The future of management education

MADE by McGill

Hilary Lee
BCom student
In today’s interconnected global economy, delivering value and progress is more challenging than ever. Political unrest and resource scarcity mean decisions made on one continent make an impact thousands of kilometres away. And the rapid advance of technology means one in three jobs may be obsolete in under a decade.

These are challenges so vast no one person or sector can solve them alone. But one thing is clear: business will be a key driver in global success, and highly skilled leaders will be needed to ensure positive social change and greater prosperity for all. The Desautels Faculty of Management can play a leading role in this transformation.

McGill offered its first management courses in 1906, during another period of unparalleled change. The industrial revolution was transforming Canada from an agricultural nation to one where manufacturing was king, and national enterprises laboured against the impression that profits were leaving workers behind. Management programs like McGill’s offered new promise: that value created by businesses could enrich the prosperity and quality of life of workers and communities.

As we have expanded, our graduates have remained at the forefront of an evolution that has seen businesses emerge as the driver of prosperity in society. Our methods have evolved, but our core mission has remained clear: transforming the way organizations are led to create social and economic value.
What will it take to train leaders with the creativity, global perspective and agility to drive social and economic progress?
Future-ready leaders who can seize new opportunities. Retooling education to reflect changing labour markets.

A new kind of management education.
Creating more efficient and effective healthcare systems. And finding new ways to balance environmental sustainability with energy security.
These are our strengths

Desautels is ready to transform management education to help shape future-ready leaders. But why here, and why now? What gives Desautels a distinctive edge?

Recognized excellence

We have one of Canada’s top-ranked MBA programs. Our Faculty is among the world’s 45 elite business schools. Year after year, Desautels is recognized as a leader among global institutions.

Creative integration

Desautels is far more than a business school: it is an integrated Faculty of Management at the heart of a world-class research university. Our students and researchers collaborate with renowned specialists from across disciplines, such as neuroscientists and experts in artificial intelligence, enriching our programs and building the creative synergies that lead to game-changing innovation. We add value across McGill’s campuses by supporting entrepreneurship, innovation and knowledge transfer across disciplines.

International reach

McGill is Canada’s most international university, and Desautels reflects this worldly attitude, with more than 50 per cent of our students hailing from outside of Canada. From its base in bilingual, cosmopolitan Montreal, Desautels provides students with first-hand global enterprise experience, offering opportunities for local students to visit international business hotspots, and on-site degree programs in China and Japan.

Unparalleled access

Desautels graduates occupy C-suite positions at some of the world’s top enterprises. They have founded multibillion-dollar companies and are leaders in multiple sectors. This global network means our students have privileged access to internships and mentorship opportunities, and enjoy some of the best job placement results in the country.

A commitment to innovation

Desautels thrives on bold ideas, and on exposing students to thinking beyond boundaries. Our creative and agile culture allows us to evolve as rapidly as the world around us. Just consider our innovative Bensadoun School of Retail Management, and our new masters programs in analytics and finance.

A values and value-driven philosophy

The conviction that social and economic value go hand in hand is central to everything we do. That’s why we are ranked ninth in the world for addressing sustainable development and corporate social responsibility, why socially-minded entrepreneurship is a centerpiece of our programs, and why we are committed to finding new ways to build profits while building communities.
This is our vision

As we look to McGill’s third century, the Desautels Faculty of Management has a bold strategic vision that will help prepare future-ready leaders.

Our vision is anchored by four key pillars:

› **A student-centred approach**: Providing an outstanding learning experience through high-impact programs, which offer access to experiential learning, and build foundational skills in critical thinking and creative problem-solving.

› **Community impact**: Fueling the creation of social and economic value among local and global communities through Desautels’ research, expertise and talent.

› **Research excellence**: Cementing Desautels’ reputation as a world-leading management faculty through the rigour and relevance of our research.

› **Sustainability for the future**: Creating a strong, sustainable foundation for growth and innovation for McGill’s next 200 years.

Achieving these priorities requires focus, determination and resources. It requires that the global community of alumni come together to help ensure we are able to continue to adapt to change, and to act as a force for responsible progress. It also requires that we invest in areas where we can create maximum value for our students, for our communities, and ultimately, for business and society.

Building on our strengths, we have identified four priority areas where your support can help:

- Attracting, educating and supporting future-ready leaders
- Supercharging entrepreneurship
- Driving discovery in areas of key social and economic value
- Shaping the future of retail

Seeking to solve pressing global challenges and prepare the leaders of the future.
A launch pad for innovative ideas.

Made by leaders like Anne Sophie Levee.

Made by McGill.

Information Systems student. Recipient of the Management Undergraduate Society Leadership Award. Competed in L’Oréal Brandstorm 2019, with her team placing first in Canada and fifth in the world.
Attracting, educating and supporting future-ready leaders
Our BCom, MBA and specialized masters programs are at the heart of Desautels. These programs are launch pads for extraordinary leaders across every field of endeavour. With over 100 years of history behind us, we are committed to providing an environment that is even more conducive to long-term success.

To do this, we need support for:

**Strengthening our BCom program**

- **Scholarships and bursaries** that open doors to opportunity and help attract a greater diversity of the world’s brightest minds
- **Travel, internship and exchange awards** to allow students to enrich their perspective through international opportunities, and to gain hands-on experience in the private sector and non-profit enterprise
- **Academic and career advising and wellness initiatives** designed to support our students in making the most of their Desautels experience by encouraging a holistic view of academic, career and personal success
- **Renovated facilities** to accommodate technologically advanced, innovative teaching and learning, and to house a new student services hub

**Enhancing our MBA and masters programs**

- **Fellowships** to provide competitive support for our MBA program, as well as to expand our specialized masters programs including Finance, Analytics, Retail, International Masters in Health Management, and International Masters Program for Managers
- **Program support** to ensure our MBA and masters programs continue to reflect the skills and disciplines most relevant to an evolving enterprise context

**Supporting top-quality teaching through the Desautels Teaching Initiative**

- **Academic leadership and instructional coaching experts** to design and implement an innovative training curriculum that elevates teaching across the Faculty
- **New teaching awards and a seminar series** to reward excellent teaching, and to share best practices and innovation in teaching
Supercharging entrepreneurship

From the railroad to the computer, entrepreneurs have been responsible for radical innovations that have not only transformed our lives, but have become platforms for industries that transformed economies and societies.

Across McGill, students and faculty from all disciplines are hatching brilliant ideas that could become the next game-changing innovation that drives progress for all. Their destination? The McGill Dobson Centre for Entrepreneurship. The Centre’s outstanding range of programs has helped launch more than 150 active companies, which have collectively created more than 1,350 jobs and raised more than $200 million in funding.

But we aspire to do even more. We are seeking support to grow the Dobson Centre so it can serve as an even more dynamic catalyst for entrepreneurship at McGill by:

› Scaling up core entrepreneurship programs to offer even more students access to rich, end-to-end support for their ideas. This includes flagship programs like Lean Startup, the X1 Accelerator, McGill Startup Tour, a wider range of specialized tracks within the Dobson Cup, and new awards for startups.

› Enriching mentorship programs and networks to enhance opportunities for students to connect with mentors and peers.

› Building a new entrepreneurship centre at the heart of campus to house state-of-the-art spaces for working, collaborating, and hosting meetings and events, as well as cutting-edge technologies and other features. This will create a hub for students, faculty, community members and mentors to invent the next world-changing idea.
Authenticity in workplace culture.  
Made by researchers like Patricia Hewlin.  
Made by McGill.

Associate Professor, Organizational Behaviour.  
Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs.  
Expert on leadership and employee values in the workplace.
Driving discovery in areas of key social and economic value

Research is more than the cornerstone of academia at McGill: it drives innovation, enriches society beyond university walls, and ultimately changes people’s lives.

At the Desautels Faculty of Management, excellence in research is both a point of pride and an integral part of our strategy. It plays a crucial role in advancing our global reputation while generating knowledge that improves lives, economies and societies. Desautels’ research productivity relies most of all on support that can attract top-tier faculty and graduate students. Our success also stems from pursuing innovative research avenues, and leveraging our strengths to offer value in domains where creative thinking and new discoveries are most critical.

To ensure Desautels can grow its research footprint in areas where we can maximize impact, we seek support for:

› **Chairs, Professors of Practice and Faculty Fellows** who can enhance Desautels’ reputation, advance knowledge and expose students to the very best in discovery and inquiry.

› **PhD Fellowships** to attract and support the next generation of research leaders.

› **The Desautels Business Data Observatory**, a first-of-its-kind initiative to aggregate and analyze diverse business data from a variety of sources. There is more data than ever available to inform business decisions, but compiling and presenting it in a usable form remains a significant challenge. Benefitting from McGill’s expertise in big data across a variety of fields, we will become the first institution in Canada to provide a sophisticated repository of multifactorial data that can help businesses thrive.
Shaping the future of retail

Established in 2017, the Bensadoun School of Retail Management (BSRM) is an interdisciplinary, state-of-the-art school dedicated to all facets of the retail industry. As technology and changing consumer habits transform the industry, the BSRM is positioned to act as a hub for students, researchers and practitioners to collaborate on solving the real-world problems facing retailers.

The Bensadoun School will establish itself as a flagship enterprise of the Desautels Faculty, putting both McGill and Montreal on the map in a field critical to global success.

To allow students, researchers and retailers to benefit from a full spectrum of cutting-edge programs, we are seeking support to:

› Drive retail research and thought leadership by attracting leading practitioners and researchers, and by establishing the Bensadoun School as a global destination for dialogue and innovative thinking. Our needs include:
  - Chairs to anchor our research and teaching programs
  - International Faculty and Research Fellows to enrich teaching and research
  - Seminars and Symposia to share knowledge among students and experts both within and outside of the School

› Ignite retail innovation through a new Retail Innovation Fund, a retail-specific track at Desautels’ flagship annual startup competition, and a global retail accelerator focused on bringing new technology, experiences, products and solutions to the retail domain.
A Desautels Faculty of Management for McGill’s third century.
Made by donors like Timothy Thompson.
Made by McGill.

MBA’90, Desautels Global Expert.
Senior Vice President, Strategy and Transformation, at TD Canada Trust.
Investing in the next generation of leaders through the Timothy M. Thompson MBA LGBT Leadership Award and the Timothy Thompson MBA Fellowships.
The Desautels Faculty of Management: Transforming management education.
Made by McGill: THE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR THIRD CENTURY.