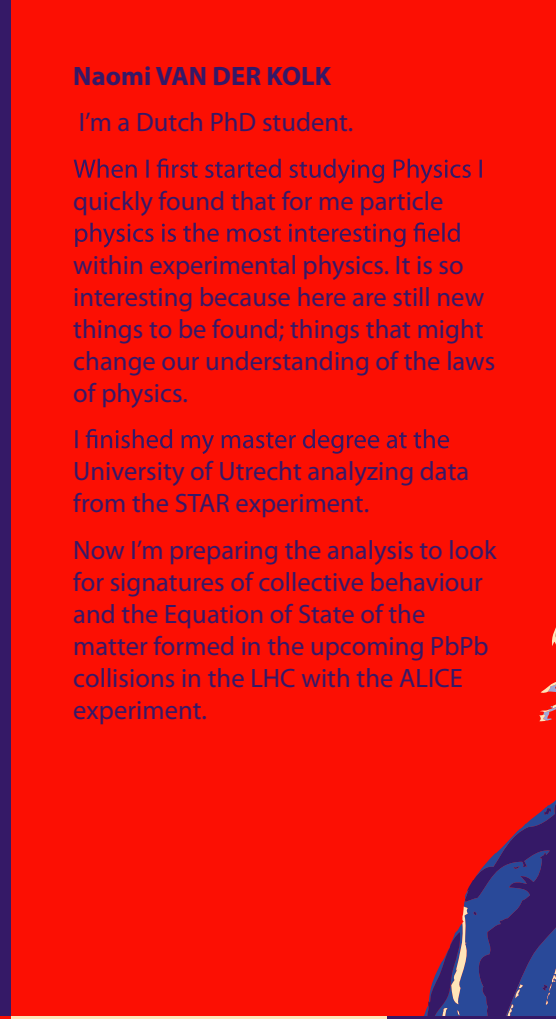




Petra RIEDLER

I was born in Vienna, Austria. During the last years in high-school I got more interested in physics, and in 1989 I started studying physics at the University of Vienna. During my studies I realized that my main interest was on carrying out experiments and I did a master in magnetic small angle neutron scattering. I got the chance to become a doctoral student at CERN in 1996 where I studied radiation damage effects in silicon detectors. After my thesis I worked as a post-doc at the University of Zurich on the ATHENA experiment at CERN where for the first time a large number of cold anti-hydrogen atoms were produced. Since 2001 I work in the ALICE collaboration on the Silicon Pixel Detector. I had the chance to follow the development and the construction of the detector from the first prototype tests to the first successful proton-proton runs in 2009.



Naomi VAN DER KOLK

I'm a Dutch PhD student.

When I first started studying Physics I quickly found that for me particle physics is the most interesting field within experimental physics. It is so interesting because here are still new things to be found; things that might change our understanding of the laws of physics.

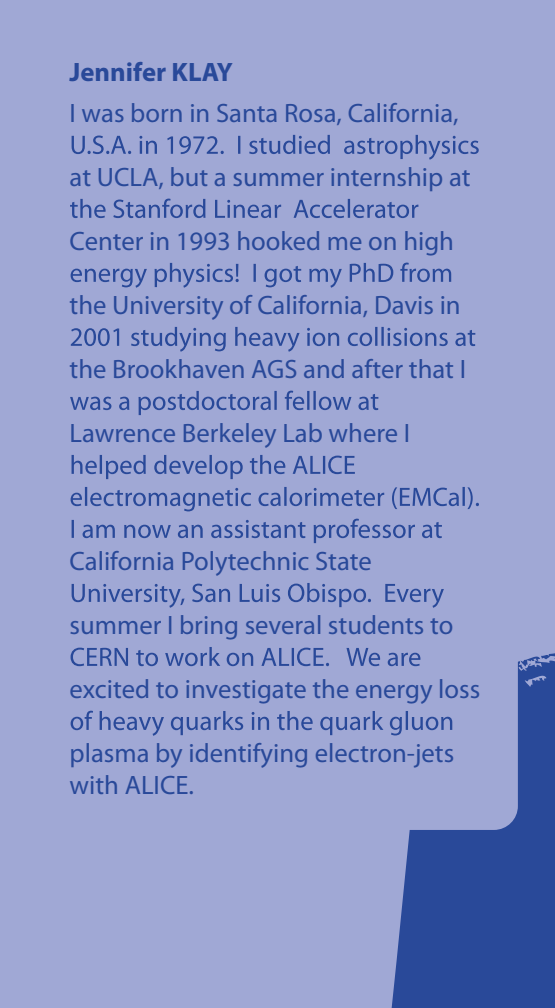
I finished my master degree at the University of Utrecht analyzing data from the STAR experiment.

Now I'm preparing the analysis to look for signatures of collective behaviour and the Equation of State of the matter formed in the upcoming PbPb collisions in the LHC with the ALICE experiment.



Anju BHASIN

I am a professor at the University of Jammu in India, involved with the ALICE experiment at LHC and the STAR experiment at BNL. I work on the Photon Multiplicity Detector (PMD) and the Central Trigger System of ALICE. I was raised in India and from early on I knew I wanted to become a scientist. I found it fascinating to understand how things work, and physics provides this fundamental understanding. I enjoy teaching elementary physics courses in which students can get exposed to everyday applications of physics principles. I got my Ph.D. in an experiment at the SPS. My thesis work was using relativistic heavy ions. At LHC, ALICE will be the most versatile heavy ion detector probing the Quark Gluon state at energies 30 times higher than RHIC; I am looking forward to using the detector to determine properties of the QGP in order to understand the origin of matter in the universe.



Jennifer KLAY

I was born in Santa Rosa, California, U.S.A. in 1972. I studied astrophysics at UCLA, but a summer internship at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in 1993 hooked me on high energy physics! I got my PhD from the University of California, Davis in 2001 studying heavy ion collisions at the Brookhaven AGS and after that I was a postdoctoral fellow at Lawrence Berkeley Lab where I helped develop the ALICE electromagnetic calorimeter (EMCal). I am now an assistant professor at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Every summer I bring several students to CERN to work on ALICE. We are excited to investigate the energy loss of heavy quarks in the quark gluon plasma by identifying electron-jets with ALICE.



Nora PITZ

25 years
Frankfurt, Germany
PhD at CERN/Physics

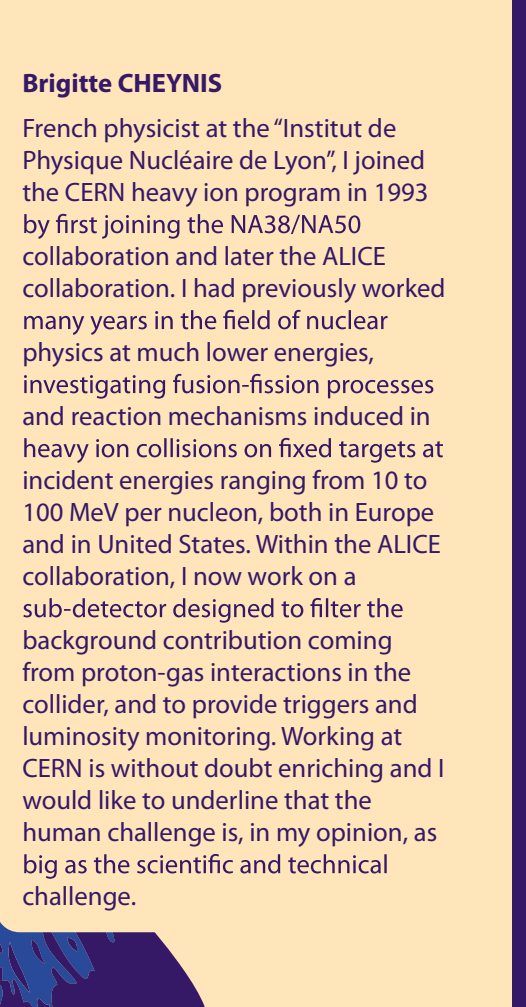
I started my studies in Frankfurt University in October 2003 right after finishing high school in Germany. I did my diploma in particle physics in June 2008 and was then sent to CERN to do my PhD in the same field. Since August 2008 I am with the ALICE collaboration, in particular the TRD (transition radiation detector).

My highest goal after becoming a physicist is to join an astronaut program and do science in space. The plan B is to go to the police and do criminal investigations/forensics.



Maya SHIMOMURA

I am Japanese, a 1st-year-post-doctor at University of Tsukuba, working for ALICE and PHENIX. The topic of my Ph.D. thesis was the systematic study of elliptic flow in heavy ion collisions at RHIC-PHENIX. I belong to the Di-jet-calorimeter (DCAL) project team for ALICE.



Martha SPYROPOULOU-STASSINAKI

I was born in Greece. After my University degree in Physics at Athens, I joined the founding group in experimental Particle Physics in this Department for an experiment at the CERN 2m Hydrogen Bubble Chamber (K-p at 8.25 GeV/c). My PhD (1978) was with the experiment WA27, where the comparison reaction (K+p at 8.25 GeV/c) was studied. As a member of the Physics Department of Athens University I am teaching Particle Physics until now. In the framework of my research activities, I have taken part in 13 experiments at CERN. As the spokesperson of WA83 collaboration I worked for more than 10 years on 'soft photon' production in hadronic interactions. Since 2000, I am member of ALICE collaboration and the representative of the Greek participation.



Brigitte CHEYNIS

French physicist at the "Institut de Physique Nucléaire de Lyon", I joined the CERN heavy ion program in 1993 by first joining the NA38/NA50 collaboration and later the ALICE collaboration. I had previously worked many years in the field of nuclear physics at much lower energies, investigating fusion-fission processes and reaction mechanisms induced in heavy ion collisions on fixed targets at incident energies ranging from 10 to 100 MeV per nucleon, both in Europe and in United States. Within the ALICE collaboration, I now work on a sub-detector designed to filter the background contribution coming from proton-gas interactions in the collider, and to provide triggers and luminosity monitoring. Working at CERN is without doubt enriching and I would like to underline that the human challenge is, in my opinion, as big as the scientific and technical challenge.



Yaxian MAO

I am a Chinese student working at CERN for the ALICE collaboration. I am enrolled in a joint program of Université Joseph Fourier in Grenoble and Huazhong Normal University in Wuhan. Joining ALICE as a PhD student offers me the unique opportunity to participate in the most fantastic adventure in nuclear physics of the beginning of this century. Beside being involved in the intellectual endeavor of trying to understand the fundamental bricks of matter and the origin of matter itself, the multiple challenges the experiment has to solve will confront me with the most advanced technologies in particle detection, integrated microelectronics and computing hardware and software. As a member of Physics Working Group 4 on "High pt and Photons", I oriented my work toward the study of the quark-gluon plasma exploiting energetic photons and hadrons as probes.



Johanna STACHEL

I studied chemistry at the University of Mainz and at the ETH Zuerich and finished with a diploma thesis in nuclear spectroscopy in 1978. Three and a half years later I received my doctoral degree for research in nuclear structure. After a postdoc at Stony Brook university I received a faculty position there and moved from assistant to associate to full professor until 1993. That was the time when the ultrarelativistic heavy ion program to search for the quark-gluon plasma started at Brookhaven Lab (simultaneous to CERN) and that became my business. In 1996 I moved as a professor to the University of Heidelberg and my research shifted to CERN, first as the spokesperson of CERES/NA45 and then full time in ALICE. Besides leading the transition radiation detector project, I work on phenomenology of high energy nuclear collisions and the experimental determination of the critical temperature for the QCD phase transition.



**8 March
International
Women's Day**



A Large Ion Collider Experiment