

Annex 13 - The Nick Heather Lecture

Throughout his career Nick Heather has made major contributions to both furthering understanding of the nature of alcohol problems and to the evidence-base on how to respond effectively to them. In the 1980s he provided ground-breaking articulations of the emerging scientific consensus on the limitations of the disease model of alcoholism and the need to develop a public health perspective. He was an early pioneer of brief interventions, and has continued in the subsequent decades as a leader in the development of research and practice in this area. He was active in fostering internationally important collaborations and was the founding president of INEBRIA.

The Nick Heather Lecturer will be selected by the INEBRIA Coordinating Committee in advance of the annual conference. The Lecturer will be invited to present a lecture of up to one hour with any title and on any subject they choose, so long as it advances understanding of the nature of alcohol and other drug problems and/or how to respond to them. They are encouraged to be unafraid to question and to challenge conventional wisdom, poor evidence and weak translation into policy and practice. The lecture should be designed to show leadership to the field globally, in keeping with their views on where and how it is most needed.

The first lecture was given by Nick Heather himself.