

**USING SOCIAL STATISTICS TO ILLUMINATE THE ISSUES,  
PROCESSES, AND OUTCOMES IN HIGHER EDUCATION:  
INTERNATIONAL VIEWPOINTS**

# Programme



**Les bourses  
du millénaire**  
*Créateurs de rêves, porteurs d'avenir*

**Montreal, December 7-9, 2009**

Université du Québec à Montréal

## **Sherbrooke Building (SH)**

### **UQAM's Complexe des sciences**

200 Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal

#### **Rooms:**

Plenary sessions and opening conferences: room **SH-2800**


Opening cocktail and lunches: room **SH-4800**


Coffee breaks: **Entrance Hall**


#### **Organizers:**


The Quebec Inter-University Centre for Social Statistics (QICSS)


The Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation

 Simultaneous translation is available in French or in English for all presentations.

 Need help? Ask any member of the staff for information. You will find them at the entrance hall and in each room.

 To get around, call a cab (514-273-6331 or 514-725-2885) or use public transportation. The nearest Metro station is *Place-des-Arts*.

 For emergencies, dial 3131. On a telephone not related to UQAM's network, dial 514-987-3131.

 A locked room is available to store your valued belongings. Ask a member of the staff for access to this room.

# USING SOCIAL STATISTICS TO ILLUMINATE THE ISSUES, PROCESSES, AND OUTCOMES IN HIGHER EDUCATION: INTERNATIONAL VIEWPOINTS

## Conference presentation

As the extension of an individual's initial schooling, higher education is the cornerstone of knowledge economies and societies. It ensures that workers of tomorrow are educated, while allowing those already in the workforce to update their skills.

Although there has been an overall increase in the proportion of people with higher education qualifications, challenges remain. Growth in higher education participation rates varies enormously from one region of the globe to another. In some countries, participation rates have stagnated.

**The goal of this conference** is to examine the state of higher education in different parts of the world in the light of analyses based on population-level statistical data. The conference will bring together specialists from a range of disciplines and nations to discuss some important contemporary issues: What are the barriers to higher education and how can access be improved? Are the expected benefits from post-secondary education worth the investment? What factors are linked to student success or dropout?

**Have a great conference!**

*The organising committee*



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## Organizing Institutions

### The Quebec Interuniversity Centre for Social Statistics (QICSS)

Born of a unique partnership between seven Quebec universities, Statistics Canada and the *Institut de la statistique du Québec*, the QICSS provides Quebec's research community with access to population-level microdata from statistical agencies, and with the workspace, equipment and professional resources needed to analyse these data. QICSS' also works to expand the pool of skilled quantitative researchers and to ensure that the research carried out within its walls makes a difference. By bringing together researchers from a number of disciplines, institutions and environments into a single physical workplace, the QICSS has become a veritable hub of scientific activity within the realm of social statistics in Quebec, in Canada and on the international stage.

[www.ciqss.umontreal.ca](http://www.ciqss.umontreal.ca)

### The Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation

The Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation is a private, independent organization created by an act of Parliament in 1998, with a mandate to deliver bursaries and scholarships to Canadian post-secondary students until the end of 2009. It has awarded more than one million bursaries and scholarships, worth more than \$3 billion, to Canadian post-secondary students. It has also managed a research program that has advanced the study of barriers to post-secondary education and the impact of policies and programs designed to alleviate them.

For more information, visit [www.millenniumscholarships.ca](http://www.millenniumscholarships.ca).

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## Organizing committee

Pierre DORAY,  
*Université du Québec à Montréal*

Jake MURDOCH,  
*Université de Montréal*

Céline LE BOURDAIS,  
*McGill University & Quebec Inter-  
University Centre for Social Statistics*

Jean POIRIER,  
*Quebec Inter-University Centre for  
Social Statistics*

Anne MOTTE,  
*Canada Millennium Scholarship  
Foundation*

Maryse Dion TREMBLAY,  
*Quebec Inter-University Centre for  
Social Statistics*

## Scientific committee

Lesley ANDRES,  
*University of British Columbia*

Donald E. HELLER,  
*Pennsylvania State University*

Patrice DE BROUCKER,  
*Statistics Canada*

Albert MOTIVANS,  
*UNESCO Institute for Statistics*

Tony CHAMBERS,  
*University of Toronto*

Martin RINGUETTE,  
*Université du Québec*

Jorgen HANSEN  
*Concordia University*

Ulrich TEICHLER,  
*University of Kassel*

## Thanks

Special thanks to Marie-Pier Bergeron-Boucher, Samone Ung, Anne Blain, Sengsoury Chanthavimone, Geneviève Brunet-Gauthier, Luc St-Pierre and Myriam Brunet-Gauthier.

# Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

## Welcome and registration

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

## Official opening of the conference

### Welcoming address by Robert Proulx

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Vice-chancellor for academic affairs, Université du Québec à Montréal

### Conference by Hélène David

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm

L'enseignement supérieur au Québec et les statistiques sociales

Hélène David is the Assistant Deputy Minister for higher education in the *Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport* (Quebec's ministry of education). This sector of the ministry is responsible for developing ministerial guidelines to support college and university education in Quebec.

Trained as a psychologist, Mrs. David is passionate about teaching. Before joining the ministry, she worked at the University of Montreal for more than 20 years. In addition to teaching psychology, she played an active role in the academic administration, particularly in her role as associate vice-principal (academic).

### Conference by Pierre Chenard

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Statistiques, Oui ! Sociales, Encore plus! Pour décider, c'est mieux!

University of Montreal Registrar, Dr. Pierre Chenard is responsible for the planning, organisation and management of all activities related to student registration, certification and files. He ensures the validity of all official documents that confirm the progress made by students towards their diploma.

Holder of a PhD in educational administration and policy, sociologist Pierre Chenard has extensive experience in the institutional analysis of the university environment. His work and publications focus mainly on student success in higher education.

## Opening cocktail

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Music : *Quatuor de clarinette Ébaubi*

*Daphné Bisson*

*Julie Dunn-Cuillierier*

*François Gagné*

*Laurence Neill-Poirier*

**Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**

Registration

8:30 am – 9:00 am

**ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**  
LESLEY ANDRES UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

9:00AM – 10:30AM

- **The Choices of direct entry of Ontario Francophone graduates: an overview 1998-2006**  
Sylvie A. Lamoureux, Université d'Ottawa  
Normand Labrie, University of Toronto
- **First-generation students in Canadian universities**  
Pierre Doray, Université du Québec à Montréal
- **A profile of Conakry University students (2004-2008)**  
Alpha Amadou Bano Barry, Université de Sonfonia

Coffee break

10:30 am – 10:45 am

**STUDIES, MIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION**  
ULRICH TEICHLER UNIVERSITY OF KASSEL

10:45AM – 12:15PM

- **Persistence in higher education – differences by immigrant background, social background, gender and field of study**  
Liv Anne Støren, Norwegian Institute for Research in Innovation, Research and Education
- **The match between pre-immigration and post-immigration education and its effect on earning**  
Magali Girard, McGill University  
Michael Smith, McGill University
- **Student mobility: Selectivity and labour market prospects**  
Jannecke Wiers-Jenssen, Norwegian Institute for Research in Innovation, Research and Education

Lunch

12:15 pm – 1:30 pm



## STRATEGIC STUDENT PATHWAYS

TONY CHAMBERS UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

1:30PM - 2:30PM

- **Ouagadougou University students: lessons from an analysis of applicants' files from 1995 to 2005**  
Jean-François Kobiané, Université de Ouagadougou  
Marc Pilon, Institut de recherche pour le développement  
Ram Christophe Sawadogo, Université de Ouagadougou
- **Psychometric and statistical modeling procedures in the study of graduation and retention of undergraduate engineering**  
Neil Sedransk, National Institute of Statistical Sciences  
Jonna M. Kulikowich, Pennsylvania State University  
Renata S. Engel, Pennsylvania State University  
Nicholas D. Warcholak, Pennsylvania State University

Coffee break

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

## IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AID POLICIES

DONALD E. HELLER PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

2:45PM - 4:45PM

- **Merit-based scholarships and the characteristics of entering students at Ontario universities**  
Martin D. Dooley, McMaster University  
A. Abigail Payne, McMaster University  
A. Leslie Robb, McMaster University
- **The impact of financial difficulties, financial aid and institutional grants on success at university**  
Valérie Vierstraete, Université de Sherbrooke  
Éric Yergeau, Université de Sherbrooke
- **Is debt avoidance a significant barrier to postsecondary education among under-represented groups?**  
Claude Montmarquette, Centre interuniversitaire de recherche en analyse des organisations  
Jean-Pierre Voyer, Société de recherche sociale appliquée
- **Postsecondary attendance and student debt load: evidence from an exogenous variation in non-refundable grants**  
Marc Frenette, Statistique Canada



**TAKE PART IN A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE AT THE *BIODÔME DE MONTRÉAL*!**

**A private visit of the ecosystems followed by a dinner cocktail in the St. Lawrence Marine Ecosystem Underwater viewing area are planned!**

An oasis in the heart of the city, the *Biodôme de Montréal* recreates some of the most beautiful ecosystems of the Americas:



*the lush and humid **Tropical Forest**;*

The Tropical Forest at the *Biodôme*, a reproduction of a tropical rainforest in South America, awakens visitors to the extraordinary biological diversity of these ecosystems and to their terrible vulnerability.



*the **Laurentian Forest**, changing with the seasons;*

The Laurentian Forest is an ecosystem that awakens, blossoms, changes colour and sleeps in time with the seasons and illustrates how living things can adapt to great variations in climate. It reproduces one of the most beautiful forests in Quebec.



*the **St. Lawrence Marine ecosystem**, replicating the Estuary and the Gulf;*

This ecosystem reveals some of the shapes and colours hidden in these cold, salty waters. The pathway runs alongside an underwater observatory, where you can spot hundreds of fish swimming in a basin filled with 2.5 million litres of "sea water" produced at the *Biodôme*.



*the Polar Worlds of the **Arctic** and **Antarctic**;*

The subarctic zone represented here is a rocky stretch with steep cliffs where the penguins are living. The landscape of Antarctic evokes the shore of a volcanic island lying between the Antarctic peninsula and the tip of South America.

The cost is \$30 plus taxes per person. To take part in this activity, please ask a member of the staff!

Hurry, places are limited!

*BIODÔME DE MONTRÉAL*  
4777, AVENUE PIERRE-DE COUBERTIN, 514-868-3000



**Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

## **COMPARATIVE STUDIES ON ACCESS**

MARTIN RINGUETTE UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC

9:00AM - 10:30AM

- **Using comparative studies of the European student landscape to understand current and future challenges for higher education access**  
Dominic Orr, Higher Education Information System GmbH
- **Access to postsecondary education in Canada: why are there differences between provinces?**  
Ross Finnie, Université d'Ottawa  
Richard E. Mueller, University of Lethbridge
- **Measuring inequalities in higher education in Europe: what are international and national database indicators telling us?**  
Gaële Goastellec, Université de Lausanne  
Noël Adangnikou, Université de Lausanne

Coffee break

10:30 am – 10:45 am

## **SCHOOL TO WORK TRANSITIONS**

JORGEN HANSEN CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

10:45AM - 12:15PM

- **The links between student learning and career success of European and Japanese graduates: a structural equation model (SEM) approach**  
Carla Barroso da Costa, Université de Montréal  
Nathalie Loye, Université de Montréal  
Jake Murdoch, Université de Montréal
- **The determinants of university graduate's education job-match**  
Brahim Boudarbat, Université de Montréal  
Victor Chernoff, Université de Montréal
- **Study conditions and professional success**  
Harald Schomburg, University of Kassel  
Lutz Heidemann, University of Kassel  
Sylvi Mauemeister, University of Kassel



Lunch

12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

## ECONOMIC BENEFITS

PATRICE DE BROUCKER STATISTIQUE CANADA 1:30PM - 3:00PM

- **What are the effects of attending prestigious universities on early career labour market outcomes of graduates?**  
Johan Coenen, Maastricht University  
Jim Allen, Maastricht University
- **Returns to Education: Results from the Canadian Analytic Census files, 1991-2006**  
Pierre Lefebvre, Université du Québec à Montréal  
Philip Merrigan, Université du Québec à Montréal  
Emmanuelle Bourbeau, Université du Québec à Montréal
- **From levels to combinations: examining new vocational strategies within postsecondary education**  
John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Coffee break

3:00 pm - 3:15 pm

## ROUND TABLE - FOCUSING THE LIGHTS: SOCIAL STATISTICS AND HIGHER EDUCATION

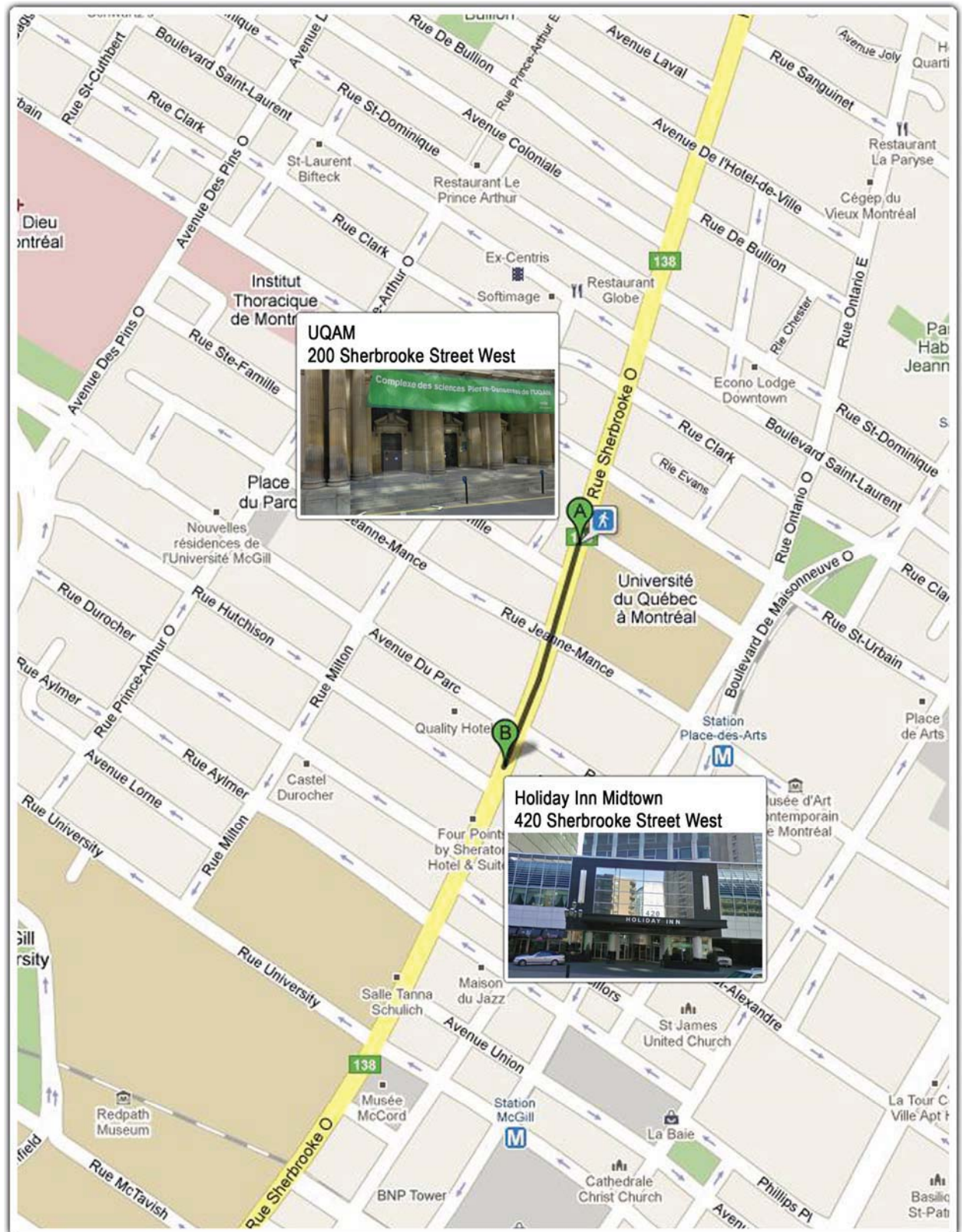
ANDREW PARKIN CANADIAN MILLENNIUM SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION 3:15PM - 5:00PM

### Participants:



Lesley Andres, *University of British Columbia*  
 Patrice De Broucker, *Statistique Canada*  
 Tony Chambers, *University of Toronto*  
 Jorgen Hansen, *Concordia University*  
 Donald E. Heller, *Pennsylvania State University*  
 Martin Ringuette, *Université du Québec*  
 Ulrich Teichler, *University of Kassel*

The Conference takes place at UQAM's *Complexe des sciences* (Sherbrooke Building), located at 200, Sherbrooke Street West.



It is possible to get from the Conference location to the Metro without having to step outside!

