

Wednesday 20 November 2013

“Drugs Without the Hot Air”

As part of its Scarman Lecture Series, the Department of Criminology presents, in association with the Foundation Degree in Drug and Alcohol Counselling and Treatment, a public lecture by Professor David Nutt, DM, FRCP, FRCPsych, FSB, FMedSci



Places are limited – please register your attendance by contacting:

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David Nutt is the Edmund J Safra Professor of Neuropsychopharmacology and Head of the Centre for Neuropsychopharmacology in the Division of Brain Science, Dept. of Medicine, Hammersmith Hospital, Imperial College London. He is also a consultant psychiatrist in the Central and NorthWest London mental health trust where he conducts research into the mechanisms of addiction and the effects of drugs on brain function.

He is currently the Chair of the ISCD [Independent Scientific Committee on Drugs] a charitable group that provides unbiased evidence about drugs actions and harms www.drugscience.org.uk .

He broadcasts widely to the general public both on radio and television; highlights include being a subject for The Life Scientific on BBC radio 4, several BBC Horizon programs and the Channel 4 documentary Ecstasy-live and also lecturers widely to the public as well as to the scientific and medical communities. In 2010 The Times Eureka science magazine voted him one of the 100 most important figures in British Science, and the only psychiatrist in the list.

The regulation of drugs – including alcohol and tobacco – is an issue of pressing importance due to the increasing health care costs associated with their use and the new sorts of synthetic agents being developed and sold over the internet. Also the impact of the law to impede research and treatment innovation is of growing concern. The talk will reflect on these issues in the light of Professor Nutt’s ten years’ experience on the governments Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs from which he was sacked two years ago. He will present new analyses that compare the harms of drugs and alcohol using more sophisticated methodology and challenge many of the current misconceptions about drugs – their harms – and how to deal with them.

**5.15pm,
Frank and Katherine May Lecture Theatre,
Henry Wellcome Building**

A wine reception will follow the lecture, providing an opportunity to speak to Professor Nutt

This event is free of charge and open to all