



Royal
Astronomical
Society

RAS Service Award (A) 2022
Professor Donald Kurtz

The Royal Astronomical Society's 2022 Service Award is awarded to Professor Donald Kurtz.

Professor Donald Kurtz has combined a lifetime commitment to public outreach with an illustrious research career. From 2010 – 2020 he gave more than 300 public lectures, reaching tens of thousands of people live, and a much larger number on TV for programmes such as “The Sky at Night”, “Stargazing live”, “Big Ideas” on TV Ontario, and on radio in the UK, Australia, South Africa. He has given public presentations on every continent, except Antarctica, and has a longstanding commitment to teaching in African schools.

At the professional, postgraduate level he has taught an advanced introductory astrophysics course at Universidade Eduardo Mondlane in Maputo, Mozambique, a two-week intensive stellar astrophysics course at the University of Science and Technology in Mbarara, Uganda. He currently holds an appointment as Extraordinary Professor at North-West University in Mahikeng, South Africa and has a top, A-1 research rating from the South African National Research Foundation.

Prof Kurtz has served as President of Commission 27 of the IAU, as councillor and Vice-President of the RAS, and on many international committees. For a lifetime of passionate dedication to public outreach and service to astronomy, Professor Kurtz is an eminently worthy recipient of the RAS Service Award.

For these reasons, Professor Donald Kurtz is awarded the Service Award for Astronomy.