



Science and
Technology
Facilities Council

RAL Space

20th Appleton Space Conference

Thursday 05 December 2024



Morning Sessions

09:00 Registration and refreshments

Session 1: Space for the benefit of all

Chair: Dr Sarah Beardsley, Director STFC RAL Space

09:30 – 09:45 Welcome
Dr Sarah Beardsley, Director STFC RAL Space

09:45 – 10:05 Space IS National Security
Chris White-Horne, Deputy Chief Executive Officer UK Space Agency

10:05 – 10:25 ESA Φ -lab: Exploring and Investing in Industrial Innovation
Pejman Nejadi, End-to-end Earth Observation Systems Engineer ESA
Rochelle Schneider, Copernicus Ecosystem Operations Engineer ESA

10:25 – 10:45 The SWIMMR programme
Prof Ian McCrea, SWIMMR Programme Manager STFC RAL Space

10:45 – 11:15 Break, networking, exhibition

Session 2: The future space sector

Chair: Paul Eccleston, Science and Exploration Theme Lead, STFC RAL Space

11:15 – 11:35 The UK in space: why, what and how - plus some reasons to be hopeful!
Dr Alice Bunn OBE, Chief Executive Institution of Mechanical Engineers

11:35 – 11:55 ESA in a time of change: the role of ECSAT
Laurent Jaffart, Director of Connectivity and Secure Communications and Head of ECSAT, European Space Agency

11:55 – 12:15 The Quantum Technologies Hub in Sensing, Imaging and Timing (QuSIT):
Opportunities in Space
Dr Leah-Nani Alconcel, Co-investigator UK QuSIT, University of Birmingham

12:15 – 13:25 Lunch, networking, exhibition

Afternoon Sessions

Session 3: Keynote Lecture

Chair: Dr Sarah Beardsley, Director STFC RAL Space

13:25 – 14:10 **Beacon of Hope**
Dr Paul Bate, Chief Executive Officer UK Space Agency

14:10 – 14:25 20th anniversary celebration
Comfort break

Session 4: Translating science and research into business

Chair: Charlie Haire, Head of Business Development, STFC RAL Space

14:25 – 14:40 Translating science into success – BioOrbit
Dr Sam Moorcroft, Founder Associate BioOrbit

14:40 – 14:55 Translating science and research into business – MDA
Dr David Jones, Head of Technology MDA Space UK

14:55 – 15:10 The Entrepreneurial Equation: Science, Innovation, and Business
Shefali Sharma, Co-Founder Oxford Dynamics

15:10 – 15:25 Highlight: Small Sat Calibration Facility Launch
Dr Roger Eccleston, Interim Executive Director STFC National Laboratories: Large Scale Facilities

15:25 – 15:55 Break, networking, exhibition

Session 5: Exploring our worlds

Chair: Prof Christophe Dumas, Director UK Astronomy Technology Centre

15:55 – 16:15 100 years of Appleton's Ionosphere
Prof Chris Scott, University of Reading, Visiting Researcher STFC RAL Space

16:15 – 16:35 The Habitable Worlds Observatory – The next flagship NASA-led astronomy mission
Prof Martin Barstow, Professor of Astrophysics & Space Science University of Leicester

16:35 – 16:55 Climate Change and the Global Sea Surface Temperature
Prof Chris Merchant, University of Reading, NCEO

16:55 – 17:15 Joint Science Opportunities for the ESA JUICE and NASA Europa Clipper missions
Prof Emma Bunce, Director Institute for Space, University of Leicester

17:15 – 17:30 Closing remarks

17:30 – 19:30 **Please join us for an evening reception with drinks and bowl food**



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