



**FACULTY OF
ARTS AND SCIENCE**

2018 International Graduate Summer Schools

Public Summary – 2018 Edition

October 2018

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Overview - 2018 International Graduate Summer Schools

Following the success of the first two iterations of the International Graduate Summer Schools (IGSS) held in the summers of 2016 and 2017, Concordia University’s Faculty of Arts and Science (FAS) again held six intensive, interdisciplinary summer schools that brought together Masters and PhD students from around the world to experience the best that Concordia has to offer.

Led by Concordia professors in collaboration with international guest lecturers and local talents, selected participants immersed themselves in challenging and vibrant pedagogical environments and experienced Montreal through relevant excursions.

In 2018, FAS experimented boldly by endeavouring to teach a summer school in conjunction with the Faculty of Fine Arts and with Bath Spa University, based out of England. This partnership also tied into a successful conference in the field of Liberal Arts. This particular summer school model allowed students to learn from the best professors of both institutions and has produced a trove of relevant data that will allow FAS to improve upon the concept for future summer schools.

The FAS IGSS model promotes innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning, while aligning with Concordia’s [Strategic Directions Game Plan](#) and the [FAS 2025 Strategic Directions](#).

| Concordia University’s Strategic Directions | |
|---|---|
| Double our research | |
| Teach for tomorrow | ✓ |
| Get your hands dirty | ✓ |
| Mix it up | ✓ |
| Experiment boldly | ✓ |
| Grow smartly | ✓ |
| Embrace the city, embrace the world | ✓ |
| Go beyond | |
| Take pride | |

Table 1: Concordia University’s Strategic Directions

IGSS 2018 Schools' Short Summaries

The 2018 edition of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Summer Schools featured 6 schools. Below are the short form descriptions to give the reader a sense of the schools' contents:

JOUR645 - Projected Futures 2 is a 2-week intensive, blended and experiential summer school that seeks to project plausible futures for the communication of science with society.

ENGL637 - This interdisciplinary seminar will provide an opportunity to learn and explore research methods in the performing arts with a focus on contemporary circus and physical theatre. While there will be a theoretical component, including the introduction of diverse qualitative methodological approaches to research in the performing arts, most of the seminar will be constructed on the principle of experiential learning and systematic observation of the creative process.

CHEM650 - The school aims to bring scientists from varied fields together and introduce them to the interdisciplinary and collaborative elements that will challenge students to be effective across traditional boundaries. The Nanobiomaterials field is expansive and cannot be covered effectively in a single summer school. For this first installment, we will focus on the biomedical applications of luminescent, inorganic nanoparticles only.

ESTU608 - The goal of the Summer School is to bring together students, academics, and practitioners from diverse fields to collaboratively develop much needed pedagogical materials to teach about counter-radicalization education at various levels (elementary and secondary, college, university). This opportunity is designed to build a multi-stakeholder community committed to counter radicalization through multimodal and multi-perspectival educational strategies and resources.

HIST670 - In this intensive 7-day summer school, 20 students will be invited to examine the past & present ecological, economic, political, & cultural dimensions of urban food provisioning in & beyond Montreal. The main focus will be on thinking about how the city manages its food supply as a problem of environmental governance. Through classroom sessions with visiting experts, hands-on activities, and guided site visits to the city's landmark food landscapes and current food producers, they will study the history—and manifold contemporary manifestations—of how Montreal's food supply came to be comprised of a complex network of local, regional, national, and global provisioning chains, thereby connecting Montreal to near and distant natural resources. Students will be sent readings to complete ahead of the start of the course and will

develop a research project proposal and bibliography to be submitted at the end; final papers or website content and design based on this proposal will be due one month later.

HUMA887 - The GALA graduate summer school will bring together graduate students to learn more about practice-as-research/research creation, the creative and cultural industries, multimedia practice, public engagement, social change, and the liberal arts through a series of classes, workshops, and collaborative sandpits. It will be taught by faculty and technicians at Concordia as well as faculty from other GALA partners. Students will develop a multimedia portfolio of skills, experiences, and evidence that they can use in their existing research projects and future careers. The students will join the GALA conference on Friday 27 July. The summer school will conclude with a final showcase event on Monday 30 July.

2018 IGSS in Numbers

- 5 FAS and 1 FOFA participating departments
- 7 Lead Concordia professors
- 12-22 students per school
- 91 students from 20 countries and 46 universities
- 127 applicants either selected or wait listed (incl. drop-outs and declined)
- 67 (of 91) non-Concordia students
- 47 (of 91 Canadian (incl. QC) students
- 1 CUGTA inquiry and 3 CREPUQ requests for credits transfers
- 54 Guest speakers and field trips presenters
- 37 Fellowships awarded

The 5 “100% FAS” Summer Schools

| Summer School | Participants | Fellowships |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ENGL 637 Research-Creation Methods and Embedded Observational Research in Contemporary Circus and Physical Theatre | 21 (22 enrolled, 1 drop-out) | 6 international |
| HIST498/670 Edible Environments: In and Beyond Montreal | 13 | 5 international |
| ESTU608 Counter-Radicalization Education | 14 | 5 international |
| JOUR 645 Experimental Sciences Journalism Studies | 19 | 3 international 5 Canadian |
| CHEM 650 Nanobiomaterials | 12 | 2 international |

Table 2: The 5 “100% FAS” Summer Schools

The “Hosted” Summer School

| Summer School | Participants | Fellowships |
|--|--------------|---|
| HUMA 887 The Global Academy of Liberal Arts | 11 | 11 international 6 @ 50% 5 @ 100% |

Table 3: The “Hosted” Summer School

Origin of Participants

Schools of Participants

Here is the list of the 46 institutions represented by IGSS 2018 applicants:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Concordia University | Damascus University | Warwick University |
| McGill University | St-Lawrence University, NY, USA | Simon Fraser University |
| Université Laval à Québec | University of Mashhad/ConU | MIT/BU |
| Université de Montreal | McMaster University | Seoul National University |
| Bath Spa University | University of Toronto | Erasmus University Rotterdam University |
| Claremont Graduate University | Max Planck Institute | Codarts Rotterdam |
| Geneseo | Pasteur-Paris University | University of Campinas |
| Utrecht University | University of Western Ontario | Trinity College (Dublin) |
| Qatar University | Carleton University | Université Libre de Bruxelles |
| University of Melbourne | Monash University | University of Maryland |
| INRS-EMT | Pace University | Macquarie University |
| Helmholtz-Zentrum | York University | Victoria University of Wellington |
| Azad University | University of Delaware | Colombia's National Circus School |
| Karachi University | Northeastern University | National University of Colombia |
| Harvard University | Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich | |
| Nova Southeastern University | | |

Nationality of Participants

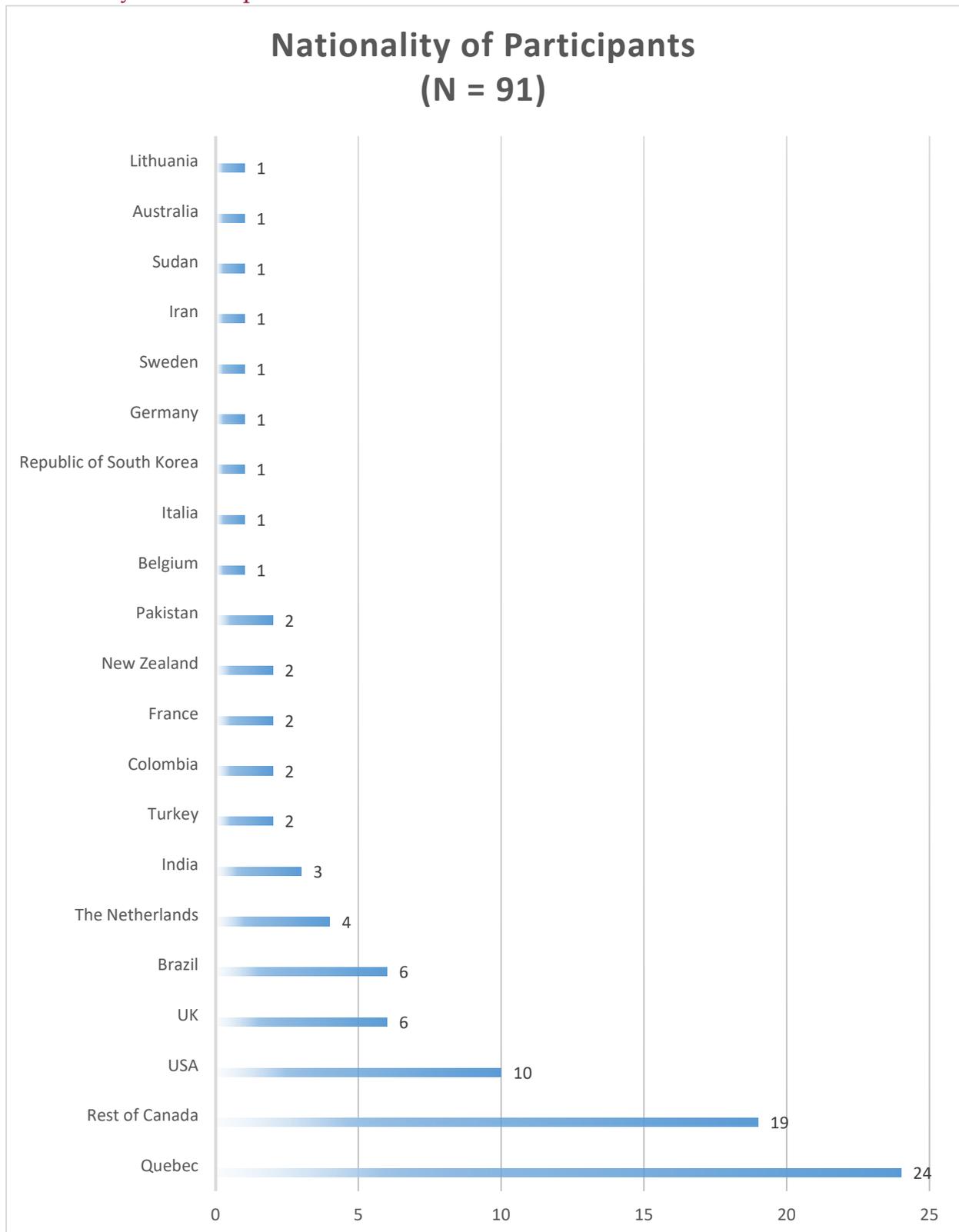


Figure 1: Nationality of IGSS 2018 participants by country

Sub Regions of Participants

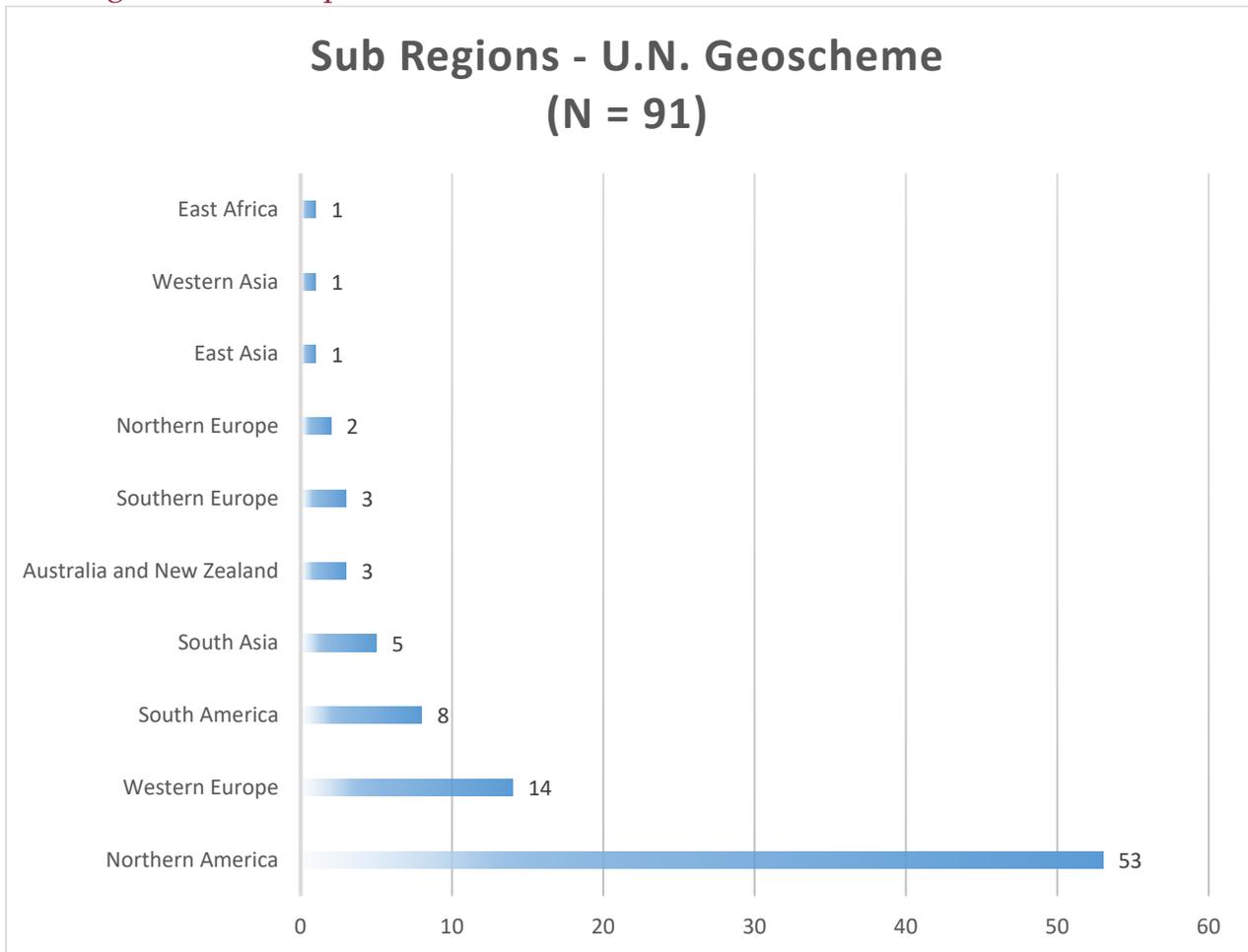


Figure 2: Nationality of IGSS 2018 participants by Sub Regions



Figure 3: Statistical regions as defined by the UNSD. Antarctica is omitted.

Participants' Survey

After the end of the Summer Schools, a survey was sent to all participants with the goal of assessing several aspects of their IGSS 2018 experience. After two weeks, 55 participants had fully completed the survey, with an additional five who only partially answered. The following results are based on those answers, including the partial ones when available, which ultimately represent a 60% full completion rate.

Advertisement Statistics

- 63% of students found out about the Schools through a professor; and
- 25% of students found out about the Schools online
- 29% of respondent are currently studying at Concordia

Recruitment Statistics

- 95% would recommend Concordia to others
- 84% would participate again in FAS IGSS if relevant classes were again offered
- 59% would enroll in a degree program at Concordia based on their experience
- 16 participants want more information about Concordia's graduate programs

Key Results

- **Very** positive student feedback and comments overall!
- 97% agreed that the subject matter and teaching methods are current, relevant and meaningful, and that they felt academically challenged
- 95% agreed that their School provided the opportunity to build meaningful connections with the professor(s), guest lecturer(s) and other students, and has created a useful network that they want to maintain
- 95% agreed that the diversity of student perspectives, backgrounds and approaches was complementary and made the learning experience better
- 93% agreed that the School has had a positive influence on their academic research and/or professional development
- 86% agreed that the intensive, short duration of the School met their expectations
- 74% agreed that the School felt like a unique and better learning environment compared to other courses that they had taken.

Key Charts

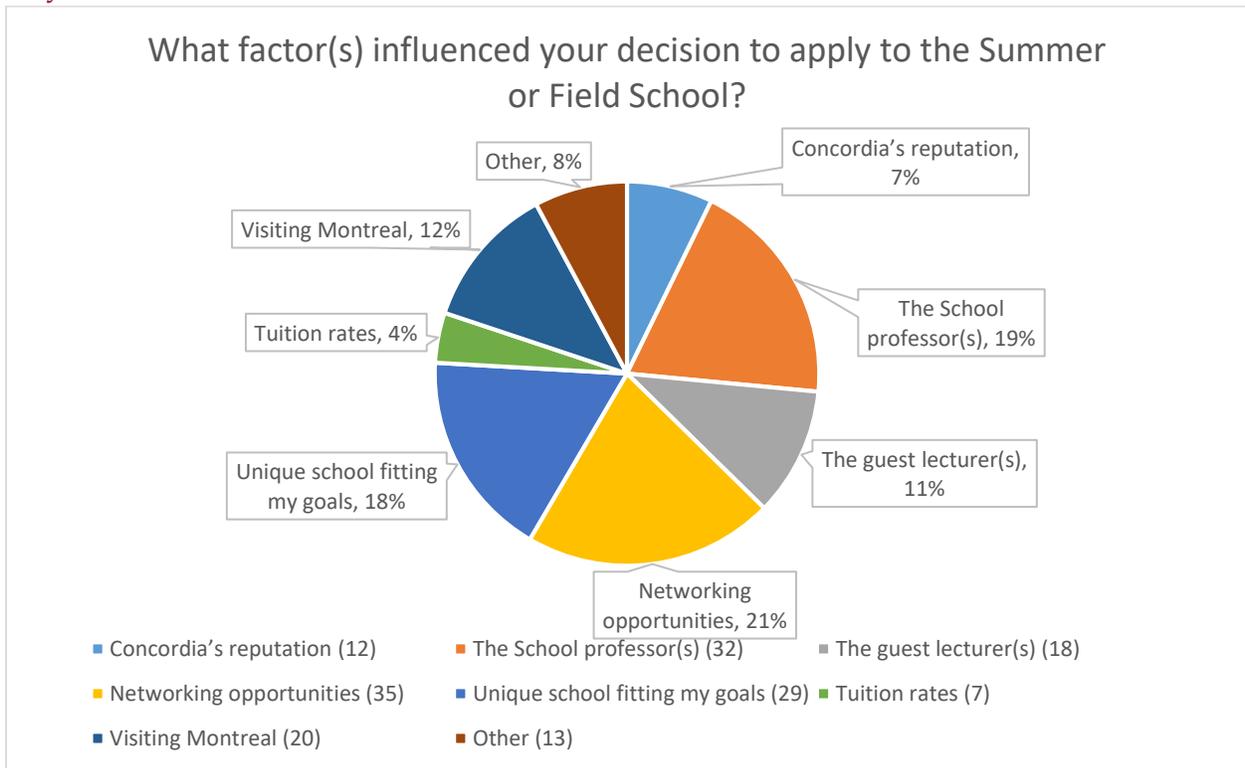


Figure 4: Factors of Influence justifying application.

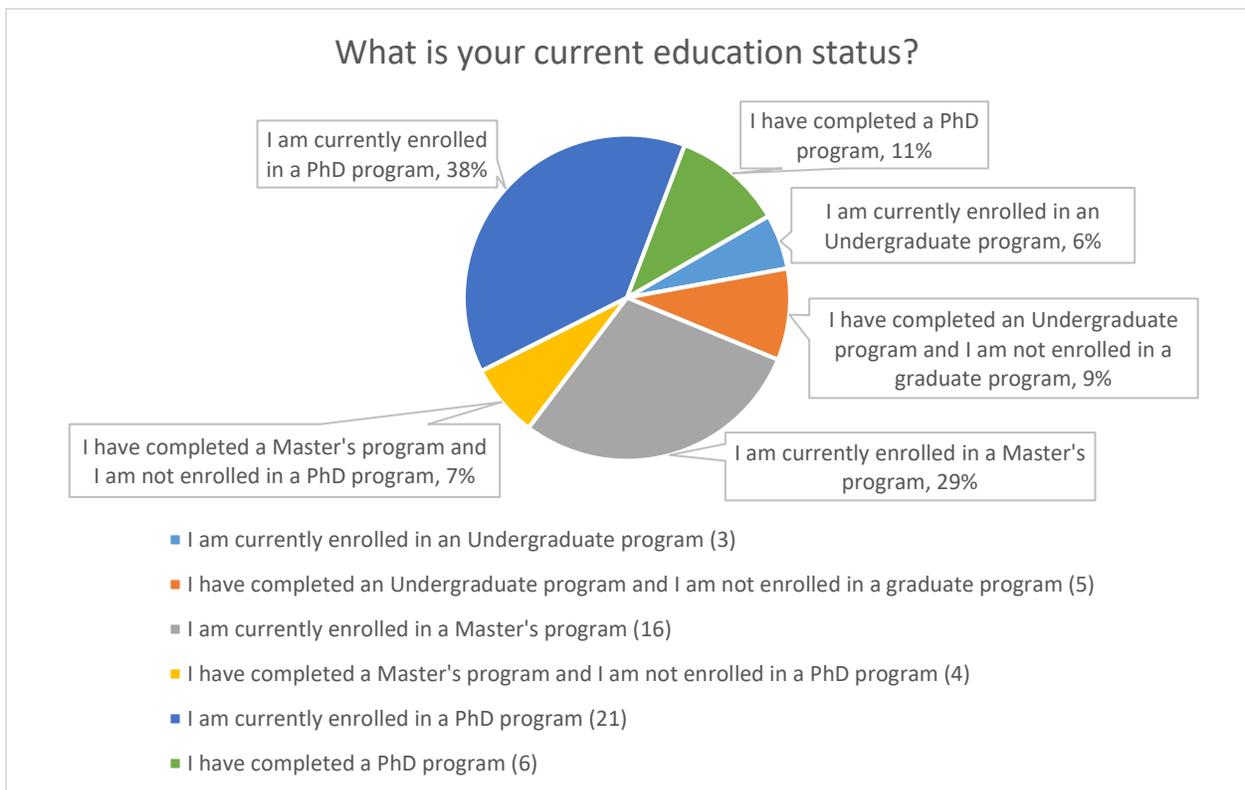


Figure 5: Current Education Status.

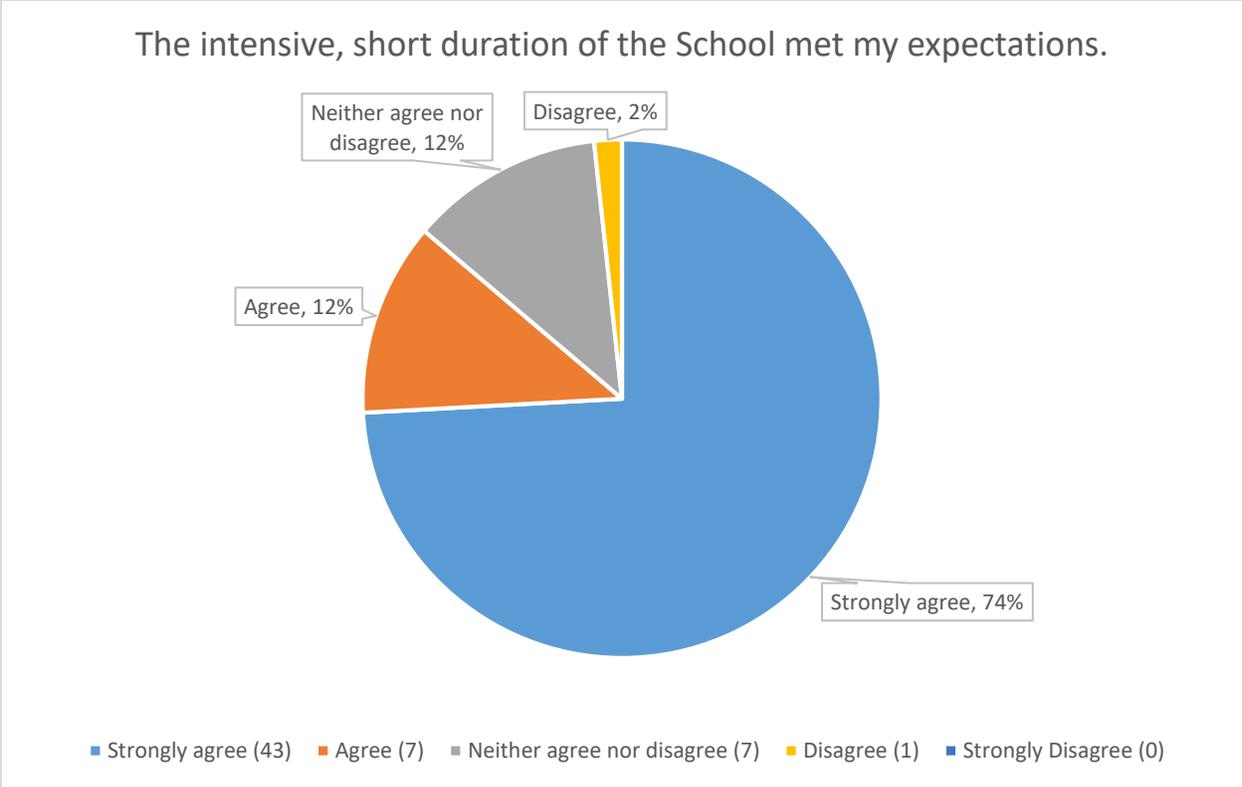


Figure 6: Duration vs Expectations.

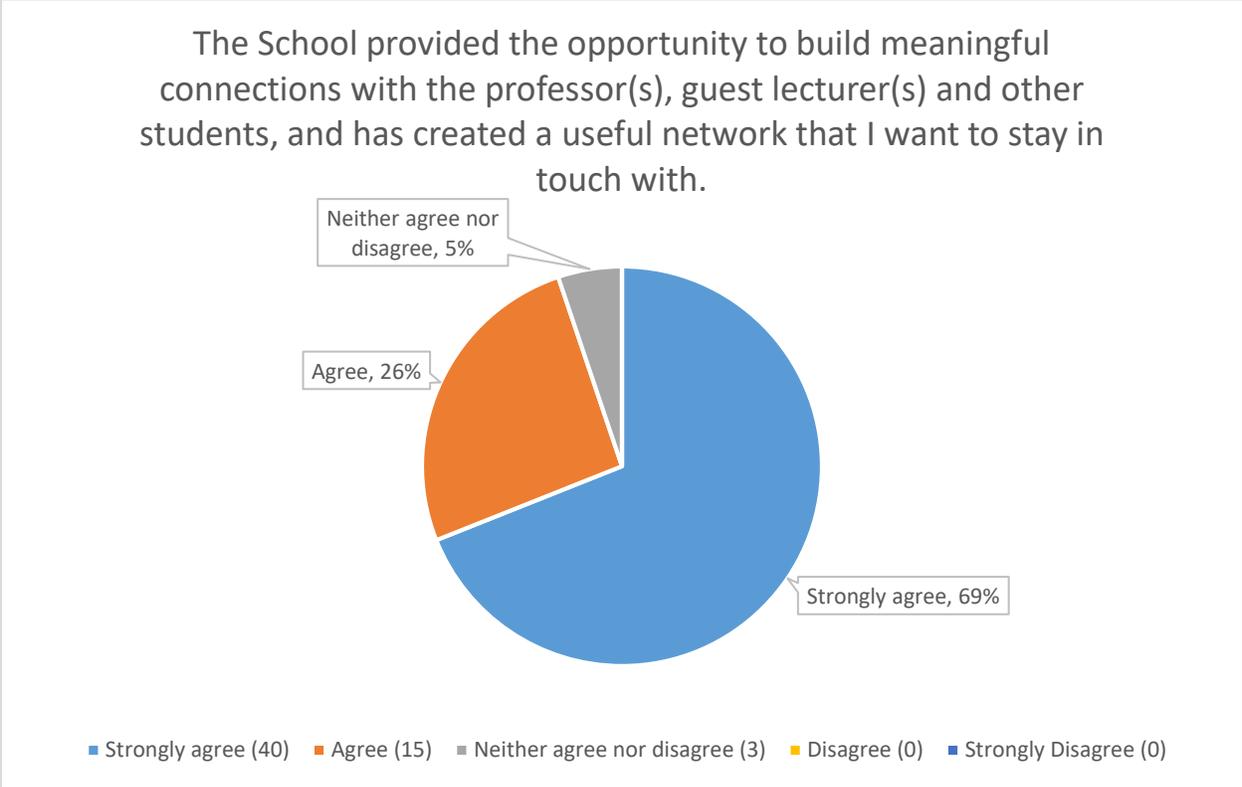


Figure 7: Opportunity to build meaningful connections.

The diversity of student perspectives, backgrounds and approaches was complementary and made the learning experience better.

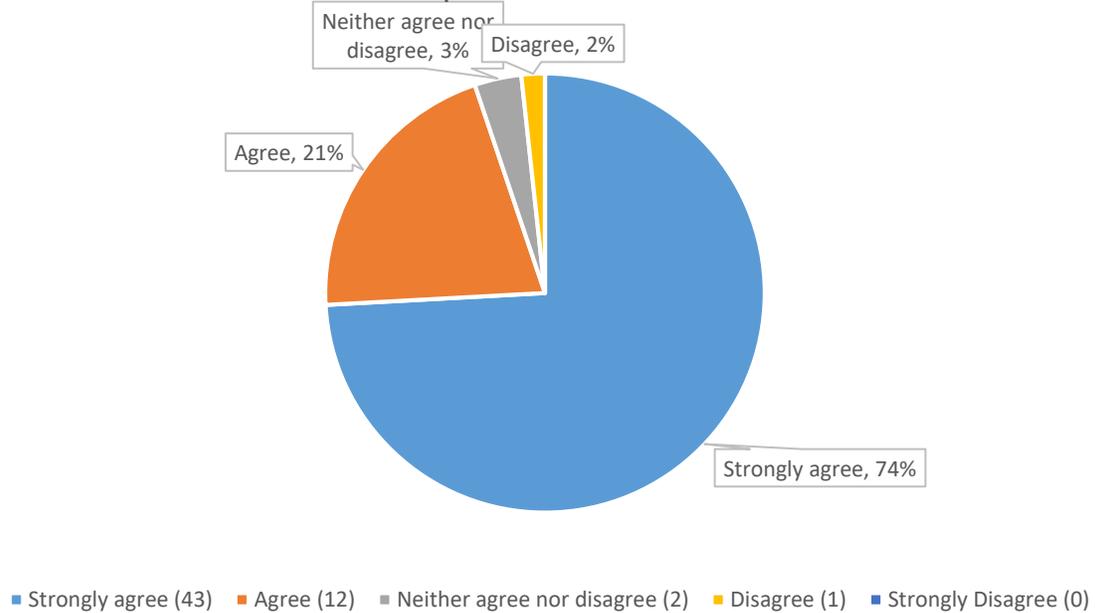


Figure 8: Diversity vs Learning Experience.

The School feels like a unique and better learning environment compared to other courses that I have taken. Please explain in the comments section the ways, for you, in which it was different.

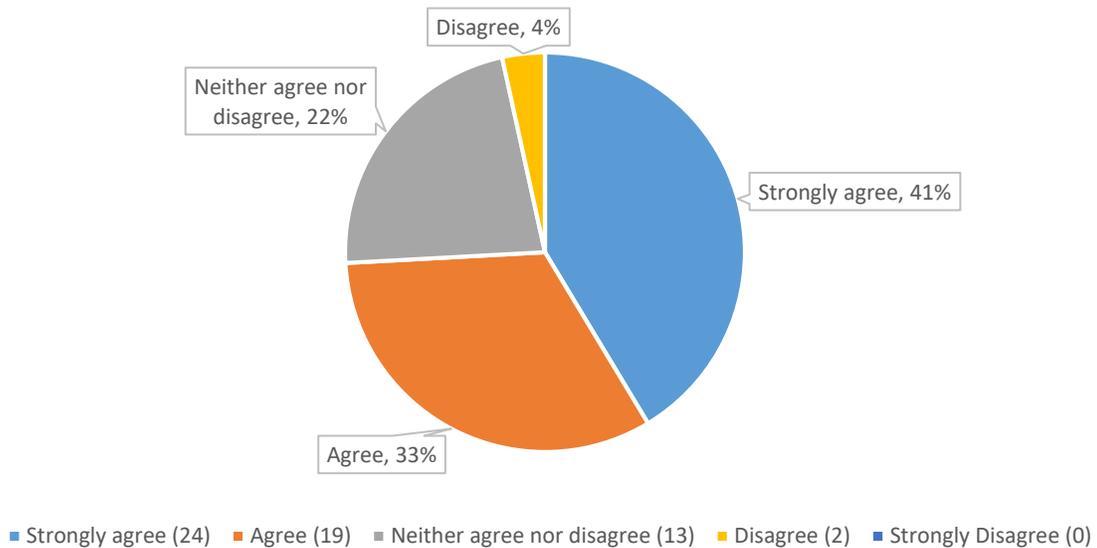


Figure 9: Factors of Influence justifying application.

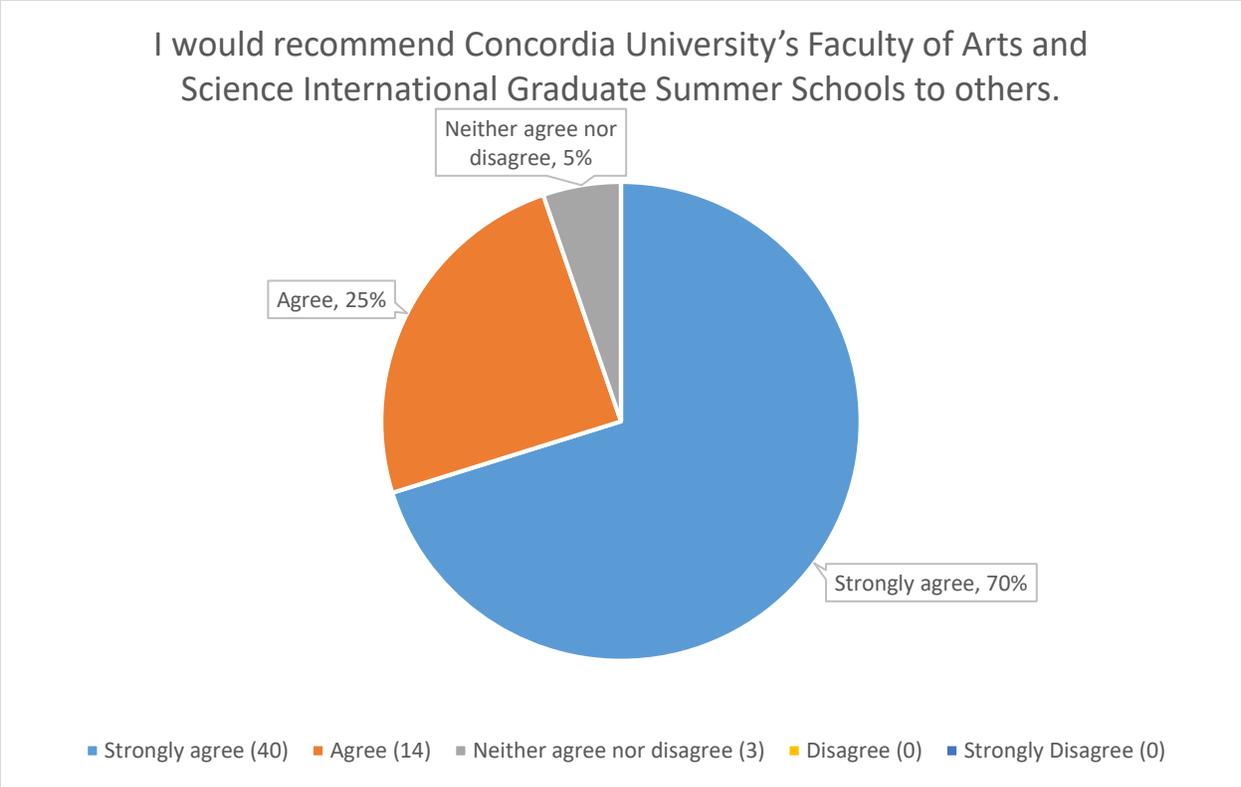


Figure 10: Recommending IGSS to Others.

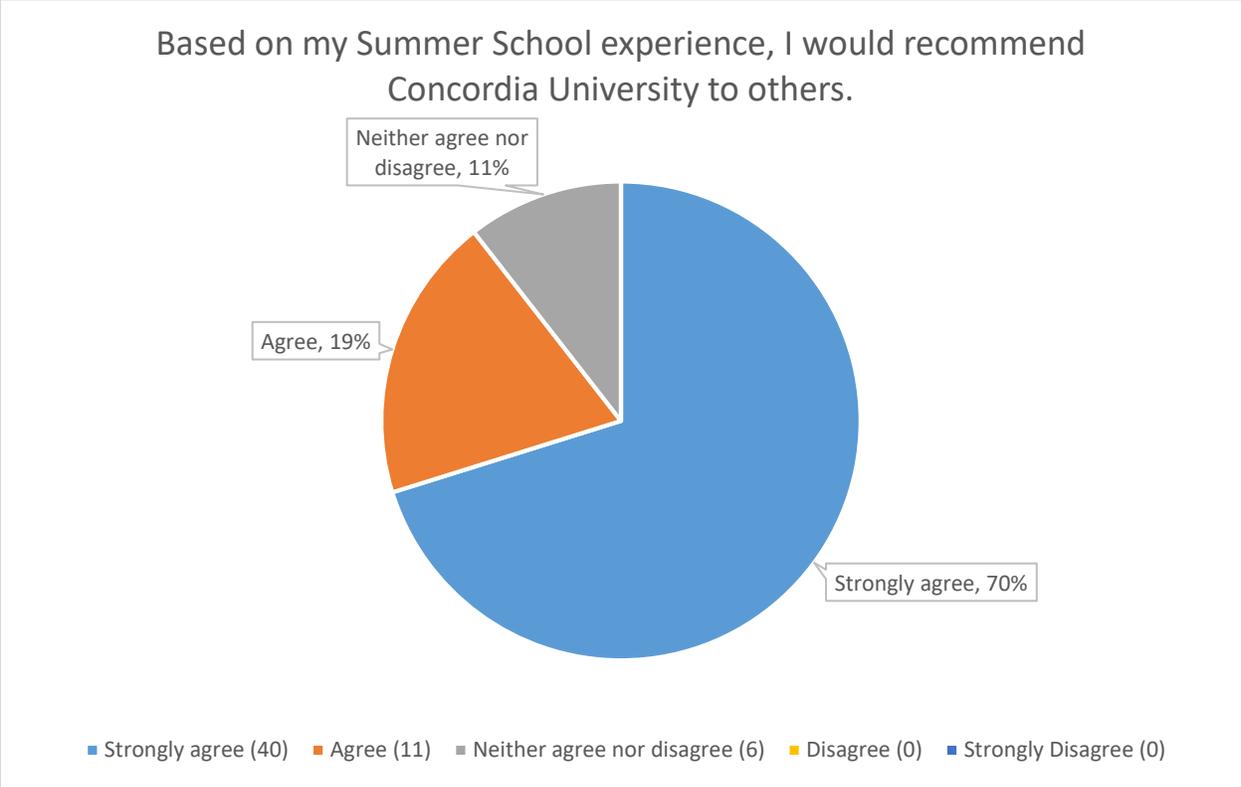


Figure 11: Recommending Concordia University to Others.

Annex A: Web Presence

Web Presence

In 2018, the IGSS coordinator built and maintained all the web pages for each Summer Schools as opposed to delegating it to each schools. This allowed for a much more cohesive presentation and faster updates. The concept was to provide all relevant information to applicants in an efficient manner. Whenever available, lists of guest speakers were also provided on those pages.

Landing Page

Here is the main landing page:

- [Faculty of Arts and Science - International Graduate Summer Schools - main webpage](#)

Preserved as PDF files for posterity, Appendix C contains the full list of all the web content created in the context of IGSS 2018. The following sections of this report also list the links to these live web pages as they currently appear on Concordia's website.

Schools' Pages

- [ENGL637 – Research-creation methods and embedded observational research in contemporary circus and physical theatre](#)
- [HIST670 – Edible Environments: In and Beyond Montreal](#)
- [JOUR 645 – Projected Futures 2: Experimental Science Journalism Studies](#)
- [ESTU608 - Counter-Radicalization Education](#)
- [CHEM650 - Nanobiomaterials](#)
- [HUMA887 - The Global Academy of Liberal Arts](#)

Concordia news stories

IGSS appeared on the official Concordia News section:

- [Make the most of your summer at Concordia](#)

Other affiliated websites and webpages

These are pages created on affiliated websites or on our partners' websites:

- [Concordia University: Creating innovation through International Graduate Summer Schools](#)
- [JOUR645 - Projected Futures 2: Experimental Science Journalism Studies \(dept. page\)](#)
- [ESTU608 - Creating sustainable 'soft' approaches to counter radicalization and extremism](#)

- [\(gala.network\) - GALA Summer School](#)
- [\(gala.network\) - Featured GALA partner: Concordia University](#)
- [\(gala.network\) - Postcard from Montreal](#)

Coverage on non-affiliated websites

Satisfied participants have taken it upon themselves to broadcast their IGSS 2018 experiences. Here is a short list:

- [ENGL637 - Respeitável público, Brasil e Canadá juntos pelo circo](#)
- [JOUR645 - #ProjectedFutures2: My science journalism experience](#)