

# FALLING WALLS LAB WESTERN SWITZERLAND

21 APRIL 2026  
ADOLPHE MERKLE INSTITUTE



## CONCEPT

The Falling Walls Foundation founded Falling Walls Lab in 2011 to:

**CONNECT** aspiring innovators

**DISCOVER** and develop talents

**SUPPORT** interdisciplinary dialogue and international cooperation

**DEVELOP** new ways of scientific communication

**BUILD** new and strong networks

## TIMELINE

13.50	Arrival
14.00	Welcome speech by Jerry Krattiger, Managing Director of the Fribourg Development Agency Introductory remarks
14.15	Pitches
15.40	Networking break / Jury discussion
15.50	Falling Walls Lab Winner 2025
16.10	Awards ceremony / Group picture
16.30	Networking apéro

# JURY



**Prof. Dr. Salma Fattoum, Jury Chair**  
*Head of Entrepreneurship Master of Science  
School of Management  
Canton of Fribourg*



**Joseph Ayuso**  
*Start-up Coach  
Fri Up  
Canton of Fribourg*



**Dr. Julien Levallois**  
*Research & Grants Office  
Science Innovation Hub  
University of Geneva  
Canton of Geneva*



**Prof. Dr. Martha Liley**  
*Director Applied R&D Centre,  
Innovation and Technology Transfer  
School of Business and Engineering  
Vaud (HEIG-VD)  
Canton of Vaud*



**Prof. Dr. Lorenz Probst**  
*Co-Director of the Entrepreneurship  
Office  
University of Applied Sciences  
Canton of Bern*



# PRESENTERS

- 1 Vanessa Matos Gonçalves, ETH Zürich  
Breaking the Wall of Aging, Resilience, Sweat
- 2 Reza Darooei, University of Bern  
Breaking the Wall of Medical Education
- 3 Giona Segat, University of Fribourg  
Breaking the Wall of Ethics in Smart Farming
- 4 Prabhu Prasad Swain, EPFL  
Breaking the Wall of Surface Limits in AFM
- 5 Yiting Liu, Bern University of Applied Sciences  
Breaking the Wall of Isolated Risk Modeling
- 6 Alexander Biewald, University of Geneva  
Breaking the Wall of Dynano
- 7 Negin Ghamsarian, University of Bern  
Breaking the Wall of Dark Surgical Data
- 8 Giulia Biagi, University of Fribourg  
Breaking the Wall of Women's Plastic Exposure
- 9 Navadheer Yalamanchili, EPFL  
Breaking the Wall of Molecular Mirror Images
- 10 Davide Scandella, University of Bern  
Breaking the Wall of Tumour Margins in Surgery
- 11 Santiago Martinez, University of Fribourg  
Breaking the Wall of Physiological Tremors

## PARTNERS

# FALLING WALLS LAB



## FEEDBACK

Please give us your feedback by filling in the form that you will find through the QR code below.



Contact: [sofia.martincaba@unifr.ch](mailto:sofia.martincaba@unifr.ch)