



Royal
Astronomical
Society

**RAS Education Award: Higher Education
Professor Melvin Hoare**

Professor Melvin Hoare is Professor of Astrophysics at Leeds University and is the driving force behind the Development in Africa with Radio Astronomy (DARA) project. In creating and leading this project Prof Hoare has helped to train a new generation of radio astronomers across sub-Saharan Africa, preparing them to make the most of the opportunities offered by the Square Kilometre Array Observatory, but also going beyond that to develop an international network of collaboration and support for graduates.

In just six years over 300 graduates and more than 30 postgraduate students have benefitted from DARA to learn from and work with experts in the fields of radio astronomy, data reduction and analysis, but also to develop wider skills in rapidly growing areas such as the space sector together with industrial partners. This transformative education for these students has only been possible because of Prof Hoare's commitment to widening access to higher education and the role that astronomy can play in supporting the technological and economic development of Africa.

For these reasons Professor Melvin Hoare is awarded the RAS Education award for Higher Education for 2022.