

McGill News

alumni magazine winter 2008/09

PLUS

Jennifer Stoddart
works to keep
our secrets safe

Behind the history
of everyday lives

L'avenir des
prévisions
météorologiques

HSSL
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M2
M3
v. 89
no. 3



LIVING LONG AND PROSPERING

William Shatner, BCom'52, reflects
on his one-of-a-kind career

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05

On the Road with Feist

One, two, three, four: This grad gave Feist fans lots more. Meet Clea Minaker, BA'02, the visual artist behind (literally) the acclaimed indie rock performer.

BY DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89



12

The Comeback Kid

He's been Captain Kirk, Denny Crane, the Transformed Man, T.J. Hooker and the Priceline Negotiator. Before all that, though, William Shatner, BCom'52, was McGill's "Mr. Theatre."

BY DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89

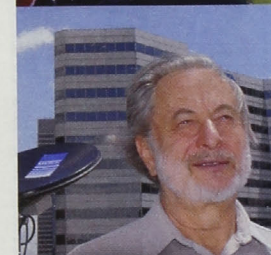


18

The People's Historian

Professor Andrea Tone's social history of contraceptives made her a media darling. Her new book tackles an equally controversial topic: tranquilizers.

BY LISA FITTERMAN, BA'81



22

Les yeux tournés vers le ciel

De l'Observatoire radar météorologique J. S. Marshall de l'Université McGill : on nous annonce les prévisions de demain.

PAR MARK REYNOLDS

TRADUCTION D'ISABELLE CHEVAL

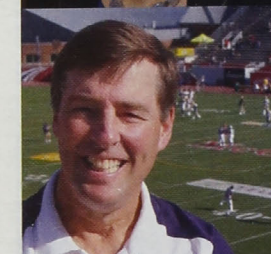


26

She's No Gossip Girl

Canada's Privacy Commissioner won't disclose her age — or yours. Jennifer Stoddart, BCL'80, talks about the challenges, and importance, of maintaining personal privacy in the digital age.

BY SHELDON GORDON

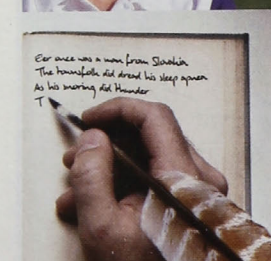


39

Grace Under Fire

He helped the Montreal Alouettes win a Grey Cup and raced to the side of a wounded student during the 2006 shootings at Dawson College. Now Tony Proudfoot, MA'90, faces his toughest challenge yet.

BY JOEL YANOFSKY, BA'77, MA'81



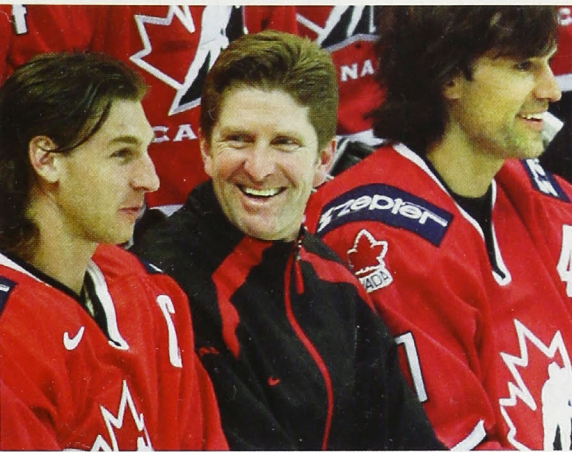
56

Inside Bordeaux

A poet-novelist goes behind bars to teach creative writing, and learns a few things about freedom.

BY ANDREW STEINMETZ, BA'89

- 02 Letters
- 03 Editor's Notebook
- 04 From the Desk of the Principal
- 05 Newsbites
- 09 Insights
- 30 Reviews
- 32 Campaign Update
- 34 Alumni Activities
- 37 Coming Events
- 39 Alumni Profiles
- 41 Alumnotes
- 54 In Memoriam
- 56 Epilogue



CHUCK STOODY / CP PHOTO

KUDOS FOR BABCOCK

I read with interest the article in the most recent *McGill News* on Mike Babcock ("Nobody Does It Better," Fall 2008). It was an insightful article about a remarkable man. Interestingly, my own daughter, Sarah Lomas, BE'd '03, MSc'04, retired as the captain of the McGill Martlets in 2003, just a few years after Mike was playing at the McConnell Arena. Great traditions. My congratulations to the magazine and to Neale McDevitt on a wonderful piece.

RANDA A. LOMAS
Brampton, Ontario

A TUMBLE TO REMEMBER

I just read the story by Bruce Gravel in your Fall 2008 issue ("Look Out Below!") where he describes his first attempt at skydiving. Bruce's experience was fairly normal, much more so than mine was during the Second World War. While Bruce had cause to exclaim "Merde!" as he landed in a cow field, I encountered plenty of reasons to shout "Merde!" all the way down. A soft cow would have been quite welcome, and, of course, supplied me with edibles for the three days of hungry walking I experienced after my landing.

The closest thing I had to an instructor was the pilot, who kept yelling, "Get the hell out!" What really convinced me to jump out of my plane, though, was a steadily encroaching fire making its way towards me. I wish I had had decisions made that easy for me when I was in the scholastic or business world.

As I slid through the door of the escape hatch (no ledge or wing strut on these

planes) I hit my jaw on the edge. *Merde*, it hurt! My parachute did open normally, but no sooner had it ballooned, than some other ruddy plane tried to hit it. It was the middle of the night, so neither I, nor the pilot of the other plane, could see one another. Perhaps this was all for the best, since it was odds on that this was the plane that had just shot us down, and he might have tried to finish the job had I been spotted.

After several minutes of violently swaying from that near miss, we (the parachute and I) calmed down. But the excitement wasn't over yet. One of the other planes that had flown with us on our mission dropped its bombs onto a waiting train below. This train just happened to be packed with ammunition of all sorts. The sky was filled with all sorts of "*merde*," the product of explosive materials that were intended to be used to kill our troops on D-Day. Instead, it was trying to kill me! And the other members of our plane who had bailed out as well.

I'm still not certain if we should be credited with being part of the breaking of the German defences, but there was one ammunition train that failed to arrive at its destination thanks to our efforts. The first German soldier I spotted once I landed and began walking was on an expedition to find milk and eggs, and probably too concentrated on his task to notice that I was still wearing my uniform.

JOHN A. NEAL, BSc'50
Calgary, Alberta

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT'S DUE

I was very pleased to have been able to contribute to the discovery of four genes that increase the risk of developing type 2 diabetes—a discovery that you featured in your last issue ("Percer le code du diabète"). I am the co-primary investigator for the diabetes genetics project funded by Génome Québec and by the Centre national de la recherche scientifique in France. I was the senior author for the paper that was published in *Nature* and I am an adjunct professor at McGill. When similar articles are written in European publications about this discovery, we mention the names of the

McGill researchers and the full contribution of the McGill team. I think the way you presented this fantastic breakthrough in medical science doesn't present a true picture of how modern collaborative research works. It doesn't diminish the merit of the McGill team if you honestly present the contribution of each group. In fact, your alumni would want to know that McGill researchers are working together with outstanding international teams. Marc Prentki and researchers from the Université de Montréal were also closely associated with this project.

PHILIPPE FROGUEL
Chair in Genomic Medicine
Imperial College
London, England

Professor Froguel raises an excellent point about how crucial inter-institutional cooperation is to tackling problems such as type 2 diabetes. It was due to innocent oversight that our article did not give full credit to co-investigators at Imperial College London, the Centre national de la recherche scientifique in Lille, France and the Université de Montréal. We have corrected this error in our online edition.

A WORD FROM CROATIA

Thank you for regularly sending me the *McGill News*. I am enchanted with it. I read it from the beginning to the end the moment I receive it. The information I get is very interesting and informative. One year, I received your winter edition and framed the cover image, which now hangs in my living room. Congratulations and continue the good work.

EDITA ANNA POZEZANAC,
MLIS'91, DipLIS'97
Samobar, Croatia

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VOLUME 89 / NO 3
WINTER 2008/09

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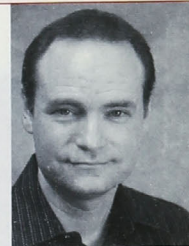
ONLINE EDITION
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McGill News is published three times a year by McGill University
Circulation: 170,000 copies.

Printed in Canada ISSN 0709 9223
Canadian Publications Mail Product
Sales Agreement No. 40613661.

Cover photo of William Shatner by
Andrew MacPherson/ABC



A witness to history

In an era of around-the-clock news stations that often seem more inspired by the likes of *Cops* and *Entertainment Tonight* than by Edward R. Murrow, it's easy to become jaded about what constitutes newsworthiness these days. Supermarket magazines have been dishing on Angelina, Brad and Jen for four years now. Is there really anything left to say?

Every once in a while, though, as you surf through the channels, you stumble upon something riveting. Hope fulfilled as a wall comes down in Germany. Horror realized as towers come down in New York. History being made. You know it when you see it.

A few weeks ago, we experienced that sensation again. With the eyes of the world upon him, a tall, slim man strode onto a platform in Chicago having achieved something that seemed wildly improbable not that long ago, causing even his opponents to marvel at what he had accomplished.

As Konrad Ng, BA'96, watched the results of the recent U.S. presidential election on television, his reaction was similar to those of many Americans. "I wept with tears of joy." Ng had a unique perspective. His brother-in-law, Barack Obama, had just received one hell of a job promotion.

"My hope is that the world sees Barack's election as a parable about perseverance and possibility; we are more powerful than we initially think and together, it's possible to achieve extraordinary things," says Ng.

An assistant professor at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Academy for Creative Media, Ng is married to Obama's half-sister, Maya Soetoro-Ng. The couple watched the election results from the Honolulu apartment of Obama and Soetoro-Ng's grandmother, Madelyn Dunham, who had died the day before the vote. Ng and his wife did this to pay tribute to the woman who had helped raise the next president of the United States.

Ng and Soetoro-Ng had been actively campaigning for Obama for two years and political observers give the couple partial credit for Obama's strong standing among Asian-American voters. Soetoro-Ng is

half-Indonesian. Ng, a native of Burlington, Ontario, is Chinese-Canadian. Appearing on *Oprah* two years ago, Obama declared, "When [our family] gets together for Christmas or Thanksgiving, it's like a little mini United Nations."

Those family get-togethers, which will soon take place in the White House, can get a little heated from time to time. "One thing about Barack and Maya is that they have a loving brother-sister relationship until it comes to Scrabble," says Ng. "The game transforms their relationship into a competitive, but healthy, sibling rivalry. Maya has said that Barack can be an 'indelicate' winner at Scrabble and he has performed victory dances after winning games." Soetoro-Ng did, however, trounce her brother in their last game—just before the election.

Ng has no doubts concerning his brother-in-law's abilities away from the Scrabble board. "Barack has said that he may not be a perfect president—indeed, the challenges that face the country are steep—but I know him to be a good man, a smart man, a disciplined soul who balances temperance with determination and courage."

Last year, Ng took his wife to Montreal for the first time. They visited Mount Royal, strolled through the McGill campus and ate some fresh bagels. "She agreed that Montreal is a beautiful city and that Montreal bagels are divine."

The only trip that Obama has made to Canada thus far was to attend his sister's wedding to Ng. Indeed, some observers on this side of the border worry that the incoming U.S. president isn't particularly well versed on Canada. If Obama wants any insights into Canadian cuisine or the intricacies of three-down football, he knows who to call.

"If the president of the United States of America asks me for informal advice about poutine or the CFL, I have no choice but to oblige his request," says Ng. "Having lived in Montreal, I do understand the comfort offered by cheese curds, gravy and french fries on a cold winter night." 🐦

DANIEL MCCABE

Striking the right balance

As I write this column near the end of November, the world is assessing the full impact of the financial meltdown. Coming seven short years after the Enron scandal, the crisis certainly has prompted thought as to how our financial systems can be structured to create both checks and balances and the flexibility to foster prosperity.

At Canada's universities, we are also reflecting on the best balance between accountability and nimbleness — in another context. From British Columbia to Newfoundland, governments have started to impose onerous regulations in a well-meaning attempt to create increased accountability. Here in Quebec, the mismanagement of major construction projects in a sister university, which led to millions of dollars in cost overruns, has prompted the tabling of new legislation.

The proposed bill, which was set aside following the provincial election call, lays out structures for the composition of university boards of governors and their committees, structures designed to standardize good governance across Quebec universities. It also, unfortunately, unveils highly prescriptive reporting measures that attempt to micromanage universities. In fact, the bill will make it *more* difficult to recruit top-notch board members.

The preoccupation with governance isn't unique to Quebec, of course. Post-Enron, thoughtful organizations — private, public or non-profit — are taking a good hard look at their governance structures. What's clear is that the best governance reform looks at the end goal: ensuring boards provide strategic direction and effective oversight. But how we get there has to take into account the varied mission, history and culture of organizations.

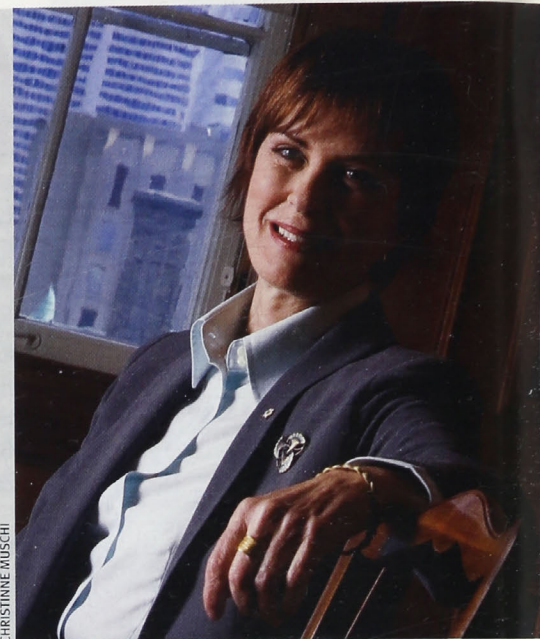
Let me be clear: universities embrace absolutely the need for good governance, transparency, accountability — and

performance. For example, at the beginning of my tenure as Principal, unprompted by the government, I undertook, with the Board of Governors, McGill's own governance reform. We cut our board membership from 74 to 25 members, restructured our committees to enhance oversight and took uncommon measures to orient our board members in their responsibilities. At McGill, we also believe that strong results are ultimately the most accountable use of the support we receive from all our partners, which include government, but also you, our alumni and friends.

Government, universities, taxpayers, alumni and research partners alike all agree on the ultimate goals. But we have two paths to get there. We can fall back on the safety of prescribing reams of reports, of micromanaging our universities, of throwing glue into the gears of innovation. Or, we can look at the problem as an opportunity to see how we can inspire and reinforce great performance at each of our universities. Rather than imposing one-size-fits-all legislation that sets bureaucratic procedures in stone, we can take a careful look at how the principles of good governance apply to the specific mandate, culture and history of each institution of higher education and set individual benchmarks to promote excellence.

Is this really going to work, you ask? The world is moving toward tighter regulation of institutions — why not universities? Certainly the key preoccupations are the same — balancing accountability with the need for innovation and progress — but higher education is a very different sector.

First, if universities move towards becoming an arm of government, they risk losing the autonomy that, among other things, allows them to critique government and policy directions, to foster public debate from a neutral ground, to pursue leading-edge innovation, and to attract and compete with the best. Second,



CHRISTINE MUSCHI

universities don't want a homogeneous approach. Instead, we require accountability frameworks unique to each institution to nurture performance, not bog it down.

The issues that drove the proposed Quebec legislation happened in the Université du Québec system — the group of universities most highly regulated and controlled by the provincial government. So, the prescriptive approach, while it may make officials and often taxpayers feel as if something concrete is being done, just doesn't work. In many parts of the world, governments are moving away from micromanagement. According to a recent report by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, most OECD countries now share a "vision of tertiary education policy... in which detailed administrative direction is diminished, institutional autonomy widened, and accountability mechanisms strengthened."

There are two diverging roads before us, one leading to individuality and excellence (with accountability), the other to homogenization and bureaucracy that will hinder growth. At McGill, we aim to choose wisely, for which road we travel by will, indeed, make all the difference. 🐦

HEATHER MUNROE-BLUM

On the road with Feist

For the past year, **CLEA MINAKER**, BA'02, was working behind Feist's back—with the pop music star's full blessing.

During Feist's most recent tour, Minaker shared the stage with the Grammy nominee, but she wasn't playing guitar or pounding on drums. Minaker orchestrated the imagery that appeared behind Feist while she sang.

"For five years now, I've been touring straight and it never felt right just playing," Feist explained to *Variety*. "It didn't make sense to not take advantage of those eyes looking for something other than the band."

Enter Minaker, whom Feist called her "mistress of shadows."

The two met through a mutual friend and bonded over their shared affection for puppetry. Feist uses puppets in the video for her song "Honey, Honey." Minaker won an award for her puppetry while studying at McGill.

As she did her degree in theatre and women's studies, Minaker encountered the work of innovative Canadian puppeteer Ronnie Burkett. "I had no idea what puppetry was about until I saw that. I had the same prejudices that many people have—that it's infantile, that it's a lesser art form." But there is a magical quality to puppets that can disarm audiences when it's done right, says Minaker.

Together with two other students, she formed the Puppet Project, putting together productions that earned the ensemble an award from Forces Avenir, a foundation that rewards innovative student initiatives in Quebec.

After graduating from McGill, Minaker journeyed to the International Institute of Puppetry Arts in France to perfect her craft, and then returned to Canada to build a career as a visual artist and performer.

For her work with Feist, Minaker and two collaborators used finger painting, shadow puppetry and simple materials ranging from cutouts to costume jewellery to evoke stormy seas, volcanic lava flows, falling leaves and Feist's own beating heart.

"She is fantastic to work with," says Minaker of Feist. "She is always willing to take risks." Minaker initially worked on only a few songs during the show. Eventually, she provided images throughout the entire concert.

"The biggest challenge was when we didn't know what song she'd be doing next," says Minaker. While the songs performed were generally the same from show to show, every once in a while there was a surprise. "Then we'd have to scramble."

Fans responded well to Minaker's contributions during the tour, which wrapped up in November. "I think what we did was a bit of a surprise. The audience wasn't expecting it," she says. The *Kansas City Pitch* described Minaker's work on the tour as "perfectly poetic."

Minaker's next project also has a musical bent. She'll be working with fellow McGill grad **JOSH DOLGIN**, BA'00, the hip hop artist better known as Socalled, on his next music video.

And while she says she is weary of touring after a solid year on the road, Minaker admits she'll miss some things about doing concerts with a big-name star. "I like the immediacy of the audience's reaction. There are far more people [at Feist's concerts] than you ever expect to see at a theatre show."

DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89



Clea Minaker (above) provides a watering can image as a backdrop for a Feist song.

THE ONE AND ONLY FLO



CLAUDIO CALLIGARIS

If you talk to anyone who has worked at, lived in, or knows anything about McGill's student residences, they know who **FLO TRACY** is.

Having spent 28 years as the University's director of residences, Tracy has become a living legend for many on campus, and for the thousands of students whose lives she has touched.

Now, after 40 years at McGill (she started out as a nurse in McGill's student health service), Tracy is retiring.

What will she miss most? "The people, that's the big thing," says Tracy. "Yet I'm taking with me such beautiful memories that will warm my heart for a long time."

Tracy mentored countless students over the years, helping them cope with the pressure to succeed and offering valued advice. And she distributed more than a few "Flo hugs" along the way.

She insists her students taught her a great deal in return.

"I learned to just be positive," she said, "because young people aren't cynical. They're idealistic, they're positive, they're happy, and that rubs off."

After nearly three decades of helping to shepherd young adults through one of the most eventful times of their lives, Tracy leaves behind tens of thousands of grateful students and a staff that have come to routinely ask themselves, when faced with a difficult situation, "What would Flo do?"

On that note, she has a few words of advice for her successor: "Get to know the people that you're working with as individuals, because then you can understand what their issues are and where they're coming from."

And one more thing: "Enjoy the experience."

PASCAL ZAMPRELLI, BCL/LLB'05

Sturdy Scotsman



OWEN EGAN

John Abbott College theatre students Jessica Bernard and Phil Demers wore period costumes for the unveiling of Sir William C. Macdonald's statue.

Like the University's founder, James McGill, Sir William C. Macdonald was a financially savvy Scot who valued the benefits of higher education. Now the two men have something else in common—they've both been immortalized in statue form.

The statue of James McGill located near the downtown campus's Roddick Gates has become a popular landmark over the years. Dean of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences **CHANDRA MADRAMOOTOO**, BSc(Agr)'77, MSc'81, PhD'85, expects the same will hold true for a new statue of Sir William, which was unveiled during October's Homecoming festivities at Macdonald Campus.

No philanthropist in McGill's history, apart from James McGill himself, had a greater impact on the University's development than Macdonald. His generosity resulted in new buildings, endowed professorships and scholarships, but his most significant act was to spearhead the creation of Macdonald College (now Macdonald Campus).

The statue was crafted by sculptor Tino Petronzio, whose past clients have included the Detroit Tigers baseball team and Hollywood actress Neve Campbell.

"The unveiling of Sir William C. Macdonald's statue is our way of celebrating his life and accomplishments, and it is a special way to cap last year's centennial anniversary of this campus," says Madramootoo.

CYNTHIA LEE

Toronto wooded with six short words



An image of Professor Antonia Maioni is projected on a building in Toronto as part of McGill's new Six Words campaign.

Ernest Hemingway, the master of direct prose, was never more concise than when he followed up on a boast that he could produce a complete story in just six words: "For sale: baby shoes, never worn."

Similar challenges have been issued since—*Smith Magazine* published a book featuring its readers' six word stories.

Hemingway also provided the inspiration for a McGill marketing campaign targeting alumni in the Greater Toronto Area that was launched in October. The GTA is home to the largest concentration of McGill graduates and students outside Montreal.

The campaign, created by Ogilvy Montreal features six-word stories about three McGill students and three professors. The stories and larger-than-life stencil images of these individuals appeared variously as an outdoor mural in Toronto, night projections on buildings such as the Air Canada Centre and City Hall, newspaper ads, and web banners aimed at online readers of the *Globe and Mail*, the *Toronto Star*, *Maclean's* and *canada.com*.

The advertising all led viewers to a website, www.mcgill.ca/6words. There, readers can find out more about the six McGill figures, learn more about McGill, and even post their own six-word stories.

By any measure, the campaign has been a smashing success. Only two weeks after its launch, there were nearly 10,000 unique visitors to the site, and about 500 six-word stories have been posted by visitors—mostly alumni.

"The campaign is doing exactly what we wanted it to do—get our alumni to reconnect with the University," says **HONORA SHAUGHNESSY**, MLS'73, senior executive director of the McGill Alumni Association. "It was an opportunity to try something different and really draw the Toronto alumni, parents and friends to McGill to strengthen pride among alumni."

JAKE BRENNAN, BA'97

A LIBRARY AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Whether you studied music or marketing, English or epidemiology, chances are you spent a fair amount of your time at McGill in one of its libraries. "People might not remember all their classmates, but chances are they remember their favourite places to study in the library," says **JANINE SCHMIDT**, McGill's Trenholme Director of Libraries.

Who says you have to sever that connection, even if you now live hundreds of miles away from McGill?

The University's graduates now have free access to a wide range of the McGill Library's online databases and academic e-resources. "Alumni have been incredibly supportive of the Library over the years," says Schmidt. "We wanted to give them something back."

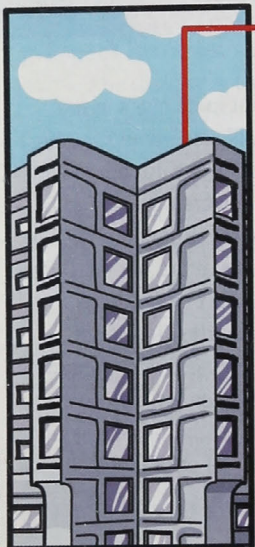
Some of the e-resources now available to graduates include the Art Museum Image Gallery, which

offers 155,000 high-quality images from museum collections around the world, and Epocrates Online, which features up-to-date information on more than 3,300 drugs and alternative medicines.

"We have something for everyone," says Schmidt. "And, as we buy new sets of databases, we are trying to negotiate alumni access as part of the deal. So we expect to be able to offer even more in the future."

All alumni have to do is to register with *Alumnilife*, McGill's Alumni Online Community, at www.alumni.mcgill.ca. They'll receive a McGill Email for Life (ELF) mailbox and a password which, along with their ELF address, will provide access to the Library's alumni e-resources web page. If problems arise, Schmidt adds, the Library provides an online chat service which graduates can use to communicate with a McGill librarian.

DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89



BERNIE MIREAULT



Multifaceted managing



Professor Philippe Levy teaches MBA students at his faculty's new Base Camp.

With the global financial crisis on everyone's mind these days, a hot topic at universities is how to train more effective business leaders. This fall, the Desautels Faculty of Management launched a remake of its MBA program, which is "a very big change from the usual way to teach management," says **DON MELVILLE**, MBA'00, Desautels's new director of the MBA and master's programs.

Instead of taking separate courses (say, in accounting, marketing and HR), the incoming MBA class now spends its first semester in team-taught modules, such as Managing Resources,

a seven-week course that delves into the subject from all perspectives—financial, human and technological. Professors with different types of expertise collaborate on the courses. "The philosophy at Desautels is that everything is linked," says Melville. "Just like in real life."

Along with Base Camp (an intensive three-week program to fill in gaps in math, statistics or accounting), the other modules of the new MBA core curriculum are: Global Leadership, Business Tools, Value Creation, and Markets and Globalization.

"A lot of alumni have told me they wish they had had this kind of integrated teaching when they were getting their MBA," says Melville.

Along with the shiny new curriculum, MBA students now have shiny new facilities, too—a lounge, computer lab and renovated classrooms—thanks to a new gift from **MARCEL DESAUTELS**, LLD'07, the faculty's benefactor and namesake, who is a passionate advocate of integrated management education.

"The amazing developments here certainly reflect Marcel Desautels's vision," says Dean Peter Todd. "Our programs and courses are becoming more and more integrated—with each other, with our leading-edge research and with the real world."

And speaking of the real world, while no one is happy about the turmoil in global markets, there is one plus, according to Melville: "It provides a lot of content for class."

ALLYSON ROWLEY, BA'77

IN GOOD COMPANY

Quick, name some of the finest universities in the world. Harvard? Yep. Yale? Sure. Oxford? Absolutely. McGill? You betcha.

For the fifth year in a row, McGill has been named one of the top 25 universities in the world by the *Times Higher Education-QS World University Rankings*. McGill placed 20th in this year's rankings, joining an elite group of universities in the top 20 that also included Cambridge, MIT and Princeton.

"It is gratifying to see McGill has once again been recognized as one of the very best universities in the world," says Principal **HEATHER MUNROE-BLUM**. McGill was the only Canadian university to be ranked among the top 20.

The rankings are assembled by QS Quacquarelli Symonds, a career and education networking company with offices across the globe, and by Britain's *Times Higher Education*, a magazine that covers universities.

The results are based on several different factors. Forty percent of the score is determined by a peer review survey of more than 6,000 academics around the world. Major employers are also surveyed about who they think the best universities are. Part of the score relates to how often an institution's faculty members are cited in journals by other researchers. Staff-to-

student ratio is scrutinized as a factor in the rankings. Universities are also awarded points for attracting faculty and students from other countries.

Closer to home, McGill also took top spot in its class in the annual *Maclean's* university rankings. McGill was named the best university in the country in the medical/doctoral category for the fourth year in a row, and led all Canadian universities in terms of the proportion of first-year students who arrive from outside the country. McGill students also win, on average, more national awards than their peers at other Canadian universities. McGill professors came in first in Canada in terms of the number of research grants they earn from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and the average value of those grants.

According to Munroe-Blum, McGill's success in these ranking exercises "highlights the exceptional quality of our faculty, students and staff."

DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89



Jonathan O'Neil with his very special rock collection.

A discovery that rocked the world

JONATHAN O'NEIL thought there was something unusual about some rocks he recently came across. He was surprised when he found out just how unusual they were. The McGill doctoral student has found the oldest known rocks on the planet, dating back as far as 4.28 billion years. The discovery could shed light on the planet's earliest history, providing insight into the formation of continents, oceans and perhaps even the secrets of how life began.

The discovery came when O'Neil, a PhD candidate in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, noticed something different about rock samples taken from the Nuvvuagittuq greenstone belt in Northern Quebec, along the coast of Hudson Bay. Greenstone belts are generally made up of black or dark green rocks. These rocks were light beige.

"I thought, 'This is something we haven't seen before.' I went down with a couple of samples to the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington,

D.C., where they have a precise mass spectrometer. We got a chemical signature that had never been found on the Earth before."

O'Neil, his graduate supervisor **DON FRANCIS**, BSc'68, and colleagues from Université du Québec à Montréal and the Carnegie Institution have estimated the age of the rocks by measuring the chemical signature of two isotopes, neodymium-142 and samarium-146. The team believes the rocks may be remnants of Earth's primordial crust and would have been formed in water — perhaps one of the planet's earliest oceans. Some scientists believe the precipitation that forms the iron oxide found in these rocks requires the presence of bacteria, which could mean the possibility of tracing some of the Earth's first life forms by studying the 10-square-kilometre rock belt.

The team's results appeared in *Science* in September. The day after publication, O'Neil woke up to calls

from the *New York Times*, *National Geographic*, the BBC and countless other media. The findings have, well, rocked the geology world. They also aren't without controversy, since the technique of measuring neodymium-142 used to date the rocks is not conventional.

"We just opened a big door," says O'Neil. "So every geologist and geochemist interested in understanding how the Earth evolved — the first billion years is not well known — will be interested in these rocks."

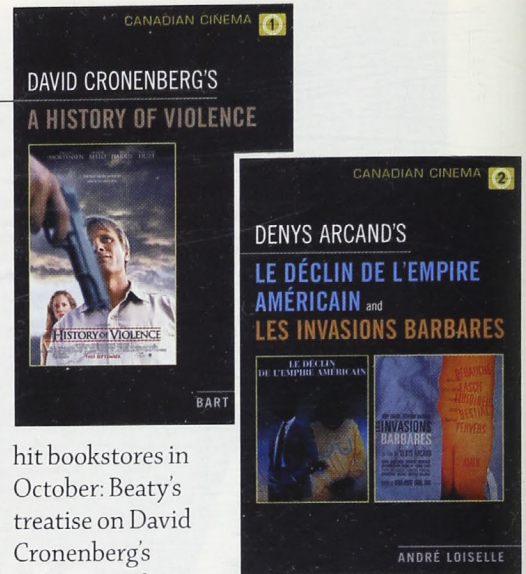
Not a bad way to finish off your PhD. But what comes next as O'Neil and other scientists search for further insight into the planet's origins promises to be the real thrill: "I'm really interested in trying to understand how the Earth formed, so now we have a new playground. Now there's something to work with that was there at that time. The new discoveries to come are what really excite me now."

ANDREW MULLINS

We stand onscreen for thee

The 2005 film *A History of Violence* was based on a British comic book, set in smalltown U.S.A. and shot in Ontario by a Toronto director. “It’s a Canadian film about the United States that’s pretending to be an American film,” argues **BART BEATY**, MA’95, PhD’99 — and, in a quintessentially Canuck twist of logic, that makes it the perfect subject to kick off a new series of books about Canadian films.

The new Canadian Cinema series, published by University of Toronto Press, is the brainchild of Beaty and his former doctoral advisor, McGill art history and communication studies professor **WILL STRAW**, MA’81, PhD’91. Inspired by the BFI Film Classics monograph series, each book is a detailed, extended critical analysis of a Canadian film. The first two volumes



hit bookstores in October: Beaty’s treatise on David Cronenberg’s *A History of Violence* and a two-for-one reading of Denys Arcand’s *Le Déclin de l’empire américain* and its sequel *Les Invasions barbares* by Carleton University film studies professor André Loiselle. Possible future subjects include *The Far Shore*, Joyce Wieland’s painterly imagining of artist Tom Thomson’s final hours, Guy Maddin’s autobiographical phantasmagoria *My Winnipeg* and Clement Virgo’s exploration of black urban life, *Rude*.

“What we like about the BFI series is that it isn’t just film scholars writing for other film scholars,” says Straw, citing Salman Rushdie’s book about *The Wizard of Oz* as a personal BFI favourite. “As our series gets traction, we hope to also get non-academics writing about films — and that raises issues that aren’t necessarily traditional filmy issues. A book about Bruce McDonald’s *Hard Core Logo*, for example, might talk about issues in popular music.”

“Film studies can be kind of insular, so we’re trying to introduce a new portion of the population to what we do,” adds Beaty, now an associate professor of communication and culture at the University of Calgary. “We want to be incredibly broad and not focus on the notion of ‘classics,’ to strike a balance between films most people know and more obscure films. I want Ivan Reitman’s *Meatballs* brushing up against avant-garde films or documentary or animation.”

JAMES MARTIN, MLIS’05

THE BALD TRUTH ABOUT GENES

Humans living in the future as shown in shows like *Star Trek* are virtually free of the scourges with which medical science grapples today: cancer, diabetes and even the common cold. On the other hand, to judge by the shiny pate of Captain Jean-Luc Picard, male pattern baldness is a mystery unsolvable by even 23rd-century healers.

It might not be such a head-scratcher after all, according to Dr. **BRENT RICHARDS**. The Jewish General Hospital-based professor of medicine was part of an international research team, which included scientists from King’s College, London and GlaxoSmithKline, that scanned the genetic codes of 1,125 Caucasian men who had been assessed for male pattern baldness, which affects up to one-

third of men worldwide. Their research confirmed the previously identified complicity of a region on the X-chromosome. They also identified a region of chromosome 20 that had been believed to be a “gene desert” — a region of DNA with no apparent function.

The multi-million-dollar industry devoted to helping men hide the glabrous state of their scalps need not worry yet. Richards says it will take “upwards of a decade” to translate this discovery into a baldness treatment because they still don’t quite understand why a supposedly inert section of DNA would be linked to hair loss. “But, of course, the first step in finding a way to treat most conditions is to identify the cause.”

MARK REYNOLDS

ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

NEXT STOP, CANADIAN IDOL

In the human world, singers — like drummers and banjo-players — are often the butt of jokes portraying them as unencumbered by knowledge. In the world of birds, however, the story looks rather different. **NEELTJE BOOGERT** has found that male zebra finches who can warble a complicated melody are no birdbrains. Boogert, a McGill doctoral candidate in biology, recently presented a paper to the International Behavioral Ecology Congress at Cornell that demonstrated how the finches' song complexity correlates to learning ability, something that has never been explored.

Boogert and her colleagues recorded 27 male finches, then measured the number of elements (the simplest building

blocks of birdsong) and length of each bird's tune. They next placed millet seeds — a favourite snack of finches — into wells drilled in a piece of wood and then covered them with a cardboard lid. The birds had to slide and flip these open to reach their treat.

"The fastest bird solved the problem in four tries, and the slowest birds couldn't solve the task at all," notes Boogert. "I found that the males with the longest songs and the most elements were also the ones that solved the task fastest."

Female songbirds have been shown to prefer more complicated songs from their male suitors, and "may use song complexity as an indicator of how smart the male is," says Boogert. Such bird



smarts in a mate could come in handy when foraging for food and make for brainier offspring.

Boogert will next collaborate with researchers at Duke University in North Carolina to test her hypothesis on birds in the wild.

ANDREW MULLINS

Old at heart



Surgeons are often asked if operating on elderly patients does more harm than good, inflicting unnecessary trauma with procedures that do little to improve quality of life. A new McGill University Health Centre study, however, strongly suggests that open-heart surgery is a most viable option for octogenarians and even nonagenarians.

Cardiac surgeons at the MUHC followed 185 patients, all 80 years or older, who underwent cardiac valve replacement surgery. Some of the patients had elective surgery; others had emergency procedures. After five years, 60 per cent of the patients were still alive — and of the survivors, 90 per cent were leading active and independent lives.

"This outcome is extremely positive," says Dr. **RAKESH CHATURVEDI**, PhD'94,

a clinical research associate in the Department of Cardiac Surgery at the MUHC. "It proves that age alone should not be a factor in ruling out this type of surgery: Feasibility must be assessed by a surgeon based on the patient's overall state of health."

"If patients with heart problems are otherwise in good health, this surgery can significantly improve their quality of life," adds co-researcher Dr. **BENOIT DE VARENNES**, MDCM'84, MSc'92, clinical director of the Department of Cardiac Surgery at the MUHC and associate professor of surgery at McGill. He also notes that all the study patients received open chest surgery, and that new, less traumatic operating procedures will likely lead to even better recovery results.

Chaturvedi and MUHC cardiac surgeon Dr. **KEVIN LACHAPPELLE** presented their findings in October at the 2008 Canadian Cardiovascular Congress in Toronto.

JAMES MARTIN, MLIS'05
(FILES FROM ISABELLE KLING)



THE COMEBACK KID

William Shatner's roller-coaster career has had its share of ups and downs. Right now, the iconic actor is enjoying an all-time high.

BY DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89

William Shatner is laughing and I'm relieved. We'd been talking for about 15 minutes and I was getting the distinct impression that Shatner, BCom '52, taking a break from filming the last season of his Emmy Award winning TV series, *Boston Legal*, was bored.

In my defence, William Shatner has been interviewed hundreds, if not thousands, of times over the course of a singular career that has now spanned more than five decades. You try coming up with original questions for a guy like that. He's heard it all before.

Also, I'll confess, I wasn't at the top of my game. I've interviewed Nobel laureates and cabinet ministers, best-selling authors and film actresses, and I don't get nervous very often when I'm doing my job. But this was William Shatner.

As a pre-adolescent, one of the high points of my week was the Saturday afternoon airing of *Star Trek*. I was gobsmacked when I discovered that the resolute starship captain who punched out Klingons and grumpily endured Tribbles was in fact a fellow Montrealer. Such a colossus could emerge from my hometown? Wow.

And here I was now, talking to the guy. Yeah, I was a little nervous.

So, I decide, it's time to share my Grand Theory of Shatner with him.

NOT LIKE THE OTHER ACTORS

In a nutshell, it's this: William Shatner endures because William Shatner is not afraid of weirdness. One of the reasons why William Shatner captures our attention in a way that few other celebrities do is because we never quite know what the man is going to do next.

Compare Shatner to other actors who, like him, starred on TV shows during the sixties — Robert Vaughn (*The Man from U.N.C.L.E.*), for instance, or Peter Graves (*Mission Impossible*). They've had long and successful careers. But they don't attract the same sort of intense, affectionate curiosity that Shatner continues to inspire from the masses.

William Shatner, after all, is the man who once starred in the only movie ever made entirely in Esperanto (*Incubus*). His strikingly unusual (some have used much ruder adjectives) interpretations of songs like Elton John's "Rocket Man" are YouTube sensations. He sold a kidney stone online for \$25,000 and passed the money along to Habitat for Humanity.

Somehow, one can't imagine Robert Vaughn doing any of that.

Not afraid of weirdness? "There might be something to that," Shatner chuckles.

Whatever the case, 40 years after the original *Star Trek* series was cancelled for poor ratings (it would go on, of course, to become a pop culture phenomenon in syndication), William Shatner has never been a bigger star than he is today.

"Celebrities tend to appeal to specific types of people," explains Brett Keller, the chief marketing officer for Priceline.com, an online discount travel agency that

Shatner has helped make famous through a popular series of witty ads. Some performers are especially beloved by older women, for instance, while the appeal of certain actors is mostly focused around younger men. Sarah Brightman's albums don't tend to do brisk business on university campuses, while Seth Rogan flicks rarely headline movie nights at most senior citizen centres.

"Bill stands out because he really spans all types of groups," says Keller. "All kinds of people know who he is and they all respond very positively to him."

It's not the life that Shatner's father envisioned for his son. Joseph Shatner was a serious-minded Jewish immigrant, the first in his family to arrive in North America. He worked hard to establish his own business, Admiration Clothes, a manufacturer of inexpensive suits. "They were basically suits for workingmen who owned only one suit," recounts Shatner in his memoir, *Up Till Now*, published earlier this year.

Joseph groomed his son to become his business partner, taking him on sales calls. Even today, Shatner remembers the skills he picked up at his father's side. "I know how to fold a suit with the shoulders touching inside-out, the sleeves down, folded flat so it stays pressed," he writes in *Up Till Now*.

Shatner's mother, Ann, had a markedly different approach to life from her husband. An elocution teacher with a mischievous sense of humour, she would regularly make her family squirm at restaurants by gaily announcing that it was her birthday—even when it wasn't. Shatner still remembers feeling profoundly uncomfortable as waiters would circle their table, serenading his mom with an undeserved rendition of "Happy Birthday." It was Ann who recognized her son's gift for performing, enrolling him in acting lessons as a child.

NO ACADEMIC ALL-STAR

It was no accident that when it was time for university, Shatner went to McGill to study commerce. He was going to learn all about modern management practices and bring that new-found expertise to bear on the operations of Admiration Clothes. But Shatner himself had other plans.

"My classes were never very important to me," he acknowledges during his break from *Boston Legal* filming. "I barely passed many of them. I had to make up courses during the summer in order to graduate."

Shatner wasn't slacking off, though. It's just that his focus was somewhere else. "I was performing in everything I could find—musicals, theatre productions, radio. The Student Union Building was my headquarters. I did everything there but sleep and, on occasion, I did that there too."

He was the president of McGill's Radio Workshop, an active member of the Player's Club and, in 1949, the producer and director of McGill's fabled *Red and White Revue*.

"He was 'Mr. Theatre' at McGill," says Bernie Rothman, BCom '54, a longtime friend who also went into show business, eventually writing and producing TV shows for the likes of Judy Garland, Diana Ross and Burt Reynolds.

Opposite page: William Shatner as the Priceline Negotiator, a character who appears in commercials for Priceline.com.

Far right: Shatner appeared in a Stratford Festival production of *The Taming of the Shrew* with Don Harron in 1954.

Below: Shatner visited his alma mater in 1999 for an episode of the CBC television series *Life and Times*.

"There was no theatre program to speak of at McGill back then," Rothman recalls. "Whatever took place, happened because students worked hard to make it happen. Bill didn't just act. He was always busy creating things. He'd find some interesting little experimental play from somewhere and he would make it happen. He just didn't quit."

Rothman occasionally lectures to college students interested in the entertainment industry. "The question I'm always asked is, 'What is the single most important factor for success in show business?' Is it talent? Is it looks? Is it personality?"

"I think the thing that really separates the people who make it in this industry from those that don't is that the people who make it just don't give up, no matter what. I could see that quality in Bill back at McGill. He had that drive."



PETER SMITH/STRATFORD FESTIVAL OF CANADA

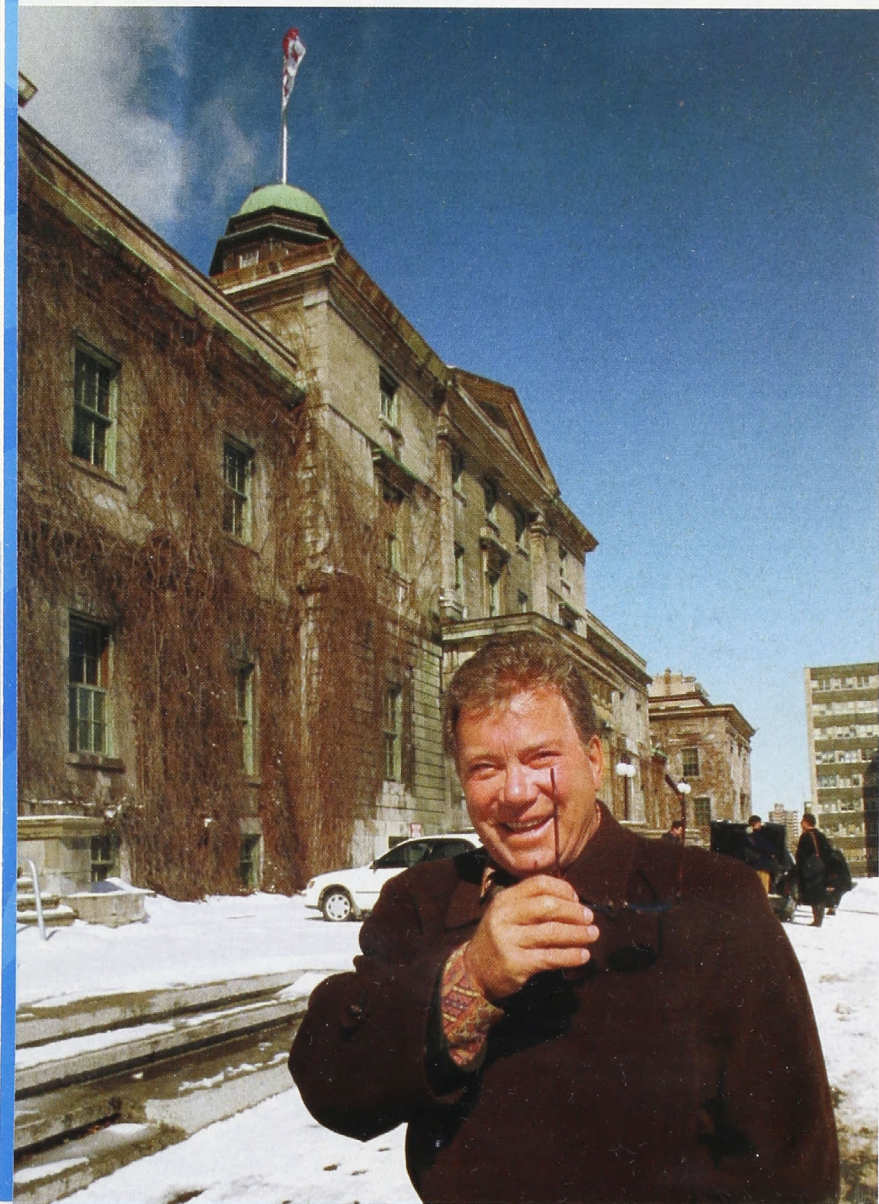
"I think the thing that really separates the people who make it in this industry from those that don't is that the people who make it just don't give up, no matter what."

During his third year at McGill, Shatner broke the news to his dad about his future plans. He wouldn't be bringing the latest business techniques to Admiration Clothes after all. "Acting wasn't a job for a man," Shatner wrote of his father's viewpoint. "For him, it was like being a minstrel." Though clearly disappointed, Joseph encouraged his son to do what he wanted to do.

Within a few years of graduating, Shatner had secured a spot in the Stratford Shakespeare Festival, where he worked with, among others, a fellow Montrealer named Christopher Plummer. Plummer, the more seasoned of the two at the time, describes the young Shatner in his recent autobiography, *In Spite of Myself: A Memoir*, as an actor who "showed great promise with his versatility and light touch."

By 1956, Shatner was playing supporting roles on Broadway. TV directors took notice of his work and he began appearing often on the anthology shows that were popular at the time, like *Studio One* and *Playhouse 90*, sharing screen space with other up-and-comers like Paul Newman, Lee Marvin and Steve McQueen. He was resistant to settling down professionally, though. He turned down lead roles in *The Defenders* (which made a star out of Robert Reed) and *Dr. Kildare* (which made a star out of Richard Chamberlain). He preferred doing stage work (including the Broadway smash *A Shot in the Dark*, opposite Julie Harris and Walter Matthau) and trying his luck with films (among them, *Judgment at Nuremberg* with Spencer Tracy). But after years of being told by those around him that stardom was just around the corner, Shatner's big break was proving to be elusive. He was married at this point with three kids and a mortgage he was struggling to pay off. Maybe being tied to a TV show wasn't such a bad idea.

OWEN EGAN



BOLDLY GOING...

In 1966, a role came along that would make Shatner famous — eventually.

Shatner was only *Star Trek* creator Gene Roddenberry's fourth choice to captain the U.S.S. Enterprise. Lloyd Bridges had been Roddenberry's first pick, but he declined. The original pilot for the show was filmed with Jeffrey Hunter in the lead role. When Hunter didn't work out, the gig was offered to Jack Lord (*Hawaii Five-0*), who took a pass on it.

Watching the original pilot, Shatner thought the show's concept was strikingly original, but that it was all a little too serious-minded. There wasn't much to differentiate the Hunter character, a captain named Pike, from his first officer, the emotion-suppressing Mr. Spock. Shatner decided that his character, James T. Kirk, would be a little more playful than his predecessor.

Kirk would approach his task of exploring the universe with a greater sense of wonder. A sly strategist when faced with difficult circumstances, Kirk also had more than a hint of mischief about him. Shatner and his two chief co-stars, Leonard Nimoy (Spock) and DeForest Kelley (Dr. Leonard McCoy), established a winning chemistry. Kirk, the good-natured warrior, was nicely balanced against the coldly rational Spock and the hotheaded McCoy.

"A large part of the success of *Star Trek* has to do with the affection the characters clearly had for one another," says Shatner. "Audiences respond to that sense of warmth."

For the most part, Shatner's recent autobiography is a lighthearted, breezy read, but now and then, he owns up to his flaws and deals with some of the more painful moments of his life. "It has taken me four marriages to understand the part I have to play in a marriage and to learn how to do it," he acknowledges at one point.

Up Till Now is at its darkest when Shatner discusses his troubled third marriage, to Nerine Kidd. Shatner was slow to recognize that Kidd was an alcoholic and her addiction to booze caused the couple considerable anguish. She tried rehab three times to no avail. Arriving back home one evening, Shatner discovered her body in their swimming pool. It was ruled an accidental death, one probably related to drinking. "I don't think you ever get over an event like that," Shatner writes.

"I wanted to leave a notebook of sorts for my kids," Shatner says of his book. "I wanted to explain how I felt at different moments in my life. I wanted to be honest."

While the original *Star Trek* eventually resulted in four follow-up TV series, 11 films (the latest premieres next May) and, in Shatner's estimation, about two billion dollars' worth of related merchandise sold, back in 1969 it was a show that couldn't attract a big enough audience to ward off cancellation.

Shatner's first marriage ended at roughly the same time as the series did and the actor found himself unemployed, broke and responsible for the support of an ex-wife and three daughters. He lived in the back of his

pickup truck for a time, then moved to a cheap beachfront apartment in Malibu so he'd have someplace nearby to take his children to play when they came to visit. His somewhat unhinged landlady would occasionally storm into his apartment, wielding a hammer, chasing apparitions only she could see.

He was rarely offered juicy roles anymore. He landed frequent guest-starring gigs on shows like *Ironside* and *The Six Million Dollar Man* and starred in a string of forgettable (and sometimes laughable) low-budget films in which he faced off against tarantulas (*The Kingdom of Spiders*), demons (*The Horror at 37,000 Feet*) and Satanists (*The Devil's Rain*). He worked regularly, but didn't enjoy it much.



COURTESY SPACE

Shatner with *Star Trek* co-stars DeForest Kelley (top left), Nichelle Nichols and Leonard Nimoy.

"An actor's life is fraught with difficulty," says Shatner. "It isn't always the kindest of professions." Being good isn't good enough—you have to match a casting director's notion of what's right for a certain role and there is little consolation in being runner-up. "You're constantly judged on your appearance as well as your ability. Suddenly you are in your 40s and it's too late to go meaningfully into another career. You reach a point where you don't know if you should keep sticking it out."

The eighties, thankfully, were kinder to him. Shatner landed the lead role in *T.J. Hooker*, a popular, if not

Shatner as Denny Crane with Boston Legal co-star James Spader as Crane's colleague and best friend Alan Shore.



RICHARD CARTWRIGHT/ABC

“He has been able to adapt to the changing landscape of his profession and that’s a difficult thing to do.”

particularly memorable, cop show in which he played a stern, old-school police sergeant. He hosted the successful *Rescue 911* for several years. The best was yet to come.

THE COMEDIAN REVEALED

One of the first hints that Shatner had a few more tricks up his sleeve (notwithstanding his now legendary 1986 appearance on *Saturday Night Live* in which he famously urged *Star Trek*'s rabid fans “to get a life”) was in a small independent film released in 1999, *Free Enterprise*. A decade before it became fashionable for Hollywood stars to lampoon themselves on shows like *Extras*, Shatner played William Shatner, a washed-up actor obsessed with the idea of staging a mostly one-man musical production of *Julius Caesar* (mostly one man because he couldn't quite figure out how to stab himself in the back).

Around the same time, Shatner was approached by

the fledgling Priceline.com. One of the company's copywriters was a fan of *The Transformed Man*, Shatner's much-mocked attempt in the late sixties to contrast popular song lyrics (performed in a colourful style all his own) with readings from classic plays. Shatner's wry, energetic performances in the resulting ads as a lounge singer belting out over-the-top versions of songs from the sixties and seventies were a hit. “Those spots were really what put Priceline on the map,” warrants Keller.

A series of guest appearances on *3rd Rock from the Sun* as the flamboyant Big Giant Head netted Shatner an Emmy nomination. And then he was offered what would become his most memorable role since James T. Kirk—the bombastic and unpredictable Denny Crane on *The Practice* and *Boston Legal*.

“That was a gift,” says Shatner of Crane, a larger than life figure struggling to come to grips with the fact that he

is losing much of his power to age. "He is this wonderful character who can go off in any direction. He is certainly comedic, but he can also touch your heart." Shatner's portrayal of Crane has garnered him two Emmy Awards.

Each episode of *Boston Legal* ends with Crane sharing a drink and his thoughts with his colleague Alan Shore, played by James Spader. The two men have little in common in some respects. Politically, they are polar opposites and Shore is a few decades younger than Crane — still, their unlikely friendship is the foundation for the show.

"Sometimes, when I'm finished shooting for the day, I stay just to watch them do that scene," says *Boston Legal* co-star John Larroquette. "Bill brings so much warmth to those scenes. The two of them together are magic."

"He was the laughing stock of the cognoscenti for a while," says Rothman. "Well, some of his biggest detractors back then are looking at his work today and they're saying, 'Shatner is so funny.'"

As far as Shatner is concerned, he was *always* funny. "When I began my career in Canada, right after graduating from McGill, most of the work I did was comedy. I was known for doing comedy." Somewhere along the line he became pegged as a dramatic actor and the opportunities to do comedy dried up.

Shatner's knack for comedy is certainly no secret these days. The producers of *Invasion Iowa*, a recent reality TV show that poked fun at the excesses and idiosyncrasies of the movie industry, had Shatner on their radar. "This was a show about parodying Hollywood and Bill has this phenomenal, self-deprecating sense of humour," says *Invasion Iowa* co-producer Rhett Reese.

In the series, the denizens of Riverside, a small town in Iowa, put up with the antics of a Hollywood film crew — unbeknownst to the locals, the movie being filmed is fake and the mayhem surrounding it is staged.

A team of seasoned improv performers was assembled for *Invasion Iowa* to portray the bogus film's cast and crew. They rehearsed in the weeks leading up to the show's filming, to prepare themselves for interacting with the unsuspecting Iowans. "These were experienced improv actors," says Reese's partner, Paul Wernick, "but Bill more than held his own. He was one of the best in the room, if not the best."

The young producers marveled at Shatner's energy level. "He outworks everyone around him, of any age," says Reese. Shatner turned up at 6:30 am to work with the *Invasion Iowa* team, then drove 45 minutes to the *Boston Legal* set to put in a full day there, then drove back to do more *Invasion Iowa* rehearsals until 10 pm.

Another collaboration with a younger artist, pop musician Ben Folds, resulted in the 2004 album *Has Been*. Where *The Transformed Man* was widely ridiculed, *Has Been* took music critics by surprise. At times droll, at times heartbreaking, *Has Been* turned up on several best-of-year lists.

Shatner enjoys working with younger collaborators. "One tends to stay the same," he says. "You entwine yourself in the same habits — the same clothes, the same

styles, the same ways of thinking. People risk becoming stultified in the eras in which they were most comfortable. One way I try to avoid that is by associating with younger people and gaining some sense of how they see the world."

Looking back on his career — the highs, the lows, the weirdness — William Shatner has no regrets. "You never know how one project will lead to another," he says. He has been teased about *The Transformed Man* for decades, he points out, but that album did have its fans, including Ben Folds, and it led, in part, to Shatner's acclaimed work in both the Priceline.com commercials and on *Has Been*.

"He has been able to adapt to the changing landscape of his profession and that's a difficult thing to do," says Larroquette. "There are a lot of actors who haven't been able to pull that off."

Shatner takes a more matter-of-fact view of his place in the larger scheme of things. "There are half a dozen actors out there who get access to the great scripts and they get to make a movie a year for \$20 million," says Shatner. "Then there are the rest of us, trying to maintain something with merit while we work to pay the bills."

Maybe, but William Shatner will never be just another actor.

According to *USA Today*, there is a game that one of Shatner's daughters plays with her husband from time to time. Once they've breakfasted and parted company for the day, the two try to avoid coming across any images of her famous dad until they see each other again at dinner time. Whoever succeeds in this, triumphs.

It's usually a game that no one ever wins.

After all, this is a world where we all want to know what William Shatner is going to do next. 🐾



An accomplished horseman, Shatner raises quarter horses and American saddlebreds. As the organizer of the Hollywood Charity Horse Show, Shatner has helped raise millions for children's charities.

DARYL WEISSER

The People's Historian

Whether she's researching contraceptives or tranquilizers, for Andrea Tone, medical history is really the story of everyday lives.

BY LISA FITTERMAN, BA'81



PHOTO: CLAUDIO CALLIGARIS



Andrea Tone was used to turbulence. For the high-flying historian, author and single mom, being buffeted about by random, fierce winds was practically part of the job. Or it was until a sunny June day back in 2001, on a particularly bouncy flight to New York City.

Travelling from Atlanta to participate in the filming of a PBS documentary related to the publication of *Devices and Desires*, her much-lauded history of contraceptives, the sudden lurching convinced her that the plane was going to crash and everybody on it was going to die. "You're being irrational," she thought, ever the academic. "Look around. Is anyone else freaking out?" Glancing to her left, she saw a woman calmly reading *Bridget Jones's Diary*. To her right, a rotund man was sleeping so soundly, he snored.

"Now get a grip," she continued. But her id wouldn't, or couldn't, listen. Her phobia was right there, unfathomable and as fully formed as the seven-month-old daughter whose photograph she was clutching so hard, her knuckles were white from the pressure. Sweat trickled down her neck as she lectured herself that this was a one-time crisis and the flight home would be just fine. When her flying fears didn't subside, she sought help.

"Like me, my doctor was resistant to quick fixes," says Tone, who now holds joint appointments at McGill in its Department of History and its Department of Social Studies of Medicine. Tone, who is also the University's Canada Research Chair in the Social History of Medicine, acknowledges that her latest book, *The Age of Anxiety: A History of America's Turbulent Affair with Tranquilizers*, was partly triggered by her own fear of flying.

"We considered the alternatives," she says of her discussions with her doctor. "We looked at [cognitive behavioural therapy], which would have taught me over time to understand my reaction and modify my behaviour. But I didn't have time. I was flying a lot back then for interviews and so on, and fear of doing so was incapacitating my daily routine. So she prescribed tranquilizers. And every time I had that drug, it made me realize turbulence was OK, which helped me get on with my life."

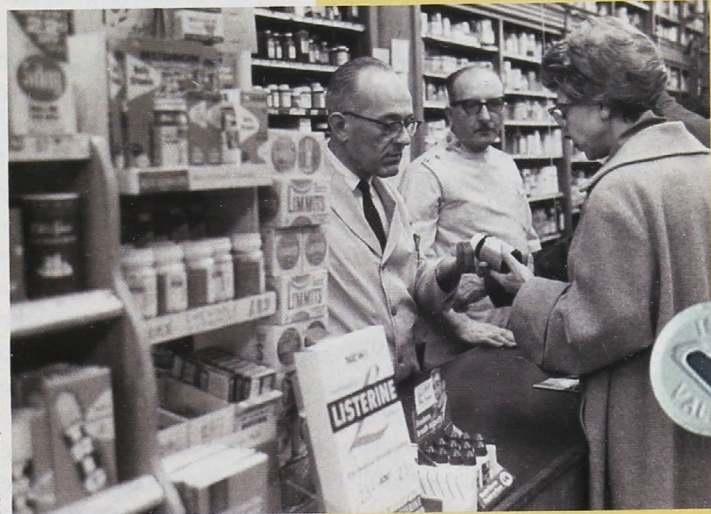
That experience got Tone thinking about how tranquilizers were introduced, and it sparked the research that led to her latest book. "How did we become a nation of pill poppers?" she mused.

WELCOME TO MILTOWN

For Andrea Tone, the history of tranquilizers in America is as much a story about ordinary lives and happenstance as it is about scientific achievement and mass marketing. As a researcher, she examines how societal shifts, commercial considerations and government policy-making all affect the manner in which new medical innovations are introduced and developed. As a writer, she brings a gift for storytelling that has earned her critical respect for the manner in which she pursues these themes. While Tone is certainly intrigued by how decisions are reached in the corridors of power, she is much more concerned about the impact these decisions have on everyday lives.

In *The Age of Anxiety*, Tone writes about the introduction in 1955 of Miltown (meprobamate). The drug was an accidental discovery by a researcher named Frank Berger (he was actually looking for a preservative for penicillin). Once he understood the potential applications for his new drug, he struggled for years to convince his bosses at Carter Products, a company best known for an over-the-counter laxative, that it was worth the effort to pursue FDA approval for Miltown. When Berger finally succeeded, his company "went from not being taken seriously to becoming the envy of pharmaceutical companies the world over," says Tone.

Before Miltown, named for the New Jersey town it was discovered in, there was no sense that such a drug was



RALPH MORSE/TIME & LIFE PICTURES

even needed. Once introduced to the public, it quickly became a sensation. At one point, one-third of all prescriptions written by U.S. physicians were for Miltown. Production of the pills would get backlogged, with new deliveries announced in newspapers and banners heralding "Yes, we have Miltown!" hung up in drugstore windows.

The pills were handed out at parties and movie premieres, and TV personalities like Milton Berle publicly crowed about how often he took the pills and how good they made him feel. Sometimes, he even called himself "Uncle Miltown." In *The Age of Anxiety*, Tone paints a picture of the hoopla over Miltown, of Lucille Ball taking a pill in her coffee after a particular nasty fight with her then husband, Desi Arnaz, and Jerry Lewis promising nominees who failed to take an Oscar at an Academy Awards ceremony that buttered Miltowns would be available in the lobby to help them deal with their disappointment.

Tone says part of the reason for Miltown's spectacular success had to do with the "rise of a consumer convenience ethos" during that era. Miltown, McDonald's, credit cards and TV dinners all made their debuts at roughly the same time. They all offered "the fantasy of the quick fix" to time- and cash-strapped consumers. After all, psychotherapy, notes Tone, "was beyond the financial reach of many people."

For the next few decades, tranquilizers continued to enjoy amazing popularity. Between 1968 and 1981, Tone notes, Valium (diazepam) was the most widely prescribed drug in the Western world, with almost 2.3 billion tablets sold. In the seventies and eighties, though, things began to change. Concerns about the addictive nature of some tranquilizers emerged, and government and police officials began evincing a much sterner "crack down on drugs" mentality.

"One reason why so many housewives were taking tranks," Tone says, "is because they felt isolated, un-

A woman purchases tranquilizers at a drugstore in 1963.

ported and overwhelmed by the incredible burden of running a household and making ends meet.” Supportive social programs—universal daycare, for instance—could have had a huge impact for these women. “The political establishment, while scrutinizing the hazards of tranquilizer use, stopped short of backing structural and social changes that might have empowered Americans to enjoy their lives more fully.”

According to Tone, most doctors would agree that tranquilizers helped more people than they hurt. But one of the chapters in her book, which quotes from the hundreds of letters sent to the FDA by tranquilizer users struggling with an unexpected dependency on the drugs and other side effects, offers wrenching testimony to the damage that tranquilizers wrought in many lives. No two people are exactly the same, Tone argues, and patients are never well served by a one-size-fits-all approach to treatments. “We live in an age when evidence-based medicine seeks to make generalizations about what is best for the masses,” suggests Tone, “when decisions about what drugs work for whom are still best sorted out at the individual level.”

SQUASH COURT EPIPHANY

Now 44, Tone spent most of her early years in Victoria, B.C., after moving with her family from Michigan. Her adoptive father, Eike Kluge, was a professor in the philosophy department at the University of Victoria, while her mother, Elke, stayed at home for the first few years before doing a law degree. Andrea and her younger brother had a structured yet unconventional upbringing, with blunt, forward-thinking parents who taught their offspring to ask hard questions and respect other people’s choices, even if they might not agree with them.

Tone was both sporty and bookish, approaching anything that interested her with an all-or-nothing attitude. One series of books in particular captured her youthful attention—Lucy Maud Montgomery’s series about Anne Shirley, the spunky red-haired orphan who was introduced in *Anne of Green Gables* and was destined to fall in love with her youthful nemesis, Gilbert Blythe. When she was in university, Tone actually broke up with a boyfriend by sorrowfully telling him, “You’re not my Gilbert.” He had no idea what she was talking about, which proved her point.

In high school, Tone took up squash, becoming so expert at the game, she was ranked in the province. She also played field hockey and badminton, edited the school’s yearbook, was a peer counsellor and, for one year only, was a cheerleader, albeit one who believed so strongly in equality of the sexes, she approached the captains of the girls’ teams to assure them that the squad was there for them, too. “They thought the offer was absolutely ludicrous,” she admits.

Tone studied industrial history as an undergraduate at Queen’s University, in preparation for a law degree. But once in law school, she discovered she hated it from the get-go and called her mother to tell her so. “These assign-



Controversy has surrounded the topic of contraceptives for centuries.

ments are just so horrible,” she said. “I’m reading about 19th-century miners but I’m not interested in relating them to contemporary principles that I’m supposed to eventually take into the courtroom. I’m thinking about the miners in the 19th century and their working conditions, period.”

After three weeks, she officially dropped out, returning to Queen’s history department for another year of undergraduate work before continuing on to graduate school. A few years later, Tone pursued a PhD at Emory University in Atlanta. Finalizing her thesis on the evolution of U.S. corporate welfare programs, she began to think she should be doing something more.

She confided this in a friend who happened to be an Episcopal priest as they smashed balls around during a squash game. The other woman stopped playing for an instant, gave Tone the once-over and said, “I think you should do some volunteer work.” Soon, she was working at an Atlanta health clinic, deciding which of the indigent, pregnant women desperate for an abortion she would recommend for the procedure. Their stories were legion and terrible: dazed women who’d been raped by relatives, teens who were terrified to tell their parents of their condition and prostitutes who would surely be beaten to a pulp by their pimps if their condition was ever found out.

Each week, Tone could present only one woman’s case to the clinic’s lawyers. It was better than nothing at all, she knew, but who was she to decide? Despite the U.S. Supreme Court having cleared the way for abortions in *Roe v. Wade* back in 1973, a Republican-sponsored

LES YEUX TOURNÉS VERS LE CIEL

L'amélioration
des prévisions
météorologiques est
littéralement dans la
ligne de mire du radar
d'Isztar Zawadzki.

PAR MARK REYNOLDS
TRADUCTION
D'ISABELLE CHEVAL



Les prévisions météorologiques sont parfois une question de vie ou de mort. À la lumière du tragique bilan humain résultant du passage du cyclone Nargis au Myanmar, cela paraît évident. Mais les Canadiens ont souvent tendance à oublier qu'une trop grande quantité de pluie au mauvais moment peut être fatale. Les pluies torrentielles qui se sont abattues sur Montréal durant l'été 1987 en sont un exemple. En quelques minutes, l'eau a inondé le sous-sol des habitations, les rues et le réseau de métro et causé la mort d'un homme pris au piège dans sa voiture sur la voie express Décarie brusquement submergée.

Selon Iszta Zawadzki, M. Sc. 1968, Ph. D. 1972, nous devons nous préoccuper davantage de la météo. « Notre besoin de comprendre et la nécessité d'obtenir plus de renseignements suit la croissance de la population mondiale », déclare-t-il.

Directeur de l'Observatoire radar météorologique J. S. Marshall de McGill, le Pr Zawadzki est précisément là pour fournir ces informations. La Ville de Montréal utilise par exemple les données recueillies par l'installation qu'il dirige à Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue pour la gestion de son

réseau de canalisations d'eaux de ruissellement et d'égouts. Or, c'est justement l'application directe des travaux de recherche de pointe qui motive Iszta Zawadzki. Originaire d'Argentine, il est arrivé au Canada au cours des années 1960 pour une formation de neuf mois sous la direction de James Stewart Marshall à McGill. À titre de responsable du groupe de travail sur les radars créé par le gouvernement canadien lors la Deuxième Guerre mondiale, et fort à propos baptisé Stormy Weather (régime de tempête), le Pr Marshall a été le premier à percevoir au-delà des applications immédiates des radars en matière de repérage des avions. Après tout, et contrairement à la météorologie, les guerres ne durent pas.

DE L'EAU, SUR TERRE COMME AU CIEL

Ne pouvant regagner son pays à cause d'un coup d'État, le Pr Zawadzki est demeuré à Montréal et dirige aujourd'hui l'institut où il a un jour été étudiant. Depuis 1968, son « laboratoire » est situé à proximité du campus Macdonald. La partie la plus visible de l'observatoire est une tour de 30 mètres surmontée de ce qui ressemble à une balle de golf géante de 12 mètres de diamètre. Cet écran sphérique abrite

PHOTO : RACHEL GRANOFESKY

Du haut du Pavillon Burnside, au campus du centre-ville de l'Université McGill, le chercheur en études atmosphériques Iszta Zawadzki collige des données météorologiques d'une importance capitale, notamment en gestion d'égouts pluviaux municipaux et en sécurité aérienne.

« Le passage de la recherche fondamentale à la recherche appliquée est très rapide. » – PR ISZTAR ZAWADZKI

le disque rotatif de neuf mètres du Radar Doppler sur bande S, le plus grand de sa catégorie au Canada.

Alors qu'il étudiait la physique à Buenos Aires, le Pr Zawadzki s'est tourné vers les études atmosphériques « Parce que je voulais faire quelque chose de socialement utile ». Non sans ajouter immédiatement : « J'étais jeune alors ».

À l'époque, l'essentiel des recherches dans ce domaine avait pour but de comprendre la formation de la grêle afin d'en limiter les effets dévastateurs sur les cultures. Les recherches du Pr Zawadzki demeurent axées sur les précipitations verglaçantes, et n'ont rien perdu de leur utilité sociale.

Contrairement à ce que l'on pourrait penser, l'eau peut exister sous forme liquide dans l'atmosphère supérieure, même à des températures de moins vingt degrés Celsius. Elle peut coexister avec des cristaux de glace dans les nuages, et la dynamique de différentes formes de liquide dans les courants atmosphériques peut radicalement modifier la nature des précipitations qui en résultent.

« Ces cristaux de glace peuvent grossir par agrégation et collision, ou en se chargeant d'eau superrefroidie », explique-t-il.

Les recherches du Pr Zawadzki visent en partie à élaborer des algorithmes qui permettront aux installations radars de mieux distinguer les variétés de cristaux de glace et l'eau superrefroidie dans l'atmosphère. Les météorologues pourront ainsi affiner leurs prédictions de grésil, de grêle, de neige ou de verglas.

UNE ATMOSPHÈRE D'INNOVATION

L'équipe de l'Observatoire J. S. Marshall n'est pas seulement ferrée sur le plan de la théorie, elle se compose aussi de techniciens hors pair. À ce titre, elle n'est pas sans rappeler l'esprit « système D » qui a caractérisé le projet Stormy Weather. C'est ainsi que les membres de l'équipe ont mis au point un radar de pointage vertical et son logiciel correspondant pour sonder l'atmosphère en vue d'y déceler des mélanges d'eau et de glace. Une version de ce dispositif novateur, conçue pour détecter la neige et la vapeur d'eau superrefroidie, est actuellement mise à l'essai à l'Aéroport international Pearson de Toronto.

« Les avions qui volent dans de telles conditions météorologiques risquent d'accumuler de l'eau superrefroidie qui finira par geler. L'accumulation de glace sur les ailes des avions en réduit la portance », précise le Pr Zawadzki. Chaque année, le gel cause l'écrasement de petits et de gros appareils; ce fut notamment le cas au Manitoba en 2006.

Les recherches du Pr Zawadzki s'étendent au-delà du rayon de 300 kilomètres correspondant à la portée du

radar de l'Observatoire J. S. Marshall. Ainsi, le radar de McGill est le seul participant canadien au projet américain Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere (CASA)/détection adaptative concertée de l'atmosphère, qui vise à révolutionner la manière dont les données météorologiques sont recueillies et rapportées. L'une des grandes faiblesses des radars météorologiques tient à leur propension à suréchantillonner l'atmosphère supérieure; la sphéricité de la Terre empêche en effet la plupart des radars d'observer certains phénomènes en basse altitude. Pour y remédier, le projet CASA, financé par la Fondation nationale des sciences et dirigé par l'Université du Massachusetts, entend déployer un réseau de radars à prix abordable et à haute densité pour recueillir des données localisées qui permettront de brosser un tableau précis et exhaustif des conditions météorologiques à plus grande échelle, et de combler les observations que les radars traditionnels ne peuvent recueillir dans l'atmosphère inférieure.

Isztar Zawadzki et deux professeurs adjoints du Département des sciences atmosphériques et océaniques, Frédéric Fabry, B. Sc. 1988, M. Sc. 1990, Ph. D. 1994, et Pavlos Kollias, mènent des recherches sur un banc d'essai du projet CASA en Oklahoma, et exploitent un radar-pilote à Amherst, au Massachusetts. Mais l'équipe nourrit de plus hautes ambitions. Selon le Pr Zawadzki, le Canada pourrait devenir un partenaire à part entière du projet CASA. Si les droits de propriété intellectuelle constituent indéniablement une motivation (l'équipe de McGill travaille déjà avec Raytheon, un important conglomerat technologique américain), la nouvelle technologie pourrait fort bien être adaptée à l'observation du climat dans le Grand Nord.

« Le projet consiste à construire un banc d'essai canadien en vue d'adapter ce système aux conditions climatiques qui prévalent au pays », explique-t-il.

Le Pr Zawadzki précise que l'observation du climat à McGill revêt des applications immédiates et utiles. Outre le soutien de la Ville de Montréal, l'essentiel du budget d'exploitation de l'observatoire est pris en charge par Environnement Canada, que la station alimente en données. Lorsque les chercheurs de l'observatoire de Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue ont conçu un nouvel algorithme pour les prévisions à court terme, l'organisme d'État a pu l'intégrer relativement rapidement.

« Le passage de la recherche fondamentale à la recherche appliquée est très rapide. Les recherches que nous menons débouchent inmanquablement sur des méthodes opérationnelles à très court terme », conclut le Pr Zawadzki. 🐦

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She's no gossip girl

Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart is determined to help keep your secrets safe.

BY SHELDON GORDON



The interview with Jennifer Stoddart is off to an awkward start. She refuses to answer one of the very first questions: When was she born? "It's not that I want to pretend my age is something that it isn't," she says, smiling. People need to be cautious before revealing too much about themselves, she explains. The incidence of identity theft is skyrocketing, and for hi-tech swindlers on the prowl, "your birth date is a very important ingredient."

The woman clearly knows what she is talking about. As Canada's privacy commissioner, Stoddart, BCL'80, is the country's official advocate for the privacy rights of its citizens. She is also the chief enforcer of two key federal government statutes. One, the 25-year-old Privacy Act, imposes limits on how some 150 different federal government departments and agencies can collect, use and reveal personal information about Canadians. The other is the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA), enacted in 2001, which sets the rules for what the private sector can do with what it knows about us.

"I'm not a privacy zealot," says Stoddart, "but I do recognize that this is a crucial time in the evolution of privacy rights." The reasons for this are manifold: New information technologies, new security concerns in the wake of 9/11 and globalization are but three factors complicating the protection of individuals' privacy rights.

A STICKY INHERITANCE

Stoddart arrived at the Office of the Privacy Commissioner boasting a résumé that looked custom-built for her new job. In her previous position, Stoddart was the president of Quebec's Commission d'accès à l'information, overseeing a provincial agency that dealt regularly with privacy concerns. She has an extensive background in human rights as a past vice-president of Quebec's Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse and, before that, as a staff lawyer with the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

When Stoddart graduated from McGill with her law degree in 1980, she knew she wouldn't be pursuing a corporate career on Bay Street. "The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms was being talked about and written at the time that I became a lawyer," she recalls, "and the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms had just been adopted recently. It was an exciting time for a lawyer to get involved in public service."

She attributes her interest in human rights issues, in part, to her time at McGill.

"My McGill experience was really positive," Stoddart says. "I was interested in exploring the history of women's rights in Quebec and I wanted to examine things that were, perhaps, a little unorthodox for a law school."

Half expecting the Faculty of Law to be somewhat stodgy, she was delighted to discover that its professors were, in fact, receptive to "students with out-of-the-box ideas. It was a very vibrant atmosphere, filled with intellectual curiosity."

A much different atmosphere awaited her when she took the privacy commissioner post back in December 2003. There was a big mess in the OPC that needed to be cleaned up.

Her predecessor, George Radwanski, BA'68, BCL'71, had resigned the position under controversial circumstances. Solicitor General Sheila Fraser, BCom '72, in reviewing the workings of the OPC, concluded that there had been "a major failure of management controls and the abuse of public funds by the former commissioner and some senior executives," adding that the office, under Radwanski's leadership, experienced a "reign of terror."

For his part, Radwanski charged that he was the victim of a "smear campaign" and that his chief sin was that he was too forceful in advocating for the privacy rights of Canadians.

Shortly after Stoddart's arrival, the RCMP confirmed that it had launched a criminal investigation into Radwanski's conduct. "It was pretty chaotic," she recalls. RCMP agents and auditors literally set up shop inside her office and many of her new colleagues were fed up with the turmoil. "We lost a lot of good staff. At a time when privacy concerns have never been greater in Canada, my office lost focus, momentum and energy because we were responding to all these investigations."

The OPC was badly in need of rehab. "In an organization that had not lived according to the rules, we had to rebuild our administrative processes from scratch," she says. She dedicated herself to ensuring that the OPC could be held to the highest standards of accountability and transparency. "It took a couple of years before the unions and the employees understood that we walked the talk in terms of values and ethics."

By 2005, when Ottawa's *Hill Times* newspaper surveyed public servants about which of 54 different departments and agencies were the best employers, the once troubled OPC and its sister agency, the Office of the Information Commission, ranked a very respectable 11th.

"She inherited an office beset by low morale and considerable public controversy," notes Michael Geist, the University of Ottawa's Canada Research Chair in Internet and E-commerce Law. Geist, who sits on the external advisory committee for the OPC, admires the work she has done in helping to turn the office around. "Commissioner Stoddart has been an exceptional leader for the Canadian privacy community over the past few years."

"She brought credibility back to the [OPC] in a really profound way," adds Dulcie McCallum, who heads Nova Scotia's Freedom of Information and Privacy Review Office.

INFO HEISTS

Stoddart knows first-hand how it feels to have one's privacy pillaged. Three years ago, a *Macleans* article detailed how a reporter obtained records of telephone calls that Stoddart made from her home phone and office BlackBerry numbers. The reporter bought the phone logs from a U.S. data broker, which had, in turn, acquired them from telecom carriers Bell and Telus.

“This is a crucial time in th

TOM HANSON/CANADIAN PRESS



At a press conference in February, Stoddart discussed secret RCMP data banks containing sensitive information about Canadians.

Stoddart knew something suspicious was happening when the U.S. data broker phoned her son three times, “lying about various scenarios, trying to get him to give out my cell phone number.” Her son, detecting an American accent from somebody claiming to represent a Canadian carrier, “was very savvy. He spoke French to them. When that failed, though, they pretexted their way into Bell.” Pretexting involves lying about who you are and creating a false scenario to cajole someone into giving information, usually over the telephone.

“I was appalled that this was happening,” says Stoddart. She wasn’t thrilled to find herself on the cover of *Maclean’s* as an example of just how vulnerable Canadians were to having information about their private phone calls swiped by strangers. The OPC launched a probe of the carriers. “This led to a major rethink of the customer authentication procedures at Bell and Telus. The procedures are stronger now,” she says.

“The U.S. cracked down on this by passing anti-pretexting legislation,” she adds, “but I’m concerned that in Canada we still haven’t passed legislation to deal with this.” The global trade in personal information trafficking is growing by leaps and bounds, warns Stoddart. Some experts estimate that cybercrime is now a \$105-billion business. According to the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, a case of identity theft is reported every three minutes.

Stoddart is blunt in assessing how well Canada protects its citizens from cybercrime — not nearly as well as most other industrialized countries. She carries around a rather lengthy to-do list in her head when it comes to issues she would like to encourage her government to focus its attention on.

“We are the only country in the G8 without anti-spam legislation,” she declares. “We haven’t given much thought

to how the criminal code should address identity theft.” In terms of data breach notification — letting clients know when a third party has hacked into a company’s system to access private information about them — Stoddart says that most U.S. states take a much sterner stance than Canada does.

Stoddart herself has taken a tough stand against these types of data heists.

One evening in January 2007, while working late, she received a phone call from an American lawyer specializing in data protection. The caller informed her that during the previous 18 months, hackers had looted the customer databases of TJX Companies Inc. — a retail empire that includes Winners department stores in Canada — in what amounted to the largest online burglary ever.

A few days after the call, TJX itself ‘fessed up to the OPC that its computer network had been penetrated and stripped of the personal data from 45 million credit and debit cards in Canada, the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.K. and Ireland. The figure would later be revised to 94 million.

The OPC and its counterpart in Alberta (where most of the Canadian damage occurred) began a joint investigation. In their report, the privacy guardians slammed TJX for collecting too much information and holding on to it for too long, failing to update its security systems on a timely basis, and neglecting to adequately monitor its system for break-ins.

As Stoddart noted in a speech earlier this year, “Crooks were merrily making off with millions of credit and debit card numbers while TJX executives were having this debate about the merits of paying for up-to-date security. TJX gambled — and they lost.” The report presented recommendations to address these defects, and a chastened TJX adopted them.

Stoddart considers the TJX debacle a wake-up call for the private sector as a whole. TJX has suffered breach-related costs of over \$200 million, and the tab will rise as U.S. investigations conclude and fines are imposed. “I understand the picture in the U.S. and Canada has been improving,” she said earlier this year. “My hunch is that one word — TJX — goes a long way when security experts go to senior executives looking for money to pay for upgrades.”

PUSHING BACK AT TECHNOLOGY

While companies may be taking data protection more seriously, thefts continue to occur. The OPC received 21 voluntary breach reports in the first five months of 2008. Stoddart is pushing for the now voluntary reporting of data breaches to be made mandatory.

That’s not the only change she is hoping to see. The Commissioner also wants her office freed from the

olution of privacy rights.”

legislative yoke of having to investigate every single complaint it receives related to the privacy acts it oversees. Only 16 per cent of the complaints that the OPC receives about government departments and agencies are considered to be well founded. She wants to have greater authority to choose which investigations the OPC will and won't pursue.

This would hopefully allow her office to devote more staff time to reviewing emerging systemic threats to privacy. In Stoddart's view, there is no shortage of things to worry about on that front. And she would rather address things before they become problematic than after the fact.

Patient-accessible electronic health records are one such issue. In February, Google Inc. launched a pilot project with the Cleveland Clinic, a U.S. medical centre seeking to give patients online access to their own medical records. If successful, the expectation is that Google will expand the program, possibly north of the border. "A lot of Canadians may be interested in confiding their personal health information to a Google health file," says Stoddart. "But who is it shared with? We're talking with Google on that topic."

National security continues to be a major challenge to privacy, she says. Stoddart worries that, in this post 9/11 era, the balance has shifted too far towards anti-terrorism measures and away from personal privacy. The OPC is about to audit Transport Canada's no-fly list, which allows would-be airline passengers whose name appears on the list to be grounded without notice. "It's been said that in some ethnic communities, people avoid flying now because they're afraid their name will come up [erroneously] and they don't wish to be embarrassed at the airport."

Stoddart is certain of one thing — Canadians care about privacy. Case in point: the hundreds of thousands of Canadians who stampeded to have their names included on the recently created Do Not Call List — which prevents direct marketers from phoning them at home. "The website crashed, there were so many Canadians using it [to have their names added to the list]." Stoddart was one of them.

Younger Canadians, though, aren't quite so concerned about their privacy, as evidenced by all the personal information so many of them happily volunteer about themselves on Facebook, MySpace and other social networking sites. Stoddart worries that many teens and young adults don't grasp the risks involved in being too forthright about their lives in a forum that so many can access. These risks

range from Internet predators and cyberbullies to potential employers stumbling upon embarrassing youthful indiscretions while doing background checks. According to recent research at Ryerson University's Privacy and Cyber Crime Unit — done with OPC support — young people are generally oblivious to these risks.

One complaint that the OPC is looking into right now involves Facebook, which, Stoddart notes, has well over seven million users in Canada alone. The complaint alleges, among other things, that Facebook doesn't do nearly enough to protect its users' privacy rights from spammers and hackers. The OPC's investigation into this will be closely monitored by privacy experts across the country.

Stoddart says the OPC's toughest task is to simply keep pace with technological innovations and their implications. "The most we can hope for is to keep Canadians informed of the challenges — not to reject technology, but not to be complacent — and to ask where personal information is going, who's using it. If we push back at technology as a society, technology will adapt."

While Stoddart has earned wide respect for her work at the OPC, she is determined not to overstay her welcome. Once her seven-year appointment ends in 2010, she believes it will be time for new leadership. "I'd like to continue in the public service, but at some point the best thing you can do is move on," she says. "I wouldn't tell you my birth date," she confides, "but I'm not a young geek." ❦

Sheldon Gordon is a freelance writer in Toronto. He is a former journalist with the Toronto Star, the Globe and Mail and CBC-TV.

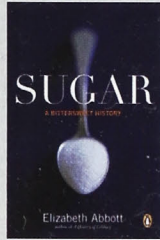


Over the course of 18 months, cyber-thieves systematically pilfered the data holdings of retail giant TJX Companies Inc.

“If we push back at technology as a society, technology will adapt.”

SUGAR: A BITTERSWEET HISTORY

by Elizabeth Abbott, MA'66, PhD'71,
published by Penguin Canada



Like oil is today, sugar was once a powerful commodity that shaped world affairs, influencing the economic policies of nations, driving international trade and wreaking environmental havoc.

Author Elizabeth Abbott is a Canadian whose ancestors settled in Antigua and became sugar planters. Fascinated by her West Indian heritage, she began a decades-long study of sugar and what she learned is both fascinating and repugnant.

Sugar cane was probably first grown on small plots in the South Pacific and made its way throughout the world in “a long and meandering march.” Arriving eventually in the New World with Europeans like Christopher Columbus, it brought death and misery on an astonishing scale. Growing sugar cane for export required huge work crews and involved backbreaking, dangerous labour. Indigenous peoples were run off their land and forced to work on cane plantations. Some groups, like the millions of Taino natives of Hispaniola, were completely exterminated. As local populations dwindled, African slaves were imported to fill the demand for field hands. Disease, starvation, injury and despair killed up to 40 per cent of workers. The abolition of slavery, finally achieved in the 1830s, brought little relief. It was replaced by a system of indenture and although workers were supposedly paid a fair wage, conditions changed very little.

Abbott also traces the social history of sugar. At first it was so expensive that it was available only to royalty, but by the end of the 19th century, ice cream saloons were popular gathering places, cotton candy and other confections were sold by street vendors, European choco-

latiers Cadbury and Lindt were making a fortune and an American named Hershey would soon catch up.

Our modern, sugar-soaked diet will have dire consequences, warns Abbott. “Raging diabetes will burden health care systems, erode the labour force, hobble military enlistment and transform the families of unwell diabetics.” And environmentally, sugar cane is a disaster, having caused “a greater loss of biodiversity on the planet than any other single crop.”

Abbott’s meticulously researched narrative is authoritative and compelling. There’s nothing sweet about the story, but it’s utterly absorbing.

DIANA GRIER AYTON

HEAVY METAL IN BAGHDAD

directed by Suroosh Alvi, BA'91, and
Eddy Moretti, released by Vice Films



Vice, the magazine co-founded by Suroosh Alvi, made its name trading in catty humour and bratty shock values, the literary equivalent of

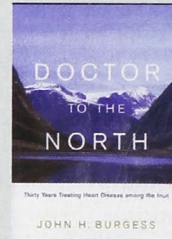
Jackass: sometimes hilarious, sometimes offensive, and pretty much always uncomfortable. That Alvi would make a documentary called *Heavy Metal in Baghdad* isn’t a great surprise — that the film doesn’t include a single mullet joke, however, is astounding. Instead, the film is an earnest look at the endless tribulations of Acrassicauda, the only metal band in the Iraqi capital. (The band’s name is a nod to a particularly deadly scorpion.) Over the course of a few years, the filmmakers pay several visits to the Acrassicauda members, taking stock of their bad-to-worse changes of (mis)fortune. Surprisingly, music doesn’t play a huge role in the film, due in large part to the fact that power blackouts and police interference make gigs near-impossible. The film is an engaging look at young Iraqis struggling to keep

a dream, and themselves, alive in a war zone. Sure, there are some laughs, such as archival footage of a very young Acrassicauda appeasing the regime with a slapped-together ode to Saddam Hussein, but even the ha-ha awfulness of the lyrics pales compared to the no-joke awfulness of the situation that forced them into being. “Like an Arabic saying we got,” explains bassist Firas. “To stay away from the devil, sing for him.” The film’s strength is showing tiny moments of regular lives heaving under the weight of oppression, such as when the band picks through the bombed-out remnants of their practice space. *Heavy Metal in Baghdad* is, surprisingly, heart-breaking and harrowing. With, yeah, a few bitchin’ guitar solos.

JAMES MARTIN, MLIS'05

DOCTOR TO THE NORTH: THIRTY YEARS TREATING HEART DISEASE AMONG THE INUIT

by John H. Burgess, BSc'54,
MDCM'58, published by McGill-Queen's
University Press



This superb book is a window on medicine in Canada in the mid-20th century. John Burgess, a recipient of the Order of Canada and a former president of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, leads the readers through his McGill medical education in cardiology, his career at the Montreal General Hospital and then his three decades treating Inuit heart disease on Baffin Island and in northern Quebec. Individual case histories are used effectively to define the author’s experience and the problems of heart disease and public health issues in Inuit communities.

When appointed chief of cardiology at the Montreal General in 1973, the author was also appointed consulting cardiologist to the McGill-Baffin Program, a government project to

supply sophisticated medical care from southern Canada to the Inuit. He would spend a few weeks a year on Baffin Island, and later in northern Quebec, at small hospitals seeing patients from the territory. His clinical expertise had to serve as his major resource because of a lack of sophisticated investigatory equipment. Anyone too sick to be managed locally would be sent to the Montreal General.

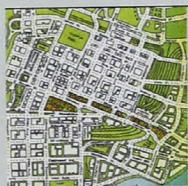
The author also describes the evolution of medical care for the Inuit over the last 150 years. He devotes considerable space to the major public health issue of the gradual appearance of “white man’s” cardiovascular disease in the northern Inuit. This sad fact is linked to the commercial quest to open up the North to modern food habits, the cigarette and other products which expose the population to the sort of atherosclerotic vascular disease that was already far too common in the south.

The consequences of this inexorable commercial pressure from the south—there is even a picture of an Inuit candy store—is the most important message of this book as health care workers now struggle to undo the harm caused by this manifestation of “progress.”

JOSEPH HANAWAY, BA’56, MDCM’60

ACCIDENTAL RAILWAY

by Krista Muir, BA’97, released by Indica Records



While there are plenty of Montreal bands who enjoy higher record sales, it’s hard to think of many musicians in the city who inspire more affection from the locals than Krista Muir, who, until recently, was better known as her pigtailed and oddly outfitted alter ego, Lederhosen Lucil.

Lucil, decked out in her German short pants, making inane chitchat in a faux Bavarian accent between songs, could always be counted on to provide

a goofy good time. But the antics threatened to obscure the fact that Muir was a real talent with an appealing (if somewhat limited) voice, an off-the-wall way of looking at the world and a knack for crafting quirky, hummable tunes. If Weird Al Yankovic suddenly put aside the shtick and produced the next *Pet Sounds* or *London Calling*, would anybody take it seriously?

In her most recent work, including her latest album, *Accidental Railway*, Muir has been giving Lucil the night off, coming to the fore as an artist in her own right. While the pigtailed have been put aside, Muir hasn’t lost her flair for the unexpected (the baritone ukulele, not the most fashionable of instruments, figures prominently) or her sense of fun—the lyric sheet comes equipped with recipes (and the blueprint offered for “the perfect lemon tart” does indeed sound yummy).

The real pleasure, though, comes from her breezily addictive (if occasionally sombre-themed) songs—“Summer Eyes,” in particular, is a catchy standout. While Lucil will be missed, the future adventures of Krista Muir will be well worth looking out for.

DANIEL MCCABE, BA’89

JENNY GREEN’S KILLER JUNIOR YEAR

by Amy Belasen and Jacob Osborn, published by Simon Pulse

BIG, BIG SKY

by Kristyn Dunnion, published by Red Deer Press



Montreal is a great setting for young adult fiction. Jenny Green’s *Killer Junior Year*, co-authored by Amy

Belasen and Jacob Osborn, draws much on Belasen’s time here. There may be quite a few young readers inspired to apply to McGill after finishing a tale of teen intrigue that owes a lot to the guilty pleasures of the *Gossip Girl* series, and a little less to the thrillers of Patricia Highsmith. Pursuing a high school crush, Jenny Green finds herself at Molson Academy, a fictional Montreal downtown prep school that feels an awful lot like a university we all know.

Jenny, a self-described “New York City JAP,” can’t believe her luck landing in a town with such a low drinking age, and so much shopping within walking distance of the campus. Too bad about all the date rapists and lecherous profs. And too bad Jenny deals with the male population in ways that are way worse than *wicked*. Like, totally. Hopefully, Belasen’s young readers will learn much from this cautionary tale on how not to dress, and how not to murder most of your boyfriends before moving on to the faculty.

As killing goes, however, this is light-hearted stuff compared to the teenage cyberpunk assassins of Kristyn Dunnion’s *Big, Big Sky*. Dunnion is a more serious-minded writer and is already well regarded for her highly realistic portrayals of teen street life. This is her third novel. (perhaps the killer junior one?) The strong female friendships of this successful stab at speculative fiction echo much of the dark but poignant teenage urban angst of Dunnion’s last book, *Mosh Pit*. Here Dunnion pushes the YA envelope about as far as it can go without being an actual mail bomb. Turns out that poverty-stricken, disease-infested, post-apocalyptic Earth has been invaded by an alien race of ScanMans bent on killing off all remaining human adults. Young female orphans have been recruited to an underground training camp, where they become a gang of quick-thinking teen amazons. You’d think ScanMans might have a clue that gangs of teen amazons aren’t generally known for unquestioning obedience. Apparently they haven’t read enough YA.

JULIET WATERS

MAKING HISTORY

Campaign McGill *moves forward*



**CAMPAIGN
McGill**

HISTORY IN
THE MAKING

HEADING INTO YEAR 2

Campaign McGill entered the second year of its five-year public phase with a lot to celebrate. As of October 31, 2008, more than \$444-million has been raised from 63,737 donors worldwide. Gifts from individuals add up to 79.63 per cent of all giving to date.

Launched on October 18, 2007, Campaign McGill seeks to raise the funds needed to attract and retain the world's best students and faculty, increase access to quality education and enhance McGill's ability to address critical global challenges.

- Advancing health and wellness
- Building global prosperity
- Creating the next generation of science and technology
- Protecting the environment
- Strengthening culture and civil society

\$444.3-million from 63,737 donors as of 31-10-08.

\$750M

\$500M

\$250M



Gifts of all sizes count toward Campaign McGill.

RECENT HISTORY MAKERS

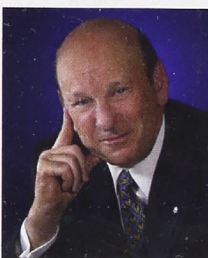


The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation

has made history again with a gift of \$20-million to support the student experience at McGill. Well over 25,000 scholarships, fellowships, bursaries and awards have been granted to McGill students since the Foundation's inception in 1937.



The Morris and Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation has made a visionary donation to support the groundbreaking work of the McGill Cancer Centre, now renamed the Rosalind and Morris Goodman Cancer Centre in their honour.



Seymour Schulich added to his extensive philanthropic legacy, with a new gift of \$5-million to create fellow-

ships for graduate students in agricultural and environmental sciences, architecture and urban planning, physics, mathematics and statistics.

THE MAKING HISTORY TOUR

Principal Heather Munroe-Blum continues to meet with alumni, parents and friends.

San Francisco, September 25: Held at the Presidio Golden Gate Club, the event attracted more than 150 guests. One of McGill's outstanding academics, Karim Nader, gave a thought-provoking talk on "Taming Trauma." Another event was held the next morning in Palo Alto. Marc LePage, Canadian Consul General to San Francisco/Silicon Valley, attended both events.

Los Angeles, September 27: About 200 guests visited the residence of David Fransen, the new Canadian Consul General for Los Angeles, with Professor Nader the keynote speaker again. Denis Turcotte, Délégué du Québec, was also in attendance and spoke of the proud partnership between Quebec and McGill.

New York, October 6: More than 200 guests packed the trendy 92nd Tribeca in the Big Apple to hear one of McGill's star academics, Daniel Levitin, speak about his new book, *The World in Six Songs: How the Musical Brain Created Human Nature*.

Coming up: Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai, Paris, London, Vancouver and Washington, D.C.

Allyson Rowley, BA'77

Scenes from the *Making History Tour*

TOGETHER

MAKING HISTORY TOGETHER { www.mcgill.ca/campaign }



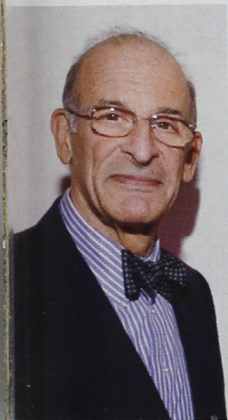
Dr. Paul Russo, BEng'65, and Rie Shigematsu-Collett, MBA'96, in San Francisco.



Campaign California Chair, Dr. Frank Litvack (R), MDCM'79, thanks Professor Karim Nader for his talk.



Vice-Principal (Development & Alumni Relations) Marc Weinstein, BA'85, BCL'91, LLB'91, with Jill Bienenstock and Dr. Bruce Bienenstock, BSc'67, in S.F.



Campaign New York Co-Chair Michael Fieldman, FAIA, BSc'59, BArch'63.



Denis Turcotte, Délégué du Québec in Los Angeles.



Kate Rhodes, BA'04, and Clive Chang, BCom'07, BMus'07, with Principal Heather Munroe-Blum in New York.



Campaign New York Co-Chair Mark Hantbo, BCom'81, and Monica Hantbo, BEd'81, with Principal Munroe-Blum.

RIGHT: Deborah French and Beth Lieberman, McGill parents, in New York.

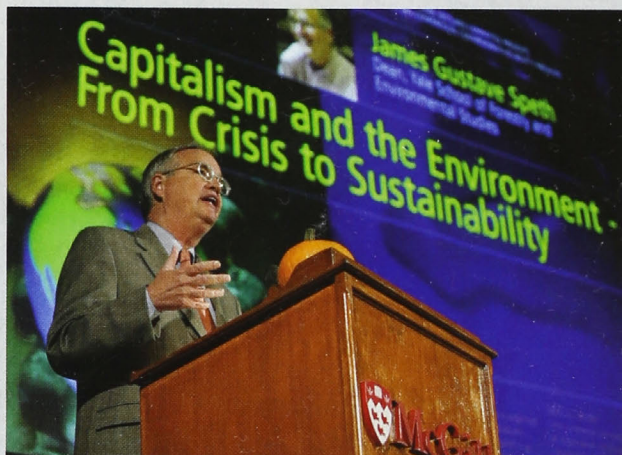


Dr. Charles Stull, BA'77, with Principal Munroe-Blum in N.Y.

DETAILS AND DATES at www.alumni.mcgill.ca/sites/campaign_mcgill

HOMECOMING WEEKEND '08

Homecoming is a long-standing tradition at McGill, and in the last few years the University has been working hard to make the festivities as inclusive as possible. For Homecoming 2008, which took place between October 16 and 19, returning graduates were treated to more than 90 events. From sports and concerts to tours and lectures at the downtown and Macdonald campuses, even the most discerning



NICOLAS MORIN

A CAPITAL PRESENTATION

Distinguished American environmentalist James Gustave Speth identified rampant capitalism as the chief culprit behind the degradation of the environment during the 2008 Beatty Memorial Lecture. Speth is dean of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and the author of the bestselling *Red Sky at Morning: America and the Crisis of the Global Environment*.



NICOLAS MORIN

STARS OF SUSTAINABILITY

McGill geography professor Nigel Roulet mingles with guests following a passionate panel discussion on climate change hosted by the McGill School of Environment as part of its 10th anniversary celebrations. Other panelists included McGill professor Bruno Tremblay, BEng'87, PhD'97, *The American Prospect* senior correspondent Chris Mooney and *Toronto Star* national science reporter Peter Calamai.



NICOLAS MORIN

A GIFT THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD

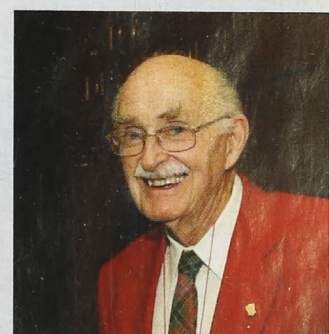
During the 39th Annual Leacock Luncheon, Canadian astronaut Dr. Dave Williams, BSc'76, MSc'83, MDCM'83, DSc'07, presented Principal Heather Munroe-Blum with a McGill coat of arms patch that he wore on a 2007 mission aboard Space Shuttle Endeavour.



NICOLAS MORIN

READERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!

Following the afternoon reading and discussion event *Lunch et Livres*, fans line up to get their copy of *Beijing Confidential* signed by the book's author, Jan Wong, BA'74. The acclaimed writer and journalist appeared on a panel with fellow wordsmiths Peter Behrens and Philip Slayton.



OWEN EGAN

FIFTY YEARS OF SMILES

Dr. Andrew Gillespie, BSc'47, MDCM'48, travelled all the way from British Columbia to reconnect with former classmates at the Jubilee Dinner for alumni celebrating their 50th class anniversary.

alumni went home happy. Once again the McGill Alumni Association invited parents of current students to participate in Homecoming activities as part of the second annual Parents Weekend. They joined an estimated 4,300 alumni, family and friends who journeyed back to campus from places like Belgium, Botswana, Chile, England, Ghana, Germany, France, New Zealand, Spain, Italy, Mexico, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Emirates and, of course, from all over North America. With such diverse participants and such an extensive lineup of events, it's no exaggeration to say that Homecoming now offers the entire University community—alumni, students, staff, parents and friends—a chance to come together and celebrate McGill.



NICOLAS MORIN

SWINGIN' CEREBELLUMS

Gordon Foote, associate dean of McGill's Schulich School of Music, explains the finer points of what makes a killer sax solo. His lecture was one of 14 Classes Without Quizzes (CWOQs), a regular Homecoming offering that features some of the University's most engaging academics riffing on topics as varied as sustainable energy and sports psychology.



CLAUDIO CALLIGARIS

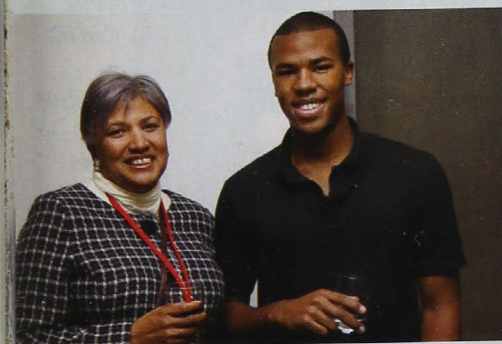
FRESH AIR, FRIENDS AND FAMILY

A guide from *Les amis de la montagne* (Friends of the Mountain), a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting Mount Royal, introduces parents of McGill students to the park's rich history and unique ecosystem. After working up an appetite during the two-hour walk, the tour headed to the historic Smith House to wrap up Parents Weekend with a lavish brunch.



THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL OF THE WEEKEND

Sarasa Mizuno and her mother Kazuko enjoy some flapjacks and sausages at the Homecoming Pre-Game Pancake Breakfast. A new event this year, the Breakfast offered parents and alumni a hot meal before they headed out to cheer on the McGill Redmen football team in their big game.



CLAUDIO CALLIGARIS

DINNER AND DRINKS WITH HISTORY

Melodie Kern and her son Stefon pose for a quick photo at the Parents Association Annual Dinner. Guests were treated to a performance by Effusion, the McGill student a cappella group, a cocktail reception and a private evening viewing of the McCord Museum of Canadian History's collections.



OWEN EGAN

ENGINEERING MEMORIES

A self-described "motley crew" of Engineering '63 grads show off some of their Homecoming loot. Left to right: Claude Leroux, BEng'63, John Beck, BEng'63, Frank Kruzich, BEng'63, MEng'67, Larry Sheehan, BEng'63, Denis Bolduc, BEng'63, and Rod Morrell, BEng'63, DipMan'71.



SO MANY REASONS TO PARTY

Dr. Fred Everett, BSc(Agr)'48 (right), and his wife Kit, BSc(HEc)'48 (left), returned to their alma mater from New Brunswick to celebrate their 60th reunion. At the Gathering of the Clan BBQ, the couple are all smiles with development officer Josée Bonnevillie (centre).



Left to right:
Ron Poirier, BEd'94,
MBA'97, Brian
Oak, Allardyce,
BEng'74,
Heidi Allardyce,
BA'79, Eric Issa,
MBA'98 (standing),
Denis Duclos,
GradCertTrys/Fin'98
and Martine
Simoneau.

Martlets Build Nests for the Needy

Atlanta grads and other Canadian expatriates joined Habitat for Humanity on November 8 for "Canadian Saturday," when they helped construct a house for an underprivileged family. Organized by Brian Oak, Canadian Consul General to Atlanta, volunteers spent the day hard at work installing roofing and insulation.



A Different Kind of Boat Drink

The McGill Alumni Association of Halifax presented a unique evening of cocktails on a Canadian Navy frigate in October, offering grads a chance to rub elbows

with Christopher Manfredi, McGill's dean of arts. The evening was made possible by the assistance of Commander (Retired) Gregory M. Aikins, BA'80, who helped organize the event.

Leacock Laughs Come to Vancouver

Gill and Sandy Tambosso, DDS'57, enjoyed October's 11th Annual Leacock Luncheon in Vancouver. This year, the event was hosted by award-winning actress Nicola Cavendish and moderated by Derek Drummond, BArch'62, McGill's William C. Macdonald Emeritus Professor of Architecture.



Sicilian Splendour

Alumni and friends visited Sicily in September for 10 sunny days of vacation spent exploring the natural beauty of the landscape, the stunning architecture of Palermo, and the region's many well-preserved Greek and Roman ruins.

Techie Travels

Principal Heather Munroe-Blum—pictured here with Dr. Daniel Rosenstein, BSc'91, MDCM'95—visited Palo Alto, California, in September for a breakfast gathering with McGill alumni from Silicon Valley. More than 20 life sciences and information technology grads, along with Marc LePage, Canadian Consul General to San Francisco/Silicon Valley, were in attendance.



Beijing Brunch

Six McGill alumni were among some 25 graduates from Quebec universities who gathered to feast on traditional Chinese brunch foods at Beijing's Quebec Annual Dim Sum event in June. The event kick-started the year for Beijing's alumni group, which has seen a jump in interest from younger grads.

Left to right:
Liang Kong,
DipAccounting'00,
Clovis Couason,
BCom'08, Susan
Macdonald, BSc'76,
MDCM'80, Kevin
Tsui, BCom'96,
Yannick Maher,
PostMBA Cert'00,
Marian Koa,
CertProfFrench'98.

Celebrating Quebec's History

A large crowd gathered at Morrin College Hall in Quebec City to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the city's founding. Organized by Mr. Peter Dunn alongside the Alumni Association of Quebec City, the evening included an address by Chancellor Richard W. Pound, BCom'62, BCL'67, and a performance by a McGill jazz quartet.



Coming Events

January 8, Montreal: Cutting Edge Lecture Series presents University of Toronto geology professor Andrew D. Miall discussing “Energy and climate change: Six popular myths that complicate the development of good public policies.” Redpath Museum Auditorium, 859 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, 7 pm to 8:30 pm. Free. Contact 514-398-4086, Ext: 4094.

January 8, Fort Lauderdale: *Those Were the Days.* Join Leanon and Alvin Segal and Harriet and Marvin Corber for an evening celebrating the rich history of Yiddish song and dance, from European shtetls to Depression-era New York City. Amaturio Theater, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL, \$55.00 (show and reception), 7:30 pm to 10 pm. Contact Eileen Foran at 1-800-567-5175 Ext. 1595 or eileen.foran@mccgill.ca.

January 13, Ottawa: McGill Redmen Football: A Chat with the New Coach. Sonny Wolfe will discuss the current program, recruiting and the outlook for the upcoming season. Patty Boland's Pub (back room), 101 Clarence Street, Ottawa, free, 7 pm to 9 pm. Contact Bruce Hill at 613-789-7822 or hillbruce@rogers.com.



Martha C. Piper, PhD '79, DSc '88, physical therapist and former UBC president, will deliver the inaugural Professor Edith Aston-McCrimmon Lecture on January 25. The lecture series commemorates Aston-McCrimmon, Dip(PTh)'50, BSc(P&OT)'60, MSc(A)'80, a pioneer in the physical therapy profession both at McGill and in Canada.

January 16, Montreal: Freaky Fridays. Jeff McKenzie, assistant professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, will discuss the present state—and possible future—of melting glacial ice caps. Followed by a screening of the science fiction film *Waterworld*. Redpath Museum, Auditorium, 859 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, free, 4 pm. No reservation required.

January 25, Montreal: The inaugural Professor Edith Aston-McCrimmon Lecture. The School of Physical and Occupational Therapy presents “Leadership and Vision,” by former University of British Columbia president Martha C. Piper. Champagne reception to follow. Location to be announced, free, 10 am to noon. Contact 514-398-4501 or admincoord.pot@mccgill.ca.

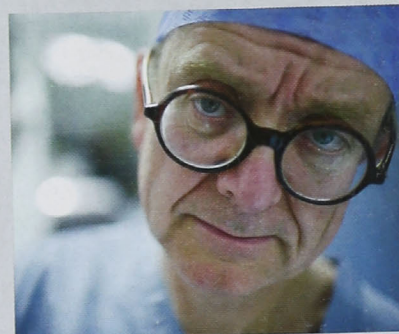
January 28, Montreal: Opera McGill and the McGill Symphony Orchestra present *The Rape of Lucretia* by Benjamin Britten. Pollack Hall, 555 Sherbrooke St. West. 7:30 pm. Performances will also take place on Jan. 30 and Jan. 31 at the same time. Tickets: \$27 (\$22 seniors/students). Contact 514-398-4547.

February 18, Washington, D.C.: Washington Capitals vs. Montreal Canadiens. Verizon Center, 601 F Street NW, Washington D.C., \$35 US, 7:30 pm to 10 pm. Contact 1-800-567-5175 Ext. 7684 or event.registration@mccgill.ca.

February 19, Pittsburgh: “McGill Hockey Night in Pittsburgh.” See the Pittsburgh Penguins play the Montreal Canadiens, and enjoy a gourmet dinner in the Penguins' exclusive reception venue, the Blue Line Club. Mellon Arena, 66 Mario Lemieux Place, Pittsburgh, PA, price varies according to seating options, 5:30 pm to 9 pm. Contact Mike Zatchey at 412-642-1979 or mzatchey@pittsburghpenguins.com.

February 20, Montreal: Freaky Fridays. John Stix, professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, will explain how ordinary volcanic eruptions can turn into global climatic disasters. Followed by a screening of the made-for-TV BBC film *Supervolcano*. Redpath Museum Auditorium, 859 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, free, 4 pm. No reservation required.

February 24, Montreal: Films that Transform. Watch the documentary *The English Surgeon*, followed by a discussion with members of the Faculty of Medicine about the meaning of healing



The English Surgeon profiles Dr. Henry Marsh, one of London's foremost brain surgeons. The documentary screens on February 24 as part of the Faculty of Medicine's Films That Transform series.

and “wellness” in the context of conflict and illness. Moyse Hall, Arts Building, 853 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, \$10 (\$5 for students and seniors), 7 pm to 9 pm. More information at www.mcgill.ca/wholepersoncare.

March 4, Montreal: McGill Symphony Orchestra performs Bruckner: Symphony No. 6, conducted by Alexis Hauser. Pollack Hall, 555 Sherbrooke St. West. 7 pm. Tickets: \$12. Contact 514-398-4547.

March 6, Atlanta: Ninth Annual Canadian Hockey Night in Atlanta. Watch the Montreal Canadiens take on the Atlanta Thrashers. Philips Arena, 1 Philips Drive, Atlanta, GA. \$31, 6:30 (meet and greet), 7:30 (game). Contact Heidi Allardyce at hgcanuck@mindspring.com.

March 20, Montreal: Freaky Fridays. Heather McShane, a McGill doctoral student and a member of the Soil Ecology Research Group, will present “The Nitty Gritty on Nanoparticles.” Followed by a screening of the 1966 Oscar-winning sci-fi film, *Fantastic Voyage*. Redpath Museum Auditorium, 859 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, free, 4 pm. No reservation required.

April 7, Montreal: Films that Transform. Watch the film *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, followed by a discussion with members of the Faculty of Medicine about the meaning of healing and “wellness.” Moyse Hall, Arts Building, 853 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, \$10 (\$5 for students and seniors), 7 pm to 9 pm. More information at www.mcgill.ca/wholepersoncare.

*B. Jean Milligan,
Assistant Executive
Director at the
Ottawa Civic Hospital
in the 1960s.*



Nurturing the next generation

B. Jean Milligan, BN'50, fondly remembers her time as a nursing student at McGill. In particular, she credits her instructors for pushing students to “expand our thoughts and goals.”

She also learned early on about giving back. “We were given \$10 a month to pay for our uniforms and for anything that we broke,” she explains. From that stipend, students were asked to give back 10 cents every month “to help grow the programs.”

Since then, Miss Milligan’s life has embodied that spirit of giving back to future generations. She worked for 40 years at the Ottawa Civic Hospital (now renamed the Ottawa Hospital), first as the director of its nursing school. Then, after she completed her Master’s in Nursing at Columbia in 1962, she served as assistant executive director until her retirement in 1979.

“Medical knowledge really exploded in the 1960s,” remembers Miss Milligan, citing such breakthroughs as kidney transplants and open heart surgery.

“The whole outlook on nursing was changing, too. We were encouraged to be creative and to have real input. It was an exciting time to be in the nursing profession.”

Her own contributions to the profession have not gone unnoticed. This year, a colleague at the Ottawa Hospital created the B. Jean Milligan Innovation Award “in honour of Miss Milligan’s innovative approach to nursing.”

A loyal annual donor to McGill since 1967, Miss Milligan has also generously planned for the establishment of the B. Jean Milligan Award in Nursing through a Charitable Gift Annuity. This award will be available to any nursing student with financial need. “I wanted to create something that inspires them to keep going in this important profession.”

For Miss Milligan, studying at McGill opened up a “whole new world.” Remembering McGill in her estate plans is “my way of saying thank you for broadening my horizons.”

*For more information on legacy gifts, contact:
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McGill



KATE HUTCHINSON

GRACE UNDER FIRE

TONY PROUDFOOT doesn't like the word hero. "It's overused," the former Montreal Alouette insists in an e-mail. "Everybody struggles with something now and again."

Now Proudfoot, MA'90, finds himself struggling with the neurological disorder ALS, better known as Lou Gehrig's disease. He was diagnosed in May 2007 and it's the reason he's only able to respond to questions in writing. ALS has taken his voice. He expects it will, in the next three years, take his life. He admits it's a "pretty sobering reality."

But if this is the toughest challenge Proudfoot has had to face so far, it's one he's facing head-on. Proudfoot, a 12-year CFL veteran, is convinced leading an active life—first as a football player, later as a phys-ed teacher at Montreal's Dawson College—is helping him cope with his diagnosis.

"I'm pragmatic. I see a goal and work towards it... People say I am competitive; another way to state it is to say I stay focused."

Proudfoot is probably best known for his role in the "Ice Bowl"—the Alouettes' 1977 Grey Cup victory. It was Proudfoot who had the brainstorm that enabled his teammates to keep their footing on the frozen playing field. Spotting a cable stapled to the wall, "a light bulb went off."

He used a staple gun on the bottom of his and his teammates' rubber cleats. The final score, 41-6, speaks for itself, Proudfoot says.

A few years after his football career ended, Proudfoot did a master's degree at McGill. His thesis, the cornerstone for his 2006 book, *First and Goal*, focused on how "decision-making" separates great players from good ones.

Proudfoot's ability to make decisions was tested in September 2006 when a gunman went on a shooting spree at Dawson. Proudfoot looked out his office window and saw one of the victims on the ground at the college's entrance. He grabbed a first-aid kit and rushed outside.

"There was a young man bleeding to death with a head wound. He needed immediate help. I applied direct pressure to the wound until the ambulance showed up."

The student survived; Proudfoot typically understates his actions. "I did what I thought I should do."

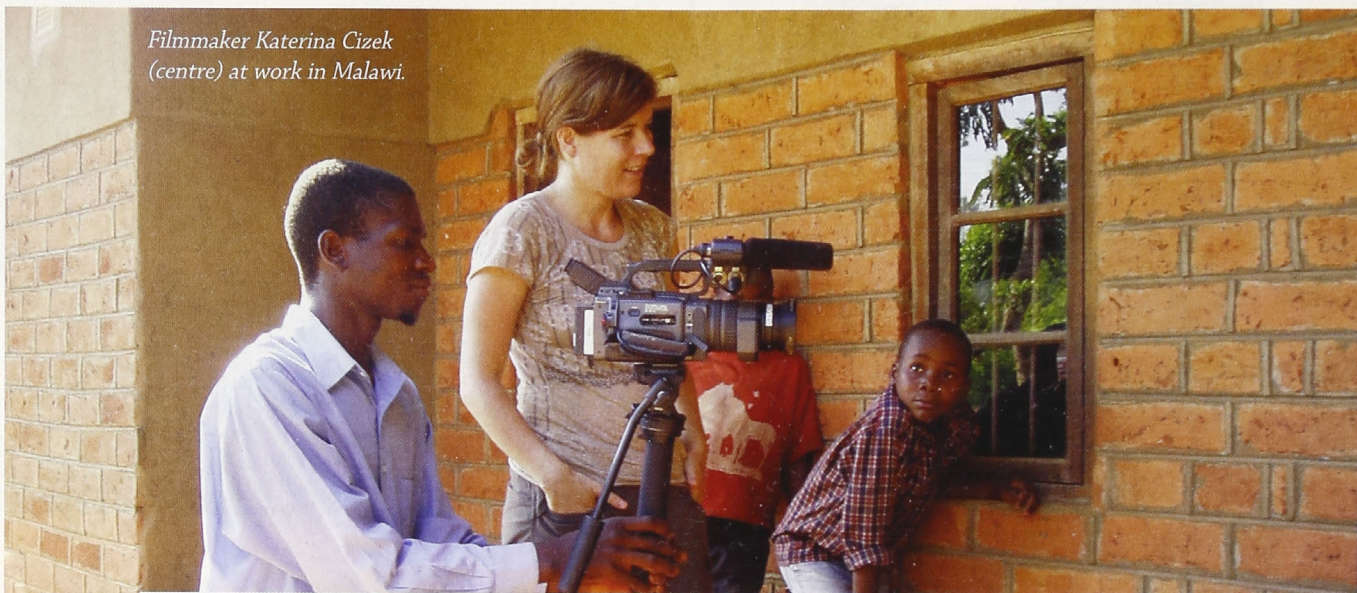
The loss of his voice has made it impossible for Proudfoot to go on teaching or doing radio (he used to provide colour commentary for Alouettes broadcasts on CJAD), but he is staying focused—raising awareness and funds for ALS research and participating in a study on the unusually high incidence of ALS in athletes in football and other high-intensity sports.

Proudfoot also continues to blog for CJAD. He usually sticks to football-related topics. But a few months after his diagnosis he wrote about his "bum rap." He may be uncomfortable with the word hero but his words are, like it or not, heroic:

"I have spent my entire life... promoting a healthily active lifestyle and I get a muscle wasting disease.... Cruel, nasty, even evil! So now what? I have chosen to smile, laugh, connect with friends.... What I have found out is something I should have figured out a long time ago. Life is good with the right attitude. Life is really good."

JOEL YANOFKY, BA'77, MA'81

Filmmaker Katerina Cizek
(centre) at work in Malawi.



A DIFFERENT KIND OF FILMMAKING

When the National Film Board first contacted documentary director **KATERINA CIZEK**, BA'93, about making a movie about St. Michael's Hospital in downtown Toronto, the filmmaker was less than enthusiastic.

"I thought, 'Ugh, does the world really need more hospital documentaries? Turn on any TV channel and there's some bad emergency room show.' But I took the meeting anyway."

It turns out the NFB was looking to reboot its legendary Challenge for Change series, which used film to draw attention to social problems during the late sixties and seventies. "That," says Cizek, a three-time Gemini Award nominee for her previous work, "is when I got excited." And so the NFB's Filmmaker-in-Residence project was born.

Cizek's current gig expands the boundaries of traditional documentary filmmaking. Rather than work on one conventional feature film, Cizek is doing a series of digital documentaries, some long, some short. And the people in the hospital community, not the filmmaker, come up with the ideas. "It's about the documentary process becoming relevant to the community," Cizek says. "The idea is to partner with doctors, nurses, patients, researchers, or a combination thereof—and create a project together."

The stories may have their genesis inside St. Mike's, but they take Cizek outside onto the city's front lines—in fact, that was the point. "I was interested in the hospital going outside of its own walls to deliver health care in the community." She spent 80 hours riding with the Mobile Crisis Intervention Team, which partners a St. Mike's psychiatric nurse and a Toronto police officer on 911 calls relating to emotionally distressed people. The result was a 30-minute documentary called *The Interventionists*. She worked with outreach nurses to help young parents of no fixed address create photoblogs to talk about their hardships and joys. She even traveled to Malawi with Dr. James Orbinski, the former president of Médecins Sans Frontières and now a St. Michael's research scientist. The trip resulted in the short film *The Bicycle*, which follows a grassroots AIDS activist as he pedals from village to village.

Filmmaker-in-Residence was supposed to be a one-year gig, but it grew into four. Along the way it picked up a Webby Award (called "the Oscars of the Internet" by the *New York Times*) for Best Documentary Series.

Cizek is currently finishing one last film, this one an animation project made with a St. Mike's social worker who helps survivors of multiple suicide attempts. That film, along with all the Filmmaker-in-Residence films, will be available next year as part of a DVD box-set. But just because the project is wrapping up, doesn't mean it's really over. Cizek is mum on the details, but she's helping to plan Filmmaker-in-Residence 2.0. All she'll say is that they're "scaling up, going bigger"—and she's excited.

"As a media-maker, I've learned so much about what the mainstream media does wrong—misunderstanding poverty, victimizing people, taking a very facile approach to believing the most sensational story is the most interesting one—and what it can do right by letting people tell their own stories."

JAMES MARTIN, MLIS'05

AGRICULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES / MACDONALD CAMPUS

DOUG JOSE, BSc(Agr)'66, was inducted as President of the Extension Section of the American Agricultural Economics Association at its annual meeting in July 2008. Doug also hosts a 30-minute weekly TV program called *Market Journal: Television for Ag Business Decisions*. The show received the Bronze Award from the Nebraska Broadcasters Association for Service to Agriculture in August.

DAVID JACKSON, BSc(Agr)'68, MSc'71, received an Excellence in Seneca Award for Distinguished Service: Faculty from Seneca College in Toronto. The Excellence in Seneca awards are given annually to individuals and groups that have contributed significantly to the college's reputation and advancement. During his past 37 years at Seneca, David taught numerous introductory sciences, mathematics and computer courses to students primarily in contract training and continuing education programs. He also taught a variety of stationary engineering subjects. David is married to **MURIEL (ROGERS) JACKSON**, BSc(HEC)'68. They have three married children and four granddaughters.

ARCHITECTURE

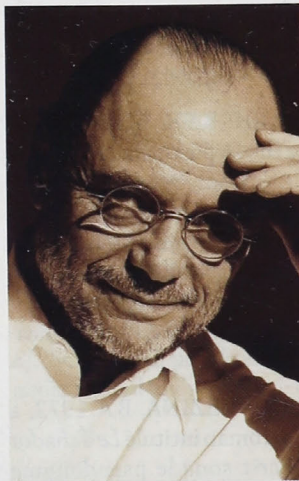
MARTIN COHOS, BArch'58, has been appointed to the board of directors of the National Capital Commission (NCC). As the founder of Cohos Evamy Partners, a fully integrated architectural, engineering, interior design and urban planning firm, Martin has worked on major projects including Bankers Hall and the Eau Claire Market in Calgary, Alberta, the master plan for the City of Fort McMurray, Alberta, and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service Headquarters in Ottawa, Ontario. Now retired, Martin is an advisor to the Banff Centre, the Calgary Science Centre, the Glenbow Museum and Heritage Park.

MARC DAEMEN, BSc(Arch)'77, BArch'78, was promoted to Senior Associate with the Baltimore-based firm of Gaudreau, Inc. Marc is a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and is co-chair of the AIA Baltimore Spring Lecture Series Committee.

ILANA JUDAH, BSc(Arch)'96, BArch'97, has been appointed as the Manager of Sustainability at FXFowle Architects in New York City. Her role will be to further develop the firm's role as a pioneering leader in green

architecture. Ilana was previously at the Menkès Shooner Dagenais Letourneux architectural firm in Montreal and served on the executive of the Quebec Chapter of the Canada Green Building Council.

DIANA ANDERSON, BSc(Arch)'02, MArch'04, graduated from medical school at the University of Toronto in June 2008. Throughout her medical studies she maintained a strong interest in hospital architecture and was awarded the Tradewell Fellowship in hospital design, given by WHR Architects in Houston, Texas, for one year prior to beginning a medical residency.



MOSES ZNAIMER, BA'63, is the Founder of *Zoomer*, a national magazine that targets Canadian readers 45 years of age and older. *Zoomer* replaces *CARP*, the magazine of the Canadian Association for Retired Persons. The glossy new *Zoomer* is much more interested in articles related to fashion and lifestyle than its predecessor was. A pioneering figure in the Canadian television industry, Moses co-founded several youth-oriented TV stations including Citytv, MuchMusic and MusiquePlus. Now, as the Executive Director of CARP, he has set his sights on the demographic traditionally known as "50+" which he terms "zoomers" (boomers with zip). Earlier this year, Moses received the Walt Grealis Special Achievement Award from the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for his contributions to the growth and advancement of the Canadian music industry.

ARTS

ELIZABETH KOUHL, BA'49, has written three books of poetry and two editions with verse for children, all published by Penumbra Press. Elizabeth has also published novels for young people and two picture books for the very young from other publishers. She is married with four children and 10 grandchildren. Elizabeth was a high school teacher for 19 years prior to pursuing her first love, writing.

JACK LIEBER, BA'49, MA'57, is the author of *Clash of Symbols: Poems, Essays, Stories*, published by the Avmor Art and Cultural Foundation. Born in the Soviet Union, Jack came to Canada as a child. During the Second World War, he flew on missions over Germany as a navigator with the Royal Canadian Air Force. Following the war, Jack was a teacher before becoming a self-described "educational mercenary," working for CIDA and UNESCO in Africa. During his time there, he developed a passion for African art. Now retired from teaching, Jack lives with his wife Iris and their Bengal cat in Toronto, where he spends hours mangling

Bach fugues with arthritic fingers on an ancient Heintzman grand piano.

NIGEL SPENCER, BA'66, has won his second Governor General's Literary Award for his second consecutive translation of a novel in the Soifs series by Marie-Clarie Blais called *Augustino and the Choir of Destruction* (House of Anansi, 2007).

HENRY SREBRNIK, BA'66, MA'70, a professor in the Department of Political Studies at the University of Prince Edward Island, has published *Jerusalem on the Amur: Birobidzhan and the Canadian Jewish Communist Movement, 1924-1951* (McGill-

Queen's University Press, 2008). The book traces the ideological and material support provided by Canadian Jewish Communist organizations to the Jewish Autonomous Region of Birobidzhan in the far east of the Soviet Union.

JILL ROLLINS, BA'68, has reunited with her long-time friends from Royal Victoria College Residences at McGill. Recently, following an initial 35th-anniversary reunion in Tuscany in 2003, and with attendees travelling from Australia, France, England, the U.S. and Montreal, 10 Class of '68 McGill friends gathered to celebrate the 40th anniversary of their graduation. Sunny July weather at the Souris, PEI, summer home of Jill and her husband Doug allowed the group to enjoy some of PEI's spectacular beaches, great walking, kayaking, gourmet dining, and most of all their friendship, as strong as ever after all these years.

RHODA E. HOWARD-HASSMANN, BA'69, MA'72, PhD'76, is the Canada Research Chair in International Human Rights at Wilfrid Laurier University and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Her new



KELLY CLIPPERTON

STACEY MAY FOWLES, BA'02, is the author of *Fear of Fighting* (Nimbus Publishing), a novel set in downtown Toronto that explores issues of loneliness, mental health, and the importance of human and community connection. In a recent review, *The Coast* declared, "Fowles' writing is poetic yet simple, and even her frequent pop culture references are applied with a graceful, light hand," while *The Walrus* describes her as "a young author of singular talent." Stacey is currently the publisher of *Shameless* magazine which describes itself as "Canada's independent voice for smart, strong, sassy young women."

book, written with Anthony P. Lombardo, is *Reparations to Africa* (University of Pennsylvania Press). The book examines the West's obligations to Africa stemming from its past involvement in the slave trade and analyzes the reparations movement from the perspectives of law, philosophy, political science and sociology.

FLORENCE LAURA ANNE ALBURY, BA'70, is currently an Associate Professor of English and Linguistics at the College of the Bahamas. Along with her husband, Jim Lawlor, Anne has completed the writings of her late father, Dr. Paul Albury. Anne and Jim updated her father's book, *The Paradise Island Story*, in 2004 and recently published *The Harbour Island Story*, an authoritative account of Harbour Island's history and its people, integrating Paul's work.

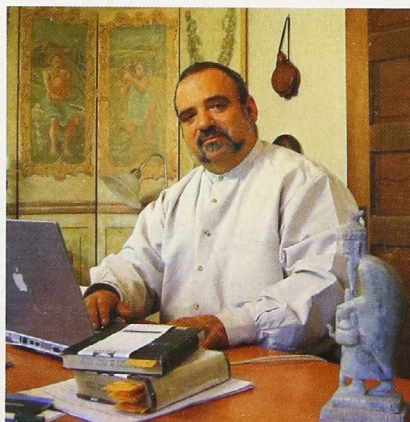
DWIGHT DRUICK, BA'70, BSW'93, MSW'94, is working as an academic, disabilities and mental health counsellor at St. Lawrence College in Kingston, Ontario. He is a member of the Queen's University Department of Psychiatry, where he teaches and supervises psychiatry residents in cognitive, behavioural and interpersonal psychotherapies. He is also in private practice. Dwight has been happily married for 20 years to his wife, Nancy, and has a wonderful 12-year-old son, Aidan. After a 25-year hiatus, Dwight is currently working on an album of new music. Entitled *Saving Grace*, the CD will be released in spring 2009.

JOHN MORRISON, BA'71, has been appointed as Canada's new Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia, with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Montenegro and the Republic of Macedonia. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1985. John has served abroad in Kuala Lumpur, Beijing, Taipei and Tokyo. John recently

served as minister counsellor and deputy head of mission in Moscow.

ALAN FREEMAN, BA'72, has changed careers, joining the Department of Finance in Ottawa as Assistant Deputy Minister. After more than 30 years as a journalist, including a decade as a foreign correspondent for the *Globe and Mail* in Europe, Alan is now responsible for the Department of Finance's Consultations and Communications Branch.

DANIEL-PIERRE VÉZINA, B.A. 1972, a écrit son premier roman intitulé *Le Tchador de la liberté*. Écrit sous le pseudonyme de Daniel Damph, le roman traite de la vie d'une jeune écrivaine afghane qui a publié à Paris *Le Tchador de la liberté* et qui enseigne la littérature à Islamabad, au Pakistan. Arrêtée et traduite devant les tribunaux civils et religieux pour avoir osé faire paraître cet ouvrage, sa tête est mise à prix. Le groupe de femmes Women Intervention Network tentera d'extirper l'écrivaine, Meena Junejo, hors du Pakistan afin d'éviter son assassinat. C'est un roman d'action où des femmes-toutes titulaires d'un doctorat de McGill-ont le premier rôle.



PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

JAMES WRIGHT, BA'72, was awarded an honorary degree by the University of Ulster this past summer. James received a Doctor of the University degree in recognition of his outstanding contribution to public life, and Canada's contribution to economic and social development in Northern Ireland. He was appointed Canadian High Commissioner to the UK in 2006.

PHILIP J. TAYLOR, BA'73, BEd'75, CertSpEd'80, PhD'03, has published a book of poetry titled *Gifts in the Key of Nature*.

ABINA DANN, BA'74, has become Consul General in São Paulo (Federative Republic of Brazil). Abina recently served as Canada's ambassador to Ukraine. From 2001 to 2004, she was the director of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's European Business Development and Connectivity Division.

MATTHEW J. MEYER, BA'74, MEd'92, PhD'98, has been appointed Chair of the Department of Curriculum and Leadership at St. Francis Xavier University's School of Education in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. Prior to his coming to StFX, Matthew was chair of the performing arts department and theatre teacher at St. George's School in Montreal. His teaching and research interests are in two distinct areas: leadership/organization aspects of school administration, and arts-based research projects that focus on drama-theatre practices in the classroom and teacher-administrator professional development.

DEANNA HORTON, BA'76, has been appointed as Canada's Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Deanna joined the Department of External Affairs in 1981 and has since served in Hamburg, Washington and Tokyo. She was most recently director of the Office of the Deputy Minister for International Trade.

DARIUS REJALI, MA'83, PhD'87, received the Human Rights Book Award from the human rights section of the American Political Science Association in August for *Torture and Democracy* (Princeton University Press). The book examines the use of torture by democracies in the 20th century, revealing the origins of such controversial Western intelligence-gathering techniques as waterboarding. *Torture and Democracy* also questions the effectiveness of such methods in obtaining credible intelligence. Darius is a Professor of Political Science at Reed College.

CHARLES E. STULL, BA'77, recently graduated with a doctor of education degree (EdD) in adult learning and leadership from the Department of Organization and Leadership at Columbia University's Teachers College in New York City. After 17 years in the substance abuse counselling field, Charles has launched his own consulting business, providing leadership development and executive coaching services.

RIVA FLEXER, BA'78, **STEPHEN HARRISON**, PhD'86, and **MASSEY VENDER FLEXER**, BA'59, MSW'68, are all thrilled to announce the graduation of **AARON HERSHEL FLEXER HARRISON**, BSc'08, on May 29, 2008. Aaron is the third generation of his family to graduate from McGill University.

GUY LANGELIER, B.A. 1980, a écrit son premier roman paru aux Éditions JKA. *Côte Est* raconte les péripéties d'un psychiatre formé à McGill qui va pratiquer en Nouvelle-Angleterre. L'auteur était présent au salon du livre de Montréal en novembre 2008 pour faire la promotion de son livre, sur lequel on peut obtenir plus de détails en consultant le site des Éditions JKA. Guy has written his first novel, entitled *Côte Est (East Coast)*.

The novel, is about a psychiatrist who practised in New England after studying at McGill. Published by JKA Editions, the novel is of the "thriller" genre.

ANNMARIE ADAMS, BA'81, has published a new book entitled *Medicine by Design: The Architect and the Modern Hospital, 1893-1943*. The work examines how hospital design influenced the development of 20th-century medicine and demonstrates the importance of these specialized buildings in the history of architecture. Annmarie uses Montreal's landmark Royal Victoria Hospital, along with other buildings and institutions, to explore issues in architecture and medicine. Annmarie is the William C. Macdonald Professor of Architecture at McGill.

MARK ANTLIFF, BA'81, is a professor in the Department of Art, Art History and Visual Studies at Duke University. Mark recently published *A Cubism Reader: Documents and Criticism, 1906-1914* (University of Chicago Press) with his Duke colleague Patricia Leighton. The book covers the historical genesis of cubism and addresses the cultural, political and philosophical issues related to the movement.

MARTIAL PAGÉ, BA'81, is Canada's new Ambassador to the Lebanese Republic. Martial has served abroad at the Canadian embassy in Tokyo and at the Canadian Mission to the European Union in Brussels. He has also held various positions at Revenue Canada, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada. He recently served as the director of the Assignments and Pool Management Division in Ottawa. Martial is married to Akiko Onozuka and they have three sons.

FRANCO PIETRACUPA, BA'82, CertMgmt'89, has been appointed as a member of the Transportation Appeal Tribunal of Canada. Franco's extensive experience in aviation includes working for various organizations such as CESPFA Flight College, where he was Class 1 instructor/assistant chief flight instructor. Since April 2000, Franco has held the position of Manager of Business Aircraft Training, Global and Challenger Programs, at Bombardier Aerospace in Montreal.

RUSSELL COPEMAN, BA'83, has been appointed Associate Vice-President, Government Relations, of Concordia University after serving in the Quebec

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to distinguish, exalt or ennoble:

to show respect and recognition

mem·o·ry [mem'əre] *noun*

a retained impression:

the knowledge or reputation of someone retained by others



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National Assembly for 14 years as the Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce. He chaired the Assembly's social affairs committee from 2003 until 2007, when he was named parliamentary assistant to the minister of health and social services.

ELISE MOSER, BA'84, CertHRMgmt'00, has just been named the Literary Editor of *The Rover*, a new online arts and culture magazine based in Montreal. (www.rover-arts.com.)

CHRISTOPHER RUSSELL, BA'85, lives with his wife and daughter in Catonsville, MD. Christopher has published a book entitled *The Industrial Energy Harvest*, which provides a corporate-level overview of the risks and rewards imposed by today's volatile energy markets. A collection of short, punchy chapters explain how energy is invested, preserved and ultimately positioned to create wealth. The intent is to help business leaders "connect the dots" between energy usage and the financial performance of their organizations. Christopher can be contacted at crussell@energypathfinder.com.

MARK A. A. WARNER, BA'86, has been appointed to the position of Legal Director for Ontario's Ministry of Economic Development and Trade and its Ministry of Research and Innovation. Prior to the appointment, Mark was counsel for the firm of Fasken Martineau. Mark assumed his new role on August 5, 2008.

MATHEW FARFAN, BA'87, MA'91, is pleased to announce the release of his latest book, *The Eastern Townships: On Lake and River*. Published by Les Éditions GID of Quebec City, this follow-up to *The Eastern Townships: In Town and Village* (2006), chronicles the history of Quebec's Eastern Townships through text and archival photography. Nearly 200 photographs are reproduced, providing a rare glimpse of life on and around the region's lakes and rivers from about 1860 to 1960. The book is available in bookstores across Quebec.

PETER NELSON, BA'88, has been appointed Director of Communications at Resources for the Future (RTF), a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that conducts independent research — rooted primarily in economics and other social sciences — on environmental, energy and natural resource issues. Peter is a veteran Washington journalist and environmental researcher.

ERIKA SEID, BA'90, is a licensed psychotherapist, specializing in cultural issues and



GAVIN HEFFERNAN, BA'03, is a filmmaker. His latest work is *Grand Wheel*, a short experimental documentary that examines the peace movement in the United States. The film features footage from an eclectic list of settings — including a surfside veteran's memorial, a California carnival, and an Iraq war protest in downtown Los Angeles. *Grand Wheel* has played at more than 20 film festivals in the U.S. and at festivals in Russia, Germany, Spain, Italy, Greece and Denmark. *Grand Wheel* was awarded the Special Jury Prize for Best Cinematography at the 2008 Canadian Film Festival in Toronto.

sexual offender treatment. She was married to Matthew Danning on March 1, 2008, in a small civil ceremony, and again on July 20, 2008 in a ceremony for family and friends. **SUSAN STROCH**, BA'90, and **MICHAEL MANGA**, BSc'90, were in attendance.

VIVIAN MAY, BA'91, has been appointed Chair of Syracuse University's College of Arts and Science Humanities Council. Vivian is an associate professor of women's and gender studies at the college. Vivian also serves on the scholars' board of the National Women's Studies Association, a Ford Foundation initiative.

KEELAN TISSHAW, BA'91, is now living in Vancouver, British Columbia. Keelan is the CEO and Owner of Momentum Holdings Ltd., a wholesale business operating two companies in Canada and the United States. He is married to fellow McGill graduate **CAMILLE COREJ**, BA'90, DipManApp'93, and has three daughters.

LEILAH NADIR, BA'92, has won the George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in B.C. Writing for her book *The Orange Trees of Baghdad* (Key Porter Books). Leilah was presented with the award at a ceremony on July 26 in Vernon, B.C. In the book, Leilah recounts the often harrowing experiences

of her relatives living in Baghdad during the violence and turmoil of recent years. Born to an Iraqi-Christian father and a British mother, and raised in Britain and Canada, Leilah also examines her own ties to Iraq, a country she has never visited.

ROBERT CHODAT, BA'93, MA'96, is an Assistant Professor of English at Boston University. His new book, *Worldly Acts and Sentient Things: The Persistence of Agency from Stein to DeLillo* (Cornell University Press), offers a blend of philosophy and literary theory in examining how notions of purposeful action and their agents—both human and non-human—are represented in contemporary literature.

BOB W. WHITE, MA'93, PhD'98, has written a book exploring the marriage of popular dance music and authoritarian politics in Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of Congo). In *Rumba Rules*, the first ethnography of popular music in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Bob describes the economic and political conditions that brought a powerful music industry to its knees in the 1980s, as well as how popular musicians sought to remain socially relevant in a time of increasing insecurity during the 1990s. Bob is Associate Professor of Anthropology at the Université de Montréal.

ROBERT ASTROFF, BA'94, is the President of Astroff Consultants Inc., an educational consulting firm offering strategic advice for applicants to professional and undergraduate university programs in Canada, the United States and overseas. Robert would love to hear from classmates at robert@astroffconsultants.com.

STEPHEN D. BORYS, PhD'94, returned to Canada this past June to assume the directorship of the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Stephen has also been appointed Scholar in Residence in the School of Art at the University of Manitoba. He was previously the Ulla R. Searing Curator of Collections at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, Florida.

BART BEATY, MA'95, PhD'99, is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Communication and Culture at the University of Calgary. His latest book, *David Cronenberg's A History of Violence* (University of Toronto Press), explores the acclaimed Canadian director's Oscar-nominated film. Bart contends that *A History of Violence* is a nuanced study of masquerade and disguise and a film that thwarts our expectations of film genre.

LEANNE LIEBERMAN, BA'96, has just published her first novel, *Gravity*. Leanne was the winner of Orca Books' "So You Think You Can Write" young adult novel contest. *Gravity* is about an Orthodox Jewish girl who falls in love with another girl.

ANITA NOWAK, BA'97, BCom'97, travelled to Kigali to work with a women's collective of Rwandan genocide survivors and women living with HIV/AIDS this summer. With her sister, **HELEN NOWAK**, Anita organized a benefit concert on July 9 at the Centre St-Ambroise in Montreal to raise funds for Tubahumarize, a women's collective based in Kigali. **ELOGE CHRISTIAN BUTERA**, a 25-year-old survivor of the Tutsi genocide in Rwanda and a second-year McGill law student, spoke at the event. Anita is a fundraiser for The Study, a girls' school in Westmount, and a doctoral student at McGill. Helen is a law student at McGill.

CHRISTIAN LANDER, BA'01, has written a new book entitled *Stuff White People Like: A Definitive Guide to the Unique Taste of Millions* (Random House). The book investigates, explains and offers advice for finding social success with members of the Caucasian culture.

REBECCA ROSENBLUM, BA'01, is a fiction writer whose short stories have been published, or soon will be, in *Exile*, *Danforth Review*, *echolocation*, *The New Quarterly*, *Journey Prize Stories 19*, *Coming Attractions*, *Maisonneuve* and *Best Canadian Stories 08*. Her first collection of short fiction, *Once*, won the Metcalf/Rooke Award and was published by Biblioasis in September 2008. Rebecca lives, works and writes in Toronto. *The Walrus* calls *Once* "a dazzling debut."

AMY BELASEN, BA'05, has written her first co-authored novel. *Jenny Green's Killer Junior Year* is a teen-oriented dark comedy thriller published by Simon & Schuster. The

book takes place at a fictional academy in Montreal and one of the characters is inspired by McGill professors.

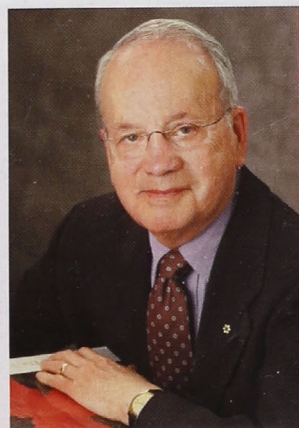
DENTISTRY

HARRY ROSEN, DDS'53, was presented with the 2008 William John Gies Award at the annual meeting of the American Dental Association on October 16. The prize is the highest honour the ADA can bestow upon one of its fellows and its recipients are chosen for making broad, exceptional and distinguished contributions to the profession and to society. Harry is the only Canadian in the last 50 years to receive this award. Harry is a Professor Emeritus in McGill's Faculty of Dentistry and is actively involved in the Montreal General Hospital's multidisciplinary residency program. Harry continues to raise funds for the Dr. Harry Rosen Endowed Clinical Teaching Fund to support the training of clinical dentistry instructors at McGill.

EDUCATION

HARRY ZARINS, BEd'74, MEd'79, has been selected as the Executive Director of the Brain Injury Association of Canada (BIAC). Harry has spent much of his life devoted to Canadian sports, giving him an in-depth understanding of injuries related to sports. He was Canada's chef de mission for two World University Games ('93 Summer and '99 Winter) and served as commissioner of both the Ontario-Quebec Inter-University Football Conference and the Quebec Inter-University Football Conference from 1997-2002.

JAMIE KOMPON, BEd'89, is the Assistant Coach and Director of Amateur Development with the Los Angeles Kings of the National



MYER HOROWITZ, DipEd'52, LLD'79, received the Special Recognition Award of the Canadian Teachers' Federation this summer. In awarding Myer this prize, the federation described him as "a tireless advocate for educational policies that benefit the young." Myer is President Emeritus of the University of Alberta, where he was instrumental in the creation of the Centre for Research on Teacher Education and Development. An Adjunct Professor of Education at the University of Victoria, Myer is a past president of the Vanier Institute of the Family.



NEIL MACKAY, BEng'64, was appointed Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President for EMS Technologies in July 2008. EMS is a leading innovator in the design and manufacture of wireless, satellite and defence solutions and its customers include Boeing and Lockheed Martin. Neil has held the position of CEO for a number of telecommunications and aviation companies, including GEAC Computers in Toronto, Innotech Aviation Ltd. in Montreal and the Trinidad and Tobago Telephone Company. He is a recipient of the Canadian Business Aviation Association's lifetime achievement award for service to the aviation industry.

Hockey League. The 41-year-old native of Thunder Bay, Ont., joined the club's coaching staff in 2006. Prior to coming to Los Angeles, Jamie worked for nine seasons with the St. Louis Blues organization, where he served as the team's video coach and strength and conditioning coach.

FRANCE TREPANIER, BEd'96, would like to announce that her daughter, singer of the Cajun band Feufollet, played in Quebec City on August 7 for the 400th anniversary of Quebec and August 8 at the Pub Alexandre. The band, based in Louisiana, also performed in Montreal on August 9 at Divan Orange and on August 19 at the FestiBlues in Parc Ahuntsic. France is very proud of her daughter.

ENGINEERING

LESLIE A. GEDDES, BEng'45, MEng'53, DSc'71, has been selected as an inductee in Purdue University's Book of Great Teachers. The book bears the names of 316 faculty members, past and present, who have devoted their lives to excellence in teaching and scholarship. They were chosen by their students and their peers as Purdue's finest educators.

CHRIS NOBLE, BEng'77, is a Technology Licensing Officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is responsible for MIT's clean energy portfolio. Chris lives in Winchester, a suburb of Boston, with his wife Donette and their children Julie and William.

MICHAEL D. WINSHIP, BEng'80, has been appointed President and Chief Operating Officer of the corporation HudBay Minerals Inc. Previously, Michael held the position of chief operating officer of PT Inco in Indonesia. He has been in the mining business for 30 years and has experience

in all phases of mining and processing activities. HudBay Minerals Inc. is a leading integrated base metals mining company with assets in North and Central America.

RABIH ABOUCHAKRA, BEng'95, MEng'97, is now a partner with Booz & Company based in Abu Dhabi. Rabih currently leads the firm's organization and strategy team in the Middle East.

CLAIRE HAYEK, BEng'97, has released her debut solo album *Intention* and was a performer at the Festival du monde Arabe in November 2008. Claire has been an active singer-songwriter for 15 years. She also works for a major equipment supplier in the mining and aggregate industry. She has released three EPs in the past. The album was released independently under Claire's own label, IDEK Records. For more information, visit www.clairehayek.com.

SHAWN KHAZZAM, BEng'03, is a Senior Business Development Manager at OPNET Technologies Inc., a public software company in Washington, D.C. He manages a \$30-million portfolio of network management software products; customers include the majority of the Fortune 100. Shawn also manages several strategic relationships with

partners and industry analysts including Microsoft, HP, Juniper and Gartner. Shawn began pursuing an MBA degree at New York University in September.

JOSHUA SCHWARTZ, BEng'03, PhD'08, was one of three recent recipients of the Academy of Great Montrealers' 2008 Award of Excellence. The prize is granted by the academy in partnership with the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal. Winners are selected among students who completed their doctoral dissertations at one of Montreal's four universities or at one of their affiliated schools. Joshua was the winner in the natural sciences and engineering category.

SOREN JENSEN, MEng'05, joins **MIKE BRATTY, MEng'03**, **DAVID KRATOCHVIL, PhD'98**, **DAVID SANGUINETTI, BEng'94, MEng'96**, and **ROWAN FLEMING, BEng'02**, as a Process Engineer at BioteQ Environmental Technologies Inc. in Vancouver. In March, the company won the 2008 Globe Award for Environmental Excellence presented by the Globe Foundation and the *Globe and Mail*. In October, BioteQ was named one of B.C.'s 100 Fastest Growing Companies by Business in Vancouver. The company provides environmentally sustainable water treatment and resource recovery alternatives to the mining industry in six countries.

HEALTH SCIENCES

ANDREW G. ENGEL, BSc'53, MDCM'55, has been recognized with the Mayo Clinic Distinguished Alumni Award. Recipients of this award are nominated for their exceptional contributions to the field of medicine. Andrew is a consultant in the Department of Neurology at the Mayo Clinic, Director of its Neuromuscular Disease Research Laboratory, and the William L. McKnight-



AYALA HANEN MANOLSON, MSc'73, is the first recipient of the new Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Leadership from McGill's School of Communication Sciences and Disorders. Convinced that the parents of language-delayed children should have access to training programs that could better equip them in assisting with the children's language development, Ayala founded the Hanen Centre at McGill in 1975 to develop such programs. The Hanen Centre, now located in Toronto, currently provides resources to parents and speech-language pathologists in more than 100 countries. More recently, Ayala founded The First Three Years, a non-profit organization that provides expertise in the area of parent-child attachment and communication.

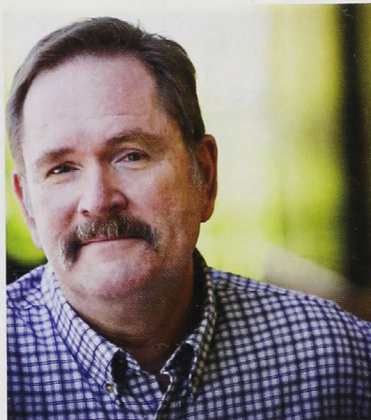
3M Professor of Neuroscience in the College of Medicine. He has written around 400 scholarly articles and was elected to the Institute of Medicine, which is part of the National Academy of Sciences.

BARRY FLETCHER, MDCM'61, was awarded the Gold Medal of the Society for Paediatric Radiology in May 2008. The Gold Medal, the society's most distinguished honour, was awarded for his contributions as a scientist, teacher, mentor and leader. Barry was a radiologist at the Montreal Children's Hospital and later became head of the Division of Paediatric Radiology at University Hospitals of Cleveland, Case Western Reserve University. From 1987, his focus turned to paediatric oncology when he became chairman of the Department of Radiology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis. Now semi-retired, Barry lives in Asheville, North Carolina, with his wife, **HEATHER CARSWELL**, BSc'65.

ROBERT R. ORFORD, BSc'69, MDCM'71, was installed as President of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. ACOEM is the largest organization of occupational health physicians in the United States, with over 5,000 members. ACOEM champions the health and safety of workers, workplaces and other environments by educating health professionals and the public, supporting research, enhancing the quality of practice and advancing the field.

LYNDA HARTLEY, BN'75, has retired after 40 years as a registered nurse. She spent 33 years teaching nursing students, 11 of which were in Montreal and 24 in Lethbridge, Alberta. During this time, she obtained her master's of education degree (University of Lethbridge, 2000) and, most recently, held a faculty position in nursing education in Lethbridge College's Nursing Education in Southwestern Alberta (NESA) program.

SYLVIE STACHENKO, BSc'71, MDCM'75, will become the first Dean of the University of Alberta's School of Public Health. She will begin her five-year term on January 1, 2009. Sylvie is currently the Deputy Chief Public Health Officer with the health promotion and chronic disease prevention branch for the Public Health Agency of Canada and Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Chronic, Non-Communicable Diseases Policy. She is a recognized leader in developing chronic disease policies at the national level in the areas of cancer control, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and breast cancer.



CLAUDIO CALIGARIS

ROBERT FRANCK, BA'70, MDCM'74, DipPsych'79, is the new Clinical Director of McGill's Student Mental Health Service, where he works as part of a team of nine psychiatrists, four psychologists and two psychotherapists. In an interview with the *McGill Reporter*, Robert talked about why he enjoys working with students. "Students are highly motivated, when they run into difficulty and change, to look for strategies in addressing their situations in a concrete and specific way. We see ourselves as collaborators with the student—to work together to come up with something that the student endorses."

LOUISE NASMITH, MDCM'78, MEd'94, has received an Honorary Fellowship at the annual convocation ceremony of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons. Louise is the former president of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the chair of the CFPC Accreditation Committee.

GEORGE A. KUCHEL, MDCM'80, has been selected to serve as Chair of the Aging Systems and Geriatrics Study Section of the Center for Scientific Review, Department of Health and Human Services, at the National Institutes of Health. Members are selected based on achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of research, publications and other honours.

ALLAN DAVID PETERKIN, MDCM'90, DipPsych'92, has just published two books. They are *Staying Human During Residency Training: How to Survive and Thrive After Medical School* (4th edition 2008, University of Toronto Press) and *Still Here: A Post-Cocktail AIDS Anthology (Writings from the Therapeutic Writing Group at Mount Sinai Hospital)*, co-edited with Julie Hann, OT (Life Rattle Press, Toronto 2008).

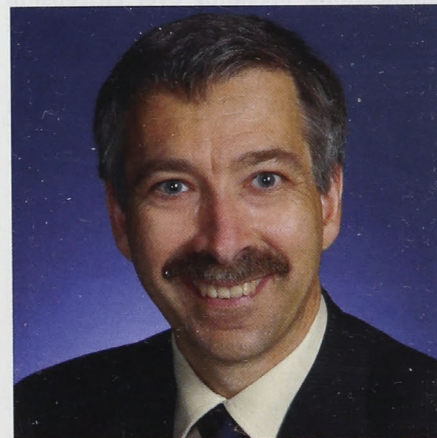
MARCI NEWHOUSE, MSc'01, is now a Sales Representative for Diamond Wine Merchants in the Bay Area of California. She spent one year after graduation working for the Vermont Department of Health as an HIV/AIDS surveillance epidemiologist and then moved back to her hometown in California to pursue a career in the wine industry. The Court of Master Sommeliers awarded her the Sommelier Certification in August 2007.

SAIMA HASSAN, MDCM'02, received a Canadian Research Award for Specialty Residents at the annual convocation ceremony of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons. Saima is a resident in general

surgery at McGill and her research specialty is breast cancer.

LAW

LIONEL BERGER, BCL'68, was recently appointed a Deputy Judge of the Small Claims Court, Toronto Region. Lionel retired from Nortel Networks, where he enjoyed a 25-year career as corporate counsel. His responsibilities included providing advice on real estate matters and managing litigation. He and his wife Marilyn have been living in Toronto since 1979.



STEPHEN G. SCHENKE, LLB'89, was elected as Bâtonnier of the Bar of Montreal for 2008-2009. Stephen is a partner in McCarthy Tétrault Montréal's Litigation Group. For over 15 years, his practice has focused on corporate and commercial law, specializing in real estate and construction litigation. The Bar of Montreal is one of the largest bar associations in the world and the second largest French-speaking bar association outside of France.



L. YVES FORTIER, BCL'58, LLD'05, was selected by the Canadian Bar Association as the 2008 recipient of its Walter S. Tarnopolsky Human Rights Award. "Fortier's passion for the law has made him an invaluable force in the area of human rights and an exceptional representative for Canada on the international stage," said Benoît Lussier, president of the Canadian Bar Association. From 1988 to 1992, Yves was Canada's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations in New York. In 1989 and 1990, he was the country's representative to the Security Council of the United Nations. Yves is the chair of the Ogilvy Renault law firm and the co-chair of Campaign McGill.

GEORGE SPRINGATE, BCL'68, LLB'69, has been appointed as Canada's Senior Citizenship Judge for a five-year term. George served for several years as a citizenship judge. In his new role, George will be "first among equals" and will oversee the training and professional development for all citizenship judges, while also performing the regular duties of a citizenship judge. George is a former member of the Quebec National Assembly, where he served three terms. Citizenship judges are responsible for making decisions with regard to citizenship applications, presiding over citizenship ceremonies and administering the oath of citizenship to new citizens.

CHRIS AXWORTHY, LLM'71, has taken over as the new Dean of the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Law. Chris is a former politician and law professor with an interest in the issues of aboriginal peoples. Although he has many years of teaching experience at various universities, politics still remains his hobby and passion. Chris's pursuits in politics ranged from winning a seat in Parliament, as well as in the Saskatchewan legislature, to becoming the attorney general and minister of justice for Saskatchewan. He plans to further advance aboriginal justice issues while at the University of Manitoba.

LARRY HERMAN, BCL'75, LLB'76, married Alma Baltar in Leyte Province in the Philippines on October 8, 2008. Alma is a psychiatric social worker with the National Center for Mental Health in Manila. She will continue her social work practice in Toronto, where the couple will reside. Larry is a practicing mediator, and also works as a legal and finance conference producer with Incisive Media's Canadian division, Insight Information.

RONALD H. LEVY, BCL'76, LLB'77, has been appointed the President of the Lord Reading Law Society. Founded in 1948 to promote the interests of Jewish members of the Quebec Bar, the Lord Reading Society is known for its passion for social justice, its tradition of legal excellence and its contributions to the judiciary. A member since 1978, Ronald is also a senior partner at the law firm De Grandpré Chait.

BRADLY CONDON, LLB'88, has been made a Member of the Mexican Academy of Sciences for his work in international economic law. He is a Professor and Director of the Centre for International Economic Law at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), in Mexico City.

JEANNE CADORETTE, BCL'89, LLB'89, has been living in Ottawa since 1997, where she has worked for the Privy Council Office and for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. She has found time this year to publish her first novel, a book of historical fiction entitled *The Queen Soldier* (Baico Publishing).

RUWANTISSA ABEYRATNE, DCL'96, has published two books, *Air Law and Policy*

(2008) and *Aviation and Diplomacy* (2008). Ruwantissa is the Coordinator of Air Transport Programmes at the International Civil Aviation Organization, a Montreal-based specialized agency of the United Nations. *Air Law and Policy* addresses the three most important areas of aviation: safety, security and the environment. *Aviation and Diplomacy* aims at focusing on the importance of diplomatic and international relations in the development of international civil aviation. Ruwantissa is a fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and the Chartered Institute of Transport and Logistics.

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

DUNCAN RAND, BLS'64, was selected at the 2005 Alberta Library Conference as one of Alberta's library innovators and leaders in medium sized public libraries over the past 100 years. Duncan is a past president of the Canadian Library Association.

ROBERT CRAIG, MLS'81, is currently working with the Learning and Access Services unit of the Library of Parliament in Ottawa. Robert has been there for the past year and a half, and is very happy with the job.

MANAGEMENT

JOHNA. (JACK) GALBRAITH, BCom'48, MCom'50, PhD'59, has accepted the offer of a renewal of his appointment as Adjunct Research Professor in Carleton University's Department of Economics, with effect from July 1, 2008, for a term of three years.

GORDON PIMM, BCom'50, is the author of *Leo's War*, a book based on letters written by his uncle Leo "Boots" LeBoutillier, who



MARIE GIGUÈRE, BCL'75, has received the Faculty of Law's James Robb Award for her exceptional work as a volunteer. Marie is a member of the law faculty's advisory board and has also taught securities law at McGill. She has served on the University's board of governors for many years and has been a very active volunteer for the Douglas Mental Health University Institute, where she has been a member of the board of trustees. A well-respected corporate lawyer in Montreal, Marie has held senior positions at the Montreal Stock Exchange and Molson Inc. The Robb Award honours law graduates who have shown exceptional generosity to the McGill community. It is named after **JAMES ROBB, BA'51, BCL'54**, who has been one of McGill's great volunteers for over 50 years.



LISE WATIER COSMÉTIQUES

ANNE MARTIN-VACHON, MBA'85, is the new President and CEO of Lise Watier Cosmétiques Inc. Anne has more than 23 years of experience in cosmetics and personal care and has held senior positions at Procter & Gamble, including vice president of total beauty marketing and vice president of global cosmetics marketing. Anne helped develop such brands as Cover Girl, Max Factor, Oil of Olay, Ivory and Crest, and she earned Procter & Gamble's top marketing prize for her work. Born and raised in Trois-Rivières, Anne is returning to Quebec after almost 20 years of living in the U.S. The Montreal-based Lise Watier distributes its products in more than 1,350 sales outlets throughout Canada.

RICHARD ROUSSEAU, BCom'73, has been elected Chairman of the Canadian Payroll Association for 2008-2009. Richard is the Vice-President, Sales and Industry Relations at D.L.G.L. Ltd., a company specializing in a bilingual, integrated human resources, payroll, time capture and scheduling, and pension system for large organizations.

YAT LO, BCom'86, has been appointed by the federal government to the Chinese-Canadian Advisory Committee under the Community Historical Recognition Program. The advisory committee was established in May 2008 following the announcement of \$5 million in grants and contributions for community-based commemorative and educational projects related to immigration restrictions experienced by the Chinese-Canadian community. Yat is currently president of the Chinese Neighbourhood Society of Montreal, a chapter of the Chinese Canadian National Council.

ROBERT BEAUREGARD, MBA'88, has recently launched a new money management firm based in Montreal. Global Alpha Capital Management Ltd. is the latest newcomer within the Connor Clark & Lunn Financial Group of companies, Canada's second largest and fastest growing independent money manager. Global Alpha will specialize in Global Small Cap Equity mandates as well as offer an absolute return equity product. Prior to starting Global Alpha, Robert spent the last nine years with Natcan Investment Management as senior vice-president, board member and small cap equities portfolio manager.

STEPHAN MAROIS, MBA'89, has recently been appointed Chairman of the Board of the Quebec Division of the Arthritis Society. The Arthritis Society is a not-for-profit organization which seeks to promote awareness and understanding of arthritis while raising funds to support arthritic research across Canada.

MELISSA POSEY, BCom'90, has been appointed the Penn Museum's Chief Operating Officer. She will oversee the museum's business administration.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS BUSSIÈRES, MBA'93, a Professor at Université de Montréal's Faculté de pharmacie, has published a new book in collaboration with historian Nancy Marando. Entitled *Un siècle de pharmacie à l'Hôpital Sainte-Justine*, this book is the first publication on the topic of the history of hospital pharmacies in Quebec. The book

was published during the celebration of the centennial of Sainte-Justine.

TODD ROBERTS, BCom'93, and his wife Amanda Farris were recently blessed with a second child. Braddock (Brady) Farris Roberts was born on March 5, 2008. Three-year-old Olivia is thrilled to be a big sister. Todd continues as Director of Operations for Ottawa-based CAPCORP Financial, a financial planning firm focused on the needs of small to medium-sized businesses.

KAREN CHRISTINE LEE, DipMgmt'95, and Chris Derosssett were married in Montreal on May 17, 2008. Karen also had a baby on September 1, 2008, named Matthew Christopher Lee Derosssett.

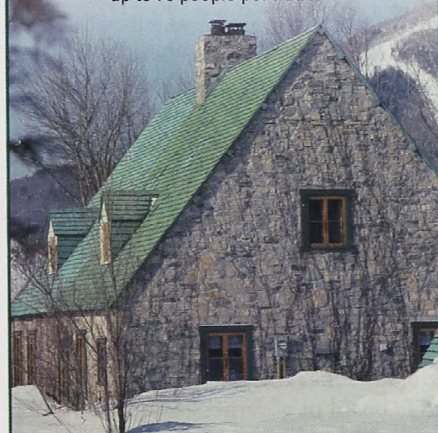
RICHARD G. MCCREARY, MBA'97, has been promoted to Co-Head of CIBC World Markets' Global Mining Group. CIBC World Markets is a recognized leader in providing financing and advisory services to mining companies around the globe. Rick can be reached at rick.mccreary@cibc.ca.

MESH TANDON, BCom'98, is the President and Managing Partner of Simran Capital Management, a pre-event-driven activist hedge fund manager that focuses on

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served in the 24th Victoria Rifles in the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the First World War. A new NFB documentary titled *Front Lines*, which pays tribute to the war's combatants, makes use of Gordon's work. The film is based on letters written during the war by several soldiers, including Gordon's uncle Leo.

DICK IRVIN, BCom'53, is the Campaign Chair for the Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation's new fundraising campaign, "My Lakeshore." The campaign is raising money for Lakeshore General Hospital, which serves the residents of Montreal's West Island. Dick is an author and a retired sportscaster best known as a long-time colour commentator on *Hockey Night in Canada*. He is a member of the Hockey Hall of Fame and the CBC Sports Hall of Fame. More information about "My Lakeshore" is available at www.lakeshorefoundation.ca.



ALBERTA G. CEFIS, BA'75, MBA'79, DipMan'79, has been named to *U.S. Banker* magazine's 2008 global ranking of the 25 Most Powerful Women In Banking. Alberta is the Executive Vice President & Group Head of Global Transaction Banking for Scotiabank. Since taking on her current position two years ago, Alberta, who oversees a budget of \$85 million, has increased her groups' deposits by 23 per cent, revenues by 19 per cent and net income after taxes by 35 per cent. She is also helping to lead Scotiabank's expansion into Brazil, Russia, India and China.

stressed and distressed securities. The company was awarded "Hedge Fund of the Year" at Opal Financial Group's 2008 Emerging Manager Summit. This award recognizes the company's innovation in investment strategy.

MARIA LUISA BATTISTA, BCom'99, and her husband, **THOMAS J. AWAD, BEng'99**, welcomed baby Karina Lauren, weighing 7 lbs 11 oz, on May 30, 2008. Brother David James is 23 months old. Thomas is Director of Hardware and one of the founders of Octasic, a telecom company celebrating its 10-year anniversary and now employing 95 people. Their Vocallo chip won the 2007 EN-Genius Product of the Year Award for Most Innovative DSP Product.

BROOKE FISHBACK, MBA'02, is the International Sales Manager for Health Enterprises, Inc. (www.healthenterprises.com), a leading global supplier of niche consumer health products. The company was recently awarded the President's "E Award." The prize, created in 1961 by U.S. president John F. Kennedy, is presented by the U.S. Department of Commerce to people or organizations who make significant contributions to increasing U.S. exports.

STEPHEN KENT, MMgmt'03, was elected to the legislature in Newfoundland and Labrador in October 2008, receiving 85 per cent of votes cast. Stephen represents the District of Mount Pearl North in the House of Assembly. He was also appointed to the role of Scouts Canada's next Chief Commissioner and Chair of the organization's board of governors by the Governor General. The chief commissioner holds the senior volunteer position in the organization. Stephen will be the youngest chief commissioner in the organization's history and also the first from Newfoundland and Labrador.

PAUL CHIPPERTON, MBA'04, recently co-founded Profound Medical Inc. with Drs Michael Bronskill and Rajiv Chopra from Sunnybrook Imaging Research in Toronto. The company is dedicated to developing a novel treatment for prostate cancer and plans to offer the fastest, least-invasive, and highest quality-of-life outcomes for patients of the disease. Paul has been credited with a co-lead or lead in the financing and commercial development of a number of companies. He now leads Profound Medical as COO/CEO.



JULIE NESRALLAH, DipArt'97, is the host of *Tempo* on CBC Radio 2. The show, which debuted in late August, focuses on the world of classical music in Canada and internationally. Julie is an accomplished mezzo-soprano and has performed with leading opera companies across North America and abroad, taking on such roles as Carmen in *Carmen*, Isabella in *L'Italiana in Algeri* and Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly*. The prizes she has received include the Brian Law Opera Award Grand Prize and the Journées de la Musique Française Grand Prize. *Tempo* airs nationally each weekday between 10 am and 3 pm.

MUSIC

MARIA DIAMANTIS, BMus'95, is a soprano and the Artistic Director for Chroma Musika, which recently collaborated with the Greek publisher Chatzilakos Editions to produce *The Little Fugitives and The House in the Forest*, a unique CD/book project. Maria guided the vocal performances of 38 children of Hellenic origin, all from Montreal and Laval, who took part in the project along with veteran Athenian actor **CHRISTOS TSAGAS** (who narrates the

story) and the Athens Youth Symphony Orchestra. The children's tale recounted in the book and on the CD revolves around four kids who explore a haunted house. For more information, visit www.thelittlefugitives.com.

DAVID WOHL, DMus'99, still has a good and busy life in Colorado. David has written songs with lyricist Faye Greenberg (lyricist for *High School Musical*), as well as original musical arrangements for *A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol* (Samuel French, publisher), sequel to Walton Jones's hit, *The 1940s Radio Hour*. The show's world premiere was on November 15, 2008, at the Bas Bleu Theatre in Fort Collins, Colorado. David's daughter, Sara, is now an amazing 11-year-old in 6th grade and keeps him hip to the latest in the "tween" music scene. David would enjoy hearing from old friends via email at david.wohl@davidwohlmusic.com.

JONATHAN OLDENGARM, MMus'00, DMus'05, won the \$2,000 Royal Canadian College of Organists prize as the most promising Canadian competitor at the recent Canadian International Organ Competition. Jonathan is the Director of

Music at the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul in Montreal.

PATIL HARBOYAN, BMus'02, MMus'04, has completed an Artist Diploma (DESS) at the Faculty of Music at the Université de Montréal with Marc Durand and Jean Saulnier. Patil is currently a doctoral candidate studying with Gilbert Kalish at SUNY Stony Brook with a full scholarship in the DMA program. She recently performed at Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall and is double granted by the Canada Council for the Arts (2007 and 2008).



MICHELLE YELIN NAM, BMus'07, is the 2008 recipient of the Sylva Gelber Foundation Award from the Canada Council for the Arts. The prize, worth \$15,000, is given to the most talented candidate under the age of 30 in the council's annual competition for grants to professional musicians in the classical music category. Michelle made her professional debut as a pianist with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra in 2006 and earned the grand prize at the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal Standard Life Competition that same year. She is currently pursuing a master's degree at the Juilliard School in New York.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

ROBERT SCOTT, BTh'71, is the author of the Jack Elton mystery series. Following his two previous books, *Advertising Murder* and *Lost Youth, Murder Express*, the story of the killing of a passenger on a train traveling between Vancouver and Calgary, was published in December 2008 by Avalon Books. There are two more mysteries in process as well as a collection of humorous short fiction. Bob is a member of Crime Writers of Canada and a professional member of the Word Guild, an association of Christian-Canadian writers and editors. He is also the editor of the *Assiniboia (Saskatchewan) 100th Anniversary* history. He continues to exercise his ministry as a pastor within the Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada.

SCIENCE

MICHAEL SHAW, BSc'46, MSc'47, PhD'49, DSc'75, was recently awarded a DSc (honoris causa) by the University of Saskatchewan and gave the convocation address on May 27, 2008. Michael, a Professor Emeritus at the University of British Columbia, is a distinguished plant physiologist who is internationally known for his research on the physiology and biochemistry of host-parasite relationships. Michael has received many honours for his work. He and his wife, the former **JEAN BERKINSHAW, BA'48**, are in their 60th year of marriage and residing happily in Vancouver.

DAVID IRVINE WANKLYN, MSc'51, PhD'52, is the author of two memoirs, *Luck, Laughter, and Learning* and *More Luck, Laughter, and Learning*. The first book provides an account of his years in the Canadian army overseas during the Second World War, of his experiences as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University and of his days pursuing nuclear physics research as a McGill doctoral

student. The second book focuses on his professional travels and on his passion for boats and boating. Copies of both books are available through David's wife, **PATIENCE WANKLYN, BA'46**, who can be contacted at 514-484-2294.

FRANK M. GUTTMAN, BSc'52, MA'02, a Professor of Surgery at McGill and the former head of general paediatric surgery for the Montreal Children's Hospital, has published a biography of Téphosphore-Damien Bouchard entitled *The Devil from Saint-Hyacinthe, Senator Téphosphore-Damien Bouchard, A Tragic Hero*. Bouchard was a dominant figure in the political life of Quebec, especially from 1930-1944. The book emphasizes the persistence of "les rouges" into the 20th century. Published by iuniverse press, it is available online at Barnes & Noble and Amazon. It has now been translated into French. The book was reviewed by *La Presse* and the *Gazette*. It received the Reviewers Choice Award 2008 from *Readers Reviews*.

PETER KAZAKS, BSc'62, is the author of *Lands Serene* (BookSurge), an account of a quintessential Canadian adventure—a long wilderness canoe trip. Woven into the book's chronicle of open and frozen waters, rushing rivers and rolling tundra is the story of the Great Bear Lake and Coppermine River regions and the early adventurers who explored them, including Thomas Simpson, Peter Warren Dease, Dr. John Rae and Sir John Franklin. Peter is a retired professor of physics. Copies of his book can be ordered through Amazon.com.

NAOMI P. ZIGMOND, BSc'62, has been honoured as a Distinguished Professor of Education by the University of Pittsburgh. The appointment of a faculty member to a distinguished professorship is the highest honour that can be given to a Pitt professor. Naomi is a Professor of Special Education in Pitt's School of Education's Department of Instruction and Learning. Her primary

focus is the education of school-aged students with cognitive, behavioural and physical disabilities.

DAVID ASH, BSc'66, PhD'73, has retired after 40 years in the Canadian chemical industry. Most recently he was general manager of Columbian Chemicals Canada in Hamilton, Ontario.

HÉLÈNE M. MASSAM, BSc'71, MSc'73, PhD'77, has been named a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS). Hélène received the honour for her contributions to Wishart distributions and to graphical models. An induction ceremony for all 2008 Fellows took place July 14, 2008, at the IMS Annual Meeting/World

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Congress in Singapore. Hélène is a professor of mathematics and statistics at York University in Toronto.

DAVE R. WILLIAMS, BSc'76, MSc'83, MDCM'83, has been elected as a Fellow to the Explorers Club, for his vast contributions to the world of medical sciences and research. The Explorers Club is an international multidisciplinary professional society dedicated to the advancement of field research and the ideal that it is vital to preserve the instinct to explore. Dave is currently the Director of the McMaster Centre for Medical Robotics at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton. A former astronaut, Dave took part on two NASA space shuttle flights, in 1998 and 2007.

WILLIAM (BILL) FORDE THOMPSON, BSc'79, is now a professor of psychology at MacQuarie University in Sydney, Australia. Bill was formerly a professor of psychology at the University of Toronto and his research focuses on music, cognition and emotion.

JACOB J. BLOOMBERG, BSc'84, PhD'89, has been reappointed Associate Team Leader of the Sensorimotor Adaptation Team of the National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI). The NSBRI,



MALCOLM KING, PHD'73, has been appointed Scientific Director of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research's Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health (CIHR-IAPH). A member of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation in Southern Ontario, Malcolm is a Professor in the University of Alberta's Pulmonary Medicine Division. He also heads the U of A's Aboriginal Health Care Careers program and chairs its University Aboriginal Advisory Council. Focusing primarily on respiratory health issues among aboriginal peoples, he is the author of some 160 scientific papers. CIHR is composed of 13 institutes, each with its own scientific director, and is the government of Canada's agency for health research.

funded by NASA, is a consortium of institutions studying the health risks related to long-duration spaceflights. Jacob will manage projects that focus on finding solutions to the coordination and perceptual disturbances experienced during and after space missions as a result of neural adaptation to spaceflight. His research findings will also be beneficial to those who suffer from balance disorders on Earth. This is Jacob's second term as an associate team leader.

PATRICIA ANNE MCCULLOUGH, BSc'87, is the new President and Executive Director of the Northeast Utilities (NU) Foundation. As president, Patricia will oversee a foundation energized by a \$25-million endowment. With this endowment, the foundation will refocus its giving efforts with investments to address key challenges in the regional economy, education and environmental leadership. Patricia will continue to serve as a director in NU's enterprise planning group, working with NU's operating companies on energy efficiency and resource management.

XAVIER BONNIN, BSc'91, is the proud father of son Marc, born February 18, 2008, near Paris, France. Xavier is now Team Leader of the Milieux Polyphasiques et Procédés Plasmas research team at the Laboratoire d'Ingénierie des Matériaux et Hautes Pressions from CNRS, on the Université Paris-Nord campus. His research interests cover plasma-surface interactions in conditions as diverse as magnetic confinement devices and plasma-assisted industrial diamond crystal growth processes.

GEORGE THANASSOULIS, BSc'97, is happily married to **SONIA TREMBLAY**

BSc(OT)'00. George has completed his clinical training in cardiology with advanced training in echocardiography. He is currently practicing cardiology part-time while pursuing a master's degree in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McGill. Sonia has completed her residency in family medicine and is working as a family physician in Montreal. George and Sonia are eagerly expecting their first child.

ANNIE HAASE, BSc'04, recently graduated with a degree in medicine from Memorial University of Newfoundland and will now be doing a residency in internal medicine at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

JENNIFER LILLY, MSc'05, of the Sailing Weather Service, provided weather and oceanographic forecasting to the United States Sailing Team at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games. As a meteorologist, Jennifer worked to predict wind and weather in Qingdao, China, the Olympic satellite venue for the sailing events. Sailing Weather Service was recognized in 2004 with the United States Sailing Association President's Award for outstanding meteorological service provided to the team at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

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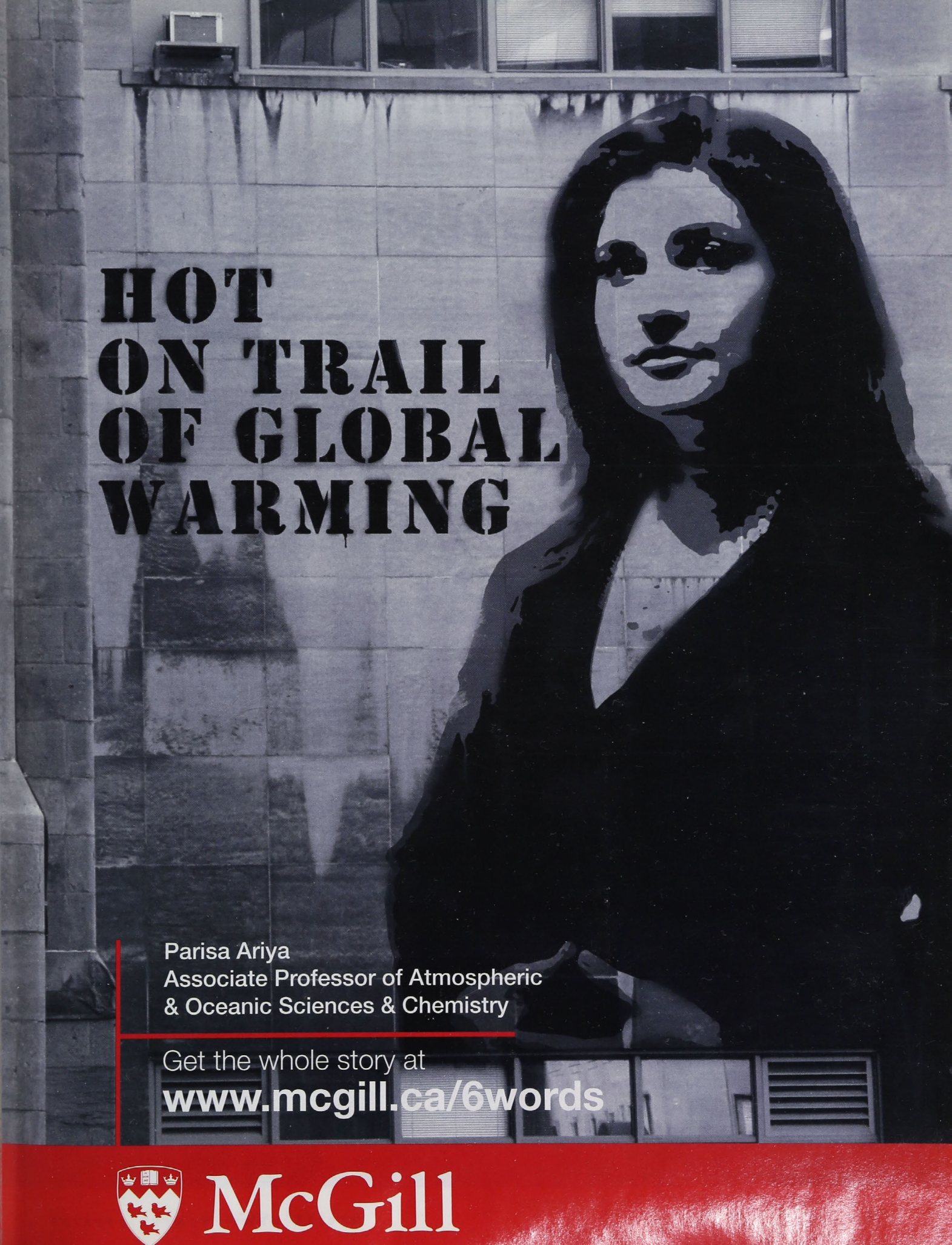
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McGill

1920s

GRACE (REID) KELLAND, BA'29, at Montreal, on October 23, 2008.

1930s

ANNE MARIE (DUBOIS) SLATER, BA'32, at Ottawa, on January 13, 2008.

LAURA (SCHUBERT) VICTOR, BA'32, at Montreal, on September 19, 2008.

CYNTHIA (BAZIN) HANKIN, BA'34, at Hubley, N.S., on December 21, 2007.

FRANK G. KERRY, BEng'35, at Scarsdale, N.Y., on May 8, 2007.

NELLIE KAY, Dip Ed'36, at Nepean, Ont., on February 28, 2008.

RUDOLPHE L. M. PICARD, BA'36, at Montreal, on August 16, 2008.

FRANK H. RUSS, MDCM'39, at Savoy, Ill., on June 21, 2008.

1940s

TIM DUNN, BCom'40, at Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Que., on November 17, 2008.

CLARE M. FLINT, BA'40, MDCM'42, at Brome Lake, Que., on May 2, 2008.

A. CECILIA POPE, CertNursing'40, at Toronto, on June 7, 2008.

JOHN L. DARBY, BArch'41, at Halifax, N.S., on May 1, 2008.

WILLIAM R. MACKAY, BCom'41, at Cobourg, Ont., on July 22, 2008.

JEAN W. (TAYLOR) COOPER, BA'42, at Oakville, Ont., on February 24, 2008.

EUGENE J. FITZPATRICK, MDCM'42, at North Branford, Ct., on March 31, 2008.

WILLIAM E. GOODMAN, BA'42, MDCM'43, at Toronto, on June 23, 2008.

MARGOT VAN REET, BA'42, at Montreal, on March 25, 2007.

AGNES WELSH, BA'42, MA'45, at Ottawa, on January 19, 2008.

BERNICE GOLD, BA'43, at Westmount, Que., on June 18, 2008.

SIDNEY LITHWICK, BArch'43, at Ottawa, on July 6, 2008.

ISAAC TANNENBAUM, BSc'43, MDCM'44, at Montreal, on April 3, 2008.

BREEN N. MARIEN, BA'44, MDCM'49, MSc'52, at Montreal, on September 30, 2008.

JOAN D. LEVINSON MEYER, BA'44, at Hartford, Ct., on July 10, 2008.

ARTURO VIVANTE, BA'44, at Wellfleet, Ma., on April 1, 2008.

MARY CAMPBELL (KOBAYASHI) HECHT, DipPhN'45, at Toronto, on September 28, 2008.

VERNE HARRINTON BERRY, MS'46, at Weston, Ont., on October 30, 2008.

JOHN J. COSTIGAN, BCL'46, at Chateauguay, Que., on October 2, 2008.

COURTNEY (COURT) SHIPPEY SPURR GILLIATT, BSc(Agr)'47, at Ottawa, on October 17, 2008.

HINDA (ORDOWER) KING, BA'47, BSW'48, MSW'53, at Montreal, on June 21, 2007.

DONALD M. MACKAY, BSc(Agr)'47, at Halifax, N.S., on June 24, 2008.

JOHN L. WALTER, BSc(Agr)'47, at Vancouver, B.C., on November 16, 2007.

CHARLES E. HART, BSc'48, at Ft. Lauderdale, Fl., on May 9, 2008.

VIRGINIA M. MATHER, BA'48, at Southampton, Ont., on May 17, 2008.

HUGH STANDFIELD, DipIntMed'48, at Vancouver, B.C., on April 10, 2008.

FRANK TELFER, BSc'48, at Montreal, on March 19, 2008.

JEAN BOLTÉ, BCom'49, at Montreal, on July 15, 2008.

ROBERT EDWARD CORRIGAN, BCom'49, at Kingston, Ont., on April 10, 2008.

J. STEWART LOWTHER, BSc'49, MSc'50, at Tacoma, Wa., March 25, 2008.

WILLIAM W. MOFFAT, BSc'49, MDCM'53, at Oakville, Ont., on February 29, 2008.

ERNEST WARD NEALE, BSc'49, at Calgary, Alta., on May 20, 2008.

A. PATRICK WICKHAM, BCL'49, at Montreal, on April 7, 2008.

1950s

J. WILLIAM BIGELOW, BCom'50, at Ottawa, on May 23, 2007.

LLEWELLYN W. JENSEN, BSc'50, at Palm Beach, Fl., on September 14, 2007.

EDWARD G. KIRWAN, BA'50, at Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Que., on June 28, 2008.

FREDERICK C. LAZIER, BCom'50, at Kirkland, Que., on April 26, 2008.

JOHN H. T. SANGSTER, BA'50, at Vancouver, B.C., on July 3, 2008.

WALTER B. TILDEN, BCom'50, at Toronto, on July 9, 2008.

FRANK S. VICKERY, BCom'50, at Toronto, on January 25, 2008.

JAMES F. BRODIE CUPPLES, MDCM'51, at Ganges, B.C., on November 14, 2007.

JOSEPH S. LIPES, BEng'51, at Toronto, on September 15, 2008.

WALTER E. MCLAUGHLIN, BCom'51, CA'55, at Toronto, on April 27, 2008.



JOHNS HOPKINS CHILDREN'S CENTER

JANET B. HARDY, MDCM'41, helped orchestrate one of the most ambitious and influential medical studies of her time. The Collaborative Perinatal Project, which followed the progress of about 60,000 pregnant women and the kids they gave birth to, is credited with providing researchers with a wide range of invaluable insights concerning the early growth and development of children. Hardy, a longtime pediatrics professor at Johns Hopkins University, was responsible for some of the CPP's biggest breakthroughs. Hardy offered the first conclusive evidence linking rubella during pregnancy with incidents of birth defects and she also discovered a clear relationship between a mother's age and her child's well-being later in life, demonstrating that the children of girls younger than 18 had lower IQs and other problems. Hardy died on October 23 in Glen Arm, Maryland.

ALEXANDER L. METCALFE, BSc(Agr)'51, at Calgary, Alta., on July 24, 2008.

LESLIE S. WILLIAMSON, BCom'51, at Kitchener, Ont., on October 14, 2008.

ANNE LAZAR, Dip Ed'52, at Toronto, on February 4, 2008.

ELEANOR RADLEY MCEWEN, DipEd'52, at Erin, Ont., on October 15, 2008.

WILLIAM RANDOLPH MURRAY, MDCM'52, at San Francisco, Ca., on July 4, 2008.

ANDREW TAUSSIG, BSc'52, PhD'55, at Montreal, on May 20, 2007.

PETER D. WALSH, BA'52, BCL'55, at Cowansville, Que., on August 25, 2008.

J. ERNEST LARIVIERE, BArch'53, at Montreal, on January 4, 2007.

JOHN SANDOE, BA'53, at London, England, on December 29, 2007.

H.F. HUGH SEDGWICK, BA'53, at Toronto, on September 23, 2008.

BRUCE M. BERRIDGE, BEng'54, at Ottawa, on July 8, 2008.

JAMES E. FINLAY, MEng'54, at Leduc, Alta., on October 7, 2007.

MARC ALFRED GIRARD, DDS'54, at Wilbraham, Ma., on May 1, 2008.

JAMES A. MACINTOSH, BEng'54, MSc'56, at Belleville, Ont., on December 20, 2007.

ZEEV VERED, BEng'54, at Ottawa, on June 9, 2008.

GEORGE T. FITZGERALD, BEng'55, at Amherstburg, Ont., on January 30, 2006.

BLAIR BORDEN, BSc(PE)'56, at Salmon Arm, B.C., on October 31, 2006.

L. ALBERT DESCHAMPS, BEng'56, at Ottawa, on August 31, 2008.

IRENE V. LACKNER, BLS'56, at Ottawa, on May 12, 2008.

PHYLLIS BAILEY, BA'57, MA'64, at Montreal, on March 28, 2008.

DAVID A. FREEDMAN, BSc'58, at Berkeley, Ca., on October 17, 2008.

ALBERT W. FULTON, BA'58, at Toronto, on July 17, 2008.



COURTESY OF ANDREW KIRK

JACQUELINE (JACKIE) KIRK, PhD'04, was killed by Taliban insurgents on August 13, 2008, in Afghanistan, where she was working for the New York-based NGO International Rescue Committee. Jackie became an adjunct professor in McGill's Faculty of Education shortly before her death; her research focused on adolescent girls' and young women's education. Since 2004, she had worked with the IRC as an advisor on teacher training and school development in war-torn countries including Rwanda and Burundi. "She used to say that 70 million girls in the world couldn't go to school," remembers her husband, Andrew Kirk, an associate professor of electrical and computer engineering in McGill's Faculty of Engineering, "and she really believed it was her mission to help them all."

JOHN J. L. DAVIES, MEng'59, at Mississauga, Ont., on August 16, 2008.

FREDERICK W. FAIRMAN, BEng'59, at Kingston, Ont., on February 26, 2008.

1960s

ISADORE HOROWITZ, BSc'60, MDCM'62, MSc'71, at Victoria, B.C., on September 24, 2008.

WILLIAM VERRIER, DipEd'60, MA'65, at Toronto, on February 7, 2008.

ERIKA GOTTLIEB, BLS'61, PhD'75, at Toronto, on September 24, 2007.

T. PRUDENCE BURGESS, BA'63, at Ottawa, on May 9, 2008.

MARGARET ANN FISHLOCK GAGAN, BA'64, at Greenwich, Ct., on September 7, 2008.

ALFRED J. ALEXANDER, DipAgr'65, at Montreal, May 17, 2008.

ANDRE J. FITZPATRICK, MA'69, at Montreal, on August 10, 2008.

KEITH KEDDY, BSc(Agr)'69, at Kingston, N.S., on July 13, 2008.

BARBARA ELLEN SHEN, BOT'69, at Silver Spring, Md., on September 15, 2008.

1970s

MICHAEL D'AVIRRO, BSc'70, MDCM'74, at Montreal, on February 29, 2008.

PHILIPPE EDWARD ROSS, MSc'72, MSc'75, at Golden, Co., on July 3, 2008.

DAVID LADD, BSc(Agr)'73, at Toronto, on August 19, 2008.

JACK SEGALL, BMus'75, at Montreal, on May 11, 2007.

CLAUDE BRODEUR, BEng'76, at Fermont, Que., on July 9, 2008.

FRANCIS R. STARK, LLB'77, at Montreal, on November 20, 2007.

GARY KIGER, MA'78, at Salt Lake City, Ut., on August 11, 2008.

1980s

JUANITO CUETO, BEd'82, at Ajax, Ont., on August 22, 2008.

2000s

AGATHA (YEO CHUN LENG) MCBRIDE, MA'03, at Montreal, on August 2, 2008.

FACULTY/STAFF

DONALD C. BEWS, Dip(TropMed)'45, former faculty member, Department of Health and Social Medicine, at Victoria, B.C., on July 17, 2008.

CHARLES H. CAHN, DipPsych'51, former faculty member, Department of Psychiatry, at Montreal, on April 27, 2008.

ANNETTE HERSCOVICS, BSc'59, PhD'63, former faculty member, McGill Cancer Centre, at Montreal, on September 6, 2008.

LESLIE KOVACS, former faculty member, Faculty of Medicine, at Montreal, on July 23, 2008.

JOHN R. MOORE, MDCM'41, Dip Surgery'51, former faculty member, Department of Surgery, at Oromocto, N.B., on July 7, 2008.

DOROTHY MORTON, former faculty member, Faculty of Music, at Montreal, on September 17, 2008.

Inside Bordeaux

BY ANDREW STEINMETZ, BA'89

Sometime in 1992, I went to Bordeaux to lead my first creative writing workshop. By Bordeaux, I don't mean the wine region in France but the medium-security prison for men on the northeast tip of the island of Montreal. *That* Bordeaux.

My previous writing workshop experience was limited. Five years earlier, at McGill, I'd participated in a workshop led by the Montreal poet Michael Harris. We assembled on the third floor of the Arts Building, a fairly homogeneous group of wannabe-nobodies, all vulnerable, every one of us nearsighted and solipsistic, slow to open our eyes to the brightness of self-criticism. When it was my turn to present my work, Harris was as adept as a defence lawyer at spinning the evidence in my favour. Ultimately, his job for one year was to lighten the sentencing of our peers, for the Beats-inspired howls and misdemeanours we'd commit to paper.

With that small taste of writing workshops—and no experience teaching, and only some little in life itself—I applied at Bordeaux because prison seemed like an ideal place to get my start. For one thing, administrative responsibilities would be minimal. No report cards, hopefully no Meet the Parents Night. And if I was a lousy leader, well, at least here I'd have my captive audience.

At 8:45 my first day, a guard escorted me through the front security gates. The academic sector was housed in a new building. Outside the door, 50 or so inmates gathered with their admission slips, waiting for the second bell to ring, I suppose.

The teachers' lounge was crowded and hazy with blue smoke. Killing some time before my class was scheduled to start, I split the spine of a paperback and caught the opening lines of Philip Larkin's notorious poem "This Be the Verse." Larkin uses language that is both lyrical and crude to evoke the damage that parents, often unwittingly, do to their children. I figured it would resonate with this crowd.

There was a rap at the door, and in stepped a man wearing loose gray sweats and a light blue T-shirt—standard issue prison wear.

"Hey Jean!" called an excited voice. "I'm back inside! But I'm not gonna take your French class again, don't worry, I'm taking poetry." A quick glance around and he slipped back into the hall.

Across the room, Jean, another teacher, propelled himself in a swivel chair. "He's a good student," he gave me a wink. "Back in to complete his masters. It's a maximum sentence of two years minus a day here, so they have no choice but to return and do another two in order to graduate."

My class was given in the library. Between the comic book collection and an aisle of crime fiction, there was a large wooden, seminar-type table. I found no apple on my desk that morning, but everyone seemed genuinely happy to see me. I had eight students. Before anything else, they wanted to introduce themselves, shake my hand. Z was the first.

"Hi, I'm Z and I need structure." He was a tall man with a white beard and a lumpy core. There was a grandfatherly Farley Mowat-ness about him.

Under the assumption Z was talking about literary form, I circulated Larkin's derogatory blame-poem, which is set to rhyme like an early-reader primer.

Larkin's poem didn't represent any feelings I had, but I'd be lying if I wasn't projecting his fighting spirit onto the class.

Z wasn't impressed. In fact, he was nonplussed. At Bordeaux, attendance was voluntary and fluctuated weekly, but Z, from a protective custody cell block, was a regular. He was also prolific.

I remember one of Z's long poems in rhyming couplets about a tired man who uprooted his family and travelled from one village to the next, banished because he snored too loudly at night.

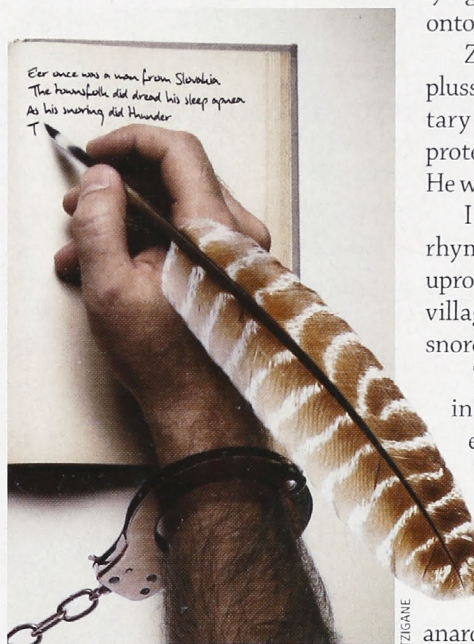
The type of poems we workshoped included cautionary tales, love poems, elegies, childhood memories, and even utopian visions. All in all, it was pretty tame stuff. Any preconceived notion I had about these men ranting in free-form/free-associative verse was dead wrong. Prison is not a sanctuary for anarchic ideology. That's a university.

Experience of life lived, Harris told us at McGill, is what readers relate to most.

At Bordeaux, the inmates often talked about life on the *inside*. They boasted about their familiarity with that place, insinuating secret knowledge, but nobody put it down on paper.

I'll admit, when I applied for work in a prison, I was seeking an experience out of the ordinary. But really, *the inside* as only an initiate can correctly refer to it, is not geographical. Whatever the inmates meant by it, they had brought it with them into Bordeaux—from the outside.

The outside. That's where the doors to any number of experiences—poverty, human error, revenge—open and close in the thin air. ✦



TZIGANE

Andrew Steinmetz's novel *Eva's Threepenny Theatre* is published by Gaspereau Press. He is the editor of *Esplanade Books*, the fiction imprint at Véhicule Press.

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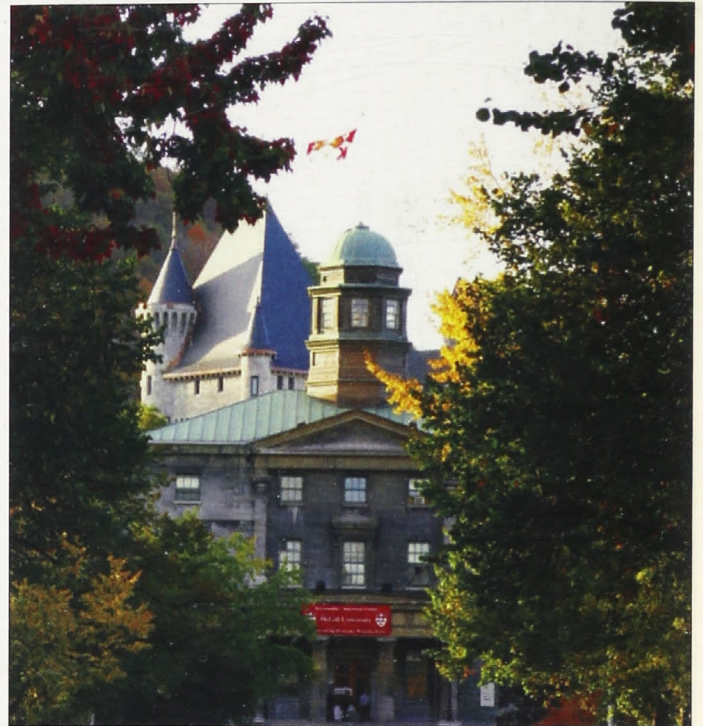
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