

## The Lillian Robinson Scholars Program

### Lillian Robinson

Dr. Lillian Robinson, a feminist scholar whose career spanned over 35 years, was Principal of the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, home of the first Women's Studies program in Canada, from 2000 to 2006. She was widely recognized as one of the leading feminist theorists of the twentieth century, and her essays and books have inspired feminist scholarship around the world.

Dr. Robinson was the author of the ground-breaking collections of essays on literature and culture, *Sex, Class, and Culture* (1978) and *In the Canon's Mouth: Dispatches from Culture Wars* (1997); a chapbook of poetry, *Robinson on the Woman Question* (1975); *Wonder Women: Feminisms and Superheroes* (2004), a study of feminist superheroes and the comics; and a murder mystery, *Murder Most Puzzling* (1998). She was co-author of *Feminist Scholarship: Kindling in the Groves of Academe* (1984) and *Night Market* (1998), a book about the Thai sex trade. She also edited a four-volume reference book, *Modern Women Writers* (1996).

Prior to joining the Concordia University faculty, Dr. Robinson taught at the State University of New York at Buffalo, the Sorbonne, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Hawaii, and East Carolina University.

The Lillian Robinson Scholars program honours her memory by bringing distinguished Visiting Scholars to the Simone de Beauvoir Institute at Concordia to enhance the intellectual vitality of the institution.

### Program Information

The Lillian Robinson Scholars Program is designed to attract a series of distinguished visiting scholars working on a range of feminist research topics to the Simone de Beauvoir Institute of Concordia University. The program supports stays of varying lengths for scholars with PhDs. The Program does not pay salary costs, but a small stipend is available. Independent scholars with PhDs are welcome and encouraged to apply. Final decisions about Lillian Robinson scholars are made by the Lillian Robinson Scholars Program Committee at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute.

Lillian Robinson scholars are expected to take an active role in daily life at the Institute, conducting research, presenting their work (completed or in-progress), and participating in Institute events and research seminars. Scholars receive support from the Institute during their stay: office space, access to a computer and the Internet, and library privileges.

### Program Advisory Board

Sima Aprahamian, Research Associate, Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Yolande Cohen, Professor of History, Université du Québec à Montréal; Shelley Fisher Fishkin (Co-convener), Professor of English and Director of American Studies, Stanford University; Louis Kampf, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Literature and Women's Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Viviane Namaste, Associate Professor, Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University; Greg Robinson (CO-Convener), Associate Professor of History, Université du Québec à Montréal, Candis Steenbergen, John Abbott College

## **Lillian Robinson Scholars Program Application Instructions for Residency**

The Simone de Beauvoir Institute (SdBI) of Concordia University has created the Lillian Robinson Scholars Program as a living memorial to Dr. Lillian Robinson, the late Principal of the Institute. The program provides one or two awards to help offset travel, living, and research expenses for a scholar in residence at the SdBI. Please note that priority will be given to applications for residencies during the academic year at a time when students and professors are most present (September to March).

The award is in the amount of 1000\$. It is designed to grant support to scholars (junior or senior) who are interested in spending a minimum of 2 weeks at the SdBI.

Applicants for an award from the Lillian Robinson Scholars Program must be pursuing scholarship with a feminist orientation, and applications are accepted for work in any field(s) of inquiry. Applicants must have a Ph.D., but need not be employed academics. During their residency, the scholar will have access to office space, a computer, the SdBI reading room, the university libraries, plus the SdBI's community of feminist intellectuals and activists. The visiting scholar is expected to take an active role in SdBI life, and to present their work in a public forum while in residence.

### **Application Materials**

- Up-dated curriculum vitae;
- Summary of research project to be worked on while at the SdBI (1-page maximum);
- Names, institutional affiliation, and email addresses of two (2) referees;
- Indication of the Scholar's planned dates of residence, if selected (dates of the arrival to, and departure from, the Simone de Beauvoir Institute).

**Send Application Materials to:**

[gada.mahrouse@concordia.ca](mailto:gada.mahrouse@concordia.ca)

(Chair, Lillian Robinson Scholars Program, Simone de Beauvoir Institute)