Program Notes: Regarding the CERN tour, CERN's safety rules exclude pregnant women in their third trimester, children under 10 years, and people with severe claustrophobia, vertigo, or serious mobility issues from the underground visit to the CMS detector. These restrictions apply only to the underground portion of the visit; the main exhibits at CERN, Visitors' Center and gift shop are not restricted.

Saturday, October 10: Depart the U.S.

Sunday, October 11: Zurich
Arrive at Zurich International Airport. A transfer will be provided to our hotel in the heart of Zurich. Travelers arriving early in the day may opt to join an afternoon excursion to the Kunsthau modern art museum to view its large and comprehensive collection of Swiss art, or may choose to spend the afternoon relaxing at leisure. This evening, you will gather with your fellow travelers and faculty leaders at a welcome reception of wine and cheese.
HOTEL GLOCKENHOF (R)

Monday, October 12: Zurich
Following breakfast and a welcome orientation at the hotel, we will depart on a walking tour that follows in the footsteps of Albert Einstein. We'll visit the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) campus, where Einstein studied and taught. Specializing in natural sciences, engineering, and technology, ETH Zurich has produced 21 Nobel Prize winners. We will enjoy a relaxing afternoon boat ride on the River Limmat. Dinner will be on your own this evening.
HOTEL GLOCKENHOF (B, L)

Tuesday, October 13: Bern
After breakfast, we will depart Zurich for Bern by charter bus. We will take a guided walking tour of the Old City, the best-preserved historic town center in Switzerland and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our tour includes a visit to the former residence of Albert Einstein, the Einsteinhaus, which houses the Einstein Museum. In the afternoon, we will explore Zentrum Paul Klee. Designed by Renzo Piano, this architectural gem houses the largest collection of Klee's works in the world. In the evening, we will dine as a group at the adjacent and acclaimed Restaurant Schöngrün.
HOTEL ALLEGRO (B, L, D)
Wednesday, October 14: Geneva
In the morning, we will travel by charter bus to Geneva, making several stops along the way. Following a traditional Raclette luncheon in Gruyeres, we will spend the afternoon at Chillon Castle. For nearly four centuries, this medieval castle, perched on a rocky islet along the shores of Lake Geneva, was the residence and profitable toll station of the Counts of Savoy. You will see wall paintings from the 14th century and explore the parade halls and subterranean vaults dating back to the time of Bernese rule. Afterwards, we'll check in at the hotel, located in the center of Geneva facing the quiet Mont Blanc Square, only a few steps from Lake Geneva. Dinner this evening is on your own.
HOTEL BRISTOL (B, L)

Thursday, October 15: Geneva
After breakfast, we will enjoy a full day excursion beginning with a guided visit of the Musée d'Histoire des Sciences. Located in Perle du Lac Park and housed in Villa Bartholoni, one of Geneva's most beautiful neo-classical buildings, this museum traces Geneva's rich scientific past. Following lunch at Auberge de L'Onde in St. Saphorin, we will tour the grounds and enjoy a private wine tasting at Clos des Abbayes, a historic estate from the 11th century not open to the public. The evening is free to explore Geneva.
HOTEL BRISTOL (B, L)

Friday, October 16: Geneva
In the morning, we will head to CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, the world's largest particle physics laboratory and one of the most sophisticated centers of scientific research. Special arrangements have been made for a private, guided tour and exclusive behind-the-scenes presentation of CERN. The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is the most powerful instrument ever built to investigate the properties of particles. We will descend underground for an up-close exploration of the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) detector, which uses a huge magnet to bend the paths of particles traveling at the speed of light as they collide head-on. Cornell's High Energy Physics group, which includes faculty leader Jim Alexander, conducts experiments using the CMS detector. The group is leading efforts to upgrade the CMS experiment, in part by redesigning and replacing the piece at the heart of the detector. Their current plan is to construct the piece in Ithaca and transport it to CERN for installation in 2024. It will be extraordinary to descend underground to see the CMS with Jim himself. Afterwards, we will savor the morning experience over lunch at the famed Domaine de Châteauvieux, awarded two Michelin stars and overlooking the breathtaking Rhône Valley.
HOTEL BRISTOL (B, L)

Saturday, October 17: Depart Switzerland
Enjoy breakfast before checking out of the hotel. A transfer to Geneva International Airport for return flights to the U.S. is included.
(B)

TOUR LEADER JIM ALEXANDER
Faculty leader Jim Alexander is a professor of physics and part of a global collaboration conducting data analysis and detector commissioning at the CMS experiment at CERN, searching for signatures of new physics phenomena such as the existence of dark matter.