CAROLINE HERSCHEL PRIZE LECTURESHIP 2024 WINNER CITATION

Dr HELOISE STEVANCE

Dr Stevance is in her second postdoc at the University of Oxford after several years at the University of Auckland. Her range of astrophysics expertise is impressive. She initially began working in observational astronomy with spectropolarimetry in her PhD, then became an expert in theoretical population synthesis in Auckland, and is now an independent fellow, applying machine learning techniques to time domain astronomy as a Schmidt AI in Science Fellow at Oxford.

The science topic is fascinating, timely (given that the Vera Rubin Observatory starts operations next year) and demonstrates the application of AI to astrophysics, which is likely to be of interest to a wide audience. Dr Stevance has an impressive track record of first-author publications and invited talks (including in AI, even though this is a relatively new departure for her). She has already had extensive experience of science communication.

Her lecture topic will be:

"How can A.I. help us find exploding stars and hungry black holes?"