



Volume M18, Issue No. 10, March 20, 2017

Intercom is published regularly and serves to inform Vanier staff and teachers of notices and special events. It is posted on the [Vanier College Website](http://VanierCollegeWebsite) and distributed electronically. Submissions should be sent to [intercom@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:intercom@vaniercollege.qc.ca). Submissions should be in **WORD**, and sent as an **attachment**. No formatting or bullets. **Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding publication.**

**Vanier College Malawi Nursing Exchange**



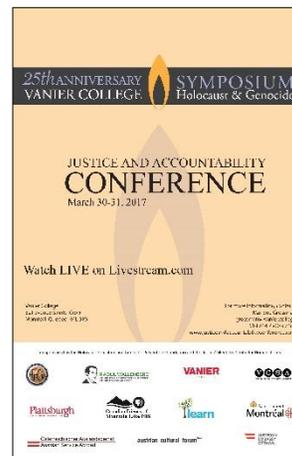
On Saturday, March 11, 2017, eight Vanier College nursing students flew off for a seven-week clinical internship in Malawi as part of the annual Vanier Malawi Nursing Exchange. Students will spend three weeks working in a rural area clinic before moving to the Kumuzu College of Nursing in the capital city of Lilongwe for the final weeks of their stage.

“Just a quick note to let you know that we have arrived in Malawi (29 and humid!),” writes Melodie Hicks who is accompanying the group.

“All students healthy and accounted for! After some running around to get our nursing licenses etc. we will head out to the rural area for the next 3 weeks. I have added a couple of new learning opportunities this year. We will be participating in a palliative care conference as well as providing a one-day clinic in one of Steven Lewis’s villages.

*Melodie Hicks, Nursing Department*

**Justice and Accountability Conference: March 30-31<sup>st</sup>**



I am writing to invite members of the community to participate in the Justice and Accountability community conference that is taking place March 30<sup>th</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup> at Vanier.

This two-day event will precede the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of Vanier College’s annual Symposium on the Holocaust and Genocide, which will run from April 3<sup>rd</sup> to April 7<sup>th</sup>.

As part of the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of this event it was decided to also hold this conference, which will feature numerous guest speakers and panel discussions. Some of the speakers for the conference include Vanier graduate Dr. Charles Small, founder and Director of the Institute for The Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy, Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre, Professor Irving Abella, Senator Murray Sinclair, and UN High-Level Commissioner Dr. Alaa Murabit. As well, Paul Karwatsky of CTV News Montreal will be moderating a panel discussion on the topic of *Pursuing Justice for Political Prisoners*.

Please see the schedule at the end of Intercom for a complete list of speakers and events for the conference. I think it will be a great experience for Vanier students to participate in the conference as it will provide a unique opportunity for them to hear some very prestigious and respected speakers addressing important subjects such as hate speech in the digital age, Canadian immigration policies of the past and present, and genocide education.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will be opening the conference with a taped introduction.

What's also new this year is that remote links will be created throughout the conference and symposium that will subsequently be webcast from Montreal to classrooms at the State University of New York in Plattsburgh as well as to high schools in that city. This is being made possible thanks to the collaboration of Mountain Lake PBS and Learn Quebec. As well, thanks to livestreaming, individuals around the world will be able to watch the different speakers.

The conference and symposium will help sensitize Vanier's students and staff as well as members of the larger community to the horrors of the past while also focusing on genocide, discrimination and prejudice taking place in the present. In keeping with this educational mission, in May, 30 students from Vanier and the State University of New York at Plattsburgh will be travelling to Europe as part of a program entitled Moral responsibility and Global Citizenship.

As this is a community conference open to outside individuals and organizations, if you would like to reserve places for your students for a particular speaker please call me at extension 7483 or email me at [grossmam@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:grossmam@vaniercollege.qc.ca). or you can visit our website for more information :

[www.justiceandaccountabilityconference.com](http://www.justiceandaccountabilityconference.com).

See the full schedule of events at the end of Intercom.

Come join the conversation!

This conference is being organized with the support of the Vanier College Foundation.

*Marlene Grossman, Psychology Department*

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vanier College Symposium on the Holocaust and Genocide

Not to be confused with the aforementioned Conference, the Annual Vanier College Symposium on the Holocaust and Genocide, will run April 3-7. Key speeches include:

- **Dr. Charles Asher Small**, is the founding Director and President of the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP). He convened groundbreaking academic seminar series in the emerging field of contemporary antisemitism studies at Columbia University, Harvard University, McGill University, amongst others. Dr. Small is a former graduate of Vanier College. This will take place on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00.
- **Marie-Anne Gagnon**, Interim Associate Director of Concordia Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling and Pharo Sok, history graduate student at Concordia discussing the Centre's role and the role of storytelling looking at the Khmers people in Cambodia. This will take place April 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00
- **Student Panel on refugees**. Students will describe their personal experiences arriving in Montreal and studying at Vanier College. This will take place on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00

Please reserve your spot in the Auditorium.

Other speakers can be invited into your classrooms to speak to your students and the list includes:

- Holocaust Survivors: Eva Kuper, Sidney Zoltak and Ted Bolgar
- Jacky Vallée, Vanier Teacher, "Pink Triangle" (Holocaust)
- René Karp, Vanier Teacher, "Women Resistance" (Holocaust)
- Dafina Savic, is the Human Rights Coordinator at the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre and Founder and Director of Romanipe
- Mike Kropveld, "Thinking About Joining a Group?"
- Heidi Berger, daughter of Holocaust Survivor
- Matthias Pum, Austrian Holocaust Memorial Intern

Please indicate as soon as possible, which speakers you would be interested in bringing to your class so we can ensure your preferred choice.

*Marlene Grossman, Psychology Department*

### Montreal Re-adaptation Centre Services

Hello everyone, I would just like to give a small reminder to all out there, that you have the opportunity to have any confidential papers that you may have sitting around, whether personal or work related (old exams, essays, etc...) shredded on site at Vanier by your coworkers who work for the Montreal Re-adaptation Centre.

We are located in B118, across from the print shop, if you wish to drop them off; or we could also come up to your locale to do a pickup if it is a large quantity.

Our extension is 7536, just ask for Kerry (Specialized Educator)

*Kerry Hall, Montreal Re-adaptation Centre*

### Blanket Exercise on the colonization of North America, Thursday, March 30, 10:30 – 2:00

You are invited to take part in another edition of the Blanket Exercise at Vanier College. This exercise takes participants through the process of the colonization with the use of blankets on the ground, representing North America. Participants become the First Peoples and circulate on the continent freely, until contact with European explorers and settlers changes their lives forever.

After the exercise is finished, three members of the Montreal urban Indigenous community will lead talking circles to help participants process what they just experienced. The exercise, combined with the follow-up talking circle, is a powerful, educational, and emotional experience that you will not soon forget!

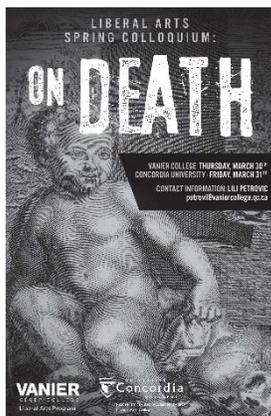
Previous participants have said that their understanding of the lives of Indigenous peoples today increased because of their participation in this exercise, even if they had already read about these topics in their classes.

As space is limited, we ask that people register with Jacky Vallée at [valleej@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:valleej@vaniercollege.qc.ca) by Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at the latest. All members of the Vanier community are welcome. Teachers are welcome to assign bonus marks to students for participation. If this is an activity that you would like to host for one of your classes in the future, you may come to observe the activity. Please circulate this information among your students and encourage them to participate!

The Blanket Exercise was created by KAIROS. It is presented by Frédérique Denis, teacher of the History of Montreal course, and by the Vanier Indigenous Circle.

*Jacky Vallée, Anthropology*

### Liberal Arts Colloquium: *On Death*



On March 30 and 31<sup>st</sup>, Vanier College and Concordia University are cohosting a Liberal Arts Spring Colloquium *On Death*. Events on Thursday will take place at Vanier in the morning from 8a m to 1:30 pm, and those on Friday will take place at Concordia in the afternoon from 1 pm to 6:45 pm.

See the full program at the end of *Intercom*.

*Lili Petrovic, Liberal Arts*

### MASSAGE-A-THON

**Wednesday, March 22nd<sup>h</sup>**

**11:00 am - 4:00pm**

Come support our student athletes while getting a relaxing massage from certified Athletic therapists!

**\$20.00 for 20 minutes**

**\$50.00 for 55 minutes**

All Proceeds will be going to the Vanier College Foundation for Special Events student athletes.



Register by email: [nguyenm@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:nguyenm@vaniercollege.qc.ca) or ext 7133  
Or visit G134 or G203 to reserve your spot.

*Mai Nguyen, Athletics Department*

### International Education Office: Silent Auction



On **Thursday, March 23, 2017**, the International Education Office will hold a Silent Auction Wine & Cheese event in the **Boardroom (F-216)** to raise funds for the Student Refugee Program and for student studying abroad. The bidding begins at 3:00 p.m. and the auction will close at 7:00 p.m.

We have already received some big-ticket items for our auction including hockey tickets and gift certificates, so please join us for a special event to fund these two worthy projects.

Event tickets are available at the following locations:

- International Education Office ( F-217)
- Office of the Dean, FABSS, ( A-286)

Tickets are **\$15** and include 2 glasses of wine, cheese, and other desserts.

If you would like to donate items, please contact [josephj@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:josephj@vaniercollege.qc.ca).

As always, we thank the Vanier community for their generosity and their support!

*Jennifer Joseph, International Education*

### Music Department UB concert: British Invasion Part II

Phew! That was quite the old-fashioned blizzard we all endured last week, wasn't it? No doubt you could use a break from the stress, the shovelling, the hazardous driving, and so on that have plagued you as Winter gets in its last, cruel licks.

If so, then the Music Department has a wonderfully invigorating auditory tonic to help you to relax while at the same time get you pumped for the second half of the semester. And how do we achieve that, you want to know? Simple: this Wednesday, March 22, three groups of talented music students will take the stage in order to present the **British Invasion Part II**.

This will be a free concert in the Auditorium during UB to help us welcome the first full day of Spring with the music of **Deep Purple**, **Pink Floyd**, and **Led Zeppelin**.

The repertoire, you ask? Tut-tut. It's a surprise, but here's a hint for you: anything from *Deep Purple in Rock* to *Machine Head*; from *Piper at the Gates of Dawn* to *The Wall*; from *Led Zeppelin I* to *In Through the Out Door*. That should narrow things down for you!

Please join us Wednesday in the Auditorium. It really will be an awe-inspiring show.

*Glen Ethier, Department of Music*

## 2016-2017 TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Academic Council's 2016-2017 Teaching Excellence Award Committee is calling for nominations for this year's award.

Here is an excellent opportunity for a student to show a teacher or for a teacher to show a colleague appreciation for his/her work and commitment to the profession.

Nomination forms are available on the College website at <http://www.vaniercollege.qc.ca/teachers/files/2017/03/2016-2017-Teaching-Excellence-Form.pdf>. Copies are also available at the Faculty Deans' Offices, the Academic Dean's Office, Student Services and the V.C.S.A. office.

You are strongly encouraged to submit the nomination form to the 2016-2017 Teaching Excellence Award Committee, c/o Office of the Academic Dean (F220), or [academicdean@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:academicdean@vaniercollege.qc.ca), by **Friday, April 7, 2017**. In addition to the nomination form, all supporting documentation must be submitted to the Committee in a sealed envelope by **Monday, April 24, 2017**.

All nominations and selection deliberations are kept strictly confidential.

*Olga Mardas, Office of the Academic Dean on behalf of Academic Council's 2016-2017 Teaching Excellence Award Committee*

## PSI NEWS

### Pedagogical Animation

#### PSI Workshop Series—Winter 2017

Find the full schedule, detailed descriptions and registration forms here: <http://www.vaniercollege.qc.ca/psi/professional-development/psi-workshop-series/>

Registrations are currently open for these workshops:

- **THIS WEEK Health and Safety of Students: A Teacher's Roles and Responsibilities.**  
Presenter: Joanie Robert. Date: March 22, 2017. Rm D221.
- **Creating Great Courses/Respecting Copyright.**  
Presenter Susan Bissonnette. Date: April 5, 2017. Rm D221.
- **Anyone Can Code: Create a Website Using Bootstrap.**  
Presenter: Bruce Norton. Date: April 26. Rm D221.

*Isabelle Delisle, Pedagogical Support and Innovation*

## UDL Task Force

### Who are we and what are we doing?

#### Who are we?

We are the UDL Task Force, a group of faculty members from Vanier, each of us representing a different discipline or program within the College, who have come together to develop tools and materials to enhance learning within the classroom environment, incorporating the principles of UDL.

#### What is UDL?

The main principle of UDL, or Universal Design for Learning, is to ensure that learning is accessible to all students. UDL aims to provide modes of instruction that are accessible and meaningful to all students. While UDL has the goal of providing access for students with varying disabilities, its methods enhance learning for *all* students.

UDL has become increasingly relevant as we encounter a diverse student population with learning difficulties, physical and psychological challenges, and differences in cultural backgrounds, ethnicity, language(s), sexual orientation, socio-economic status, and other life circumstances.

#### What are we doing?

The UDL task force has been established to create resources for faculty that can be used within our classroom environments to increase student engagement, accessibility, and overall learning.

#### How do you fit in?

In order to help us create a user-friendly toolbox of techniques and approaches that can be easily integrated into our classrooms, we would like to know:

- What are some of the challenges you face in the classroom in making your classes more accessible?
- What are you already doing in the classroom that supports the UDL framework?
- Where do you observe higher/lower levels of student engagement?
- What tools or resources would you love to use to help make your classes more accessible for all?

We'd like to join you in a department meeting to introduce ourselves and present the main concepts of UDL, and to hear your ideas and questions.

**We are:**

- Meghna Banerjee, Economics/Political Science
- Mike Besner, Math
- Tamara Brown, Animal Health
- Caroline Chwoika, Humanities
- Elana Cooperberg, Commerce
- Helen Filippou, Languages
- Lissiene Neiva, Biology
- Shelley McColl, Psychology
- Krista Riley, PSI

We will be getting in touch in the coming weeks with department coordinators. Feel free to contact any of us in the meantime. Or visit our webpage at: <http://www.vaniercollege.qc.ca/psi/universal-design-for-learning-task-force/>

*Elena Cooperberg, Commerce*

## Vanier Garden – Invitation to presentation and call for engagement



**Mark Reynolds**, our external educator, will present “**Urban Agriculture: The True Cost of the Food on your Plate**”, **March 23, 8:30-9:45** at the Auditorium, as part of Science Week. All classes welcome!

Here is the synopsis: *About to embark on his first season as an organic farmer in Quebec, Mark Reynolds will be discussing the current state of agriculture in North America. His talk will be looking at the economical, societal and environmental impacts of agribusiness in a local and a global context, as well as introducing his firsthand experience of alternative food systems in Montreal and abroad.*

With the spring on its way, the Garden team is actively working on plans to improve the gardens with raised boxes and other structures to upgrade the educational and social space in front of the A-wing. Architectural Technology student interns are involved in the design of these structures under the supervision of their teacher, Richard Klopp. Other

potential student-led projects are in the works with the Physics and the Computer Engineering Technology departments.

We are always in search of ways to collaborate with teachers and programs. If you would like to discuss possible links between the gardens and your field, please contact me.

To access educational material:

- Visit the Garden website: <http://www.vaniercollege.qc.ca/sustainability-major/collective-gardens/>
- Visit the Garden Omnivox Portal community: <https://vaniercollege.omnivox.ca/intr/VanierCollectiveGardens/>

To stay tuned or get involved:

- Sign up to our mailing system, Mail Chimp: <http://eepurl.com/b7vStn>
- Join our facebook page: Vanier College Collective Gardens: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/956934947670755/?ref=bookmarks>

*Myriam Mansour, Geography*

## International Women's Week 2017: Reclaiming Spaces

Thanks to everyone who made this year's IWW a success! Many thanks to all our guest speakers who gave generously of their knowledge and their time.

The success of this event is entirely attributed to the participation of the Vanier community. Special thank you to David Scott and Sasha Weigens for their consummate professionalism in the auditorium. And thank you to the Hypermedia and Micropublishing department, Mike Demole, and Marguerite Corriveau for ensuring a wide audience for our event. I would like to acknowledge and thank Alena Perout, Nora Soukiassian and Ivanka Hillel for their unwavering support during the weeks that lead up to IWW.

I would also like to thank the members of the organizing committee, who made such amazing suggestions for speakers and activities, and whose efforts made it possible to offer so many of the week's activities: Coleen Ayoup, Elana Cooperberg, Cheryl Donison, Maureen Jones, Natalie Carlino, Jacky Vallee, Judy Ingerman, Lisa Jorgensen, Kim Matthews, Stephanie Belmer, Janice Paquette, Caroline Chwojka, Alan Wong, Laurence Messier and Maro Adjemian.

A special thank you to all the participants in our first Lightning Talks event, especially to my co-organizers Stephen Dinsmore and Vanessa Vandergrift.

Finally, I would like to thank all the teachers who shared International Women's Week with their students, whether it was through announcing events in class or bringing their entire class to the auditorium. This support is invaluable, and I am truly grateful for your efforts.

I would also like to acknowledge the support of these groups to the success of the week: FABSS, VCTA, VCSA, Open Door Network, and the Indigenous Circle.

*For all Women's and Gender Studies members,  
Maggie Kathwaroon, Coordinator ([kathwarm@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:kathwarm@vaniercollege.qc.ca))*



### D-100 Library re-open to students as of today

As of March 20<sup>th</sup>, the temporary library has been re-opened so that students may take advantage of the quiet study space. Note that students will only have access to reserved books and laptops at this time while the library staff continue to work on re-shelving the books in the renovated space.

### The new STEM Centre opens

The first section of the Learning Commons has officially opened. The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Centre (formally the Math & Science Centre), has officially opened to everyone. It is located in D-301 and includes collaborative study space, the hackerspace/robotics lab, access to textbooks for in centre use, and 8 computers.

We will keep you posted as additional areas of the Learning Commons open.

*Haritos Kavallos, Learning Commons  
[kavalloh@vanier.college](mailto:kavalloh@vanier.college)*

## Teacher and Staff Volunteers Needed – A Reminder



As a reminder, we are still looking for teachers, professionals, support staff, and managers who would be willing to help during part or all of AQPC Symposium (June 6-7-8). As you may already know, Vanier College and Cégep Saint-Laurent will be hosting this year's symposium which will primarily take place at Concordia University's downtown campus.

If you are interested and available, **please sign up online:**

<https://goo.gl/forms/bfsxOoh13IG7udsJ3>

Your involvement is crucial to the success of this event.

### Volunteer Benefits:

- Overtime, payable in time, will be given for hours worked in addition to regular work hours as per rules of respective employment category
- **Only the following expenses will be reimbursed:**
  - Mileage – 24 km (12 km each way) @ .49 per km = \$11.76
  - Parking - \$13.50 maximum per day available as follows:
    - Concordia LB Building, 1453 Mackay
    - Faubourg Building, 1250 Guy Street

As over 1,500 participants are expected, it is encouraged that you use public transportation (Concordia-Guy Metro Station)

- Expenses will be reimbursed as per usual procedure, i.e. Petty Cash Voucher with valid receipts (if expense total less than \$100; if over \$100 use an expense report)
- Lunch and supper will be provided to volunteers based on their working timeslots. All volunteers are invited for the recognition lunch on Thursday.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Haritos Kavallos, Learning Commons, [kavalloh@vanier.college](mailto:kavalloh@vanier.college)*

## STEM Centre

### Science Week 2017: March 20th-24th: Reserve a spot for your class!



### Science Talks

Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 10-11:30am (Auditorium)

***The Future of Engineering Starts with You!*** by Women in Engineering Society, Concordia University

Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 12-1pm (Auditorium)

***The Secretary Problem*** by Ivan Ivanov, Vanier College

Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2:30-4pm (Auditorium)

***Brain Imaging, Big Data, and Neuroscience: Insights on the incredible plastic brain***

by Dr. Mallar Chakravarty, McGill University

Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> 10-11am (Auditorium)

***GAPDH gene sequencing project:***

***Guiding CEGEP students to develop an understanding of “real-world” scientific research***

by Michael Lindner-D’Addario, Olivia Mendelson, and Thomas Lo, Vanier College students

Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30-3pm (Auditorium)

***From Eastern Canada to the Tropics: Paleoenvironmental Research at Bishop’s University***

by Dr. Matthew Peros, Bishop’s University

Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30-9:45am (Auditorium)

***Urban Agriculture: The True Cost of the Food on your Plate*** by Mark Reynolds

Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10-11:30am (Auditorium)

***Building and Operating an Elevator to Space*** by Stephen Cohen, M. Eng., Vanier College

Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 10-11am (Auditorium)

***The Physics of Disasters*** by Nikolas Provas, McGill University

**Panel discussion and Journal launch**

Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2-3:30pm (D-301/STEM Centre)

***Keeping Science Creative*** - A Panel Discussion with the launch of the Vanier Science Journal

Co-presented by the Science Communication Collective and the Vanier Science Journal

**Activities**

Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> 1pm (D-301/STEM Centre)

***Science Pictionary***

**Come watch as three teams of students display their fine artistic talents and use their science knowledge to battle it out for the title of Pictionary Champions!**

Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 12pm (D-301/STEM Centre)

***Science Coffeehouse ft. performances by science students and faculty!***

**Please come by for a coffee or tea and enjoy some entertainment while checking out the new STEM Centre.**

Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 12:30pm (D-301/STEM Centre)

***Pi-Recital contest and pie!***

Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 1pm (D-301/STEM Centre)

***Science, on tourne! Engineering Competition***

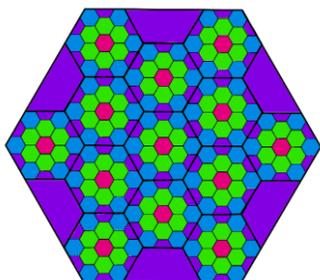
**This year’s challenge is to build an autonomous machine capable of picking up golf balls and placing them in a container. Come to see the variety of engineering designs and cheer on the competitors as we put their devices to the test!**

If you are interested in bringing your class to any of the talks listed above, please send an email to [rankina@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:rankina@vaniercollege.qc.ca) to confirm a spot. All classes are welcome. For more information <http://vaniercollege.qc.ca/msc/science-week>

Thank you for passing on the information to your students.

**Ashley Rankin, STEM Centre**

***Keeping Science Creative: A Panel Discussion and Journal Launch.***



This Thursday, March 23, from 2-3:30, the new Science Communications Collective and the *Vanier Science Journal* are co-hosting an event for Science Week entitled *Keeping Science Creative: A Panel Discussion and Journal Launch*.

In addition to the panel discussion, which will be helmed by science students, there will be an introduction to the Science Communications Collective and readings of student writing from the third edition of the *Vanier Science Journal*, which will go live on the day.

Included in this third edition are Jesse Mackay's short story, "Autonomous," Laurence Fortin-Haines' examination of stem-cell research and therapy, "A Global Concern," and Michael Lindner-D'Addario's mathematical analysis of unconventional spaces, "Adventures in Hyper-Dimensional Grocery Shopping."

We hope that you will come and join us for this celebration. Refreshments will be served.

*Stephanie Felkai, Biology, and Stacey DeWolfe English*

## INTERCULTURAL VOICES WEEK: 20 – 24 MARCH



In celebration of Vanier's diversity, *Student Life* brings you **Intercultural Voices week**. Here's what's on the agenda:

**Monday, 20 March, 2.30pm, Jake's: Hoop Dancing Presentation & Workshop**

Barbara Diabo, a traditional Indigenous Hoop Dancer will be showcasing her skills in Jake's, after which students will be given the opportunity to try out some basic hoop dancing steps.

**Tuesday, 21 March, 12 noon, Jake's: Japanese Tea Ceremony**

Watch a traditional tea ceremony. A small group of students can also attend a workshop on how Matcha tea is brewed. Sign up for the workshop at [Studentlife@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:Studentlife@vaniercollege.qc.ca)

**Wednesday, 22 March, 10 – 2pm, Vanier Front Lawn: Cabane a Sucre**

Come out and celebrate Spring finally arriving (even if the weather doesn't feel like it yet!). Join us on the front lawn for free hot chocolate, tire sur la neige, games and music. Brought to you by the VCSA and Vanier Student Life. Faculty/Staff will require tickets from Student Services (C-203) for la tire.

**Thursday, 23 March, 12 – 1.30pm, Jake's: Salahpan Steelpan Drummers**

Come out and watch a great group of Steelpan drummers at Jake's.

**Friday, 24 March, 2.30 – 6pm, A-320: KPop Event**

Bring your voice and dancing shoes for an afternoon of your favourite KPop tunes.

*Plus...* kiosks on intercultural themes all week

Any questions? Please contact Marya or Rowena at [Studentlife@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:Studentlife@vaniercollege.qc.ca).

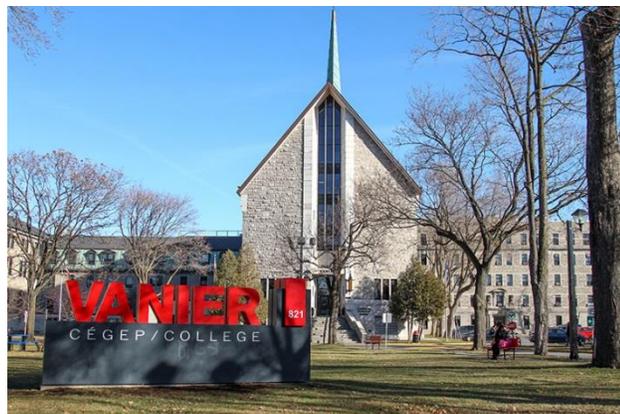
*Rowena Selby, Student Services*

## Looking for Vanier Staff and Faculty to Record Short Videos About Vanier's Heritage

As many of you know each year the AQPC organizes a symposium that draws over 1000 individuals who take part in conferences, round table discussions and other presentations. Vanier College is co-hosting the next edition of symposium with Cégep de Saint Laurent. It will be held from June 6<sup>th</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 at Concordia. As part of the communications plan for the event one of the focuses will be to promote Vanier College's heritage as it ties in to the AQPC symposium

The main vehicle for promoting this will be to set up a new website that will feature different content aimed at celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of CEGEP's while also promoting different events taking place at Vanier in conjunction with the AQPC symposium.

The new website will be set up with the overall theme of it being a museum highlighting Vanier in the past and present. Visitors to the site will be able to visit different "rooms" where they will be able to see different content that will highlight the heritage theme of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of CEGEP's. One "room" will feature a compilation of different video testimonials about people sharing their thoughts on the role CEGEP's have played in Quebec society.



**Therefore, I am writing to ask you to participate in terms of recording a brief video where you would talk about the role CEGEPs and Vanier in particular have played in promoting education over the last 50 years.**

**The videos will be recorded by VTV and your only obligation is to prepare a brief 30-second statement.**

**If you are interested or have any questions please send me an email at [beckerd@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:beckerd@vaniercollege.qc.ca) In your email it would be helpful if you could specify the date and time of your availability so we can set up an appointment to record the video. It shouldn't take longer than 15 minutes.**

**The videos need to be recorded by the end of March.**

**Thank you for your collaboration.**

*Darren, Becker, Communications and Corporate Affairs*

## Art Contest for an exhibition of students' work during the Annual AQPC Meeting in June



Please tell your students about an art competition that will lead to an exhibition of student work at the AQPC's (Association québécoise de pédagogie collégiale) annual symposium that Cégep de Saint-Laurent and Vanier College are co-hosting this year. The theme of the 2017 Symposium is Our Legacy.

To compliment the symposium's theme, the art competition's theme is **identity**. How has a sense of identity impacted your legacy as a student studying at college? Nine works will be chosen from Vanier students for the finalists exhibition that will be held at Concordia University and at the Palais des congrès in June 2017.

All finalists will have the opportunity to sell their photos at the banquet exhibition. The contest is reserved for students currently studying at Vanier College. The contest is open to all mediums (eg. drawings, photographs, painting, sculpture) with the exception of video based work. All works must be well documented and in digital format. For example, if you have a drawing or sculpture you need to document it photographically.

**Grand prize: \$250 + gifts from sponsors**

**Information session March 22nd 12:30pm-1:30pm in C-305**

For more information on the symposium, visit: <http://aqpc.qc.ca/en>.

### HOW TO ENTER:

- Submit a maximum of two individual works in digital format. Minimum resolution of the image must be 3000 pixels on the longest side. Each work must fit in a 16" X 20" paper.
- If documenting work, use the camera's maximum resolution (e.g., 12.7 megapixels = 4372 pixels x 2906 pixels)

- Supported file formats: JPG, TIFF, RAW, CR2, NEF
- Each work needs to include your name, title, original dimensions (if applicable), medium, year.
- Each work must have a short 250 word description about its connection to the theme of identity.
- Use [www.wetransfer.com](http://www.wetransfer.com) or a similar site for sending large files.

Email the above to: [artcontestagpc@gmail.com](mailto:artcontestagpc@gmail.com) Contest deadline: May 1st, 2017

*Christoph Heldt, Communications, Media and Studio Arts*

## The Peter Gonda Memorial Scholarship

Peter Gonda passed away on August 20th 2016 at the age of 47. He was a Montreal-based artist, novelist and screenwriter. One of his main passions was photography. He travelled around the world and exhibited his photographs in London, Paris and Montreal.

Last fall the Vanier College Foundation established The Peter Gonda Scholarship, valued at \$500. It will be awarded annually to any Vanier College student who demonstrates original photographic works.

**There will be an information session regarding the scholarship this Wednesday March 22nd at 12:30 p.m. in C-305.**

Students wishing to apply must submit a maximum of five individual photographic works in digital format. The minimum resolution of the image must be 3000 pixels on the longest side while each work must fit in a 16" X 20" paper. Supported formats are JPG, TIFF, RAW, CR2 and NEF. Finally, each photograph needs to include its title, medium and year. Please email submissions to: [petergondascholarship@gmail.com](mailto:petergondascholarship@gmail.com)

*Darren Becker, Communications and Corporate Affairs*

## Invitation to the opening of The Peter Gonda Retrospective Photographic Exhibition



Galerie Henry Lehmann Gallery proudly presents and invites you to join us for the exhibition and opening of

### The Unguarded Moment A Retrospective Photo Exhibition

**Peter Gonda**

20<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 - 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2017

The opening will be held on Thursday March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm  
Scholarship info session on Wednesday March 22<sup>nd</sup> in C-305 from 12:30pm to 1:30pm

Prints of Peter's work will be available to purchase with all proceeds going to the Peter Gonda Memorial Scholarship

galerie **HENRY LEHMANN** gallery

Vanier College . Room B305 . 821 Sainte-Croix . Montréal . H4L 3X9 . [info@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:info@vaniercollege.qc.ca)

*The Unguarded Moment*  
A Retrospective of photos by  
Peter Gonda

March 20 to April 7, 2017  
Lehmann Gallery  
Opening will be held on Thursday March 23, from 5 to 8 pm

*Christoph Heldt, Communications*

# PETER GONDA

## MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



THE UNGUARDED MOMENT

# FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

# \$500

#### DESCRIPTION:

Peter Gonda passed away on August 20th 2016 at the age of 47. He was a Montreal-based artist, novelist and screenwriter. One of his main passions was photography. He travelled around the world and exhibited his photographs in London, Paris and Montreal.

The Peter Gonda Memorial Scholarship, valued at **\$500**, will be awarded annually to **any Vanier College student who demonstrates original photographic works.**

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Email the above to: [petergondascholarship@gmail.com](mailto:petergondascholarship@gmail.com)

#### INFORMATION SESSION:

March 22nd. 2017  
12:30pm-1:30pm  
C-305

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

Submissions may be used by Vanier for promotional purposes.

**VANIER**  
CEGEP / COLLEGE

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

# ART CONTEST

**Grand prize: \$250**  
**+ gifts from sponsors**

Information session March 22<sup>nd</sup> 12:30pm-1:30pm in C-305

## DESCRIPTION:

The goal of the art competition is to have an exhibition of student work at the AQPC's (Association québécoise de pédagogie collégiale) annual symposium that Cégep de Saint-Laurent and Vanier College are co-hosting this year. The theme of the 2017 Symposium is *Our Legacy*.

To compliment the symposium's theme, the art competition's theme is identity. How has a sense of identity impacted your legacy as a student studying at college? Nine works will be chosen from Vanier students for the finalists exhibition that will be held at Concordia University and at the Palais des congrès in June 2017.

All finalists will have the opportunity to sell their photos at the banquet exhibition.

The contest is reserved for students currently studying at Vanier College. The contest is open to all mediums (eg. drawings, photographs, painting, sculpture) with the exception of video based work. All works must be well documented and in digital format. For example, if you have a drawing or sculpture you need to document it photographically.

For more information on the symposium, visit:  
<http://aqpc.qc.ca/en>.

Submissions may be used by Vanier for promotional purposes.

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Email the above to: [artcontestaqpc@gmail.com](mailto:artcontestaqpc@gmail.com)

**Contest deadline: May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

Lozeau



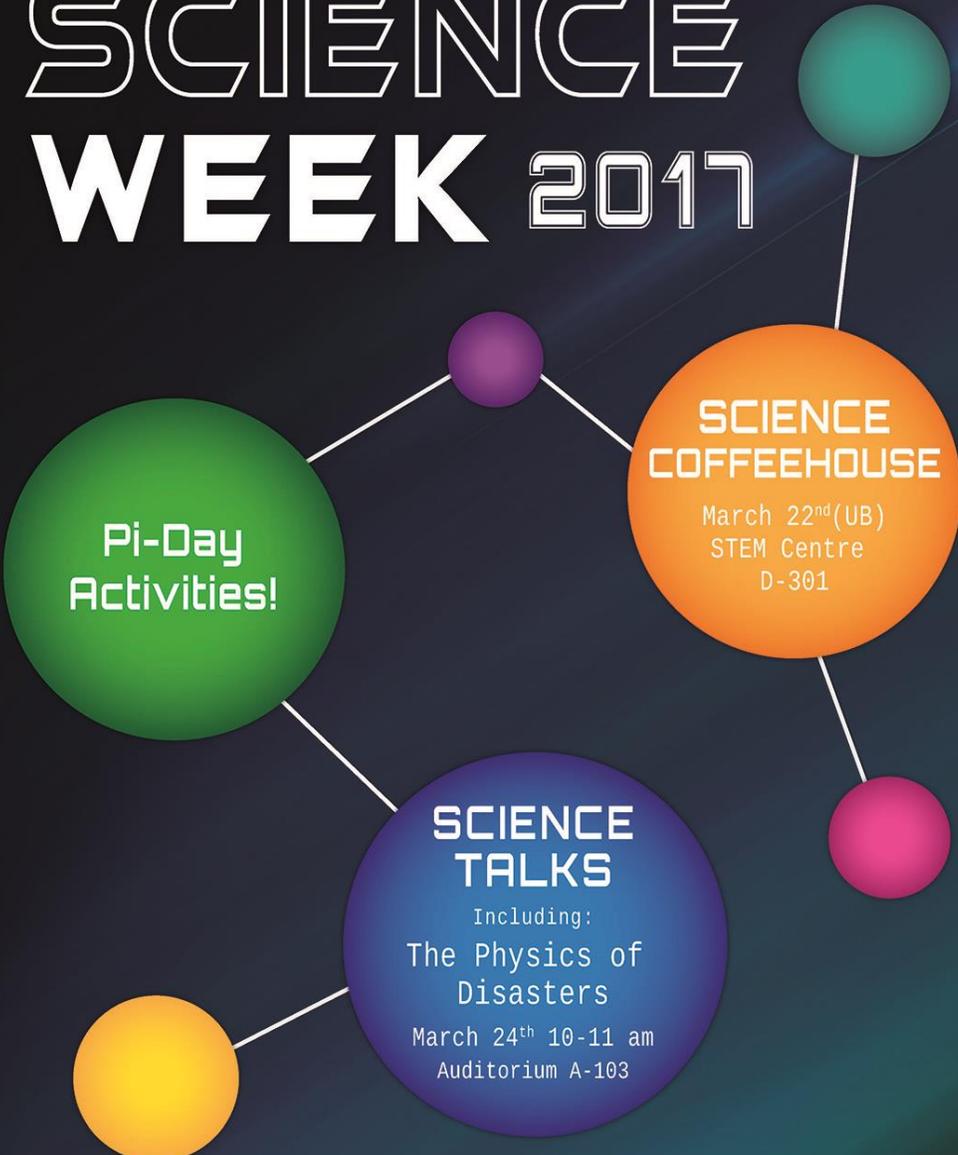
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Saint-Laurent CÉGEP DE

VANIER  
CÉGEP/COLLEGE

# SCIENCE WEEK 2017



Pi-Day  
Activities!

SCIENCE  
COFFEEHOUSE

March 22<sup>nd</sup> (UB)  
STEM Centre  
D-301

SCIENCE  
TALKS

Including:  
The Physics of  
Disasters  
March 24<sup>th</sup> 10-11 am  
Auditorium A-103

March 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> 2017

**VANIER**  
CÉGEP/COLLEGE

 **STEM**CENTRE

## MONDAY, MARCH 20

*The future for engineering starts with you!*

**Women In Engineering Society, Concordia University**

**10:00-11:00 (Auditorium, A-103)**

They say engineering school is too hard. Students study all the time and don't have time to go out. Oh, and it's impossible to find a girl in a classroom! This is why we, FEMALE engineering students of Concordia University, are coming to Vanier in our free time to prove to you that engineering is not as hard and nerdy as it seems. We will also dispel any stereotypes, introduce Space Concordia and their involvement in engineering, share our personal experience as engineering students, and finally, we will answer your questions.

*The Secretary Problem*

**Ivan Ivanov, Vanier College**

**12:00-13:00 (Auditorium, A-103)**

Hunting for the ideal apartment requires a delicate balance between the regrets of "the one that got away" and "a stone left unturned". How do we know when to stop? We face these kinds of stopping decisions all the time: when searching for the most convenient parking spot, when responding to job offers, and in the even more fraught setting of dating. Algorithms exist prescribing decision strategies to deal with the tension between "looking" and "leaping" in an optimal way. Mathematically, at least, these stopping problems already have solutions.

A paradigmatic example of an optimal stopping problem is the Secretary Problem. The goal is to hire the best secretary applying for a job and the hiring process is based on a sequence of interviews. The decision to hire or reject an applicant is made

immediately after each interview and a rejected candidate cannot be hired at a later time. There is an optimal stopping rule for terminating the interview sequence, which solves the Secretary Problem. This and related optimal stopping rules are used in Economics, Finance, Computer Science, and in many other areas. Psychologists and economists, who have studied the decision behaviour of actual people in Secretary Problem situations, have discovered that most people tend to stop "looking" too soon.

*Brain Imaging, Big Data, and Neuroscience: Insights on the incredible plastic brain*

**Dr. Mallar Chakravarty, McGill University**

**14:30-16:00 (Auditorium, A-103)**

In the last three decades magnetic resonance imaging has been used to get insights on how the brain is structured and how it is wired. The accompanying explosion in computing and information technologies have allowed for an improved understanding of how the brain changes through maturation, through ageing, and in response to environmental factors (learning, pharmaceuticals, early life adversity, etc). Here I'll demonstrate how these neuro- and computer sciences come together to allow us to gain better insight into how the brain changes and why.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 21

*GAPDH gene sequencing project: Guiding CEGEP students to develop an understanding of "real-world" scientific research*

**Michael Lindner-D'Addario, Olivia Mendelson, and Thomas Lo, Vanier College students**

**10:00-11:00 (Auditorium, A-103)**

A group of students from the Honours

Science GAPDH gene-sequencing project discuss their experience as they explain the importance of research in our society. In an effort to encourage more students to take part in research of their own, they will discuss benefits and common misconceptions about research, as well as how any dedicated student can get involved.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

*Science Coffeehouse*

**12:00-13:30 (STEM Centre, D-301)**

For this special event, the STEM Centre will be transformed into a cozy coffeehouse venue. Science students and faculty will be showcasing their musical and artistic talents. Baked goods will be on sale as a fundraising event for the 2017 Robotics Team.

*From Eastern Canada to the Tropics: Paleoenvironmental Research at Bishop's University*

**Dr. Matthew Peros, Bishop's University**

**13:30-15:00 (Auditorium, A-103)**

Climate change represents perhaps the greatest scientific and societal challenge of our time. Climate change scientists use a range of methods and techniques to understand how the climate system is changing and how ecosystems will be responding to these changes in the future. A critical line of inquiry that climate scientists employ is the use of climatic and environmental proxy data from geological sources--such as ice cores, tree rings, and lake sediments--to better understand the rates and magnitudes of natural climate variability over long timescales. This talk will introduce students to

some of the basics of paleoclimatic research and also highlight three recent projects that are being pursued by students and faculty at Bishop's University related to past climate and sea level change in both temperate and tropical environments.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 23

*The True Cost of the Food on your Plate*

**Mark Reynolds**

**8:30-9:45 (Auditorium, A-103)**

About to embark on his first season as an organic farmer in Quebec, Mark Reynolds will be discussing the current state of agriculture in North America. His talk will be looking at the economical, societal and environmental impacts of agribusiness in a local and a global context, as well as introducing his first hand experience of alternative food systems in Montreal and abroad.

*Building and Operating an Elevator to Space*

**Stephen Cohen, M. Eng., Vanier College**

**10:00-11:30 (Auditorium, A-103)**

Since the first man-made satellite, *Sputnik 1*, was launched in 1957, mankind's presence in space has grown. However, our capacity to utilize space is very limited due to our singular method of space travel: rockets. Some decades from now a more sustainable and elegant transit system to space, known as a Space Elevator, may be established. The scope of such a project is immense and requires a tremendous amount of research and planning. This talk will describe the space elevator, explore some of its challenges, and focus on research that is currently underway.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 23 (con'd)

### *Keeping Science Creative*

14:00-15:30 (STEM Centre, D-301)

A Panel Discussion with the launch of the Vanier Science Journal  
Co-presented by the Science Communication Collective and the Vanier Science Journal

## FRIDAY, MARCH 24

### *The Physics of Disasters*

Nikolas Provatas,  
McGill University

10:00-11:00 (Auditorium, A-103)

Disasters in sea, air, space and rail travel have long captured the public's attention due to the sudden and shocking loss of life and the ensuing fear associated with the lack of control people feel about traveling in vehicles controlled by others, a fear exacerbated by media hype from television networks hungry for ratings. Interestingly, a great deal of transportation disasters in the past century have been caused by failure to properly understand important micro-

structure processes that govern the properties and functionality of advanced materials. In this talk, we will explore some popular disasters of the past century and explain their causes. In each case, we will explore how understanding the physics of materials has helped demystify the causes of such disasters and help prevent their reoccurrence. Along the way, the talk will also highlight how advances in modern experimentation and advanced computing have dramatically improved our ability to predict and control the properties of engineering materials.

### *Science, on Tourne!*

#### *Engineering Competition*

13:00-15:00 (STEM Centre, D-301)

This year's challenge is to build an autonomous machine capable of picking up golf balls and placing them in a container. Teams will have 60 seconds to place as many golf balls as they can in a container measuring 22 cm in height x 45 cm in length x 29 cm in width. The winning team at each college will be invited to participate in the national final where many valuable prizes can be won.

# SCIENCE WEEK 2017

## SCIENCE COFFEEHOUSE

March 22<sup>nd</sup> (UB)  
STEM Centre  
D-301

## SCIENCE TALKS

Including:  
The Physics of  
Disasters

March 24<sup>th</sup> 10-11 am  
Auditorium A-103

March 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> 2017

For more information, contact  
Ashley Rankin, STEM Centre Officer  
514.744.7500 x7479  
rankina@vanier.college

**VANIER**  
CÉGEP / COLLEGE

 **STEM**CENTRE



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S

# SCIENCE WEEK COFFEE HOUSE



DATE: WED. MARCH 22, 2017  
TIME: 12 NOON - 1:30PM (UB)  
LOCATION: NEW STEM CENTRE (D-301)

**COFFEE, TEA AND BAKED GOODS WILL BE SERVED.**

**PROCEEDS GO TO THE VANIER ROBOTICS CLUB.**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**



# MASSAGE-A-THON

Wednesday, March 22nd<sup>h</sup>

11:00 am - 4:00pm



Come support our student athletes while getting a relaxing massage from certified athletic message therapists and Concordia therapists!

**\$20.00 for 20 minutes**

**\$50.00 for 55 minutes**

All Proceeds will be going to the Vanier College Foundation for Special Events student athletes.

Register by email @ [nguyenm@vaniercollege.qc.ca](mailto:nguyenm@vaniercollege.qc.ca) or ext 7133  
Or visit G134 or G203 to reserve your spot.

**Come out and Support your Cheetahs**

# Silent Auction

*Wine & Cheese*

To Benefit

## INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Education trips, Scholarships, the Student Refugee Program & More

**Thursday, March 23, 2017**

Boardroom (F-216)

Event starts at 3:00PM

Bidding ends at 7:00PM

### Entry Fee \$15

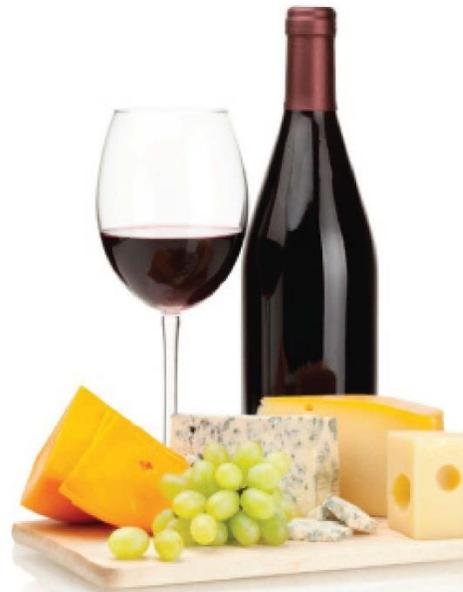
(Includes)

- 2 Glasses of Wine
- Appetizers
- Prizes
- & More

### Tickets available at:

The International Education Office

The Faculty Dean's Office (A-286)



**VANIER** **INTERNATIONAL**  
CEGEP/COLLEGE EDUCATION AT VANIER COLLEGE

25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
VANIER COLLEGE



SYMPOSIUM  
Holocaust & Genocide

# JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCE

March 30-31, 2017

Watch LIVE on Livestream.com

Vanier College  
821 avenue Sainte-Croix  
Montreal, Quebec H4L 3X9

For more information, contact:  
Marlene Grossman  
grossmam@vanier.college  
514.744.7500 x 7483  
[www.justiceandaccountabilityconference.com](http://www.justiceandaccountabilityconference.com)

Cosponsored by the Holocaust Education and Genocide Prevention Foundation and the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights



**JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCE**  
**VANIER COLLEGE**  
MARCH 30-31, 2017

**Thursday, March 30, 2017**

- 8:30-9:00      **John McMahon**, Director General, Vanier College  
Opening remarks
- 9:00-10:00     **Dr. Charles Small**, Director, Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy  
*Genocidal Antisemitism and the Crisis of Modernity: The Contemporary Challenges to Human Rights and Democratic Principles*
- 10:00-10:45    **Professor Karen Eltis**, Law Professor, University of Ottawa  
*Hate Speech in the Digital Age*
- 10:45-11:00    Break
- 11:00-11:30    **Honourable Chrystia Freeland**, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 11:30-12:15    **Me André Gagnier**, Administrative Judge  
*The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, 1995: A Defense Attorney's Perspective*
- 12:15-1:00     **Dr. Marina Sharpe**, Steinberg Post-Doctoral Fellow in International Migration Law and Policy, Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism, Faculty of Law, McGill University  
*From Non-interference to Non-indifference: The African Union and the Responsibility to Protect*
- 1:00-2:00      Lunch
- 2:00-3:30      Panel Discussion: *Community Perspectives: Justice and Accountability*  
Moderator: **Sue Montgomery**, Writer and advocate for women's rights  
**Viken Attarian**, Armenian, Former Chairman of the Armenian General Benevolent Union  
**Professor Roman Serbyn**, Ukrainian, Professor Emeritus of Russian and East European History at the University of Quebec at Montreal  
**Moses Gashirabake**, Rwandan, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin (Bar Candidate 2016/17)  
**Dafina Savic**, Roma Sinti, Human Rights Coordinator, Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre and Director of Romanipe
- 3:30-4:00      **Professor Irwin Cotler**, Director of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights,  
*Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights: Pursuing Justice and Accountability*
- 4:00-4:30      Closing: **Sidney Zoltak**, Holocaust Survivor

**JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCE**

**VANIER COLLEGE**

MARCH 30-31, 2017

**Friday, March 31, 2017**

9:00-10:00 **Dr. Alaa Murabit**, UN High-Level Commissioner: Health and Employment Growth, UN SDG Global Advocate

*Peace and Justice: Community Building*

10:00-11:30 Panel Discussion: *Justice and Accountability: None is Too Many: How Far Have We Come?*

Moderator: **Ian Hamilton**, Executive Director, Equitas– International Centre for Human Rights Education

**Professor Irving Abella**, Professor Emeritus, Department of History, York University  
**Honourable Marlene Jennings**, Former Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for International Cooperation, former Parliamentary Secretary to the Solicitor General of Canada, former Member of Parliament, and former Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister

**Me David Berger**, Immigration lawyer and Former Member of the House of Commons  
**Salma Siddiqui**, (TBC) Head of Canadian Progressive Muslim Organizations

11:30-12:30 Lunch, **Mayor Denis Coderre**

12:30-1:30 **Senator Murray Sinclair**

*Indigenous People: Justice and Accountability*

1:30-2:30 **Kimberly Mann**, Chief of the Education Outreach Division of the United Nations Department of Public Information Global Outreach, United Nations: Genocide Education

*Education for Inclusiveness*

2:30-3:00 Break

3:00-4:30 Panel Discussion: *Pursuing Justice for Political Prisoners*

Moderator: **Paul Karwatsky**, CTV News

**Professor Homa Hoodfar**, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at Concordia University (former political prisoner in Iran)

**Ensaf Haidar**, President and Co-founder of the Raif Badawi Foundation for Freedom

**Kate Barth**, Legal Director of Freedom Now

**Professor Irwin Cotler**, Director of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights

4:30-5:00 Closing: **John McMahon**, Director General, Vanier College

*Never Again Declaration*

for us. In this talk I will use The Apology as a tool to argue that when our death comes it is not a bad thing, and that it is often a very beautiful thing. I will do this in three stages. First, I aim to demonstrate our natural closeness to death, in the sense that we do things which could shorten our life, yet persist in doing them. Secondly, considering death to be a bad thing or fearing it induces anxiety that can cloud our perception and joy of life. Finally, I will show that death is an ultimate aspect of life that should be celebrated. Throughout the talk I will use Ingmar Bergman's "Wild Strawberries" and "The Seventh Seal" as frames of reference for the exorcism of the fear of death and the acceptance of the end of a life due to its inevitability.

**David Goodin**, (McGill University) *What is Life that Death Should be so Terrible to Thee? The Counter-Theology of St. John Chrysostom within the Orthodox Redemptive Economy.*

The problem of evil is often considered the strongest argument the atheist has against the theist. If God is good, they argue, then why does God allow suffering and death to happen? Put simply, the atheist claims that God cannot be simultaneously omniscient, omnipotent, and benevolent; the very idea of God is thus seen as a logical absurdity. In opposition to this view, theology is the attempt to explain how evil can serve larger goods, such as free will and allowing for the possibility of virtue. These arguments, however, have had only limited impact in pushing back against atheist polemics. St. John Chrysostom (349-407) instead offers a provocative counter-theology that negates the rhetorical framing behind the problem of evil. This paper seeks to explore the significance of Chrysostom's counter-theology within the Orthodox redemptive economy.

**5:00-8:30: Death and Human Limits**  
(Chair, Eric Buzzetti, Concordia University)

**Marie-Pier Auger**, (Université de Montréal & Bridgewater State University) *Le triptyque de l'Adoration des Bergers de Jan de Beer: l'aveuglement spirituel et la mort de la vérité*

Cette conférence se penchera particulièrement sur les thèmes de la mort soulevés par une œuvre de la collection du Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal, acquise en 1975. La première partie de cette présentation discutera de la dimension théologique de l'œuvre, spécifiquement à travers l'idée de la mort spirituelle incarnée par la figure de l'homme aveugle au centre de cette icône, appelant le concept de la « mort de l'âme ». La deuxième partie examinera la provenance historique de cette œuvre religieuse. La vérité de la mystérieuse histoire du triptyque s'est éteinte avec le décès de son propriétaire d'origine hongroise, Vilmos Erdődy (1887-1959). Comme les fichiers archivistiques du Musée des beaux-arts le suggèrent, Vilmos Erdődy demeure l'une des seules personnes à connaître l'histoire complète et véritable de la vente de l'œuvre en 1934 à Theodor Fischer, une figure clé pour les nazis.

**Noah Geffroyd**, (Dawson College) *Examining Death in Being and Nothingness.*

Jean-Paul Sartre's proverbial statement from *Being and Nothingness*: "To be dead is to be a prey for the living," has elicited vigorous critique; most notably from Herbert Marcuse, in his famous

essay: "Existentialism: Remarks on Jean-Paul Sartre's *L'Être et le Néant*." In this, he suggests that Sartre is a "betrayal of Utopia," because his view on death denies the human being of total freedom. In this paper, I call into question Marcuse's arguments, as well as those presented by Brian Lightbody in his article: "Death and Liberation: A Critical Investigation of Death in Sartre's *Being and Nothingness*." I intend to show how both Marcuse and Lightbody have misinterpreted Sartre's view on death, within the context of his existential philosophy. After establishing this, I will then show that Sartre's view on death does not contradict his notion of total freedom, nor impede on the human quest towards it, and is thus undeserving of being labeled as pessimistic and contradictory.

**Lyndon Entwistle**, (Dawson College) *Surviving Death.*

Is it possible for someone to survive their own death? Philosopher Derek Parfit famously argued that personal identity is not what matters for survival, and thus that someone who fears their own death need not necessarily fear an event that would cause them to cease to exist. My paper will explore the metaphysical implications of Parfit's view, including how we should think about who (and what) we are and whether — with the aid of future technology — we can hope to survive our own death. It will also suggest that Parfit's optimism about the potential of certain future technologies is misplaced, because there is good reason to think (or so I will argue) that his case rests on much shakier ground than has hitherto been appreciated.

**Mark Rozahegy**, (Concordia University) *Death and the Future: Levi and Heidegger.*

Centred on the theme of death, this paper will draw together what Primo Levi calls 'anonymous death' in *Survival in Auschwitz* with what Heidegger calls 'my death' in his lecture "The Concept of Time" and in *Being and Time* in order to look at how both of these meditations on death are articulated in terms of a relationship with the future. For Levi, anonymous death in the Lager results from a complete denial of any future to those in the death camps, a radical erasure to which Levi bears witness in his testimonial text. For Heidegger, adopting the posture of running ahead to my death as the limit of Dasein is the experiencing of being gone, of the possibility of impossibility, a radical openness that makes actualization of the individual impossible and discloses Dasein as futurity. The paper hopes to open up a dialogue between these radically different accounts of limit experiences.

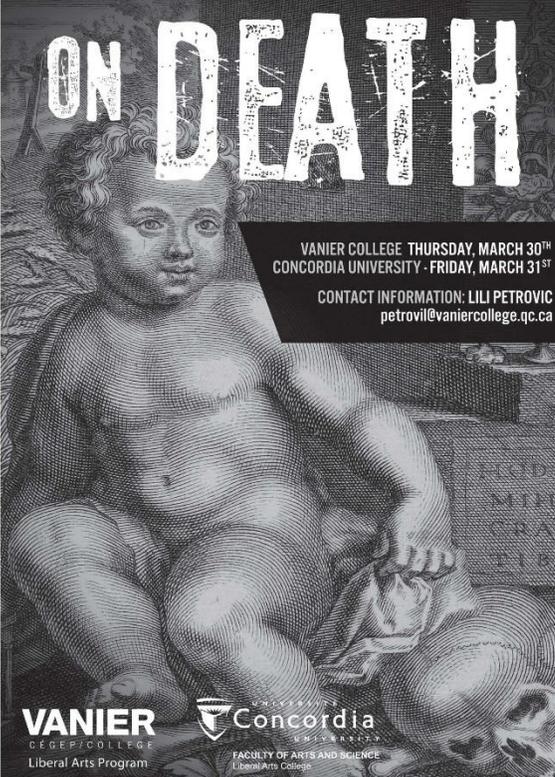
**7:00PM WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION**  
at the Liberal Arts College  
2040 rue Mackay, Montreal

**VANIER**  
CÉGEP / COLLEGE

LIBERAL ARTS  
SPRING COLLOQUIUM:  
**ON DEATH**

VANIER COLLEGE THURSDAY, MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>  
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY - FRIDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>

CONTACT INFORMATION: LILI PETROVIC  
petrovil@vaniercollege.qc.ca



**VANIER**  
CÉGEP / COLLEGE  
Liberal Arts Program

**Concordia**  
UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE  
Liberal Arts College

# ON DEATH

LIBERAL ARTS 2017 SPRING COLLOQUIUM  
VANIER COLLEGE: THURSDAY, MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>  
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY: FRIDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>

## THURSDAY, MARCH 30

VANIER COLLEGE  
821 AVENUE SAINTE CROIX, F-215

8:00-8:30: Coffee, pastries, opening remarks.

### 9:30-10:00: Cultures of Death

(Chair, Stephanie Belmer, Vanier College)

Jingya Liu, (Vanier College) *The Great Chinese Famine: The Death of Culture and a Culture of Death*

The significance of discussing the Great Chinese Famine arises from the fact that the Chinese government still refuses to acknowledge its tragic past. In denying part of its history, its sense of humanity diminishes as the stories of the 36 million peasants who had perished in the famine remain unheard. This presentation will examine how mass starvation led to an abandonment of cultural traditions, which were then replaced by a culture of death, where the intrinsic value of human life was forgotten and state violence became a norm.

Sara Rahajason, (Vanier College) *Malagasy Funeral Rites*

The history, culture, and traditions of the Malagasy people on the island of Madagascar are widely unknown and overlooked by the mainstream, as is their relationship to death and the ancestors. This presentation will primarily look at the Malagasy practice known as "the turning of the bones" or *Famadihana*, a practice which consists of removing the bones of the ancestors every seven years from family crypts to rewrap them in fresh silk shrouds. It will also contextualize this tradition, as well as show how Malagasy views on death differ from those held in the Western world.

Colin Golding, (Vanier College Alumni) *Stayed by Death*

The focal point of my paper will be "The Body" (2004, dir. Joss Whedon), a critically-acclaimed episode of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* which subverts the supernatural drama tradition (and, indeed, its own history) of dramatic, action-filled deaths, to examine the all-too-human reality of it. My paper will argue that television and movies can provide genuine insight on death, as long as they are willing to explore the temporal side of it.

Jean Pierre Fournier, (MUHC Glen Volunteer) *Rencontre avec un bénévole aux soins palliatifs*

L'approche des soins palliatifs consiste à soutenir la vie et à considérer la mort comme un processus normal. J'étais auprès de ma sœur lorsqu'elle est morte dans une unité de soins palliatifs en 2001. Après sa mort, mort sens de la vie et de la mort a com-

plètement changé et cela fait maintenant 14 ans que je suis bénévole en soins palliatifs. Je voudrais vous parler de mes expériences comme bénévole dans ce domaine.

10:15-11:45: *Pilgrimage, Death and the Afterlife*  
(Chair, Lili Petrovic, Vanier College)

Robin Stanford, (Concordia University) *Pilgrimage, Death and the Afterlife*

When one hears of a friend's summer walking pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago, many words may come to mind – fun, travel, vacation, adventuring – but probably not death. Yet, within the Western Christian pilgrimage tradition, death is everywhere. This paper will discuss the role of death in pilgrimage, what makes a geographical location holy, the liminal space created between the finite and infinite, and the lengths pilgrims have and will go to in order to engage in this physical and spiritual practice.

Cristina Plamadala, (Concordia University) *The Death of the Vladimiresti Monastery*

This paper concerns the 'spiritual death' or the destruction of the Vladimiresti Monastery in the early 1950s communist Romania. Relying primarily on Securitate (Romanian secret police) files pertaining to this monastery and its leadership, I will narrate the monastery's story from its inception in the late 1930s until its shutdown in 1955, shortly after the arrest of its leadership. The presentation will include images of the monastery, its leaders, and the pilgrims, photographs derived from the secret police files written on them.

Sara Terreault, (Concordia University) *Early Insular Christian Pilgrimage from 'White Martyrdom' to the 'Place of Resurrection'*

This paper will consider the paradoxical links between life and death in pilgrimage practice among Christians in early medieval Ireland and Britain. Their journeys were constituted by leave-taking and physical (and ideally) perpetual separation from homeland and kin. It was a practice of dying to self, in which the fulfillment of Christian desire was temporally deferred, and the "place of resurrection" – that is, grave-site – was the pilgrim's only earthly destination.

Susan Palmer, (Concordia University) *Overcoming Death in New Religious Movements and the Quest for Physical Immortality*

By the late 1960s, "cults" were a popular topic in the North American news media, and in the 1970s a new microsociology of religion emerged – that of "new religious studies". NRS focused initially on the issues of conversion and "brainwashing". But the question of how NRMs approach the problem/reality of death in their doctrines, myths and rituals has rarely been addressed – except in the aftermath of "cults violence" (Manson murders, 1974; Jonestown mass suicide, 1978; Aum Shinrikyo sarin gas attack, 1995). In this presentation, I point to the factors that might explain the remarkable lack of interest in death or the afterlife found in NRMs during their early phases in the North American counterculture. Next, I analyze some of the many examples of NRMs whose charismatic founders/leaders are believed to be immortal, and whose members aspire to achieve a state of physical immortality. Third, I explore the process of change; how, as NRMs mature it becomes more difficult to ignore the reality of death. Even so, many NRMs have responded to this challenge by forging new myths, rituals and theodicies (or revising old ones) in which physical death might still be denied or overcome.

## 12:00-1:30: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

*Death and Providence: Becoming and Remaining Fully Human* (Chair, Jonathan Powers, Thomas Moore Institute)

An open, disciplined conversation based on the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, texts by Walt Whitman and Nathan Englander, and an excerpt of Ingmar Bergman's "The Seventh Seal."

## FRIDAY, MARCH 31

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, HENRY HALL BUILDING  
1455 DEMAISSONNEUVE OUEST, ROOM H-763

### 1:00-2:30: *Death, Language and Myth*

(Chair, Ariela Freedman, Concordia University)

David Koloszczyk, (Vanier College) *Beyond the Death of the Author: Truth and Discourse in the Age of Misinformation*

In 1882 Friedrich Nietzsche provided what remains the most famous and, arguably, the most troubling declaration of the death of God in modern thought. In 1967 Roland Barthes announced, in his now classic essay, the death of the author. And, in recent years, a number of cultural observers, reflecting on some of the key transformations in our relationship to meaning triggered by the increasing use of social media, have raised the question of the death of the expert. But what exactly is the relationship between these three deaths and how is it playing out in the age of misinformation – the age of false news, 'alternative facts', and 'post-truth' sensibilities? Are we finally witnessing the death of meaningful discourse? Or, indeed, the death of democracy itself?

Michel Jacques Gagné, (Champlain College) *From Camelot to Conspiracy: Memory, Myth and the Death of JFK*

The sudden and violent assassination of President Kennedy elicited a number of conflicting narratives concerning his life, death and legacy. On one hand, the Kennedy family and Johnson administration eulogized the fallen president as a champion of civil rights gunned down by the forces of hatred. Many leftists countered this popular myth by arguing that JFK had been a man of peace seeking to end the Cold War and was therefore the victim of a secret coup d'état by warmongering fascists within the political establishment. Many conservatives, for their part, cautiously held that JFK had been part of a nepotistic Irish-Catholic "mafia", a corrupt liberal dynasty hostile to traditional American values. Who exactly was Kennedy, and why did his untimely death produce so many clashing interpretations of one of the most meticulously documented periods of history? This presentation will discuss the reasons why shocking events like the Kennedy assassination give rise to popular myths and conspiracy theories.

Julia Weber, (Concordia University) *"Dead Words ... Dead Sound": Language and Rotten Agency in William Faulkner's As I Lay Dying*

At the centre of William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying* lies the rotting corpse of Addie Bundren. While her husband and children tow her body from the country into Jefferson, its putrefaction emits ghoulish odours that repel outsiders and send "ladies [...] up and down the street with handkerchiefs to their noses" (Faulkner 203). Yet why does one find such a grotesque physical presence in a text con-

cerned with philosophical inquiries about language? This paper will show that by placing a stinking corpse at the centre of his novel, Faulkner draws attention to smell—which Freud and Kant associate with irrationality. Highlighting olfaction thus complements the text's critiques of 'rational' institutions and the promise of language. Moreover, Addie's public "revenge" (171) functions as a foil to the novel's private linguistic monologues. In death—through her olfactory presence—Addie resolves her frustrations with words and reason and finds agency anew.

Assia Wirth, (Concordia University) *On Death*

In Gustave Flaubert's novel *Madame Bovary* the main character's suicide is in fact the apex of the otherwise quite bland plot, but only occurs towards the end of the story. By focusing on the text's richest feature – that is, the author's ingenious and meticulous style of writing – I aim at analyzing one possible reading of Emma Bovary's life and death. If Flaubert pushes his heroine to commit suicide before our eyes during one of the last chapters of his cautiously choreographed novel, I argue that the author had actually already killed her long before in the story, around the same time as he made her take on the thick but fatal name of "Bovary." Through his chronicle of these "Moeurs de province" he invites us to rethink what it really means to live – or die.

### 3:00-4:30: *Death in the Ancient World*

(Chair, Jonathan Powers, Thomas Moore Institute)

Marlene K. Sokolon, (Concordia University) *Euripides' Alcestis: Dying Another Man's Death*

Euripides' *Alcestis* tells the obscure story of the consequences of Apollo's gift to the Thessalian King Admetus: to have someone die in his place. Only Alcestis, his wife, agreed to take on this unfortunate task and the play concentrates on the day of her death and Admetus' subsequent regret and his anger at his father who refused die his death. Into this mix arrives the great Heracles, drunk and ready to party, in a house full of mourning. This paper focuses on how the strong comic undertones of the play is connected to the ethical question of what we owe each other, including those we love and the profound philosophical question of the distinction between being and not-being or life and death.

Eleni Panagiotarakou, (Concordia University) *The Final Frontier: Thanatophobia and Space Colonization*

The focus of this paper is on space colonization and thanatophobia; a newcomer in the discourse of space exploration. The paper takes as its starting point the remark by theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking that the future of humanity lies in the colonization of space. Two main questions will be guiding this paper: Is the face of thanatophobia real or is it simply a mask under which the desire for immortality lurks? If thanatophobia is indeed real, what should be done? Should it be embraced and used in space colonization efforts—to the joy of NASA, venture capitalists and space enthusiasts? Or, should it be resisted via ancient philosophical Epicurean and Stoic askesis (spiritual exercises)?

Julian Stuart, (Dawson College) *The Timelessness of Closure*

In Socrates' closing remarks in *The Apology* we witness the perennial controversy in considering whether death is good or bad