



Happy 20th Anniversary McGill School of Environment!

The world has changed a lot during the last 20 years. In 1998, Google was just out, social media were in their infancy, and pedestrians were actually looking up, not down, when negotiating public spaces. We have indeed become more connected, but also increasingly aware of the planetary consequences of our actions. Yes, the planet continued to warm up and we still worry about the quality of the environment, the state of biodiversity and the unequal sharing of nature's benefits. But the idea that our fate is inextricably linked to that of the natural world has spread beyond environmental circles, bringing together civil society, business, government and academia. The sheer magnitude of the task ahead, however, reminds us that nothing short of a paradigm shift is required to implement change. But, as the MSE motto boldly claimed in 1998, "*change is possible*" and it is happening.

For 20 years now, the McGill School of Environment has trained citizens who know that lasting solutions to environmental challenges require not only good science, but also bringing together different world views. Bridge builders, after all, are urgently needed in this world. These citizens will be able to assess the outcomes of today's collective efforts for a sustainable world late in this century. All we wish is for them to claim that *change was indeed possible*.

In the following pages we would like to introduce you to some of the MSE alumni who are making a difference.

We look forward to seeing you at Homecoming October 11-13 to celebrate the MSE anniversary!



Sylvie de Blois
Director, MSE

In This Issue

- ◆ **Special Guest Speaker:
Gina McCarthy, Former
Head of the EPA, USA**
- ◆ **Alumni making
environmental changes**
- ◆ **Catalyst Awards for
Sustainability**



Gina McCarthy

The challenges of achieving sustainability and solutions for the future.

In celebration of the 20th anniversary of the McGill School of Environment, we are pleased to host Gina McCarthy as this year's MSE Environment Public Lecture.

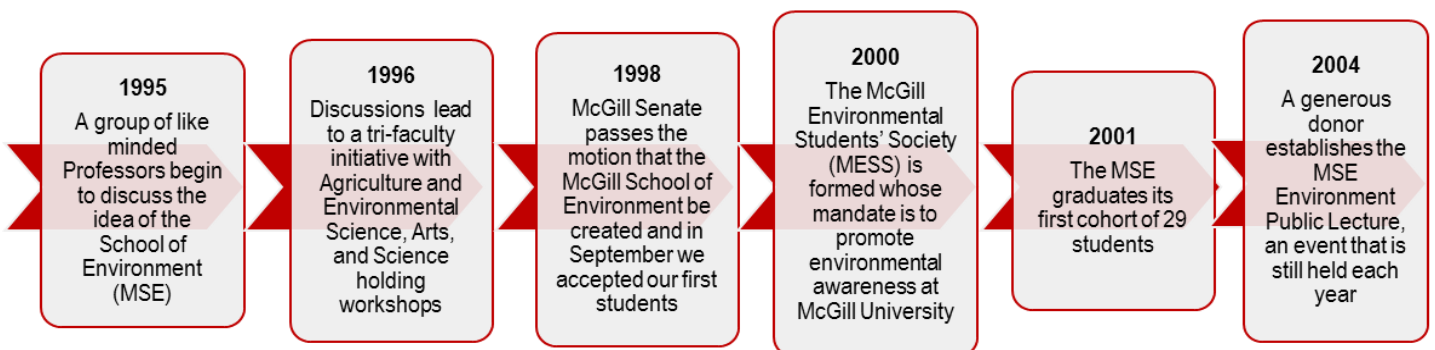
Friday, October 12, 2018, 17:30hrs, Moyses Hall, 853 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal

Admission is free, but you must register here:

<http://www.alumni.mcgill.ca/events/MSELecture2018>



Former Head of the Environmental Protection Agency for the Obama Administration, U.S.A.
Director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment and Professor, University of Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health



We are proud to announce that MSE's Dr. Julia Freeman recently won the *Catalyst Awards for Sustainability - Faculty Contribution to Sustainability*. This award recognizes staff members who have inspired real change on McGill's campuses, increasing the sustainability of the University.

Dr. Freeman is the coordinator of, and an instructor for, the undergraduate field study "Montreal's Urban Sustainability Experience" (MUSE) where students learn about the city's natural history and sustainability challenges. Dr. Freeman has served as a McGill Vision 2020 Connectivity Action Team Member, and a former member of the ECOLE Project's Board of Directors. She is Chair of the McGill School of Environment Undergraduate Academic Committee responsible for overseeing the undergraduate program.

Samantha Sabo

B.Sc. Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Granted: May 2011
Major Environment - Land Surface Processes & Environmental Change

Currently:

Employed as a Senior Analyst in the Review Panels division at the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency



I presently work as a Senior Analyst in the Review Panels division at the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. My work takes me across the country to work on complex projects and has given me the opportunity to engage with a variety of stakeholders and Indigenous groups on environmental issues. I graduated from the McGill School of Environment in 2011, and have taken the skills and knowledge I received while studying there throughout my career. The dedicated MSE professors and support staff were, and continue to be, fantastic. I wouldn't be where I am today without their support and guidance.

Congratulations on 20 years of amazing and important work, and here's to many more!

Laura Boisvert-Marsh

B.Sc. Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Granted: February 2009
Major Environment - Renewable Resource Mgmt, McGill University *Distinction
M.Sc. Granted: May 2012
Plant Science, McGill University
Ph.D. Thesis Continuing Year 3
Plant Science, McGill University

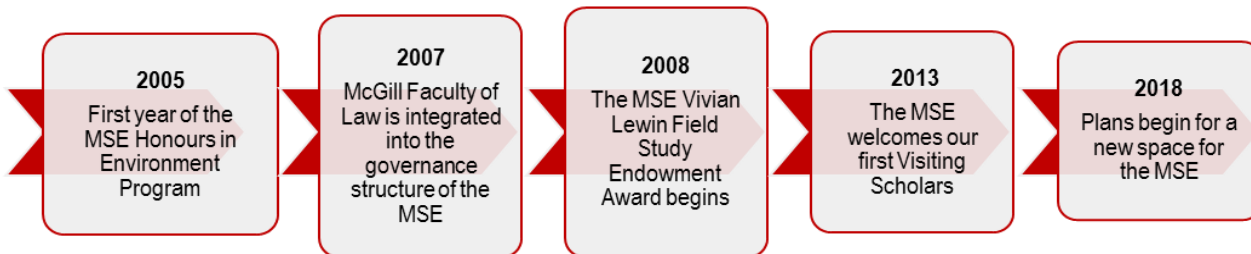
Currently:

Forest Biologist with Natural Resources Canada in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario



My experience at McGill and the School of Environment taught me to approach complex problems from multiple perspectives and the opportunity to develop those skills. As a Forest Biologist with Natural Resources Canada in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, my job often integrates biological concepts into modern workplace tools, specifically information management and data analysis. Supervised by Prof. Sylvie de Blois, our ENVR 401 group project developed a field method that uses lichens as indicators of conservation based on their sensitivity to pollutants and disturbance. This project was the start of

an enduring professional and academic relationship with Prof. de Blois where I learned many of the foundations crucial to my current work. Without these opportunities, I am sure that my professional path would be different and I am grateful for the leg up they gave me.

**Andrea Reid**

B.Sc. Granted: February 2010
Major Environment - Biodiversity and Conservation
M.Sc. Granted: February 2013
Biology (Thesis) - Thesis

Currently:

Employed as a Nisga'ah Fish Biologist and a National Geographic Explorer



McGill alumna Andrea Reid is a Nisga'a fish biologist and a National Geographic Explorer. Her research blends quantitative and qualitative methods to holistically approach fish conservation issues around the world. Reid got her start at the McGill School of Environment, after which she earned a NSERC Canada Graduate Scholarship to pursue graduate studies with MSE Faculty Drs. Anthony Ricciardi and Lauren Chapman. A continued Canada Graduate Scholar, Reid is now a Ph.D. Candidate at Carleton University and the University of British Columbia where she studies Pacific salmon bycatch and engages First Nations as active participants in the research process.

Nations as active participants in the research process.

Zachary Goldberg

B.Sc. Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Granted: February 2014
Major Environment - Food Production & Environment

Currently:

Graduate Student (M.S.)
Department of Geography,
Pennsylvania State University



I currently am doing field work for my MS at Penn State Geography in the High Atlas Mountains researching agricultural development and pesticide use in Amazigh communities. This is important to understand as indigenous communities in challenging environments invest in market production and adapt novel technologies. I am grateful to MSE, McGill, and Macdonald Community for giving me a great foundation and expertise in environmental science, food systems, and many other tools that I actively use everyday in the field and professional life. I particularly remember Caroline Begg taking me to farms in Quebec and Barbados to ask farmers about their craft. This is particularly useful in my research here in Morocco.

THANK YOU for all your contributions to the McGill School of Environment. As we look to the future, we are excited about our strong interdisciplinary education and our innovative approaches to teaching and research.

We invite you to make a philanthropic investment for future generations.

On line: alumni.mcgill.ca/aoc/online-giving

By telephone toll-free at 1-800-567-5175;
or at 514 398-5000

By mail: payable to "McGill School of Environment"
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mcgill.ca/mse
[@mcgillmse](https://www.instagram.com/mcgillmse)

The MSE is:

Director - Sylvie de Blois (Plant Science)

Faculty Members:

Madhav Badami (School of Urban Planning)

Chris Barrington-Leigh (Inst. for Health & Social Policy)

Elena Bennett (Natural Resource Sciences)

Peter G. Brown (Geography)

Jeffrey Cardille (Natural Resource Sciences)

Colin Chapman (Anthropology)

Jaye Ellis (Faculty of Law)

Frédéric Fabry (Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences)

Iwao Hirose (Philosophy)

Nicolas Kosoy (Natural Resource Sciences)

Brian Leung (Biology)

Kevin Manaugh (Geography)

Gregory Mikkelson (Philosophy)

Anthony Ricciardi (Redpath Museum)

Raja Sengupta (Geography)

Renée Sieber (Geography)

Ismael Vaccaro (Anthropology)

Hamish van der Ven (Political Science)

Faculty Lecturers:

Julia Freeman

George McCourt

Kathy Roulet

Staff:

Danielle Lefebvre

Shannon Scott

Christina Zhu

Your support helps us to address the environmental challenges of our time.