

2018 YWCA TORONTO WOMEN OF DISTINCTION



DR. MILICA RADISIC *Health Sciences*

As an award-winning engineer, academic and researcher, Dr. Milica Radisic is both a door opener and a role model for women in science and engineering. Milica is an international leader in the field of cardiovascular tissue engineering. Her innovative research has the potential to revolutionize treatment for people suffering from myocardial infraction and congestive heart failure.

Her body of accomplishments is far reaching and she serves as a brilliant role model for other young women aspiring to advance in the Health Sciences and Engineering. Milica is recognized as a mentor through her teaching, supervision and personal interactions. She inspires women and girls so that they also may find their fit in a field that is not always welcoming to women. Under her tutelage, students find their pathways to excellence being awarded coveted fellowships, awards and scholarships. To her credit, Milica was bestowed the Women in Science and Engineering Breaking the Glass Ceiling Award – an honour generated from nominations by her graduate students.

As an agent for change, Milica recognizes the importance of visibility of women's contributions in a male dominant industry. She actively advocated for a gender lens to be applied to the selection of keynote speakers, award winners and new fellows at the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine Society

(TERMIS). Her strong voice for women has brought changes to the gender podium of a learned society of international reach.

Milica has assumed important leadership roles promoting gender equity in her field. She has assumed membership on the Board of Directors of the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers and the Women in Engineering Committee. She has also served as Chair of the Membership Committee for the TERMIS-Americas. She has been widely recognized for her contribution to engineering and gender equity. In 2006, she was featured on the cover of Sybil E. Hatch's book, *Changing Our World: True Stories of Women Engineers*. The Canada Science and Technology Museum has featured Milica's accomplishment as part its Canadian Women and Innovation website. She was awarded Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada.

Milica continues to make important advances for engineering, health and women. Through her work, she is inspiring the next generation of women engineers.

