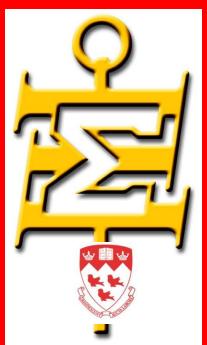
A Roller Coaster Survey of the History of Sigma Xi, The McGill Chapter And The McGill-Montreal Chapter

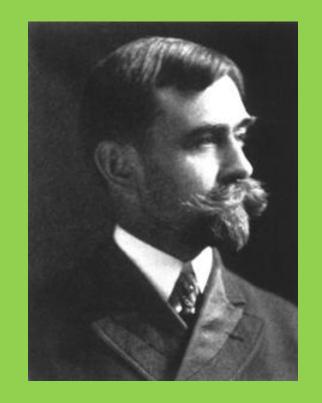
Sigma Xi
Special Lecture
and
Christmas Party
7.15 Ruttan
Room





Prof.M.A.Whitehead
Monday, 17 December 2007
McGill University
Otto Maass Chemistry,
Room 10
6:00 P.M.

FOUNDED 1886





Sigma Xi Motto

"Companions in Zealous Research," from Greek words:

Σπουδον Ξυνονεσ (Spoudon Xynones).

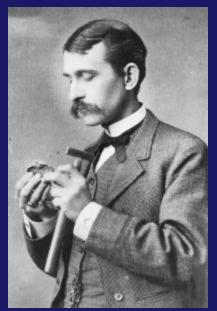
Sigma Xi at Cornell University by students and one Junior Faculty member,

Frank Van Vleck.

John H. Van Vleck 1977 Nobel Prize in Physics

"Electronic structure of magnetic and disordered solids"

The 1880s



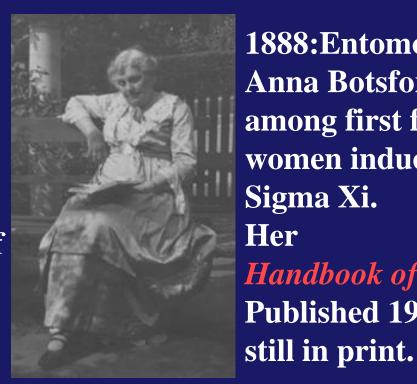
1891: A palaeontologist and stratigrapher he proved the overlying coal-bearing rocks described from Pennsylvania, were uniquely Pennsylvanian

Henry Shaler Williams.

Examining his favourite fossil brachiopod, *Spirifer laevis*,

in the late nineteenth century.

He was the Society's chief mentor and leader at Cornell



1888:Entomologist
Anna Botsford Comstock
among first five
women inducted into
Sigma Xi.
Her
Handbook of Nature Study
Published 1911,

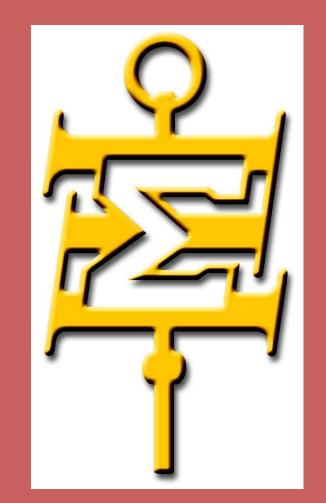
$^{\aleph}\Omega$

The 1890s

First Sigma Xi convention held at Cornell University, 1893

Pledge of the Society

"Do you hereby pledge yourself, in accordance with the purposes and objectives of Sigma Xi, to encourage original investigations in Science, to foster companionship and cooperation among Scientists, to maintain Honour, Integrity and Honesty in all Scientific Activities, and to assume the other continuing Responsibilities of Membership?"







She was the Assistant Director of the Iowa Agriculture and Home **Economics Experiment Station** (1944-1951) and received:







Ω

The 1900s

First decade of 20th Century:

3 Chapters yearly.

Introduced programmes

beyond Interdisciplinary Scientific debates.



University campus.

a month after President Van Hise lectured on

"Earth Movements"

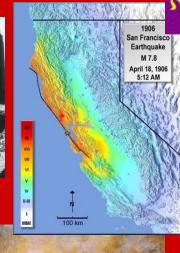
Berkeley Chapter led an eradication campaign against plague carrying spreaders.













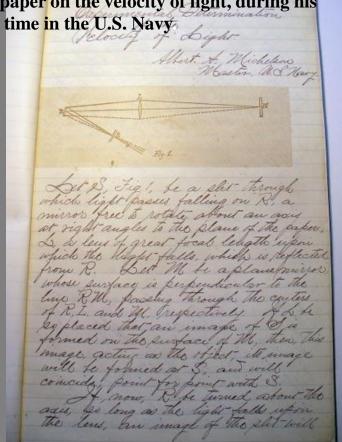
The 1900s

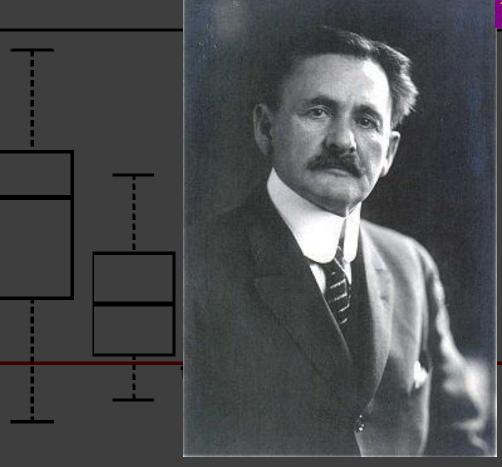
1907: Albert Michelson

first Sigma Xi member to

win Nobel Prize in Physics

First page of Michelson's handwritten draft paper on the velocity of light, during his





A <u>Prussian</u>-born <u>American physicist</u>

Measured the <u>speed of light</u>

The Michelson-Morley Experiment.

First American to receive Solution Nobel Prize in Science.

Experiment No.

The 1900s

At quarter-century in 1911, Sigma Xi had 2,000 Members in 28 Chapters.



Julian Herman Lewis inducted into Sigma Xi in 1913

1915: The first Black to earn a Ph.D. in Physiology: University of Chicago. Expert on immunology. Wrote "The Biology of the Negro", and "Absorption of substances injected subcutaneously: inhibitory action of heterologous protein mixtures on anaphylaxis"

1916, National Research Council enlisted Sigma Xi's co-operation to organize research facilities for US entry into World War I.



1913



Quarterly Bulletin

established to "create further interest in the Society and increase its usefulness."



Sigma Xi Quarterly 1913-1941

SIGMA XI QUARTERLY

VOLUME I

MARCH, 1913

NUMBER 1



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Chapter Officers	

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

James McKeen Cattell
Dayton Clarence Miller

Henry Baldwin Ward Samuel Wendell Williston

Published by the Society of the Sigma Xi

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Single Number 15 Cents



1921 McGill Centenary

The McGill University Chapter Chartered

The first Chapter formed outside United States.





The Nobbs and Hyde extension to Redpath Library in 1921







McGill University Crest designed by P. Nobbs (1922)

Charter Members of the McGill-Chapter

Frank Dawson Adams, Geology

Edward William Archibald, Surgery

Henry Gray Barbour, Pharmacology

Cyril Batho, Mathematics

Herbert Stanley Birkett, Medicine

William M.G. Byers, Ophthalmology

Walter William Chipman, Gynecology

Jacob Dolid, Chemistry

Arthur Stewart Eve, Physics

Frederick Gault Finley, Medicine

Roger Deland French, Municipal Engineering

Joseph Alexander Gray, Physics

Francis Charles Harrison, Bacteriology

Louis Anthyme Herdt, Electrical Engineering*

Frederick M.G. Johnson, Chemistry

Louis Vessot King, Physics

Francis Ernest Lloyd, Botany

Otto Maass, Chemistry

Charles Millar McKergow, Mechanical Engineering

Archibald Byron Macallum, Biochemistry

Henry Martyn Mackay, Civil Engineering

Robert Fulford Ruttan, Chemistry





The 1920s

In the decade after World War I, Sigma Xi grew rapidly adding 26 new chapters.

1924: inducted as an undergraduate,
Barbara McClintock
was a Sigma Xi member for nearly
60 years before her work was honored with the 1983





Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for discovery of genetic transposition; the first and only woman to receive an unshared Nobel Prize in that category.

1921

Zoologist Roger Arliner Young the first African American Women to enter the Sciences was inducted into Sigma Xi McGill; Monthly University Wide Lectures: A.N.Whitehead, Bertrand Russell, Appleton, Rutherford, Braggs, Otto Hahn, Fajans, Urey, Haas, Bancroft, Debye, Seigbahn.

The 1920s

1927: Grants-in-Aid of Research Programme advanced the Research of Students in Science and Engineering.

REMEMBER there were NO GOVERNMENT GRANTS!

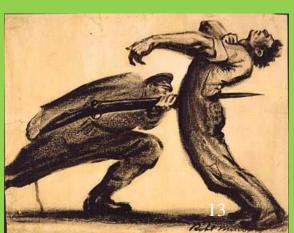
By the end of the decade, Sigma Xi had about 9,000 members.

The 1930s

26 Chapters chartered, including Harvard, Princeton and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Great Depression:
Several Chapters instituted
Loan Funds
for needy Students.

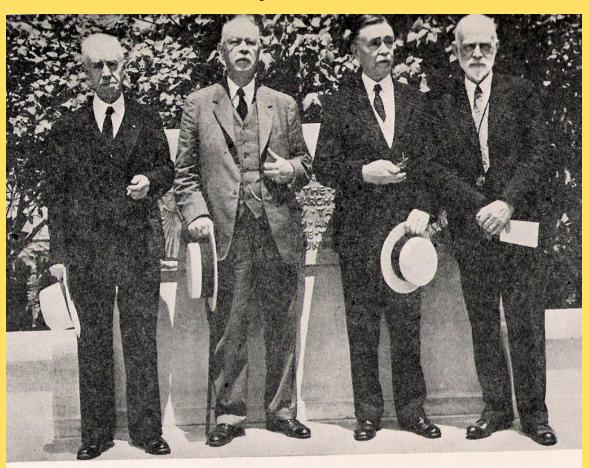


Ω^{lpha}

The 1930s

Distinguished Lectureship Programme, late 1930s, supported Society's outreach efforts to increase visibility.

The Society's 50th Anniversary **Celebration** 1936 attracted US **National attention** through awarding **Research Prizes in** Physical and Biological Sciences.



FOUNDERS AND PRESENT PRESIDENT

Left to right: W. A. Mosscrop, W. A. Day, Frank Van Vleck, President W. F. Durand

(Photograph taken, Semi-Centennial celebration, Cornell University, June 20, 1936)



The 1940s: US and Canadian Government \$

World War II: support for Science brought Sigma Xi to new heights. *American Scientist* authors discussed war-related research problems.

McGill Sigma Xi:

Diffused lighting and its use in the Chaleur Bay;

Director of Chemical Warfare;

Otto Maass

Discovery of compound Z (S₂F₆);

Richard Mungen and Templeton Hugell

Food: Storage anti-rancid agents, toxicity of insecticide DDT;

W.D.MacFarlane

Nutritional value of Arctic Food;

J.G.Armstrong and Alair Lips

Sea sickness;

Dr.R.L.Noble

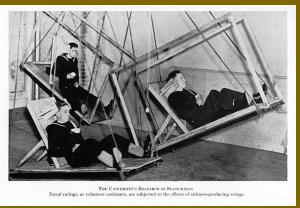
Theory of Radar and slotted waveguides:

H.Watson, F.R.Terroux and J.S.Foster

RDX: explosive 50xTNT

James Ross and Robert Schlessler







Cockcroft

E.W.R. Steacie and John Cockcroft

at Université de Montréal developed a

Pile Reactor

Heavy Water Reactor

Atomic Bomb Research





R.V.V.Nicholls

Plastic Explosives

Made better Synthetic rubber and Cheaper DDT





Watson



$\Omega^{oldsymbol{arkappa}}$

The 1940s

Sigma Xi chartered its 100th chapter in 1948.

American Scientist:
Sigma Xi Quarterly – 1942-1945
American Scientist
(still digest format and quarterly)
1946-1969

McGill:

Foster Radiation Laboratory used Cyclotron

To create a proton beam and study radioactive emissions from atomic bombardment, microwave emissions, and masers



AMERICAN SCIENTIST



MARCH, 1965

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Books Received for Review, 54A FARRINGTON DANIELS, President Daniels' Comments, 1965 1 RENÉ DUBOS, Humanistic Biology
Farrington Daniels, President Daniels' Comments, 1965
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SIR HAROLD HARTLEY, Man and Nature
Treasurers' Reports
The Scientists' Bookshelf



1947 A group of Sigma Xi members formed the Scientific Research Society of America (RESA) to encourage Research in Government and Industrial Laboratories, as Sigma Xi promoted Research in the Academic Community

Husband and wife team, Carl and Gerty Radnitz Cori shared the 1947 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Sigma Xi members.





Palestinian Refugees 1948

$^{\aleph}\Omega$

The 1950s

1950: Sigma Xi proud of 42,000 active members.

Sigma Xi Highest Honour, the

William Procter Prize for Scientific

Achievement, awarded to

Karl Compton.

<u>electronics</u> and <u>spectroscopy</u> passage of <u>photoelectrons</u> through metals, <u>ionization</u>, motion of <u>electrons</u> in <u>gases</u>, <u>fluorescence</u>.

McGill:

Research into Meteorology: Kimble and Hare (President Sigma Xi 1986-1987)

Arctic Institute Founded

Bellaire Institute in Barbados opened





The 1950s

Hugh S. Taylor at Princeton President in early 1950s became Editor of *American Scientist* in 1955.

Executive Secretary Thomas Holme led efforts to make Sigma Xi a truly National Identity i.e USA.

McGill:

Building on McGill
Research by James Gill
who discovered Iron
Ore in Northern Quebec,
McGill Researchers
studied glaciology
and geomorphology



The 1960s





Maria Goeppert Mayer inducted in first 50 years of the Society, won the 1963
Nobel Prize in Physics.

McGill: The Pre-Eminent Lectures

The Glory Days: 450 members

Saturday Symposium: POLLUTION: 1500 people

UFOs: Little Green Men; 450 people

Divining and ESP: 350 people

Science and Religion Symposium: 750 people

Started "In House Visits"

Started: Excursions: EXPO, Air Flights, Chalk River all by Bus, out talk Science, back tell ghost stories!

FOUNDED 6 CANADIAN CHAPTERS;

Avalon, Ottawa, Queens, Vancouver, McMaster, Calgary

Remember Departments only had one lecture a month!

The 1970s

The Infamous Whitehead report sent from the McGill Chapter and fought through by Dr. Peter Roper at HQ caused numerous changes:

1) American Scientist went from a quarterly to a colourful bimonthly publication in 1970.



- 2) The fight to
 - a) remove National from Lecturers
 - b) put US Dollars on subscriptions
 - c) form a Canadian Region
 - d) rename "American Scientist"
- 3) To opt-out of sent US lecturers
 - a) plan our own programmes
 - b) receive more of our \$ for local use
 - c) pay Membership in local currencies

The 1970s

HQ moved from Yale to New Haven, Connecticut.

Scientific Research Society of America (RESA) 1947 merged with Sigma Xi in 1974.



The US National Academy of Sciences contracted with Sigma Xi to administer its small-grants Programme through Grants-in-Aid of Research.

McGill: 1972 Fiftieth Anniversary

"Research is fun. McGill Chapter has been dedicated to this idea for the past 50 years"

Cyclotron dating archaeological artefacts from Turkey Greece and Ottawa Valley Leo Yaffe

The First Gene Machine Constructed:

Kelvin Ogilvie





The 1980s

1983: Walter Sullivan of *The New York Times* was the first Honorary Member inducted into Sigma Xi.

1984: Sigma Xi's ethical guidebook, *Honour in Science*,

became required reading in Graduate Research Programmes.

1984: John P. McGovern Science and Society Medal was first awarded to Clifford Grobstein.



McGill: The Secretary and Treasurer, for 25 years, Husband and Wife, Professors, John and Louise Stevenson kept Chapter active and solvent: Trips to James Bay, White River Rafting, Picnics in the snow!





$^{\aleph}\Omega$

The 1980s FIRST DISASTER

Centennial 1986: With support from the National Science

Foundation, Sigma Xi developed

"A New Agenda for Science"

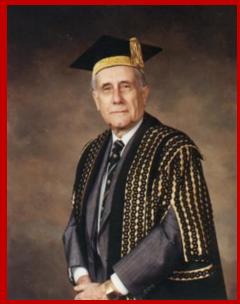
Pro-Active not Honorific

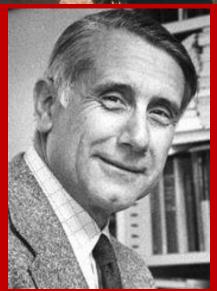
McGill:

Dr Kenneth Hare President Sigma Xi

Disapproved: made Society inward looking US oriented. Thoroughly insensitive to Canadian and International Chapter Cultural needs and differences.

No change in the Chapter Activities: fought at Annual Meetings for a Canadian Region: became more self supporting





The 1990s: The Second Disaster



Membership 125,000 1990

> Sigma Xi relocated its administrative offices from New Haven, Connecticut, to Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Sigma Xi combined its Annual Meetings with Forums on Critical Issues at the **Intersection of Science and Society.**

1997: McGill

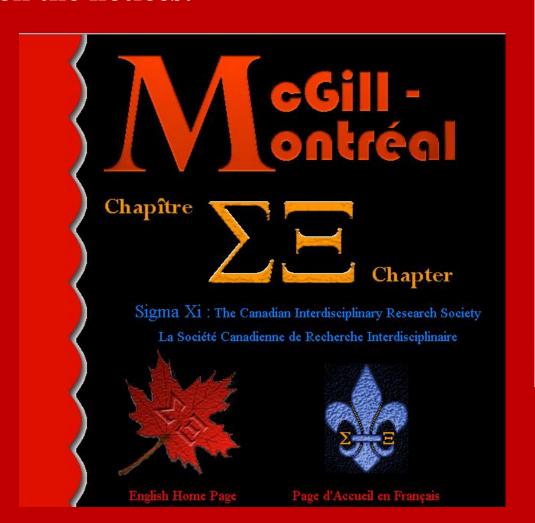
Celebrated its 75th Anniversary: with the First Canadian Sigma Xi Forum: one day on Interdisciplinary Science, twenty Scientists paid to attend, The Executive Director Peter Blaire represented The Society. The Banquet had 75 attendees!



Chapter name change in 1997 McGill-Montreal Chapter

N N

Canadian Interdisciplinary Research Society on web-page and notices; still on our web-page but comes and goes on the notices!



Canadian Interdisclipinary Research Society McGill Chapter

MONDAY, February 16, 1998 Rm 10, Otto Maass Bld., 6:00 pm

> Dr. LOUISE PARADIS University of Montreal

"THE OLMEC: A PEOPLE, AN ARTISTIC STYLE, A CIVILIZATION"

ABSTRACT:

RECENT RESEARCH ON THE OLMEC CULTURE HAS ALLOWED US TO REFINE AND MORE FULLY DOCUMENT OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRE-HISTORIC MESOAMERICAN CIVILIZATION. THE OBJECT OF THIS LECTURE IS TO PRESENT THE RESULTS OF THIS RESEARCH AND TO ANSWER ONE OF THE MANY QUESTIONS POSED BY OLMEC CULTURE:

HOW IS THE EXPANSION OF OLMEC ART STYLE ACROSS MESOAMERICA EXPLAINED?



Lecture at 6:00 pm in the Otto Maass Blding, Room 10.
4:30 Council meeting, room 213-215.

5:30 Ruttan Room for the reception proceedings.

For more information: M. A. Whitehead Tel: 398-6239 Fax: 398-3797 e-mail:tony@maw.chem.mcgill.ca

1998 The only time we cancelled a meeting!











Ice Storm - January 5-10, 1998

1998

First Sigma Xi Young Investigator Award physicist John Gillaspy.

Sigma Xi published
"The Responsible Researcher" covering new
ethical challenges to research.





McGill Chapter became
McGill-Montreal Chapter
The web page in both
official languages of
Canada
Annual Banquet followed
by the Banquet Lecture in
the Faculty Club ceased
after 50 years
30

2003



McGill-Montreal Chapter of Sigma Xi

Occasional Lecture on Science and Religion



SEEKING A SILICON SOUL

And God Created Robots ...?

Thursday, November 21st 6:00 p.m. Faculty of Education Room ED129

Robots, Humans and the Community of Persons Friday, November 22nd 6:00 p.m. Department of Chemistry, Otto Maass Room 10

Seminar

Theology and Robots, Q&A Friday, November 22nd, 9:30 a.m. Faculty of Education Room ED539

Dr Theol. Anne Foerst is visiting professor for Theology and Computer Science at St. Bonaventure University at Olean, NY. and has been affiliated with the Center for the Studies of Values in Public Life of Harvard Divinity School. She has worked at the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology as the theological advisor for the Cog and Kismet Projects, two attempts to develop embodied, autonomous and social robots in analogy to human infants that might learn and develop more mature intelligences. Her work on dialogue has been covered in numerous print and Internet media (MS NBC, Boston Globe, Der Spiegel) and she appeared in many radio and television shows (ABC, CNN, Odysee).

The Canadian Scientific and Christian Affiliation



McGill-Montreal Chapter of Sigma Xi

Occasional Lecture on Science and Religion

George F.R. Ellis,

Distinguished Professor, University of Cape Town



The Cosmos and its Origins:

The present day universe is of vast size and is very old. Everything we see around us had its origins in the 'Hot Big Bang' expansion of the early universe, which we understand very well. By contrast what occurred before then is not well understood - many options have been proposed, but none have been shown to be correct, and indeed many of these proposals are untestable. Furthermore even the most advanced science is unable to address the issue of 'why' - to resolve the underlying metaphysical reasons for the existence of the cosmos. These issues have to be approached on more general philosophical grounds that take into account wider data than that which is available through strictly scientific investigation - for example the individual events in each of our lives.

This talk will outline our present scientific understanding of the origin and evolution of the universe, and then consider the options and data as regards these metaphysical questions.

6P.M., Tuesday, February 11th, 2003 Room 10, Otto Maass Chemistry, McGill University (Member's Reception, 5:00 p.m. Ruttan Room)



The Canadian Scientific and Christian Affiliation

αΩ

The 2000s

Sigma Xi DROPPED to 70,000 members
500 chapters in US, Canada, Mexico, Russia, Georgia, Switzerland, India and
Peking, New Zealand and Australia

McGill:

February 26, 2000 Lac St. Pierre Trois-Rivieres, Quebec



Marie-Victorin parc, Kingsey Falls: October 1997



Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital Research Centre March 30, 2001



The First Entin Lecture September 2005



Sigma Xi Excellence in Undergraduate Research June 3rd, 2004



The 2000s

Opened December 2003, Sigma Xi Centre New stage in Society's evolution

Programme Focus 5 key areas:

- 1) Science and Engineering Education,
- 2) Research Ethics,
- 3) Public Understanding of Science,
- 4) International Research Co-operation
- 5) Health of the Research Enterprise.









Opening and Use: 2003-2007











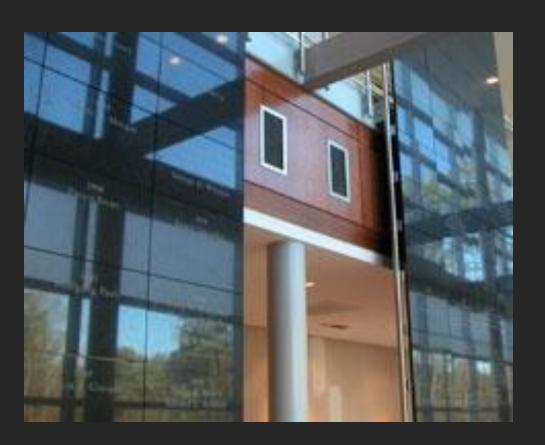


Chain Reaction



The 2000s Membership at 75,000

The names of nearly 200 members who have won the Nobel Prize are commemorated in the Sigma Xi Centre Hall of Honour.



Linus Pauling: Chemistry 1954, Peace 1962

1998 Walter Kohn
1998 John Pople
1999 Ahmed Zewail Chemists
2000 Alan Heeger
2000 Alan G. MacDiarmid
2001 William S. Knowles
2002 John B. Fenn
2004 Irwin Rose

1998 Louis J. Ignarro
1999 Günter Blobel
2000 Paul Greengard Medicine
2002 H. Robert Horvitz
2003 Paul C. Lauterbur

2005 Roy J. Glauber 2005 John L. Hall 2005 Theodor W. Hänsch *Physics* 2006 John C. Mather 2006 George F. Smoot



McGill-Montreal Chapter









The McGill-Montreal Chapter of Sigma Xi recently lost one of its most loyal, erudite, generous and courteous members, Martin Entin. His good humour, cutting wit, fantastic breadth of knowledge, magnificent command of the English language, words, phrases and rhythms, gave him an old world style and aura which captivated his friends, and colleagues and the Society's members.







Science, Simulation and Supercomputers The Role of Computers in Aerospace Design







Extending Moore's Law 'Forever': From



Which End is Up? How the Spatial Information of the Body Plan is First Determined







The Big Deal about Such Little Things:



Science to Support Protection and Recovery of Aquatic Species Under Canada's New Species at Risk Act (SARA)

Field Trip: Douglas Hospital Brain Bank, 2nd April, 2004







Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1921

McCord Museum Professor Emeritus Department of Chemistry, McGill University

2004 McGill-**Montreal Chapter**

First Local Symposium in Conjunction with Sigma Xi Annual Meeting

Canadian International North Eastern Symposium

11 November 2004



Prof. Lange entertains questions following his lecture on Ionizing Radiations



From Left to Right: Dr. Christian Cohade, Dr. Christopher Lange, Dr. Raymond Damadian



Discussion among the three morning speakers



Coffee Break in the McCord Museum Atrium





Canada Award for Scientific Achievement, to Celebrate the Solar Neutrino Discovery



CINES Volunteers from Left to Right: Florence Quist, Tom Lazzara, Tatiana Vassilieff, Adam Czerniewski, M. A. Whitehead, Rami Hourani, Cecile Malardier-Jugroot, Jonathan Comeau



Experiment Construction Measurement

The Neutrino:

Cutting Edge: Real Time Whole Body NMR: Birth in real time.

From Left to Right: Dr. Walter Davidson, Dr. George

Ewan, Dr. Arthur MacDonald, Dr. David Sinclair



Sigma Xi Annual Meeting: Delegates bring Research Posters, Chapter Posters and Graduate Student Posters/Orals







McGill-MONTREAL CHAPTER AWARDS:

PROGRAMME: 2003

A series of talks sponsored by the **McGill-Montreal Chapter** linked the brain, the body and the physics behind movement.

EXCELLENCE: 2003

The McGill-Montreal Chapter took a field trip to the Canadian Space Agency. The trip covered the Canadian innovation: Canadarm2 and other robotic innovations important for space exploration.

EXCELLENCE:1999

McGill University Chapter—coordinated celebrations of National Chemistry Week, including week-long lecture series to capacity audiences on wide-ranging topics as "Chemistry and Literacy: Scientific Writing in Quebec" and the "Chemistry of Explosives: From Black Powder to Space.

EXCELLENCE: 2007

The McGill-Montreal Chapter: a guided tour of the Botanical Garden and instituted serving pizza after Sigma Xi lectures to encourage student participation



McGill-Montreal Chapter New Web Page 2006



Dr. Whitehead receiving the McGill-Montreal Chapter Certificate of Excellence From President Porter at the Awards Lunch, Orlando, Fl. Friday, 2nd.November, 2007



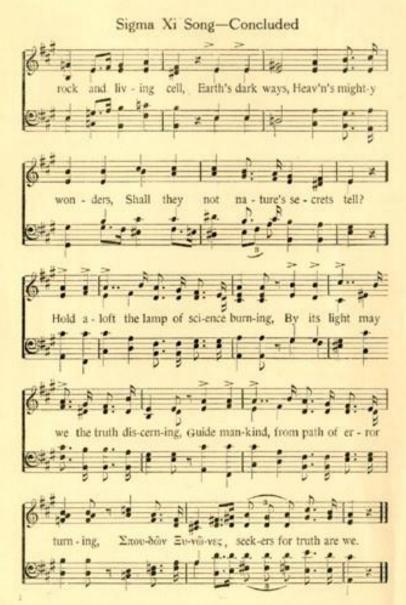






Sung by a Sextet twice and then by the whole audience standing







Words by Philip E Browning: Yale Chapter 1887 Sigma Xi by thy clear call invited, we thy sons to To thee our Faith have plighted,



by one aim, one purpose high united

Spoudon Xynones seekers for the truth are we

Atom, molecule, sine and tangent, ancient rock and living cell,

Earth's dark ways, heav'ns nightly wonders,

Shall they not nature's secrets tell?

Hold aloft the lamp of science burning

By its light may we the truth discerning

Guide mankind from path of error turning

Spoudon Xynones, seekers of the truth are we.

