

Katrianne Lehtipalo

Väisälä Prizes are awarded annually to distinguished scientists in mathematics and science who are in the active part of their careers. The prizes are worth 15,000 euros.

The research of physicist Katrianne Lehtipalo focuses on the measurement of nano particles and particle creation processes in the atmosphere. Lehtipalo earned her doctorate in aerosol physics at the University of Helsinki in 2011, after which she worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Helsinki and a visiting researcher at the Paul Scherrer Institute in Switzerland. Since 2018, Lehtipalo has worked as an Assistant Professor on the Associate Professor level at the Institute for Atmospheric and Earth System Research (INAR) at the University of Helsinki and the Finnish Meteorological Institute. Her work is related to the development of the European infrastructure for atmospheric research, which includes the design of international field measurement campaigns and the related management and training.

Lehtipalo is leading the work carried out in Finland as part of a series of aerosol physics and atmospheric chemistry tests conducted by the European Organization for Nuclear Research CERN, which are used to study the creation, growth, and dynamics of aerosol particles in order to understand and combat climate change. Among Lehtipalo's major research achievements, her key contributions to the development of measuring instruments and analysis methods, especially with regard to the observation of small 1–5 nanometer aerosol particles and understanding their physics and dynamics, are worth mentioning.

“With atmospheric science and aerosol physics, I am particularly motivated by the fact that the research focuses on natural phenomena that can be measured in concrete terms, and which also are of large-scale importance to the society. Aerosol particles are directly linked with air quality and climate issues”, Lehtipalo says.

“I want to contribute to the production of relevant and reliable data and the

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scientific understanding that is needed to support air quality and climate action. I dream of a world where we realize how valuable clean air is and act accordingly.”

Katrianne Lehtipalo is a highly prolific researcher and has published 130 scientific articles. Her articles have been published in several top climate science journals, as well as in leading multidisciplinary

nary science journals such as Nature and Science.

“It is a great honor to receive the Väisälä Prize. I work hard for the scientific and work community and for education and the mentees, so I feel that the prize is also a recognition of this work instead of just individual scientific achievements”, Lehtipalo says delightedly.