

## Lecture abstract

What were Albert Einstein's first wife's contributions to his extraordinary productivity in the first years of his career? A first biography of Mileva Marić Einstein was published in Serbian in 1969 but remained largely unknown despite being translated first in German, then in French in the 1990's. The publication of Mileva and Albert's love letters in 1987 revealed how they lived together while two recent publications shed more light on Mileva Marić's life and work. I will review this evidence in its social and historical context to give a better idea of her role. In this presentation, I avoid all type of speculation and do not attack Albert Einstein personally, but rather strictly stick to facts. The audience will be able to appreciate why such a talented physicist has been so unkindly treated by history.

## Short CV

I was born in Chicoutimi in Quebec, Canada in 1955. As a young kid, I dreamt of understanding what were the fundamental constituents of matter. After teaching physics for a few years in local colleges, I moved to California in 1985. I first studied at San Francisco State University then completed a PhD in particle physics at University of California in Santa Cruz. After that, I started my research activities at CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics located near Geneva, where I worked as a Senior Research Scientist with Indiana University. In 2012, I participated to the discovery of the Higgs boson and looked for dark matter within the ATLAS experiment. From 2011-2014, I joined the CERN Communication group, writing blogs and answering questions from numerous media worldwide. Explaining particle physics in simple and accessible terms became my trademark. In 2014, I wrote a popular science book called "Who cares about particle physics: Making sense of the Higgs boson, the Large Hadron Collider and CERN", which is also available in six other languages. I hope my book will allow me to reach large audiences since particle physics is too much fun to leave it only to physicists! Since retiring in 2014, I have given more than one hundred fifty presentations to various audiences in fourteen countries, talking about physics, diversity issues and Mileva Marić Einstein. I am currently writing a screenplay for a mini-series on Mileva Marić Einstein and other women in science

