



## Allgemeines Physikalisches Kolloquium

Thursday, 17 Oct 2024 - 4 p.m. c.t.

Dr. Pauline Gagnon

### **The tragic destiny of Mileva Marić Einstein**

What were Albert Einstein's first wife's contributions to his extraordinary productivity in the first years of his career? A first biography of Mileva Marić Einstein was published in Serbian in 1969 but remained largely unknown despite being translated first in German, then in French in the 1990's. The publication of Mileva and Albert's love letters in 1987 revealed how they lived together while two recent publications shed more light on Mileva Marić's life and work. I will review this evidence in its social and historical context to give a better idea of her contributions. In this presentation, I avoid all type of speculation and do not attack Albert Einstein personally, but rather strictly stick to facts. The audience will be able to appreciate why such a talented physicist has been so unkindly treated by history.



## Colloquium of the GRK 2149

Friday, 18 Oct 2024 - 12 a.m. s.t.

Dr. Pauline Gagnon

### What's wrong with me?

Why are sexism, homophobia and racism still so prevalent in physics? I start from my personal experience to demonstrate that in fact the personal is political. CERN, the largest physics laboratory in the world, welcomes scientists from 112 nationalities but still about 80% of them are white and 80% are male. I examine why people from so many various groups have been historically excluded from physics and suggest a series of easily applicable measures that could greatly improve diversity in physics. These measures would benefit all scientists, regardless of their gender, race, sexual orientation, physical ability or religion. It has been established that diversity benefits science by increasing the creativity potential, a key ingredient in scientific research.