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Particle Physics

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To whom it may concern: Summer School of Science

I truly enjoyed lecturing at the Summer School of Science (S3++) held in Pozega, Croatia, in July 2017. S3++ brings together highly motivated high school students from all over Europe united by a passion for science. The students are given a chance not only to attend lectures and interact with already established scientists but also to participate in novel experimental projects set up by the organizers.

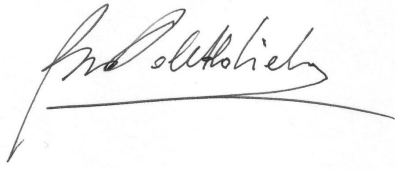
There many science summer programs but S3++ is truly remarkable since the school and all the experiments are organized by extremely dedicated graduate students or young postdocs, who have sometime attended S3++ themselves. I was truly impressed by the innovation, enthusiasm and the professionalism demonstrated by the organizers. The experiments they set-up this summer included using molecular biology to create delicious new food recipes, using 3D printing to study aerodynamics, the discovery of machine learning, and identifying the difference in bacteria due to hand washing. The choice of topics and the way the experiments are conducted were simply ideal to stimulate the interest of the young attendees.

I was there at the beginning of the program when the high school students were choosing their project and I had a chance to visit all groups while they were starting to work on the various experiments. I was impressed by how everything was working extremely smoothly and by the high level of participation and interest demonstrated by the attendees.

In addition to the excellent science focus, S3++ also succeeds in creating a very healthy and friendly atmosphere that allows the participants to feel relaxed and comfortable about learning. The organization includes several icebreaking activities. For example, while I was there, we had a fantastic party where all attendees shared foods from the country they come from. The atmosphere was simply delightful.

In summary, I truly believe that this is an excellent summer school and an outstanding example of how science breaks down borders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniela Bortoletto', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Daniela Bortoletto
Professor of Physics University of Oxford