

2014 Status of Women Committee
Award of Distinction
CITATION FOR DR. SANDRA ACKER

OCUFA

Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations
Union des Associations des Professeurs des Universités de l'Ontario



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CITATION FOR SANDRA ACKER WINNER OF THE 2014 STATUS OF WOMEN AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Dr. Acker is a Professor Emerita in the Department of Social Justice Education, OISE, University of Toronto. She received her Ph.D from the University of Chicago in 1978 in the Sociology of Education and has forged a distinguished academic career as a researcher, educator, and in a variety of senior academic roles.

In 1991, Dr. Acker joined what was then known as the Department of Sociology in Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education where she remained for twenty years, retiring in 2011. At various points during her tenure, she served in the leadership roles of Associate Chair and Chair of her Department as well as Associate Dean of the School of Graduate Studies.

Most of Dr. Acker's scholarship is dedicated to the investigation of gendered universities. Her work includes explorations of the careers of women academics, mentoring graduate students in gendered universities, gender in teacher education, and gender and leadership in the academy.

Her work has been recognized with numerous awards and honours. She received an achievement award from the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education for her body of research. Two of her co-authored articles are prominently featured in a collection of twenty-one significant articles that appeared in *Gender and Education*, the leading journal in her field over a 15 year period.

Her nominator commented eloquently on her mentorship: "Having supervised over one hundred graduate students, Dr. Acker prepared the next generation of scholars who will work to effect positive change in our universities. I benefited not only from her scholarly knowledge and guidance, but from the mentorship she showed me that extended beyond the completion of my dissertation. From her, I learned about women in the academy and their struggles and triumphs. It is because of her scholarship, mentorship, and passion that I now fight for equity in our universities."

For her outstanding contributions to the lives of academic women, Dr. Acker is a natural recipient of an OCUFA Status of Women Award of Distinction.