

Meanwhile at Concordia University ...

The Department of History at Concordia University in Montreal has been an especially active place in recent months. Our faculty members' achievements include the Nanovic Institute's 2019 Lara Shannon Prize in Contemporary European Studies, awarded to **Max Bergholz** for *Violence as a Generative Force: Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community* (Cornell UP, 2016). This is the fifth major prize that Max has won for this insightful monograph. Meanwhile, **Sarah Ghabrial** has been offered a visiting fellowship at the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University, which she will take up in the Winter 2020 term. **Norman Ingram** has just published (February 2019) a new monograph with Oxford University Press entitled *The War Guilt Problem and the Ligue des droits de l'homme, 1914-1944*. And in July 2019, **Anya Zilberstein** will once again be offering *Edible Environments: In and Beyond Montreal* as part of Concordia's International Graduate Summer and Field Schools. Just as exciting is the news that the Department, in partnership with the Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling (COHDS) and the First Peoples Studies program, has just been authorized to search for a Tier-II Canada Research Chair in **Indigenous Oral Tradition and Oral History**.

We have particularly dynamic group of graduate students here on the tenth floor of the McConnell Library Building. Four of our PhD students deserve special mention. **Fred Burrill** was the subject of a full-page article in Montreal's *Le Devoir* newspaper relating to his audio walk "Talking Violence: Oral History of Displacement and Resistance in Saint-Henri." **Hugo Rueda** published a co-authored book entitled *El museo mestizo*, published by the Museo Histórico Nacional de Chile. **Caroline Trotter-Gascon** was awarded a prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship. And **Brandon Webb** was awarded the Carolyn and Richard Renaud Graduate Teaching Assistantship in recognition of his outstanding work in the classroom. For undergraduates, through the generosity of alumnus **John Commins** and his family, the Department is pleased to have been endowed this year with the annual "Commins-Lachance Family Undergraduate Research Award in Quebec History," an adjudicated prize of \$1,000 for a Quebec history project prepared in the context of an undergraduate history class.

The Department of History has also been a participant in several important scholarly gatherings in recent months. Our faculty and students were among the main organizers of the hugely successful 2018 Oral History Association meeting, hosted at Concordia in October 2018 by COHDS. This proved to be the largest gathering of oral historians in North American history, with over 500 presenters in attendance. **Steven High** took the lead on the organizing committee for this event and was assisted by PhD student **Kathryn Boschmann**, while several department members gave papers or organized sessions. Many of our

students served as volunteers throughout the conference. In recognition of his fantastic work organizing this major international conference, Steven High was awarded a Certificate of Achievement and a lifetime membership from the U.S. based Oral History Association. Also in October 2018, our colleague Norman Ingram and Carl Bouchard, from Université de Montréal, organized a two-day conference entitled *1919: World (Dis) Order*. The event brought together a number of distinguished and emerging historians from Canada, the United States, Great Britain, and France, with panels held on both the Concordia and U de M campuses: a true joint venture!



Led once again by Steven High, the Department was also involved in organizing *Protest and Pedagogy*, a series of activities held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Sir George Williams Computer Centre occupation in 1969. The commemorative program was held from January 30 to February 16, dates chosen to coincide precisely with the anniversary of one of the most significant student protests in Canadian history, and featured panels, an exhibition, theatrical interpretation, a tour of the spaces where the protest occurred, and much more. And among the events coming up in the near future, the Department will be hosting an international symposium entitled *Family and Justice in the Archives: Histories of Intimacy in Transnational Perspective* from May 5 to 7 at the Concordia Conference Centre. The organizing committee is co-chaired by our colleagues **Peter Gossage** and **Eric Reiter**, who have been supported in this venture by colleagues Sarah Ghabrial, **Nora Jaffary**, and **Shannon McSheffrey**, and ably assisted by graduate students **Paul D'Amboise**, **Lisa Moore**, and **Leslie Szabo**, and by post-doctoral fellow **Sophie Doucet**. Looking forward to 2020, Concordia, under **Alison Rowley's** leadership, will host the World Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies.

Finally, former CHA Council members Peter Gossage (Chair) and **Barbara Lorezkowski** (GPD) will complete their leadership mandates in June 2019. There have been many exciting developments at Concordia on their watch, with much more to come!

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