

Reaching new heights in
science journalism

LAUSANNE 2019

PROPOSAL



World Conference
of Science Journalists
Lausanne 2019

Schweizer Klub für Wissenschaftsjournalismus
Association suisse du journalisme scientifique
Swiss Association of Science Journalism



SWIM SCIENCE
WRITERS
IN ITALY

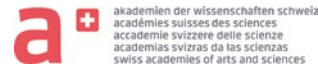
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We are proud and happy to benefit from the support of four major academic partners:

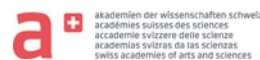
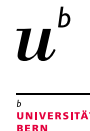


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We are also grateful for financial and in-kind support during the bidding phase from:



If Lausanne is chosen to host WCSJ 2019, we will benefit from kickstart sponsorship or in-kind support from the following partners:



Our kickstart sponsors will provide crucial finance for the initial organisational phase of WCSJ 2019, which will begin immediately after WCSJ 2017.

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Reaching new heights in science journalism

Mont Dolent, 3820m, where the borders of Switzerland, France and Italy meet.

Welcome letter

Let's reach for new heights together!

We, the three national science journalists' associations of Switzerland, France and Italy, are applying to host the World Conference of Science Journalists, WCSJ, on 1 – 5 July 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland. Our highest priority is to bring together professionals and students in science journalism and science writing from around the world to exchange ideas and skills, to build networks and so to foster quality science journalism and collaboration on a global scale.

This collaborative spirit defines our region. In Lausanne, with France just a short boat ride away and Italy not far beyond, cultures and languages meet, ideas are exchanged, and people of all backgrounds work, play and make plans for a brighter future together.

In a region famed for its mountains, it is perhaps the landscape that has inspired this sense of common purpose. Mountaineering is a strong tradition in all three of our Alpine countries, and a fitting metaphor for the framework we are proposing for WCSJ 2019. Just like those who team up across borders and cultures to scale the daunting peaks, WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne will reach out globally to build a community with a common goal: reaching new heights in science journalism!

Climbing a mountain often involves taking tortuous routes. Sometimes you have to go out of your way to overcome unexpected obstacles, and sometimes you might encounter poor conditions before you even get a glimpse of the peak. Then, when you finally have the objective in sight, you find that the steepest part still lies ahead. Those of us on the bid team find ourselves in exactly this position right now. We have invested much in this bid, and now that it is submitted, the peak is clearly in view; along with the effort yet to come...

As with any high mountain expedition, our experience has bound us into a close-knit and highly-motivated team. With the summit in sight, our determination is all the stronger, not least because we have learnt a great deal on our way up.

From the crevassed glaciers of corporate sponsorship to the sheer rock face of programme planning, our experience so far equips us well for the final summit push.

The most important lesson we have learned is that we only make progress if we work together. It's in this spirit, that we invite our colleagues from around the world to WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne.

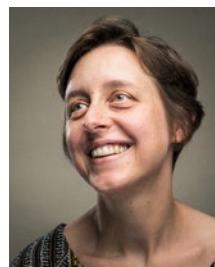
Let's reach for new heights together. Let's bring science journalism forward together.

The three national science journalists' associations of Switzerland, France and Italy:



OLIVIER DESSIBOURG

President of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism SASJ



VIVIANE THIVENT

President of the Association Française des Journalistes Scientifiques de la presse d'Information AJSPI



FABIO TURONE

President of the Science Writers in Italy SWIM

Executive summary



**World Conference
of Science Journalists**
Lausanne 2019

WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne – for the advancement of science journalism

In a very **rich and close-knit collaboration**, the **Swiss** Association of Science Journalism (SASJ), in partnership with the **French** Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information (AJSPI) and Science Writers in **Italy** (SWIM) – all three members of the WFSJ – are bidding together to host the 11th WCSJ in Lausanne, Switzerland, 45 minutes from Geneva international airport, from 1 to 5 July 2019. We expect around **1000 science journalists** and writers from all over the world to get together at the modern SwissTech Convention Center right on the Campus shared by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne, EPFL, and the University of Lausanne, UNIL. This venue, able to host the whole **conference under one roof**, is very modifiable, allowing a great deal of organisational flexibility.

The main objectives of WCSJ 2019 will be to bring science journalists, writers and communicators together to share **best practice**, to acquire the **skills** needed to excel in our field, to **link** freelancers and editors, to learn how to work with **emerging journalism formats**, and to **meet top scientists**. In short: to advance **independent, inquisitive and high quality** science journalism. We have divided our programme into four categories: **Skills and Tools, Identity and Values, Science and Beyond, Fun and Entertainment**.

A special focus will be placed on **science journalism in French-speaking countries**. A dedicated pre-event workshop will be held (see below), and a full project to extend the well-established Swiss television, RTS, website “Ask an expert” to other Francophone countries will be implemented with the help of national television channels in France, Belgium and Canada.

A core programme, concrete workshops and long-term projects

An extensive agenda will be set up for the **core programme**, including keynote lectures with top speakers from both media and science, parallel sessions, workshops, discussions and get-together events. There, journalists will find a wealth of ideas to raise their skills, reach out to wider audiences, engage with them deeper. And they will also discuss how to stay independent from their sources, how to be more investigative, how to look at science and technology with healthy scepticism and a critical eye.

We will strongly encourage **sessions in new formats** such as mobile debates, whereby people move around the room according to their views on an issue, face-to-face debates like those in the United Kingdom’s Houses of Parliament, and learning by doing with media partners including RTS and the European Broadcasting Union EBU. We will hold creative workshops and challenge discussions in which people brainstorm issues in science journalism and present recommendations, and we’ll be looking at the growing trend of gamification. We want a lively, innovative conference that will live long in people’s memories.

With a packed core programme, we will link the WCSJ 2019 to **four one-day pre-event workshops**. The first is the **Balkan School of science journalism**, organised by the Balkan Network of science journalists: it will be held in Lausanne, encouraging the participation of journalists from the Balkans in the WCSJ itself. The second is **“Projet Francophonie”**: in association with French scientific institutions, starting with the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique CNRS, it’s ambition is to build a sustainable network encouraging collaboration and mutual support among French-language science journalists, writers and communicators. Some 275 million people speak French around the world, most of them in Africa. This project will also focus on bringing colleagues from African countries to Lausanne through scholarships. The third is the biennial **ABSW Summer school of science journalists** in London possibly on 29 June 2019, which will

attract journalists who will then be offered a reduced fee to attend the WCSJ in Lausanne. The fourth pre-event workshop will be set up in collaboration with the **European Broadcasting Union** and will focus on **TV science documentaries**.

The WCSJ lasts just one week, but its impact will endure. Our bid sees the conference as the linchpin of four **long-term projects** bringing together science journalists for further education, networking, cooperation and debate. They focus on the role of **science in democratic societies**, on teaching **best practice through video**, on **pairing journalists from Western and Eastern Europe** to work on the same issues, or on **collecting scientists' expertise** on hot topics.

Insights, stories and direct engagement with scientists and the public

To provide participants with **immediate science benefits and concrete story ideas**, a rich list of **laboratory visits** will be scheduled.

- a) Around 30 **Lunch@Labs** are planned every day on the EPFL/UNIL Campus during the midday break, giving participants the opportunity to eat a sandwich with scientists, in their labs – scientists who will certainly have stories worth reporting to tell.
- b) Around 30 **field trips** will take place across Switzerland; many in research stations on – or even in – the mountains, giving an unprecedented occasion for many WCSJ participants to discover this world within a world. Many more field trips will be on offer in our partner countries, visiting the cities of Paris, Lyon, Grenoble, Chamonix, Milan and Trento.

In addition, c) **press conferences**, d) **luncheons** and e) the **exhibition room** will enrich the science presence at WCSJ 2019.

The Lake Geneva Region is rich in science, and we plan to make the most of the opportunities that it offers. From public institutions including CERN, the UN, the WHO, the WWF, IUCN and the Gavi Alliance to private actors like Nestlé, Novartis, ABB and Logitech, the opportunities for science journalists are everywhere, providing a strong argument for potential participants to secure their editors' permission to attend.

WCSJ will reach out **to the local population**. To do this, the conference will partner with other science communication events, such as the **Neuchâtel International Fantastic (Science-Fiction) Film Festival**, which takes place the same week, and the **CinéGlobe science documentary festival** at CERN. These opportunities will put the spotlight on science journalists and the crucial role they play in society.

Strong partners, and a partly secured budget for a successful conference

For this bid, we have been supported from the start by **four major academic partners (EPFL, CERN, the University of Lausanne and the University of Geneva)**, as well as the **Lausanne-Montreux Congress Bureau**. We rapidly secured support from the **Swiss Federal authorities** through the two federal departments of Science and Foreign Affairs. The **President of the Swiss Confederation** has given us his personal support, while the **Canton de Vaud** and the **City of Lausanne** are also on board. All these partners have expressed their strong support in welcoming WCSJ 2019 to Lausanne. Furthermore, the **European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation** has expressed the wish for close collaboration on various programme events.

Our total **budget** is around 2 million dollars. **Close to half of this amount has already been secured** with in-kind contributions from EPFL, UNIL, CERN, the City of Lausanne and Presence Switzerland (the government entity promoting Switzerland abroad), and with **cash amounting to around 500 000 Euros**, coming from, amongst others, the **Bertarelli Foundation (our first "Platinum sponsor")**, the Swiss National Science Foundation, SNF, the Board of the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology, ETH-Board, the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences, the Canton de Vaud, the City of Lausanne, the Universities of Bern and Neuchâtel. This considerable **sum will allow us to start work immediately should Lausanne be chosen to host WCSJ 2019**. A **sponsoring plan** is in place, and we already are in contact with many other interested foundations (including the H Dudley Wright, Leenaards and Helmholtz foundations), institutions (the Universities of Fribourg and Zürich, ETHZ) and private firms (Airbus, Tag Heuer watches). Our objective, which we are confident of reaching in collaboration with the WFSJ, is to raise a further 700 000 Euros in financial and in-kind support, as well as through income from the exhibition space. We are committed to keeping the **conference fee** as low as possible, aiming for **under 400 Euros, with student fees as low as 200 Euros**. Accommodation in the Lausanne area is affordable, and we will also put in place a tried and tested airbnb-like internal system to allow locals to welcome WCSJ participants at very low cost.

Working closely with the WFSJ, and relying on strong collaboration between three national science journalism associations, we will do our best to make the WCSJ 2019 truly global and the most dynamic, rich, enthusiastic and inspiring conference of its kind.

Bringing people together

Enabling travel and conference attendance

In order to promote truly international professional **networking** and exchange, WCSJ 2019 puts a strong focus on enabling travel and conference attendance by means of **scholarships**. Apart from the WCSJ organising committee itself, a diverse range of national and European institutions is willing to support these. Among them are the GAVI Alliance and the French Centre National de Recherche Scientifique (CNRS).

Special attention is paid to the involvement of **journalists from the Balkans and from French-speaking Africa** including the Maghreb. While the planning of the pre-event session aimed at French-speaking Africa benefits from the rich experience of AJSPI's Cécile Klingler (see page 102), a well established collaboration between Fabio Turone's SWIM and Mico Tatalovic's Balkan Network of Science Journalists enables well-informed sessions as well as a valuable long-term project (see page 102).

Technology serving real-life interactions

Lively exchanges will be encouraged through **innovative conference formats**. From big, openly – and literally moving – discursive sessions where people face-off against each other, to small dare-to-ask workshops, the newly built (2014) SwissTech Convention Center can modulate all of its meeting rooms to suit all needs. In this way, technology will serve the real-life interactions of people in the best possible way.

What will participants get?

Participants attending the WCSJ 2019 will leave Lausanne with:

- **New ideas** to overcome upcoming professional challenges
- Methods to better **track** exciting science stories
- **Tips** to work more efficiently and make sure their voices are heard
- Updated skills in using modern technical **tools** for journalism
- A rich overview of current **best practice** in science journalism around the world
- Contacts with media editors, fellow journalists, communication officers and scientists for new stories and **networking**
- Opportunities to take part in planned long-term **efforts**, projects and networks in science journalism
- Arguments and **ideas** to foster and defend independence in science journalism
- Useful reflections on the **values** and worth of our profession
- A deeper understanding of the **evolution** of science
- A general vision on current scientific **challenges**
- Actual **perspectives** on the importance of science democracy
- A **bonanza** of concrete and relevant science stories to write and broadcast
- Exclusive scientific and touristic field **trips** in the mountain regions
- An outstanding **experience** in the heart of the Health and Life Sciences Valley of Switzerland

Bidding (alpine) consortium of associations

Schweizer Klub für Wissenschaftsjournalismus
Association suisse du journalisme scientifique
Swiss Association of Science Journalism



Swiss Association of Science Journalism SASJ

Founded in 1974, the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ) is a professional association uniting around 370 science journalists in Switzerland. SASJ's goals include strengthening quality, independent and transparent science journalism in the Swiss media landscape and in general fostering valuable and accurate exchange of information between scientists, policymakers and the lay public. SASJ serves as the unique forum for science journalism issues in Switzerland. Its members are regularly asked to take part in juries, festival boards and other events about science journalism and communication. SASJ has clear and strict rules to ensure the full independence of its members in any of its events.

www.science-journalism.ch



Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information AJSPI

AJSPI, the French association of science journalists, has 250 members (a majority of the active professional journalists in France) belonging to the whole spectrum of the media: print, radio, television and online. AJSPI does not accept non-journalists, but has created a Club with members from around 60 supporting organisations, which welcomes public information officers from institutions with an interest in communicating science and technology. AJSPI organises debates, conferences, lab visits, training, meetings with researchers and officials, study trips abroad among other activities. Founded in 1955, AJSPI focuses on improving the quality and defending the independence of science journalism.

www.ajspi.com



Science Writers in Italy SWIM

Since 2009, the professional association Science Writers in Italy (SWIM) has been active in encouraging a fruitful debate between the worlds of science, science communication and science journalism, with the aim of improving the quality of science coverage in the media. Seventy motivated members strong, SWIM has organised and promoted continuing education for specialised journalists and general assignment reporters in Italy and abroad, as well as several national conferences on science journalism.

www.sciencewriters.it



Lake Geneva with the Alps in the background.

The programme: critical, independent, truly global... and thinking positive

Science and technology play a central role in the modern world; indeed they drive much of its fast ongoing transformation. So it is crucial for our common future that science and technology receive in depth and critical journalistic coverage of the highest quality. This conference aims to contribute to this goal by strengthening the professional, ethical and technical skills of science journalists; by increasing their knowledge of recent developments in science; and by improving their understanding of the forces that shape it.

Our conference will be **independent and critical**. Because science has never been so powerful, many forces strive to deform it to serve their agendas: corporations, politicians, ideologues... Journalists need to remain constantly sceptical and watchful, and we want to help them with tips and insights.

Our conference will be **open and innovative**. New ideas and new practices are constantly emerging, and we will strive to harness the best and bring them to Lausanne. To do this we will seek input, until the last minute before the conference, not only from established experts and organisations, but also from innovators in a variety of fields.

Gathering journalists to discuss and network is always useful – but our intention is to achieve more: we want to take science journalism to new heights! And this in every part of the world: we want our conference to be **truly global**, starting from the conception phase, involving inputs from all interested WFSJ member associations.

Our conference will **think positive**. Times may be challenging, but they offer unprecedented possibilities. Never have we had such a variety of tools to tell our stories in an attractive way, to access information and data, to verify facts. Nor have we had so many means to interact with our audiences, measure the impact of our stories, and improve our work accordingly. We will focus on discussing creative and impactful ways of taking advantage of this journalistic bonanza.

Programme grid

Jul1		Jul2	Jul3	Jul4	Jul5		Jul6
Field Trips	Pre-event workshops	Plenary Parallel Sessions Workshops	Plenary Parallel Sessions Workshops	Plenary Parallel Sessions Workshops	Field Trips	Touristic Trips	Public Events with Festival partners
		Lunch@Labs	Lunch@Labs	Lunch@Labs			
		Plenary Parallel Sessions Workshops	Plenary Parallel Sessions Workshops	Plenary Parallel Sessions Workshops			
Opening Plenary and reception		Welcome Reception at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne	Gala and Science Dinner at the SwissTech Convention Center	Farewell Evening at UNESCO World Heritage site, Lavaux			

Four major themes

Participants will be offered a dense four-day professional programme (1-4 July 2019) that will form the core of the conference. To help journalists orient themselves in the programme and to make sure no important issue is forgotten, the core programme will be split into four major themes.

Skills and tools

This theme will help participants find and tell better stories, by:

- pointing out best practice in science journalism
- presenting the newest and most promising tools
- sharing experience of successes and failures
- finding out how to browse data and publications
- mastering new formats and media
- protecting sources
- pitching efficiently to editors
- finding original stories
- avoiding hype
- tracking conflicts of interest

It will all be there, with the world's best experts and a decidedly hands-on focus.

In addition, the Swiss broadcaster RTS is currently building a completely new infrastructure on the EPFL campus to host RTS studios, with **a strongly-focused programme on innovations in the media**, bringing together journalists, scientists and technicians to develop new digital and technical tools and formats for journalism. This programme will start during summer 2017; the WCSJ workshops and sessions, and the conference as a whole, will strongly benefit from its first outcomes in 2019.

Identity and values

There is so little spare time in the day-to-day scramble – yet we need time more than ever to reflect on issues related to our values, our ethics, our organisations and our practices. At WCSJ 2019 there will be time devoted to:

- discussing how we should deal with pressures in general, and in particular from political regimes and religious authorities
- managing our own economic challenges
- dealing with the impact of fake news inside the public sphere
- funding the stories that need to be told without compromising our independence
- finding ways to build teams and establish cross border collaboration
- improving our profession's diversity.
- making the most of social media without drowning

Science and beyond

Science is what we are all passionate about – but what is happening to it? Where is it heading? What forces are shaping it, and what does this mean for the way we cover it? This theme will put the spotlight on new, fascinating and sometimes troubling scientific developments like:

- new gene modification techniques
- advances in neurosciences
- renewable energies
- new space conquest
- personalized health
- rewriting human history
- animal experimentation
- Big Data handling
- new transportation systems
- revolutionary electronics

But the theme will also go further. It will question the trends, explore what is going on behind the scenes of science, and it will put a strong focus on the critical thinking so essential to science journalism. Fraud, corporate influence, laboratory accidents, gender bias, ideology – no subject will be taboo.

Fun and entertainment

Science has an image problem. Conveying it to the public doesn't have to be boring, or even serious. Let's hear from the people who are testing smart and entertaining ways to take science to the public. Of course, these will all be highly rational science communication experts, but some of them will:

- sing science
- act science
- draw science in comics
- put science in fiction or games.

Others will laugh at science, build dystopias or use it for poetry – let's hear from them all!

Implementing new session formats

We have all heard the complaints about the monotony of powerpoint presentations and traditional conference sessions, and we plan to do something about it. While traditional sessions will always have a place in any conference, we plan to mix things up a bit. Our conference will seek to innovate and encourage experimentation with new session formats. Here are some ideas that have already been submitted, and more will certainly come!

- 1) The **Moving debate**, organisable on any hot topic: neither debaters nor audience are seated, and participants are invited to move towards or away from the debaters as their opinion evolves along with the discussion.
- 2) **Challenge sessions** are collective brainstormings organised around a challenge for journalism – for example: “How can journalists avoid reporting flawed news?” Participants will come up with recommendations and prioritize them, with the conclusions being summed up in a plenary.
- 3) The **House of Commons debates** have already appeared in some world conferences. They mimic the British parliament, and the chair encourages all participants to join in and express strong and vocal opinions.
- 4) The **Science kino**: participants have 24 hours to shoot a short movie on a subject drawn from a hat. Experts and scientists are provided, and volunteer journalists and scientists take on the roles of actors, technicians and whatever else is needed to make the film. Movies are screened and a winner elected during the happy hour at the Social Hub (see Social events chapter).
- 5) **Hands-on**: a series of short, crisp and small group workshops led by an experienced practitioner. Topics? Just ask yourself: “What skill would I like to learn in two hours?” Drones, sound for multimedia, gamification, video with your phone... the possibilities are endless.
- 6) **In conversation with...** On stage, a very skilled science journalist asks questions of a leading scientist on a subject of topical interest. The live 20 minute interview is recorded and then played back with a running commentary from the journalist, who explains the rationale behind the questioning. In short, a masterclass in good interview technique.

Furthermore, in partnership with the **Neuchâtel International Fantastic (science-fiction) Film Festival, NIFFF** (see Public outreach chapter), which is taking place the same week as WCSJ 2019, we will co-host a symposium and workshop for **script writers**. This will be useful for television and science documentary writers attending WCSJ 2019, and will feature scientists with an interest in exploring the possibilities this format offers. Two more symposia and workshops organised by NIFFF will be open to WCSJ 2019 participants and will cover the subjects of **gamification** (in collaboration with the University of Applied Sciences and Art Western Switzerland) and **immersive media**.

Possible Keynote speakers

Possible keynote speakers (most of them already contacted) included:

- Jérôme Fenoglio, Director of Le Monde and science journalist
- Ed Yong, staff writer at the Atlantic
- John Oliver, Last Week Tonight on HBO
- Naomi Oreskes, Professor of the History of Science and Affiliated Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Harvard University
- Dominique Brossard, Professor and Chair in the Department of Life Sciences Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Erika Check Hayden, Director of the Science Communication Program at the University of California, Santa Cruz
- Gary Schwitzer, Founder HealthNewsReview.org
- Robert-Jan Smits, Director-General for Research and Innovation at the European Commission
- Thomas Zurbuchen, Head of Science at NASA, with Swiss roots and education
- Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz, University of Geneva, discoverers of the first exoplanet
- Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Institut Pasteur, Nobel Prize for co-discovery of AIDS virus
- Rolf Zinkernagel, Professor of Experimental Immunology at the University of Zürich, Nobel Prize for work on the immune system
- Cedric Villani, Fields medallist and freshly elected member of the French Parliament
- Alain Fuchs, president of CNRS (Centre National de Recherche Scientifique)

A full media centre to broadcast contents



Learning by doing... or at least by watching live how things are done. That's what we want to happen at WCSJ 2019. To make sure it does in the area of broadcast media, we've put together a triangular and very exciting partnership with three major media actors: **Radio Télévision Suisse (RTS)**, **Euronews** and the **European Broadcasting Union (EBU)**. They will be present on the event site throughout the conference, empowering journalists to make the most of what they have on offer.

Swiss broadcaster **RTS**, based in Geneva, will set up a studio at the conference venue, ready to produce potentially live broadcasts such as the popular one-hour radio show **CQFD**, which translates to **QED** in English (or Latin). The **RTS** studio will ensure that skilled radio and TV journalists will be there, ready to share their expertise and demonstrate the latest in broadcast technology.

The European channel **Euronews**, which is soon to be partially acquired by US channel **NBC**, will be producing shows and recording interviews onsite with keynote speakers, local scientists and WCSJ participants on subjects covering science and science journalism. Euronews will also make the most of our third partner's services: image feeds.

The **EBU**, which is also based in Geneva, will provide all the necessary technological platforms and human skills to broadcast content produced by **RTS** and **Euronews** on a variety of media and supports.

This triangular partnership will therefore:

- Form a powerful media centre for the conference, serving as a resource for all WCSJ participants. It will be science journalism in the making, live, for TV and radio.
- Put broadcast science journalism front stage and under the spotlight as a subject for discussion.
- Allow the broadcast of live shows, possibly including keynote lectures. We are currently in discussion with the SwissNex network of science and technology outposts based in San Francisco, Boston, Rio de Janeiro, Shanghai, New York and Bangalore with a view to holding satellite events, built around live broadcasts from the conference, for science journalists unable to travel to Lausanne.
- Attract major scientific institutions to the WCSJ with the opportunity to secure high visibility for potential major announcements.

Pre-Event workshops



ABSW 2017 Summer school.

The core programme of the WCSJ is packed, diverse and exciting. But we want to do more. During the bid preparation, our discussions with many and varied international colleagues and with WFSJ delegates led to us wanting to put a special focus on some key issues. We chose four (see Appendix for full description), which will be developed in one-day workshops before the conference.

1. **Balkan School of science journalism.** Organised by the Balkan Network of science journalists, this event will be held in Lausanne, and will therefore ensure the presence of many journalists from the Balkans at the WCSJ.
2. **Projet Francophonie.** In association with a variety of French science institutions, the idea is to build a sustainable network leading to a worldwide market for French-language science journalists, writers and communicators. This project will also focus on bringing colleagues from African and Arabic countries to Lausanne through scholarships.
3. **ABSW Summer school of science journalists** in London on 29 June 2019. Held every second year, this event will attract journalists to London who will also be invited to attend the WCSJ at a reduced conference fee.
4. **Science documentaries of the future.** This pre-event workshop will be set up in collaboration with the **European Broadcasting Union (EBU)** based in Geneva. It will focus specifically on television science documentaries, an area in which the EBU has considerable expertise.

Long-term projects

The WCSJ is a great event. But, say many, it always ends too soon. That's why we are proposing four long-term projects to accompany the conference. The idea is to bridge the gap between successive conferences with in-depth work under the flag of the WFSJ. Some of these projects would be developed before WCSJ 2019 to allow us to show results at the 2019 event. Others would be developed and launched at the conference itself.

An important feature of the long-term projects is that they are collaborative, bringing together journalists from different regions of the world. With the exception of the "Ask an expert" project, which is already fully funded by French language Swiss, French, Belgian and Canadian public broadcasters, the budget of the WCSJ will include a 25% share in each of these projects. The remainder will have to be financed independently with fundraising carried out in collaboration with the overall fundraising effort for the WCSJ. We will take a decision in February 2018, based on the funding secured, as to which of the projects will go ahead. With the help of the WFSJ and the WCSJ, these projects each give motivated journalists the opportunity to foster the entire field of science journalism.

Here are short summaries of the projects we are proposing. A more complete description appears in the Appendix.

1. **Western Europe – Balkans pairing contest.** The idea is to build 10 pairs of two journalists, one from each region, for them to work on a similar theme, visit the other's region at least once and publish a contribution. The three best contributions will each receive a prize at the WCSJ 2019.
2. **Video Master classes.** The aim is to bring 10 top science journalists from around the world to Lausanne and to film them talking about their daily work in an engaging and dynamic format. The resulting videos, inspired by the project www.masterclass.com, will form a valuable resource for journalists wanting to hone their skills in a range of areas from unearthing information to writing

a book. The content will be decided in advance of the WCSJ, but the videos will be shot during the conference. They will be made available as a legacy of the conference.



3. **Struggle with politics.** After the election of Donald Trump as US president, scientists around the world marched for science. Many chose to play a more prominent role in the public sphere and some even decided to embark on a political career. The Struggle with politics project intends to give seven journalists from around the world the possibility to follow one such scientist closely during their politico-social coming-out. At the WCSJ, each will present multimedia stories about their scientists, including an element of self-reflection as the journalists consider their own role in the realm of science democracy.
4. **"Ask an expert".** A team of science journalists finds an expert and asks them, on camera, to answer questions and share their expertise on a hot topic of the day. This format is already well established at the French-language Swiss broadcaster, RTS, (www.avidexperts.ch/) in collaboration with the universities of Western Switzerland and it now counts more than 2000 experts. The project aims to extend the format to other French-speaking countries, including France, Belgium and Canada. The aim for those public broadcasters is to collect a lot of contributions from international scientists between January 2018 and June 2019, and to showcase them during the WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne.

March for science in Geneva.

© ScienceMarchGVA



The Lake Geneva scientific environment and the EPFL/UNIL Campus



The greater Lake Geneva Region is a global centre of research and innovation. Many outstanding universities and public research institutions are established in the region, along with a diverse range of major global companies such as Tetra Laval, Nestlé, Kudelski, Logitech, Medtronic and New Bobst Group. They all take advantage of the region's pioneering spirit and its historic role as an economic and technical crossroads.

In the realm of public science, Lausanne itself is home to two outstanding universities, both partners of WCSJ 2019: the Université de Lausanne (UNIL) and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL). These are leading universities in a wide range of research fields such as networks, neurosciences, infrastructures, micro- and nanotechnologies, biotechnology, information and communication technologies, transport and energy. EPFL has achieved particular attention through its involvement with several emblematic projects such as Breitling Orbiter 3, Alinghi, Hydroptère, Solar Impulse and the European Human Brain Project.

One of the liveliest academic campuses in Europe

UNIL and EPFL, separate at the time the latter was created, have come together to form one of the liveliest academic campuses in Europe, with some of the best technological infrastructure. With over 24 000 students, a large num-

ber coming from beyond Switzerland and representing 120 nationalities, numerous laboratories, many multinationals and dozens of start-ups sharing a common spirit of enquiry at the campus's science park, the campus fosters the close collaboration of scientists of different fields in a natural and fruitful way.

Unique architecture and innovative technologies characterise the SwissTech Convention Center (see next chapter): just one of the newly constructed iconic buildings on the campus. Others include the renowned Rolex Learning Center, designed by the internationally acclaimed Japanese architectural practice, SANAA, and the ArtLab, a 250-metre long building with three pavilions dedicated to the intersection of science, arts and culture. The ArtLab includes a Montreux Jazz Café, showcasing the audiovisual archives of the famous music festival.

World-leading research facilities

More eminent scientific institutions are located in nearby Geneva, among them the two WCSJ 2019 partners, the University of Geneva (UNIGE) and CERN. The latter is not only famous for its cutting edge research on antimatter and particle physics at the Large Hadron Collider, it's also the birthplace of the World Wide Web, which was invented there in 1989.

Just a little further afield, in nearby France, there's an extremely rich and diverse abundance of world-leading public research facilities, universities and research driven companies. They all make the Lake Geneva Region a world-wide hub for excellence in science and technology, and an ideal location for a conference like the WCSJ 2019.

(Please read the full and very interesting scientific-economic description of the Lake Geneva Region from page 111)

EPFL/UNIL campus, with aerial view of the modern SwissTech Convention Centre.



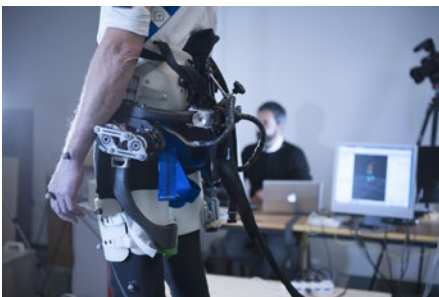
Lunch@Labs



Red's: research and expertise centre
in anti-doping sciences



EPFL's Swiss Plasma Center



EPFL's translational neural engineering lab

Participants attending the WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne will have the unique opportunity to visit labs of EPFL, UNIL and CHUV (Lausanne's University hospital) during the conference, taking part in Lunch@Labs. Thanks to the large concentration of high-level research within a small area, these visits can take place during the lunch breaks. Finger-food and sandwiches will be provided, so that the discovery of the labs and discussions with the researchers can last up to around 90 minutes.

The Lunch@Labs sessions will also host presentations from the two other academic partners not based on the Lausanne Campus, the University of Geneva and CERN. In total, around 30 different labs and presentations will be available to choose from, each for groups of 10-15 people. Lunch@Labs sessions will take place on the three main days of the WCSJ, Tuesday 2 to Thursday 4 July. Journalists will have the chance to harvest a vast range of take-home stories: a strong argument to convince their media outlets to allow them to attend the WCSJ 2019.

Attendance at the Lunch@Labs will be free of charge, but registration on the WCSJ website will be mandatory for organisational reasons.

Science press conferences



The WCSJ 2019 and its 1000 participants, most of them science journalists and writers, will be of great interest for many academic, industrial and private sector science institutions as a forum to showcase their research and activities. We will allow some press conferences on the site of the Conference, with announcements in the programme. However, their number will be limited in order to ensure a uniformly high quality, and to give us the possibility to monetize press events with exclusivity each day.

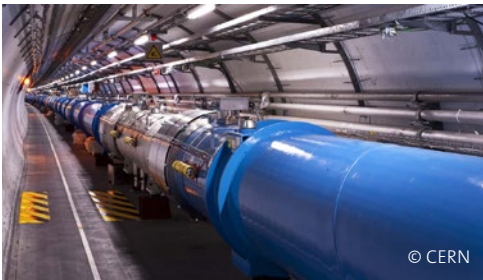
We are already in contact with several entities, private and public, national and international, that are interested in using the occasion of the WCSJ 2019 for their press conferences.

Campus Biotech in Geneva,
a hub for life sciences in Switzerland.

© CampusBiotech



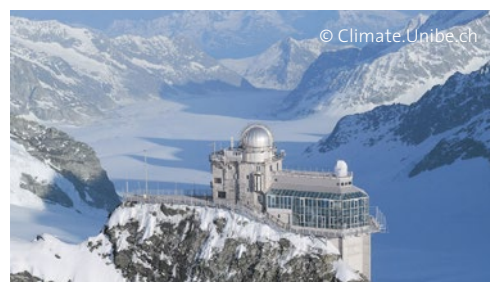
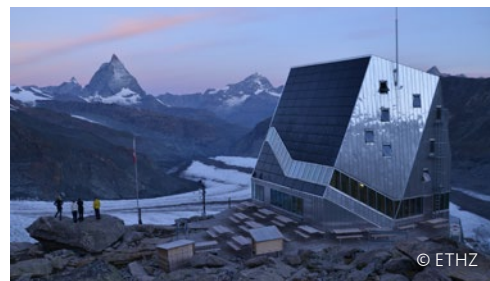
30 Field trips to choose from



In line with WCSJ 2019's guiding metaphor, an important focus of its rich programme of field trips will be on – and in – the mountains. Trips will offer exceptional opportunities to plunge into research at the forefront of science and at the same time discover a mountain region famed for its outstanding natural beauty. According to personal preferences (and fitness), participants will be able to take their first **steps on a glacier**, while discussing the latest research on climate change, sleep in an energy-quasi-autonomous **mountain hut in Zermatt**, ascend the highest railway inside the Eiger to the **Jungfrauoch research station** tracking greenhouse gases, descend hundreds of metres underground to discover the science of **nuclear waste disposal at Mont Terri**, climb to 3842m by cable-car to talk to researchers on the **Aiguille du Midi**, visit the international ice-core depository in Grenoble, the **MUSE science museum** and research centre in Trento, and many more. Most of the trips will cover more than one scientific aspect – and all of them will provide a great source of stories.

Many other field trips related to what makes Swiss, French, Italian and indeed European science famous will also be on offer, including visits to **CERN**, to **IBM Research** in Zürich and to an oenological research centre and the UNESCO world heritage vineyards of **Lavaux**. A full day will be set up in Geneva, with visits to the main international organisations (**UN, WHO, GAVI, Global Fund, UNAids**). Some will wish to visit the **Campus Biotech** in Geneva, the Life Sciences hub for the Lake Geneva Region and attend the famous Bertarelli Symposium in translational neuroscience and neuroengineering, taking place on the same day as the field trips. Others will explore the **University of Neuchatel's** quest for perfect time, visit the world famous **ETHZ** in Zürich and the **University of Zürich**, and follow in **Einstein's footsteps** with a visit to the Swiss capital of Bern, another UNESCO world heritage site. For those willing to travel further afield, there will be visits to **ESA's European Astronaut Centre** near Cologne, Germany, to Grenoble's impressive **GIANT innovation campus**, as well as to **Paris and Lyon, to Milan and Turin**.

Most of the field trips have already been agreed with the hosting institutions, and all are listed from page 120.



The venue - everything under one roof



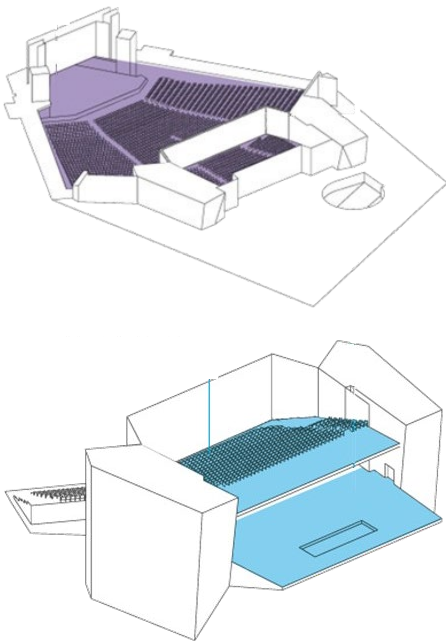
The SwissTech Convention Center (STCC) is located on the campus of EPFL/UNIL. Its futuristic design makes it a truly unique building in Europe. STCC is committed to sustainable development. By promoting renewable sources of energy, ensuring optimal management of waste disposal, and supporting eco-friendly mobility and human safety, the Convention Center intends to adopt policies that are respectful of humans and their environment.



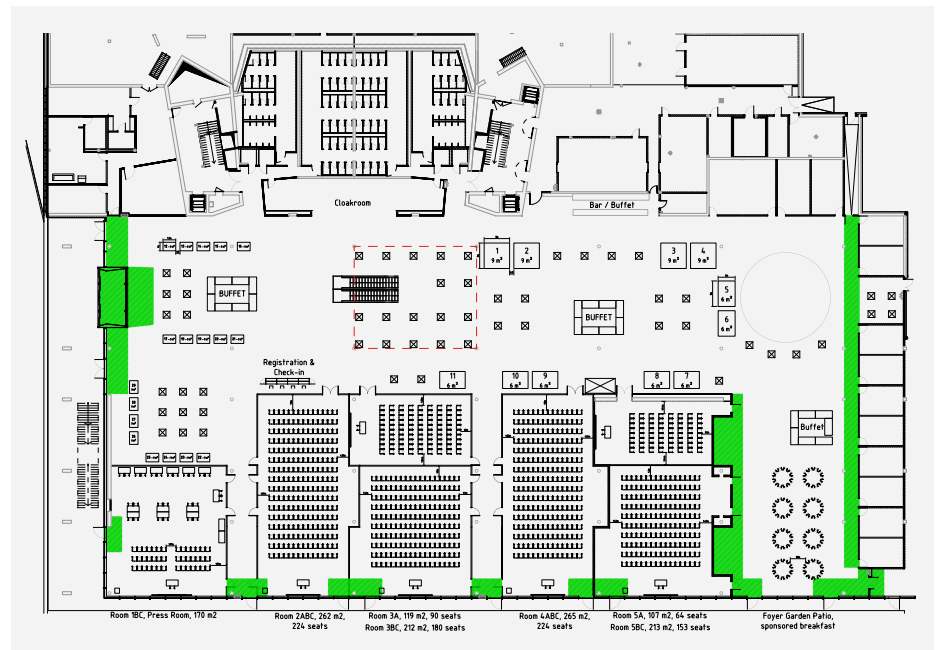
Built in 2014, this unique convention centre is perfect for mid-size events. Its meeting rooms can be modulated to suit any desire. The 2205-seat plenary room can be divided into two big auditoria. The ground floor of the building can host six rooms for parallel sessions as well as an exhibition space, press rooms and many meeting rooms. The so-called Gala System handles the seats – actually making them disappear – to create a ballroom; a feature that will be put to good use for the Gala Dinner on Wednesday 3 July 2019.



Its advanced features make the STCC the perfect place to hold the entire WCSJ 2019 conference under one roof. With its close proximity to Lausanne city centre and direct links with the M1 metro and bus lines, ease of access is guaranteed. A few tens of participants will even be able to find lodging right on the campus, very close to the STCC, and benefit from the lively campus environment in the evenings.



Possible room set-up of the lower level of the conference center, with exhibition space alongside the parallel session rooms.



Set-up example for WCSJ 2019

Name	Type	Pax/size	Name	Type	Pax/size
Plenary	Auditorium A	1800	Break-out 4	Room Garden 4ABC	224
Press Room	Room Garden 1BC	170sqm	Break-out 5	Room Garden 5A	64
Break-out 1	Room Garden 2ABC	224	Break-out 6	Room Garden 5BC	153
Break-out 2	Room Garden 3A	90	Exhibition	Garden area	800sqm*
Break-out 3	Room Garden 3BC	180			

* With exhibition stands of 3sqm, 6sqm, 9sqm

Social and networking activities

The WCSJ 2019 will provide many diverse occasions for networking.

Opening Ceremony (1 July)

The opening ceremony will take place in the SwissTech Convention Center (STCC). The event will be a collaboration between the organisers of the WCSJ 2019 and Presence Switzerland, the agency within the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs responsible for representing the image of Switzerland abroad, including the country's scientific excellence.

Since the theme of the conference is the mountains, it is mountains that will be at the heart of the opening ceremony. The Alps form a strong and traditional connection between Switzerland and its neighbouring countries, especially France and Italy. The content of this opening ceremony might therefore feature discussions between pairs of well-known people who have a connection with the Alps, Swiss alpine music, historical aspects, artistic performances and speeches. The official part will be followed by a buffet of Swiss traditional mountain food in the main hall of the STCC.



Welcome cocktail (2 July)

The wonderfully situated International Olympic Museum, in the centre of Lausanne, will welcome us to its terrace with magnificent views across the lake to the Alps for a welcome aperitif, accompanied – after the visit of the museum – by short presentations on science in sport.



Gala Dinner (3 July)

At the push of a button, the STCC plenary room can be transformed into a ballroom for 1000 people as the seats magically disappear into the ground thanks to a sophisticated hydraulic system. The Gala Dinner will take place there, with musical and artistic performances.



Farewell evening (4 July)

The closing event will be held in the village of Grandvaux, magnificently located amongst the vineyards of Lavaux.

In the 13th century, to overcome the steep gradient in the Lavaux area, the monks started to build stone walled terraces and plant vines there. The result of their hard labour, which contributes to the beauty of Lavaux, earned the site its inclusion on the UNESCO world heritage list in 2007. Accessing the village by train – a 20 minute ride from the STCC – will give participants a stunning view of the lake and the famous vineyards.

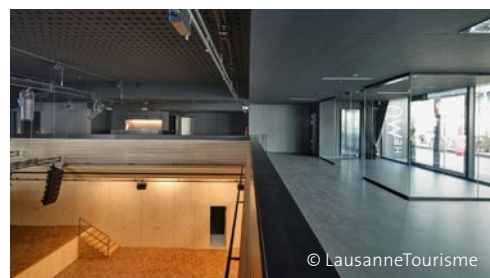
After a welcome drink provided by local wine growers and a traditional Swiss fondue, dinner will take place in several venues in Grandvaux – we will dine in the wine cellars. Participants will be free to wander across the village to each of them. And after dinner: it's party time!



The social hub at the Haute Ecole de Musique (All days)

In order to build up the social and convivial aspect of the event, as well as giving participants the possibility to discover the intimate links between science and music, a festive area will be set up at the *Haute Ecole de Musique*. This social hub, situated right in the centre of Lausanne, will serve during the day as a working and exchange space, transforming at night into a welcoming place for drinks and conversation.

With famous events like the Montreux Jazz Festival, the Lake Geneva Region is a famous destination for music. The *Haute Ecole de Musique* plays a major role in developing knowledge and practice of music within the region, and intends to carry out research on musical expressiveness – by means of motion capture, brain imaging, and physiological reactions to listening to music. At the social hub, participants will have the opportunity to learn about, and experience what that entails.



Organising team

The WCSJ 2019 Core Team (as of July 2017) includes:



OLIVIER DESSIBOURG

Olivier Dessibourg is an award-winning science journalist and editor. For 12 years until December 2016, he headed the Science section at the Ringier Axel Springer Switzerland newsroom for the daily Le Temps, covering all fields from hard science to health and environmental issues. A physicist, mathematician and science teacher by training, he is President of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism SASJ, and the Swiss delegate to the WFSJ. His articles appear in Le Temps, New Scientist (UK), Le Monde and La Recherche (France).



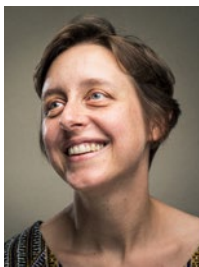
STÉPHANE PRAZ

Stéphane Praz is a freelance science journalist and science communicator. He is trained as an anthropologist, but mainly covers topics in public health, medical and biological research. His articles have appeared in diverse Swiss newspapers and specialized journals, among them NZZ, NZZamSonntag, Tages-Anzeiger, and SonntagsZeitung. Stéphane, a SASJ member, is currently Head of Knowledge Transfer for the Swiss National Research Programme “Antimicrobial Resistance” (NRP 72).



YVES SCIAMA

Yves Sciama is a French freelancer who has won several awards and fellowships, including a Knight Science Journalism Fellowship at MIT in 2014. Trained in biology and science journalism, he covers life and environmental sciences. Yves collaborates closely with Science et Vie, a major French-language science magazine, and his work has appeared in Le Monde, Libération, and in Science. He has also done some documentary writing and website design, and is the author of several books. Yves is the international delegate of the board of AJSPI.



VIVIANE THIVENT

An oceanographer by training, Viviane Thivent became a science journalist in 2002, mainly to continue learning. She has worked for many magazines and newspapers (Le Monde, National Geographic France, Sciences et Avenir, The good life, XXI...). An investigative reporter, she is very interested by connections between science and society. Currently president of the AJSPI, she is also CEO of “Les Transméduses”, a company that is creating, testing, and developing new ways to tell journalistic stories.



FABIO TURONE

Fabio Turone is Editor in Chief of the Agency Zoe based in Milan (working for several media, covering mostly medicine and health), and Executive Director of the newly launched Centre for Ethics in Science and Journalism. President of the Association Science Writers in Italy, SWIM, since its launch in 2009, he has organised science journalism schools and workshops in Italy and abroad, for UNESCO among others. In 2016-17 he was a Research Fellow on the Knight Science Journalism Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



MICHAEL BALAVOINE

Michael Balavoine is a journalist and Deputy Director at Médecine et Hygiène (M&H). This leading medical content producer in Western Switzerland publishes the *Revue Médicale Suisse*, a weekly magazine and a website (www.revmed.ch) for medical practitioners. Michael is also Editor in Chief of *PlanèteSanté*, a website (www.planetesante.ch) and a magazine delivering high quality health content for a broad public. M&H also organises *PlanèteSanté Live*, a big health show with more than 90 exhibitors that attracts 30 000 visitors over four days. Michael studied computer science, German and the history of science at the Universities of Geneva and Berlin, and at ETH Zürich.



CÉCILE KLINGLER

Trained as a biologist, Cécile Klingler soon turned journalist, specializing in life sciences, health and topics relating to science and society. For 14 years, she was in charge of the biology-medicine section at the French magazine *La Recherche*. She switched to freelancing two years ago, developing skills in data journalism and data visualization. She is also the cofounder and data project manager at PixScience, a science information design agency launched in 2016. Cécile was a mentor for SjCOOP, a training program for African journalists.



CHRISTINE D'ANNA-HUBER

Christine D'Anna-Huber is the Secretary-General of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism and an independent consultant specialising in the field of science communication with mandates from the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Swiss Academy of Technical Sciences and the Swiss Foundation for Technology Assessment, TA-SWISS, among others. She has studied comparative linguistics and is an award winning journalist with over 20 years' experience as a political, cultural and scientific correspondent for several Swiss newspapers and radio stations.



THIS WACHTER

This Wachter is an audio and science journalist currently working as a freelancer in Bern, Switzerland. Until 2016 he was a senior producer at Swiss Public Radio. He led the production of the national 24-hour talk radio station, Radio SRF 4 News. In 2012, he was awarded the honour of the "Prix Média" from the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences for his radio feature about the late Swiss-American bridge-builder Othmar Ammann. This Wachter moved to Swiss Public Radio after 12 years in print journalism.

Science team



EMMANUEL BARRAUD

Emmanuel Barraud is Editor in chief at the media and communication service of EPFL, one of the two Swiss federal institutes of technology. A high school diploma in Science followed by Masters studies in French literature, philosophy and religious sciences led him quite naturally to science journalism. After seven years of activity in the regional newspaper 24heures, he joined EPFL, first as a science writer committed to the popularisation of science. He now leads a team of 10 and corresponds with science journalists from all over the world.



ARNAUD MARSOLLIER

Trained as a science communicator, Arnaud Marsollier has spent the last 20 years in science outreach and communications. He started his career developing programmes for education within youth science associations in Paris covering astrophysics and space. He has worked for the French Association for Astronomy, the National Air and Space Museum and collaborated with the French Space Agency. Ten years ago, he joined CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics. In 2014, he was appointed Head of Media Relations. He holds a Master's degree in science communications.

Side-project contributors



MICO TATALOVIC

Mico Tatalovic is a Knight Science Journalism Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Before this, he worked as environment news editor at New Scientist magazine in London, UK, and as news editor at SciDev.Net, a global science and development news website, helping to coordinate a global network of science journalists reporting from South America, Africa, and Asia. He is chairman of the Association of British Science Writers, ABSW, and sits on the board of the Balkan Network of Science Journalists.



GABRIELE HESS-FERNANDEZ

Gabriele Hess-Fernandez has been reporting for over 25 years about science, medicine and technology for print, radio, online and TV magazines in Europe. She holds a graduate degree in chemistry from the Freie Universität Berlin and teaches science communication at Nantes University. Her experience in video production includes national TV broadcasters ZDF, BBC, Deutsche Welle TV and ARTE. Until the end of 2016, she was the scientific Editor-in-Chief of the weekly science magazine FUTUREMAG, broadcast on the European cultural channel, ARTE. She is a member of AJSPI.

Logistics organisation team



GERALD HOWARD, LAUSANNE TOURISM AND CONGRESS BUREAU

Gerald Howard has been working in the domain of events and congresses for the last 19 years. His professional experience was developed in and with three main professional categories of actors in events: International organisations (ITU, WHO, UNAIDS), corporate entities (MCI-group) and associations (Society Petroleum Engineering, Lausanne Tourism and Congress Bureau). He specializes in congress management (committees, sponsoring & exhibition, speakers, social events, abstracts, registration). Since 2012, he was in charge of the congress market with the Lausanne Tourism and Congress Bureau. His main task is to support clients with the development of events and conferences in Lausanne. In January 2017, he has taken over the sales' development of a new alliance called the Lausanne-Montreux Congress unit.

LAUSANNE-MONTREUX CONGRESS (LMC)

For the WCSJ 2019, LMC is offering its professional event services: online and onsite registration, hotel management, sponsoring, exhibition and speaker coordination, abstracts and social events management. LMC will also provide help to put in place the professional scientific and touristic excursions. A team of around 10 people will ensure the operational and secretariat part of the WCSJ.

Since 1887, Lausanne Tourism has been under continuous development. After 130 years of services, the office offers more than just services for tourists. With over 57 international federations, associations and institutions in Lausanne, the Lausanne Convention Bureau has developed and structured not only solid networking with all regional suppliers but also a state of the art client service that enables any client to fulfil their event's potential with total satisfaction. From 2010, Lausanne Tourism's office has handled no fewer than 127 events and congresses for more than 84 267 participants. And since January 2017, the Lausanne and Montreux Convention Bureaux have joined forces as a single entity: the Lausanne-Montreux Congress for the benefit of all: three conference centres, 132 hotels and more than 80 special venues in the region.

Bid sounding/advisory board



CHRISTOPH UNGAR

Christoph Ungar is currently a scientific journalist and producer of the prime time TV health show 36.9 at Swiss broadcaster, RTS. After completing a Masters degree in Biochemistry at the University of Geneva and Queensland, Australia, followed by several years of medical research in the development of new cures for AIDS and cancer, Christoph refocused his career on journalism. In 2004, he was selected by the Training Centre for Television Production (CFTV) as a video journalist for TSR (now RTS). He then trained as news reporter for Canal9 in the Canton of Valais, and at the Swiss Romand Centre for Journalism (CRFJ). He has been registered as a professional Swiss journalist since 2006.



DOMINIQUE LEGLU

Dominique Leglu is Editorial Director of the Paris-based science magazine Sciences et Avenir and sciencesetavenir.fr (audience 5 million), since 2003, and of La Recherche since 2017. She was formerly head of the scientific section of daily Libération for 14 years before being its associate editor. Dominique also worked for French TV, for publishers (Robert Laffont), and has written five books. She is a former President of AJSPI, delegate to EUSJA and a member of the think tank EuropaNova. Dominique has a background in particle physics (PhD, 1978, College de France in Paris) and an interest in arms control (M.Sc, 2002, Uni Marne-la-Vallée). She is a recipient of the Grand Prize of scientific divulgation from the French academy of science.



JAMES GILLIES

James Gillies began his career at CERN, the European particle physics laboratory, as a research scientist in the mid-1980s. After a stint as Head of Science with the British Council in Paris, he returned to CERN in 1995 as a science writer. He was Head of the Organization's communication group from 2003 to 2015, and has since been working in the strategic planning and evaluation unit, while also assisting the SESAME laboratory in Jordan with communications during its start-up phase. He is co-author of "How the Web was Born", a history of the Internet published in 2000 and described by the London Times as being among the year's ten best books for inquisitive minds.



RETO SCHNEIDER

Reto U. Schneider is the deputy editor of NZZ-Folio, the monthly magazine of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung in Zürich, Switzerland. A former engineer, he switched to science journalism some thirty years ago and specialized in long narrative stories. A four time science journalist of the year he was also a Knight Science Journalism Fellow at MIT in 1987-88 and President of the Swiss Science Writers Association from 2001 to 2005.

Bid team

[OLIVIER DESSIBOURG](#) Freelance journalist, President SASJ (co-lead)

[STEPHANE PRAZ](#) Freelance journalist, member SASJ (co-lead)

[ARNAUD MARSOLLIER](#) Head of Media Relations, CERN

[ASTRID TOMCZAK-PLEWKA](#) Freelance science journalist, member SASJ

[AURÉLIE COULON](#) Science journalist, RTS television, member SASJ

[AURÉLIE KUNTSCHEM](#) Press officer, University of Geneva

[BENJAMIN BOLLMANN](#) Head of science programmes at SwissNex San Francisco

[CÉCILE KLINGLER](#) Freelance science journalist, member AJSPI, delegate WFSJ

[CLAUDIA STEINER](#) Freelance science journalist, member SASJ

[CRISTINA GARCIA FERNANDEZ](#) Press officer consultant, CERN

[DANIELA OVADIA](#) Freelance science journalist, member SWIM

[EMMANUEL BARRAUD](#) Editor in Chief MediaCom EPFL

[FABIO TURONE](#) Freelance science journalist, President SWIM

[FRÉDÉRIC SCHÜTZ](#) Wikimedia Switzerland

[GABRIELE HESS-FERNANDEZ](#) Science journalist, former FutureMag editor in chief, ARTE

[GERALD HOWARD](#) Sales development manager, Lausanne Montreux Congress

[HANNA WICK](#) Science journalist, SRF Swiss television, former board member SASJ

[IGOR CHLEBNY](#) Press officer, University of Neuchâtel

[JACOPO PASOTTI](#) Freelance science journalist, member SASJ and SWIM

[LIA ROSSO](#) Freelance science journalist, member of SASJ

[MADELEINE VON HOLZEN](#) Head of communication, EPFL

[MARTIN AMREIN](#) Science journalist NZZamSonntag, board member SASJ

[MAUREEN DÉCOSTERD](#) Event Manager MediaCom EPFL

[MICHAEL BALAVOINE](#) Editor in chief PlanèteSanté, member SASJ

[OLIVIER MATHIEU](#) Congress & event manager, Lausanne Tourism & Convention Bureau

[PHILIPPE GAGNEBIN](#) Head of communication, University of Lausanne

[RAYMOND BENOIT](#) Freelance science journalist, member SASJ

[THIS WACHTER](#) Freelance science journalist, SRF Radio, former board member SASJ

[VIVIANE THIVENT](#) Freelance science journalist, president AJSPI

[YVES SCIAMA](#) Freelance science journalist, Science&Vie, board member AJSPI

Budget and sponsoring

At the origin of the bidding process, with 25 000 Swiss francs (CHF, almost as much in Euros or US dollars), the Swiss Association of Science Journalists SASJ contributed to a common pot to which our four academic partners (CERN, EPFL, UNIGE, UNIL) kindly added 10 000 CHF each. This allowed the core team to develop the bid you hold in your hands.

For the WCSJ 2019 itself, we have set up an estimated budget with three variants, the lowest welcoming 850 participants, the second 1000, and the most ambitious 1150. So far, we have been able to estimate most fixed costs for the organisation.

Total budget:

2 million CHF

Secured so-far (incl. Kickstart sponsoring):

Cash: ≈ 500 000 CHF

In-Kind: 380 000 CHF

Total: ≈ 880 000 CHF

Sponsoring amounts to be found

(incl. exhibition space rental):

≈ 700 000 CHF

Registration fees:

from 200 CHF (students) to 400 CHF

We have established a plan to fundraise the rest of the budget:

- 1) As we want this WCSJ to be as global as possible, we will set the conference fee as low as possible. We will do everything possible to keep the normal entry fee below 400 CHF, and the students' fee around 200 CHF.
- 2) Collect around 80 000 CHF from exhibitors in the exhibition room.
- 3) Raise, in collaboration with AJSPI, SWIM and the WFSJ another 620 000 CHF to 700 000 CHF in sponsorship. We are confident this is possible, counting on the long-term partnership the WFSJ already has with some sponsors, and on the fact that there are many entities dedicated to the promotion of science and science journalism in Switzerland. We are already in contact with many interested foundations (including Helmholtz, Campus Biotech, H Dudley Wright), institutions (including Universities of Fribourg and Zürich, and ETHZ), private firms (including Airbus and Tag Heuer watches), and other entities (including Eurekaalert and the European Journalism Centre).
- 4) We have set up a list of sponsorship opportunities, ranging from the status of "Platinum sponsor" (250 000 CHF) to smaller items like the conference badges, luncheons or some presence on our website.
- 5) We also plan to make the most of our specific pre-event workshop and long-term projects to attract the interest of supporting institutions, asking them to finance scholarships to attend those events, and then the WCSJ.

It is important to underline we have already **included in our budget 40 to 60 direct and independent scholarships**, which will be guaranteed. More will be added if we find sponsoring entities interested in supporting a specific number of attendees and organising a special event with them onsite in Lausanne.

Kickstart sponsors and supports

We are in a position to immediately start organising the WCSJ 2019, if Lausanne is chosen as host. We have already contacted a number of entities and asked them to commit with kickstart sponsoring should we win the bid. Most of the entities we have contacted have agreed to do so, pledging various amounts. As of mid-July 2019, we can announce the following support:

- **Bertarelli Foundation** (www.fondation-bertarelli.org/)
The Bertarelli Foundation is WCSJ 2019 Lausanne's **first Platinum Sponsor**. The foundation was created in 1998 in memory of Fabio Bertarelli, father of Ernesto and Dona Bertarelli and husband of Maria Iris Bertarelli. The Foundation delivers real change in the fields of marine conservation and science, life science research and in local communities around the world. By developing partnerships with scientists, NGOs, governments and local stakeholders it is the Foundation's hope, that the projects it has helped to establish, will lead the way in addressing some of the most critical issues of our time.
- **Swiss National Science Foundation**, the main public agency supporting science, technology, medical and human sciences and fundamental research in Switzerland (www.snf.ch)
- The **Canton de Vaud**, the regional public administration (www.vd.ch)
- The **City of Lausanne**, the local public administration (www.lausanne.ch)
- **RTS**, the French-language Swiss broadcaster (www.rts.ch)
- **IBM Research Zürich** (www.zurich.ibm.com/)
- **ETH Board**, the board heading the two Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology and four other top-science institutions (www.ethrat.ch/en)
- The **University of Neuchâtel**, one of Switzerland's nine universities, with great technological expertise including time instrumentation (www.unine.ch)
- The **University of Bern**, one of Switzerland's nine universities with a focus including climate research and space science (www.unibe.ch)
- **Tamedia**, one of the two major media publishers in Switzerland (www.tamedia.ch)
- **Swiss academies of Arts and Sciences** (www.swiss-academies.ch/en)
- The French **Centre National de Recherche Scientifique** (www.cnrs.fr)

Marketing and communication plan



**World Conference
of Science Journalists**
Lausanne 2019

If Lausanne has the honour to be entrusted with the organisation of the WCSJ 2019, the work of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) will start immediately since there will be just 20 months to set up the conference before July 2019.

We already have a logo, a website (www.WCSJ2019.eu, active since end of June 2017), some video elements to advertise the conference on social networks, and a clear view of our programme.

Here is a tentative agenda:

November-December 2017: Constitution and confirmation of the LOC

November 2017 to January 2018: Fundraising for the long-term projects.

January 2018: Signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with the WFSJ, defining each entity's roles; preparation of a detailed retro-planning and confirmation of the strategy for action; start of the final fundraising phase.

February 2018: Press conference at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in Austin, Texas to raise awareness of the WCSJ 2019, seek further collaboration, and to contact and meet potential sponsors.

February 2018: Decision by LOC about the launch of the three long-term projects

March 2018: Launch of the WCSJ 2019 official website (we have already reserved the address www.WCSJ2019.eu, online since June 2017), and start of the social media campaign, including the hashtag #WCSJ2019, already in use. These efforts will help us to reach a worldwide audience.

Spring 2018: Preparation of the Call for sessions.

Summer 2018: Press conference and reception at ESOF 2018 in Toulouse, where our partner AJSPI is due to co-organise the European Conference of Science Journalism in collaboration with EUSJA. One goal is to set up and present there the pre-event workshop "Projet Francophonie", and to raise awareness of it with potential French speaking institutions. A strong link will therefore be established between the two events.

Summer 2018: Launch of the Call for sessions

Autumn 2018: Examination of the session proposals by the Programme committee

January 2019: Finalisation of the core programme of sessions.

February 2019: Press conference and reception with the WFSJ at the AAAS conference in Washington DC to announce details of the programme, keynote speakers, pre-event workshops, scholarships, and launch inscription on the website, starting with early-bird prices.

February to May 2019: Personal contacts and meetings with national associations across Europe and further afield to raise awareness of the conference; launch of scholarship programmes.

April 2019: Finalising the core programme and budget

July 2019: WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland

Public outreach programme



Connecting science journalism and science with people and culture

WCSJ 2019 will transcend Lausanne's rich cultural life with various activities, reaching people of different backgrounds and cultural interests. These activities take advantage of the fact that many well-established science-related cultural events and venues already exist in Lausanne, from theatre to museums to concept bars.

Involve the next generation

A special opportunity can be offered to children of middle to high school age as part of the regional holiday programmes for children (at the time of WCSJ, Swiss schools are on holiday). Taking advantage of the open doors many labs will have for WCSJ, youngsters will also have the opportunity to visit, learn, ask questions, and then create articles in various formats in a hand-on workshop with science journalists.

Facilitate public debate

In general, science journalists scrutinize scientists' work. We want to add a new dimension to that in order to shed light not only on science, but also on how science is covered in the media, and how this shapes the general view of it. For this reason, public debates will take place, where science

journalists and scientists critically discuss each other's roles, with a focus on topics of great societal relevance such as new medical treatments, nuclear energy and climate change. The conference website will be used as a means to collect questions from an interested public in advance and to let people participate at a distance.

Science journalism partners with the big screen

Just as science journalists, writers and editors are gathering for WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne, in nearby Neuchâtel, just 40 minutes away by train, the Neuchâtel International Fantastic (Science-Fiction) Film Festival (NIFFF) will be getting underway. Created in 2000, NIFFF has since developed into a major film event. Indeed, NIFFF's quality and original programmes, as well as its prestigious guests have more than won over both the public, with more than 45000 visitors each year, and the critics. With NIFFF, a partnership of special importance has already been secured for WCSJ 2019.

There are many themes of great interest for science journalism as well as for science fiction: neuroscience, fusion of man and machine, robotisation and artificial intelligence to name a few. In close consultation, one theme will be chosen for collaboration between NIFFF and WCSJ 2019. NIFFF will feature a special retrospective on this theme with about 20 films and a number of guests including directors, script writers and actors. The festival will also organise a master class on the theme, which will be open to the public. After a public viewing, the most pressing questions around the chosen topic will be discussed in a public format that engages with the audience. WCSJ will bring in science journalists as facilitators and critical participants to moderate debates between scientists, fiction specialists, science journalists and communicators, and the public.

Four Academic Founding Partners



European Organisation for Nuclear Research

At CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (www.cern.ch), physicists and engineers are probing the fundamental structure of the universe. They use the world's largest and most complex scientific instruments to study the basic constituents of matter – the fundamental particles. Particles are made to collide together at close to the speed of light. This process gives physicists clues about how the particles interact, and provides insights into the fundamental laws of nature. Founded in 1954, the CERN laboratory sits astride the Franco-Swiss border near Geneva. It was one of Europe's first joint ventures and now has 22 member states.



Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne

The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne EPFL (www.epfl.ch) is one of Europe's most cosmopolitan technical universities with students, professors and staff from over 120 nations. Open to Switzerland and the world, the EPFL is centred on its three missions: teaching, research and technology transfer. It works together with an extensive network of partners including other universities and institutes of technology, developing and emerging countries, secondary schools and colleges, industry and economy, political circles and the general public, to bring about real impact for society.



UNIL | Université de Lausanne

University of Lausanne



The University of Lausanne UNIL (www.unil.ch) was founded in 1537 as a school of technology before being made a university in 1890. Today about 13 500 students and 2200 researchers study and work there. Around 1500 international students attend the university representing 120 nationalities. UNIL has a wide curriculum including exchange programs with world-renowned universities. The 2011 Times Higher Education World University Rankings ranked the University of Lausanne 116th globally, and the CWTS Leiden Ranking 2015 put UNIL at 11th place in Europe and 41st globally out of 750 universities.



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

University of Geneva



Founded in 1559 by Jean Calvin and Théodore de Bèze, the University of Geneva UNIGE (www.unige.ch) is the third largest Haute école in Switzerland and is amongst the top 60 best universities in the world. The institution enjoys worldwide recognition and is highly open to the world. It welcomes more than 16 000 students in its nine faculties teaching science, medicine, humanities, economics and management, social sciences, law, theology, psychology and educational sciences, translation and interpreting. UNIGE has three missions: education, research and knowledge sharing.

Lausanne host city



Lausanne – Basic facts

Official language: French.

All of the most common languages are understood.

City population: 130 000

Lausanne area population: 350 000

Climate: Mild. No harsh winter.

Average annual temperature 14°C/57°F.

Average summer temperature 24°C/75°F.

Time zone: GMT + 1 (Summer time + 1 = March-October)

Lausanne – just around the corner

Just 45 minutes from Geneva International Airport by road or rail, Lausanne is easily reachable from all international destinations. And being located at major rail and road interchanges, all of Central Europe is within easy reach.

Lausanne – a landscape city

The city of Lausanne overlooks Lake Geneva, the largest lake in Western Europe, and faces the majestic splendour of the snow-capped Alps. It boasts a backdrop of scenic beauty that is truly breathtaking.

Lausanne – a human city

Home to a population of 130 000 and the hub of a metropolitan area of 350 000, including 80 000 international residents, Lausanne boasts business, cultural, sports and educational facilities that are truly remarkable for a city of its size.

Lausanne – an award winning sustainable city

Lausanne embarked on its path to sustainability in the 1990s by ensuring that all local government services reflected a respect for the environment and the integration of nature into town planning. In 2004, Lausanne's forward-thinking energy policy enabled it to become the first city to be awarded the European Energy Award Gold, a title that was reconfirmed in 2009.

Lausanne – a conference city

Lausanne's compact size, perfect accessibility and well-developed infrastructure make it a top choice for international conferences. Not least, its standing is supported by a cosmopolitan, multilingual population and workforce.

Lausanne - how to get there

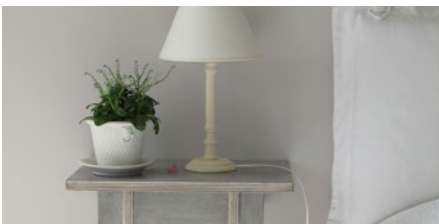
The city of Lausanne lies in the western part of Switzerland, in very close proximity to France and Italy, in the heart of Central Europe. Located just 40 min by road or rail from Geneva, Lausanne is easy to reach by air through Geneva International Airport.

From many European cities, high speed trains reach Lausanne in a few hours:

- Grenoble: 2 hours 50 minutes
- Milan: 2 hours 30 minutes
- Paris: 3 hours 40 minutes
- Brussels: 6 hours 30 minutes

All Swiss cities are reachable in between 40 minutes and 2.5 hours.





Lausanne accommodation opportunities

Although Lausanne is a medium sized city, it is the Olympic capital and is host to a high concentration of multinationals, corporate and federation headquarters. To support these institutions, the city offers a wide range of attractive accommodation options to suit all budgets. For the period of the conference, Lausanne Tourisme can furnish 2000 rooms (250 in 5*, 850 in 4*, 650 in 3* hotels, 250 in other categories). There are 1500 additional rooms in Vevey and Montreux and many others situated between Lausanne and Geneva within 30 minutes of the conference venue.

Category	Number of Hotels/ B'n'Bs	Number of rooms	Number of beds
5* Deluxe	3	515	853
4* & 4* superior	12	1347	2356
3*	22	960	1937
2*	5	308	502
Not classified	4	179	393
airbnb	> 300	> 350	> 500
Hotels within 10km	18	398	920
Total	64 hotels > 300 B'n'B	> 4000	> 7000

Source hotels: Lausanne Tourisme & Hôtellerie Lausannoise/AirBnB, July 2017

Stay with the locals

For WCSJ 2019, the bid team wants all participants to feel welcome in Lausanne and in the Canton de Vaud region. The conference organisers will support low budget participants in preparing their trip. In a format that has been tested during other conferences in the Lausanne region, a list of local and private accommodation provided by locals, especially Swiss journalists resident in the region, along with students and scientists from the EPFL, will be offered to WCSJ 2019 participants looking for low cost accommodation. A special tool to book these will be provided on the WCSJ website.

The cost should be no more than 50 Swiss francs per night.



Visa to attend the conference



Various regulations apply for entering Switzerland. A basic distinction is made between citizens of the European Union (EU) and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries and those of other countries. The State Secretariat for Migration (SEM) is the responsible authority in Switzerland.

Since Switzerland's adherence to the Schengen and Dublin agreements came into force on 12 December 2008, Swiss representations abroad are able to issue certain types of visa, depending on the purpose of the intended stay in Switzerland.

Schengen visa for a stay of up to 90 days

A Schengen visa is available for people wishing to enter Switzerland for a short stay of up to 90 days within a 180-day period: for example in a context of tourism, a visit to relatives or friends, short-term language studies, participating in a conference or in sporting and cultural events. This applies to asking for a visa to attend the WCSJ 2019, with intention of taking part in a field trip in France or Italy. The condition for applicants is that they stay longer in Switzerland than in any other Schengen country during their stay under the Schengen visa.

To help applicants obtain the visa, the WCSJ 2019 organisers will deliver a document explaining the reason and the circumstances of their stay. Grant holders will also be provided with a document attesting that their stay is financially covered.

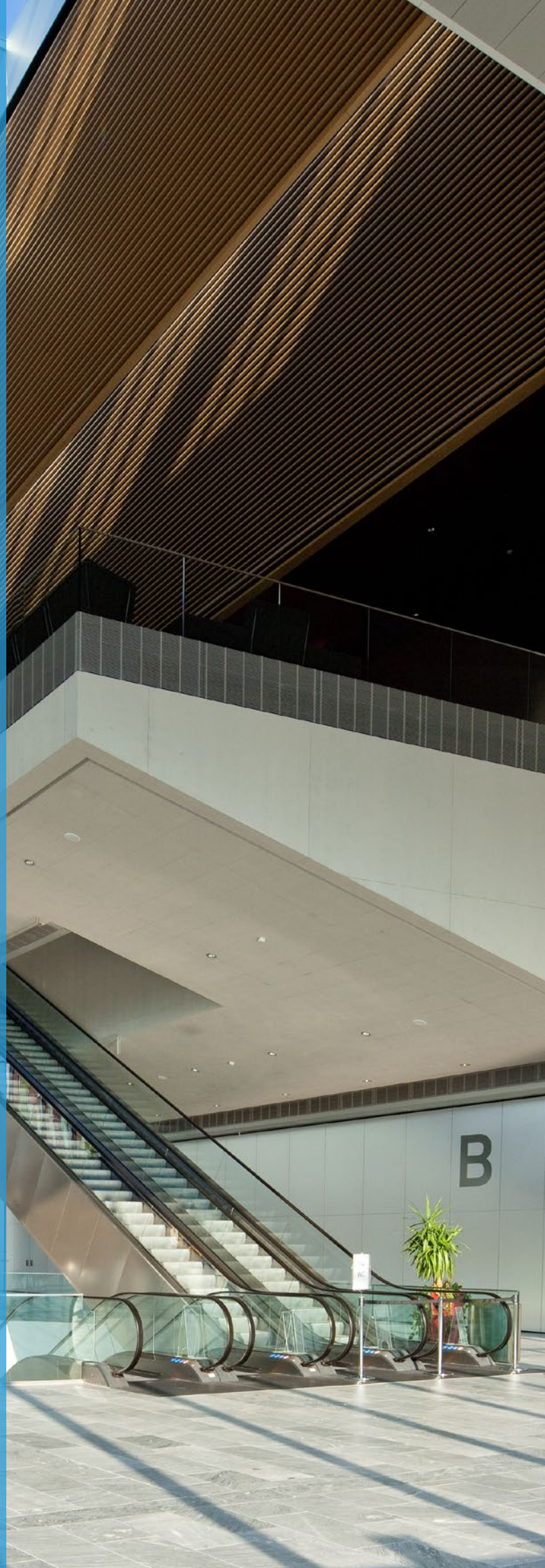
Switzerland has a long tradition for international conferences. Due to the presence of the UN Office in Geneva, many countries have representations in Geneva, which can provide help if necessary.

APPENDIX



Support letters

1. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne EPFL, European Organisation for Nuclear Research CERN, University of Lausanne UNIL, University of Geneva UNIGE
2. European Commission Directorate-General for Research and Innovation
3. 2016 Swiss President J. Schneider-Ammann
4. Canton de Vaud
5. City/mayor of Lausanne
6. SNSF Swiss National Science Foundation
7. CNRS Centre National de Recherche Scientifique
8. Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences
9. Presence Switzerland
10. Swissuniversities
11. ETH-Board
12. United Nations Geneva Office
13. UNESCO
14. ABSW Association of British Science Writers
15. Balkan Association of Science Journalists
16. AKSON Association for keeping science open and newsworthy
17. ESA European Space Agency
18. EMBL European Molecular Biology Laboratory
19. ETHZ Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich
20. PSI Paul Scherrer Institute
21. University of Neuchatel
22. University of Fribourg
23. University of Basel
24. HUG Geneva University Hospital
25. SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics
26. HFSJG High Altitude Research Stations Jungfrauoch and Gornergrat
27. Hochschule der Künste Bern
28. Agroscope
29. Spiez Laboratory
30. EBU European Broadcasting Union
31. Euronews
32. SRG/SSR Swiss Broadcasting Corporation
33. RTS Swiss French-speaking broadcaster
34. Ringier
35. Tamedia
36. Science et Avenir / La Recherche
37. Die Zeit
38. WWF World Wide Fund for Nature Switzerland
39. Cinémathèque Suisse
40. Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques Genève
41. MUSE Science Museum Trento
42. INFN Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare Gran Sasso
43. BRGM, the French Geological Survey
44. Switzerland Tourism





**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

To:
Curtis Brainard.
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

**Bid of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism
for the
World Conference of Science Journalism 2019
to be held in July 2019, in Lausanne, Switzerland**

Lausanne, 30th May 2016

Dear Sir,

We, President, Director-General and Rectors of four major academic and research institutions in the Lake Geneva region (EPFL, CERN, University of Lausanne and University of Geneva), are very pleased support the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ) in its bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalists (WCSJ) in July 2019, in the SwissTech Convention Centre, located on the EPFL Campus (Lausanne).

We will help the SASJ organizing team in its commitment, including co-organizing events and visits, administrative support and participation in longer term projects, to ensure that participants will have the most enriching experience possible.

In addition to generating scientific knowledge, we are extremely conscientious of our responsibility in the dissemination of scientific information. Science journalism plays a crucial role in bringing this common knowledge to the general public in an appropriate and independent way. As research institutions, we engage with science journalists on a regular basis and greatly appreciate the important link that they provide to society at large. In a technologically and science driven economy and society, quality science journalism must be a priority - not only for the benefit of the research community, but also to enable the public in the widest sense to follow, appreciate and engage with science. In Switzerland, science journalism has reached this level, and we are certain this strong tradition could provide the foundation for fruitful and forward-looking discussions during the WCSJ2019.

The location proposed for this conference, the SwissTech Convention Centre, stands at the heart of the EPFL campus, immersed in an innovative and intellectually driven environment, the home of large-scale international, collaborative projects, such as the Human Brain Project. The other institutions, whether in Lausanne or in Geneva – the Universities and especially CERN, which attract tremendous attention from both the scientific and media communities –, also lie within a short distance. Together, they make the entire Lake Geneva region, already a world-renowned hotspot for science, technology and innovation, a perfect place to discuss science in journalism, through exciting lab visits, personal meetings with researchers, and joint events.

Gathering science journalists from around the world and especially from developing nations, in the Lake Geneva region would be both an honour and a pleasure for us. We therefore fully and strongly support the bid of the SASJ to host this important event. We are convinced that the spirit of the Lake Geneva region, of Switzerland, and of Europe if we take into account the collaborations SASJ is establishing with partner organisations in neighbouring countries (France, Italy, Germany) and the partnerships the organizers plan to establish with other pan-European scientific organizations, would enrich the WCSJ2019 and its participants.

We are looking forward to future collaboration in support of science journalism.

Martin Vetterli

President, EPFL (from January 2017)

Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne EPFL / www.epfl.ch /
Station 1, CE 3316, 1015 Lausanne/ Tel +41 21 693 70 01/ martin.vetterli@epfl.ch



Fabiola Gianotti

Director-general, CERN

CERN Organisation européenne pour la recherche nucléaire / www.cern.ch /
385 Route de Meyrin, 1217 Meyrin / Tel +41 22 76 761 11/ fabiola.gianotti@cern.ch



Nouria Hernandez

Rector, University of Lausanne (from August 2016)

University of Lausanne / www.unil.ch /
Unicentre bureau 303, 1015 Lausanne / Tel +41 22 692 20 11/ nouria.hernandez@unil.ch

UNIL | Université de Lausanne

Yves Flückiger

Rector, University of Geneva

University of Geneva / www.unige.ch /
Uni Dufour, 24 rue du Général-Dufour, 1211 Genève 4/ Tel +41 22 379 75 25/ elisabeth.muster@unige.ch



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION
The Director-General

Brussels, **27 JUN 2017**
rtd.ddg1.a.1 (2017) 3519533

Mr Olivier Dessibourg,
Président de l'Association suisse du
journalisme scientifique
dessibourgolivier@gmail.com

Subject: Your request of support for the Swiss-French-Italian consortium submitting a bid to host the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalism

Dear Mr Dessibourg,

Recently, my services were in contact with you as representative of the Swiss-French-Italian consortium submitting a bid to host the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalism.

In today's climate of rapid communication and growing concerns of misinformation, it is essential that more is done to support accurate and professional science communication. We look at the World Conference of Science Journalism as providing an important opportunity for promoting the highest professional standards.

We see great value in the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalism being organised in Europe.

Without prejudice towards other bids, and while we cannot offer financial support, my services may be able to provide other non-financial forms of support to the 2019 edition should a European host be selected. For example, the Commission could deliver a keynote speech, provide a stand to showcase latest developments in EU R&I funded activities, participate in the opening of the conference, in the programme of presentations and associated activities, and encourage and support the participation of inspirational researchers and innovators. We will be ready to further discuss the precise nature of our support with the organisers.

Whatever the outcome of the deliberations, I wish you continuing success.

Yours sincerely,



Robert-Jan Smits

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111
Office: ORBN 02/033- Tel. direct line +32 229-55217
Alexandra.ruete@ec.europa.eu



CH-3003 Bern, GS-EAER, JSA

B-Mail

Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est - Suite 33
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Bern, 13 June 2016

Letter of Support for WCSI 2019 in Lausanne

Dear Mr Brainard

As President of the Swiss Confederation for 2016, and as head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER), I am very pleased to lend my support to the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ) in its bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalists in 2019 on the EPFL/UNIL Campus in Lausanne.

Switzerland is one of the leading countries in science, technology and innovation and the home of world class research and education institutions, such as the EPFL in Lausanne, the ETHZ in Zurich, but also the Universities of Geneva, Lausanne and Zurich. Our universities of applied sciences are also at the edge of research, cooperating closely with the private sector to keep our corporations abreast of the latest developments in science and technology and furthering Swiss innovation. As you are well aware, Geneva is home to CERN and the LHC, which has given the members of your organisation some of the most interesting news in physics in the last three decades by proving the existence of the Higgs boson. Many global corporations such as IBM and Google have opened research centres in Switzerland, and our country has for many years been at the cutting edge of medical and health research with important corporate research centres in and around Basel, Zurich and Lausanne.

The venue chosen to hold this conference, the SwissTech Convention Center on the EPFL/UNIL campus in Lausanne, is at the heart of one of the most innovative and intellectually driven environments in Switzerland, one that has seen tremendous developments over the last two decades. It is also in the heart of French-speaking Switzerland on the shores of Lake Geneva, nestled at the foot of the Jura Mountains and near the Swiss Alps. This magnificent setting combined with excellent tourist facilities will help to make your conference not only a great intellectual event, but also a fantastic collective experience conducive to fostering contacts and friendships between your members.

Schwanengasse 2, 3003 Bern
www.eaer.admin.ch



The success of your conference is of the utmost importance to Switzerland as our country has based its economic success on science and innovation. A good understanding of the great challenges in science and research by the public is, in my view, the very foundation for the political consensus, which allows a government to further the interests of scientific discovery and technological progress. The future of the Swiss and world economy depends on this understanding, which in turn hinges on the clear-eyed and professional journalism of your members. We would therefore be very proud to help you further their professional excellence, if your organization should accept the bid of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism to host the WCSJ in Lausanne in 2019.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Johann N. Schneider-Ammann".

Johann N. Schneider-Ammann

President of the Swiss Confederation
Head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research



Philippe Leuba
Conseiller d'Etat

Rue Caroline 11
1014 Lausanne

Chef du Département de l'économie et du sport

Swiss Association of Science Journalism
Mr. Oliver Dessibourg
President
Rte de la Conversion 310
1093 La Conversion

Lausanne, May 18th 2016

World conference of Science journalism

Candidature of Lausanne for 2019

Dear Sir,

The Government of the Canton de Vaud is highly honored that you are considering supporting the candidacy of the city of Lausanne for World conference of Science journalism from July 1st to 5th 2019.

The Canton de Vaud and the City of Lausanne have a long experience in staging large international events and are in a position to guarantee the success of your Congress. Our region is located in the heart of Europe, at only 40 minutes from Geneva International Airport and connected with a sophisticated road and rail network. Excellent public services, as well as a peaceful social climate are among our strongest assets to meet your requirements. Together with an idyllic environment and extensive tourist facilities, these aspects make the Canton of Vaud an attractive destination for congresses.

The organization of important professional gatherings demonstrates the continuous commitment of a whole region in developing its business tourism in a stimulating intellectual, scientific and economic environment.

This is why we are committing ourselves to support the candidature of the World conference of Science journalism in 2019 with confidence and enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely,

Le Chef du département

Philippe Leuba

Conseiller d'Etat
State Councilor

Département de l'économie et du sport
www.vd.ch/decs – T 41 21 316 60 01 – F 41 21 316 60 37 – info.sgdecs@vd.ch

Swiss Association of Science Journalism
Mr. Oliver Dessibourg
President
Rte de la Conversion 310
1093 **La Conversion**

notre réf. DB/gp
votre réf.

Lausanne, 18 mai 2016

WSJC – World Conference of Science Journalism

Candidature of Lausanne for 2019

Dear Sir,

The Government of the City of Lausanne is highly honored that you are considering our city to host the World conference of Science Journalism 2019 that would take place from 1st to 5th July 2019 at the Swiss Tech Convention Center.

Lausanne is located in the heart of Europe, at only 40 minutes from Geneva International Airport and easily accessible from all European big cities thanks to efficient transport network. Excellent public services, high quality conference venues and a tradition of hospitality ranging from boutiques hotels to palaces are among our strongest assets to meet your requirements.

Situated by Lake Geneva and surrounded by vineyards, countryside and forests, Lausanne is also an ideal point of departure for excursions an, like other Swiss towns, benefits from a stable political and a climate of safety much appreciated by business travelers.

Together with Lausanne Tourisme & Convention Bureau and thus its members (Canton de Vaud, Association des hôteliers de Lausanne), we are enthusiastically supporting your project. The long lasting experience of this organization in assisting congress organizers in the realization of such events will ensure its full success.

We would be highly honored if your committee chooses Lausanne and we will put everything together to guarantee a perfect organization of the World conference of Science Journalism 2017.

Yours faithfully,

The Mayor of Lausanne


Daniel Brélaz



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

www.snsf.ch
Wildhainweg 3, P.O. Box, CH-3001 Bern

Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 33B
Montréal QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Director
+41 (0)31 308 22 22
gs@snsf.ch

Bern, 22 February 2017

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 – Lausanne Bid

Dear Sir,

As Director of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), I am pleased to support the Lausanne 2019 bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalists, being submitted by the Swiss Association of Science Journalism SASJ and its French and Italian counterparts.

The SNSF supports high-quality research as well as researchers in their quest for excellence. It finances over 3,200 projects involving 14,800 researchers each year, supporting research in all academic disciplines, from history to medicine and the engineering sciences. It pays particular attention to the promotion of young researchers and to basic research.

Our foundation facilitates international scientific collaboration and integration, as research in many fields requires increasingly complex processes, which can be mastered only by pooling expertise from all over the world. The SNSF also strongly supports the spread of scientific knowledge in society. It ensures access to research results and communicates them to the public, and it encourages and promotes public debate on the opportunities and challenges of science – a debate that science journalists play a key role in enabling and shaping.

Bringing the World Conference of Science Journalists to Lausanne will be a showcase for the excellent research carried out in Switzerland and foster public debate. The SNSF will support the Conference financially in the early planning phase and collaborate with the organising committee on specific events addressing topics related to science policy and research culture.

We are looking forward to a World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 hosted in Lausanne.

Yours sincerely,

Angelika Kalt

Viviane Thivent, President of the AJSPI
Olivier Dessibourg, President of the ASJS
Fabio Turone, President of the SWIM

Paris, June 29th 2017



Le Président

www.cnrs.fr

Campus Gérard Mégie
3, rue Michel-Ange
75794 Paris cedex 16

T. 01 44 96 40 00
F. 01 44 96 49 13

PRESIDENCE-D-2017-35

Dear Presidents,

I am delighted to express in writing my wholehearted support for the joint candidacy of the Swiss (ASJS), French (AJSPI) and Italian (SWIM) associations of science journalists to organize the World Conference of Science Journalists (WCSJ), in Lausanne in 2019.

None of these three countries has yet hosted this event, despite their prominent position on the world scientific scene.

Should your candidacy be successful, which I sincerely hope, holding this conference in Europe would allow many French scientists to participate in its various events.

The CNRS would also be happy to show science journalists from across the world around its most iconic laboratories, whether in the Alps or in the Paris region – which in all cases is at most a three-hour train journey from Lausanne.

Above all, may I suggest that on this occasion, the CNRS joins forces with you to organize a specific event aimed at French-speaking journalists, which would be a first for the WCSJ. This could promote training in science journalism across French-speaking countries (especially in Africa), set up long-lasting relationships with these journalists, and showcase to them the substantial research work carried out by CNRS researchers in their countries, often on strategic themes, such as health and the environment.

Again, I wish you the best of luck with this endeavour.

Yours faithfully,

Alain Fuchs

Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 33B
Montréal QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Bern, 30. April 2017

Seite 1/1

**World Conference of Science Journalists 2019
Candidature of Lausanne, Switzerland**

Dear Sir

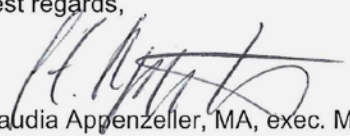
The Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences are very happy and proud to endorse the candidacy of the city of Lausanne for the World Conference of Science Journalism.


Engaging for an equitable dialogue between science and the public and with international partners in science and society is an essential part of the mission of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences. Moreover, the academies advise politics in science-based issues relevant to society. Established in the scientific community and counting on 100'000 affiliates, they have access to expertise and excellence across all disciplines. One major activity of the academies is our engagement in high quality science journalism. We annually reward outstanding achievements with the «Prix Média» supporting journalists in a technically ever faster changing world where evidence-based content is more important than ever.

The academies are extremely pleased to support the spirit of the World Conference. We are strongly committed to contribute outstanding field trips to the program. Despite of being a small country, Swiss researchers are world-wide leaders in global change and sustainability research, life sciences and communication technology. Long standing science-public-dialogue and democratic solution building offers many proximate sites for inspiring field trips, especially into the Alps, an international reference region for sustainable development. In addition, it is our aim to provide the best possible support for outreach activities in the context of the Conference.

We confirm our commitment and look forward to welcoming science journalists from around the world in Switzerland in July 2019.

Best regards,


Claudia Appenzeller, MA, exec. MPA
Director
Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences


Prof. Dr. Maurice Campagna,
President
Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences

Akademien der Wissenschaften Schweiz

Haus der Akademien, Laupenstrasse 7, Postfach, 3001 Bern t +41 31 306 93 06 e roger.pfister@akademien-schweiz.ch
www.akademien-schweiz.ch



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Département fédéral des affaires étrangères DFAE
Secrétariat général SG-DFAE
Présence Suisse

CH-3003 Berne, DFAE, Présence Suisse

Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est – Suite 33
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Bern, 2 November 2016

World Conference of Science Journalism: Candidature of Lausanne for 2019

Dear Sir,

As Head of Presence Switzerland, the division within the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in charge of public diplomacy, I am very pleased that you are taking into consideration the SwissTech Convention Centre, located on the EPFL/UNIL Campus in Lausanne to host the World Conference of Science Journalism (WCSJ) in 2019.

I am very much aware of the positive impact this conference will have on the image of Switzerland, not only in the areas of science and journalism but also in tourism, as the participants will also have the chance to enjoy the vibrant city of Lausanne on the shores of Lake Geneva and its nearby countryside. Therefore, it is with confidence and enthusiasm that I support the bid of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ) to host the WCSJ in 2019 in Lausanne.

I can assure you that if you choose to hold the WCSJ in 2019 in Lausanne, we – together with our colleagues from the SASJ as well as the authorities from the Swiss federal government, the canton of Vaud, the city of Lausanne and the major relevant academic and research institutions in the Lake Geneva region (EPFL, CERN, University of Lausanne and University of Geneva) – will do our utmost to make sure that the participants not only have a stimulating intellectual conference but also the chance to get to know a part of Switzerland steeped in the history of science and surrounded by natural beauty.

Yours sincerely,

Head of Presence Switzerland



Nicolas Bideau
Ambassador

Présence Suisse
Nicolas Bideau
Bundesgasse 32, 3003 Bern
Tel. +41 31 325 07 47, Fax +41 31 324 10 60
www.eda.admin.ch

Mr. Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 33B
Montréal QC H2J 2B7
CANADA

swissuniversities

Berne, 15 March 2017

Prof. Dr. Michael O. Hengartner
President
T +41 31 335 07 40
michael.hengartner@
swissuniversities.ch

swissuniversities
Effingerstrasse 15, Postfach
3001 Bern
www.swissuniversities.ch

Endorsement of Lausanne as the Venue for the World Conference of Science Journalism in 2019

Dear Mr. Brainard

On behalf of the Board of the Rectors' Conference of Swiss Higher Education Institutions (swissuniversities), I would like to express our strong endorsement of the application of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ) to host the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalism on the EPFL/UNIL Campus in Lausanne.

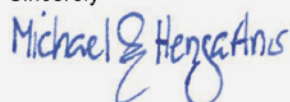
Situated in the heart of Europe, Switzerland is an ideal location. Thanks to the country's outstanding rail and flight connections as well as its efficient public transportation network, participants from all over the world can reach Lausanne and the conference venues easily and comfortably.

The city of Lausanne has the reputation of being highly cosmopolitan and international – a fact reflected in the most recent "Times Higher Education" ranking, in which EPFL Lausanne, together with ETH Zurich, was rated the most international university in the world.

As a country, Switzerland can be viewed as Europe in miniature: It has an extraordinarily diverse national culture, with four national languages and a foreign population of nearly 25 percent. The country's diversity of cultures, languages, and perspectives is a driving force in our research and higher education institutions. As such, Switzerland is an inseparable part of Europe – and this holds particularly true for scholarship, which thrives on cross-border exchange.

It would be both a great honor and a great pleasure to host the 2019 World Conference of Science in Lausanne.

Sincerely



Michael O. Hengartner
President



Rat der
Eidgenössischen
Technischen
Hochschulen
ETH-Rat

Conseil des
écoles
polytechniques
fédérales
Conseil des EPF

Consiglio
dei
politecnici
federali
Consiglio dei PF

Cussegl da las
scolas
politecnicas
federalas
Cussegl de las SPF

Board of the
Swiss Federal
Institutes of
Technology
ETH Board

Swiss Association of Science Journalism
Mr Olivier Dessibourg
President
Rte de la Conversion 310
1093 La Conversion

Zurich, 4 July 2017

**World Conference of Science Journalism
Candidature of Lausanne for 2019**

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the entire ETH Domain, I fully support your application to host the World Conference of Science Journalists on the campus of EPFL in 2019 in my capacity as President of the ETH Board. I am very pleased that the Swiss Association of Science Journalists is committed to staging this conference in Lausanne.

The ETH Domain stands for excellence in teaching, research and innovation of worldwide reputation. Besides the two Federal Institutes of Technology EPFL in Lausanne and ETH Zurich, the research institutes Paul Scherrer Institute, WSL, Empa and Eawag are also part of the ETH Domain. The campus of EPFL is a unique place of exchange between top-class researchers, students and representatives of trade and industry, who transform the campus into an innovation park with their numerous start-ups. Besides Lausanne, Switzerland has further science and innovation hotspots in the immediate vicinity. In particular, Geneva with CERN and the University of Geneva, and Zurich with ETH Zurich, the University of Zurich and the four nearby research institutes of the ETH Domain provide journalists with exciting inputs.

We consider it to be extremely important that science journalism has a weighty voice, particularly in these times, which are difficult for editorial offices. This is why we welcome initiatives which strengthen science journalism worldwide and would be very pleased if Switzerland were able to present itself as the host of this global conference. If this turns out to be the case, the ETH Domain would be pleased to make a financial contribution in the amount of CHF 30,000.

President of the ETH
Board

Haldeliweg 15
CH-8092 Zurich

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Fax:
+41 44 632 11 90

E-mail:
info@ethrat.ch



Rat der
Eidgenössischen
Technischen
Hochschulen
ETH-Rat

Conseil des
écoles
polytechniques
fédérales
CEPF

Consiglio
dei
politecnici
federali
CPF

Cussegl da las
scolas
politecnicas
federalas
CSPF

Board of the
Swiss Federal
Institutes of
Technology
FIT Board

2

The Swiss Tech Convention Center on the EPFL campus will provide you with ideal conditions for the conference. As one of the world's leading universities, EPFL will be a strong partner. We wish the Swiss Association of Science Journalism and the World Conference of Science Journalists a great deal of success and would be pleased to be able to contribute to it.

Yours sincerely,

Fri Schiesser
President of the ETH Board

OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES
À GENÈVE



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AT GENEVA

LE DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

PALAIS DES NATIONS
CH - 1211 GENÈVE 10

9 February 2017

Dear Mr. Brainard,

I am pleased to express my support for the bid by the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ), in partnership with the French *Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information* (AJSPI) and Science Writers in Italy (SWIM) to host the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalists (WCSJ) at the SwissTech Convention Centre in Lausanne.

The Lake Geneva region around Lausanne provides a unique opportunity for the participants to connect with the multilateral work of the international community where the role of science and technology is becoming increasingly important. Together, the many international organizations and partners based in this area, and particularly in Geneva, are the operational hub of the international system and a key platform for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Many of these organizations actively engage with the scientific community to help foster innovation and more inclusive approaches that help towards achieving the Goals.

Hosting WCSJ2019 in Lausanne would enable participants to explore the critical connections between the multilateral agenda and the world of science. The United Nations Office at Geneva stands ready to invite the participating journalists to visit and have activities at the historical Palais des Nations in Geneva, as well as facilitate contacts with and visits of other multilateral partners, so as to engage policy-makers and officials of the International Geneva, thereby bringing an additional key dimension to the WCSJ2019 experience.

We all share an interest in inclusive, informative and critical journalism that allows us to appreciate the advances in science and technology and help us understand the links between science and broader societal challenges, and the impact of the choices we make. I have no doubt that hosting WCSJ2019 in Lausanne would give participants an opportunity to strengthen efforts across all these dimensions in the interest of the profession and the public alike, and am therefore pleased to lend my full support to this bid.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Møller".

Michael Møller

Mr. Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7 - Canada



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Le Sous-Directeur général Pour la Communication et l'Information

S. Exc. M. Jean-Frédéric JAUSLIN
Ambassadeur
Délégué permanent de la
Confédération suisse auprès de
l'UNESCO
Maison de l'UNESCO

Réf.: CI/FEM/17/3654

11 mai 2017

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

Au nom de la Directrice générale, je vous remercie de votre lettre du 17 avril 2017 concernant la proposition de l'Association suisse du journalisme scientifique d'abriter l'édition 2019 du Congrès mondial des journalistes scientifiques (WCSJ 2019) à Lausanne, Suisse.

Il s'agit là d'une initiative louable, en lien avec l'effort programmatique visant à améliorer l'enseignement scientifique de base des journalistes et autres professionnels des médias. A cet égard, l'UNESCO a collaboré avec le Congrès mondial des journalistes scientifiques à maintes reprises, en permettant, par exemple, à 26 journalistes de 18 pays de participer à un atelier sur le changement climatique et la biodiversité qui s'est tenu en marge de ce Congrès mondial des journalistes scientifiques, en juin 2011, au Qatar. L'UNESCO a, depuis lors, publié des programmes d'étude sur le journalisme scientifique, intégrant la bioéthique, en vue d'inclure l'éducation scientifique dans les études de journalisme des pays développés et en voie de développement.

Dans ce contexte, l'Organisation se réjouit de l'offre de l'Association suisse de journalisme scientifique d'abriter l'édition 2019 du Congrès mondial des journalistes scientifiques et j'ai le plaisir de vous accorder le soutien de l'UNESCO à cet effet.

Toutefois, étant donné la situation financière actuelle, l'Organisation ne sera pas en mesure de prendre un engagement financier. Nous souhaitons vivement que le soutien de l'UNESCO permette de renforcer ce dossier de candidature.

Nous vous serions reconnaissant de bien vouloir nous informer de l'issue de la candidature de l'Association suisse du journalisme scientifique, par l'intermédiaire de M. Fackson Banda, point focal pour le journalisme scientifique au sein du Secteur de la Communication et de l'Information (courriel : f.banda@unesco.org, tél. : +331.45.68.42.02).

Je vous souhaite plein succès dans cette entreprise qui représente une cause particulièrement importante, à savoir, mobiliser le journalisme scientifique au service du développement durable.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Frank La Rue

7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP, France
Tél. : +33 (0)1 45 68 42 02

www.unesco.org



Association of British Science Writers
76 Glebe Lane, Barming,
Maidstone, Kent, ME16 9BD

info@absw.org.uk

www.absw.org.uk

29 May 2017

To: Board of Directors, World Federation of Science Journalists

CC: Olivier Dessibourg, Président de l'Association suisse du journalisme scientifique

Dear Mr Brainard and the WFSJ board,

We would like to back the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ) in its bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalists in July 2019 on the EPFL/UNIL Campus in Lausanne.

We like the collaborative nature of their bid that helps foster better cooperation between associations in Europe.

Regarding location, Switzerland is scientifically-strong country that is also convenient to travel to and is close to the UK which makes it affordable and attractive to our members. Its proximity to the UK also opens up a possibility of organising side events in London.

We will look into doing a satellite event or possibly a field trip associated with the conference, in collaboration with the bidders.

Our biennial summer school of science journalism would be taking place that year, and we could time it to act as satellite event to the conference. Given that we have now agreed in principle with the WFSJ executive director to run our summer school in association with the WFSJ, this could be a nice way for us to collaborate both with the WFSJ and the WCSJ2019.

Best wishes,

Mico T

Mico Tatalovic, Chair of the ABSW Board

30 October 2016

World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est – Suite 33
Montréal (QC) H2J 2B7, Canada

Dear Mr Brainard and the WFSJ board,

With this letter, we lend our support to the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ) in its bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalists in July 2019 on the EPFL/UNIL Campus in Lausanne.

Switzerland is geographically near several regions with underdeveloped science and science journalism, including East Europe, Middle East and North Africa, as well the Balkans. As such it would be relatively easy for journalists from those diverse regions to attend it, unlike the conferences recently held in South Korea or to be held in fall 2017 in the US.

Also, Switzerland has traditionally provided development funding to the Balkans and has been a destination for many of emigrants from the Balkans, and as such we have good cultural relations with them and hope this can be an opportunity to further develop our collaboration.

Indeed, we are already cooperating with SASJ on developing a WFSJ SjCoop-inspired type of twinning program for journalists from Western Europe and those from the South-East Europe as part of this 2019 bid. We hope to get the program up and running as soon as we would know the conference has been given to Lausanne, the goal being to present its results and transferable lessons at the WCSJ2019 in Switzerland.

The bid is unique in that it brings several associations together – the Swiss, Italian and the French one – and is also open to collaboration from others, such as the Balkan one, on developing specific projects and field trips.

We are inspired by its collaborative nature and transparency, as well as the long and careful planning way before deadlines: indeed, it's in the most advanced stages of planning of any other bids for the 2019 conference that we're aware of.

In the Balkans, which have generally seen a decline of science journalism over the past two decades, we see this bid as an opportunity to grow, network and develop further, and indeed, as something positive to work towards in the near future – and something many of our colleagues will likely be able to attend due to proximity of the venue.

On behalf of the Balkan Network of Science Journalists,

Mico Tatalovic, Tanje Rudez, Nenad Jaric Dauenhauer (Croatia); Slobodan Bubnjevic, Ivana Horvat, Milica Momcilovic (Serbia); Aurel Marin, Alexandra Nistoroiu, Vasile Decu (Romania); Julianna Photopoulos, Aspasia Daskalopoulou (Greece); Barış Altıntaş, Fatma Esin Ozturk (Turkey); Hristio Boytchev (Bulgaria), Goran Lefkov (Macedonia), Altin Raxhimi, Rudina Kopo (Albania)

LETTER OF SUPPORT



15 Rodchelskaya street,

Moscow, Russia

123022

E-mail: akson.science@gmail.com

<http://akson.science>

Mr. Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montreal, QC H2J 2B7
CANADA

Letter of support

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019

in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Mr. Brainard,

We write to express our support for the bid by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, in partnership with the French Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information (AJSPI) and Science Writers in Italy (SWIM), to host the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne.

The programme proposed for Lausanne 2019 as well as the participation of two major research centre, i.e. CERN and EPFL and a rich choice of satellite press-tours will create a unique opportunity for the world community of science journalists and especially the young but fastly growing communities like the Russian one to come together and discuss the state-of-art of the profession, new opportunities and challenges.

AKSON is the recently born (2016) association of Russian science communicators and journalists. With our 77 members (June 2017) we are very eager to support best practices and highest ethical standards of the work and learn about international experience as well as share our own. AKSON hereby confirms its support of the special conference panel discussion dedicated to communicating science in challenging political environments.

We hope that the bid is successful and look forward to actively taking part in the conference in 2019 with great enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely,

AKSON co-founders

Dr. Alexandra Borissova, Ms. Elena Brandt, Ms. Ekaterina Ivanova, Mr. Dmitry Mallov





headquarters

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F-75738 Paris Cedex 15
France
T +33 (0)1 53 69 76 54
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World Federation of Science Journalists
Mr Curtis Brainard, President
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est – Suite 33
Montreal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Our ref. DG-C/2017-00010

Paris, - 7 MARS 2017

Subject: **Support Letter for Lausanne 2019**

Dear Mr Brainard,

We have been approached by the bidder organisation for the World Conference of Science Journalists in Lausanne, July 2019.

We very much appreciate their approach, a first to our knowledge, seeking to involve the European Space Agency in this very important event.

The European Space Agency sees the great value of a conference of this kind in Lausanne and, if the bid is successful, we would be ready to participate to make it a success.

Our potential contributions would include a press trip including the visit and presentations at one of our Establishments for 15–20 media, a small exhibition and/or stand in the locale, as well as the availability of speakers and experts as found appropriate by the organisers.

We look forward to help enrich the participants' experience with a deeper knowledge of the activities of the European Space Agency and of our cosmos in general.

Your contact in the future for this activity is:

Pal A. Hvistendahl
Head of Media Relations, ESA

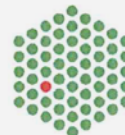
Sincerely,

Franco Bonacina
Head of Communication

Copy: Pal Hvistendahl

European Space Agency
Agence spatiale européenne

EMBL



Director General • EMBL • Meyerhofstr. 1 • 69117 Heidelberg • Germany

Mr. Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
CANADA

cc. Arnaud Marsollier, CERN
arnaud.marsollier@cern.ch

Prof. Iain W. Mattaj, FRS, FMedSci
Director General

T +49 6221 387-8200
F +49 6221 387-8211

dg-office@embl.org

EMBL
Meyerhofstraße 1
69117 Heidelberg
Germany
www.embl.de

Heidelberg, 21 March 2017

**Letter of support
World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne,
Switzerland**

Dear Mr Brainard

I write to express my support for the bid by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, in partnership with the French *Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information* (AJSPI) and *Science Writers in Italy* (SWIM), to host the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne.

The programme proposed for Lausanne 2019 will provide a unique opportunity for the worldwide community of scientific journalists to come together and learn about the responsibilities and opportunities of science. The Lake Geneva area is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne an ideal location for this event.

EMBL, the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, is Europe's flagship laboratory for the life sciences. Established in 1974 as an intergovernmental organisation, EMBL is supported by over 20 member states and works across five sites, including at Grenoble and Heidelberg, both within reach of Lausanne. We anticipate supporting the Lausanne conference by offering a rich programme of visits and providing access to our scientists, who are leading some of the most innovative fundamental research in the life sciences.

We support this project with great enthusiasm and look forward to actively taking part in the conference in 2019.

Yours sincerely

Prof. Iain W. Mattaj, FRS, FMedSci

European Molecular Biology Laboratory
Laboratoire de Biologie Moléculaire
Europäisches Laboratorium für Molekularbiologie



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Corporate Communications

ETH Zurich
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Head Corporate Communications
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Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 33B
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7

Canada

Zurich, 24 May 2017

World conference of Science Journalists 2019

Dear Sir

As head of Corporate Communications of ETH Zurich, I am pleased to support the Lausanne 2019 candidacy to host the World Conference of Science Journalists, which is submitted by the Swiss, French, and Italian science journalists associations.

ETH Zurich strongly encourages communication and discussion between science and the public. Our institution consciously directs its activities to the needs of human beings and the society. We are therefore dedicated to the ongoing dialogue about these needs with decision-makers and society as a whole. High quality journalism plays a key role in promoting this dialogue, which is why we strongly believe in supporting the development and excellence of scientific journalism.

Situated in the heart of Europe, yet connected to all corners of the globe, ETH Zurich is developing innovative solutions to the global challenges of today and tomorrow. Our values are freedom and individual responsibility, entrepreneurial spirit and open-mindedness. These values drive our scientific mission and shape our public engagement.

Against this background, we will gladly contribute to the World Conference of Science Journalists, offering field trips to some of our outstanding research facilities. In addition, we will be happy to take part in debates and discussions concerning the challenges of the exchange between science, journalism and society.

Again, I would like to emphasize our strong support for the Lausanne 2019 candidacy to host the World Conference of Science Journalists.

Yours sincerely

Paul Scherrer Institut
5232 Villigen PSI
Switzerland
+41 56 310 21 11
www.psi.ch

Dagmar Baroke
Communications
OVGA/404A
direct +41 56 310 29 16
dagmar.baroke@psi.ch

Villigen PSI, March 2017



Letter of support

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Paul Scherrer Institute fully supports the candidacy to host the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, proposed by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, with support of the French and Italian associations.

Lake Geneva is one of the leading regions in science and technology, and holds a top place in global research. The Lemanic Arc is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators from all over the world. Lausanne is located in the heart of Europe and just 40 minutes from Geneva, a truly international hub, hosting many international organizations dealing with global issues in science and technology.

The programme proposed for Lausanne 2019 will provide a unique opportunity for the worldwide community of scientific journalists to come together and learn about the responsibilities and opportunities of science.

The World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne would strengthen existing links and build new bridges between scientific communities and science journalists from all over the world.

We support this project with great enthusiasm and look forward to actively taking part in the success of the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019.

Yours sincerely

Paul Scherrer Institute
Dagmar Baroke
Head of Communications

Neuchâtel, December 7th 2016 KS/mj

Monsieur Olivier DESSIBOURG
Président de l'Association suisse du
journalisme scientifique
Route de la Conversion 310
1093 La Conversion

World Conference of Science Journalism 2019 : letter of support

Dear Sir,

Kilian Stoffel
Recteur
kilian.stoffel@unine.ch
+41 32 718 10 25

The University of Neuchâtel (UniNE) is pleased to support the bid of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism to host the World Conference 2019 in Lausanne.

We are ready to help the Organization Committee in the aim of bringing the most enriching experience to the participants. We will give our support as a partner and organize a visit in Neuchâtel, where our University plays the role of educating the future French-speaking journalists in Western Switzerland.

The UniNE is really rejoicing with the idea of the possible venue of the World Conference in Switzerland.

Yours sincerely



Kilian Stoffel, rector of the University of Neuchâtel

Rectorat
Av. de l'Europe 20
CH -1700 FribourgT +41 26 300 70 02
F +41 26 300 97 01
rectorat@unifr.ch
www.unifr.chMr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Ann Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Fribourg, January 10, 2017 AE/FA/kg
**Bid of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism for the World
Conference of Science Journalism to be held in July 2019 in Lausanne,
Switzerland**

Dear Sir,

The University of Fribourg proudly supports the bid of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism to organise the World Conference of Science Journalism in Lausanne in 2019.

Our institution is ready to offer its support to the Organising Committee, within the means at its disposal, with a view to making this event a rewarding experience for everyone. As the only bilingual university in Switzerland, we are pleased to offer a tour of our institution and its region to the participants of the 2019 Conference.

The University of Fribourg is particularly delighted at the prospect of such an inspirational event at the level of international science communication being held in Switzerland.

With kind regards,


Astrid Epiney
RectriceRECTORAT
LA RECTRICEREKTORAT
DIE REKTORIN



**University
of Basel**

Vice President's Office
for Research

University of Basel, Vice President for Research, P.O. Box 2148, 4001 Basel

Mr. Curtis Brainard
President, World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 33B
Montréal QC H2J 2B7
CANADA

Basel, 27th April 2017

Letter of Support for WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne

Dear Mr. Brainard

I am pleased to support the bid submitted by the Swiss Association of Science Journalism and its French and Italian sister organizations for Lausanne to host the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalists in Switzerland,

In addition to its core academic activities in teaching and research, the University of Basel also engages in lively interactions with society, culture, and economy in the region as well as on the national and international stages. The University of Basel is aware of the crucial role independent science journalism plays in fostering this dialogue through the dissemination and discussion of research results. As a research university, we understand how important it is that the detailed and specific information produced by our scientists is rendered into a form that can be understood and appreciated by the public. In particular, the challenges of the new Open Data environment enhance the need for efficient and informed scientific communication.

The University of Basel is honored to support the Conference as an academic partner and will organize a series of specific events for the participants. These visits will be organized in collaboration with major research institutions in the Basel region, including the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) and the Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research (FMI). Our University will also be happy to contribute to the success of the Conference and to ensure its enduring impact by connecting journalists with Basel scientists at the cutting edge of knowledge.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Edwin Charles Constable
Vice President for Research

University of Basel
Vice President for Research
Petersgraben 35
4051 Basel, Switzerland

Edwin Constable
Vice President for Research
T +41 61 207 10 01
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edwin.constable@unibas.ch

To whom it may concern

Geneva, 2nd March 2017

Direction de la
communication

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam,

We fully support the candidacy to host the World Conference of Scientific Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, proposed by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, with support of the French and Italian associations.

Lake Geneva is one of the leading regions in science and technology, and holds a top place in global research. The Lemanic Arc is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators from all over the world. Lausanne is located in the heart of Europe and just 40 minutes from Geneva, a truly international hub, hosting many international organizations dealing with global issues in science and technology.

The program proposed for Lausanne 2019 will provide a unique opportunity for the worldwide community of scientific journalists to come together and learn about the responsibilities and opportunities of science.

The World Conference of Scientific Journalists 2019 in Lausanne would strengthen existing links and build new bridges between scientific communities and science journalists from all over the world.

We support this project with great enthusiasm and look forward to actively taking part in the success of the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019.

Yours sincerely



Sylvia de Meyer
Head of Communications



Swiss Institute of
Bioinformatics

Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est – Suite 33
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Lausanne, 22 May 2017

World Conference of Science Journalism (WCSJ) – Candidature of Lausanne for 2019

Dear Mr Brainard,

On behalf of the SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, I am pleased to offer our support to the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (ASJS) in its bid to host the 2019 WCSJ in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Science journalists from around the globe will be warmly welcomed at the heart of our vibrant Swiss scientific ecosystem, which includes a dense world-class community of **computational biologists**. At SIB, we will be looking forward to offer them a bird's eye view of the latest advances in this field - which has become key for major advances in life sciences, from evolution to drug design and precision medicine - with **outreach activities, lab visits or get-togethers** with our data scientists.

Our Institute, which has been leading the field of bioinformatics in Switzerland since 1998, has also always been committed to engage with the public and the media: last year **1,300 participants** took part in our outreach activities and workshops.

In a nutshell, SIB is a non-profit foundation, which brings together some **800 scientists in 65 research and service groups across 19 Swiss institutions**, and provides core resources and infrastructure for the global life science community.

We will therefore gladly use our experience to support the event as much as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Ron Appel
Executive director



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Bâtiment Génopode
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Switzerland
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www.sib.swiss

Internationale Stiftung

Prof. Dr. Markus Leuenberger
Direktor

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internet: www.hfsjg.ch/

Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 33B
Montréal QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Bern, May 19, 2017

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019

Dear Sir

The International Foundation High Altitude Research Stations Jungfrauoch and Gornergrat (HFSJG) fully supports the Lausanne 2019 bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalists.

Our strong emphasis on atmospheric research addresses one of the largest problems faced by humanity, namely climate change. Given the great significance this topic has for all of us, outreach to policy makers and to the public is a key pillar of our work. We want to raise public awareness of the important scientific mission of our two Research Stations, which delivers the basis for critical policy decisions on climate change that are needed for a sustainable socio-economic development.

WCSJs international orientation clearly corresponds to the need of addressing these issues globally and to enable an informed debate within global society. Furthermore, it is completely in line with the foundation's international framework. From its very beginning, HFSJG involved international partners, namely Austria, Belgium, France, Germany and the United Kingdom. Meanwhile, it hosts researchers and research projects from all over the world and is part of several global research initiatives.

The HFSJG's founders established an organisation that allows researchers easy access to the alpine environment. We are happy to allow this access also to science journalists attending WCSJ 2019. For this reason, we will organise two field trips: One to the Jungfrauoch Research Station, one to the Gornergrat Research station. Both are extraordinary places: well known worldwide as exciting tourist destinations and at the same time internationally renowned for their comprehensive high altitude research with great significance on a global scale.

We are keen to help making the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne a success for all: science journalism, science and society.

Sincerely



Prof. Silvio Decurtins
President
International Foundation
High Altitude Research Stations
Jungfrauoch and Gornergrat



Prof. Markus Leuenberger
Director
High Altitude Research Stations
Jungfrauoch and Gornergrat

HKB

Hochschule der Künste Bern
Haute école des arts de Berne
Bern University of the Arts

Berner Fachhochschule
Hochschule der Künste Bern HKB
Research
Giovanna Di Pietro

HKB | Forschung, Fellerstrasse 11 | 3027 Bern

World Federation of Science
Journalists
Ms. Curtis Brainard
President of Federation
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est – Suite 33
Montreal. QC H2J2B7
Canada

Fellerstrasse 11, 3027 Bern
Telefon 031 848
Giovanna.dipietro@hkb.bfh.ch
www.hkb.bfh.ch

31st May 2017

Support letter for WCSJ

Dear Mr. President,

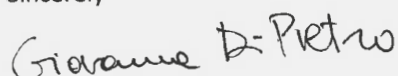
We are glad to be informed that Switzerland will be one of the candidate for the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalists.

The Research Area Materiality in Art and Culture would be very pleased to host 25 participants of the conference for a half-day visit to our conservation facilities and the art technology lab at the Bern University of the Arts specialized in the science of the conservation and restoration of art and cultural objects. In particular, we will present for the first time the results of the recent SNF funded project Unfreezing History shedding light on the degradation and possible conservation strategies for an unique object, the single Neolithic bow case ever found. Its story has strong similarities in time, scenario (high Alpine pass), as the world wide famous Otzi, the Iceman. The bow case was recovered from an ice patch at the Schniedejoch pass in the Bernese Alps in 2003 and now stored in a deep freezer.

We will visit the Atelier of conservation and restoration of paintings, paper, modern materials and architectural objects highlighting how science is used to understand more deeply our cultural heritage and preserve it for the future generation.

We are ready to offer a train trip from Lausanne to Bern for the 25 participant and a cocktail.

Sincerely



Giovanna Di Pietro
Lecturer in Physics

 Berner Fachhochschule
Haute école spécialisée bernoise
Bern University of Applied Sciences



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER

Agroscope

[Agroscope, gymi, Schwarzenburgstrasse 161, CH-3003 Bern](#)

Cristina Garcia Fernandez
CERN
Press Office
1211 Geneva 23

Reference:
Your reference:
Our reference:
Contact person:
Liebefeld, 25 April 2017

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam,

We fully support the candidacy to host the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, proposed by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, with support of the French and Italian associations.

Lake Geneva is one of the leading regions in science and technology, and holds a top place in global research. The Lemanic Arc is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators from all over the world. Lausanne is located in the heart of Europe and just 40 minutes from Geneva, a truly international hub, hosting many international organizations dealing with global issues in science and technology.

The programme proposed for Lausanne 2019 will provide a unique opportunity for the worldwide community of scientific journalists to come together and learn about the responsibilities and opportunities of science.

The World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne would strengthen existing links and build new bridges between scientific communities and science journalists from all over the world.

We support this project with great enthusiasm and look forward to actively taking part in the success of the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Michael Gysi
CEO of Agroscope

Michael Gysi
Schwarzenburgstrasse 161, Liebefeld, CH-3003 Bern
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michael.gysi@agroscope.admin.ch
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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Defence,
Civil Protection and Sport DDPS

Federal Office for Civil Protection FOCP
SPIEZ LABORATORY

CH-3700 Spiez, Spiez Laboratory, BUA

World Federation of Science Journalists
President of Federation
Dear Mr. President
Curtis Brainard
1123, rue Marie-Anne Est-Suite 33
QC H2J2B7 Montreal
Canada

Reference:
Your reference:
Our reference:
Contact person:
20. July 2017

Support letter for WCSJ

Dear Mr. President

I write to express my support for the bid by the Swiss Association of Science Journalist in partnership with French *Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information* (AJSPI) and *Science Writers in Italy* (SWIM), to host the World Conference of Science Journalist 2019 in Lausanne.

The programme proposed for Lausanne 2019 will provide a unique opportunity for the worldwide community of scientific journalists to come together and learn about the responsibilities and opportunities of science. Lake Geneva is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators from all over the world.

Spiez Laboratory is the Swiss Federal Institute for NBC-Protection. We cover the entire range of scientific and technical aspects of NBC-protection (detection, identification and diagnosis.) We advise international organizations in implementing and developing arms control and non-proliferation agreements, and we are involved in international missions relating to arms control and environmental protection. We are a Collaborating Centre of the IAEA and we are a designated laboratory for the OPCW and the ICRC. Some of the projects for the next years are focused on issues of public health, biosafety and nuclear security.

Federal Office for Civil Protection FOCP
Dr. Andreas Bucher
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www.labor-spiez.ch

ID number/Vers. 10014765822/01

Reference: 300-Veranst/2017

1/2

Spiez Laboratory will offer to journalists the opportunity to visit our institution which houses the only BSL-4 biocontainment lab in Switzerland, the only Schedule-1-Facility for the synthesis of highly toxic compounds, a state-of-the-art research lab for nuclear forensics and much more. We anticipate contributing to the programme of the conference and would be glad to organize a visit related to our activities. We support this project with great enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely

SPIEZ LABORATORY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andreas Bucher', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Andreas Bucher
Head Strategy and Communications



OPERATING EUROVISION AND EURORADIO

DATE

13 March 2017

REFERENCE

ID/gm/sg

SUBJECT

2019 World Conference of Science Journalists

Mr. Curtis Brainard

President

World Federation of Science

Journalists

1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12

Montréal, QC H2J 2B7

Canada

Dear Mr. Brainard,

I am pleased to express the support of the European Broadcasting Union, the association I represent, for the bid by the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ), in partnership with the French Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information (AJSPI) and Science Writers in Italy (SWIM) to host the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalists (WCSJ) at the SwissTech Convention Centre in Lausanne. A bid that also our prominent member RTS, the French speaking Swiss broadcaster supports.

Our Union is based in Geneva and the region around Lausanne provides a unique opportunity for the participants to connect with the multilateral work of the international community where the role of science and technology is becoming increasingly important. Together, the many international organizations and partners based in this area, and particularly in Geneva, are the operational hub of the international system. Many of these organizations –and we are one of them- actively engage with the scientific community. Public Service Broadcasting –as you know- has in its mission "to educate" and to acquaint citizens to better understand the world around them. A world that in this beginning of XXIst century is more and more shaped by technological and scientific progresses.

Hosting WCSJ2019 in Lausanne (and for some events in Geneva) could provide a unique opportunity to explore the relationship between Public Service Broadcasting and the storytelling of science, with a possible initiative that we could eventually study together with the organizer to make a point on where these relations stand today. Also at our center journalists could test and experiment the forefront technologies in media sector, such as 4 and 8 K ultra hi-definition systems; virtual reality, binaural sound and so on.

UNION EUROPÉENNE DE RADIO-TÉLÉVISION

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www.ebu.ch

On top of that, as you probably know, our Union provides also high quality services to all journalists around the world to cover all kind of events, through its branch called Eurovision, that supplies host broadcasting service, satellite and fiber-optics based connection of high quality, stand up position, telecasted briefing and many others more. This expertise and infrastructure could be –if needed- made available for the world journalists arriving in the region to cover and follow the Conference and the many related events around it. Our partners (UNOG, CERN, ITU, and all the other international organization based here) pass through us to reach the world every day. It will be a pleasure for us to do the same for the WCSJ participants in 2019.

For all these reasons, I am therefore pleased to lend my full support to this bid. For any other supplementary information you could need, please liaise with our head of Institutional Relations, Mr. Giacomo Mazzone

Yours sincerely,



Ingrid Deltenre
Director General

Copy To: Charlotte Lindberg Warakaulle – CERN
(charlotte.lindberg.warakaulle@cern.ch)
Arnaud Marsollier – CERN
(Arnaud-Marsollier@cern.ch)
Gilles Marchand – RTS
(gilles.marchand@rts.ch)
Graham Warren – EBU
(Warren@eurovision.net)
Jean Philip De Tender – EBU
(detender@ebu.ch)
Giacomo Mazzone – EBU
(mazzone@ebu.ch)

Le Président du Directoire

Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Lyon, 13th July 2017

Dear Sir,

With this letter, we, at Euronews, would like to express our strongest support to the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ), and its French and Italian sister's organizations, in their efforts to bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalism in Lausanne, Switzerland, 1-5 July 2019.

Euronews is the most-watched news channel in Europe and is a full multimedia platform for viewers on the move. Our channel covers world news in 12 different languages and broadcast 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in Arabic, English, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Turkish.

Euronews reaches **400 million households in 155 countries** via cable, digital satellite and terrestrial windows. Euronews offers programs and interactive services on cable, satellite, terrestrial, IPTV and smart TV. In addition, Euronews is available on internet, tablets and mobile phones (free live app on iPad, iPhone, Android and live on 26 mobile networks).

We are extremely conscientious of our role and responsibility in the dissemination of scientific information, science journalism plays a crucial role to bring this common knowledge to the general public in a proper and independent way. In a technologically driven economy, quality science journalism is an of utter importance for providing the sain criticism necessary to help shape society.

In Europe, science journalism has reached a high level, and we are proud to say that Euronews is largely contributing to that effort through our regular coverage of scientific news and dedicated magazines like Space and Futuris (in partnership with ESA and European Commission).

We are certain this could lay the basis for fertile and very interesting discussions during the WCSJ2019, together with so many talented science journalists.

As far as possible, we will cover, with our journalists and editors, the highlights of the WCSJ and even take part in session if asked so. As media managers, we would also make everything possible to underline the importance of science journalism in a technically and scientifically so rapidly changing world.

We will back the SASJ organizing team in its commitment. We are looking forward to future collaborations with the Swiss Association of Science Journalism and its co-organizers for the WCSJ2019, and can only recommend you to attribute this conference to the city of Lausanne.

Best regards,



Michael Peters

World Federation of Science Journalists
Curtis Brainard, President
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Director general
Giacomettistrasse 1
3000 Berne 31
Phone +41 31 350 91 11

E-mail roger.deweck@srgssr.ch
Direct no. +41 31 350 94 11
Fax +41 31 350 97 09
Date May 9, 2017

Sir,

As the Swiss Public Broadcasting Corporation, the SRG SSR is very pleased to support the Swiss Association of Science Journalism and its French and Italian sister organisations in the bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalism 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

With about 6000 employees, an annual turnover of around 1.6 billion Swiss francs, 17 radio stations and 7 television channels, as well as complementary websites and teletext services, SRG SSR is the largest electronic media organisation in Switzerland. Science programs and magazines have always played a big part in our understanding of public service media. We are convinced of the importance of accurate scientific information for the public interest and the advancement of our society.

We are also convinced that the dynamism and focus on innovation of the Geneva-Lake area will be a wonderful setting for your conference. This region hosts many renowned scientific and technological centers and is well known for the inventiveness and quality of its scientific and technical training.

The place chosen to hold this conference, the SwissTech Convention Center, stands at the heart of the EPFL campus. There, until 2020, the French-speaking branch of the SRG SSR (RTS) will build a whole new center with television and radio studios. This effort will definitely strengthen the links between the scientific and the media world. We are ready to present this initiative at the WCSJ 2019. And we will be honoured and pleased to help our fellow journalists from all over the world to learn, discuss and cover the many issues they will address during this conference.

Yours sincerely,



Roger de Weck
Director general



Gilles Marchand
Director general designate



Direction
GM/nc
gilles.marchand@rts.ch

Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montreal, Qc. H2J 2B7
Canada

Geneva, December 6th 2016

Bid of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism for the World Conference of Science Journalism 2019 to be held in July 2019, in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Sir,

As the Swiss national French-speaking Public Broadcaster (radio, tv and web), the RTS (Radio-Television Suisse) is very pleased to support the Swiss Association of Science Journalism in his bid to host the World Conference of Scientific Journalism in 2019 on the EPFL/UNIL campus in Lausanne.

Science programs and magazines have always played a big part in our history of public service media. We are convinced of the importance of the quality and accuracy of scientific information for the public interest and the advancement of our society.

We are also convinced that the dynamism and focus on innovation of the Lemanic area will be a wonderful setting for such a Conference. Our region hosts many world-renowned scientific and technological centers and is well known for the inventiveness and quality of its scientific and technical training, as well as for the sense of innovation, engineering and quality of work of its inhabitants, companies and universities. Switzerland is for example the country that filed the most patents per capita last year in the world.

We are pleased to report on this vibrant and productive scientific and technological community all year long in our programs, and we will be honored and pleased to help our fellow scientific journalists from all over the world to discover it, and to learn, discuss and cover the many scientific fields and top-notch technological issues they will address during this Conference.

Yours sincerely,

Radio Télévision Suisse

Gilles Marchand
General Director (CEO)

<https://www.rtsentreprise.ch/en/home/>

To:

Curtis Brainard.
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Dear Sir,

With this letter, we at Ringier, would like to express our strongest support to the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ), and its French and Italian sisters organisations, in their effort to bid to host the World Conference of Science Journalism in Lausanne, Switzerland, in July 2019.

Ringier is an internationally active, modern media group with an integrated and diversified value creation chain. The current strategy is based not only on media but also on e-commerce and entertainment. See : www.ringier.com

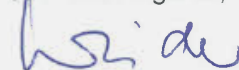
We are conscious of our role and responsibility in the dissemination of scientific information, also on new media channels. Science journalism plays a crucial role to bring this common knowledge to the general public in a proper and independent way. In a technologically driven economy, quality science journalism is of utter importance for providing the necessary information to society.

In Switzerland, science journalism has reached a high level, and we are proud to say that Ringier, amongst other through the daily Science page in the newspaper and website based in Lausanne *Le Temps* (which Ringier co-owns with Axel Springer), is largely contributing to that effort. We are certain this could lay the basis for fertile and interesting discussions during the WCSJ2019, together with so many talented science journalists.

We are also convinced that the dynamism and focus on innovation of the Geneva-Lake area will be a wonderful setting for such a conference. This region hosts many world renowned scientific centres and is well known for the quality of its scientific and technical training, as well as for the sense of innovation, engineering and quality of work of its inhabitants, companies and universities.

We will help the SASJ organizing team in its commitment with all possible means. We are looking forward to future collaborations with the Swiss Association of Science Journalism and its co-organizers for the WCSJ2019, and can only recommend you to attribute this conference to the city of Lausanne.

With best regards,



Marc Walder, CEO Ringier

CEO

Ringier AG
Dufourstrasse 23
8008 Zürich
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marc.walder@ringier.ch
www.ringier.com

Swiss Association of Science Journalism
Mr. Olivier Dessibourg
President
Route de la Conversion 310
1093 La Conversion

Lausanne, 12th December 2016

Bid of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism for the World Conference of Science Journalism 2019 to be held in July 2019, in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Sir,

I am writing to confirm that Tamedia undertakes to support the candidacy of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism for the organisation of the World Conference of Science Journalism at Lausanne in 2019. This support will also take the form of a financial commitment by our Group if the organisation is awarded to the Swiss candidate.

Tamedia is the leading private Swiss media group. Founded in 1893, our company employs a staff of approximately 3,400 in Switzerland, Denmark, Luxembourg, Germany and Austria. We help our readers and users make sense of an increasingly complex world with a wide range of perspectives and by offering structure and choices to our customers. Underpinned by quality journalism, attractive commercial offerings and high-performance service platforms, our Group aims to position itself as one of Europe's leading digital media groups by 2020.

Most of the scientific journalists in our various editorial teams in Switzerland are members of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism and its Board. Their efforts make it possible to incorporate scientific knowledge and its application to social issues into our various brands, for the benefit of our readers. Through their articles, they narrate stories, explain processes and create links that help to place science within its social, cultural and political context. Organising the 2019 World Conference of Science Journalism in Lausanne would open up opportunities for encounters between Swiss scientific journalists and their worldwide colleagues, thereby promoting a fruitful interchange of ideas on the campus of EPFL/UNIL in Lausanne, one of Switzerland's foremost centres for science, technology and innovation.

In closing, I would again like to emphasise our support for your candidacy.

Yours sincerely,



Serge Reymond
Director of Paid Media
Tamedia



La Recherche

Sciences et Avenir – La Recherche
41 bis, avenue Bosquet 75007 Paris
T. 01 55 35 56 00

Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Paris, May 18, 2017

Dear Sir,


As the editorial director for both french science magazines « Sciences et Avenir » and « La Recherche », I fully support the candidacy of Lausanne to host the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019, proposed by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, with support of the French Association des journalistes scientifiques de la presse d'information (AJSPI).

« Sciences et Avenir » and « La Recherche » are two magazines which defend and promote a high quality science journalism / science publishing. Everyday, we can see how important it is for our societies to develop a good, factual and independent dissemination of science facts. Our two magazines contribute to that, but that effort cannot be ours only. It has to be shared by the entire science journalism community.

Having taken part in many European and World science journalism conferences so far, I can only support the organization of such events, with regard to their high usefulness. Especially when they are held in Europe. Lake Geneva is one of the leading regions in science and technology, and holds a top place in global research. The Lemanic Arc is an important global center for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators and science journalists from all over the world.

The program proposed for Lausanne 2019 will provide a unique opportunity for the worldwide community of scientific journalists to come together and learn about the responsibilities and opportunities of science. The WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne would strengthen existing links and build new bridges between scientific communities and science journalists from all over the world.

We support this project with great enthusiasm and look forward to actively taking part in the success of the WCSJ 2019. We will do that by participating in the organization of the program, take part in sessions, be present for editor-meets-journalist sessions, and make all that is in our hands to send our journalists to such a promising event.



Dominique Leglu
Editorial director

DIE ZEIT

WOCHENZEITUNG FÜR POLITIK · WIRTSCHAFT · WISSEN · KULTUR

ZEIT MAGAZIN

Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalists
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est, suite 12
Montréal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Hamburg, May 2017

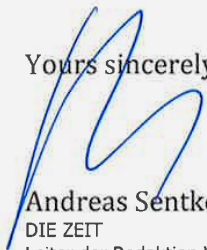
To whom it may concern

We herewith confirm that we would like to express our strongest support to the Swiss Association of Science Journalism (SASJ).

In my capacity as a science editor and head of the science department of the German weekly DIE ZEIT, I can underline the importance of a certified exchange of competence in science journalism and knowledge.

Switzerland stands in the heart of Europe and we will therefore very much endorse the effort to bid the World Conference of Science Journalism in Lausanne, in July 2019.

Yours sincerely,



Andreas Sentker

DIE ZEIT

Leiter der Redaktion Wissen
Herausgeber des Magazins ZEIT Wissen
Herausgeber ZEIT Doctor



ZEITVERLAG GERD BUCERIUS GMBH & Co. KG
DIE ZEIT · Helmut-Schmidt-Haus · Buceriusstraße · Eingang Speersort 1, 20095 Hamburg
Telefon: 040 / 32 80-0 · Telefax: 040 / 32 71 11 · E-Mail: DieZeit@zeit.de · Internet: www.zeit.de
Handelsregister Hamburg, HRA 91 123 · Ust-IdNr. DE189342458
Geschäftsführer: Dr. Rainer Esser · Chefredakteur: Giovanni di Lorenzo
Commerzbank Stuttgart · BIC: COBADE33XXX · IBAN: DE20 6004 0071 0525 5252 00



**WWF Switzerland
Avenue Dickens 6
1006 Lausanne**

Lausanne, 19th July 2017

Letter of support

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Mr Brainard,

I would like to express my support for the Bid by the Swiss Association of Science Journalist in partnership with French *Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information* (AJSPI) and *Science Writers in Italy* (SWIM), to host the World Conference of Science Journalist 2019 in Lausanne.

The programme proposed for Lausanne 2019 will provide a unique opportunity for the worldwide community of scientific journalists to come together and learn about the responsibilities and opportunities of science. The Lake Geneva region is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators from all over the world. Lausanne is located in the heart of Europe and just 40 minutes away from Geneva, a truly international hub, hosting many international organizations dealing with global issues in science, climate change, health, technology and many others.

WWF, World Wide Fund for Nature, came into existence in 1961, when a small group of passionate and committed individuals signed a declaration that came to be known as the *Morges Manifesto*. WWF International and WWF Switzerland actively support and operate conservation programmes on the ground in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, and Latin America. It is the world's largest conservation organization with over five million supporters worldwide, working in more than 100 countries, supporting around 1,300 conservation and environmental projects.

We anticipate contributing to the programme of the conference and would be glad to organize some visits related to our activities. We support this project with great enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely,

WWF Switzerland
Pierrette Rey
Deputy Head of Corporate Communications

Lausanne, June 27, 2017

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam,

We fully support the candidacy to host the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, proposed by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, with support of the French and Italian associations.

Lake Geneva is one of the leading regions in science and technology, and holds a top place in global research. The Lemanic Arc is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators from all over the world. Lausanne is located in the heart of Europe and just 40 minutes from Geneva, a truly international hub, hosting many international organizations dealing with global issues in science and technology.

The programme proposed for Lausanne 2019 will provide a unique opportunity for the worldwide community of scientific journalists to come together and learn about the responsibilities and opportunities of science.

The World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne would strengthen existing links and build new bridges between scientific communities and science journalists from all over the world.

S cinémathèque suisse
archives nationales du film
nationales filmarchiv
archivio nazionale del film
archiv naziunal dal film
national film archive

We support this project with great enthusiasm and look forward to actively taking part in the success of the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019.

Yours sincerely



Frédéric Maire,
Director, Cinémathèque suisse

Cinémathèque suisse
Tél: +41 (0) 58 800 02 00
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et d'archivage**
Chemin de la Vaux 1
CH-1303 Penthaiz
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Dokumentationsstelle Zürich
Postfach 1215
CH-8031 Zürich
Fax: +41 (0) 58 800 03 92



CERN
To the attention of Mrs Cristina GARCIA
Press Office
1211 Geneva 23

Geneva, June 5th 2017
PAL/DR/sd

Objet **World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland**

Pierre-André Loizeau
Director

Dear Sir/Madam,

We fully support the candidacy to host the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, proposed by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, with support of the French and Italian associations.

Lake Geneva is one of the leading regions in science and technology, and holds a top place in global research. The Lemanic Arc is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators from all over the world. Lausanne is located in the heart of Europe and just 40 minutes from Geneva, a truly international hub, hosting many international organizations dealing with global issues in science and technology.

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We support this project with great enthusiasm and look forward to actively taking part in the success of the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019.

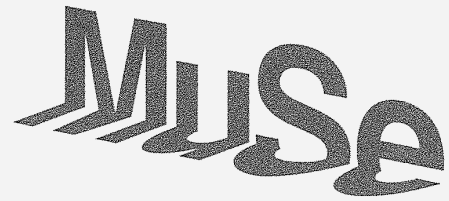
Yours sincerely,

Didier Roguet
Curator events

Pierre-André Loizeau
Director



LETTER of SUPPORT



World Federation of Science Journalists
Mr. Curtis Brainard
President of the Federation
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est – Suite 33
Montreal, QC H2J2B7
CANADA

Trento, 10 maggio 2017.

Obj: Support letter for WCSJ.

Dear President,

We understand that the call for proposals to host the 2019 edition of the World Conference of Science Journalist is ongoing, and that Switzerland will be one of the candidates, in collaboration with France and Italy.

Given our trust in the Swiss Candidature Bidding Committee, on behalf of MUSE - the most new and successful Italian Science Museum – I'm very pleased to support this proposal.

More concretely, MUSE would be happy to welcome your journalist colleagues for one day visit in Trento where they will have the possibility both to meet with our environmental researchers and to tour the Museum's galleries to witness the quality of our research and of our communication to the public.

In particular, our research, which is devoted to explore the environment of the mountain areas, is the special feature of our museum, that permeates all what we do, and connects local with global ecologic questions. Thanks to the field research and the studies carried out in the Alps mountain and in the Tanzanian Rain Forest mountain our staff obtained remarkable results, which we would be glad to share with the guest journalists.

Therefore, we are ready to offer a press trip for 50 journalists to visit MUSE and meet with the researchers. Moreover we could also offer some scientific edutainment activities to enrich the conference program.

For future reference, please contact
Mrs. Antonia Caola
MUSE Head of Communication & International collaboration

Best regards
Sincerely

Michele Lanzinger

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michele Lanzinger', is written over the typed name.

MUSE - Museo delle Scienze
Corso del Lavoro e della Scienza, 3
38123 TRENTO - Italia
Tel. +39 0461 270311
Fax. +39 0461 270322
Codice Fiscale 80012510220
Partita I.V.A. 00653950220
www.muse.it



Roma, 12 June 2017

Mr Curtis Brainard
President
World Federation of Science Journalist
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est – Suite 33
Montreal, QC H2J 2B7
Canada

Subject: Support Letter for Lausanne 2019

Dear Mr. Brainard,

we have been approached by the bidder organisation for the World Conference of Science Journalists in Lausanne, July 2019.

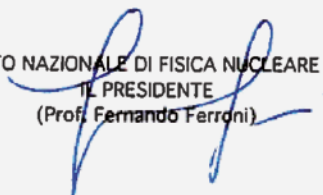
We very much appreciate their approach, seeking to involve INFN - Italian Institute for Nuclear Physics in this very important event. INFN sees the great value of a conference of this kind in Lausanne and we would be ready to participate to make it a success.

Our potential contribution would include the visit and presentation at one of our National Laboratory for particle physics (more likely the INFN National Lab of Gran Sasso), for 15-20 Media, as well as the availability of speakers and experts as found appropriate by the organiser.

We look forward to help enrich the participants' experience with a deeper knowledge of the present frontiers of particle physics research as well of the activities of the Italian Institute for Nuclear Physics.

Best regards

ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI FISICA NUCLEARE
IL PRESIDENTE
(Prof. *Fernando Ferroni*)



Orléans, 2 March 2017

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam,

We fully support the candidacy to host the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, proposed by the Swiss Association of Science Journalists, with support of the French and Italian associations.

Lake Geneva is one of the leading regions in science and technology, and holds a top place in global research. The Lemanic Arc is an important global centre for innovation, research and health, making Lausanne the perfect location for scientific communicators from all over the world. Lausanne is located in the heart of Europe and just 40 minutes from Geneva, a truly international hub, hosting many international organisations dealing with global issues in science and technology. From the geoscience point of view it is a fascinating laboratory where continents collide, giving geologists the opportunity to study the complex history of the Alps. Moreover, BRGM, with its agencies in Lyon and Dijon, is working on issues such as water resources, geological risks, etc., in the regions of the Alps and Jura, up to the Swiss border.

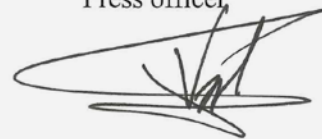
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The World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne would strengthen existing links and build new bridges between scientific communities and science journalists from all over the world.

We support this project with great enthusiasm and look forward to actively taking part in the success of the World Conference of Science Journalists 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Pierre Vassal
Press officer,



Siège – Centre scientifique et technique
3, avenue Claude-Guillemin, BP 36009, 45060 Orléans Cedex 2 – France
Tél. +33 (0)2 38 64 34 34 – Fax +33 (0)2 38 64 35 18

brgm bureau de recherches géologiques et minières – établissement public à caractère industriel et commercial – RCS Orléans – SIREN 582 056 149
www.brgm.fr



World Federation of Science Journalists
Mr Curtis Brainard
1124, rue Marie-Anne Est – Suite 33
Montréal (QC) H2J 2B7
Canada

Zurich, 10 February 2017

World Conference of Science Journalists 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland Letter of support

Dear Sir,

It's with great pleasure that Switzerland Tourism supports the candidacy of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism for the WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne.

We would be honoured to host this prestigious event in our country and to welcome the delegates from around the world to the wonderful, unique town of Lausanne, located on the shores of Lake Geneva.

Why do we think Switzerland and Lausanne is a perfect match for the WCSJ 2019?

- + Switzerland and Lausanne are centrally located in Europe and easy to reach from any European and International destination.
- + Environmentally aware! Switzerland is a world-class sustainable destination. Just think recycling, renewable energy, car-free resorts, organic, locally sourced produce and the best public transportation system in the world – Go green, go Switzerland!
- + Switzerland just works: Reliability, punctuality, political and economic stability, authenticity and a true nature to discover, ranging from palm trees to glaciers.
- + A wealth of world-class research institutions, pioneering enterprises and international organisations gives Switzerland a unique concentration of skills from across the globe.
- + Lausanne is the perfect city for association meetings and conferences: besides the state-of-the-art infrastructure attendees can enjoy the many cultural activities.

Suisse Tourisme. Schweiz Tourismus. Svizzera Turismo. Switzerland Tourism.
Tödistrasse 7, Postfach, CH-8027 Zürich, Phone +41 (0)44 288 11 11, MySwitzerland.com



Switzerland Tourism will do the utmost to help the association move their agenda forward, reach their goals and to make certain the delegates will keep fond memories of the WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne.

Best Swiss greetings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Schmid'.

Jürg Schmid
CEO of Switzerland Tourism

Pre-Event workshops

© Olivier Dessibourg



Projet Francophonie

(Lead: Cécile Klingler and Yves Sciamia, AJSPI)

An important goal of the WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne is to strongly involve French-speaking science journalists, especially from Africa, with the ambition of building a sustainable network leading to a worldwide market for French science writers. This is what we call the Projet Francophonie.

With this in mind, we have planned a one-day Pre-Event workshop, structured in two parts.

1. Journalism without Borders

The first part, named Journalism without Borders, will pursue the following goals:

- create a French-speaking science journalists' network: the first step to building a worldwide market for French-speaking science journalists, allowing them to work for media outlets across continents
- promote science/health/environment topics in journalism schools, with the support of the Théophraste Network, an international network of journalism training centres from French-speaking countries
- carry out cross-border investigations in science, based on feedback from past collaborations between French-speaking partners, and announcement of the launch of a North-South science investigation prize for French-speaking journalists, with grants being awarded to three selected projects.

2. Science without Borders

The second part, Science without Borders, will bring together French-speaking journalists from around the world, especially Africa, communication officers from the main French-speaking science research institutes, and well-known scientists.

The goal: to make it easier for French-speaking journalists to build their own database of scientists to consult on a wide range of issues.

This session will take place with the support of the main French science research institutions.

To ensure the broad participation of colleagues from Africa, we've started a specific fundraising activity for this project, with the goal of financing 30 grants to attend the WCSJ 2019. Some of them have already been secured thanks the CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), and negotiations are underway with other research institutes, as well as with partners from La Francophonie.

Balkan School of Science journalism 2019

(Lead: Mico Tatalovic and Balkan Network of Science Journalists, and Fabio Turone, president of SWIM)

We propose a one-day event to train a new generation of science journalists in South-East Europe.

The 2019 edition of the Balkan School of Science Journalism will bring together 50 journalists for a one-day professional development workshop to present practical, hands-on training sessions to sharpen reporting skills on the most pressing science, health and environmental issues in South-East Europe.

The school, which was previously held in Belgrade, Serbia (2013) and Podgorica, Montenegro (2014), is designed to build capacity and skills, as well as to promote excellence in science, health and environmental coverage in Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

Journalists and journalism students from the entire region, from Slovenia, Hungary and Moldova in the north, down to Turkey and Cyprus in the south, are welcome to participate, as are those from Eastern Europe.

Journalists attending the workshop will engage in interactive sessions with prominent science reporters and editors from the region – and beyond – to discuss subjects such as data and investigative journalism, as well as tackling corruption in science policy and academic misconduct. Real-life examples of best practice and stories that worked well will be used by speakers to illustrate the best of science reporting in the region – and how to achieve it.

Journalists will also discuss techniques for connecting with the scientific community as well as effective ways of obtaining information from institutions and organisations.

A special focus of the workshop will be to strengthen the cross-border collaboration framework and the regional network of science journalists.

The school is a continuation of existing efforts for international and systemic support for quality science journalism in the region, which are planned to continue in 2020 at the EuroScience Open Forum conference in Trieste, Italy.

The school will also be linked to a special WCSJ 2019 project of Balkan Science Journalism Fellowships, with some of the participants and speakers expected to be fellowship winners who will discuss collaboration with their Western European colleagues.

Lausanne, Switzerland, is a perfect location for the school, as it is geographically close to and easy to reach from the Balkans. Switzerland has also been a long-time supporter of international development efforts in the Balkan region. The school is planned to take place on 29 or 30 June, just before the WCSJ 2019 kicks off.

The proposed draft programme for the school is below.

3rd Balkan Science Journalism School 2019 – draft programme

In association with WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne, the Balkan Network of Science Journalists and SWIM

8:30-9:00 Registration and welcome

Introduction: the basics of good science reporting

9:00-9:15 What is science journalism and why does it matter?

9:15-9:30 Where to find locally-relevant science stories

9:30-10:00 Pitching, reporting and writing science stories

Cultivating sources and managing technical aspects of specialist science reporting

10:00-10:30 Understanding different sources of science stories: scientific papers, press releases, technical reports and more

10:30-11:00 Cultivating local and diaspora academics as sources for science stories

11:00-11:30 Coffee break and networking

11:30-12:00 Basic statistics for accurate science reporting and avoiding common pitfalls

12:00-12:30 Humanising science and making it relevant to the lives of ordinary people

12:30-13:00 Selling science stories to editors and writing effective online headlines to attract readers

13:00-14:00 Lunch and networking

Holding power to account: investigating academics and negative aspects of science and pseudoscience

14:00-15:00 Tackling pseudoscience and debunking bad science

15:00-16:00 Investigative science journalism: reporting on science policy and funding, scientific misconduct and plagiarism, corruption and more

16:00-16:30 Coffee break and networking

16:30-17:30 Roundtable discussion and brainstorming: challenges and possible solutions to issues facing individual reporters, specific countries or media

17:30-18:00 Conclusions and way forward

Speakers to include: Mico Tatalovic, New Scientist editor and Knight Science Journalism Fellow at MIT; Tanja Rudez, science reporter at Jutarnji List newspaper, Croatia, and European Science Writer of the Year 2015; Nenad Jaric Daunhauer, science editor at index.hr media portal, Croatia; Tina Popovic and Ivan Cadjenovic, investigative reporters at Montenegro's Vijesti newspaper, both award winners for their investigations on plagiarism in science and politics; Julianna Photopoulos a freelance science journalist from Greece; and Alexandra Nistoroiu, science journalist at Viața Medicală, Romania

Website: www.balkanscijc.wordpress.com

ABSW Science Journalism Summer School 2019, in London, UK

(Lead: ABSW, WFSJ, and WCSJ 2019)

The Association of British Science Writers, ABSW, has been organising a popular one-day event since 2015 aimed at training new science writers and refreshing the skills of early career journalists and freelancers.

So far the event has been attended by around 80 people, mainly journalists from the UK and Ireland, as well as Uganda (from our twinned association USJA) and a handful of European countries.

Going forward, ABSW has partnered up with the WFSJ and is hoping to make the school more international. Also, ABSW is planning to expand the programme so it involves sessions of interest to journalists at various points in their career, not just beginners.

Previous schools included sessions on pitching skills, successful freelancing, data and investigative journalism, and networking with editors.

The school's sponsors and supporters this year include Research Councils UK, EurekAlert!, Taylor and Francis Group, Kew Gardens, Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings, and the Wellcome Trust.

The school usually takes place in the summer, once every two years, and given that the WCSJ 2019 is planned for July, the ABSW summer school could work perfectly as a side event after the conference on Saturday, 6 July 2019, for example.

Many conference delegates are likely to be travelling to Switzerland via London, and others may like to attend this event specifically. Delegate fees could include the ABSW summer school, and UK delegates attending the school could be incentivised to attend the WCSJ by offering them a discounted rate.

The ABSW has a lot of experience organising successful national and international science journalism meetings, including the WCSJ 2009, UKCSJ 2010, 2012, 2014, and ECSJ 2016, in addition to the summer schools of 2015 and 2017.

The proposed draft programme is below.

ABSW Science Journalism Summer School 2019, in London, UK

Suggested draft programme, with speakers drafted from the recent winners and finalists of ABSW Science Writers awards for each category:

Early career

- 1 How to break into science journalism: success stories from finalists of the best newcomer award
- 2 Successful student science journalism: advice from best student science journalism finalists
- 3 How to set-up and run your own award-winning science blog: with finalists of best science blog award

Specific writing skills

- 4 Breaking science news: how and where to find exclusives others will envy you for with finalists of best news item award
- 5 Long-form science reporting: secrets of successful feature writing with finalists of best feature award
- 6 Investigative reporting: how to find world-changing scoops and stories others oversee or ignore that really matter with finalists of best investigative award

Multimedia skills

- 7 Science radio: how to produce compelling audio journalism in science with finalists of the best radio award
- 8 TV and video: scripting and filming beautiful science films with finalists of best TV award
- 9 Innovative approaches and unusual outlets: taking science stories to non-science contexts with finalists of NUJ/Stephen White award

Masterclass in science journalism: learning from the legends

- 10 Secrets of a long and successful career in science journalism with winners of the lifetime achievement award, such as Andy Coghlan (magazines and online), Fred Pearce (freelance), Deborah Cohen (Radio), Lawrence McGinty (TV), Dick Ahlstrom (newspapers)

Beyond Anglophone media: science journalism trends in mainland Europe

- 11 What is it like to be a science reporter in Europe, and how to make a success of it, with winners of the best European science writing award, such as Tanja Rudez (Croatia), Michele Catanzaro (Spain/Italy), and Hester van Santen (the Netherlands)

EBU science documentary pre-event workshop

(Lead: Jeroen Depraetere, Head of TV and Future media at EBU, in collaboration with WCSJ)

Participating, networking, watching and sharing are the keywords of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) Science & Knowledge Experts. Getting to know each other better can enhance the ways the institutions of the EBU member countries work together.

The EBU Science & Knowledge Experts meet once a year in plenary session with the aim of encouraging broadcasters to foster the approach described above.

With parallel working sessions devoted to different topics/themes (case studies, pitching sessions, screenings, best practices...), the EBU Science & Knowledge Experts meeting provides broadcasters with the tools for creating an international, professional network. It is the first and indispensable step for establishing successful working groups.

This group includes over 80 professionals (head of programmes, commissioning editors) coming from public service broadcasters from more than 30 countries in and around Europe.

Through Eurovision TV, the broadcasters work together through different genres and models of cooperation.

Broadcasters can pool financial resources and commission production companies to co-produce enjoyable and successful TV programmes. They can also exchange existing programmes, or decide together to create new series through the model of exchange, through which broadcasters offer and receive programmes or segments of certain types and genres (collections).

In 2019 the EBU Science & Knowledge Experts group wants to meet in the framework of the WCSJ in Switzerland, Lausanne.

In addition, the EBU Science & Knowledge Experts group is ready to organise workshops around the issue of science television documentaries, which are becoming less and less frequent on public and private television channels. This one-day workshop will focus on discussing challenges in that field, on good practice, on pitching ideas for science TV documentaries, and experimenting with new forms of distributing science content on television.

Long-Term projects



We stand for science journalism – video masterclass

(Lead: Gabriele Hess-Fernandez, freelance science journalist)

We propose creating state-of-the-art online Video Masterclasses in Science Journalism for all those who want to know how to reach and inform general audiences about science. The product: The 21st-Century's Video Manual for quality science journalism.

WHY – Science journalists have great stories to tell, some touching hot political issues – like gene editing, global warming, nuclear power or space exploration. However, today the public challenges journalists' trustworthiness in almost any social field. How can journalists remain trustworthy and put quality reporting front and centre? Science journalists have long experience with public disbelief, for example in climate change; but science journalism is and has always been fact-checking journalism, thus providing the public with real depth, context and knowledge – not just speed. Who are the people producing some of the most exciting investigative science stories in the world? This project aims to hear their voices.

WHO – Stepping out of the background into the limelight of our cameras, ten leading science journalists from around the world – working for newspapers, magazines, books, broadcast news, TV documentaries or the Web – will report from the frontline, explaining how they actually work on a daily basis, in their office or not, alone or in teams.

WHAT – Ten short crafted talks will make a unique collection of personal Video Masterclasses curated by the very best of our profession. The journalists will reveal what they think, what they feel, and what they know. We will hear about authentic cases and get to listen to tales of frustration and success. Styles and voices will differ; that is what we want! Watching the videos will give us the intimate feeling of sitting right next to the best science journalists from around the world, hearing first hand how things really work. They will give concrete tips on strategies to communicate complex and contested issues in our so-called post-truth era. How to pick science stories out of the enormous amount of science being published? What matters for the general audience? How to develop an enticing story and ensure that it is evidence-based, accurate, impartial and independent? How to break stories first? How to deal with pseudoscience? How to interact with editors-in-chief? We will address such questions, yet always link them to concrete stories and personal experience.

WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT VIDEO MASTERCLASSES – Sure, some of the answers are already available – on paper (A Field Guide for Science Writers / The Science Writers' Handbook, etc.). However, video Masterclasses are more powerful today than anything in written form. And we intend to work with truly international science journalists, who will report in their mother tongues. Subtitles will be in English, French, German and Italian. These Video Masterclasses will be timely resources for newcomers in the field, while experienced colleagues, scientists or anybody interested in the quality communication of science will benefit just as much.

WHEN and WHERE – In 2019 the World Conference of Science Journalists in Lausanne will be the ideal opportunity to capture testimonies from active top level science journalists. It will also be the perfect platform for screening and presenting the first videos of this 21st-century video manual for quality factual science journalism.

HOW – High quality video production, measuring itself against cutting edge Masterclasses in the arts (www.masterclass.com) will be produced with a two-camera set-up – either in a studio or on location. But the journalists won't be calmly sitting; they will all Stand Up for science journalism!

Every video lesson is going to be a unique personal talk that only these people could give. Each video will communicate one clear idea, have a clear graphical and musical identity combining video footage with original graphical elements. These will explain words, concepts, and ideas or visualize important points of view expressed by the science journalist. Appearing as if life drawn by hand on the running video in more or less thick brush strokes, they will give the impression of the support being the traditional journalist's paper notebook. Both efficient and arty, these unique animations will sometimes make the viewers smile. However, we will always favour simplicity in order to enhance concentration on the content. The production budget without fees for travel, accommodation and sundry expenses is estimated at 9200 Euros for each 10-12 minute Masterclass video.

To finance this project, we will seek support from scientific, academic, and educational organisations and foundations sharing our goals: to improve the quality of science reporting, support science and technology journalists, and to promote the role of quality science reporting as a key feature in civil society and democracy. Our aim: to offer these videos to the world for free on the website of the World Federation of Science Journalists.

In order to best reach our public, we propose to pre-produce three of the videos and to screen them during the 2019 WCSJ in Lausanne.

Balkan-EU science journalism twinning project

(Lead: Mico Tatalovic and Fabio Turone)

Under the auspices of the WFSJ, this project aims to improve collaboration between science journalists in Western Europe and the Balkan region by funding specific collaborative journalism projects and providing quality editorial feedback to applicants. It will aim to expand the horizons and skills of journalists involved in the project, and contribute to closer media collaboration across Europe, especially across the old East-West divide.

The project is envisaged to run for a period of 12-18 months and to contribute to the establishment of new long-term collaborations and links between journalists covering science, health, environment and technology from different regions of Europe.

The call for proposals

A call for proposals will seek journalistic projects that:

- address a scientific issue of an important societal concern relevant to at least two countries, one in the Balkans and one elsewhere in Europe, including basic science, research policy, environment, health and technology (Examples include air pollution, floods and antibiotic resistance);
- involve at least two partners, one from the Balkan region, one from elsewhere in Europe;
- seek to publish a final article in a media outlet (in the local language and possibly in English).

The call will be open to journalists who already have partners to work with as well as those who seek partners. The 10 best projects will be shortlisted and those needing a partner will be matched up through a collaboration call sent through science journalism associations in relevant regions.

Journalists will each receive a 1500 Euro bursary along with 1500 Euros to support travel and research expenses. An additional incentive of 5000 Euros will be provided in the form of a prize, the winner of which will be announced at the WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne from among the three best contributions.

Support for the best proposals

All received applications will be assessed and provided with constructive editorial feedback in a safe, shared online space (for example Trello). This is expected to lead to a broad and general raising of standards and skills in science journalism.

Support will involve editors checking in with the journalists at least every two months to discuss progress and any obstacles via Skype calls, and an ongoing interaction with the two journalists and an editor from the project providing tailored support for each project. The journalists producing the three best projects will be provided with free travel to the WCSJ 2019, where they will present their projects and share lessons learnt. The best project will be awarded the 5000 Euro prize.

The 10 projects will be funded with 6000 Euros per project, shared between the two journalists, to carry out the collaborative reporting of the story. Half of the grant will be earmarked for travel and research related to reporting and collaboration, and the rest will be provided as journalists' bursaries.

The selection criteria

The assessment of projects will be carried out by an international team of editors we already have on-board and will be based on:

- novelty of the idea and its importance to society's wellbeing and development
- strength of the pitch and research already put into the project
- strength of the collaboration and involvement of journalists and editors from the Balkan region, especially from least developed countries such as the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova and Montenegro (precedence will be given to the projects with participants from least developed nations)
- how realistic the project is and what the prospects for its publication are (precedence will be given to projects already in touch with editors and publications that are willing to publish the story)

The expected impact at the local and continental level

The final stories will be published – or republished – on the project's website, on the WFSJ website, and we will advise and hope to see them published in media outlets in the country concerned, in the local language and possibly in English.

Selected media have already expressed interest in supporting the initiative by publishing some or all the articles produced, in the local language or in translation: editors of three media outlets have expressed interest. These are *Le Scienze* (western partner in Italy), *Elementi magazine* (Balkan partner, in Serbia), and *Euroscientist magazine* (pan-European partner).

Expected story lengths, co-authored by both journalists on the project team:

- 1 Feature piece: 2500 to 5000 words Or
- 2 News articles: 500 to 1200 words Or
- 1 Multimedia package: Video or radio piece 2-6 minutes in length

The long-term legacy

Lessons learnt will be shared with other journalists at the WCSJ 2019, and pulled together into a freely available 'Field guide to cross-border collaboration on science stories' reporting about science in the Balkans. The stories produced will be freely available online on the project website and our partner media.

Budget breakdown

- 10 projects supported with an average of 6000 Euros each=60000 Euros
- 3 shortlisted projects provided with free travel to WCSJ 2019=6000 Euros
- 1 prize for the best project=5000 Euros
- Editorial support and administrative costs=10000 Euros
- Total budget=85000 Euros

Possible sponsors: Swiss Development and Cooperation agency, Austrian Development and Cooperation agency, European Journalism Centre, Robert Bosch Stiftung Germany.

Struggle with politics

(Lead: [This Wachter](#), freelance science journalist)

In a worldwide project, we propose to present long-term profiles of newly politically active scientists

Scientists in many countries are under attack. The political situations in nations like the US, Russia, Hungary, Turkey and many others show that science and research are under strong pressure from governments. The organisers of the March for Science on 22 April 2017 described their motivation to protest on the streets with these words: "Budget cuts, censorship of researchers, disappearing datasets, and threats to dismantle government agencies harm us all, putting our health, food, air, water, climate, and jobs at risk. It is time for people who support science to take a public stand and be counted."

There are more and more scientists getting politically active to fight for evidence-based decision making, for open access to scientific results and for fair distribution of the benefits of scientific discoveries. This is one of the most important

issues in science journalism today. But science policy is also one of the most under-reported areas of our field. Too often science journalists don't cover the political side of science and research. And political journalists don't cover it either because it seems too close to science.

We want to change this and we believe that our long-term project can help. The idea, which would be under the auspices of the WFSJ if Lausanne is chosen to host the WCSJ 2019, is to fund seven science journalists to accompany politically active scientists for almost two years and portray their life and struggle. We want to understand why scientists get involved with politics, what they achieve and where they fail, what their colleagues think about their efforts and how this activism changes science itself. We also want the journalists involved to reflect on their role in that process, being something in between a watchdog and a cheerleader for science, as they cover science policy issues.

Outline of the project:

The goal is to present seven developing multimedia stories in English on a simple specific website. This website could be affiliated to the website of the World Federation of Science Journalists. The stories should contain not only text and photos, but video and/or audio as well. They should cover the timescale of the whole project, and very probably be segmented into different moments and situations with the scientist throughout the duration. The idea is to really follow a scientist in his or her tasks and actions to foster sound science policy and awareness of the crucial role of science in a democracy, and to describe the evolution of the scientists' thoughts on these matters.

Each story will come from a different place in the world and be covered by a science journalist. The participating journalists are free to publish their profiles in their media and language as well.

A project team will manage the project and the website. The project team is based in Switzerland and consists of two journalists and one website manager.

Casting of the profiles:

The search for interested journalists and scientists will be carried out with the help of the worldwide network of science journalists' associations, through the WFSJ.

Tentative timetable:

October 2017: presentation of the call for proposals at the WCSJ in San Francisco

November 2017: website launch

March 2018: project team, including one or two delegates from WFSJ, selects 10 proposals.

March 2018: start of the profiles

September 2018: after the first six months, the number of profiles will be reduced to seven. This step ensures the quality of the ongoing projects and takes in account that some profiles could fail for a range of reasons.

Summer 2019: presentation of the long-term profiles by the involved journalists and scientists at the WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne, Switzerland. Completion of the project.

Examples of potential scientist candidates for a long-term profile:

VALORIE V. AQUINO: a PhD Candidate in Anthropology at the University of New Mexico and co-chair of the March of Science.

KIM COBB: a Coral Expert at Georgia Tech and board member of 314Action.org.

MICHAEL EISEN, Professor of molecular and cell biology at UC Berkeley, runs for the US senate in 2018.
(www.dailycal.org/2017/02/09/uc-berkeley-genetics-professor-run-us-senate-2018/)

CÉDRIC VILLANI, Fields-medalist, just elected to the French parliament under Emmanuel Macron.
(www.sciencesetavenir.fr/fondamental/mathematiques/le-mathematicien-cedric-villani-candidat-aux-elections-legislatives-sous-l-etiquette-d-en-marche_112871)

MICHAEL IGNATIEFF, President and rector of the Central European University in Budapest.
(www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/ungarn-orbns-naechstes-ziel-1.3441904)

ANDREI ROSTOVTSSEV, physicist at the Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics in Moscow and co-founder of Dissernet, a volunteer community network working to clean Russian science of plagiarism.

SINEM ARSLAN, a Turkish political scientist at the University of Essex. She is an activist against the oppression of academics by the Turkish government.

MEHMET ALI ALPAR, is a Sabancı University astrophysicist and the co-founder of the oppositional Science Academy.
(www.en.bilimakademisi.org/founders/)

AYŞE ERZAN, a Turkish theoretical physicist, she is also a member of the Science Academy.
(www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/07/turkish-academics-targeted-government-reacts-failed-coup)

Estimated Budget:

Principle: one local standard day salary per month for the involved journalists. Local standard means the reference salary in relation to the cost of living (www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/rankings_by_country.jsp) in the specific country.

Reference is the day salary for an experienced freelance journalist in Switzerland, which is 600\$. (Example: cost of living index in Switzerland is 122.06. In Russia it is 42.01. Hence, the local standard day salary in Russia is 206\$.)

The project runs fully from the beginning of November 2017 to July 2019

Costs

Salaries for journalists involved:

- 1) Period January 2018 – June 2018: 10 x appr. \$300 = \$3000 (Total over 6 months: \$18 000)
- 2) Period July 2018-July 2019: 7 x \$300 = \$2100 (Total over 12 months: \$25 200)

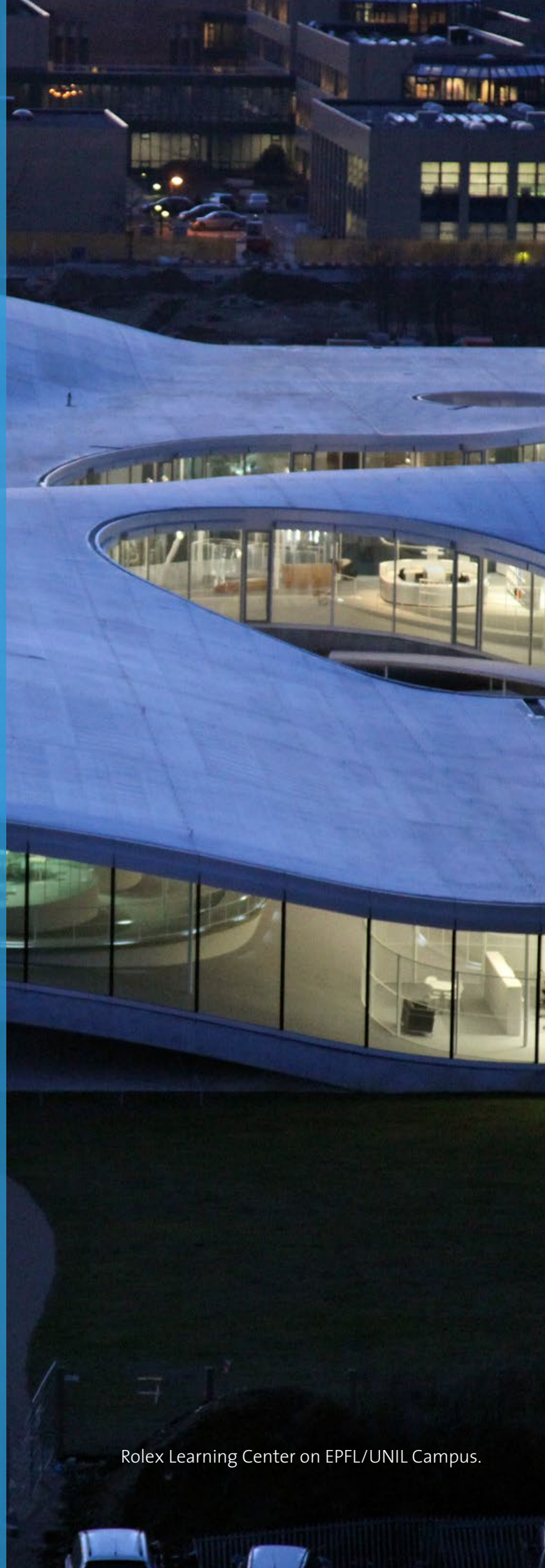
Project and website management: \$1000/month (Total from November 17 to June 2019: \$20 000)

Pre-phase financing: July-December \$1000/month = \$6000

Diverse expenses and translation: \$6000

Overall total: \$75 200

The scientific environment



Rolex Learning Center on EPFL/UNIL Campus.

Science and innovation in the Lake Geneva Region: a brief overview

Two centuries ago, Switzerland was still a true agrarian state, whose national economy was based on factors of production: land, labour and capital. Today education, research and innovation are undoubtedly the most important resources of this small country located in the heart of Europe. Switzerland is a true research laboratory, one of the most fertile innovation ecosystems in the world where academic excellence is combined with an unrivalled ability to attract the best talent and large multinationals, often leaders in their sector, as well as a dense network of small and medium-sized enterprises in all sectors, which enjoy an excellent reputation for quality and innovation. In Switzerland, close collaboration between the academic and the business worlds generates innovative products with many commercial applications.

Switzerland's largest research centres are the Swiss Institutes of Technology of Zurich (ETHZ) and Lausanne (EPFL), which have achieved worldwide renown thanks to their achievements in engineering and natural sciences. Their scientific efforts are concentrated in sectors with tangible prospects for the future. The branches that stand out most for their dynamic growth are the pharmaceutical and chemical industries, medical technology, biotechnology, environmental technologies, information and communication. Research in higher technical colleges and universities is mainly done in the field of natural science, which includes chemistry, physics and medicine as well as micro and nanotechnology. Based on excellence in research and innovation, Switzerland is one of the most competitive countries in the world. The history of Switzerland as a cradle of research and technological development has been recognized worldwide for more than a century.

A global centre of innovation

The Lake Geneva Region has become a global centre of innovation. Thanks to its geostrategic position and historic role as an economic and technical crossroads, the Lausanne

region has been chosen as the global or European headquarters of many big companies such as Tetra Laval, Nestlé, Kudelski, Logitech, Medtronic and New Bobst Group. In addition to this economic fabric, there are banks, trusts and service companies that make the region an important commercial and financial centre.

Lausanne

The city of Lausanne and its surroundings have unprecedented vivacity in terms of business creation and arrival. This spirit of competition is related in particular to the presence of numerous multinationals, the city's Olympic capital status – with more than 50 residing international federations and sports organizations – as well as a unique concentration of training and research centres. The latter have, directly or indirectly, generated a multitude of companies in all sectors. Lausanne brings you to Switzerland's very own Silicon Valley to meet the new young businesses that could be the Logitechs, Bobsts or Nespressos of tomorrow.

The region's innovative spirit owes much to the Scientific Park of the EPFL, where numerous start-up companies continually emerge. EPFL is an internationally renowned research and training centre and is, together with its partner, the University of Lausanne (UNIL), among the leading universities in a wide range of research fields such as networks, micro and nanotechnologies, biotechnology, information and communication technologies, transport and energy. It has taken part in several iconic projects such as Breitling Orbiter 3, Alinghi, Hydroptère, Solar Impulse and the Human Brain Project.

Geneva

In close proximity to Lausanne lies the city of Geneva. Beautifully situated around the bay where the Rhone leaves Lake Geneva behind to continue its journey to the Mediterranean, the city is the most international in Switzerland.

Countless organizations have their headquarters there: Geneva has the highest density of international organizations and governmental representations anywhere in the world.

A large number of these institutions are linked to the United Nations (UN) and its dependent organisations. These include the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The Conference on Disarmament and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) also have their headquarters in Geneva, as do the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

When it comes to research, Geneva hosts one of the largest and most respected scientific research centres in the world, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics (CERN). CERN's objective is to understand what makes the universe tick at the level of its most elementary constituents, the fundamental particles. Scientists at CERN study these particles and the forces at work between them to address questions such as why nature seems to prefer matter to antimatter, or what the 95% of the universe that is invisible to us might be made of. The tools of the trade at CERN are vast instruments known as particle accelerators and detectors. The technology developed for these devices has direct benefits for medicine, computing, industry and the environment.

In addition to being host to numerous international organizations, the Lake Geneva Region is considered the third most important neuroscience centre in Europe, following those of Oxford and Cambridge in the United Kingdom. With more than 80 research groups in neuroscience, there is close cooperation and interaction between the universities of Geneva and Lausanne, between their university clinics and with the EPFL.

Science and research in Switzerland

Science and research in Switzerland play a key role in scientific innovation and technology. Switzerland is one of the leading countries in the world in innovation and research. According to the global innovation index, the country was at the top of the list in 2016 for the sixth consecutive year, followed by Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Finland.

Investment in R&D

In research and development, Switzerland plays an important role in the international arena and is one of the most competitive countries in the world. It is among the countries with the most dynamic science base. Switzerland invests almost 3% of GDP in research and development. In international comparisons, it is regularly among the countries spending more on research and development in relation to GDP than the average. According to its Federal Statistical Office, Switzerland invests more than 22 billion Swiss Francs in research and development each year, with 68.2% of that coming from private companies. This makes Switzerland one of the countries whose companies are most active in R&D.

Gross domestic expenditure on research and development in Switzerland has grown steadily since the turn of the century. The private sector continues to be the main player in R&D, but the Confederation has also increased its support over time, reflecting the government's commitment to research. R&D staff numbers are continuously rising, and women's participation in research is on the up. In Switzerland, the financial and personnel effort dedicated to R&D is regularly rewarded for outstanding scientific results and for directly benefiting several economic sectors.

Industry

The largest Swiss companies in terms of market capitalization are Nestlé, the largest multinational food and beverage company in the world, followed by Roche, a company dedicated to development and production of drugs and Novartis, also big player in the pharmaceutical sector.

With a new export record in 2016, the pharmaceutical industry is more than ever a key pillar of the Swiss economy. The pharmaceutical industry alone accounts for almost 40% of the total value of Swiss exports, and has a history going back almost 150 years. This large percentage, which has never been achieved in the past, has made the Confederation increasingly dependent on its pharmaceutical multinationals, Novartis, Roche, Merck Serono and others, to maintain industrial activities and jobs. In turn, the pharmaceutical industry is highly dependent on research and development. Therefore it contributes to research funding in general and employs a large number of experts in the field.

Lunch@Labs



The concept

Journalists and participants attending the WCSJ 2019 in Lausanne will have the unique opportunity to visit labs of EPFL (Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne, one of the two Swiss federal institutes of technology), UNIL (University of Lausanne) and CHUV (Lausanne's university hospital) during the Conference. Thanks to the concentration of high-level research within a small area, these visits can take place during the lunch breaks. Finger-food and sandwiches will be provided, so that the discovery of the labs and discussions with the researchers can last around 90 minutes each day.

The interests

The research institutions that will host the 2019 conference are eager to share their work with the expert journalists gathered in Lausanne. They will also host presentations from the two other partner institutions not based on the Lausanne Campus (University of Geneva, CERN). In total, a list of around 30 different labs and presentations will be available to choose from, each for groups of 10-15 people. Lunch@Labs sessions will take place on the three main days of the WCSJ, Tuesday to Thursday.

Journalists will have the opportunity to harvest a vast range of take-home stories, while their editors will appreciate the time and money they've invested in sending their journalists to Lausanne.

Practical information

Attendance at the Lunch@Labs will be free of charge, but registration on the WCSJ website will be mandatory for organisational reasons. Interactive plans with pathways to the labs will be linked to the programme.

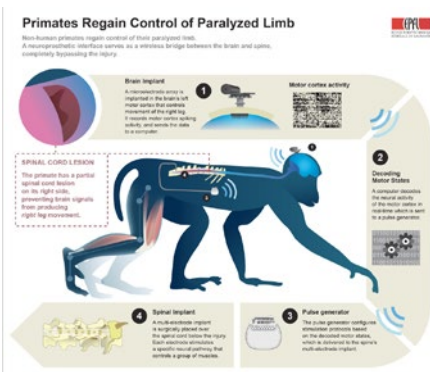
Proposed lab visits (to be confirmed and enlarged)

The labs that will be open to visits and presenting demonstrations during WCSJ 2019 will include, among others:



EPFL's Translational neural engineering lab (Prof. Silvestro Micera)

Prosthesis that react to direct commands of a physically impaired person's nerves are key to help them regain natural mobility. Professor Micera's lab has developed a hand prosthesis as well as exoskeletons – all controlled via nerve signals.



EPFL/CHUV's Translational research facility for spinal cord regeneration (Prof. Grégoire Courtine)

A lesion on the spinal cord leading to lower limb paralysis can be bypassed by an electrostimulation device, controlled by a brain-computer interface. A specific training device, which will be on demonstration, now allows impaired humans to walk again – and even to regenerate the damaged tissues.



Red's: research and expertise centre in anti-doping sciences (Prof. Martial Saugy)

Part of UNIL's Sport sciences Institute, Red's is an international reference centre in research and expertise for anti-doping sciences. Lausanne, hometown of the International Olympic Committee, and hosting many international sport federations is a natural spot for such a centre.



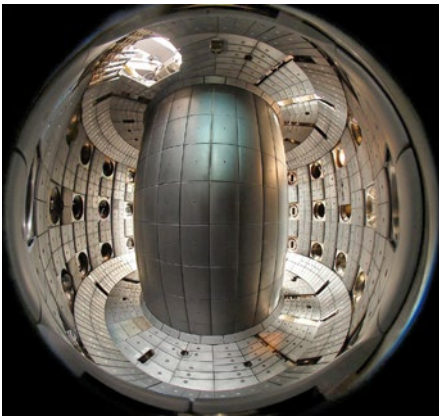
EPFL's Biorobotics laboratory (Prof. Auke Ijspeert)

Through evolution, Nature generally selects the best possible option when it comes to terrestrial or aerial locomotion. Today, roboticists take their inspiration from living organisms to develop the best performing robots, used for instance on search and rescue missions.



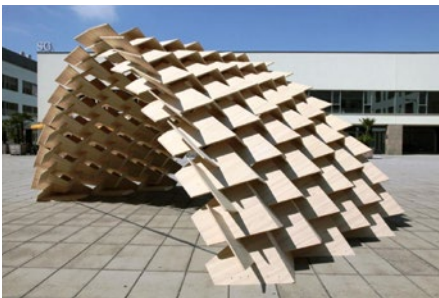
UNIL forensics lab (Prof. Christophe Champod)

UNIL's School of criminal sciences was the world's very first. At the cutting-edge of research, it offers a complete education in forensic sciences. Technology now offers innovative tools to harvest and exploit tiny traces left behind at crime scenes.



EPFL's Swiss Plasma Center (Prof. Ambrogio Fasoli)

Thermonuclear fusion is expected to have a positive energy balance before 2050, paving the way to an almost unlimited and clean energy supply for the world. To achieve this ambitious goal, scientists need to understand and perfectly control plasmas that reach millions of degrees Celsius. EPFL's Tokamak is one of the three European facilities that have been selected to take part in this international research.



EPFL's Laboratory for timber constructions IBOIS (Prof. Yves Weinand)

Huge wooden structures that hold together without any screws, full frameworks that don't need any beams: wood is again an ultramodern building material, with a positive carbon footprint. It is even being used for skyscrapers.



EPFL's Laboratory of Hydraulic constructions (succ. Anton Schleiss)

The Swiss Alps have countless dams. Gigantic mock-ups with real streams of water are built at EPFL to better understand phenomena such as erosion and sediment transport.



Big Data @EPFL: a thousand years of archives on a server (Prof. Frédéric Kaplan)

The Italian city of Venice has been a huge commercial and cultural hotspot for centuries. This tremendous activity gave birth to kilometres of paper archives, calligraphed in numerous languages. With the Venice Time Machine project, EPFL has digitized these archives and feeds this enormous data set to computing algorithms developed to make sense of it all.



EPFL's Intelligent systems laboratory (Prof. Dario Floreano)

A demonstration of collaborating robots, for example drones flying as a swarm – and how this can be used to set up an emergency Wi-Fi network over a devastated area.



EPFL's Swiss EdTech collider (Prof. Pierre Dillenbourg)

Education technologies have become a major economic player. New technologies are being developed all over the world to improve education on a large scale. EPFL hosts a “collider” of research groups and start-up companies that work in this field.



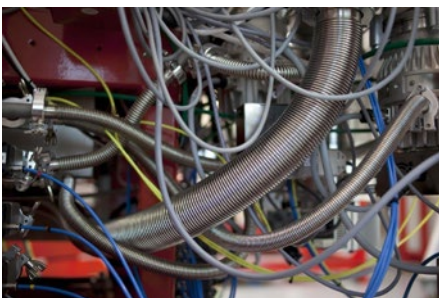
EPFL's Learning Algorithms and Systems Laboratory (Prof. Aude Billard)

Industrial robots like to play, too! Thanks to ultrafast calculations, Professor Billard's lab has programmed a robotic arm that catches anything you throw at it.



Immunotherapy at the UNIL-CHUV oncology department (Prof. George Coukos)

Immunotherapy is foreseen as a very promising track to fight cancer. Professor Coukos' lab develops a therapy based on the patient's T-cells, multiplied in the lab and then re-injected, showing a high anti-tumoral response.



UNIL-EPFL CASA, centre for Advanced Surface Analysis (Prof. Lukas Baumgartner)

UNIL's School of Geosciences and Environment hosts two ion probe facilities that allow the chemical formula of a compound to be analysed in great detail. These facilities can be used, for example, to detect and describe precisely any atmospheric pollutant.



EPFL/UNIGE's genetics and evolution laboratory (Prof. Denis Duboule)

What are the genetic regulatory mechanisms that underpin the formation of vertebrates? Over the last few years, this lab has focused on the Hox family of genes that guide these processes. Professor Duboule is one of the best-known researchers in the field of developmental genomics.



UNIL's Sport and Health Centre (Prof. Bengt Kayser)

Visit to the facilities and demonstration of real-time effort analysis on actual "patients" (or volunteer journalists).



EPFL Innovation Park

Hundreds of start-ups as well as R&D teams from large companies have settled at the EPFL Innovation Park. They include Logitech, MotionPilot, MindMaze, PeugeotCitröen and the Nestlé Research Centre. They work in close collaboration with the researchers and the labs, pushing further the boundaries of their innovative capacity.



Montreux Jazz Heritage Lab

EPFL has the mission to digitize, archive and enhance the recordings of the world-famous Montreux Jazz Festival, created in 1967. More than 5000 concerts in the highest possible quality can now be browsed in an immersive facility developed by the EPFL+ECAL Lab.



Nestlé Institute of Health Sciences

Based on the EPFL Campus, the NIHS does fundamental research for the understanding of health and disease. Its objectives: to build the scientific platforms to elevate and expand the role of nutrition; to create knowledge to better define and target appropriate nutrition interventions; to apply these insights to the future of targeted nutrition for the maintenance of health.



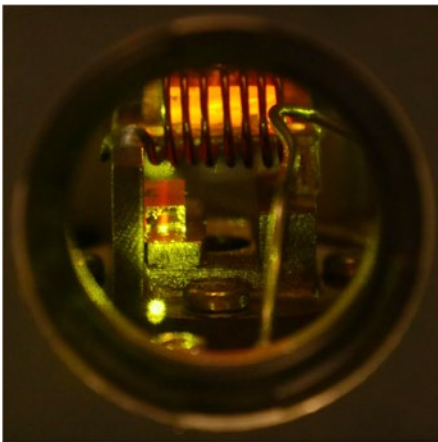
Aquatis, the largest freshwater Aquarium in Europe

Aquarium-Vivarium Lausanne presents the animals through a totally immersive and interactive scenography using innovative digital technologies. It will take position as the largest freshwater Aquarium in Europe. More than an Aquarium or Vivarium, Aquatis is an exceptional trip through our planet's most fascinating freshwater environments. Discover the aquatic fauna and flora of the five continents with close to 2 million litres of water for some 46 aquariums/vivariums/terrariums.

Proposed live presentations from partners (to be confirmed and enlarged)



UNIGE's Artificial and natural evolution laboratory (Prof. Michel Milinkovitch)
This lab investigates the developmental and evolutionary mechanisms that generate life's diversity. It studies rare species of reptiles and other exotic animals, analysing the interactions between the physical and biological aspects behind the evolution of species. The research encompasses a number of disciplines, such as genomics, molecular development, mathematical modelling and numerical simulation.



UNIGE's Applied physics group (Prof. Nicolas Gisin)
This group plays a key role in the emerging field of quantum communication and related quantum technologies. Professor Gisin's team is tackling subjects ranging from the fundamental to the applied.



UNIGE's Neuroscience Laboratory (Prof. Christian Lüscher)
Professor Lüscher's laboratory analyses the cellular mechanisms that underlie drug addiction and dependence. The lab examines the impact various drugs have on neuronal transmissions and how they cause irrepressible cravings. The team is identifying the neurons responsible for these dependencies using a genetic approach. (www.addictionscience.unige.ch/lab/)

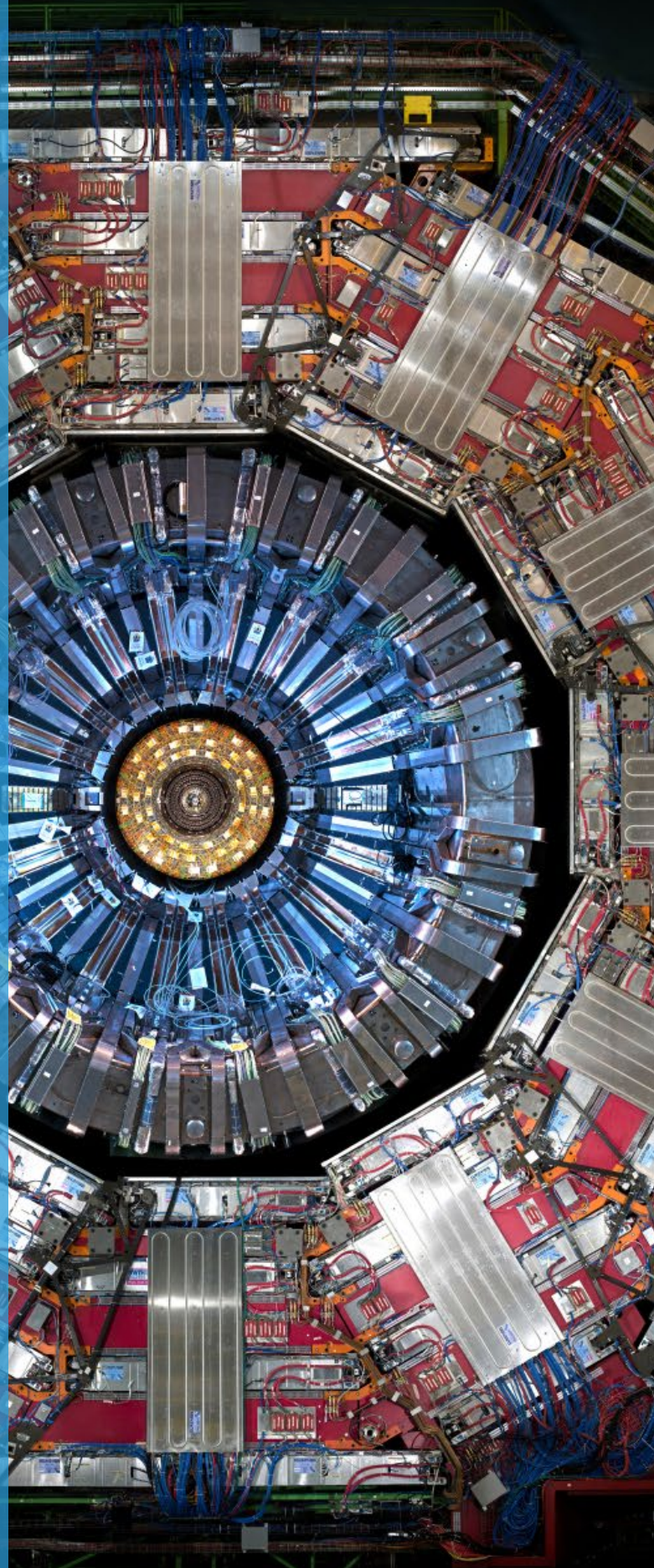


UNIGE's Applied Physics Group (Prof. Jean-Pierre Wolf)
The Applied Physics Group led by Jean-Pierre Wolf is actively working on ultra-fast spectroscopy applications for use in biology, medicine and the environment. Professor Wolf's team has been developing new experimental schemes for understanding and controlling the molecular dynamics of biological systems since January 2005. (www.gap.unige.ch/biophotonics/welcome.htm)

Field trips

As the WCSJ 2019 will be taking place in the Alpine region, and as our bid is built around the theme of reaching new heights in science journalism, we will offer a great number of field trips showing science in action on – and in – the mountains, on glaciers and across the cryosphere in general. These trips will offer exceptional opportunities for science journalists who have never had the occasion to visit a mountain region to take, for example, their first steps on a glacier with a glaciologist explaining the impacts of climate change. They will also offer a very general view of what this very particular environment can provide for the scientific world. Most of the trips will cover more than one scientific aspect, and all of them will be of great interest for WCSJ participants to report on.

Switzerland and its neighbouring countries consist not only of mountains, but also offer a full spectrum of other interesting field trip opportunities, allowing every WCSJ participant to visit some exceptional scientific – and also some touristic – places.



CERN, famous for having discovered the Higgs boson in 2012.

MOUNTAIN FIELD TRIPS



1. Astronomy and mountain ecology in Zermatt (2 days)

Zermatt is a very popular destination for tourists, home to one of the most famous mountains in the world: the Matterhorn. But this little village of wooden chalets is also a hive of scientific research. For example at the astronomical observatory of Gornergrat, located at 3089m and accessible by train, accepts astronomers from all over Europe. There, a new infrastructure recently opened by the scientists of the National Centre of Competence in Science (PlanetS) called the Stellarium, shows the sky to teachers and others with a new 60cm telescope – the best in Switzerland. The scientific gem of the trip will be a visit to the Monte Rosa Hut. This modern mountain hut, which takes the form of a sparkling crystal, has been designed to be 90%-energy-autonomous (heating system, PV panels, recycled water), which is of high importance for the mountain region. Its design also helps design more energy-efficient houses in general. The hut can be reached by a unique and spectacular three hour walk on a glacier, accompanied by a guide.



2. Storing nuclear waste at the Mont Terri Laboratory

Storing radioactive nuclear waste in a very secure way will be of great importance for future generations for as long as humanity uses nuclear energy. Finding out what are the right types of rocks to host such repositories is crucial. Is opalinus clay a viable option? That's what participants to this trip will discover, at the International Mont Terri Rock Laboratory at a depth of about 300 metres. Mont Terri is situated near the small town of St Ursanne in the Canton of Jura. At the Rock Laboratory, a total of 15 partners from Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, France, Japan, Canada, Spain and the US carry out research into the properties of opalinus clay, which is a potential host rock for the storage of radioactive waste. The visit will present the underground laboratory, which consists of 600 metres of galleries and niches. The Swiss Federal Office of Topography (Swisstopo) operates the facility and runs the Mont Terri project.



3. Sucking greenhouse gases from the sky at Jungfraujoch, the highest railway station in Europe

The high altitude station at Jungfraujoch is recognized as an important research site due to its privileged location, year-round accessibility and excellent infrastructure. The research station is located at an altitude of 3450m above sea level. The scientific orientation of the Jungfraujoch research station has changed over the decades, initially focusing on astronomy and radiation. Today the station focuses on environmental and climate research, such as the state of the atmosphere. Along with 30 other observation sites, Jungfraujoch is part of the global monitoring network, Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW), which falls under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). In addition, the Jungfraujoch Research Station acts as a key station in many more global, European and national networks such as the Network for Atmospheric Composition Change Detection (NDACC), Integrated Carbon Observing Systems (ICOS), and more. Science journalists will have the opportunity to discover the numerous investigations that are carried out at the highest station in Europe. The panorama from the top is of great beauty and the views over the Aletsch Glacier are majestic, a unique experience for journalists who choose to visit.



4. In Chamonix/Mont-Blanc, a day with Europe at your feet

Close to Lausanne and Geneva, Chamonix, birthplace of mountaineering, is an extraordinary site where we will ride up to the Aiguille du Midi, at 3842m above sea level, the highest cable car in Europe with a stunning panorama of the Mont Blanc range. Two science teams will show us the research they do there: the EDYTEM laboratory, focused on climate impacts on the Alps, and the Ifreemont Institute, focused on high altitude medicine and especially on acute mountain sickness. End the day with some world class avalanche science on the biggest avalanche control system in Europe, in Taconnaz near Chamonix.



5. Grenoble, the science and technology capital of the French Alps

You will need to slip on some polar clothing before entering the IGE ice-core depository, which houses 15 000 ice samples from Antarctica and Greenland, and first documented the correlation between CO₂ and the paleo-climate. Then stop at the cutting-edge European Synchrotron Radiation Facility, which produces the most intense X-rays for research to date. Two blocks away, drop into the Laue-Langevin Institute, ILL, and peer into the most intense neutron source in the world. Grenoble produces over 4000 journal articles and 800 patents each year – this visit will give you a sense of why.



6. INFN Gran Sasso National Laboratory in Italy

Take part in a unique trip to central Italy, and experience the cosmic silence of the INFN Gran Sasso National Laboratory, only one hour from Geneva by plane. The INFN Gran Sasso National Laboratory (LNGS), is the largest underground laboratory in the world devoted to neutrino and astroparticle physics, a worldwide research facility for scientists where particle physics, cosmology and astrophysics meet.

Shielded by 1400 metres of rock, the Laboratory is unequalled anywhere, as it offers the most advanced underground infrastructures in terms of dimensions, complexity and completeness. Experiments at the Gran Sasso National Laboratory have provided revolutionary contributions to neutrino physics, the search for dark matter, and the understanding of the nuclear processes that regulate the evolution of the stars (Nuclear Astrophysics).

Located between L'Aquila and Teramo, at about 120 kilometres from Rome, the underground structures are on one side of the 10-kilometre highway tunnel that crosses the Gran Sasso massif. The underground complex consists of three huge experimental halls with a total volume of about 180 000m³. Visit Rome at the end of your stay.



Saas-Fee ski resort

7. Sustainability in the Alps

Tourism, agriculture, mobility, water – the Alps are in high demand. How can we accommodate all the demands in a productive and sustainable way? With this field trip, the Swiss Academies take journalists on a journey that visits contrasting scenes and explores topics at the interface of science and society. Accompanied by high-ranking scientists and decision makers, journalists will discuss the effects of climate change on Alpine ski tourism in Zermatt and how they affect local social and economic conditions. In the nearby valley of Saas Fee, the focus will be on the manifold interactions between tourists and native inhabitants and what they mean for local society. Then, participants will take a walk along one of the “suonen”, the legendary irrigation channels, which run from the glaciers along the hillsides to the pastureland in the whole of the Valais. Nowadays beautiful places to go for a hike in a wild and romantic scenery, the suonen are a thrilling subject for many social sciences: How was it possible to build and maintain this sophisticated network of several hundred kilometres of channels in ancient farming societies? Finally, a visit to the rerouting of the river Rhone is planned, where the balance between nature and settlements poses a big challenge, putting engineering sciences in the spotlight of politics. The whole trip takes you to a landscape of breath-taking beauty – and lets you see behind the scenes.



Grande Dixence mountain dam

8. Enter a Swiss mountain dam

Grande Dixence is not the name of a four thousand metre high Alpine peak, nor of any picture-postcard lake or other natural wonder. It is the name of the highest dam in the world, whose millions of Tons of concrete make it one of the most spectacular and amazing landscapes in the Swiss Alps. Construction work on the dam was pharaonic, involving about 3000 people over 14 years.

The dam of the Grande Dixence, located at the headwaters of the Valley of Heréns, in the Canton of Valais, is a monumental work of engineering that overwhelms the senses with its imposing height and thickness. The landscape glimpsed from the top of the dam is the one we all dream of when we travel to the Alps: mountains of eternal snow reflecting in the waters of the lake created by the dam. It's a real spectacle of nature and human ingenuity.

Its 285 metre height makes the Grande Dixence the highest gravity dam in the world. Water is transferred to the dam through more than 100km of tunnels and a main conduit. Once up there the scenery is glorious.



© Carole Parodi _ Agroscope

9. How to make delicious wine in a mountain region

Along the shores of Lake Geneva, which are formed from glacial moraines, are the glorious vineyards of Lavaux, now registered on the UNESCO world heritage list, growing under a radiant Sun. In the middle-ages, the now iconic landscape was constructed by monks in the form of terraces held in place by stone-walls. At the end of the day, a wine tasting experiment will be on offer. But what sort of wine thrives in such vineyards? This is, among other questions, what the Agroscope, the Swiss centre of excellence for agricultural research, is trying to find out. Agroscope makes an important contribution to a sustainable agriculture and food sector as well as to an intact environment, thereby contributing to improved quality of life. This applies as well to the wine sector, with many innovative solutions. A visit is not to be missed.



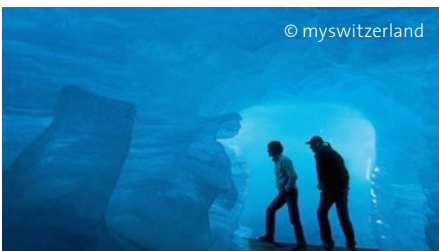
10. Rega, saving people with helicopters able to fly in the fog

The history of the REGA (Swiss Air Rescue) is an eventful one. What works today in Switzerland almost as a matter of course has gradually developed over a period of decades. In the early days the only way to rescue people from danger in the mountains was by land. From 1946 REGA began with a handful of daring pilots, later joined by parachutists with avalanche dogs, but the rescue business was still in its infancy. From 1960, led by a great wave of enthusiasm, REGA began to transport seriously ill or injured people, paving the way for air rescue worldwide. REGA currently offers a wide range of missions in Switzerland and abroad. The increasing magnitude and professionalism in the field of air rescue has given rise to new forms of organisation. REGA will offer journalists the opportunity to visit the Lausanne base where they can discover the hangar with helicopters, learn more about the organisation's history, and discover the next generation of helicopters, which will be able to fly on instruments only, even with zero visibility.



11. Trek in the old salt mines of Bex

In Bex, close to Lausanne, experience the genuine sense of adventure an old salt mine can offer: explore galleries and stairs carved by hand over centuries, which allowed the locals to collect salt and commercialise it throughout Europe. Away from standard tours, visit the often narrow and frequently low passageways; some routes involve walking over ramps and rubble. Be adventurous, discover the old galleries and enjoy the captivating narratives of our experienced scientific guides. TrekkMines tours are nothing like potholing. Although this activity does not entail any specific danger, some basic precautions should be taken.



12. Furka, glacier walk and botanical garden

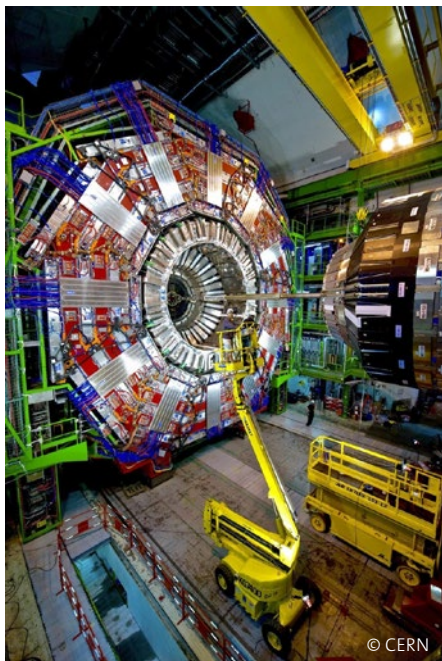
Glaciers will most probably disappear from the Alps due to climate change, but for now we can still marvel at their grandeur. Participants on this trip will learn how glacial measurements dating back over 100 years help us to document climate change. They will also find out what life in the Alps will be like without glaciers or permafrost. At the same time, they will have the opportunity to enter the Rhone glacier in the Furka region. These huge masses of ice are a wonder of nature. Deep and dangerous cracks, imposing moraines and icy torrents show the incredible strength that glaciers have. Every spring, a tunnel is excavated in the Rhone Glacier. This started some 170 years ago, when the cave was used as a huge refrigerator. These days its main purpose is to let visitors experience the interior life of a glacier. The ice cave is located at 2300m above sea level and 3km below the Furka Alpine pass. Within a short walk of the cavern, visitors can also discover some of the the alpine gardens, which show the unique ecosystem of the region. Several thousand species of plants, ancient varieties of cereals and numerous meadow flowers thrive in an impressive landscape. In short, an unforgettable world where you can easily lose yourself.



13. Alpine traffic: From the first daring passages to literally a technical breakthrough

Steep and rocky slopes, harsh winters, remote villages – and the quickest route between Northern and Southern Europe: Welcome to the Gotthard region in the heart of the Alps. On this field trip, organised by the Swiss Academies, attendees will time travel through centuries of traffic and engineering history: From the 12th century, adventurous constructions opened up this important trade route, but still, it was considered impassable for large amounts of goods until the first Gotthard Train Tunnel, which is still in use, was constructed in 1882 – co-financed by the German Reich and Italy, since the route supported their political interests. The journey through history will finally lead to the current Gotthard Base Tunnel, opened in 2016 after 17 years of construction work. Being the longest and deepest rail tunnel in the world with a length of 57.1km, it is an impressive scientific and technical breakthrough. Finally, journalists will have the opportunity to see how development of traffic routes enabled tourism to grow. In the village of Andermatt, they'll visit one of the biggest Alpine tourism projects currently underway and see how it changes again the face of this region so rich in history.

OTHER FIELD TRIPS



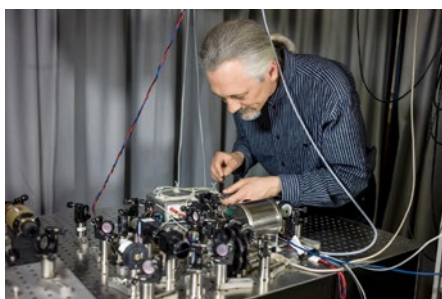
CMS Experiment

A. CERN, go underground!

Founded in 1954, the CERN laboratory sits astride the Franco-Swiss border near Geneva. At CERN physicists and engineers probe the fundamental structure of the universe. What is it made of? How did it start? Physicists at CERN seek answers to questions like these, using some of the world's most remarkable scientific instruments. CERN's main area of research is particle physics – the study of the fundamental constituents of matter and the forces acting between them. The tools of the trade are large and complex scientific instruments – particle accelerators and detectors – including the Large Hadron Collider, LHC, a 27km circumference accelerator installed in a tunnel 100m underground.

The discovery of the Higgs Boson at the LHC in 2012 is a major scientific achievement, while the invention of the World Wide Web at CERN in 1989 was a technological revolution for humankind. Advances in fields such as magnet technology, cryogenics, electronics, detector technology and statistical methods have also made their way into society in ways that are less well known, yet equally impactful. While the societal benefits of techniques such as advanced particle detection may not seem immediately relevant beyond the realms of research, the impact they have had in medical imaging, for instance, is profound. Appreciation of CERN's cultural contribution has never been higher than today. More than 100 000 people visit CERN every year.

CERN scientists will give participants on this trip the opportunity to go underground and get to know the LHC at close hand, along with the huge particle detectors – ATLAS, CMS, ALICE and LHCb that study the particle collisions it produces. Participants will also have the opportunity to discover other CERN experiments covering a wide range of subjects. The Awake experiment is exploring novel techniques for particle acceleration, for example, while Cloud studies the complex science of cloud formation in the atmosphere. AMS is a particle physics experiment on the International Space Station, ISS, while Compass carries out a range of experiments investigating the structure of nucleons among other things. There will be no shortage of story opportunities on offer at CERN.



B. Time, Switzerland's golden resource

From mechanical watches that make Switzerland famous abroad, to atomic clocks onboard the Galileo constellation satellites, scientists and manufacturers of the Neuchâtel region have become experts in the measurement of time. This trip set up by the University of Neuchâtel, founded in 1838, will take you to the Time and Frequency Laboratory, which participates in the definition of international atomic time and develops devices for the European Space Agency. More generally, its mission is to explore the frontiers of optical metrology and ultra-fast laser science. Neuchâtel also hosts microtechnology labs at Microcity and at the CSEM, the Swiss Centre for Electronics and Microtechnology. In addition, science journalists will also have the opportunity to visit the International Museum of Horology (MIH) in La Chaux-de-Fonds and, last but not least, to see inside a watch factory.



C. Campus Biotech Geneva (Human Brain Project/Wyss Center for Bio- and Neuroengineering) hosting the Bertarelli Symposium in neuroengineering

From reactivating paralysed limbs to building bionic eyes, neurotechnology is experiencing an era of optimism and investment. Come and meet the scientists building the brain-computer-interfaces of tomorrow. Home of the Human Brain Project and the Wyss Center, an independent non-profit organisation that accelerates the development of neurotechnology for human benefit, Campus Biotech in Geneva is putting the Lake Geneva Region at the forefront of global neuroscience research. Take a tour of the stunning glass building and discover the device development and testing facilities where researchers are pushing the frontiers of implantable neurotech. Peer into the clean room to see stretchable electronics being made, observe recordings of human brain activity and experience state-of-the-art virtual reality. Explore an interactive exhibition where you can play with augmented reality to reveal hidden implanted neurotechnology in your bionic mannequin hosts. Spin a giant brain with a wave of your hand and meet an interactive avatar who will track your every move.

On the same date, the prestigious Bertarelli Symposium in Translational Neuroscience and Neuroengineering, organised by the Bertarelli Foundation, will take place at Campus Biotech, and introduce the latest scientific advances in the field in the presence of top-class researchers from academic institutions such as EPFL, the Universities of Geneva and Lausanne and Harvard Medical School (US). For those interested, a special combination of visits and symposium attendance will be offered.



D. ESA's Astronaut Centre in Cologne

Before going to space, all European astronauts train at the European Astronaut Centre EAC in Cologne, Germany. The European Space Agency invites 15-20 WCSJ participants for a full press trip. The EAC was established in 1990, its team is made up of more than 100 professionals, complemented by staff from the German Aerospace Centre (DLR), the French space agency CNES, and from industry. Through its work over the years, EAC has established itself as a centre of excellence for astronaut selection, training, medical support and surveillance, as well as for the support of astronauts and their families during preparation for and during flight. Activities include the planning and scheduling of an astronaut's tasks and flight assignments, and the preparation and implementation of astronaut training programmes for space missions to the International Space Station, ISS. For astronauts and for the ground operations personnel, EAC is the training centre for all European built ISS hardware, including ESA's Columbus laboratory and payloads. EAC has established its medical expertise for astronauts including preventive medicine, evidence based medicine, nutrition and fitness. In addition, EAC provides public relations assistance for human spaceflight and educational activities, as well as promoting opportunities to industry for commercial experiments.



E. United Nations Geneva/WHO/GAVI/UNAids

Geneva is one of the capitals of the world and one of the cities with the highest quality of life on the planet. The city has a marked international character and is historically closely linked to international organizations and human rights. Home of the United Nations, the “Palais des Nations” built between 1929 and 1937 is located northwest of Geneva’s city centre, in the middle of the Ariana Park, a space of 45 hectares that offers magnificent views of Lake Geneva and the Alps. More than 8000 country meetings are held here annually. Some areas of the building are open to the public. Among these is the Council Hall, decorated beautifully with frescos, and the huge Assembly Hall, which is even larger than the Paris Opera.

But more than just the UN, this day will be set up with visits to and the participation of representatives of some of the major international institutions located in Geneva, such as the World Health Organization, the GAVI Alliance, the Global Fund and UNAids, among many others.



F. Geneva University Hospitals / University of Geneva

The Geneva University Hospitals group, HUG, was founded in 1995 and continues a tradition of excellence in medicines and science that goes back hundreds of years. Its services are recognized at an international level, where robotic surgery, genetic medicine, neuroscience and oncology stand out. It has a level 4 high security diagnosis laboratory able to handle a range of pathogens. The HUG has been named by the World Health Organization as a reference centre in six specialized areas: health and telemedicine, therapeutic education, historical research, public health, patient safety and prevention of infection, and vaccination. HUG works with numerous organizations such as the ICRC, the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit, Swiss Rescue, Médecins sans Frontières, Terre, Children Action and many more.

The University of Geneva was founded in 1559 by Jean Calvin and Théodore de Bèze. The University of Geneva is dedicated to thinking, teaching, dialogue and research. It is Switzerland’s second largest university. Its domains of excellence in research include life sciences (molecular biology, bio-informatics), the physics of elementary particles, and astrophysics. The University of Geneva is also host and co-host to six National Centres of Competence in Research: PlanetS, Swiss-Map, Chemical Biology, Affective Sciences, Synaptic Bases of Mental Diseases and LIVES – Overcoming vulnerabilities in a life course perspective. Just like the city of Geneva itself, the university enjoys a strong international reputation, both for the quality of its research (it ranks among the top institutions among the League of European Research Universities) and the excellence of its education. A visit to these world-class institutions is highly recommended.



G. Paul Scherrer Institut

The Paul Scherrer Institute, PSI, is located near Zürich in the north of Switzerland, next to the small town of Villigen. The PSI is the largest research institute for natural and engineering sciences within Switzerland. It performs world-class research in three main subject areas: Matter and Materials; Energy and the Environment; and Human Health. By conducting fundamental and applied research, the PSI works on long-term solutions for major challenges facing society, industry and science.

In addition, PSI research includes the fields of nuclear physics, studies in energy physics, nuclear engineering in reactor design and energy production, proton therapy cancer treatment, biology and environmental chemistry. The particle physics laboratory focuses entirely on studies using neutrons and muons. The visit will offer the opportunity to see some of the PSI experiments live.



H. Two days in Paris, city of light... and of science.

Come to the Louvre to visit the Carrousel's lab, specialized in analyzing and restoring masterpieces with the best technologies in the world. Then, see the Institut Pasteur, founded by the father of microbiology and public health – which boasts 10 Nobel Prizes. Paris is the capital of food excellence – explore the science of food by visiting the largest and most modern agronomy research centre of the French National Institute for Agricultural Research, INRA . Several other institutions will be included in the program, including the French aerospace lab (Onera), the Institut des NanoSciences... and as a homage to French cosmetics, we will tour the new Museum of Perfume, guided by an olfaction researcher.



I. World-class life sciences in Basel

The University of Basel and its partners, the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) and the Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research (FMI) invite journalists to a rich field trip to the Basel region, which is two hours by train from Lausanne. This field trip will lead you deep into current issues in different medical fields, from basic science to applied research. Being the oldest university of Switzerland, the University of Basel now finds itself at the forefront of scientific research in several fields, with life sciences representing its most important focal area. The Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research (FMI) is a leading centre for basic research in biochemistry and medicine. It enjoys a strong global reputation mainly in the fields of neurobiology, signaling in stem cells and cancer, and in the epigenetics of cell differentiation. With the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, another internationally renowned research centre opens its door for visitors from the WCSJ 2019. Swiss TPH covers a wide range of research activities in the fields of parasitology, infection biology, health systems and public health. Swiss TPH is an important player with a strong link to practical current needs in international medicine.



J. Lyon, from vaccines to the environment, a vibrant scientific hub

In Lyon, France's second city, we will start by visiting Marcy l'Etoile, the world's largest vaccine research and production centre, run by Sanofi-Pasteur. Then we will see the Irstea world class research centre dedicated to all aspects of water management, with some spectacular experimental facilities including flood simulation, water treatment and climate impact modeling. Finally we will stop at Europe's largest centre for analytical chemistry, the IAS, and before returning to Lausanne, we will share a good-bye drink at the beautiful Lumière museum, located in the house where cinematography was invented in 1895 – an important innovation for our profession!



Albert Einstein as young physicist in Bern.

K. Following Einstein's footsteps in Bern

Bern became the starting point of Albert Einstein's unique academic career. In June 1902, after his studies at ETH Zürich, he started work as a "technical expert third class" at the Patent Office in Bern. The job wasn't very challenging. In 1905, however, Einstein developed the Special Theory of Relativity. His work on the General Theory also began in Bern. The year 1905 – often called his "*annus mirabilis*" – was the most creative scientific period of this most famous physicist. You can follow Einstein's footsteps in the capital of Switzerland and visit his former house in the Old Town, where you can learn about his family life, the large exhibition in the Historical Museum, and the research in astronomy and space travel based on Einstein's theories at the University of Bern. Enjoy an exciting expedition backwards in the Bern time machine.



ETH Future Cities Lab

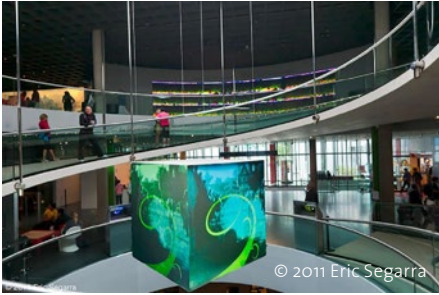
L. Zürich: Two leading institutions with an impressive track record of Nobel Prizes

Only two hours by train from Lausanne is Zürich, the largest city of Switzerland and a focal point for science, research and innovation. Zürich hosts two outstanding institutions of international importance: ETH Zürich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich) and the University of Zürich. ETH Zürich regularly features as one of the best universities in the world in international rankings and the leading university in continental Europe. The University of Zürich counts as one of the leading research universities in Europe and offers the widest range of study courses in Switzerland. So far, more than 30 Nobel Prizes have been awarded to researchers who have or have had a connection with one of those institutions. A field trip to Zürich offers excellent opportunities for science journalists with various interests.



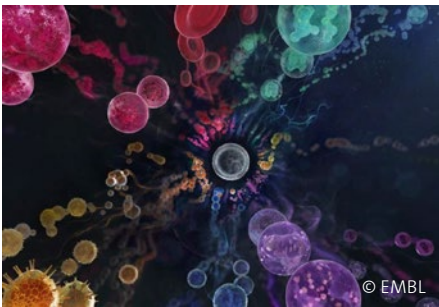
M. Lausanne AGORA Centre for Cancer

The AGORA Cancer Centre will be the place where basic and clinical research will be found to push the boundaries of science, where day after day researchers and clinicians will work together to find solutions to the many challenges posed by cancer. Visit the place where exchanges, contradictions and confrontations will lead to the therapies of tomorrow.



N. World Antidoping Research Lab AMA in Lausanne, coupled with the International Olympic Committee and Lausanne's inter-faculty sport research laboratory

The beautiful city of Lausanne has had the honour and the responsibility of hosting the International Olympic Committee (IOC) since 1915. Pierre de Coubertin, fervent defender of the values of sport, influenced this decision while he was living here. Lausanne naturally became the Olympic capital in 1994 to celebrate the centenary of the IOC. Defending the values of sport and having the mission of making sport clean and fair for all athletes, the World Anti-doping Agency Research Lab, AMA, is located in the Olympic capital, which is also home to 25 sports federations and 40 international sports organisations including the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). A great deal of research covering all aspects of sport happens in Lausanne. In 2016, the University of Lausanne inaugurated a research platform dedicated to sport in order to create an exchange network promoting research and centralising sports expertise.



O. EMBL

Whoever looks at Heidelberg from the banks of the river Neckar will immediately fall in love with this city and will surely not be the first to do so. Writers like Victor Hugo and Mark Twain declared themselves admirers of the city considered to be the cradle of the German romanticism. But in addition to its dreamy attributes, Heidelberg is also the headquarters of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL).

The visit to Heidelberg will be an opportunity to discover EMBL, one of the world's leading research institutions founded in 1974. Research at EMBL emphasizes experimental analysis at multiple levels of biological organization, from the molecule to the organism, as well as computational biology, bioinformatics and systems biology.

Many scientific milestones have been made at EMBL, notably the first systematic genetic analysis of embryonic development in the vinegar fly by Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard and Eric Wieschaus, who were awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1995. EMBL is international, Innovative and interdisciplinary. It is financed by 23 member states. In addition to its headquarters in Heidelberg, EMBL runs five other research centres in France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom.

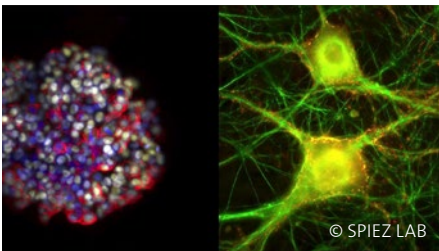


P. WWF Excursion on endangered species in Switzerland

The WWF came into existence on 29 April 1961, when a small group of passionate and committed individuals signed a declaration that came to be known as the Morges Manifesto. WWF International actively supports and operates conservation programmes on the ground in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, and Latin America. Worldwide, WWF funds close to 2000 projects and employs more than 4000 people.

WWF's Global Conservation Programme covers the full spectrum of conservation activities, at both the field and policy levels. It encompasses ecoregion conservation in the 'Global 200' – areas that WWF scientists have identified as the Earth's most biologically outstanding terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats – and global thematic programmes. These programmes address key biomes – forest, freshwater and marine – and global threats such as climate change as well as priority endangered species.

Finally, the delivery of conservation results is assisted by WWF's high-visibility international campaigns, which help to spotlight crucial environmental issues and influence national and international policy decisions.



Single colony showing pluripotent mouse embryonic stem cells

Q. P4 Biological threats Lab in Spiez

The Spiez Laboratory is part of the Swiss Federal Office for Civil Protection. It is an interface between science and politics and national security issues. The laboratory's specialisation includes in particular weapons control and protection against nuclear, biological and chemical, NBC, weapons. It has the necessary equipment for these studies. Some of its initiatives are support for the prevention of nuclear terrorism through sensitive detection systems for gamma and neutron radiation among others. The laboratory's main activity remains detection, identification and diagnosis. Some of the projects for the coming years are focused on issues of public health, biosafety and security. Since 2016 the Spiez Laboratory has collaborated with the International Atomic Energy Agency. The Spiez Laboratory will offer to journalists the opportunity to visit this interesting place and find out much more.



R. Novartis campus Basel

In the district of St. Johann in Basel, between office buildings, research centres and production plants, a campus of knowledge, innovation and collaboration emerges, the Campus at Novartis. With striking appearance and excellent design, it has become a pilgrimage site for lovers of modern architecture. The outstanding Italian architect Vittorio Magnago Lampugnani was in charge of all the planning. Each one of the buildings of the Campus is designed by a different architectural practice. These include Frank O. Gehry, Diener & Diener, Sanaa, and others. Novartis will offer journalists visits to their internationally recognized laboratories, passing through the modern offices of these stunning buildings.



S. MUSE science museum and research centre, Trento (Italy)

The Science Museum mingles with the ancient collections of notable Trentino people who, in the late 1700s began collecting samples of natural science objects in private collections. The MUSE opened in 2013. It was designed by architect Renzo Piano and is a modern science museum, science centre, and research centre. Since its opening, its corridors have been walked by more than a million visitors. Research focusses on the Alpine environment, but it also covers conservation issues from Tanzania to Mongolia, whereas thematic exhibitions cover the spectrum of natural science, biology, sustainability and technology.

Bordering the spectacular Dolomite region in Northern Italy, the beautiful museum will host a trip and visit, with an introduction to current hot research topics for 50 journalists attending the Conference.



T. IBM Research Lab

Science journalists will be invited to visit IBM's two-time Nobel Prize winning research lab in Rüschlikon, Switzerland. The agenda will include an exclusive day of demonstrations and lab tours including Noise Free Labs for advanced nanotechnology, a Quantum Computing lab where they will learn how to program qubits, the latest in artificial intelligence and cryptography, and demonstrations on applying cognitive computing to industry including healthcare. With scientists from more than 45 different countries, the reporters will also be able to have lunch with researchers from their home countries, when available.



U. Secrets of a 5000 year old bow case

Have you ever heard of Ötzi the Ice Man, whose remains were found in 1991 near a glacier on the border between Italy and Austria? You probably have. Melting alpine glaciers are slowly giving up their secrets, unveiling traces of human movement and migration through history and prehistoric times. In the year 2003, hikers crossing the historic Schnidejoch pass between the canton of Valais and the Bernese Oberland in Switzerland found a mysterious wooden object protruding from melting ice. They took it to archaeologists in Bern who, after long examination, concluded that it was a bow case dated to the Neolithic period over 5000 years ago.

There are thousands of prehistoric arrowheads, and even few bows in museums and laboratories around the world, but this bow case is unique. Made of birch with a complex structure, it had lain preserved in the ice for millennia. Archaeologists are studying the object, though it's no easy task since birch bark is a material whose degradation process is as yet unknown, so it has to be handled with a great deal of care.

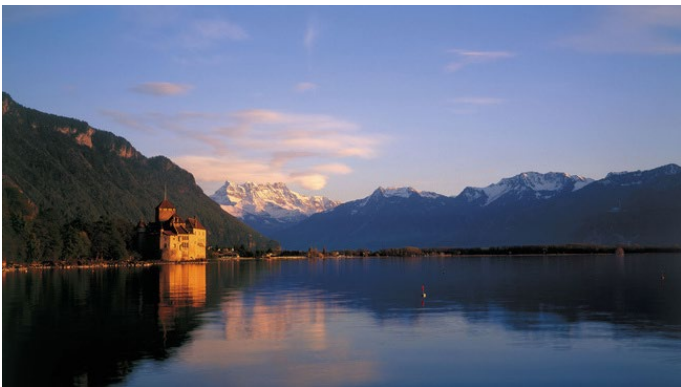
Researchers into Materiality in Art and Culture at Bern's University of the Arts are pleased to open up their labs to journalists at the WCSJ and to discuss their efforts to gain insight into this unique artefact along with their broader scientific studies in conservation science – methods to conserve archaeological artefacts.

TOURISTIC FIELD TRIPS



Glacier 3000

Less than two hours from Lausanne, the Diablerets glacier at the heart of the Vaudois Alps is accessible virtually all year round. Ascend by ultra-modern cable car and enjoy panoramic views at the summit from the restaurant designed by the architect Mario Botta. Opportunities for husky sledding, toboggan hire and a new attraction: the “Alpine Coaster” descent, a thrilling toboggan ride!



Château de Chillon

This splendid 12th century castle is superbly situated, not far from Vevey and Montreux, at the foot of steep mountains, on the shores of Lake Geneva facing the Savoy Alps. Take a guided tour of Chillon Castle, which was immortalised by the poet Lord Byron. On the way back, stop in Montreux. The visit will be combined with a ride on a beautiful Belle Epoque steamboat.



Gruyères

Gruyères will seduce you with its medieval charm, its artisans, its castle, its boutiques and its splendid hotels and restaurants. Emblematically, Gruyères has lent its name not only to this Alpine countryside, but also to its celebrated cheese. Perhaps surprisingly, it is also a major attraction to fans of science fiction, as home of a museum dedicated to the work of H.R. Giger, creator of the Alien.



World Conference of Science Journalists

Lausanne 2019

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