



**Panel session on “Life outside of academia”**

**Convener:** Christophe ROSSEL

S&T Dept. IBM-Research Europe, Zurich, and Chair of WG16 “Physics and Industry”

**Panel:** - Nadia MAGNENAT-THALMANN, Founder and head of MIRALab at the University of Geneva  
- Jan JAKUBEK, CSO & Cofounder of ADVACAM, Prague

**Abstract**

Our two panelists will address the fact that there is a normal and challenging life outside academia and explain how to become entrepreneur and create a new start-up or company. Indeed, current students need to be aware that not all PhD and postdoc positions will lead to a job in academia or tenure positions. Leaving academia does not mean leaving science. To have optimal job opportunities early-career scientists need to acquire a large variety of technical, analytical and communication skills. They will have to learn how to develop new projects, transfer technology, establish a business plan, search for funding, and also learn how to collaborate with or manage people. The list of potential jobs for physicists is enormous in an interdisciplinary environment, ranging from R&D project manager, scientific consultant, science policy advisor to scientific journalist, teacher or even IP lawyer.

The attendance to this round table is open to all who wish to hear the trajectory of distinguished scientists who have both academic and industrial expertise.