

AKC 1: AKC

Time: Wednesday 13:00–14:00

Location: Aula

Invited Talk

AKC 1.1 Wed 13:00 Aula

What's wrong with me? — ●PAULINE GAGNON — CERN, Geneva

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 118 nationalities but still 80% of them are

white and 80% are male. I examine why this is so by reviewing many contributing factors and suggest a series of easily applicable measures that could greatly improve the situation. 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 to in scientific research.