

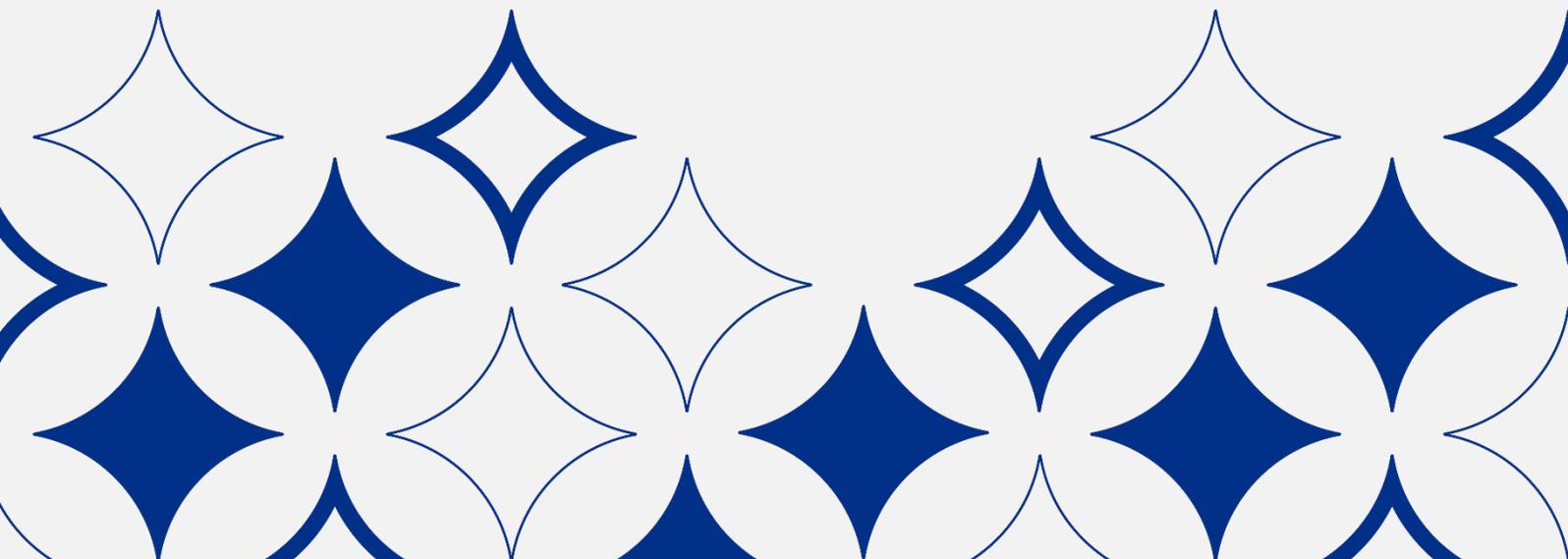


Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council

RAL Space

# 21<sup>st</sup> Appleton Space Conference

Thursday 04 December 2025



# Morning Sessions

**09:00** Registration and refreshments

## **Session 1: Space for the benefit of all**

**Chair: Dr Sarah Beardsley, Director STFC RAL Space**

**09:35 – 09:55** Welcome  
Dr Sarah Beardsley, Director STFC RAL Space

**09:55 – 10:15** Tbc DSIT – UK Space Agency

**10:15 – 10:35** ESA Satellite Communications update 2025  
David Phillips, Head of Systems, Strategic Programme and Technology, European Space Agency

**10:35 – 11:00** *Break, networking, exhibition*

## **Session 2: The future space sector**

**Chair: Dr Jane Hurley, Head of Researchers STFC RAL Space**

**11:00 – 11:20** Supporting Space command; Space Academy and building the workforce  
Group Captain Steve Chappell, Deputy Chief of Staff, UK Space Command

**11:20 – 11:40** A new era in Astronomy - The Vera C. Rubin Observatory  
Dr Aprajita Verma, Senior Research Fellow and International Program Coordinator, University of Oxford

**11:40 – 12:00** RASOR: plans for a new UK facility for radio astronomy, space weather and space situational awareness  
Prof Simon Garrington, Associate Director, Jodrell Bank Observatory and Director e-MERLIN VLBI National Facility

**12:00 – 13:20** *Lunch, networking, exhibition*

# Afternoon Sessions

## Session 3: Keynote lecture

Chair: Dr Sarah Beardsley, Director STFC RAL Space

**13:20 – 14:05** Tbc

*14:05 – 14:20 Comfort break*

## Session 4: Science for society

Chair: Prof Christophe Dumas, Director UK Astronomy Technology Centre

**14:20 – 14:40** Enhancing space safety through global optical Space Domain Awareness  
Ingo Waldmann, Chief Technology Officer, Spaceflux

**14:40 – 15:00** Tbc  
Krista Hammond, Senior Account Manager – Space Weather, Met Office

**15:00 – 15:30** EUMETSAT Polar System - Second Generation  
Christophe Accadia, Passive Microwave and Radio Occultation Competence Area  
Manager, EUMETSAT  
Peter Huggard, Millimetre Wave Technology Group Leader, STFC RAL Space

**15:30 – 15:45** Highlight session: ESA Phi lab  
Dr Massimo Noro, Business Development Director, STFC

*15:45 – 16:15 Break, networking, exhibition*

## Session 5: Beyond the lab - Why we should speak the language of growth and security

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

**16:15 – 17:10** Lucy Edge, STFC Council and Chief Operating Officer, ReOrbit  
Alexandra Vidyuk, CEO and General Partner, Beyond Earth  
Zoha Naser, PhD candidate in War Studies, King's College London

**17:10 – 17:15** Closing remarks

**17:15 – 19:15** **Please join us for an evening reception with drinks and bowl food**



RAL Space

**Contact us**

[RALSpaceEnquiries@stfc.ac.uk](mailto:RALSpaceEnquiries@stfc.ac.uk)

STFC RAL Space  
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory  
Harwell Campus  
Didcot  
Oxfordshire  
OX11 0QX

[www.ralspace.stfc.ac.uk](http://www.ralspace.stfc.ac.uk)

Join the conversation  
[#Appleton2025](https://twitter.com/Appleton2025)