

COLLOQUIUM

A Singularly Unfeminine Profession

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4:00 p.m. - Wilson Hall, One West

Recount some of my experiences as a woman in a very male-dominated field. The generally nurturing environment of my childhood and college years, as well as my experiences as a summer student in particle physics laboratories and as a first-year graduate student at Columbia University, left me unprepared for the difficulties that I would confront as a second-year graduate student in Paris, and later during my nearly twenty years at CERN. Concurrently I describe the physics developments that I witnessed and participated in, spanning the remarkable period of the inception, in the late 1960's and early 1970's, of what is now known as the Standard Model of particle physics and its confirmation by experiments, culminating with the discovery of the Higgs particle in 2012.