

Dear Reader,

This Newsletter is intended for all SPS members, researchers, industries, students, interested specialists and physics friends. Feel free to share this Newsletter within your community, and follow this [link](#) if you want to add a person to our mailing list.

If you wish to give your contribution with news or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [margherita.boselli@cern.ch](mailto:margherita.boselli@cern.ch)

Kind regards,

*Margherita Boselli*

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## WHAT'S UP IN SWITZERLAND?

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### SPS-ÖPG Joint Annual Meeting

[The Joint Annual Meeting of the Swiss Physical Society and the Austrian Physical Society](#) will take place from **September 4 to 8, 2023**, at the "Kollegienhaus" of the Universität **Basel**.



The preliminary program is available and can be consulted [here](#). The conference will open with a symposium to celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> birthday of Blaise Pascal and with the satellite event [Women in Physics Career Symposium](#), which is now at his second edition after the successful launch in 2022.

Do not miss the [registration](#) deadline: **August 15, 2023**.

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### Professor Ambrogio Fasoli elected Program Manager of EUROfusion

During the EUROfusion General Assembly held on July 18, 2023, the delegates from [the 27 member institutes elected Professor Ambrogio Fasoli as EUROfusion Program Manager](#). Professor Fasoli will take office on January 1, 2024. In this role, he will lead the Program Management Unit and will be responsible for the definition and implementation of the EUROfusion programmes in the field of [Fusion Science](#) and Fusion [Technology](#).



Prof. Fasoli studied at the University of Milano and he got his PhD at EPFL. After a post-doctoral experience at the european JET tokamak, he became Professor at MIT and then at EPFL. [In a recent essay](#) published in Physical Review Letters he has expressed his view on how to overcome the obstacles to a magnetic fusion power plant. This vision will be certainly reflected in his role of EUROfusion Program Manager.

*Image: Professor Ambrogio Fasoli, from EPFL.*

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## The Ludwig-Genzel-Prize 2023 awarded to Prof. Ana Akrap

The 2023 edition of the [Ludwig-Genzel Prize](#) was awarded to [Ana Akrap](#), Professor at University of Fribourg, for her exceptional contributions to the physics of quantum materials obtained via infrared spectroscopy in high magnetic fields and at high pressures. The Ludwig-Genzel-Prize is awarded to a young scientist for exceptional contributions to the field of condensed-matter spectroscopy. Related to Ludwig Genzel's scientific oeuvre, the focus of the prize is on the far-infrared spectral range.



The prize was awarded during the International Conference on Low Energy Electrodynamics in Solids (LEES) that took place in Sankt Pölten, Austria between June 25 and 30, 2023.

*Image: The awarding of the prize to Ana Akrap, from University of Stuttgart.*

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## Scientifica – Zurich Science Days

The 2023 edition of the **science festival [Scientifica](#) will take place from August 28 to September 3, 2023, in Zurich.**

Scientifica is the largest science festival in Switzerland, and it invites the public to experience a week of research and exchanges with researchers from ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich. The topic this year is “What holds the world together” and the program is rich and full of activities for different types of public.



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## HOP – a quantum physics board game!

A doctoral student at the University of Geneva, João Ferreira, [has created a board game, HOP](#), which introduces the players to some of the concepts of quantum mechanics, such as the Pauli exclusion principle, or the particle spin. HOP is a game of strategy and skills, requiring no prior knowledge on quantum mechanics, and plunges players into a crystal where electrons must find their way between atoms to move from one electrode to another.



Joao Ferreira realised his idea with the support of the Cogito Foundation and the advise of the game creator Daniel La Rose. [A crowdfunding campaign](#) was launched to raise enough money to distribute the games to interested people and schools.

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The Swiss Physical Society (SPS) unites persons interested in physics from university, schools, research, development and industry. The SPS promotes the scientific exchange of ideas in Switzerland and with its international environment.

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