

IMPACT OF ANNUAL GIVING 2016

THE LIVING FUND:
A GIFT OF GENERATIONS

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THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY, STUDENTS OF THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING [WHICH INCLUDE THOSE IN ENGINEERING PROGRAMS AS WELL AS THOSE IN ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING] CONTINUE TO BENEFIT FROM ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN, GROW AND EXCEL. EVEN THE SMALLEST GESTURE OF SUPPORT IS INVALUABLE TO THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF OUR STUDENTS AND FACULTY.

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2,136 alumni contributed to the Alma Mater Fund in 2015-16. While we would like to be able to publish all of their names, we only have space to list 'Leadership' gifts on this page [those who contributed \$1000 or more]. The list is not comprehensive; many individuals wished to remain anonymous.



A MESSAGE FROM THE FACULTY ADVISORY BOARD

I always look forward to this time of year when I can reach out on behalf of the Faculty Advisory Board to offer you thanks—of course—and to highlight the exceptional students and alumni represented by the Alma Mater Fund.

The Latin phrase *alma mater* means “nourishing mother”, a fitting expression for the community of offspring McGill engenders. It is a community that is inherently intergenerational: Younger students inspire older alumni with new energy and ideas, and the alumni reach back to offer support to burgeoning minds. This offers a rich experience for all: it increases the quality of education for current and future McGill Engineering students and allows alumni to remain rooted in their history and their memories.

This is the true soul of the Alma Mater Fund: it is a living fund that passes on educational opportunities to McGill Engineering students through generosity that spans generations. It is an example of the value of continuity that we espouse, one that reminds us that what we shared at McGill’s Faculty of Engineering, whether it was in 1970 or 2016 can travel with us throughout our lives.

I hope you enjoy the stories we have for you this year, and on behalf of the students, faculty and staff of the Faculty of Engineering, thanks, thanks and more thanks.

Thank you!

Fil Papich (BEng’83)
Chair, Faculty Advisory Board

“Education
is simply
the soul of
a society
as it passes
from one
generation
to another.”

Gilbert K. Chesterton



Alumni, students, faculty, staff and other members of the McGill Faculty of Engineering community celebrate at the Annual Reception in Honour of Our Philanthropists in April 2016.

OWEN EGAN



Roger Boudreault at work in the 60s.

ALL PATHS LEAD TO HOME

The oldest alumnus benefactor of the Alma Mater Fund is 104 years old, and the youngest is 19. Do they have different reasons for wanting to support the Faculty? To investigate, we interviewed three alumni who graduated over 40 years apart. Their stories reflect their distinct epochs, but each alumnus shares a fascinating career path and a similar gratitude for the opportunity to have been at McGill Engineering.

Our oldest alumni benefactors are Mr. James P. Stanley, BEng '38, and Mr. Robert Sproule, BEng '37, who are 101 and 104, respectively.

ROGER BOUDREAUULT:

THE VOYAGEUR

Roger Boudreault BEng '60 worked as a town manager for Murdochville and Beloeil before joining SNC. He then created his own consultancy firm in project management, working in Quebec and around the world.

You hail from a small fishing village in the Gaspésie and have since seen a lot of the globe. What was that journey like for a small-town guy?

→ My family was not rich. In fact, I was the first to go to university. When I got accepted at St. Francois-Xavier, my father refused to pay for my studies (he didn't consider university important). I worked two summers to be able to afford it. After St. Francois-Xavier,

I was accepted at McGill Engineering to complete my studies. The church threatened to excommunicate me when they found out I went to a "Protestant school"! I came back to the Gaspésie after McGill to do civil work at the copper mine in Murdochville. Then one day I got a call that the company manager wanted to see me. I thought that maybe he wasn't happy about my performance. He said, "Oh I didn't call you for that. We've proposed you as a candidate for town manager." So I became town manager for Murdochville from 1965 to 1970 and then for Beloeil from 1970 to 1973. Eventually I went to SNC and stayed for 20 years, doing civil work in Tunisia among other places. I finished up my career as a consultant and project manager for local and international projects.

What part of your success do you owe to McGill?

→ McGill taught me that you need to work on projects with discipline and know-how to achieve results—that

nothing happens by itself. In this way, McGill teaches all of us how to sail and we use that knowledge for the rest of our days to sail through life, in good times and bad.

What motivates you to give back to McGill Engineering?

→ I appreciate what McGill did for me. When you apply for a job and you mention you are a McGill graduate, it gives you a privileged status. And I have a strong family connection to McGill—both my sons and my wife attended the university.

What is your favourite memory of McGill Engineering?

→ My graduation at the old Montreal Forum in 1960. The rink area had been covered with chairs and there was a sea of people there—faculty, students, and their families. When I walked up the stage to get my degree, I passed by my father and I saw some tears in his eyes. ♥



Darren Arithoppah, Karolina Jesien and their child Dylan in Central Park.

EUGINA GELBELMAN

DARREN ARITHOPPAH AND KAROLINA JESIEN:

BIG APPLE DREAMS

Darren Arithoppah BEng'02 is head of Americas equities index & forward trading at J.P. Morgan in New York City, and Karolina Jesien BEng'02 is a principal at New York's Fish & Richardson P.C. who practices patent litigation, intellectual property litigation and IP counselling.

Darren, how did you make the shift from electrical engineering to the financial industry after leaving McGill?

→ Arithoppah: My plan was to continue running my own tech company until the Dotcom crash of 2001 hit. Taking advice from an advisor at McGill's Tech Entrepreneurship program, I opted for corporate experience. I was lucky to join Barclays Capital in New York where I rotated through roles in technology, quantitative analysis and eventually settled into derivatives trading. I had never thought about the financial industry before, but trading was quantitative, commercial, fast-paced and I was drawn to it. After trading fixed-income at Barclays, I moved to BNP Paribas to trade equities for six years, and now I've been with J.P. Morgan for two years.

Did the engineering degree help you?

→ Arithoppah: Enormously. McGill's engineering program is quantitative, rigorous and competitive, which are

all valued qualities in the finance industry. In fact, a number of traders that I have worked with have engineering backgrounds; and I think the industry actively recruits from top engineering schools from around the world.

What is your favourite memory of McGill Engineering?

→ Arithoppah: I think Karolina is going to say the same thing as me: Professor Jeremy Cooperstock's classes. He was visionary and the classes introduced us to a world, which at the time was experimental. It has been amazing to witness the lessons from those classes become reality over the last decade and, as he would say, "witness technology becoming ubiquitous".

Do you agree, Karolina?

→ Karolina Jesien: Yes, my favourite class was Human-Computer Interaction with Cooperstock, too. It's the one I look back on with a smile. In 2002 he was saying, "You're going to have tablets on every desk in class, smart fridges..." It all seemed so unreal at the time, but whenever Darren and I see one of those new gadgets he talked about pop up on the market, we always look at each other and say, "HCI!"

You, too, left the engineering track after McGill and went into patent law. How did that come about?

→ Jesien: Toward the end of my studies at McGill, I went to an Engineering Career and Technology Fair. Tucked away among the dozens of engineering tables, there was this one little table with a woman from a law firm. I remember wondering, "Why is she here?" I had a chat with her and learned about patent law, a path that I had never considered after engineering.

Later, after Darren and I moved to New York and I was studying interior design, I took a couple of patent law classes on the side. I was very interested so I asked to intern for my professor who was a practicing patent attorney at a small firm in New York. That's when I made the decision to pursue patent law and go to law school. It was a great fit for me because I've always wanted to fuse technology with something more strategic and creative, and patent law allows for that.

And you are now a partner at Fish and Richardson and were named a New York Metro Rising Star, Super Lawyers 2015 by the New York Times.

→ Jesien: Yes, it was in the New York Times and mentioned in a couple of other magazines. It was a very nice thing!

How does patent law engage your electrical engineering skills?

→ Jesien: The majority of my cases are in electrical engineering. It's essential to understand the technology well because you have to explain complex subject matter to a jury and a judge who may not be well-versed in the field.

Why is it important for the two of you to give to the Alma Mater Fund?

→ Jesien: We feel bonded with McGill. The education and degree has been invaluable and has served us both very well. It is a privilege to have attended McGill, and we didn't realize how much so at the time, but now we see how highly regarded it is in the US. We feel fortunate and we want to give back to our Alma Mater, of which we are very proud. ♥

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new donors
gave to the
Alma Mater
Fund in 2016.



Pauline Kress (sixth from left) and the McGill EV team on the tarmac at the 2016 Competition in Lincoln, Nebraska.

QUIET CAR, ROARING CROWD

McGill's Electric Vehicle team proved again that they could make the most of their design talents... and contribute to the Alma Mater Fund, too.

When Pauline Kress was standing on the sun-baked tarmac in Nebraska this June, watching her team's pint-sized electric race car weave in and out of the orange pylons, she knew there was no way they would have made it there if they hadn't taken matters into their own hands.

Kress (BEng'17) is the business manager of McGill's Electric Vehicle team (McGill EV). Every semester this group of 20 or so undergraduate students designs and builds a formula 1 electric race car from scratch and competes against an international slate of teams at the Formula SAE design competition in Lincoln, Nebraska (and at other competitions in North America) during the summer.

Back in the fall of 2015, things were a little hairy for the team. They were under budget pressure due to a desire to pump up their design to face stiffer international competition coming up in Lincoln. So Kress, a third-year international student from France, suggested to the team that they do something they'd never done before: crowdfunding. After hearing about the success of other student clubs and design teams, she convinced her colleagues to use the new McGill's 'Seeds of Change' crowdfunding platform to bridge the budget gap.

Banner Day

The team went all-out to prepare for the campaign launch. Kress had them start a full eight weeks prior, consulting with the staff of McGill's University Advancement to get expert advice on how to crowdfund. They had a challenge ahead of them: the Baja team (the McGill off-road vehicle team) had just raised the highest amount of money through the platform of any Engineering team to date.

McGill EV would conquer that—they raised \$5,000 in 30 days. But they didn't stop there. Since the 'McGill24', McGill's first ever one-day fundraising event, was happening at the same time, Kress and the team decided to go over the finish line in style.

"I was in class, refreshing my screen all the time. The site almost went down there was so much traffic."

"We made a massive fundraising push that day," Kress recalls. "I was in class, refreshing my screen all the time. The site almost went down there was so much traffic. It was amazing to see the support we received from family, friends and classmates."

The final tally? Kress and her team raised \$13,287—266% over the initial goal. The entire McGill24 event raised \$793,187 in just 24 hours, and 124 people made their first gift to the Alma Mater Fund. The team proved that by taking matters into their own hands they, too, could help out the Fund.

"I think sometimes people might not donate because they don't know where their money is going," says Kress, "but with the 'Seeds of Change' platform, you know your money is going straight to the project you want to support. It's remarkable how a few more donations can impact our work in such meaningful ways."

Still On the Road

At Formula SAE in Lincoln, NE, an annual student design competition, their snappy red car placed fourth overall in the competition out of a field of 20 international teams. (Three weeks earlier at the Formula North competition in Barrie, Ontario, they took home second place.)

"We're scoring consistently well at these competitions," says Kress of the team. "It's an incredible professional training experience for us. The students coming out of the McGill EV team are leaving university with the tools to advance the industry."

Kress is referring to the many McGill EV alumni who are working in the electrical car industry today. Two of the team's alumni now work for the Electric Division of Ford. Another was offered a full-time position at Tesla. One of the members also interned at the electric R&D department of BMW in Germany. Co-curricular experiences like these clearly play a significant role in future opportunities for students.

"I think that without the McGill EV project, I never would have found this passion for the automotive industry or this passion for sustainable projects. I'd love to work for a company that does that. I want to help." ♥

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Alma Mater
Fund
benefactors
are
students
themselves.



The class of 1970 in 1965. L-R: Fred Weiser; Jan Steinberg; Allan Wiseman; Peter Selnar; Simon Fass; Robin Wright; Isaac Franco; Peter Woolven; Edmund Heung; Giulio Mafini & Richard Beardmore.

GIVE BACK TO WHERE YOU ONCE BELONGED

Neil Armstrong, Woodstock, Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, Janis Joplin and Tie-dye—even a teenager today would recognize these global cultural icons. The BArch Class of 1970 lived them. Forty-five years later they've shelved their woven ties, but they are still strongly in support of their Alma Mater.

Once upon a time, in the early 1990s, architect Bruce Allan and his wife Jane Ross were having dinner in their NDG home with Jane's cousin, Gavin Ross, who just so happened to be the head of McGill's Alumni Association. Allan tells the story with a laugh: "Gavin turned to me and said, 'Doesn't your class organize alumni reunions?' 'No,' I said. 'Who's your class president?' he asked." "We don't have one," I said. He said, "Ok, so you're the president now."

And with that the now-retired, handlebar-moustached and affable Bruce Allan (BArch '70) became the leader of the School of Architecture's class of 1970.

Thanks to Allan and his former schoolmates, for the last 25 years a group of summer-of-love survivors have been reuniting in Montreal every five years to catch up on their lives, reminisce about the school days, and raise money for the School through the Alma Mater Fund.

"We all live in a yellow submarine..."

"My favourite reunion was the first one in 1995," remembers Allan. "When we left school we didn't appreciate the importance of staying together. But coming back after all those years—albeit a bit balder and wider—we realized how much fun it is to see each other again. Someone described it like continuing a conversation that you started decades earlier."

"By graduation day in 1970 these shaggy-haired creatives were as thick as thieves."

Those conversations were begun in the classrooms and halls of the School of Architecture, circa 1965. In those days, architecture students were still working at drafting tables, meaning that the School's building was central to their academic and social life. ("We kind of lived in each other's laps for five years.") This obligatory proximity was the origin of their burgeoning friendships. By graduation day in 1970 these shaggy-haired creatives were as thick as thieves.

Yesterday

After they parted ways, not all the group remained in architecture—some pursued careers as varied as social work in India and the clergy.

But Allan stayed in the field, working 45 years for ARCOP (now Architecture|49). That longevity was also reflected by his continued relationship with the School.

He's taken on various teaching and consulting roles over the years, and is currently also on the Faculty Advisory Board.

Allan understands how philanthropic donations can make a huge difference to the quality of education. So at their fourth reunion in 2010 he teamed up with fellow classmates Aurèle Cardinal and Dominic Mignogna to pull together a class fund to improve the infrastructure of the ailing architecture building.

"There are a number of projects at the School that only philanthropic funding can make work," says Allan, "for example, upgrading computing and digital facilities, or creating a modern entrance foyer. But the Class of '70 fund also serves as a memorial for three of our classmates—Peter Woolven, Jacques Maassen and Oskar Brecher—who have passed away."

By December 2015 they had managed to raise over \$60,000.

For Allan, staying in contact with his classmates is a way of celebrating the unique character of the School of Architecture, whose teaching he respects greatly, and whose current students remind him of the incredible changes he has seen since he and his friends started there in 1965, when they were just 17.

"When we graduated, the hand calculator had not been introduced—we still used the slide rule, Allan says. "Nowadays, students don't know what a pencil is! I am a bit tough, maybe, because sometimes my students are forced to work with pencils—heh, heh." ♥



Bruce Allan
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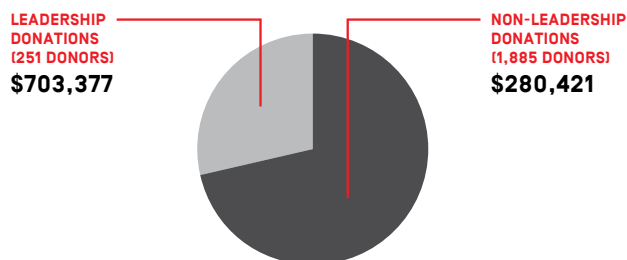
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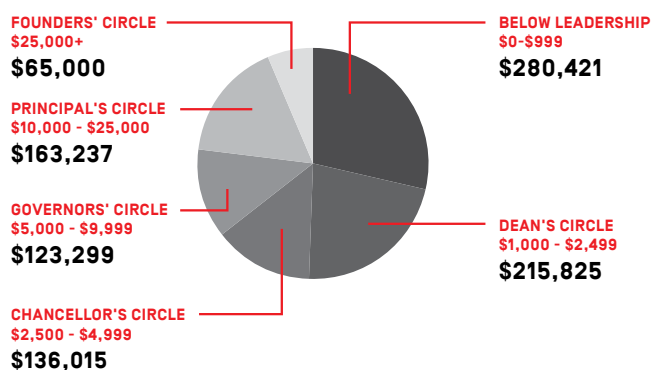
The McGill Alma Mater Fund was founded in 1948 by wealthy industrialist and McGill graduate E.P. Taylor, who urged alumni to help offset McGill's growing deficit by making annual donations to the University. Taylor and his team of dedicated volunteers were hugely successful, raising \$132,230 for the fund in its first year. Today the Fund is valued at \$7,984,840.

The Faculty of Engineering Alma Mater Fund is supported by more than 2,000 gifts made annually by loyal Faculty of Engineering alumni to support programs, services and activities that benefit undergraduate and graduate students.

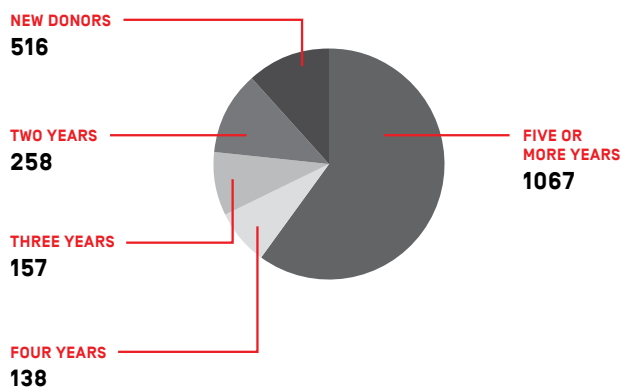
McGILL ENGINEERING REVENUE SOURCES 2016



ALMA MATER FUND BREAKDOWN 2016



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