

Presenting the BSC Outstanding Achievement Award to Sandra Walklate

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It is an extraordinary privilege to be presenting the BSC's most prestigious award - the Outstanding Achievement Award - especially so given that this year's recipient is my immediate colleague - from the University of Liverpool - Professor Sandra Walklate.

In 2006 Sandra was appointed to fill the Eleanor Rathbone Chair of Sociology - one of the University's endowed chairs - immediately prior to which she was Professor of Sociology at Manchester Metropolitan University and, prior to that, Reader in Criminology at Keele University. Earlier in her career she had also held academic positions at Salford University and Liverpool Polytechnic (before it became known, as it is today, as Liverpool John Moores University). The BSC is presenting its Outstanding Achievement Award to Sandra in recognition of her exceptional contribution to sociological criminology in two principal ways.

First, by producing a substantial body of distinctive work that, in itself, amounts to an *outstanding achievement*. Over the years, Sandra's prodigious research output has amounted to the publication of more than 20 authored and edited books, many more contributions to books and dozens and dozens of articles and papers in leading internationally-recognised journals. She is perhaps best known for her long-standing work in the fields of 'critical victimology' and 'feminist criminology(ies)' and, more recently, for her work in the fields of 'war', 'terror', 'security' and 'risk'. A signifier of the international reach and significance of Sandra's work is that it has been translated into Polish, Chinese, Swedish, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

In addition to such an impressive and distinctive record of published works, the BSC also recognises the sustained (and ongoing) contributions that Sandra has made - and continues to make - to the academy, to social science and, in particular, to criminology on both the national and international stages. I could, of course, list many examples but, simply by way of illustration, it is timely that Sandra is receiving the BSC's Outstanding Achievement award the same year that she completes a second term as Head of the Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology here at Liverpool; the year that she will also soon conclude a second term of office as a Higher Education Funding Council appointed member of the Sociology sub-panel - for the purposes of the UK's research excellence assessment - and the year that she has taken the reins (as Editor-in-Chief) of the British Journal of Criminology - an international gold standard journal. It is perhaps especially timely that Sandra is receiving the BSC's award at a conference that she has done so much to organise and make happen.

I could go on - and on - but time is pressing so I will conclude, if I may, by saying that quite apart from Sandra's outstanding academic and intellectual achievements she is also a truly exceptional colleague. She retains an almost unique balance between energetic drive, ambition, determination and achievement on the one hand, and a grounded sense of humility, human sensitivity, compassion and good humour on the other. She is almost always the first person to appear in the Department in the morning and is invariably one of the last people to leave at the end of the day. No matter how busy she is, however, she always finds time for her colleagues and for her students alike and in many respects, and above all else, that is what really matters.

It is, as I have mentioned, an extraordinary privilege and honour to be presenting the BSC's Outstanding Achievement Award to a dear friend and highly respected colleague, Eleanor Rathbone Chair of Sociology, Professor Sandra Walklate.