

Norm Feather's John Turner Medal Recipient address in the afternoon of Saturday 11th April

Title: Deservingness, Resentment, and Relative Deprivation:

Abstract: In this presentation I will relate relative deprivation (RD) theory to a program of research that began with studies of "tall poppies" or high status people and that subsequently focused on perceived deservingness and its relation to discrete emotions such as resentment. This review provides a conceptual analysis of deservingness, distinguishes deservingness from entitlement, and shows how resentment relates to perceived deservingness. I then extend RD theory by proposing a more detailed consideration of how deservingness and entitlement, either separately or in combination, might affect RD at the individual and group levels. I also consider how other discrete emotions might blend with resentment, and the need to develop a motivational analysis for the link between RD and possible outcomes of RD such as collective action. I conclude that ideas from deservingness theory have much to offer future developments in RD theory and research.