



Royal
Astronomical
Society

The 2024 James Dungey Lectureship is awarded to Dr Gabrielle Provan

Dr Gabrielle Provan is invited to give the James Dungey Lecture. She has made significant contributions to the field of Outer Planet Magnetospheric Physics.

Her research focusses on the global and periodic modulation of Saturn's magnetospheric environment known as Planetary Period Oscillations (or PPO). PPOs are most likely driven by the atmosphere, varies seasonally and affects the entire magnetosphere of Saturn.

Provan's work across more than a decade reveals key aspects of PPOs which have been invaluable to understanding their origin, evolution, and impact on Saturn's magnetosphere.

Her outreach work has had a wide impact outside of academia. Her leadership in developing a modern "Planeterrella" – a technological demonstration of the auroral process – for outreach use has proved to have a high impact in bringing the beauty and excitement of the aurora and space physics to a wide audience.

It is regularly used at national science festivals. Associated lesson packs enable the Planeterrella to be linked to the British National Curriculum.

Dr Provan has worked tirelessly to make this possible, sacrificing much of her free time to bring the Planeterrella to schools for regular visits. By making the plans free to any public institute, the Planeterrella has gained wide traction, with at least ten Planeterrellas in operation across at least four countries.

For these reasons, Dr Gabrielle Provan is awarded the James Dungey Lectureship.

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