

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES PROGRAM

Luellen Laurenti

SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship for outstanding
sophomores and juniors with a declared
minor in Women's and Gender Studies



**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Illinois' first public university

The Luellen Laurenti Scholarship Fund was established in 2001 in memory of Luellen Laurenti by Illinois State University's Women's and Gender Studies Program with the assistance of Joseph L. Laurenti, her spouse and a professor in Illinois State's Foreign Languages Department. A long-time stalwart in the women's movement in Illinois and lobbyist for women's rights, Luellen passed away on June 17, 2000.

A native of West Virginia, Luellen moved to Central Illinois in 1963 to teach Spanish and to direct the University's foreign language laboratory. She was also an instructor in what was then the Women's Studies Program, teaching an introductory course, Women Today. In the years after she left teaching, she continued to work with the Women's Studies Program on a variety of co-curricular activities. Luellen got her start as an activist in the Equal Rights Amendment campaign in Illinois in the 1970s and later served as a Democratic state central committee member. For three decades she was a major force behind the women's movement in Illinois. She attended the first United Nations conference on women in 1975 in Mexico City and was executive director of the International Women's Year Conference in Bloomington in 1977. The local event attracted more than 2,000 women.

As 4th District Equal Rights Amendment coordinator, she conducted workshops and organized local lobbying efforts on behalf of the amendment. She was long associated with the National Organization for Women, the American Association of University Women, the League of Women Voters, and the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women.

The Luellen Laurenti Scholarship will help preserve Luellen's memory and legacy, as will the success of the Illinois State University women's and gender studies students who are named recipients. The \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually or biannually to an outstanding undergraduate women's

and gender studies minor. The Women's and Gender Studies Scholarship Committee reviews the proposals and announces the award recipient during the spring semester. The recipient receives the scholarship at the Women's and Gender Studies Annual Symposium.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Be enrolled as a full- or part-time student in good standing at Illinois State University
- Have declared or be in the process of declaring a minor in the Women's and Gender Studies Program
- Have completed or be enrolled in at least two courses in the Women's and Gender Studies Program
- Be in their sophomore or junior year
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, based on a 4.0 system, at the time of the application

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

An application form must be submitted and is available at WomensAndGenderStudies.IllinoisState.edu/Resources. In addition to the application, a statement of interest in women's and gender studies, career goals, and volunteer activities/community service is required. Two letters of recommendation are also needed, one of which should come from a women's and gender studies faculty member. The other should be obtained from another faculty member (e.g., from the department of the applicant's major). For annual deadlines and applications, please check the Women's and Gender Studies Program website.

PAST SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Radiance Campbell, 2017-2018

Delaney Auth, 2016-2017

Rachel Mackinnon, 2015-2016

Kevin Mell, 2014-2015

Victoria Parra, 2013-2014

Chelsea Gulbransen, 2012-2013

Jamie Pitts, 2011-2012

Emily Lloyd, 2010-2011

Caitlin Keturi, 2009-2010

Breanna Mull, 2008-2009

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Illinois State University

This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting the Women's and Gender Studies Program at (309) 438-2947. TTY (309) 438-8620

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