Corey Pool @coreyriver

The campus and community television station that was catapulted into the national spotlight and made Internet-famous for their insatiable daily coverage of the Quebec student strike earlier this year is now facing serious internal turmoil.

After months of growing tensions between members, resignations of Board directors, senior staff, financial confusion and mismanagement, Concordia University Television came to a grinding halt midway through October.

Over the summer months, a transitional agreement was put in place between CUTV and the umbrella organization Concordia Student Broadcasting Corporation, which oversees the governance of both CUTV and CJLO, Concordia's student radio station.

The agreement would see the assets of CUTV be

transferred to a new and independent not-for-profit organization.

A provisional Board of Directors was put in place to oversee this transition. The board consisted of CUTV's then-station manager Laura Kneale, former program director Laith Marouf and staff member Abel Alegria.

"There was a certain breakdown of relations between the board and management at the station," said Justin Giovannetti, president of the CSBC and president of *The Link's* Board of Directors.

"The station was largely, at least from the Board's point of view, ungovernable. They were acting as though they were independent, so I guess the only logical choice was then to grant them independence."

◆ Story continues on page 5

CON U STUDENT PREPARES FOR MONTREAL-ARGENTINA RUN

This time next year, most of Concordia's class of 2013 will be trying to find a job.

Joseph Michael Kai-Tsu Liu Roqueni is not most Concordia students.

14



NOTMAN HOUSE

The space might seem vacant and the building's facade unassuming—but the inside of the Notman House is on the cusp of undergoing a major transformation.

6

BANG! BANG! BURLESQUE CABARET

"There will be lots of fire! I'll be eating fire, I will be lighting my clothes on fire to take them off. There will be lots of pyrotechnics involved."

11

CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF THE ARTS CLOSES ITS DOORS

Canada's 140,000 artists represent 0.8 per cent of the overall Canadian labour force—a number slightly larger than the number of Canadians directly employed in the automotive industry (135,000).

18

YEASAYER

"I don't want to just come in and lay down my beats and then go off and get wasted."

9

THE LINK ONLINE

NO MEDALS FOR LADY RUGGERS

Stingers return from CIS championships with fourth-place finish.

BLOGS

Wednesday weekly post from Oliver Leon, The Link's That Transsexual Guy

LIVE SESSION #11: ECHO BEACH

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CUTV Rehab

by Corey Pool @coreyriver

-cont. from page three

The agreement states that, effective June 1, the transition would be complete once this provisional Board drafted a new set of bylaws, elected a proper BoD and held a referendum to allow students to vote on the absorption of CUTV's student fee-levy.

On Oct. 20, the entirety of the provisional BoD resigned, and an emergency Board had to be instated by the CSBC.

"Myself and some other staff felt that we could not be staff and employers at the same time, so we stepped down," said Marouf in an interview with *The Link*.

According to a CSBC motion, Kneale resigned two days later from her position as station manager following "increasing tension with staff members."

Despite making several attempts to contact Kneale, *The Link* could not reach her for comment by press time.

"Personal conflicts broke out, and it got to the point that people couldn't really come to work because it didn't feel good," said Wendy Kraus-Heitmann, who makes up—along with CUTV staffer Sabine Friesinger—the emergency provisional BoD. "It was a hostile environment."

According to the CSBC motion, the tumult that followed the resignations led to a loss of financial control that imperiled the student funds that CUTV receives—34 cents per credit from each Concordia undergraduate student.

The Lockdown

Following the breakdown between staff and the Board, Concordia received a request from the CSBC to change the locks on the CUTV premises, "to ensure the safety of assets."

Several CUTV members came to *The Link* last week to explain that they had been locked out and could not access equipment, but that meetings were being held in the offices. All members asked to remain anonymous and that their comments remain off the record.

"It was a decision that was made by the provisional Board of CUTV following the departure of the manager," said Patrice Blais, faculty member of the CSBC who, prior to Kraus-Heitmann, was also on the provisional Board.

"If you ask for the keys back and you don't get a response, you have to change the locks," said Blais. "It's as simple as that [...] I don't want to accuse anyone of anything, but you know that if it was done this way, it was for good reason."

After a mediation session held by the CSBC, no solutions to solve the staff conflict could be agreed upon and, according to the motion, "further mediation was deemed unfruitful."

"Some people said that it had come to a point that they had to close down the station just to work on talking to each other and coming to some sort of agreement so that they could go to work and feel comfortable again," said Kraus-Heitmann.

During the Oct. 30 meeting, the CSBC decided that it had become necessary to authorize for the immediate freezing of CUTV's internal account that held students' fees, "until a more harmonious situation is established."

However, the next day, before the CSBC could request that the account be frozen, Concordia had already stepped in.

"We collect all student fees, and we have a responsibility to ensure that the student funds are protected, especially in exceptional circumstances," said university spokesperson Chris Mota. "We weren't really clear on

what was happening with the restructuring [of CUTV].

"So the university decided to temporarily freeze the accounts—everything except the payroll account, so that the employees would still be paid—until such a time as we could get some kind of clarification as to who is in charge, who the designated authorities are, and to whom do we transfer funds."

According to Mota, discussions are being held between the university and the current provisional BoD at CUTV to assess the situation and decide how to proceed.

It is still unclear where within the administration the directive to freeze the accounts came from.

"Someone sees a red flag and communicates that there's a problem, but it wasn't one person," said Mota. "But clearly, when this was starting to play out, someone made a decision that this was the best thing to do for the time being."

Damage Control

On Nov. 1 and Nov. 2 the provisional BoD met with staff members at CUTV to lay down some ground rules, instruct members as to what their job descriptions would be and how they would proceed.

But come Monday, things had changed once again. "Over the weekend we got a better grasp of the situation and what was going on," said Kraus-Heitmann. "So this weekend the provisional Board looked at it and realized that CUTV was not financially sustainable in its current state."

According to Kraus-Heitmann, the structure that CUTV was running under was not conducive to proper management. Some staff members were responsible for producing content, managing the station and keeping track of finances all at once.

At the time, CUTV was operating at \$1,000 per day in payroll expenses between approximately 10 paid employees—a figure that the Board felt far exceeded the station's financial abilities.

"We asked them to take drastic cuts in hours—every staff member; nobody was given a free ride—so that they could work at a much reduced schedule over the next month while we come up with a plan for financial stability while working on healing the internal issues and devising a structure," said Kraus-Heitmann.

According to her, some staff members had their hours cut by as much as 75 per cent.

"Some people are used to working 40 hours a week, but that's not going to be happening anymore," she said.

One of the main problems was the rate at which CUTV was growing following the coverage of the student strike in Quebec this past spring.

"They had a dream, and it was a good dream," said Kraus-Heitmann. "It just grew a little bit bigger than CUTV had the structure for. They grew like crazy, but CUTV will collapse on itself if we don't get some better structures in place."

As it stands, the duties of station manager are being spread around to other staff, and some positions might still be eliminated. The Board is considering hiring an organizational expert to help this process along.

"Right now our emergency priority is to get that station up and running again, not only so that staff can have work and get paid, but so students can have access to these resources," said Kraus-Heitmann.

The goal is to have a mended structure and business plan in place by January so that the station can return to functioning normally by the spring.



"They had a dream, and it was a good dream. It just grew a little bit bigger than CUTV had the structure for. They grew like crazy, but CUTV will collapse on itself if we don't get some better structures in place."

—Wendy Kraus-Heitmann,
CUTV Provisional Board of Directors Member

START-UPS FIND A HOME AT NOTMAN HOUSE

by Vivien Leung @vivien_leung



In an Aging Building, New Technology—and Strategies—Thrive

From the outside, Notman House appears to be nothing more than a dilapidated building just west of the gas station at the corner of Sherbrooke St. W. and St. Laurent Blvd.

But walk through the unassuming door of 51 Sherbrooke St. W. and you'll find yourself in an entry hall with whitewashed walls and dark wood floors, flanked by workspaces and ending in an elegant—though slightly disheveled—winding staircase.

The space has been quietly occupied for the past two years by a dozen-odd start-ups that rent the few available offices. Those in the know frequent the rudimentary café on the ground floor, and put it to use as a de facto office.

The OSMO Foundation, a non-profit created to spearhead the Notman project, recently concluded a funding campaign that has permitted it to begin an ambitious—if respectful—renovation of the space, which is designated a heritage building by the city.

The organization has a mandate to support entrepreneurship; the project emerges in tandem with a Montreal start-up community that has been gaining critical mass in recent years.

Establishing Support for the Project

"The interesting thing about this project is that it's definitely the only one that I know of in Canada that was really created from the bottom up," said Gabriel Sundaram, one of the initiative's coordinating volunteers.

According to Sundaram, in most cities across North America, it is different levels of government wanting to jump-start entrepreneurship that oversee the birth of such cooperative workspaces.

Not at Notman House, however.

"It was a grassroots initiative," said Sundaram. "The people who are actually using the space are the ones who fought for it to happen."

As such, the outreach groundwork was laid far before funding campaigns even began. "It

wasn't like we showed up, no one knew about it and they read about the campaign and contributed," he said.

Thanks in part to the extensive network involved with the Notman House project from its infancy, its crowd-funding campaign turned out to be the year's biggest Canadian success story on Indiegogo—an online funding platform—raising over \$110,000 during its 21-day campaign.

"As soon as we let out the video of the crowd-funding campaign, it just took off. We were blown away by the amount of support," said Zoe Desroches, another Notman volunteer. "We thought it might have been a bit more difficult to get donations, but it proved to be one of the easier parts."

The fact that the project started as a pilot helped its cause, Sundaram said. He doesn't think the initiative would have gotten the support it did with simply a business plan.

"[It demonstrated] there was actual demand for it," he said. "There were [already] people who wanted to move in and hold events."

Montreal's Start-Up Community Picks Up Speed

Gabriel Lesperance, chief technology officer of a start-up currently residing in Notman's attic, is excited about the potential the space has to generate spontaneous encounters and learning.

"Once [Notman] is renovated, we'll be able to have maybe hundreds of start-ups [under one roof]."

"That's the spirit here—you exchange ideas, people will talk to you," said Lesperance. "What makes a [motivating] start-up environment is being able to bounce ideas off people working in the same domain as you. It makes our ideas evolve so much faster."

"If you have a problem, you can usually just say it out loud and somebody will have a solution," said Eddy Razar, a non-tenant who can be found working in the Notman café



Frequenter of the Notman House at work.

most days.

Sundaram emphasized that no matter where you come from, you can find success as a start-up.

"What you have to do is build a team of people to help fill the gaps where you're missing skills," he said. Notman will act as a space for necessary encounters between talents from various backgrounds.

"There's still a large part of the population that doesn't consider working at a start-up a real choice," said Sundaram. "They think they have to work at a bank or some big corporation, or move to Toronto or New York to do something interesting."

Sundaram—who himself moved to the United States for seven years to look for work after school—hopes that the Notman House will make people feel like there are opportunities available to them right here in Montreal.

The Notman House's Future

The first step in moving forward is to rehabilitate the decaying mansion.

"It'll be interesting to see what we'll be able to do once the space gets off the ground," said Sundaram.

Despite the house's rugged appeal, the project has gone undeniably high profile, with millions of dollars in funding received from all levels of government on top of Indiegogo pledges.

Sundaram hopes to keep the project "close to the ground" by maintaining stakeholder involvement and making room for new start-

ups to thrive. Young start-ups can currently hold events at Notman rent-free.

Funds accumulated from rental fees and events will be funneled back into improving the space through workshops and events that would feed the community by putting them in touch with investors, lawyers and freelancers, in the city and beyond.

"One of my personal focuses is to use Notman as a platform to start reaching out to other cities," said Sundaram.

The Notman House and the building behind it will be converted into three floors of small office spaces to be rented out at low rates to young start-ups. Desroches said there will be a public café at street level.

"Incorporating common spaces lends to supporting [the goal of building the start-up community]. We're a very open project and that's really what we're looking to help foster," he said.

Sundaram agreed, saying the evolution of the project will continue with input from the community.

"The steering committee is made of entrepreneurs from the community," he said. "We have a wiki that people can add comments to. Being web people, we'll try to leverage technology as much as possible and give people a place to express their opinions."

So what are the first steps to becoming an entrepreneur? According to Sundaram, it's simple.

"The first step is walking out of the Hall Building and taking those couple of hundred steps and coming over here."



PHOTO AMANDA LAPRADE

SNIPPETS FROM SENATE

BY MEGAN DOLSKI @MEGANDOLSKI

On Nov. 2 the Senate, Concordia's highest academic body, met for their regular monthly meeting. Here's what you should know:

Academic Plan Update

The implementation of Concordia's recently adopted academic plan is slowly, surely—and slightly confusedly—moving forward.

The plan, proposed by former provost David Graham, was unanimously passed at a Board of Governors meeting on Jan. 12, after it received the go-ahead from Senate.

Since the plan's approval, Graham has left his position as provost, and been replaced in the interim by Lisa Ostiguy—who by extension has taken over the responsibility of seeing the plan through, along with the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

In December 2010, Senate passed a motion to create a standing committee to monitor the implementation of the academic plan, known as the Academic Plan Coordination Committee.

The APCC committee held its first meeting on Oct. 11 to discuss the role and composition of the APCC, as per Senate's request. In its report, released Friday, a request was made to have the creation of such a committee deferred until next September.

In lieu, Ostiguy's updates concerning the academic plan will become a standing section on the agenda, until a standing committee is formed next September.

Despite confusion surrounding procedural technicalities, Ostiguy presented Senate with an update on the plan and initiatives currently in the works.

Projects mentioned included increased library funding, the development of an "accessibility policy," launching an undergraduate research initiative and looking into how the university can most effectively make use of e-learning.

Ongoing efforts towards graduate student recruitment and preliminary plans for the creation of a writing and math centre for students were also mentioned.

CIWESS gets Senate Recognition

Senate voted in favour of the official creation of the Concordia Institute for Water, Energy and Sustainable Systems.

According to its mission statement, CIWESS aims to "nurture multidisciplinary research and training in the design of systems, solutions and technologies for water, energy and resource conservation."

The institute's focus lies in developing projects working towards energy-efficient water supply and sustainable water quality. Its goals include utilizing renewable energy resources and new tools, as well as ensuring the public is informed of developments concerning public policy related to the usage and quality of water in both rural and urban areas.

The institute, which has been in the works for eight years, is based in the faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, but extends its scope across internal boundaries and involves the faculties of Arts and Sciences, Fine Arts and the John Molson School of Business.

When presenting the institute to senate, CIWESS Program Director Catherine Mulligan explained that it strives to facilitate student mobility.

In addition, working across Concordia's separate faculties, CIWESS places a heightened value on fostering and forming relationships with other academic institutions both nationally and internationally, as well as with government and independent initiatives related to the field.

"We want to work very strongly with the industry," said Mulligan. "We want to train students to work, which means that internships will be integral."

Mulligan says these opportunities will not be restricted to graduate students; some will be made accessible to undergraduates as well.

In addition to receiving funding from Concordia, Mulligan listed a number of organizations that have already offered the institute financial support including: Hydro-Québec, Golder Associates and Engineers Without Borders, among others.

SENATE IN SHORT

► **Concordia President Alan Shepard** said that within 36 hours of receiving instructions from the government pertaining to tuition reimbursements, the school was returning funds to students.

He said it's better for the school if students can accept school credit versus a cheque, since producing a cheque for every student would cost the school a not-insignificant amount.

► **Political science professor** and Concordia University Part-Time Faculty Association President Maria Peluso wants to see consistency within the Fine Arts faculty regarding how many class-time contact hours equate to a three-credit course.

"This is all so out of whack," she said. "There is no linear understanding."

Department heads responded to these concerns, citing a wide range of disciplines as a main difficulty in coming to a standardized system—but they assured Peluso that they are working on coming up with reasonable guidelines.

► **General consensus from** multiple senators is that Hospitality Concordia is in fact, not that hospitable to deal with internally—and also expensive.

Concordia VP Services Roger Côté has heard the concerns, however, and is happy to work towards changing that. Côté said that detailed information on options can be made available regarding space available for events, as well as logistical and booking costs.

► **Questions were raised** concerning the Azrieli Institute of Israel—is the word "Palestine" on the website or leaflet? Is the research guided by potentially biased sources of funding?

Political Science chair and co-director of the institute Csaba Nikolenyi assured Senate, "This is a research institute and not a political institution." Nikolenyi said that its funding came through an agreement that allows no interference between the donor and the research findings.

And yes, the word "Palestine" does appear on the website.

► **Concordia is addressing** issues related to its international student homestays. A working group has been created to look into housing needs and support international students who have been dealing with poor living conditions. The university is also conducting a review of its Chinese student recruitment program.

2110 CENTRE AND CKUT FORM THE DRAGONROOT PROJECT

Groups Aim to Start a Discussion About Gendered Violence

Wednesday, Nov. 7:

Sexual Assault Awareness
With the Sexual Assault Centre Campaign.

Wednesday, Nov. 21:

Transformative Justice 101: A Workshop on the Challenges & Benefits of Confronting Interpersonal & Community Violence Without the Cops or the Courts With Life After Life.

Wednesday, Dec. 5:

Our Bodies, Our Choice: Reproductive Justice and Systemic Violence
With the Reproductive Justice League.

BY HILARY SINCLAIR
@HILARYSINCLAIR

The 2110 Centre for Gender Advocacy and the McGill-based campus-community radio station CKUT are banding together to spread awareness about gendered violence under the moniker of The Dragonroot Project.

The project is set to kick off its workshop series on Nov. 7 and run until April 10 with a seminar hosted by volunteers from the Sexual Assault Centre Campaign entitled Sexual Assault Awareness.

“[The workshop is] around consent, boundaries and also switching the emphasis away from putting blame on a person who experiences assault and instead having the message be way more about ‘don’t rape’ than ‘don’t get raped,’” said 2110 Programming and Campaigns Coordinator Bianca Mugenyi.

CKUT first crossed campus lines and approached the Concordia-based 2110 Centre a year ago to collaborate on the project when they received a grant from Status of Women Canada.

“We decided to join forces and do something where people could not only learn how to make radio, but they’d also have a forum,” said Mugenyi. “Because the show was meant to be around gendered violence it made sense to be learning about that.”

The project—which is also working alongside community groups such as Filipino women’s organization PINAY and sex worker advocacy group Stella on the workshop series—was opened to the public, placing an emphasis on educating women and girls from marginalized backgrounds, said Mugenyi.

Every other Wednesday, the project holds a radio workshop that teaches participants the technical skills involved with actually producing a show.

The workshops are used as a primer for the content that runs on Dragonroot Radio in the 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. time

slot. Different voices are constantly bringing new perspectives to the role of host, and the featured musical guests range from crooner Akua Carson to spoken word artist Moe Clark.

“We’re trying to do it with intersectional analysis, so that when we’re thinking about it and trying to understand it and talking about these things on the radio show, we’re connecting the dots,” said Mugenyi.

“We’re asking, ‘Why are there all of these inequalities? What social and economic inequalities are leading to each of these individual things?’ and seeing if they’re connected.”

“We decided to join forces and do something where people could not only learn how to make radio, but they’d also have a forum. Because the show was meant to be around gendered violence it made sense to be learning about that.”

—Bianca Mugenyi,

2110 Programming and Campaigns Coordinator

CITY BRIEFS

BY ANDREW BRENNAN, @BRENNAMEN

Gabriel Nadeau-Du “Bank”

Former student strike leader Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois has raised roughly \$74,000 from over 1,700 donations since Friday to fund the appeal of his contempt of court conviction, reported *The Gazette* on Monday.

Nadeau-Dubois, who stepped down as leader of the Coalition large de l’Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante in August, was found guilty last week after arguing in May that activists could defy court injunctions.

Cafeteria Contagion

A norovirus outbreak at the Jewish General Hospital is believed to have infected about 45 hospital employees over the past week, prompting the temporary closure of the neurology clinic, according to findings by the CBC.

Gastrointestinal symptoms—including diarrhea, cramps and fever—were allegedly caused by an in-house catering service, which prepared food only for staff members.

Mayor Resigns

Gerald Tremblay stepped down as mayor of Montreal on Monday in the wake of allegations of corruption against him and his Union Montréal party, reported *La Presse*.

Tremblay, who has for years denied any wrongdoing, was directly implicated by multiple testimonies during the Charbonneau Commission last week, which examined charges of corruption in the city’s construction industry.

Mafia Bullets

A man linked to Montreal’s Mafia syndicate was shot and killed in front of his house in the Montreal suburb of Blainville, QC Sunday night.

According to *The Globe and Mail*, Joe Di Maulo, 72, was a notable survivor of the Calabrian crime families, which were overtaken by the Sicilian Rizzuto clan during a power grab in the 1970s.

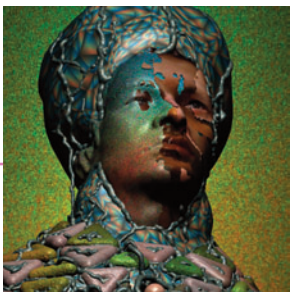
Di Maulo is the brother-in-law of accused murderer Raynald Desjardins, who is fighting an order to appear before the Charbonneau Commission.

Yeastayer Return to Montreal After Brief Hiatus

PSYCH-POP PURVEYORS



All Hour Cymbals (2007)



Odd Blood (2010)



Fragrant World (2012)



BY ANDREW BRENNAN
@BRENNAMEN

The last time that psych-pop act Yeasayer came to Montreal, it was a long weekend in August and the city was caught up in the sights and sounds of Osheaga—every note was experienced one bead of sweat at a time.

Yeastayer emerged onto the stage in the early evening on the second day of the festival. Looking back, bassist Ira Wolf Tuton still marvels at the sheer energy feeding the audience that night.

“That was the best crowd,” he said. “One dude was crowdsurfing and while he was, he got pantsed. Like, totally pantsed—but I don’t think he cared.”

The band, until that point, had a hit-and-miss relationship with Montreal. Although they have had great shows here, Tuton remembers other times that garnered more lukewarm reception. Understandably, there were plenty of doubts leading up to the festival.

“We weren’t really sure about going into that festival, what it was going to be like, what kind of crowd it was going to be,” admitted Tuton.

“But it’s always nice to have those pleasant surprises, when people are willing to be 120 per

cent open with themselves and with people around them and with you on stage. It makes it such a better show, so much more comfortable such a more communal experience, which is what, on the best nights, we’re striving for.”

The band continued to tour following the festival. Their plan was to be on the road until October, but when guitarist Anand Wilder’s daughter was born a few weeks early, they decided to cut the tour short.

They had also just celebrated another milestone: the release of their third LP, *Fragrant World*. The release was noticeably tighter, the wall of synthesizers had more grit and less layers, and the vocals more pronounced.

Coming home after their extensive tour for their last record, 2010’s *Odd Blood*, everyone had things to catch up on.

“We were gone for a long period of time,” said Tuton, “Besides that, we are all maintaining our personal lives: marriages and non-marriages, staying together and all that stuff.”

“I guess all of that kind of led us to find a place in New York City to record *Fragrant World*, as opposed to going out of town for three months again like we did for

Odd Blood,” he said.

The band found a studio in Greenpoint, NY and got to work. They had plenty of new gear to experiment with, which let them treat the vocals differently for every track, said Tuton.

The center-stage vocal treatment and more minimal textures led many critics to call the album a departure from *Odd Blood*, but Tuton didn’t agree.

“I think to a lot of people, they see a huge departure because the vocals aren’t screaming loud and there’s not a lot of candy pop like [*Odd Blood*],” he said.

“I definitely think it’s a development and a step in an interesting direction,” he continued. “But I still think we’re on the path of constructing songs in a similar fashion, getting more comfortable with the way we do things.”

According to Tuton, there was still plenty of experimentation.

“[We use] whatever we have in the arsenal, whatever fits,” he said. “It’s kind of what’s fun about the recording process.”

Tuton, along with his bandmates, Wilder and Chris Keating, self-produce the bulk of the Yeasayer catalogue. It is hard to give someone else much control over their work, Tuton admitted.

“[Our Osheaga 2012 show] was the best crowd. One dude was crowdsurfing and while he was, he got pantsed. Like, totally pantsed—but I don’t think he cared.”

—Yeastayer Bassist Ira Tuton

“I don’t want to just come in and lay down my beats and then go off and get wasted,” said Tuton.

“The idea of sonically trying to experiment and turn something into a unified whole or a complete project, to try and expand those ideas that are laid down in the demo into some new and interesting fashion—that’s exciting.”

The recording process then becomes a communal event.

“We go in to the space and everybody brings all tools that they have,” he said. “We kind of have this candy shop of different things to employ at any given time.”

As the members of Yeasayer focus on re-embarking on tour, Tuton’s still very conscious of the

outside world. The tour begins on Nov. 6—election day in the United States. To Tuton, who said he could talk about politics for hours, it’s going to be an important turning point.

“We will be starting off this tour in one of two very different ways,” he said, depending on the results. *Fragrant World* is also good for political conversation, he added, like an expert salesman.

But before the touring and the politics, Tuton has to finish cleaning the dishes—something he promised his girlfriend he would do days ago.

Yeastayer + Sinkane / Nov. 8 / Cabaret du Mile-End (5240 Parc Ave.) / 7:00 p.m. / \$20.00 advance, \$22.00 door

DIAL **M** FOR MIND-BLOWING



PHOTO: FÉLIX PEAULT

Local Music Showcase M for Montreal to Feature 100 Artists

BY GEOFFREY VENDEVILLE

In a city internationally recognized as of late for producing music acts like Arcade Fire and Grimes, M for Montreal was founded to help local bands, and other artists, make the same leap onto the big stage.

While it lacks the luster of better-established festivals south of the border, M has grown into a four-day frenzy of concerts, panels and private auditions showcasing a handful of relatively well-known bands as well as emerging artists.

Now in its seventh year, the festival boasts a line-up of 100 acts that would pique the curiosity of even the most jaded record-store clerk.

The list of imported talent includes the Icelandic indie folk/pop group Of Monsters and Men, New York-based A Place to Bury Strangers, and the electro hip-hop artist Death Grips.

Among the Montreal-based acts on the bill are 2012 Polaris Prize nominees Cadence Weapon and Yamantaka // Sonic Titan, along with solo garage rocker Mac DeMarco, veteran synth rockers Duchess Says and Mozart's Sister.

The festival got off the ground after a meeting between agent Sébastien Nasra and the renowned festival programmer Martin Elbourne, one of the main bookers for the Glastonbury Festival and former agent of The Smiths and New Order. In 2005, Nasra was promoting Québécois singer Jorane in London, and invited Elbourne to scope her out.

"Elbourne is the kind of guy who

can't stay in one place more than five minutes—in a good way. He's incredibly busy and doesn't take long to form an opinion," said Nasra.

To Nasra's disappointment, Elbourne listened to only a couple of Jorane's songs before walking out.

"I thought, 'Oh my god, that's the end of my life. He hates the artist, he's never going to talk to me; I've been dreaming about this moment all my life and now it's gone,'" said Nasra.

As it turned out, however, Elbourne had simply stepped outside to have a cigarette. Nasra skipped out of the concert hall and struck up a conversation with Elbourne. That off-the-cuff chat eventually led to the creation of M for Montreal.

The festival was initially established as Quebec's answer to the College Music Journalism Music Marathon, which takes place in New York City at the end of October.

Like CMJ, M for Montreal is not only about the music, but also intended as an opportunity for young artists to get exposure and make the step up from peddling their EPs to securing tour dates.

"Basically, M for Montreal is, in its core DNA, actually not a festival. We use the means of a festival to accomplish our mission. It is first and foremost a non-profit company that advocates building a platform for exporting Quebec music and Canadian music internationally," said Nasra.

This year, a record 120 delegates from festivals and agencies around the world are attending M to catch an early glimpse of the next big thing.

Since one of the goals of the festival

is to wow foreign delegates, each band has to be able to put on a "killer live show," Nasra said.

"We need bands to have live performances that are mind-blowing or special in their own way. Even if it's more pop or indie underground—as long as it's transcending."

Over the past decade, Montreal has garnered international attention as a hotspot of what is loosely described as the "indie" music scene.

The contemporary wave of Montreal-based indie bands inspired by electronic dance music has only enhanced the city's reputation. The buzz has even led the London's *The Telegraph* to dub Montreal "the new Brooklyn."

"Montreal is hip on the worldwide scene now," Nasra observed.

"Not to say Toronto sucks or Vancouver sucks. It's just that there's some hype happening here. We are becoming more of an international destination for musicians from everywhere, including English Canada," he said.

"They see there's a genuine interest in music in this city. It's an interesting phenomenon."

The multicultural character of the city also helps explain Montreal's rich indie scene, said Nasra.

"Some people wonder what it is in the water here. I think there are many different reasons, including the cultural aspect, the franco-anglo interaction," he said.

"It's probably more developed now than it was 15 years ago. Instead of being in isolation, they are becoming more of a blend. That brings a lot of value to both cultures."

LINK PICKS

Winnipeg export **Greg MacPherson's** honest, laid-back country rock allows him to weave tales of sketchy under-the-table jobs and cover The Clash with equal aplomb. Armed with a guitar, an eye for detail and an outlook that's equal parts world-weary and firestarter, G-Mac can really bring it.

—Alex Manley,
Copy Editor

Greg MacPherson / Nov. 16 / Petit Campus (57 Prince Arthur St. E.) / 12:55 p.m. / \$10.00

Local post-punk duo **Solids** are the last to hit the corner that passes for a stage at l'Esco on Friday night. Their gang vocals and super-tight melodic, grungey sounds are the perfect thing to raise a beer to before jumping in the pit.

—Colin Harris,
Coordinating Editor

Solids / Nov. 16 / l'Esco (4467 St. Denis St.) / 1:30 a.m. / \$10.00

With one of the most original albums on the Polaris Prize shortlist this year, **Yamantaka // Sonic Titan** combine whispered, gentle melodies with dramatic prog-rock physicality.

—Geoffrey Vendeville,
Staff Reporter

Yamantaka // Sonic Titan + A Place to Bury Strangers + Bleeding Rainbow + CTZNSHP / Nov. 17 / La Sala Rossa (4848 St. Laurent Blvd.) / 9:00 p.m. / \$11.50

PLENTY IN THE TWENTIES

Bang! Bang! *Cabaret Does Prohibition*—Unrepressed

BY RILEY WIGNALL
@WILEYRILES

Montreal is about to go up in flames. As November temperatures drop, local production company Cirquantique is turning up the heat with a performance show so tantalizing, it ought to be prohibited.

Bang! Bang! is a Roaring Twenties Prohibition-themed cabaret spectacle—the second installation in a series of shows with themes centered around different eras in history.

For the uninitiated, a cabaret show is comprised of an ensemble of burlesque and circus style acts, put on by artists of varying disciplines.

One such artist is co-producer, artistic director and performance artist, Esmeralda Nadeau-Jasso. After joining a circus troupe at the age of 17, she has since perfected many talents, including stilt-walking, costume design—and playing with fire.

“There will be lots of fire! I’ll be eating fire, I will be lighting my clothes on fire to take them off. There will be lots of pyrotechnics involved,” she said excitedly.

In total, the show counts over 30 artists, all of whom have roots within the city itself.

“All of them are local to Montreal. They’re all very fresh artists. Quite a few of them are coming straight from the Montreal circus school,” said Mitchell Bundy, producer and administrative director. “They’re really excited.”

While circus and burlesque have become a popular combination in the past few years, *Bang! Bang!* ups the already lofty ante, literally, by incorporating aerial acts, the previously mentioned fire performances and—the maraschino on top

of the entire cocktail—live music accompaniment.

The Unsettlers, a Montreal-based eleven-piece band who play brassy, swanky music, are a perfect fit for the vintage whiskey-soaked event.

“The live band makes a huge difference,” said Nadeau-Jasso. “It just brings it up that much more.”

“We’re trying to push every boundary,” Bundy added. “I’ve never seen anything to this extent happen in Montreal. It’s been quite a process, with the initial conceptualization and finding all the pieces.”

The show has been in the works since June, with the 1920s theme in sight from the very beginning.

In January 1920, the passage in America of the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act meant the sale and consumption of alcohol was illegal in the United States.

In Canada, provinces had been imposing and then repealing prohibition laws for the past 20 years.

Quebec was the province least disposed to the idea; their prohibition only lasted two years, and legislators there ultimately opted instead for the regulation of liquor sales, which lead to the birth of the Commission des liqueurs du Québec, a precursor to the now-ubiquitous SAQ stores.

South of the border, however, where liquor was completely outlawed, people turned to underground bars, also known as ‘speakeasies,’ to drink.

“It was all run by the mafia,” said Bundy, who brushed up on his history in order to give the artists a framework to shape their costumes and acts within.

With plenty of research under their collective belts, the artists performing in the cabaret have their sights set upon bringing a unique,

genuine experience to their audience.

“It’s a whole story around what life was like in the 1920s. We’re trying to really bring people into that era, and afterwards we’re just going to have a big party,” said Nadeau-Jasso.

While it is safe to say that liquor consumption never faded in popularity, other elements of the era have recently come back in vogue.

HBO’s Prohibition-era drama series *Boardwalk Empire* continues to gain popularity and director Baz Luhrmann’s film adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s literary classic *The Great Gatsby* is garnering plenty of attention, despite the fact that it won’t be released until next year.

The hallmarks of the ’20s are stepping back onto the stage of popular culture, especially in Montreal, which has taken to the music of the times more strongly than anything else.

“One of the big reasons we decided on a Prohibition theme is that it’s huge in Montreal right now. There’s a swing revival happening, and electro-swing, which is a fusion genre. Within the past year it’s really taken off,” said Bundy.

“The genre is a blend between electric and swing music, and so is the party. There will be swing dancing, there will be ‘whatever’ dancing,” he said, when asked what an attendee might expect of the post-show bash.

For the costume-minded, hallmarks of style for every 1920s man, from the lower class worker to the high rolling mobster, included a clean-cut suit and hat, while women wore dresses with a boxy, boyish silhouette, red lips, pearls, and fringe.

Overall, it will be a night of sensual



drama, live music, flames, and of course, booze. Despite the forbidden theme, attendees should rest assured that the liquor will be flowing, and a good time is promised for all.

“We’re going to have a lot of fun!” says Nadeau-Jasso. “It’s going

to be sensual and fantastical. We’re going to show how unrepressed we can be.”

***Bang! Bang!* / Nov. 10 / Bain Mathieu (2915 Ontario St.) / 8:00 p.m. / \$20 advance, \$25 door**

MUSIC

1. The Songs of Nick Drake
Nov. 8
Ukrainian National Federation (5213 Hutchinson St.)
7:00 p.m.
\$35.00

2. Dan Deacon + Heights With Friends + Chester Endersby Gwazda + Alan Resnick
Nov. 10
SAT (1201 St. Laurent Blvd.)
8:00 p.m.
\$17.00 advance, \$20.00 door

3. Women in Music Montreal 2012 Fall Showcase: Bliss + Von Dalia + Mona Lissa & the Brink
Nov. 11
Les 3 Minots (3812 St. Laurent Blvd.)
7:00 p.m.
\$8.00 advance, \$10.00 door

FILM

4. Cinema Politica: *The Carbon Rush*
Nov. 8
Hall Building (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., H-110)
7:00 p.m.
PWYC

5. The Complete Woody Allen
Until Nov. 22
Cinema du Parc (3575 Parc Ave.)
\$8.50 student, \$11.50 general

THEATRE

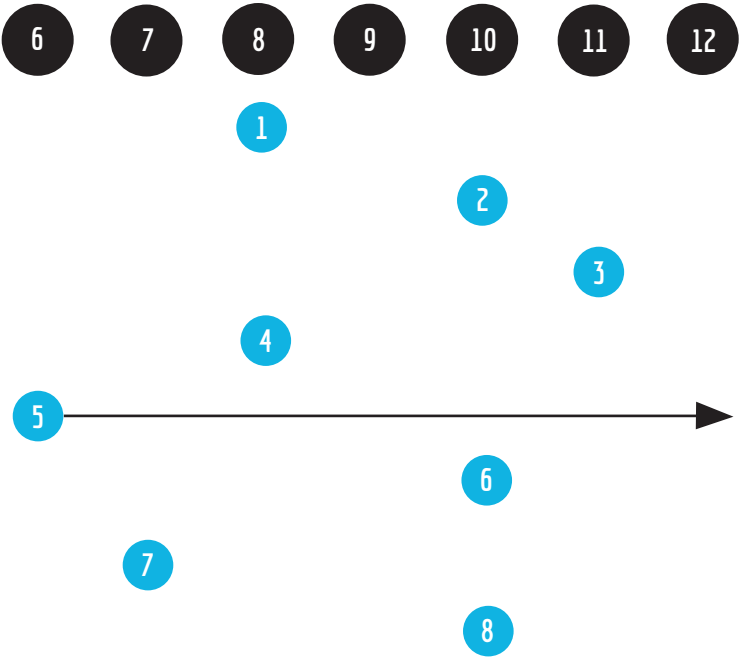
6. *Confabulation: Defiance*
Nov. 10
Mainline Theatre (3997 St. Laurent Blvd.)
8:00 p.m.
\$6.00

OTHER

7. Academic Sustainability Series: Transferable Skills Workshop
Nov. 7
John Molson School of Business (1450 Guy St., MB-2.130)
4:30 p.m.
FREE

8. Tightrope Books' Best Canadian Poetry Launch: Joshua Trotter + Gabe Foreman + David McGimpsey + Asa Boxer + Others
Nov. 10
Argo Bookshop (1915 Ste. Catherine St. W.)
7:00 p.m.
FREE

FRINGE CALENDAR NOV. 06 - NOV. 12



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• POULET TIKKA
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• YUKI RAMEN
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FRINGE GIVEAWAY

Tickets to events are expensive, and making rent is—arguably—more important than groovin' your weekend away, so we're here to help with tickets to two bangin' events.

Want Yeasayer tickets? Mention *The Link* on Facebook and tell us what your favourite *Fragrant World* song is.

Or would you be looking to snag tickets to *Bang! Bang!* cabaret instead? In that case, follow @linknewspaper for more info.



PHOTO VINCE KMERON



Reimagining, Restructuring, Rebuilding

THE EDUCATION ISSUE

Education Resources

BY ANDREW BRENNAN @BRENNAMEN

As Michel Foucault told us, knowledge is power. Education and learning are important tools for personal and societal improvement, but questions of access highlight the institutional biases against race and class that continue to pervert the system.
In this special issue, we at The Link tried hard to contextualize the concerns currently being tackled by various educational fields—from the unfair competition

in early childhood education admissions to the pitfalls facing sex education.
University has its own set of issues—believe us, we know.
But it still is the pinnacle of our learning system.
If you don't need the peripherals, the classrooms and the student space—or lack thereof—here are some resources that will really make you feel learned:

Google Course Builder

code.google.com/p/course-builder/

While developers are still working on the tech giant's next venture, Google Course Builder will allow for anyone, anywhere, to prepare and present courses on any subject. This is because Google's platform will be open-source, unlike Coursera or edX, which are affiliated with certain universities and other partners.

edX

edx.org/

An enterprise between Harvard University and MIT, edX also hosts courses from UC Berkeley and will expand to include the University of Texas.

Class Options are science- and technology-related, with advanced—but unaccredited—courses available in areas such as solid-state chemistry and computer science. The hosting universities also conduct research on student learning patterns, based on participation and feedback.

Open Culture

openculture.com/freeonlinecourses

Sorted by subject, this list of 550 courses is compiled from all over the Internet—including other resources in this guide.

All of the catalogued courses are taught by a university professor, which ensures that, even though it does not cost anything, all the information sources are still credible.

NYU Open Education Program

nyu.edu/academics/open-education.htm

New York University took some of its most popular courses and uploaded them online for anyone to see. The Open Education project is a collection of seven courses—from American literature to calculus—and is meant to share information, not be credit-bearing.

Project Gutenberg

gutenberg.org/

Named after the illustrious inventor of the printing press, Johannes Gutenberg, Project Gutenberg collects all Creative Commons and expired-copyright pieces of literature it can, with works already spanning over 50 languages, and puts them online.

Though you won't find any recent bestsellers, it is an excellent resource for English literature students and keen readers alike.

Online College Consortium for Open Educational Resources

oerconsortium.org/discipline-specific/

A collection of over 100 community colleges, the consortium has free textbooks that cover areas such as law, sociology and art history. Works are collected from member community colleges and other sources. The consortium has possibly the most exhaustive textbook resource available on this list.

The University of the People

uopeople.org/groups/tuition-free-education

The only accredited online institution on this list, the University of People is a tuition-free, not-for-profit body affiliated with the Yale Law School's Information Society Project, the Clinton Global Initiative and the United Nations Global Alliance for Information and Communication.

Degrees are only available in computer science and business administration—and there are administration and exam fees of \$50 and \$100 respectively—but it is still the world's only institution online that offers actual degrees to anyone, anywhere, tuition-free.

Learning Space, by the Open University

openlearn.open.ac.uk/

The largest university in the United Kingdom, the Open University has over 250,000 students and offers classes solely online. Over 600 are available for free in their new Learning Space project. The courses, accessible around the world, are prepared by the university's faculty.

iTunesU

apple.com/education/itunes-u/

An application focused only on education, this multimedia-teaching tool works much like Google Course Builder, but is also being used to enrich university courses already being taught in a classroom.

Faculty and amateur professors alike can build lesson plans and interactive reading guides, while users can search the marketplace for practically any subject they can think of.

Book Boon

bookboon.com/

Originally founded in Denmark in 1988 as Ventus Publishing, this online service offers free textbooks in law, the humanities, the sciences, finance and other areas. All textbooks are written expressly for Book Boon by professors and other experts in their respective fields, and are available without even having to register.

Coursera

coursera.org

Coursera is a self-described entrepreneurial company, offering material from 33 partner institutions, including the University of Toronto, Georgia Tech and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

Lesson plans include tests and assignments, though the classes have limited starting dates. Notable subjects include Principles of Obesity Economics, and How Music Works.

Textbook Revolution

textbookrevolution.org/

A contributor-based database, with books and manuals tackling subjects as fun as thoracic surgery, corporate finance and climate change, this so-called online revolution includes both free and not-so-free (but still cheap) textbooks. They also have courses available, which can be downloaded and completed without the worry of deadlines.

Reimagining, Restructuring, Rebuilding

Now that the dust has settled after the storm of student protests, the issue of accessibility has receded from the spotlight somewhat.

The debates surrounding education no longer have to centre on funding. With the summit on higher education looming in our future, it's time to talk about the bigger ideas—ideas that will eventually shape our society.

Change is coming fast, but the details of how, when and where are still foggy.

Turn to **page 4** to find out what we have to do to fill universities.

Page 8 will tell you what some of ConU's brightest minds think about our future.

And what is our president's plan to get there? Find out on **page 6**.

While it's impossible to predict the innovations to come, the traditions that have guided universities through the centuries need to hold firm while still finding ways to negotiate the changing tides in education.

—Hilary Sinclair & Julia Wolfe,
Education Issue Coordinators

Check out the McGill Daily's Education Issue at
www.mcgilldaily.com





Four Is the Magic Number

Accessible Education an Issue in Early Childhood

BY JANE GATENSBY

ILLUSTRATIONS BY GRAEME SHORTEN ADAMS

Throughout the strikes, protests and general commotion of last spring, access to education was the concern du jour among all those who donned red squares to protest tuition hikes.

The fee increase, the argument went, would mean that students of limited means would be less able to obtain a university education.

But access to education depends on more than what's in a 19-year-old's bank account. With the hikes cancelled and post-secondary students back in class, the accessibility question is now being asked about a new cohort of Quebecers—preschoolers.

The Quebec government has a history of investing in children before they start school. Since 1997, the province's daycare subsidy program ensures a certain number of spaces for children to learn and be cared for during the day, either in family daycare centres, privately run facilities, or state-run centres de la petite enfance.

Quebec's school boards also operate a small number of pre-kindergarten programs, and a handful of other early childhood initiatives like the Passepartout program—which aims to implicate parents in their children's development—try to bridge the gap.

But with funding shortages leading to a lack of spaces in these programs, some are falling through the cracks. This is especially true of those living in poverty, who experts say are also less likely to receive educational attention at home.

Still, one classic study, Michigan's 1962 Perry Preschool Project, found that children from low-income backgrounds who attended high-quality preschool at ages three and four were more likely

to do well in class, graduate high school and go on to post-secondary education than students who started school later.

With this in mind, the Conseil supérieur de l'éducation, an independent advisory body within the Quebec government, released a report in late October highlighting the need for more early childhood education in Quebec, focusing specifically on four-year-olds.

The CSE's recommendations included the creation of more spaces for four-year-olds in the centres de la petite enfance, with priority given to low-income communities. It also recommended a series of measures to improve daycare quality, as well as the allotment of extra funds to support community-based early childhood initiatives.

"We found out that for children four years of age, about two-thirds of them had access to some form of service," said Claude Lessard, president of the CSE. "We know that that's not enough."

The CSE's target is to give 90 per cent of four-year-olds in Quebec access to some form of regulated, educational childcare within five years' time.

Lessard explained that in low-income areas, many families don't utilize daycare services, attributing this to a lack of available spaces, and to the perception that "if you don't work, you don't send [your children] to a daycare centre."

To deal with this inequity, the CSE recommends that more pre-kindergartens—currently offered to less than 10 per cent of four-year-olds province-wide—be put in place in schools in low-income areas. They also want daycare to be free of charge for all four-year-olds, regardless of parental income.



A Question of Funding

In a press release, newly appointed Education Minister Marie Malavoy has said she supports the CSE's recommendations, adding that expanding the pre-kindergarten system will be a priority for her ministry.

For Josée Bouchard, president of the Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec, this is good news.

"In acting very early in the life of a child, we better the chances of success for those children," said Bouchard, who represents Quebec's francophone school boards.

"We know that children who repeat Grade One have a very high risk of not receiving their high school diploma. So [early interventions] can have a major effect on student success."

So why have so few pre-kindergartens have been put in place so far? According to Bouchard, it's a question of funding.

"After the cuts we've experienced, we would absolutely need new funds. We would have to hire more teachers, and have more space for children. [...] That would mean building onto existing schools or even creating new schools," said Bouchard.

Although the FCSQ does not keep statistics on the effects of pre-kindergarten on student

success, Bouchard pointed to the strides made by other programs for underprivileged children as reason for increased investment.

"In places where we put programs in place for these children, we see higher graduation rates, higher student success," she said.

For this reason, Bouchard thinks that low-income areas should get pre-kindergarten first, and supports the CSE's suggestion to democratize daycare for all four-year-olds.

"If the government did this, it would send a clear message to the population of Quebec that education is a real priority."



Quebec's Approach—a "Mixed Message"

Nina Howe, a research chair in Concordia's Education department, studies children's social and emotional development in childcare and classroom settings. She says that parental income is a very important factor in determining the kind of educational experiences children have access to in early childhood.

"For children growing up in poverty, there's quite a large body of work now that suggests that having enriched early

childhood experiences helps those children function better in school," said Howe.

She sees the province's commitment to early childhood as a "mixed message."

"In some ways Quebec has been a leader, in terms of providing daycare," she said. But she worries that not all children who attend daycare are receiving educational experiences of the same quality.

Her concern lies with daycare centres that, while still subsidized by the government, operate outside the state-run system. These for-profit centres "tend to hire the minimum number of trained teachers they need to do to meet provincial regulations, and that's because they're businesses," she explained.

But teacher training, in Howe's opinion, is key to quality.

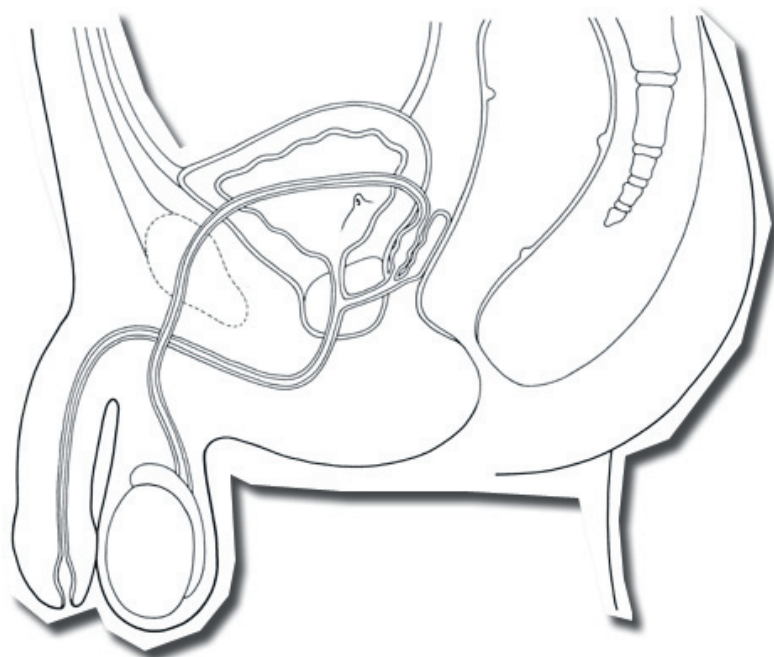
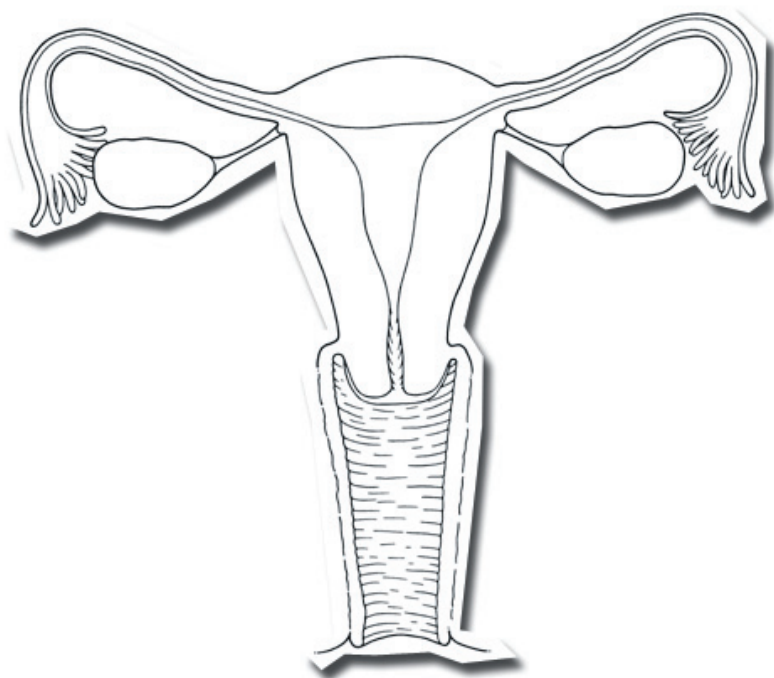
"We don't let teachers teach in the public schools without a teaching degree. Early childhood is a very vulnerable and a very important stage of development. Everyone who works with young children should also have—to my mind—high-quality training," she said.

Howe thinks that Quebec has been slow to develop programs for four-year-olds, and points to Ontario, where there is pre-kindergarten for all children of this age, as an example.

What quality early childhood education gives, she explained, is a chance for children to gain important life skills—like self-discipline, cooperation and an eagerness to learn—before they begin school.

"All of these issues are really of prime importance in the early childhood years, and they are the kinds of things that carry on into how you're going to grow up, and what individual you're going to be."

Long Division and STIs



A Look at Sex Ed Since Quebec's Education Reform

BY KATIE MCGROARTY
@KATIECMCG

Typically, proper condom use isn't discussed after a history lesson, and—in most high schools—you won't see teachers following up a math quiz with a brief discussion on sexuality.

This could be an ideal situation—sex being talked about with such ease that it wouldn't be out of place to discuss pregnancy options after having a lesson with a teacher you've known since middle school.

If that was the case, the issue at hand would be much less important. Maybe then, we wouldn't be reporting statistics like Quebec's 159 per cent increase in chlamydia cases over the past 13 years.

That's not what's happening, however.

Since the 2005 education reform put in place by Jean Charest's Liberal government, curriculum changes have pushed sexual education from something discussed in health class to something that can easily be eliminated by teachers who don't include it in their lesson plan—whether that's because they're receiving hardly any instruction on how to teach it, because they don't feel the need to or simply because there isn't the time.

"The idea is that every teacher from math to science should integrate sex ed into their classes," said Juniper

Belshaw. "What happens is that teachers are often not trained and might not feel comfortable talking about sex."

Belshaw is the fundraising and development coordinator at Head and Hands, an NDG-based not-for-profit group that aims to promote the physical and mental wellbeing of youth.

Youth Teaching Youth

Head and Hands started their Sense Project in order to prevent sex education from slipping through the cracks of the often-vague high school curriculum since the education reform.

A peer-based sex ed program geared towards informing youth to make empowering decisions about sexual health, they target 14- to 17-year-olds—not only in school, but in group homes and community centres as well.

"I think back to my sex ed growing up in BC, which sort of felt similar to [the current Quebec system], where in biology class our teacher called blowjobs something like, 'kissy-wissies,'" said Belshaw.

"Some teachers [...] feel comfortable talking about it—but the vast majority don't. So that's where we get this gap, where students aren't getting sex ed, or they're not getting comprehensive sex ed or they aren't getting sex ed at all."

It's that exact variability that makes sex educators, health

practitioners and parents nervous.

The reality is that it's entirely possible youth are receiving proper teaching on things like contraceptives, consent and sexually transmitted infections, but it's still likely that they aren't. When considering the states, it's an all too uncertain of a risk to take.

"It's a real public health issue," said Belshaw. "Some youth are growing up thinking that there's a cure for AIDS and when youth don't know how to properly use a condom, those are issues. It's really important to empower youth when they're young to make informed decisions."

Whose decision it is to make sure this happens is a sort of grey area, especially through the current system where no regulation exists to say who should teach what, or when.

"We use harm-reduction at Head and Hands, which is the idea that you meet people where they're at," said Belshaw, explaining that reducing harmful consequences related with risky behaviour is their priority, rather than trying to stop any and all behaviours that could lead to harm.

"I kind of think about sex ed in Quebec in the same way, I think that it's better if kids get some education. I think if the teacher's willing to do that then that's rad, and if it's another community organization that

does it, that's also rad," she said.

"The Liberal government was talking about bringing sex ed back in a more real way and we would love to have a say in that process if the government was to decide to make sex ed a priority again—which we think it should."

Teachers Teaching Teachers

One of the major difficulties since the reform—other than making sure teachers are, in fact, incorporating sex ed into the curriculum—has been making sure that teachers are qualified and comfortable doing so.

While external organizations, like the Sense Project, can come into schools to teach, it's easier to reach more classrooms if teachers are following what the reform called for.

Formulating a sex ed curriculum that's able to be incorporated into every class from biology to religion isn't simple. The Teachers' Toolkit, made by AIDS Community Care Montreal, helps teachers to do just that.

By having a database of comprehensive lesson plans, the toolkit offers teachers a way to educate themselves, and in turn become resources in sexual education for their students.

"It was actually quite difficult to picture what sexual health education would look like after the reform since the

change really was put on us on teachers," said Kimberly Wong, HIV educator at ACCM, the organization who started the toolkit after the reform.

"Ideally, sex ed would be taught in the classroom by individuals who specialize in the subject so that students can get accurate and up-to-date information."

Quebec has one of the highest rates of denominational schools per capita in the country, another factor that comes into play when ensuring each and every student has access to the same comprehensive sexual education, no matter what their school or background.

"It really depends on the staff and administration at each individual school," said Wong. "There are ways to integrate sex ed in the classroom of these schools and I think the lesson plans in our Ethics and Religious Culture section are great examples of how to do so."

Those lessons include chapters like first romantic and sexual relationships, myths about sexual violence, and pregnancy options, highlighting things like dispelling common myths associated with sexual practices.

"It's really difficult to know what direction sex education will take in the future," she said. "I think what's most important is providing teachers and schools the tools they need to be able to teach sex ed comfortably in the present."

At the Head of the Table

Concordia's Department Chairs on Where They Are—And How to Move Forward

BY JULIA WOLFE @JURUWOLFE

Dr. Yogendra P. Chaubey pauses as he considers the question of optimism.

“There is a feeling coming from every corner that anything is on the table,” he says slowly.

But even as the words come out, the Mathematics and Statistics department chair sounds skeptical at best.

It's hard to pretend that Concordia's last few years have been smooth. From scandalous severances to a budget yo-yoing in time with a sea of red squares, the school has been in a state of perpetual turbulence.

When it comes to calming the waters, students and unions seem consistently out of sync with the administration and the Board of Governors.

Department chairs are stuck somewhere in the middle and, in some ways, probably have a better sense of the whole.

They are attempting to recruit impressive faculty with salaries they can't afford, to market their program to students and parents and to constantly re-imagine the curriculum their departments provide.

These challenges are common—if not uniform—at universities across the country.

But Chaubey has heard that Alan Shepard, Concordia's new president, might try something previous administrators did not—he might listen.

“

What if I was next to a geography professor, next to a biology professor, next to someone from design? Suddenly, you might have a paper because casual conversation is happening.

—Marketing Department Chair, Christopher Ross

Reform

With a new president, a new Board of Governors chair, a new government and a new outlook, there's a sense that now is the time for reform.

For some chairs, that's specific to Concordia's governance overhaul.

"Previously, there were a lot of unnecessary disruptions, particularly from the Board of Governors. They didn't do the right things and they didn't handle them right," Charles Draimin, chair of the Accountancy department, said "But I think that's behind us now."

But it's also the attitude outside the school's walls that's changing.

"We're definitely in an age where everyone is questioning established disciplines," said Joanna Berzowska, chair of Design and Computation Arts.

In order to grow, she added, departments are realizing they must rely on academics with totally different backgrounds.

"Looking at any discipline from an outsider's perspective automatically helps you reform the question," she said. "So it will lead to innovation more often than not."

Grant opportunities encourage inter-departmental collaboration, but more often than not, questions of logistics get in the way.

Several chairs admitted that while they'd like to work with other departments, it's just simpler to work with someone within the same structure. The alternative requires paperwork, headaches and time that professors just don't have.

While red tape is notoriously difficult to cut, the Marketing department chair, Christopher Ross, sees a simpler solution.

Waving absentmindedly at the row of offices behind him, Ross said it might be as easy as mixing up existing space.

"This corridor is all marketing," he said. "But what if we changed that? What if I was next to a geography professor, next to a biology professor, next to someone from design? Suddenly, you might have a paper because casual conversation is happening."

Sustainability

But departmental reform can take several shapes, and doesn't always have to be drastic.

For all four faculties, climate change

is seeping into curriculum. Its effect on virtually every industry can't be ignored if the school hopes to keep up.

That means different things for each department. For Design and Computation Arts, it's approached as a theme throughout most courses. In Electrical Engineering, it means combining concepts of renewable energy with a specialization in power.

"Renewable energy is something that, over the past five or 10 years, has become incredibly important," said William Lynch, the Electrical and Computer Engineering department chair. "A lot of renewable energy involves electricity one way or another."

And while there is currently no course on environmental marketing, Ross said it's just a matter of time.

"Sustainability is becoming increasingly prevalent in the field of marketing," he said, adding that environmental marketing and sustainable packaging would be two possible components to the future of Concordia's marketing education.

Recruitment

Sitting as the chair can also mean attempting to convince faculty deans that the needs of your department are greater or more important than others. Intra-faculty funding is a zero-sum game, and there's not a lot to go around.

There's not really a better example of this than the job of recruiting and maintaining new faculty, something many chairs will be quick to tell you is their greatest need.

"I don't know if people understand that one of the major things that chairs do is recruit new faculty," Accountancy's Draimin said.

"In our department, we end up hiring one or two people every year, which I know is not typical of other universities, but we're also losing one or two people a year," he added. "So, we're sort of running just to stay up."

The chairs are constantly just looking for ways to convince potential faculty to forgo the temptation of a private income.

"The question becomes, 'How do we attract people using non-monetary draws?'" Ross said. "It's a tough sell, but we try to convince them that this is an exciting work environment, that it's an exciting place to be."

Even if they do get a budget for a new professor, there's no guarantee it will be for the area most in need.

Chaubey says that when resources are limited, he's told to determine departmental priorities and allocate more to those areas.

"You're expected to say, 'Well, mathematics isn't important, only actuarial mathematics is important, because they're getting jobs,'" he said. "How can you say that? But that's what the direction right now is."

Accreditation

This struggle to prioritize becomes even more important for departments going after accreditation.

Canadian universities are somewhat unique in the sense that accreditation is granted to individual fields rather than institutions as a whole. Organizations such as the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board evaluate the program and provide accreditation to those that meet their standards.

For universities, this doesn't just mean a jump in reputation—although that helps. It also means that students may be exempt from certain professional exams needed to work in the industry.

"Accreditation is proving to society that you're doing something right," Chaubey said. "But if some department doesn't have that accreditation, it's not clear that they are at a real disadvantage."

From some faculties, however, this reality provides the opportunity to experiment with new models of learning.

At least that's how Deborah Dysart-Gale, chair of the Centre for Engineering in Society, feels.

Still in its infant stages, the department was formed to address changes in the accreditation system. The CEAB is rolling out a new model that focuses more on social skills that complement traditional technical abilities.

So Concordia piloted the Centre for Engineering in Society department. For now, it's a complementary program. Students can't major in it, but everyone in the faculty must fulfill requirements within it.

"We want to do things that are going to help engineers be leaders and be citizens," Dysart-Gale said. "So many of the problems we're going to face in the

future are going to be technological in nature. We're going to need engineers' technological expertise to address those."

Other universities, she added, usually farm these courses out, requiring their students take certain classes in other departments such as Sociology, or English.

Concordia used to do the same thing, but according to Dysart-Gale, that just doesn't make sense. She gave the example of asking engineering students to write an essay about what they would buy if they won the lottery.

"They would just go into tears," she said. "They asked where they got the money; were there taxes involved, because that's how they think. They have a different kind of imagination, a different kind of creativity."

Dysart-Gale is hoping the department will expand in the future, perhaps even offering a certificate for students interested in applying engineering skills with an eye towards improving society. A certificate, she said, that would be within Concordia's central mandate.

"Concordia was always rooted in the community, it was to make the community better," she said. "At the heart of [the Centre for Engineering in Society], it's really about taking this knowledge and mobilizing it within the community."

She feels that this department teaches a fundamental core that doesn't need to be limited to engineering.

"Design classes should be talking about these things and the programming classes should be talking about these things. What's the greater impact? Does this help society? Is it good?" she said. "Just because we can do it, should we?"

She added that it's the kind of future dialogue she imagines Shepard will engage in. She's optimistic that he'll help push it through.

Chaubey believes in Shepard too, but says any meaningful reform requires more than a change in president. It'll require a change in the university's top-down culture.

"People at the lower level," he said, "Department chairs, departmental committees—should be given a better ear by the administrators than they get."



Design classes should be talking about these things and the programming classes should be talking about these things. What's the greater impact? Does this help society? Is it good? Just because we can do it, should we?

—Centre for Engineering in Society Chair Deborah Dysart-Gale

Restructuring the Ivory Tower

How Online Courses and Student Space Are Rearranging the Future of Universities

BY HILARY SINCLAIR @HILARYSINCLAIR

Universities stand like pillars in our society.

While governments, borders and laws remain in flux, the institutions of higher learning are slow to change.

This hesitancy to alter traditions is what has led them to remain standing as physical representations of academia, but is also preventing them from fully engaging with the innovations driving our fluid society forward.

Concordia President Alan Shepard says that this quickly moving “Twitter age” goes against the traditional sensibilities of universities.

“Over the centuries certain academic values have been transmitted; one of which is great cautiousness in the face of change, and skepticism about change, [...] but the 21st-century world is so dynamic,” said Shepard.

“I think the struggle of universities will be to keep up with the pace of change that the rest of society is engaged in. I think that’s going to be hard for our sector because I think our academic instincts are to go much more slowly and deliberately.”

And while our deeply rooted educational institutions struggle through the painful growth phase of figuring out how to adapt, the idea of what teaching is changing. Universities are now being tested as they never have been before. Shepard, however, thinks he’s up to the task.

Digital Learning

The explosion of ideas like video games as teachers and massive open online courses (or, simply, MOOCs), are changing the ways people are thinking about learning and access to learning.

MOOCs are offering free academic courses online, general based on university curriculums, taught lecture style. The model allows for unlimited enrolment across the globe.

The top players in the MOOC model—edX, Coursera and Udacity—are offering video lectures, quizzes and discussion boards that have

attracted over a million students so far.

Coursera, the biggest of the three, offers 197 courses in 18 subjects and has enrolled 1.7 million users, thanks in part to its curriculum, which comes from 33 of the biggest American universities including Princeton, Brown, Columbia and Duke.

“It’s really, really early days to figure out what’s going to happen with the massive open online courses, [...] but something’s going to happen,” said Shepard. “The model is very unstable.”

“[Online courses are] not a lesser form of learning. They’re different.”

These non-credit courses might not stay that way for long, however. Antioch University in Los Angeles will begin offering academic credit next semester for certain Coursera courses—for a fee, of course.

AULA’s website says, “Each Coursera course will be facilitated by an AULA faculty member who will also be enrolled in the course, thereby enabling both frequent interaction between students and instructor and augmentation of the course through supplemental exercises and projects focused on expanding the learning experience.”

Antioch is the first to turn outsourced MOOCs into profit and supplement the online experience with their own teachers.

Currently, students enrolled in MOOCs are encouraged to form study groups within their areas—but can this model replace the collaboration that is facilitated in the university setting?

Spaces

Collaborative and innovative spaces for learning are one advantage that physical universities still have over e-learning.

“What students are looking for today, frequently, is group space—places where you’re working on a project with a colleague,” said Shepard.

“You can only be at the Tim Horton’s so long.

You need a good table; you need good light; you need to be able to plug in your laptop.”

Universities provide that integral space that allows for not only planned group collaboration but also for the happenstance encounters that seem to drive innovation.

Ryerson University, where Shepard was provost before coming to Concordia, has just broken ground on a new 10-floor Student Learning Centre that promises to offer students the space that they crave.

“Each floor’s got its own kind of distinctive mission,” said Shepard. “‘The Beach’ is going to have very casual flopping-around space, and as you go further up in the building, it gets quieter and kind of more organized—study space.”

Shepard’s office was totally engaged with making the decisions about who and what would occupy the new centre, with a focus on the needs and wants of students.

“One of the things I’m really proud of about that building is that it’s really for students. We didn’t fill it up with space for offices. [...] As you go floor by floor, the character of the spaces available to students is different.”

The recent \$4.5 million acquisition of the fifth and sixth floors of the Faubourg Building that will be used to expand Concordia’s Webster Library is still in the infancy stages of planning; Shepard said the expansion is “kind of an interim measure.”

“There isn’t even a lead on the project yet. It’s still in the conceptual stages,” said Concordia spokesperson Chris Mota.

Many are hopeful Shepard’s careful consideration of student needs at Ryerson will translate into the same sort of influence at this urban campus.

Currently, the plan for the two floors of the Faubourg involves shifting some of the academic units that are being housed in the J.W. McConnell Building to make way for more downtown student study space—space that Shepard says he hopes will develop from a slew of student feedback.

“What I favour is a model where you ask stu-



dents what they think they want a need,” said Shepard. “When I was at Ryerson, and at [the University of] Guelph, too, when we were thinking about buying furniture for public spaces, we actually brought out some samples and we asked people to vote.”

Library expansion will not, however, solve ConU’s crunch for space, said Shepard.

“What would be awesome to do is a whole new building dedicated to student learning and student study,” said Shepard. “[But] that’s an expensive proposition.”

The acquisition of new buildings is a tricky business, one that involves working within the strict codes of the city—and that means making space for retail. Shepard says that retail outlets will be chosen in harmony with the values of the university and will also mean additional revenue coming from the leased out space.

“If you’re putting academic buildings along major arteries like de Maisonneuve Blvd. or Guy St., frequently city code now requires you to include retail at ground level,” said Shepard.

“What they don’t want is you walking along [...] and there’s this building that’s kind of like granite and stone and there’s doors going in but otherwise there’s no engagement.”

Curriculum

Universities also seem to grip their curriculums with white knuckles, making the process of adapting to new innovations that much more difficult.

Shepard emphasizes the need for constant reform to keep pace with the current generation of blogophiles.

This includes the integration of what he refers to as “blended classes”—ones that strike a balance between online and face-to-face learning. There is not one methodology that will create the perfect solution, he says, and the implementation of technology in the classroom is still not a perfect science. It may never be.

“Curriculum is like a living, breathing thing. You can’t just make a curriculum and then wait 20 years,” said Shepard. “And people don’t.”

Gesturing to a fat three-ring binder packed with papers filled with curriculum changes, he says that is a concrete sign of changes that are being made to make programs for effective for the learner.

In 2010, Ryerson made significant advancements in the idea of how academic credit is earned with the creation of its Digital Media Zone.

In the 16,500-square-foot space, entrepreneurs work to develop businesses, hook up with mentors and create networks. The DMZ model pushes students to create their own jobs instead of struggling to fit into jobs that have already been created.

Summit

Something that also has the potential to foster change is the proposed summit on higher education that newly elected Quebec

Premier Pauline Marois promised.

Quebec’s higher education system has been suffering from one of the lowest participation rates in the country, underfunding or—as many student groups like the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec argue—mismanagement of funding, and strained communication lines between the Ministry of Education and universities themselves.

Shepard says that when the length of the summit is announced, it will give a lot of clues about what can be accomplished.

“I would say that what we’re looking for from any government ministry that is our funder is a clarity around their goals, so we can understand how we can fit in with those goals,” said Shepard.

“[We’re looking for] fair play among all universities and adequate funding to provide the quality of education that Quebec needs and wants, and that our students need and want.”

While these centuries-old ideals push against the innovations of this age, Shepard has unwavering belief in the institutions of higher education.

“I have a lot of faith in universities,” said Shepard.

“We’ve survived everything: civil wars, floods, disasters, despots, corruption. [...] I think we will adapt, but there might be some discomfort as we make those adaptations.”

Funding Your International Experience



How You, Too, Can Travel Abroad Next Year—On the Cheap

BY MEGAN DOLSKI
@MEGANDOLSKI

You sustain yourself on a diet of ramen noodles and walk around your house decked out in full-on winter gear to keep your heating bill low—how the hell are you supposed to fund a flight to a different continent and sustain yourself there, while still going to school?

Impossible, right? Maybe not.

Preemptively, apologies go out to non-Quebec residents. The wave of optimism and opportunity I'm about to present—in the form of the Ministère de l'éducation, du loisir et du sport bursary—is not applicable to you.

If you do, however, fall into one of the 14 requirements outlined by MELS that qualify you as a "Quebec resident"—funding your exchange is actually a lot more feasible than you might have thought. (If you're not sure if you qualify, check online: quebecresidency.concordia.ca/guidelines.html)

The MELS bursary is essentially a province-wide gift from the ministry; a lump sum divided amongst all universities—with the amounts given determined based on the number of Quebec residents enrolled in each institution. Once the money has been divvied up between schools, it is up to each university's discretion as to how they choose to disburse and dole out the money to students who want to study abroad. Here's how they handle it:

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

It costs \$1,000 per month to go anywhere in Australia, Japan, New Zealand, the United States or Western Europe (for a maximum of eight months). It costs \$750 per month if you go to any other coun-

try, or to a different province in Canada.

There is no contest for this bursary at ConU—if you meet the requirements set out by MELS and have been approved by the school to go on exchange, this bursary is all yours.

For more info: international.concordia.ca/students/fundingopportunities/mels-bursary/

MCGILL UNIVERSITY

For students going abroad for the Winter 2013 semester, the maximum amount they can receive is \$3,000 per semester—the exact amount is determined by destination and length of stay.

Students going to Australia, Japan, New Zealand, the United States or Western Europe are eligible for up to \$1,000 per month, and students going to any other country are eligible for up to \$750 per month.

McGill offers two formats of the award—the basic mobility award and the financial aid supplement. The basic version is available to anyone eligible to go on exchange, and the supplement is extra given to students selected who demonstrate financial need.

For more info: mcgill.ca/students/international/financialsupport/mobility/value

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

Students receive about \$2,000 per semester regardless of where they go on exchange, provided the exchange is international and not within Canada.

There is no competition for this award at Bishop's—students who meet the criteria to go on exchange are automatically eligible to receive

this award.

For more info: ubishops.ca/academic-programs/international-exchange/exchange-outgoing/scholarships-and-travel-bursaries.html

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

It costs \$1,000 per month if you go anywhere in Australia, Japan, New Zealand, the United States or Western Europe (for a maximum of 8 months). It costs \$750 per month if you go to any other country or to a different province in Canada.

If you meet the criteria to go on exchange, there is only one factor that will determine whether or not you will be receiving this bursary—your grades. Your Z-score, calculated at the end of the Winter 2012 semester, compares you to other students and will determine whether or not you will receive an offer for a bursary.

For more info: international.umontreal.ca/echange/bourse-meq.html

UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL

Depending on where you choose to go on exchange, you are eligible for either \$750 or \$1,000 a month, and are capped at \$4,000 per semester—and cut off after \$8,000 for a longer period of study.

In addition to having to meet the basic criteria outlined by MELS, students at UQAM are required to have achieved a certain GPA (determined by faculty) in order to be eligible to receive this bursary. Certain faculties also ask for a letter of recommendation.

For more info: etudes.international.uqam.ca/bourses-et-soutien-financier/bourses-a-la-mobilite/admissibilite.html

CONCORDIA:

To be eligible you must;

Be a Quebec resident

Be in good standing, enrolled in a bachelor's, master's or PhD degree program at ConU

Have completed 24 credits at ConU towards your bachelor's degree program or nine credits towards your master's or PhD program

Be enrolled full-time while abroad

Exchange to a program that is outside of Quebec

Have your faculty's approval

While One Program Looks Forward, Another Is Stuck in the Past

Is Computation Arts a Model for the Future?

BY JULIA WOLFE
@JURUWOLFE

When I arrived at Concordia, I had no idea what “Computation Arts” was.

The only problem was that I was majoring in it.

Four years in, I still struggle with the answer to that seemingly simple question—but I do have a long list of technical skills, a diverse portfolio and a vision of what tomorrow’s education should look like.

CART looks at design through a computer science lens. Any common ground between machines and art is fair game.

It could be programming, electronics, 3-D modeling or web design, but most CART courses follow the same structure. Each class is four hours long and composed of 15

to 20 students.

The first two hours are academic, where the class discusses readings, the industry or theory. The second half is technical and is usually either lab or tutorial style. The professor will either walk students through how to accomplish a particular task, or students are given the time to work on in-class projects.

While CART students are expected to pay a \$45 lab fee, it’s also likely they’ll go their whole undergrad without ever having to pay for a textbook. Even in the programming classes, readings are free digital texts that save students hundreds of dollars.

It’s proof that we can wean so many other Concordia classes off expensive bound books that take up space and valuable resources. We need to embrace the digital age and

its capacity to expose students to a variety of ideas, accessible to anyone with an Internet connection.

CART students are expected to finish every course with both a solid knowledge of theory and practical application; they’ll finish web design able to build a strong site about the history of the Internet.

That kind of preparation for the working world is invaluable. While Canada’s youth employment stalls at around 15 per cent, university students are grappling with the reality that our employment prospects are grim at best.

So when a student finishes a CART course with a new technical skill, that’s one more weapon they have in the face of this recession monster.

Undergrads can even get the chance to work as research assistants

for their professors. While many departments reserve that kind of work for graduate students only, these are the kinds of jobs students need to get hired post-graduation.

But by far the most important aspect of this program is its fluid nature. It’s a new discipline that drastically evolves year to year, so the department is forced to try and keep up with that.

“We constantly have to be reinventing what we teach and how we approach it,” said Design & Computation Arts Chair Joanna Berzowska, adding that such a new field doesn’t leave a lot of room for stagnation.

“There is always a lot of energy and creativity. We always have to question ourselves, the curriculum and the courses we’re teaching,” she said. “It’s a highly creative, high-energy department.”

Why We Need To Rethink Journalism and Education

BY MEGAN DOLSKI
@MEGANDOLSKI

I’m four years in and only six credits away from getting a degree specializing in both print and broadcast journalism.

At this point, the most honest piece of advice I can give anyone is: if you want to be a journalist, don’t assume journalism school is your best option.

The traditional model of j-school has gone stale, and simply does not serve as an effective platform upon which to build the practical and technical skills required to launch a career, or do the work required of today’s journalist.

I’ve had classmates, parents and professors tell me that if I want to be successful in the future, school ought to be my priority—but I disagree. Yes, I am a student journalist—but if I ever realistically want to find work, one of those two words is clearly going to get me further than the other.

On Monday, I applied for an internship at *The Globe and Mail*. The posting

asked for a brief written blurb expressing what I could offer their publication, a resume outlining my relevant experience and an active link to three samples of work.

Nope, they didn’t care about my transcript, express any interest in my classwork, or even ask whether or not I was enrolled in a university program at all. *The Gazette’s* internship is due later this month, around the same time as the applications for the *Toronto Star* and *Canadian Press*—and none of them asked to see any of that either.

Editors and employers want to see what you’ve done—so, if the goal is to become a journalist, then the process needs to involve working while learning. As of right now, you can theoretically get through three years of Concordia’s journalism program with straight ‘A’s while having only a single piece of writing published. That’s a problem.

Student media ought to be recognized by journalism schools—if not with class credit, then through facilitating

and promoting it, rather than perpetuating the idea of “student first, journalist later.”

Isn’t it counterproductive that covering a protest is not considered a valid excuse for missing a reporting class?

This system penalizes people for practicing the exact skills that it’s theoretically attempting to teach them. It forces students to make a decision between getting the story and getting the grade—a dichotomy that needs to disappear.

We need to rethink and restructure the way the media is taught. A journalism education can’t be restricted to the realm of academia and confined within the walls of a classroom.

Yes, theory is important—absolutely. Journalists need fundamentals now as much as ever; knowing the ins and outs of media law, how to write a proper lede and follow a style guide are still necessary skills that a journalist can’t do without.

But no one needs three years of lec-

tures and quizzes to learn those things. The basic pillars of journalism can be taught in an intensive course—one that can catapult students into a practical, real-time education, rather than being the extent of the learning experience.

Journalism is an art and a trade. You can’t teach a dancer how to pirouette by explaining physics and anatomy, nor can you teach a mechanic how to fix a car without ever bringing them into a garage. So, how can anyone expect a reporter to learn how to chase and file a breaking news story while sitting in a swivel chair in some far-off lecture hall? It simply can’t be done.

An article written by Len Downie from Harvard’s Nieman Journalism Lab suggested that journalism schools should mimic teaching hospitals. We should be following the example set by programs in line with the University of Toronto’s Monk School of Global Affairs, where the focus is placed on actually *doing* journalism instead of just talking about it.





PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Stingers women's hockey suffered a tough loss to the University of Ottawa Gee-Gees on Sunday, blowing a two-goal lead in the last minutes of play. With the Stingers' momentum lost, the Gee-Gees ended the game with a one-timer by forward Fannie Desforges in overtime.

PHOTO EMILE BOUFFARD

BOXSCORES
WEEK OF OCT. 29 TO NOV. 4

SUNDAY, NOV. 4

Women's Hockey - Concordia 3, University of Ottawa 4 (OT)
Men's Rugby - Concordia 39, Bishop's University 7
Women's Basketball - Concordia 89, Laurentian University 45
Women's Rugby - Concordia 15, University of Alberta 34

SATURDAY, NOV. 3

Women's Hockey - Concordia 1, Carleton University 4
Men's Basketball - Concordia 52, University of Vermont 68
Men's Hockey - Concordia 0, University of Guelph 3
Women's Rugby - Concordia 0, St. Francis Xavier University 40

FRIDAY, NOV. 2

Men's Soccer - Concordia 2, Université de Sherbrooke 3
Women's Basketball - Concordia 58, University of Toronto 61
Men's Hockey - Concordia 2, Royal Military College 3
Women's Soccer - Concordia 1, Université de Sherbrooke 2

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31

Men's Basketball - Concordia 61, University of Ottawa 58

UPCOMING GAMES
THIS WEEK IN CONCORDIA SPORTS

7

6:00 p.m.
8:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball at UQAM Citadins
Men's Basketball at UQAM Citadins

9

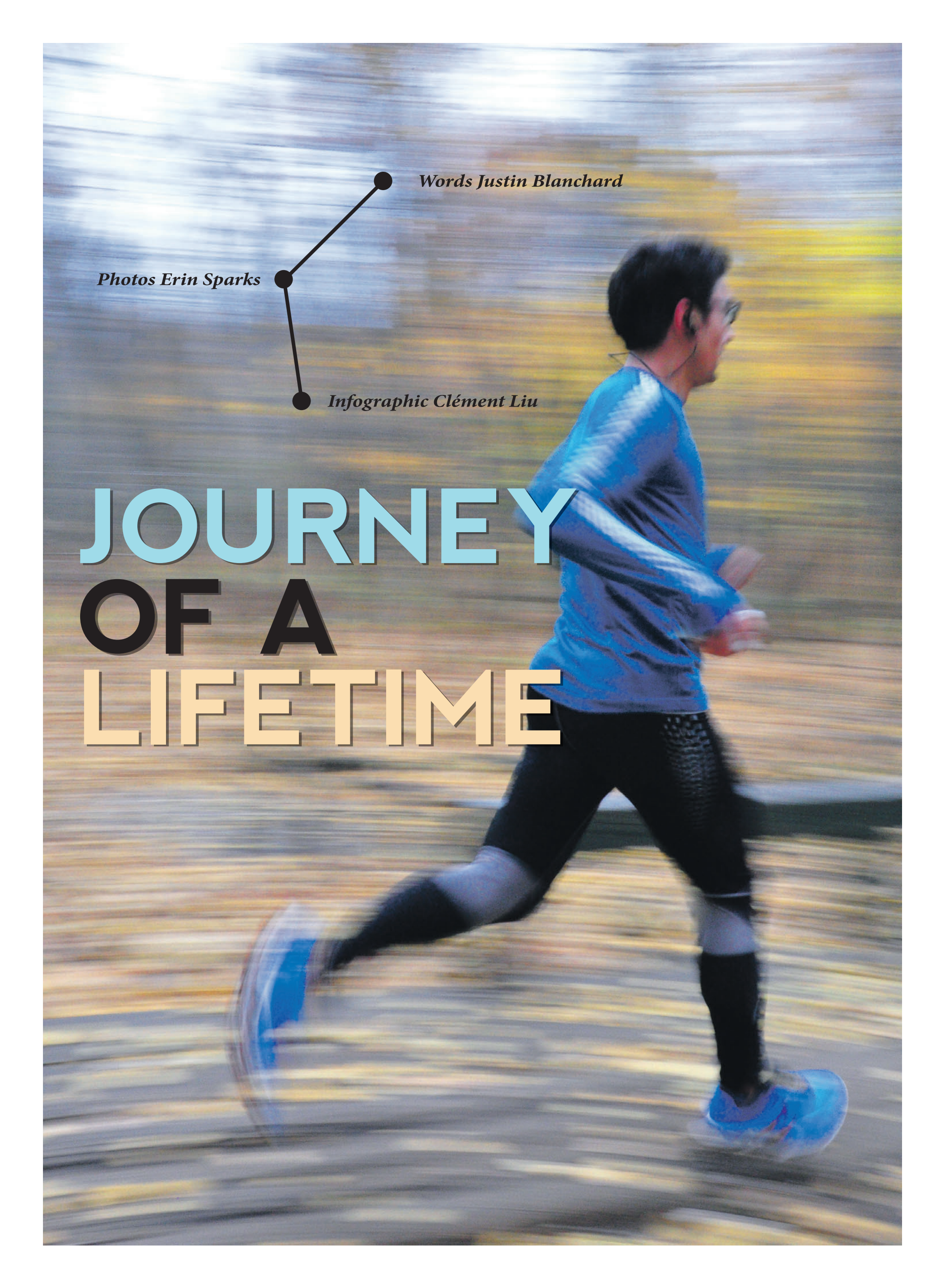
7:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

Men's Hockey at York Lions
Women's Hockey vs. Montréal Carabins

10

3:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

Women's Hockey at McGill Martlets
Men's Hockey at Laurier Golden Hawks



Words Justin Blanchard

Photos Erin Sparks

Infographic Clément Liu

JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME

CON U STUDENT PREPARES FOR MONTREAL-ARGENTINA RUN



"I want to do something extraordinary that nobody's ever done."

— Joseph Michael Kai-Tsu Liu Roqueni

THIS WEEK ALONE, ROQUENI WILL RUN BETWEEN 160 AND 200 KM. HE PLANS TO RUN OVER 4,500 KM BY APRIL.

This time next year, most of Concordia's class of 2013 will be trying to find a job.

Joseph Michael Kai-Tsu Liu Roqueni is not most Concordia students.

Upon earning his industrial engineering degree next May, Roqueni will embark on an 18-month, 18,900 km trek from Montreal to Argentina—running the whole way.

"It's something so big and so crazy that when you tell people they're just expressionless, you can tell they really don't believe it," he said. "But deep down inside I believe that this is going to happen because I'm going to make it happen."

Born in Ontario, Roqueni—the younger brother of The Expeditioners' Wang-Tsu from "Today's Explorers" [Vol. 33, Iss. 11]—moved with his family to Mexico at just seven months old, where he dabbled in a wide array of sports, including soccer, ice hockey, mountain climbing and long-distance running.

It wasn't until returning to Canada in 2003, however, that he began taking running seriously, eventually joining Concordia's cross-country team in 2007.

Roqueni has enjoyed the grueling challenge of running kilometre upon kilometre ever since.

"Any runner can tell you that when you're doing it, the thought of quitting crosses your mind every time," he said.

"You think, 'Why am I doing this?' But when you finish the race it's so satisfying, and you forget all about the pain."

Now, Roqueni feels ready for a much greater challenge—specifically, running 50 km a day, five days a week for 18 months from Montreal to Ushuaia, the city at the southern tip of Argentina.

As insurmountable such a feat may seem, Roqueni's cross-country coach John Lofranco has no doubts about his ability to complete it.

"It's the kind of thing he's very capable of doing," he said. "He's a passionate guy and is very committed to it."

If successful, Roqueni's total run of nearly 19,000 km would still fall well short of the current record of 26,000, set by Jesper Olsen is his 22-month World Run, completed in 2005.

But Olsen had the help of a baby carriage and a support car to store his equipment—Roqueni will be setting off with nothing more than a backpack carrying the bare essentials.

"I want to do something extraordinary that nobody's ever done," he said.

To turn that desire into reality, Roqueni first has to prepare his body for a relentless trek across two continents.

In terms of dieting, Roqueni said he needs "a lot of fuel, about 6,000 calories per day," a goal he'll accomplish by consuming a wide variety of foods—everything from yogurt, bagels and cereal, to rice, chicken and fish.

Along with lots of cross-country-specific core and strength exercises and stretches, you can guess what the rest of his preparation consists of.

"Just running."

Roqueni started training at the beginning of August, when he completed the first of three phases that make up his self-made program.

"Phase One was basically starting those long runs, so I started running 20 to 25 kilometres, starting with once a week, then twice a week up to three times a week," he said.

"It was just feeling, monitoring my body to get used to those brutal distances; at the beginning I was dying of heat, thirst and exhaustion, but after a couple weeks my body started to recover quite fast."

In Phase Two, which he started in September, Roqueni introduced "doubles," running 50 kilometres a day—25 in the morning and 25 in the evening—more and more frequently with every passing week.

Phase Three kicks off in January, when which he's "going to be pretty much hitting doubles every [running] day and also with my backpack, because I'm going to be running with one [on the trip]."

If everything goes according to plan, Roqueni will have run over 4,500 km from August through April.

Running so much brings with it growing concerns of injury, but Roqueni said, "That's what the training is for: to build up strength for the real deal."

That's not the only preparation needed, however—proper funding is required as well.

Roqueni estimates the whole expedition will cost about \$40,000, and to reach that mark he needs sponsorship—something that has been difficult to obtain.

"I have two sponsors so far, but again this is a project that—because it's hard to believe—it's hard for people to say, 'Okay, I'll help you out,'" he said.

But Roqueni is confident he'll get the sponsors he needs by the time he leaves Montreal, at which time he'll shift his focus from raising money for the trip to raising money from it. Not for himself, though—for others.

"When I started university, I realized that education wasn't as advanced as other fields, which were evolving so much faster," he said.

"So I wanted to invest in education. And I thought of doing this in South America, since I'm going there and since it's, generally speaking, poorer than North America," he said. "So I wanted to [...] bring the [donations received] from people supporting my cause down there so they can use that money to improve their education system."

He is currently in touch with Argentina's Ministry of Education to determine the best way to invest the donations.

Part of the funds raised will also go toward the Montreal Endurance running club, which Lofranco founded.

"He's just starting out," said Roqueni. "And I wanted to help him out to get the funding so that the athletes can just worry about running," instead of the expenses, which include buying uniforms and registration and travel fees.

A gesture Lofranco is very appreciative of. "It's helpful," he said. "As a club, resources can be pretty limited."

When he returns—whenever that is—Roqueni expects to put his university degree to good use back home in Canada. Until then, only one objective drives him: Run. Run. And run some more.

Wednesday
Evening 20 km - 25 km

Thursday
Evening 20 km - 25 km

Friday
Morning 20 km - 25 km
Evening 20 km - 25 km

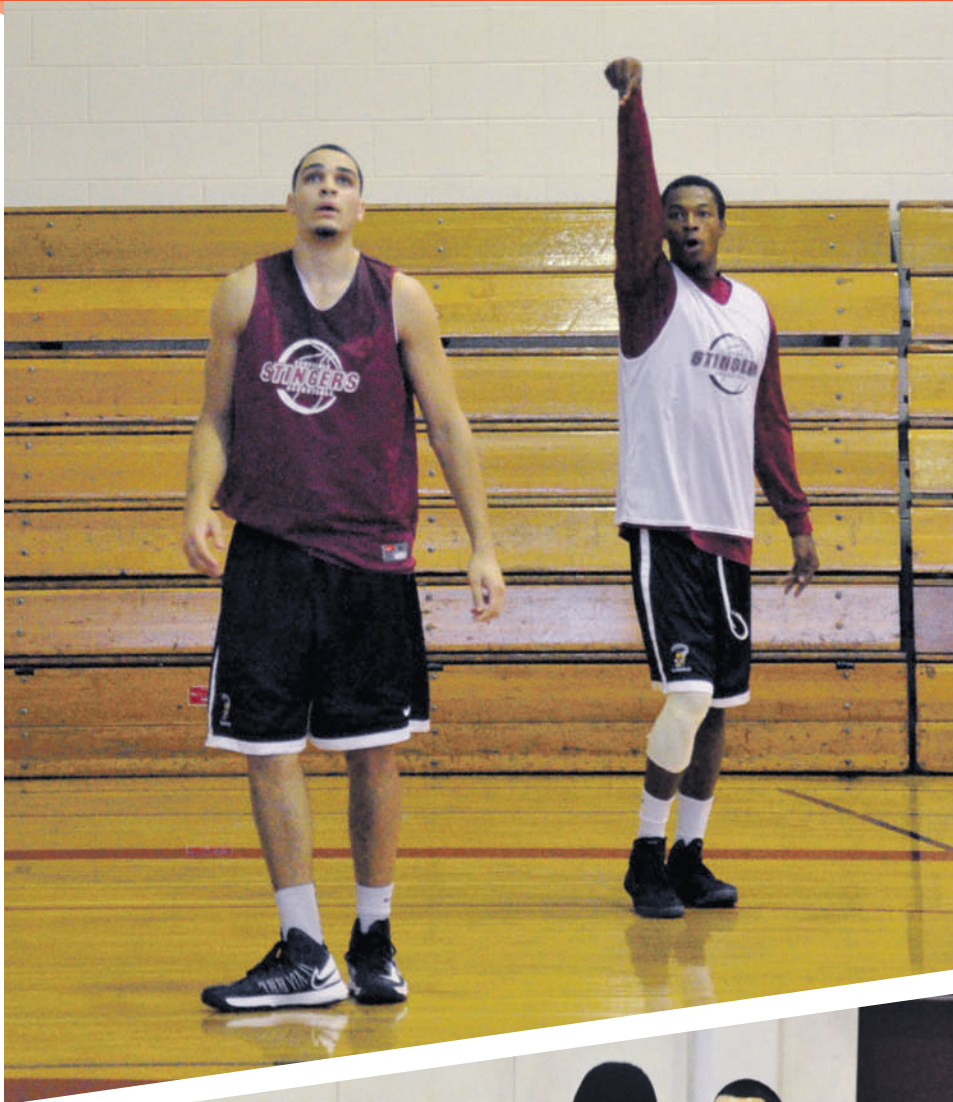
Saturday
Morning 20 km - 25 km
Evening 20 km - 25 km

Sunday
Morning 20 km - 25 km
Evening 20 km - 25 km



"Competing is everything to me. Not being able to compete this summer was one of the hardest things I've had to do."

—Evens Laroche



PHOTOS ERIN SPARKS

Evens Laroche (top right and bottom left) is looking to get back in action after being sidelined during the summer with a knee injury.

IT'S A LONG ROAD TO THE TOP

After Injury, Evens Laroche Looks to Lead Stingers Back to Nationals

by Jesse Feith @jessefeith

It's a few minutes after 8:00 a.m. and the Concordia Stingers men's basketball team is practicing routine layups on both sides of the court.

One by one, each player dribbles by Ernie Rosa, the team's associate head coach, on one side of the floor, then gathers his rebound and makes his way to the other end of the court to do a different dribble-move by assistant coach David Bloom, before finishing at the rim.

It's early, and the drill is more a way of getting blood flowing than anything else. Among the 12 players in the gym is Evens Laroche, last year's Quebec men's university conference MVP and the team's "Mr. Everything," according to head coach John Dore.

Returning from a knee injury that had him sidelined most of the summer, warming up is especially important for Laroche, now entering his fifth and final year of Canadian Interuniversity Sport eligibility.

Still sporting a compression wrap on his right calf and knee as he dribbles up and down the floor, Laroche appears to be somewhat disinterested with the drill. He's doing everything he's supposed to do, but with no real conviction. He's mostly just going through the motions.

By the time the first competitive drill starts, though—a five-on-five scrimmage—his body language is completely different.

Whether it be finding rookie Gabriel Riche on the fast-break for an open layup, or driving past his defender for two points of his own, everything he does is now tighter and more precise, devoid of the sluggishness that was showing just a few minutes earlier.

By the halfway mark of the practice, the 6'4" swingman is yelling after every made basket and calling for the ball on every offensive possession. He's finishing fast breaks with dunks instead of layups and barking at teammates up and down the floor. He's competing.

"Competing is everything to me," Laroche said later. "Not being able to compete this summer was one of the hardest things I've had to do."

It was a regular morning last June when Laroche first knew something was wrong with his knee. After returning home from one of his daily workouts, swelling and discomfort got to a point where he knew he had to do something.

"It was a different kind of pain," he says. "I've always been used to playing through pain, but this summer I couldn't."

He ended up going for an X-ray after consulting a team therapist, but the results were inconclusive. After taking a month off and returning in late August only to feel the same pain, he decided to go for an MRI, revealing

a serious case of patellar tendinitis in his right knee.

Today he says he's about 80 per cent healthy, and hopes to increase that number before Wednesday's season-opener.

The Stingers are hoping so, too. After losing last year's leading scorer Decee Krah to graduation, Concordia will also be starting the year without second leading scorer and 2010 Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec co-MVP Kyle Desmarais due to academic reasons.

Laroche will need to be even more of a leader this year as the team tries to repeat as the Quebec conference champions, and when it comes to his leadership, there's no finessing.

"I'm not afraid to yell at guys. I don't think I need to be nice," he said. "It's just my way of trying to get the best out of everyone."

During another practice last week, the Stingers were working on a full-court press defence. After his team failed to break the pressure for two consecutive possessions, a visibly frustrated Laroche instructed second-year guard Evan Gill exactly where to go.

The next time down the floor, Gill did as Laroche suggested and, sure enough, received the pass as predicted. The press was broken.

"Your spacing is way better," Laroche told him later, during a break.

Being just as hard on himself as he is on his teammates is what made the difference between Laroche being an all-star in 2010-2011 and being MVP last year.

He credits a change in habits with the difference, saying that he started showing up earlier to practices and putting more time towards honing his individual skills between team sessions. Those incremental improvements to different aspects of his game had a major impact on his overall production.

Last season, his first as an All-Canadian, he was third in scoring for the Stingers with 13.3 points-per-game. He led the team in rebounds with seven per game, was first in steals and tallied the second-most assists on the team.

"When he first came here he was just a post player. That shows you how much he's evolved," said Dore, his coach of four years now. "His versatility now allows us to play him at every position, inside and outside, however we need him."

It still remains unclear just exactly how ready Laroche will be come this week's season opener against the Université du Québec à Montréal, or how long it will take for him to get back to 100 per cent and log the same heavy minutes as he did last year.

As long as he is on the floor though, one thing is for certain: he'll be competing.

Unexpectedly Elected

A Year and a Half Later, Young MPs Are Doing Us Proud

BY MICHAEL WROBEL
@MICHAEL_WROBEL

For years, the mainstream media complained about the low rate of youth participation in elections.

And yet, when several young people participated in the 2011 Canadian federal election, they were mostly met with scorn and contempt, derided in the media and mocked on the message boards. Their crime?

They got elected Members of Parliament.

In the lead-up to the election, the New Democratic Party hadn't expected to win many seats in Quebec. In many ridings, it chose "placeholder" candidates to represent the party—candidates who were used as fillers, so that the party could say it was running candidates in every riding across the country.

Then the tables turned, and Quebecers suddenly fell in love with the NDP and its charismatic leader, Jack Layton, who was beating the odds on the campaign trail despite a recent bout with cancer and a broken hip.

On voting day, an orange wave swept the province and a whole cadre of young, rookie MPs were unexpectedly elected as part of that wave.

Originally criticized as being inexperienced by the media, in the year-and-a-half since the election, these MPs have shown themselves to be good and hard-working representatives of their ridings.

Ruth Ellen Brosseau, who was elected at the age of 27 in the riding of Berthier-Maskinongé, gained national notoriety when it was revealed she had gone to Las Vegas during the campaign, earning her the nickname "MP Vegas."

The media also revealed that she was very nearly a unilingual anglophone, which was worri-



GRAPHIC GUILLAUME CHOINIÈRE

some to many in her riding, which is 98 per cent francophone.

In fact, Brosseau said she could already speak French before the election, but admitted that her command of the language was very rusty at the time of the campaign. Since then, she has been taking French lessons, and also went on *Tout le monde en parle*, an enormously popular Radio-Canada talk show.

In an interview with CBC Radio host Bernard St-Laurent, the single mother and former campus bar manager said she has also consulted her constituents on the Conservatives' changes to Old Age Security and held information sessions about federal tax credits.

The CBC has also reported that she is trying to get the federal government to help pay for repairs to her constituents' homes. The mineral pyrite can produce cracks in foundation walls and has caused considerable damage to some homes in her riding.

The youngest MP in Canadian history, Pierre-Luc Dusseault, is also hard at work on Parliament Hill. Dusseault was a few days shy of his twentieth birthday when he was elected in the riding of Sherbrooke.

Only a year into his studies in applied politics at the Université de Sherbrooke at the time,

Dusseault—who was president of the NDP campus club at the university—had been planning to work at a golf course during the summer.

Just a few days after the election, Dusseault became a national news story when he commented on Quebec independence.

"Sovereignty will be done in Quebec," he told Toronto radio host John Oakley. "Quebecers will decide if they want to be a country."

The headline that accompanied the story in *The National Post* soon thereafter? "NDP inexperience shows in latest gaffes." Dusseault quickly clarified that he was a federalist who nevertheless respected the views of sovereigntists.

Since then, he has made a name for himself as Chair of the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics, and Alex Atamanenko, the NDP MP for British Columbia Southern Interior, also praised him.

"[Dusseault] has shown that age is no barrier to success with his confident Chairing of the Ethics committee," Atamanenko wrote in *The Castlegar Source*.

Much of McGill University's NDP campus club was also swept into power in the 2011 federal

election. Four McGill students or recent graduates became MPs, including Laurin Liu, who was elected at the age of 20 in the Rivière-des-Mille-Îles riding.

Liu, who became the youngest female MP to be elected, recently told *The Hill Times* that she would like to work to improve Parliament's gender imbalance.

"I'm in the Natural Resources Committee. Out of those 12 MPs, I'm still the only female, and you would think that in 2012 that wouldn't be the case," she said.

If the mainstream press can be thanked for anything, it's lowering people's expectations of these young MPs so much that almost anything they achieve for their constituents during their term will be seen as a major accomplishment.

Over the years, as more and more power has been centralized in the Prime Minister's office, expectations of MPs have dropped further and further.

And maybe those low expectations are justified. Take, for example, former independent MP André Arthur, who was first elected in the riding of Portneuf-Jacques-Cartier in 2006 at the ripe age of 62.

While collecting a \$150,000 salary as an MP, he continued to moonlight as a tour bus driver

and a radio show host. Perhaps his biggest claim to fame was an on-air tirade against Haitian and Arab cab drivers that sparked a class-action defamation suit.

Although the Supreme Court ruled that his remarks were legal, it also called them "racist and contemptuous."

Quite frankly, I'd rather have an articulate, compassionate and energetic 20-year-old as my MP than somebody like that.

All too often, young people seem to think that positive social change can't be brought about through electoral politics. Many youth movements, from environmental groups to student associations, seem to have renounced electoral politics altogether as a way to bring about change.

That's rather disappointing, because there is no better place to change the country and the world than from the seat of power itself. These young MPs are actually influencing the legislative process, not only by showing up to vote on bills, but also by actively participating in various parliamentary committees.

It's incredibly encouraging to see that young people can be just as effective representatives in Parliament as 50- to 60-year-old career politicians who are largely out of touch with the needs of Canada's youth.

Today, young people are grappling with high youth unemployment, mounting student debt and unaffordable housing prices that are making it harder and harder to climb the social ladder.

To address the needs of a diverse population, there should be MPs of every age in Parliament. In particular, younger MPs have proven that they can bring a fresh perspective to the federal political scene. If their record so far is anything to go on, let's hope that 2015 sees the election of more young MPs.

ART GETS THE AXE

Canadian Conference of the Arts Shuts Down After Losing Funding

BY KATIE MCGROARTY & VIVIEN LEUNG @KATIECMCG @VIVIEN_LEUNG



Stock up on paintbrushes, artists—the way things are going in this country, art supplies might be hard to come by before long.

The Canadian Conference of the Arts, a forum where policies relating to the Canadian Arts, Heritage and Cultural sector are discussed and debated in order to shape the country's cultural landscape, has just been served a serious blow by the Conservative government.

Until last April, the CCA had received 70 per cent of its operating budget courtesy of the Arts, Culture, and Diversity Program—but on Tuesday, the CCA officially threw in the towel, after the program was terminated by Prime Minister Stephen Harper's administration in the name of balancing the budget by 2015.

After 47 years of relying on federal funding, the con-

ference was suddenly tasked with the challenge of becoming financially autonomous. The CCA had no choice to come up with an entirely new business plan—or be forced to shut its doors.

In April of 2012 the CCA, had received \$195,000 of the \$780,000 it asked for from Canadian Heritage, a major Canadian cultural institution.

The conference may have been able to raise money, but it couldn't race time. The blow meant that the CCA would only have six months to completely switch its model—but it needed two years.

The idea of jeopardizing all of the funds it had collected from public and private supporters would be risky, if not downright irresponsible, so on Nov. 2, the CCA announced it would start shutting down—at least for now.



When the Canadian Conference of the Arts was founded in 1945, its founders were making groundbreaking steps towards solidifying the status of artists in Canadian society.

But while society has evolved in the past 67 years, through the arts and otherwise, the CCA has failed to keep up.

In its current state, it would be difficult to justify its continued existence. It's become a lumbering institution having difficulty adequately responding to the modern needs of the community it claims to serve.

Most young artists don't know about the CCA, and if they do, they most likely don't have a strong enough opinion about its existence to care about its closure.

It seems that with the CCA advocating

artists to the federal government, it has increasingly moved towards constricting, slow-moving bureaucracy and staid methods of politics, while inching further away from the world inhabited by culture producers.

The way in which the CCA tries to fulfill its mandate—improving the recognition of artists in Canadian government—is anything but transparent and accessible. Their focus is organizing conferences and committees that are directed mostly at a group of aged art institutions that probably know enough to figure things out for themselves.

On the CCA's website, reports and studies done on relevant, interesting topics like "Provincial Policies & Investments," "Digital Economy" and "Status of

the Artist" are cloaked in unapproachable, stuffy prose.

They are not geared towards the next generation of culture producers who are trying new things, struggling to innovate ways to make arts matter on a national level.

The press coverage following the CCA's closing has made no case for why they should continue to exist. We are supposed to support their continued existence based only on the fact that they are big and old. If they want continued public funding, they must evolve to match the current, and future cultural climate.

In our shrinking economy, redundant mandates are not viable—especially not in a sector like the arts, where public support is as contentious as it is. Many citizens have trouble seeing the return on the millions of tax dollars poured into the cultural industry, because that return is often immaterial.

Since 60 per cent of the CCA's funding has come from public coffers for the past 34 years, it needs to justify that expenditure to the Canadian public. Cultural institutions play an important role in creating and advancing our national identity, but the CCA is in the hands of a well-off few, making the cultural position it holds questionable.

As such, those behind the conference needed to be working that much harder to make their case heard. The fact that they didn't provide arguments for their continued existence reveals a lack of self-awareness. They seem detached from the greater public, whose opinion could make or

break their funding.

The role they fill is essential and it's something we should be sad to see go. Younger artists are often unaware of how to interact with governmental bureaucracy and need information on how to navigate the world of grants.

However, we need to ask ourselves whether those efforts are worth anything if the artist community isn't aware of the institutions there to help them.

According to Alain Pineau, national director of the CCA, the organization is not disappearing—it is simply lying dormant, hoping to be revived. Maybe the people running it can take this time to regroup and rework a modernized version of their mandate.

They need to put an emphasis on communicating, with a better-built website and more accessible content and conduct outreach, so we know what we stand to lose.

Perhaps then we could muster up a reaction beyond confusion, apathy and an ambiguous sense that the culture industry in Canada is under threat. If you're trying to advocate for artists, maybe let them know what you're doing while learning about their evolving needs.

Rather than a top-down model telling artists what they need, it's more productive to rebuild the institution from the ground up.

What's happening at the national level should be influenced by what is happening at a local level—not the other way around.

Maybe this crash-and-burn is a blessing in disguise.



"Let us hope that this is just a temporary hiatus and that a new revitalized CCA will spring up from the seed we leave behind."

—CCA Board Chair Kathleen Sharpe



GRAPHIC FREDERIC N. MARSCHALL

ARTS IN CANADA STATS

- 1** In 2008-09, governments spent \$9.3 billion on culture. That's a 16 per cent increase from 2003-04 (after inflation).
- 2** As of May 2006, there were 140,000 artists in Canada who spent more time at their art than at any other occupation.
- 3** The number of artists represents 0.8 per cent of the overall Canadian labour force. The number of artists is slightly larger than the number of Canadians directly employed in the automotive industry (135,000).
- 4** Among 12 major Canadian metropolitan areas, Calgary and Saskatoon have the highest per capita consumer spending on cultural goods and services.
- 5** The percentage of artists with a bachelor's degree or higher (39 per cent) is nearly double the rate in the overall labour force (21 per cent).
- 6** Compared with other incorporated non-profit organizations, arts and culture organizations received much lower government funding and earned much higher revenues.



"This was not the way I was hoping to end my time with the CCA. [...] I can only hope that someone else will pick up the challenge. The Canadian cultural sector needs and deserves a CCA if it is to be effective and thrive."

—CCA National Director Alain Pineau

LIFE ACCORDING TO WOMEN'S MAGS

Where the Expression “Women Are Crazy” Comes From

BY ELYSHA DEL GIUSTO-ENOS
@ELYSHAENOS

I don't remember when it happened, but I've lost touch with what girls are supposed to be.

I use to take it for granted that I knew. I spent years subscribed to *YM* and *Seventeen* magazines, following their girl advice religiously.

When yellow lipstick was in, I spent a season looking like I had contracted adult-onset jaundice—and I couldn't have felt more glamorous. Short jackets are a winter must-have? Goodbye \$200, hello desperately pulling this thing down every time I move.

As I got older, I fell off the wagon. I stopped caring what was “in” and I stopped feeling bad because everything I did was somehow wrong. Whoops.

But recently, I moved in with three Girls—with a capital G—who still read fine girl publications. So I've become aware of what I was missing.

The girl world has progressed into the future, with research and studies trumping random advice-givers. Obscure studies are now the cornerstone of groundbreaking advancements in the sphere of girlology.

Perusing the pages of magazines like *Cosmopolitan*, *Elle* and *Shape* is really helpful. I can finally play catch-up.

First, the sight of salad is always hilarious and uplifting. Every time a woman is pictured with salad, she can't contain herself and a burst of joy appears all over her face.

Also, if you're microwaving some low-sodium, low-fat soup, don't think that having a non-meal is enough girl-effort. According to *Cosmo*, you're missing a perfect opportunity to do squats (as stated in the article “Easy Ways to Burn Calories”).

Another idea from the same article? Tap your toes. Do it 25 times while you're at your desk, then switch to the other foot to wipe

out a whopping 12 calories.

Tapping is good, but freezing is better. Feeling comfortable? Lower that dial, recommends *Shape* magazine in “22 Ways to Improve Your Life in 2 Minutes or Less.” Being cold constantly does sound like a good way to improve my room-temperature life. Girl Note: being uncomfortable = improvement.

“When you expose your body to cooler temperatures, it responds by generating more body heat, which raises metabolism,” said their weight-loss expert Scott Isaacs.

And that advice fits perfectly with the next tip—jump around.

“Do at least 15 seconds of jumping jacks for a natural energy boost that won't lead to jitters or a crash,” the article states.

But if spontaneously bursting out into jumping jacks doesn't suit your lifestyle, *Cosmo* to the rescue! Even powerful career women can get in on their advice.

“While it's awesome that so many of us are moving up the corporate ladder, it turns out that all that time sitting at our desks is bad,” states the *Cosmo* article “Women Need More Activity.”

“Just get off your butt and take a quick lap every now and again. Who knows? Maybe you'll spot a new cute guy on the floor while you're at it.”

Finally, an incentive.

And if that cute guy brushes you off because you're the crazy person doing laps around the office? Oprah's *O* magazine has an answer to that too: Doodle. Doodle the pain away.

O uses a Boston College study to advocate doodling “things like flowers and the sun” when you're down. Because, according to the study, it boosts mood. Thank you for sharing, *O*. I haven't doodled in so long I forgot how healthy it was. This study was of adults, not preschoolers, right?

But being happy can be a bad thing, too. At least, if your boyfriend is happy, it's a bad thing. It means he's cheating.



◆ GRAPHIC GUILLAUME CHOINIÈRE

“If your guy is suddenly going around all happy and whistling, then you need to find out why,” stated Mira Kirshenbaum, author of *When Good People Have Affairs: Inside the Hearts and Minds of People in Two Relationships*, in the *Cosmo* article “How to Tell if a Guy is Cheating.”

So here's my game plan for tomorrow:

Wake up and make a fruit salad. Laugh uncontrollably. Do jumping jacks. Leave home without a jacket to maximize my metabolism. Go to school and tap feet under my desk all morning.

If people give me weird looks, pull out the crayons and doodle flowers growing under a big, pretty sun. Go to the microwave and heat up a low-fat lunch. Do squats. Say “Hi”

to the communications students in the CJ Building who don't know who the hell I am, mid-squat. “Hi guys!”

Notice a friend's boyfriend seems happy. Warn the friend that it's game over. Go to the office. Insist that all the windows be open so I can maximize the coldness. After two hours of sitting, jog around the sixth floor of the Hall Building. Stop jogging only to hit on random men.

This sounds great. I can't wait to rejoin the mainstream. Although maybe all this good advice should come with a warning label on the cover of the mag dishing it out.

If it doesn't, maybe I should wear one. It'll say, “Girl for a Day,” and there'll be the doodle of a sun.

Heard in the Hall: What steps do you think Concordia could take to improve your education?

BY SANAZ HASSANPOUR



“Well, Concordia has a shuttle bus that goes from one campus to the next. I was thinking maybe the school could incorporate another bus program that reaches out to the outlying communities where students come from to cut some of the transit and travel time.”

—Jonathan Cordeau,
BA English Literature



“I personally believe that there are a lot of things out there already. So, it's really up to us to be aware of what there is. For example, in the library a few weeks ago, there was an orientation thing in the sociology program.”

—Christina Reino,
BA Sociology



“More classes! We rarely have classes on master's subjects. Whatever we take, we have only theoretical knowledge. As we are master's students, they don't expect much of technical knowledge or programming language. So, I would like to have more labs to improve my programming skills in particular where a student is interested.”

—Niketh Jain Kala,
MEng Software Engineering



“I think within studio arts, the separation of the studios is a little bit difficult. I'll have classes where I'd want to work in the studio right after my class, but in ARTX classes—which are classes where you could work with different materials—we don't actually have a studio where you could go right after class.

So, having a studio for ARTX classes is, I think, something that [Concordia] should invest in.”

—Jay Bossé,
BFA Art History & Studio Art



“For now, because this is my first semester, I think Concordia is great. They have taken really good steps before the semester begins. So, I think that there's not much that they can change. I think I'm really happy with what I'm doing now and how I've been helped through this semester.”

—Judith Dubuc-Jolicoeur,
BA Languages

MO MONEY, MO KNOWLEDGE

SEX & PANCAKES



November has arrived and men everywhere are ditching their razors and showing off their hairy upper lips for men's health issues.

Wait a minute. Did you realize all that facial hair was for men's health issues? I actually didn't, at first.

In the past I've been a bit of a critic of the Movember campaign. Not because I'm heartless or don't think prostate cancer is a real issue, but because campaigns like Movember run the risk of missing the point.

It's fun to play around with real and fake silly moustaches, but the real point is to get people talking,

to raise awareness and to save lives.

Movember, like many awareness campaigns, often falls prey to the slacktivist mentality. Slacktivism is what you get when people slack at activism. It usually involves taking a cause and doing the bare minimum to appear engaged and feel good about yourself without taking any real action to move the cause forward.

I'm sorry to tell you this, but if all you do for Movember is grow a moustache and feel good about yourself then you, sir, are a slacktivist.

It's great when an awareness campaign is fun, cute and even sexy—but that should just be how the cause first gets people's attention.

The next step needs to be concrete and information-based, because a sexy campaign doesn't mean anything unless it gets people to do something. This Movember, don't just participate by wearing a moustache at a party—

do something real.

If you're growing out your 'stache, you can create a profile online at ca.movember.com to collect and donate money to prostate cancer and male mental health initiatives. This gives you a place to send people for information on the cause and the organizations actually collecting funds.

While you're at it, learn the facts for yourself. That way, when someone comments on your fancy moustache, you have some knowledge to throw their way. This should get you started:

The prostate is a walnut-sized gland found under the bladder and in front of a male's rectum. One in seven men in Canada will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lives and just this year there were 26,500 new cases. Four thousand of those men won't survive.

Prostate cancer has a 95 per cent survival rate when detected early, but statistically, most men don't get regular checkups, so many of them aren't detecting it

early enough. This is where real awareness can help.

Canadian guidelines recommend that men start annual prostate screenings with their family doctors between the ages of 40 and 50. You may be too young to get yourself checked out, but you're never too young to pass that info along to friends and family.

If you're throwing a Movember party, remember that a party where no one really talks about why they're all sporting moustaches doesn't really help. If you're going to make Movember a party theme, at least have enough respect for those actually affected by these issues and do something real for the cause.

Find creative ways to raise funds and spread knowledge. Maybe you can display prostate cancer facts on posters or have a "donate what you can" box. It might sound a little cheesy, but it doesn't need to be.

There's nothing wrong with Movember, but right now there

seems to be more awareness of moustaches rather than for the campaign and what it supports.

It's up to the people participating to make it more meaningful. And that doesn't necessarily mean giving money—sometimes information is more valuable than cash. So, if you plan on getting involved this year, do your part to make it count.

Happy Movember!

—Melissa Fuller,
@mel_full

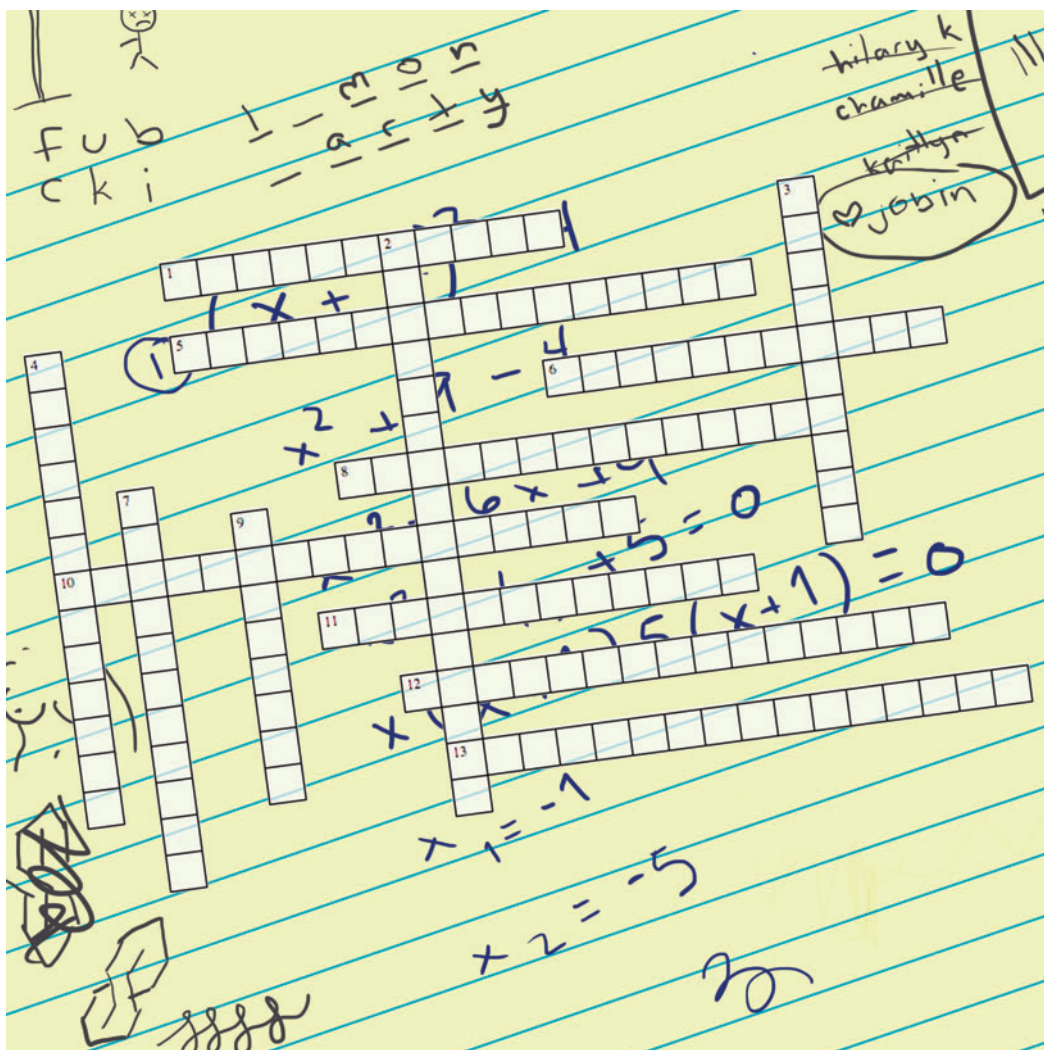
Submit questions anonymously at sex-pancakes.tumblr.com and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook.

Need some extra help? Contact Concordia Counselling & Development at 514-848-2424 ext. 3545 for SGW and ext. 3555 for Loyola.

Got a quick health question? Call info-santé at 8-1-1 from any Montreal number.

2 COOL 4 SCHOOL

BY CHRISTOPHER TAN @CHRISVTAN



Visit our comics blog for the answers <http://thelinknewspaper.ca/blogs/comics>

ACROSS

1. To emphasize the sense of a generation gap, this film only uses first names for the young characters—such as Dustin Hoffman's Ben—while only using surnames for the adults—like Anne Bancroft's Mrs. Robinson. (2 words)

5. Even though Melvin B. Tolson was able to lead young black students to defeat the reigning debate champions, they were not able to call themselves the winners, as the debate society didn't admit black students until World War II. Their struggle was portrayed on the silver screen in this film. (3 words)

6. The iconic toga party from this film led to the rise of the theme throughout colleges everywhere in the decades to come as they were all but unheard of before this. (2 words)

8. In this film, Hilary Swank plays Erin Gruwell, a Los Angeles teacher who used her unorthodox teaching methods to open her students' minds regarding racism during the 1992 L.A. race riots. (2 words)

10. Arguably the best high school movie of all time, this film, whose title is kind of a misnomer, was shot entirely in sequence. Smoke up, Johnny! (3 words)

11. Although it's well known that Jack Black is a talented musician, the student musicians in this film also play all of their own instruments. They're not quite as funny as he is, though, if we're being honest. (3 words)

12. Arnold Schwarzenegger plays Detective John Kimble in this 1990 film. He's a cop, you idiot! (2 words)

13. This film had a worldwide box office return of \$224,920,315. That's 224,920,315 times Mark Zuckerberg's 2013 salary. Don't worry; he gets another \$10 billion from his stock shares. (3 words)

DOWN

2. In order to capture the relationship between student and teacher growing stronger, the director of this film shot it in chronological order. Like 10-Across, it was also spoofed in the first season of *Community*. (3 words)

3. Alice Cooper was inspired to write this classic teen anti-authority song when he was asked to answer the question "What's the greatest three minutes of your life?" Evidently, his rock career was less thrilling. (2 words)

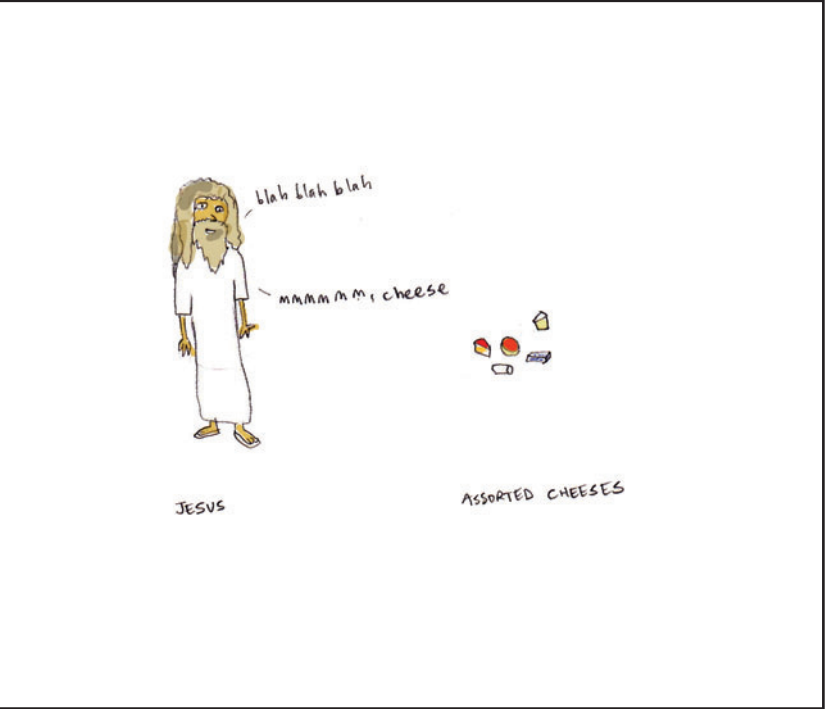
4. Due to the sexual nature of this single from Van Halen's album *1984*, whose music video features a sexy, stripping teacher, the Parents Music Resource Centre called for it to be banned from being played on TV or the radio. It's really only about David Lee Roth's existential despair, though. (3 words)

7. This 2009 British film was nominated for 3 Academy Awards. It's based on the memoir of journalist Lynn Barber that shares its name, and stars Carey Mulligan's super-short haircut. (2 words)

9. This homegrown teen drama series originally ran in the late '80s, totaling five seasons between junior and senior high. Its revival in the 2000s with the "next generation" led to 12 seasons. Sheesh, just graduate already.

BARTON FLATS

COMIC JONATHAN WOODS



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LINKOGRAPHY

HALO 4 VS. CALL OF DUTY: BLACK OPS 2



GRAPHIC CLÉMENT LIU

False Knees

COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



NAH'MSAYIN?

He Was a Sk8er Boi, She Said, "See Ya Laer, Boi"

Every time a skateboard is used as a mode of transportation—instead of say, a prop in a 1992 throwback costume—a tiny part of me dies. But whenever a skateboard is used on a *bike* path, a good ol' fashioned shit-kicking is in order—or at least, a well-placed puddle to knock you off your tiny deck of entitlement. That's right, I'm talking to you, Skatey McGrinderson. Do you not understand anything? You're not Brittany Murphy's stoner love interest in *Clueless*, and I promise you no one is looking at you swerving through hordes of angry bikers thinking, "Wowee! That's one innovative dude/gal! This lane may be reserved to make bike commuting less dangerous and more effective in the city, but golly gee they're sure giving the ol' middle finger to conformity!" Now, I'm not suggesting you take your silly wheelie-toy onto the sidewalk to endanger the well

being of pedestrians, but what I am saying is—don't be dumb. The word "bike" is in the name of the path, for Christ's sake. There are even little pictures of bicycles painted on the path to help you remember its intended use. So get off the path and go back to that sweet skatepark you and your buds chilled at in Grade 10 and try to gain some rad skills so you can be like Tony Hawk, or something. See how dated that reference was? That's because I literally could not think of any skateboarder who has risen to cultural relevancy since 2003. Let's keep it that way. (This logic also applies to rollerbladers on bike paths, but my anger is more subdued when it comes to those folk because, well, watching people who take rollerblading seriously is hilarious.)

— Katie McGroarty
Fringe Arts Editor



GRAPHIC JOSHUA BARKMAN

Editorial



STANDING SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

Strike.

It's a six-letter word every Montreal undergrad has become familiar with, whether it sparks memories of the social tidal wave that flooded our streets for months, or members of the McGill University Non-Academic Certified Association marching outside their employers' stone gates.

The city's recent past considered, there's a valid reason to feel wary when talks of "strike" arise—considering you were probably looking forward to a break from all the excitement.

But Sunday, 95 per cent of the Concordia University Part-Time Faculty Association voted in favour of an unlimited strike mandate.

Before you seek cover, wishing everything "went back to normal," let's clear up a few things.

Limbo is the normal for CUPFA. The last collective agreement took seven years to reach, and now that it has expired, CUPFA is worried about yet another uncertain future.

CUPFA is not currently on strike, but

that option is now on the table. And with negotiation conditions seeing no improvement, this can be seen as a pressure tactic going into the next round of negotiations on Nov. 29.

It may be a last resort, but—like the student conflict—a strike looms because history proves it works.

Its strength lies in how extreme it is; nobody wants the grief caused by grinding operations to a halt. But if there is enough support and momentum, as we saw last spring, then the tactic can be popularly understood and its efforts can effect true systemic change.

But unlike the student general strike, there's no room to devalue the right to strike with semantic nitpicking and a belittling name change. These are people's jobs we're talking about, and with an overwhelming majority of CUPFA members in favour of this symbolic motion, there's ample reason to take them seriously.

When Jean Charest's Liberal Party came out with their "deal" for students in May, CUPFA called the government out.

The deal, they said, did little more than put the onus on universities to cut administrative services with no clear directive as to how; essentially telling universities that if low tuition was so important to them, then they should be trimming the fat themselves.

CUPFA stood by students with reasoning and facts. We plan on doing the same.

In this ironic world where technological progress can move our lives forward by leaps and bounds, workers' rights—or anything else that gets in the way of the bottom line—can still be set back a century by penny-pinching corporate interests.

At the end of the day, employers are playing a dangerous game of chicken with their own interests, though. Collective agreement means mutual respect, and the fact that many workers are living their day-to-day with no promise of a stable future is plainly showing a lack of respect.

When CUPFA began rotating strikes in 2009, a collective agreement was met. But failure to come through on what was agreed upon has necessitated new negoti-

ations—negotiations that CUPFA members feel are moving further in the wrong direction.

Our part-time faculty doesn't want to go another seven years with a future in limbo, and no one can blame them for that.

What's clear is that our duly elected student representatives need to make our solidarity with the part-time faculty members a priority—and they need to get the word out about it.

Our student union has a long history of taking political stances, and this one seems like a bit of a no-brainer. We'd be hard-pressed to find another group on campus with a vision for our university that so closely resembles our own.

Just like CUPFA, we prioritize both accessibility and equity. After all, if that can't be achieved here, then what hope do we have for such values once we leave this hallowed Hall Building?

If this clash leads Concordia back to the picket lines once again, then we all need to seriously consider the implications of crossing them.

◆ GRAPHIC PAKU DAOUST-CLOUTIER

THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

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Contributors: Brendan Adams, Graeme Shorten Adams, Joshua Barkman, Justin Blanchard, Yacine Bouhali, Guillaume Choimière, Jesse Feith, Melissa Fuller, Flora Hammond, David Kaufmann, Julia Jones, Amanda Laprade, Brian Lapuz, Oliver Leon, Vivien Leung, Frederic N. Marshall, Alexandra Petrosan, Michelle Pucci, Jacob Roberts, Audrey-Anne Ross, Danielle Rudnicka-Lavoie, Christopher Tan, Geoffrey Vendeville, Riley Wignall, Jonathan Woods.

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Concordia University
Hall Building, Room H-649
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8
editor: 514-848-2424 x. 7405
arts: 514-848-2424 x. 5813
news: 514-848-2424 x. 8682
fax: 514-848-4540
business: 514-848-7406
advertising: 514-848-7406

MASTHEAD

editor-in-chief	JULIA WOLFE
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