What I did at CERN this summer

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What is CERN and why is this year special?

- CERN is the 'Council European for Research Nuclear' and straddles the border between Switzerland and France, near Geneva Switzerland.
- It is home to the Large Hadron Collider as well as many additional particle physics experiments (ATLAS, CMS, LHCb, etc.)
- 2014 marks the 60th anniversary of CERN. Various celebrations are taking place all year long.



HST 2014

- I was selected to take part in the High School Teachers Program for 2014.
- 54 teachers from 32 countries were invited for a three week session where were introduced to CERN and its mission, and study particle physics with experts.
- Most importantly, CERN was founded as a place where scientists from across Europe (and the world) could study physics in peace (more on that later).

HST 2014

- Our three week visit was quite busy and included the following:
- Regular lectures from scientists and researchers
- Tours of the facility (including ATLAS, ALICE, CMS, LHCb, COMPASS and ALPHA)
- Question and answer sessions with various physicists
- Group work (committees) to develop teaching materials or other resources for teachers. (I participated in the Cosmic Ray working group).
- A visit from the Director General, Rolf Heuer <u>http://home.web.cern.ch/students-educators/updates/2014/07/inspiring-science-education-middle-east</u>
- Optional trips to Montreux or Mont Blanc

No longer Mick's show, it's Konrad's now



ATLAS

ATLAS helped find the Higgs boson.



CMS (Compact Muon Solenoid)



CMS also worked to find the Higgs boson. This was taken in the toroid shaped CMS building.



@CMS



ALPHA

Here they study the differences between Hydrogen and anti Hydrogen.



LHCb (Large Hadron Collider beauty)

Why is the universe made of so much matter and so little antimatter?



ALICE (A Large Ion Collider Experiment)

ALICE investigates the nature of quark-gluon plasmas.



COMPASS (Common Muon and Proton Apparatus for Structure and Spectroscopy)

COMPASS investigates the nature of hadrons.



Magnet facility (they made 1200 of these for the LHC)



Magnet facility



But it's not all about tours of detectors

• The Perimeter Institute (<u>https://www.perimeterinstitute.ca/</u>)

visited and ran a workshop. They are a theoretical institute in Canada. Their educational outreach program focuses on helping teachers teach about quantum physics in the classroom. They focus on wave-particle duality and its implications.





CERN, Physics and music

- As part of the 60th anniversary, several musicians performed their compositions at the Montreux jazz festival on July 12th.
- <u>http://home.web.cern.ch/about/updates/2014/07/jamming-cosmos-cern-and-music-physics</u>

A mini CERN in Jordan

- CERN was envisioned as a place where scientists could work in peace.
- An institution known as SESAME was founded in Jordan in 1997 as a place where scientists from the Middle East could do the same.
- SESAME stands for Synchrotron-Light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East.
- Plans are in place for it to be operational by 2015.



TED at CERN

- On September 28, 2014, CERN will host a TEDx event.
- http://tedxcern.web.cern.ch/

You have to go!

- CERN is one of the most fantastic places I have ever visited.
- Beyond the science and technology that they conceive of and develop, some of the most intelligent and captivating scientists in the world work there.
- The machines are great, but the people are better.
- Finis