

ICO Fall School 2012 Evaluation Report November 5-10, El Collell, Girona, Spain

Background

The ICO International Fall School is part of the educational PhD-programme of ICO, The Interuniversity Centre for Educational Sciences in the Netherlands. The ICO International Fall School 2012 was an international event for PhD-students who do research in the domains of learning, instruction and/or education. The Fall School is a compulsory educational activity for ICO PhD students, but also non-ICO PhD students in these fields are welcome to attend the Fall School. PhD Students were expected to attend two workshops and two Keynote speeches, and to present their ongoing work to each other. Also experienced researchers provided feedback to the junior researchers. More information on the workshops, presentations, study/work load can be found on the [ICO Fall School website](#).

Facts and figures

There were 85 PhD students present at the Fall School, linked to universities from all over Europe and further away:

ICO members: 56

The Netherlands (non ICO): 4

Spain: 4

Germany: 12

Finland: 6

Sweden: 2

Canada: 1

Staff members: 33 (16 ICO, 17 non ICO)

67 participants filled out the evaluation form, which represents a 78,8 % return rate.

Analysis

Based on the mean scores as shown in the bar charts below and the comments of the attendants, the attendants were mostly very positive, there were also some shortcomings:

Positive:

- The attendants were satisfied with the general organization, the content of the programme, the surroundings of the venue and the extensive meals and the fresh coffee.
- The fact that it was not possible to leave the venue was appreciated by most of the attendants. This increased the networking and the bonding of the group. The atmosphere was good, the surroundings were beautiful and the trip to Girona was well appreciated.
- All workshops scored relatively high on expertise of the workshop leaders, and the active participation that was expected of the attendants.
- The keynote by Jeroen van Merriënboer
- The staff at El Collell was very helpful and friendly

Shortcomings:

The venue:

- Heating: The first day there was a problem with the heating and the showers. Not all workshop rooms had heaters, and it took a few days for the missing heaters to be installed.
- Sleeping: El Collell was being renovated, although these renovations should have been over before the start of the Fall School. Because of this, not all private bedrooms were available, and a large group of attendants had to sleep in dorm rooms. This was not appreciated. But also the attendants who did have a private room (shared with two persons) were not always satisfied with the bunk beds.

El Collell informed the Fall School organization that only the beds of the staff members would be made, and not the beds of the PhD students. PhD students were informed to bring a sleeping bag. However, on arrival the beds of the PhD students did all have sheets and blankets, while not all rooms of the staff members were ready. Some attendants found it frustrating they had brought their sleeping bag when it was not needed.

- WiFi: Beforehand El Collell had promised a working WiFi connection for at least 130 people, but most of the time the WiFi did not work.

The programme:

- In some workshops there was not enough attention paid to giving feedback to the attendants
- The first Keynote session
- Chairs and discussants did not always come prepared to the presentation sessions. Some staff members were quite harsh in their remarks about the presentations. Instead of being able to learn from the discussions, the attendants found this way of reviewing non-constructive and demotivating.

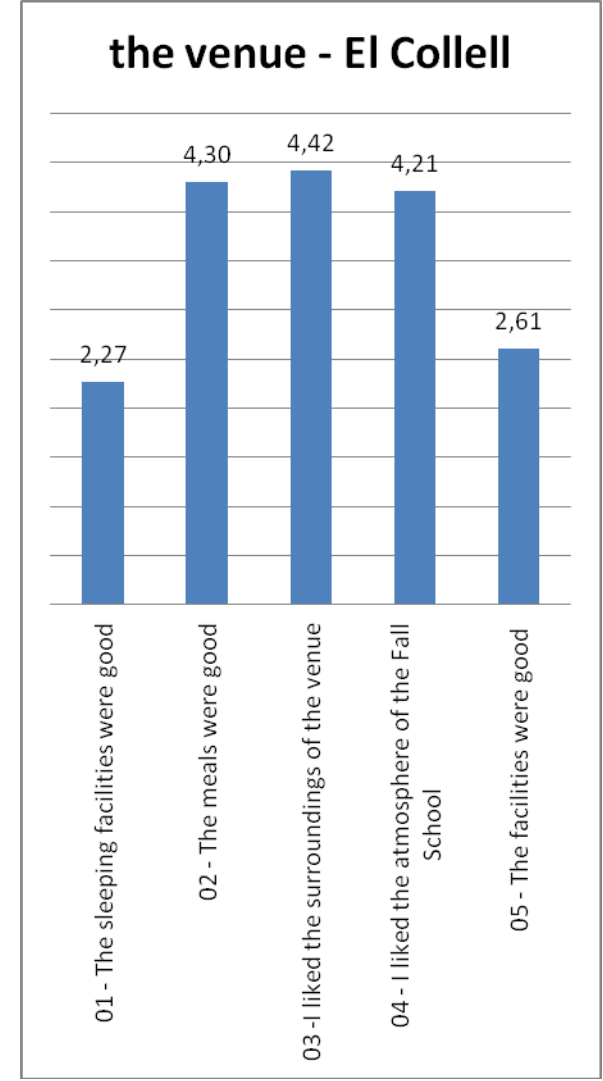
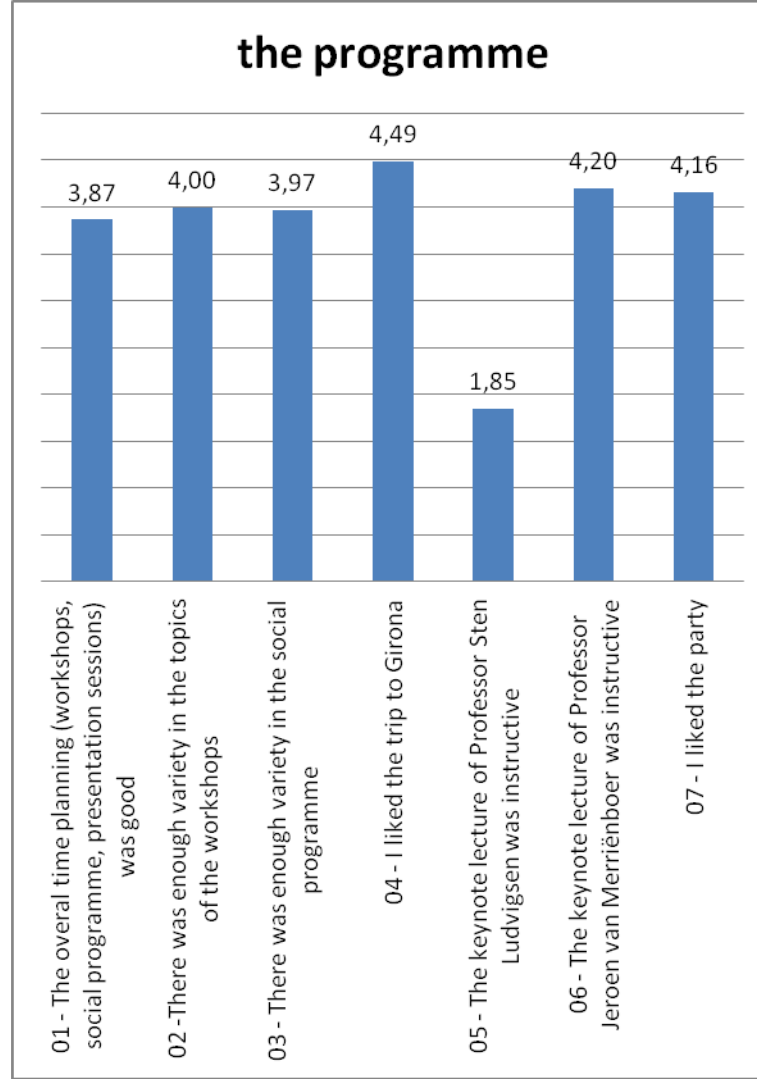
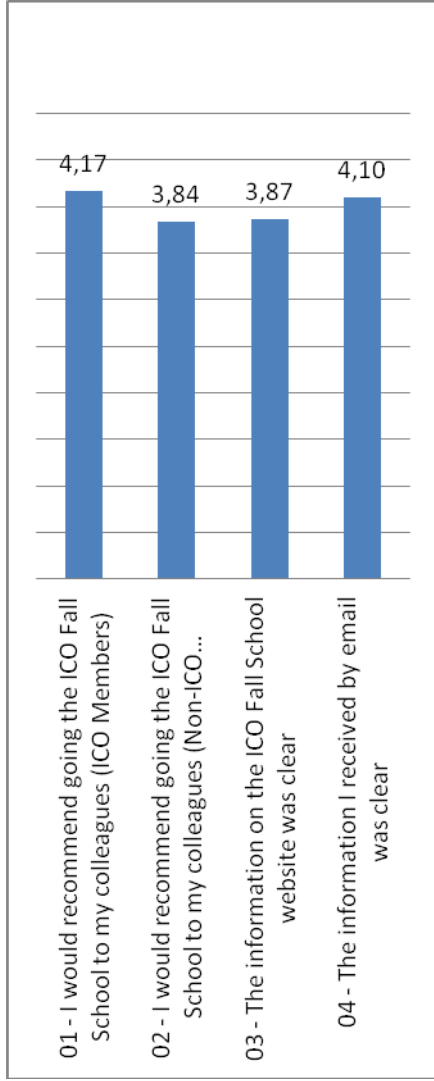
Because El Collell could not be reached by public transport, a bus service was set up between the airports of Barcelona /Girona and El Collell. The Fall School-organization informed everyone to be at the airport on the morning of November 5, and leaving Saturday November 10, in the late afternoon. Unfortunately, not all attendants booked appropriate flights. Because of this, the programme had to be adjusted for the people arriving later or leaving earlier than indicated. This made the first day a bit cramped. Also, the people who did book a late flight back on Saturday evening, as requested, now had to spend a whole day at the airport. Most of them however spend their time well, and went into Barcelona for some sightseeing.

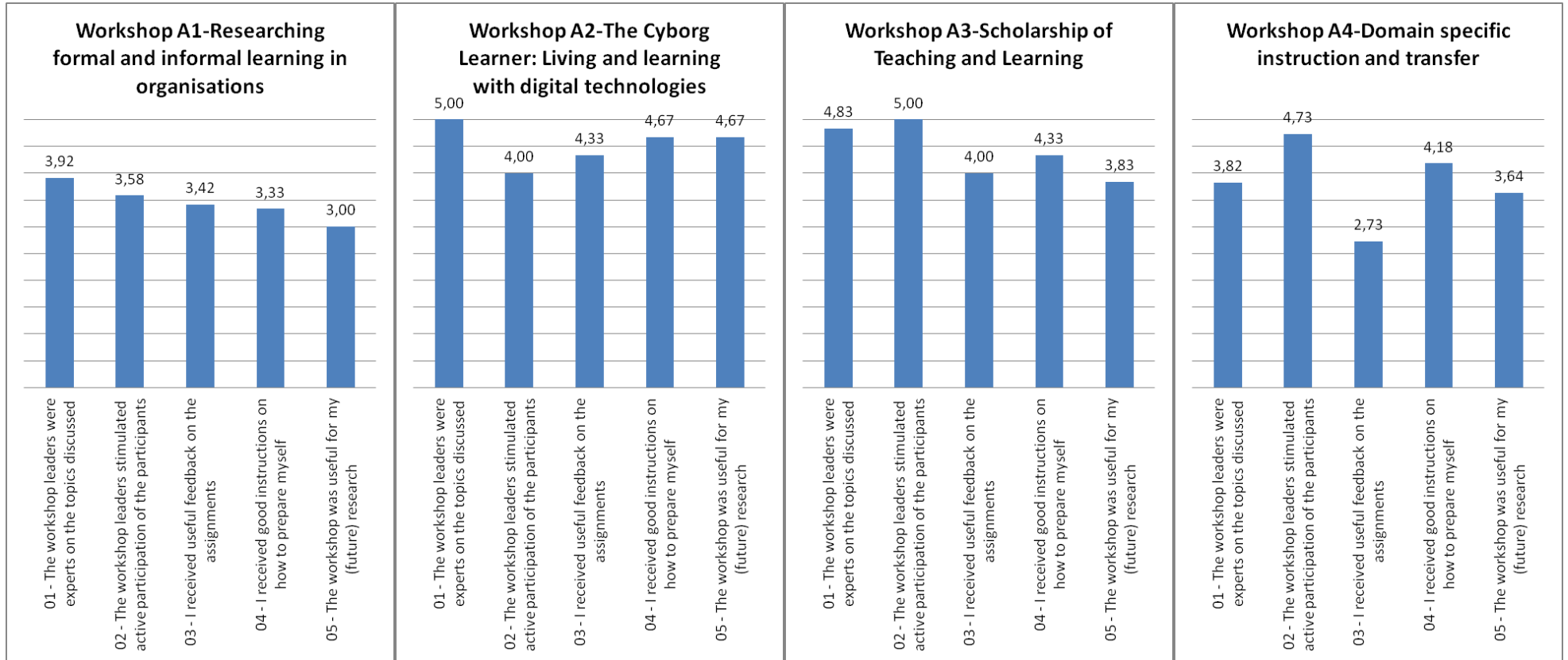
Suggestions for improvement

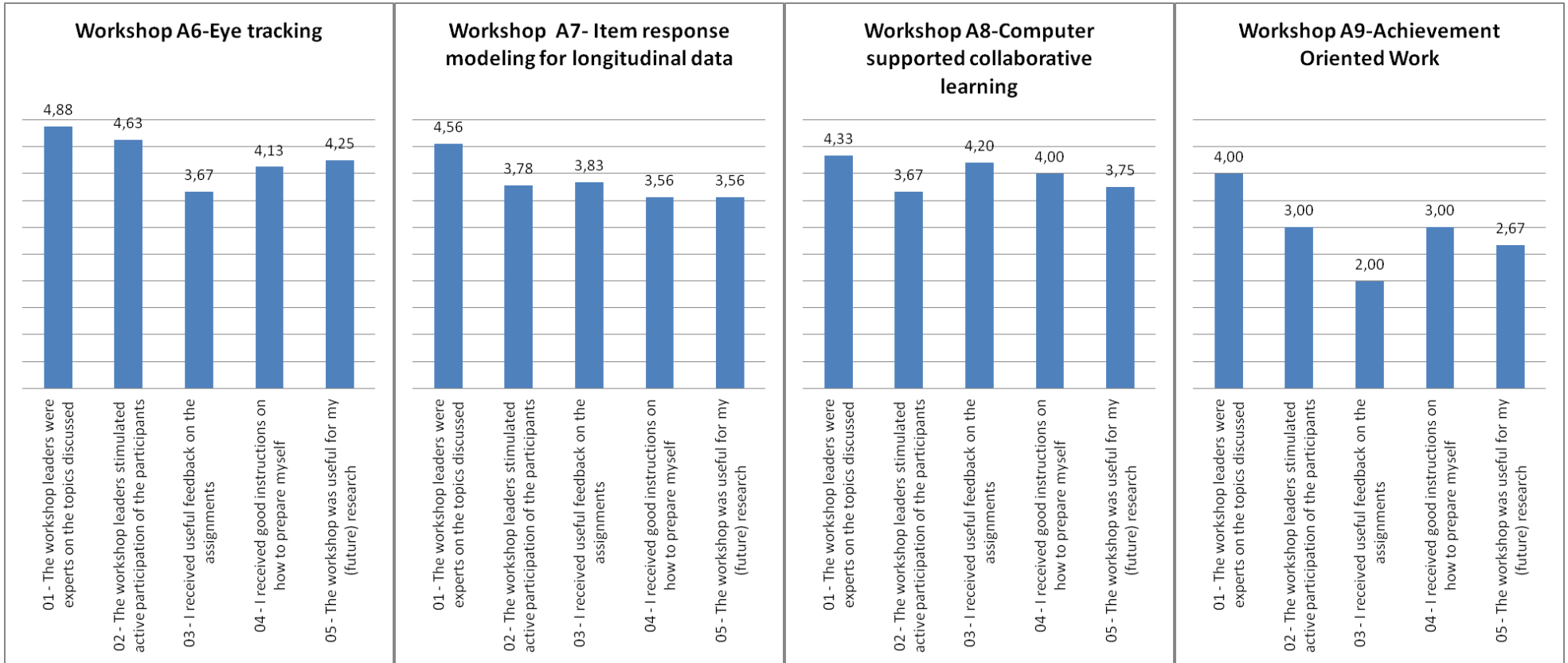
- Pay more attention to the venue: make sure the workshop rooms, sleeping facilities and the WiFi are suitable.
- Find a venue that can be reached by public transport. This will facilitate the organization, and makes the attendants solely responsible for their own transportation.
- Before the first presentation sessions start, have a meeting with all staff members on their role in the presentation sessions. Giving them instructions by email was clearly not sufficient for some.
- Plan time for peer reviewing of the presentation sessions, as is done at the national Fall School

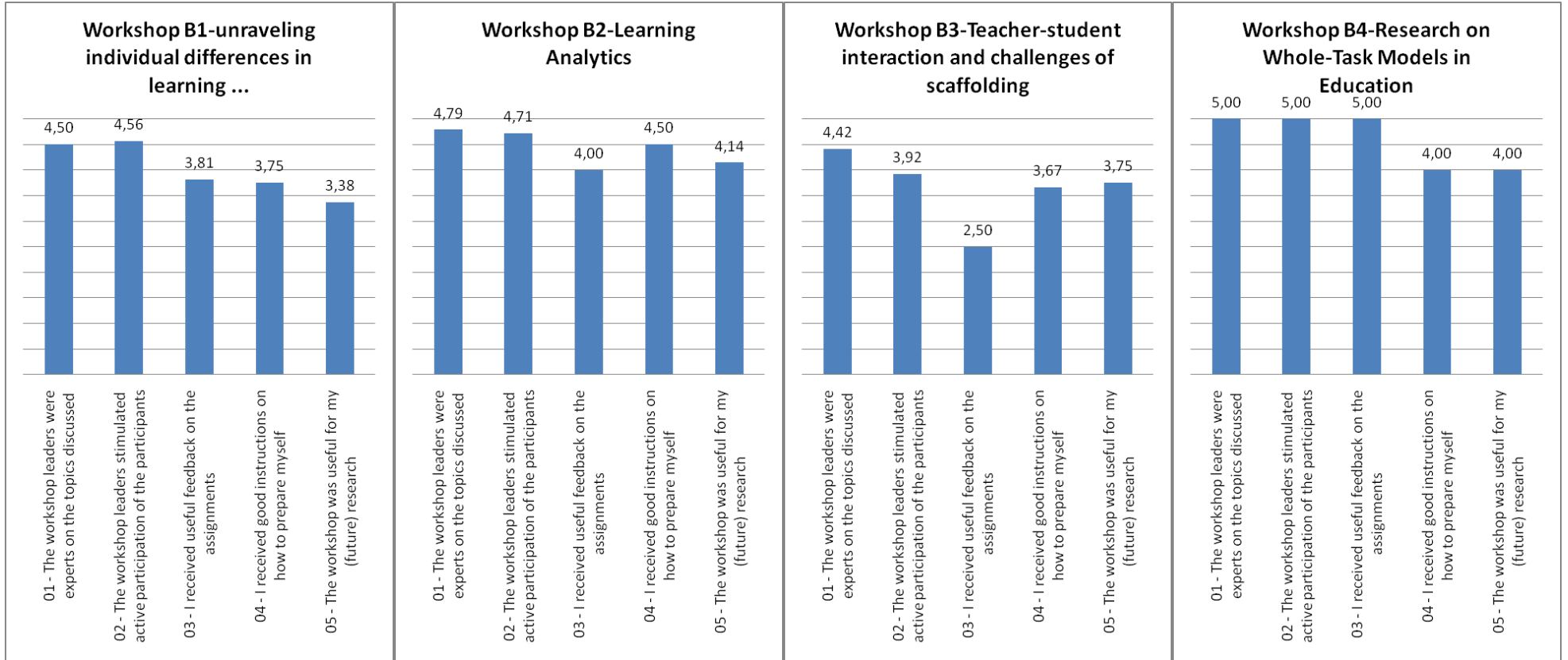
The following workshops could be attended:

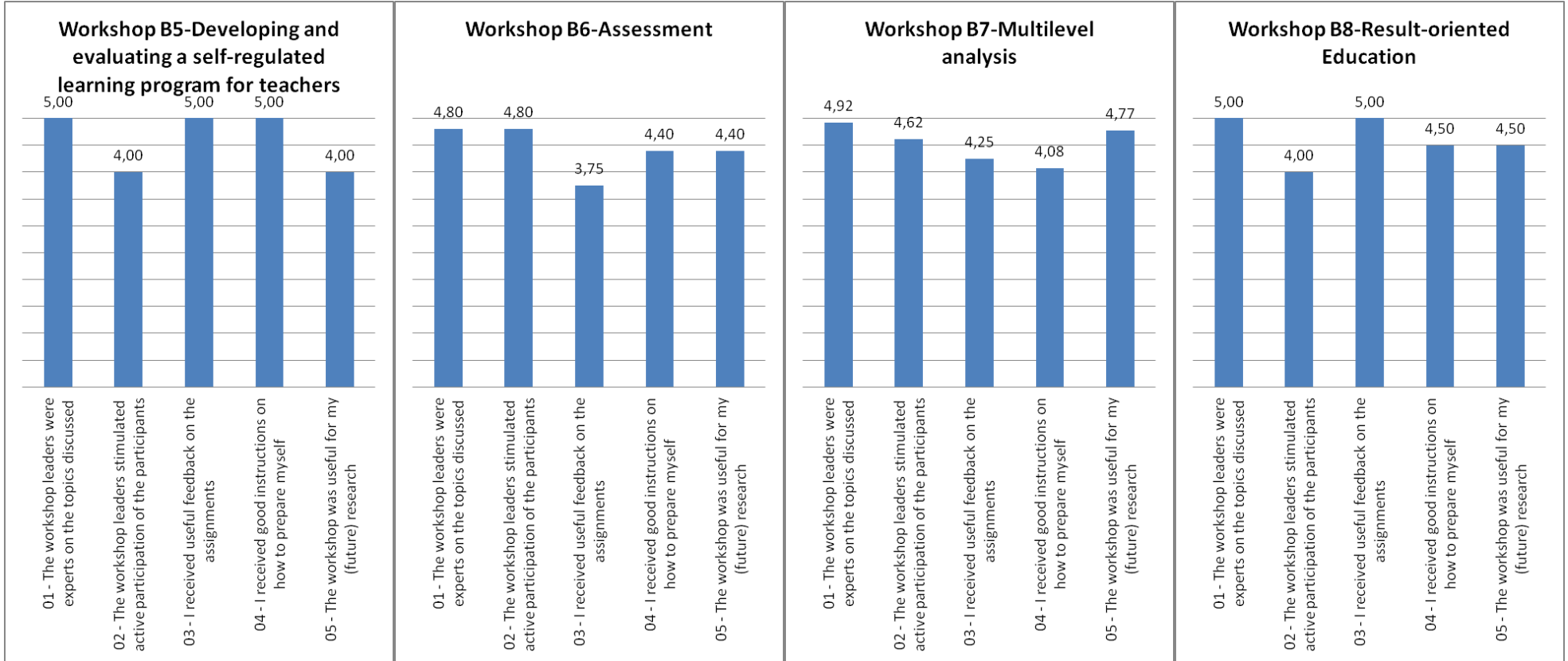
A1	Researching formal and informal learning in organizations Thomas Garavan, Regina Mulder
A2	The Cyborg Learner: Living and learning with digital technologies Thomas Hillman, Russell Francis
A3	Scholarship of Teaching and Learning: The significance of teacher research in teaching and teacher education Wilfried Admiraal, Johan van Braak,
A4	Domain specific instruction and transfer Els Boshuizen, Marcel van der Klink, Helen Jossberger
A6	Eye tracking Halszka Jarodzka, Thorsten Rasch
A7	Workshop on Item response modeling for longitudinal data Claus H. Carstensen, Lale Khorramdel
A8	Computer supported collaborative learning Gijsbert Erkens, Koen Veermans,
A9	Achievement Oriented Work Adrie Visscher, Don Passey
B1	Unravelling individual differences in learning to become and stay a professional David Gijbels, Christian Harteis
B2	Learning Analytics Simon Buckingham Shum
B3	Teacher-student interaction and challenges of scaffolding Anu Kajamies, Jos Beishuizen
B4	Research on Whole-Task Models in Education Jeroen van Merriënboer, Diana Dolmans
B5	Developing and evaluating a self-regulated learning program for teachers Heidrun Stoeger, Monika Finsterwald
B6	Assessment Judith Gulikers, Liesbeth Baartman, Klaus Breuer
B7	An introduction to Multilevel Models with SPSS Huub van den Berg, Sven De Maeyer
B8	Result-oriented Education Greetje van der Werf, Monica Rosén











The Fall School in numbers

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - I would recommend going the ICO Fall School to my colleagues (ICO Members)	0	0	7	26	15	48	4,17	0,66
02 - I would recommend going the ICO Fall School to my colleagues (Non-ICO Members)	1	2	3	6	7	19	3,84	1,21
03 - The information on the ICO Fall School website was clear	1	3	17	29	17	67	3,87	0,90
04 - The information I received by email was clear	2	5	4	29	27	67	4,10	1,02

The Programme

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The overall time planning (workshops, social programme, presentation sessions) was good	0	5	11	39	12	67	3,87	0,80
02 - There was enough variety in the topics of the workshops	1	3	11	31	20	66	4,00	0,89
03 - There was enough variety in the social programme	2	4	4	34	16	60	3,97	0,96
04 - I liked the trip to Girona	1	0	2	23	35	61	4,49	0,72
05 - The keynote lecture of Professor Sten Ludvigsen was instructive	30	22	11	3	1	67	1,85	0,96
06 - The keynote lecture of Professor Jeroen van Merriënboer was instructive	0	2	7	32	24	65	4,20	0,75
07 - I liked the party	0	3	9	16	23	51	4,16	0,92

The Venue – El Collell

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The sleeping facilities were good	19	20	19	9	0	67	2,27	1,02
02 - The meals were good	0	3	3	32	29	67	4,30	0,76
03 - I liked the surroundings of the venue	1	0	4	27	35	67	4,42	0,74
04 - I liked the atmosphere of the Fall School	1	3	7	26	30	67	4,21	0,91
05 - The facilities were good	14	14	23	16	0	67	2,61	1,07

A1-Researching formal and informal learning in organisations

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	1	1	0	6	4	12	3,92	1,24
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	4	2	1	5	12	3,58	1,38
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	1	3	1	4	3	12	3,42	1,38
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	1	1	4	5	1	12	3,33	1,07
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	3	1	3	3	2	12	3,00	1,48

A2-The Cyborg Learner: Living and learning with digital technologies

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	0	3	3	5,00	0,00
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	1	1	1	3	4,00	1,00
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	0	1	0	2	3	4,33	1,15
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	0	1	2	3	4,67	0,58
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	0	0	1	2	3	4,67	0,58

A3-Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	1	5	6	4,83	0,41
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	0	0	5	5	5,00	0,00
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	0	1	1	1	3	4,00	1,00
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	0	4	2	6	4,33	0,52
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	0	2	3	1	6	3,83	0,75

A4-Domain specific instruction and transfer

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	4	5	2	11	3,82	0,75
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	0	3	8	11	4,73	0,47
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	6	2	3	0	11	2,73	0,90
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	1	1	4	5	11	4,18	0,98
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	1	4	4	2	11	3,64	0,92

A6-Eye tracking

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	1	7	8	4,88	0,35
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	0	3	5	8	4,63	0,52
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	1	0	1	1	3	3,67	1,53
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	1	5	2	8	4,13	0,64
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	0	1	4	3	8	4,25	0,71

A7- Item response modeling for longitudinal data

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	4	5	9	4,56	0,53
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	3	5	1	9	3,78	0,67
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	0	2	3	1	6	3,83	0,75
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	1	3	4	1	9	3,56	0,88
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	1	3	4	1	9	3,56	0,88

A8-Computer supported collaborative learning

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	2	4	6	12	4,33	0,78
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	6	4	2	12	3,67	0,78
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	1	0	1	3	5	4,20	1,30
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	4	4	4	12	4,00	0,85
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	2	2	5	3	12	3,75	1,06

A9-Achievement Oriented Work

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	2	2	2	6	4,00	0,89
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	2	2	2	0	6	3,00	0,89
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	2	2	0	1	0	5	2,00	1,22
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	1	0	3	2	0	6	3,00	1,10
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	3	2	1	0	6	2,67	0,82

**B1-unraveling individual differences in learning
to become and stay a professional**

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	8	8	16	4,50	0,52
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	1	5	10	16	4,56	0,63
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	1	5	6	4	16	3,81	0,91
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	1	3	11	1	16	3,75	0,68
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	6	2	4	4	16	3,38	1,26

B2-Learning Analytics

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	3	11	14	4,79	0,43
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	0	4	10	14	4,71	0,47
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	1	0	2	4	5	12	4,00	1,21
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	1	5	8	14	4,50	0,65
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	1	2	5	6	14	4,14	0,95

B3-Teacher-student interaction and challenges of scaffolding

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	1	5	6	12	4,42	0,67
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	1	2	6	3	12	3,92	0,90
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	1	1	1	1	0	4	2,50	1,29
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	6	4	2	12	3,67	0,78
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	3	1	4	4	12	3,75	1,22

B4-Research on Whole-Task Models in Education

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	0	3	3	5,00	0,00
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	0	0	3	3	5,00	0,00
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	0	0	0	2	2	5,00	0,00
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	1	1	1	3	4,00	1,00
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	0	1	1	1	3	4,00	1,00

B5-Developing and evaluating a self-regulated learning program for teachers

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	0	2	2	5,00	0,00
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	1	0	1	2	4,00	1,41
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	0	0	0	2	2	5,00	0,00
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	0	0	2	2	5,00	0,00
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	0	1	0	1	2	4,00	1,41

B6-Assessment

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	1	4	5	4,80	0,45
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	0	1	4	5	4,80	0,45
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	1	0	2	1	4	3,75	1,26
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	0	3	2	5	4,40	0,55
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	0	0	3	2	5	4,40	0,55

B7-Multilevel analysis

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	1	12	13	4,92	0,28
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	1	3	9	13	4,62	0,65
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	0	1	4	3	8	4,25	0,71
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	4	4	5	13	4,08	0,86
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	0	0	3	10	13	4,77	0,44

B8-Result-oriented Education

	1	2	3	4	5			
	--	-	+/-	+	++	n	gem	st.dev.
01 - The workshop leaders were experts on the topics discussed	0	0	0	0	2	2	5,00	0,00
02 - The workshop leaders stimulated active participation of the participants	0	0	0	2	0	2	4,00	0,00
03 - I received useful feedback on the assignments	0	0	0	0	2	2	5,00	0,00
04 - I received good instructions on how to prepare myself	0	0	0	1	1	2	4,50	0,71
05 - The workshop was useful for my (future) research	0	0	0	1	1	2	4,50	0,71

Appendix: Students' comments

- I liked the social aspect and the generally good atmosphere the best. People were open to interaction. Private / double rooms would have been much appreciated.
- I like the round table presentation because I got constructive feedback which were useful to improve my study.
I also enjoyed one of the workshop (i.e. teacher student interaction and scaffolding) because it supported my study. Perhaps, I was quite lucky with the appropriateness of the workshop to my study because there was not enough information/description about the workshop on the website of ICO Fall School.
- I really think Fall School could have been even more interesting by having 2 PhD students review work from another PhD and discuss their feedback together with staff.
- The facilitations during the Fall School were - to be blunt - far from good. No wifi, cold showers, very cold indoors, no curtains in rooms so that presentations were illegible on the wall, etc etc. If the primary aim of the Fall School is to share our work, some basic facilitations are required. The circumstances really decreased my enjoyment of the Fall School.
Another suggestion: it would have been nice to bring more interaction into the general program. Why need have junior researchers review each other's work? Why not do a joint social program for the whole group, so that everyone meets each other? Why not start with a walk around El Collell and divide everyone in a group with people they don't know yet? Etc. I felt there could have been some easy alterations to the program that would have increased the chances of meeting foreign or yet unknown researchers.
The strong points of the Fall School: The workshop content (A8, B2) was excellent. The food was also excellent. The surroundings were beautiful. The Girona trip was nice.
- I enjoyed the Fall School a lot. A minor remark is that not all session chairs were equally prepared. Some arrived late and/or did not manage time well.
Although there were some drawbacks of the location (cold showers, squeeking beds...) this did not bother me too much in the end. The fact that we were 'forced' to stay on campus, helped in establishing contacts.
- For me, the best part about the Fall School was the opportunity to engage in conversation with international junior and senior researchers from a wide distribution of disciplinary backgrounds. This was rewarding and beneficial, both professionally and personally. The ability to relate the workshop activities with our individual research projects was also of great benefit. One aspect which might be improved (but which I understand is difficult and time-consuming) would be to align presentations (ex. paper sessions, round table discussions, or poster presentations) by theme and ensure that the background of reviewers and discussants falls more or less within the scope of the research. Although there were a number of changes in the schedule due to various contingencies, these adaptations were clearly conveyed during the Fall School. All in all, I thoroughly enjoyed the Fall School experience!
- Liked the location a lot! The atmosphere was good, the food & coffee was delicious. The people working for the fall school were very nice. The social programme was surprising and not always very

organized, but still very nice and exciting.

It was sometimes frustrating that the wifi didn't work that well.. And I would recommend to give the teachers/discussants/chairs clearer instructions about what's expected. There was a lot of variation in degree of attention, listening abilities, preparation for the courses, instructional clarity, etc.

- I liked it a lot: I could literally apply the knowledge I gained the first working day afterwards (Monday). That was great. Also, the teachers were very willing to help as much as they could, even beyond the scope of the fall school. That is very generous of them.

As far as the questions above:

I liked the workshops most. But there was a very good balance.

No improvements.

For future fall schools...: no suggestions at this point. For me it was really perfect, actually.

So, Thanks!!

- Tops:
 - the food was very good, the organization was very good, I liked the workshops and the presentation sessions.

Tips:

-better internet facilities, maybe it is good to shorten the workshops a little (e.g. 1 hour) and use that our for short presentations of senior researchers about the research they are doing. a sort of mini workshops, to get an idea of what other researchers for example if you need some information in the future, then you know who you can contact.

instruct the chairs and discussants about constructive feedback. The chair of my presentation session was not very constructive in giving feedback. For example, [x] indicated to the other presenter of my session that [x] was "shocked" (exact words) about his research. after explaining it appeared [x] was irritated about certain topic and how researchers write about that in general. This is of course not a good way of giving feedback to a PhD student. In addition, I heard [x] did this again in another session. [x] also talked behind my back about my research (negatively) during the rest of the week (one time I was in the room when I heard [x] talking, about the other times I heard this from colleagues). Maybe good to keep in mind how [x] treats PhD students for future activities of ICO.

- Please make sure that the heaters and warm water work. This will improve the atmosphere of the ICO Fall School.
The staff of El Collell was good!
- I like that it was in the middle of nowhere, so you couldn't leave the venue. This was good for group bonding. Also, the quality of the workshops was very good, and I learned more then I expected. The WiFi connection was terrible, as was the amount of plug connections (stopcontacten) in the room of the workshops. And it was very cold in the building! So maybe next time you can organize it in spring or summer? But overall I had a great time and learned a lot! So thank you, ICO organization, and especially Caroline, for organizing this great Fall School!
- Verbeterpunten:
 - tijdsloot voor presentaties tussen lunch en Girona was ongelukkig: de meesten zaten buiten en er was dus weinig publiek bij de presentaties die werden gegeven. Lunch was die dag ook wat aan de korte

kant. Volgende keer anders roosteren.

- wifi moet de volgende keer beter. Er was te weinig signaal om op de server van de universiteit te komen waardoor veel van mijn programma's niet konden openen.
- De assignments voor de workshops (vooraf) liepen erg uiteen. Hier moet voortaan beter op worden toegezien zodat de werkdruk gelijk is voor alle workshops.
- Het was niet verplicht om naar de presentaties te gaan. Toch denk ik dat het zou helpen als mensen een afvinkkaart moeten gebruiken (dat je bijv bij minstens 2 presentaties, 2 posters, en 2 round tables bent geweest). Vooral aan het einde van de week werd de opkomst minder, erg jammer!
- alleen de eerste dag waren er feedbackformulieren om in te vullen, daarna niet meer.
- iets wat heel fijn zou zijn maar misschien niet mogelijk: discussants hadden soms heel weinig kennis van het onderwerp van de papers die ze moesten beoordelen. Hierdoor liep de discussie vaak dood en was daardoor ook niet nuttig voor de presenter. Erg jammer! Ook waren er grote verschillen in voorbereiding tussen de discussants.
- ik miste nog vragen over de presentaties (sfeer tijdens presentaties, kwaliteit van discussant etc).

Top geregeld:

- het eten! Was erg goed, lekker veel variatie elke dag.
 - vervoer van en naar de lokatie (al werd ik wat misselijk in de bus...)
 - algemene planning, alles zat goed in elkaar op een paar kleine dingetjes na.
 - sfeer tijdens de hele week.
- Alles was ontzettend goed geregeld en georganiseerd vooraf. De workshops waren van hoge kwaliteit en ik heb erg nuttige feedback op m'n paper gehad.
Suggestie voor een volgende fall school: de statistische workshops worden vaak bezocht door beginners en gevorderden, waardoor het of voor de ene groep te makkelijk is of voor de andere groep te moeilijk is. Dat was in ieder geval het geval voor de IRT workshop, waardoor het voor sommigen van ons erg lastig te volgen was. Het zou misschien goed zijn vooraf duidelijk aan te geven voor wie de cursus geschikt is. Als het te regelen is zou het zelfs helemaal mooi zijn om voor beide groepen een aparte workshop aan te bieden.
 - I really enjoyed meeting people from different countries. The location was nice but too far from an airport and the internet connection was a real problem. Also, in the schedule, I would of like to have the presentations of paper or poster or round table right after lunch before the social events to be able to relax and enjoy more the day. The visit to Girona was very nice.
Thank you for all your work!!!
 - I missed questions about the sessions themselves, and the quality of the feedback we received on our work. At that respect I liked the fact of knowing what other fellow PhD's are doing. I think the quality of the discussants' feedback was really heterogeneous: in some cases very detailed feedback was provided, while in others only general remarks were given, raising questions whether the discussant actually prepared for their role. I think that should be one of the most important tasks of senior researchers in a research school, and we as junior researchers look forward to hearing their comments! Same thing goes for the chairs, which in some cases took an active role even before the presentations (requesting the presenters questions for the audience, for example), while others basically limited their role to being there during the sessions. Additionally, I think the allocation of presentations to sessions was not clearly organized by topic, and it was difficult to select presentations without jumping from one place to another. Maybe using a list of keywords at the moment of submission would help organizing the sessions better.

- I especially liked the format, it made me feel welcome, I could move around freely, exchange knowledge and make connections.

I disliked the fact that it was cold almost everywhere throughout the day. This was not pleasant, but considering the circumstances understandable. I would say that that's the biggest improvement point for future Fall Schools. Together with another primary keynote speaker, someone more like Jeroen, as Sven's talk was very demotivating to my opinion. Especially as a starter.

- I enjoyed the workshops and to learn about new topics.

- De organisatie van de Fall School was echt super! Inlichtingen omtrent locatie, vervoer, voorbereidingen voor presentaties etc waren uitstekend en op tijd. Het eten was ook erg lekker en het social programme en het feest waren hele mooie gelegenheden om elkaar beter te leren kennen. Extra complimenten voor Caroline, zij heeft alles tip top georganiseerd en we konden altijd bij haar terecht met vragen waar zij dan altijd een goede oplossing voor vond.

De workshops en presentaties vond ik ook erg fijn, ze hebben mij echt geholpen om mijn onderzoek aan te scherpen. Het niveau lag hoog, echt top. Wel had ik meer input willen krijgen bij de workshops, het waren zulke ervaren docenten, ik had graag veel van ze willen horen en leren, maar we moesten vooral zelf actief aan de slag met de literatuur. Een klein hoorcollege inbouwen in de workshops lijkt me een hele zinvolle aanvulling, je wilt toch graag eerst input van een deskundige voordat je zelf actief met de stof aan de slag kan.

Ik vond het wel een heel intensief programma en om dat vol te kunnen houden, zijn goede faciliteiten een vereiste. Deze waren niet voldoende vond ik. Het was heel prettig geweest als we een eigen kamer hadden gehad (om je even terug te kunnen trekken, presentatie voor te kunnen bereiden, op te laden, etc.), goede bedden en een eigen douche (warme!) en toilet. Verder was het prettig geweest als er een goede internetverbinding was geweest, zodat je je mail en andere werkzaamheden had kunnen bijhouden. Nu was ons wel toegezegd dat er wifi zou zijn en was ik er vanuit gegaan hier gebruik van te kunnen maken, maar was de verbinding dusdanig slecht dat dit niet gelukt is.

Verder vond ik de toon van sommige workshopsleiders en discussianten erg onplezierig. Ik had zelf [x] als chair en [x] gaf op een hele negatieve manier feedback in mijn sessie (terwijl [x] niet eens discussiant was, mijn eigen discussiant was juist uitermate positief en constructief in haar feedback!). Later hoorde ik dat [x] dit ook bij andere sessies had gedaan. Ik ben bij eentje geweest, [x] begon de feedback met 'I'm really shocked by this research'. Als aio kan je dit erg onzeker maken en ik denk ook niet dat dit de bedoeling van de fall school is. We zijn er juist om te leren en elkaar verder te helpen, niet om andermans onderzoek de grond in de trappen. Het slaat ook elke discussie dood. Ik begreep van mensen die de workshop van [x] hadden gevolgd dat daar zelfs mensen moesten huilen, omdat ze zo waren geschrokken van de negatieve toon. Jammer!

Ik ben echter over het algemeen heel blij dat ik meegedaan heb aan de Fall School en ben het ICO dankbaar dat dit georganiseerd wordt voor aio's; het is een hele mooie kans om collega's te leren kennen, ervaringen en experise uit te wisselen en feedback te krijgen op je eigen onderzoek. Dank daarvoor!

- +
The constructive atmosphere during the workshops and the presentations.
The clear keynote by Jeroen
Social talks during breakfast/lunch/diner

-

Internet connectivity

Sleeping facilities
Distance to nearest village

- I liked the final keynote lecture.
The first keynote should be better.
The location, if possible, is not isolated.
- Positief:
De omgeving, het publiek, de verscheidenheid van de workshops, de leiding van Caroline.
Verbeterpunten:
Vanzelfsprekend de accommodatie; de stapelbedden, slaapzalen, warm water voorziening, en als klapper op de vuurpijl de vrijwel non-existente internetverbinding, lieten zeer te wensen over. Hierdoor werden de positieve kanten van de Fall School gedurende de week steeds meer overschaduwd. Ik begrijp alleszins dat dit niet (geheel en al) te voorzien of te voorkomen was, omdat de renovatiewerkzaamheden vorig jaar niet aangekondigd waren en het kostenplaatje natuurlijk ook meegenomen diende te worden.

De openingskeynote, neem daar iemand voor die misschien minder wetenschappelijke merites heeft, maar wel een goed en meeslepend verhaal kan houden, waardoor een toch wel intensieve week op een positieve manier goed ingeluid wordt.

Het commentaar van de discussianten, ik heb bij verschillende sessies discussianten op een werkelijk onaangename manier hun feedback zien en horen geven. De naam feedback eigenlijk niet waardig. Vooral bij promovendi in de vroege stadia van hun project heeft het totaal geen nut om methodisch, stap voor stap het hele onderzoeksproject af te branden. Mocht het inderdaad zo slecht zijn, dan is het aan de promotor/begeleiding te wijten en niet (alleen) aan de beginnende promovendus. Een voorlichting voor de staf zou zeker welkom zijn, iets in de zin van "dit zijn onderzoekers in opleiding, u bent hier niet om uw eigen gelijk te halen, opbouwende kritiek prima, maar houdt het netjes"

Suggesties:

Zorg ervoor dat er geen onwelkome verrassingen zijn bij aankomst op locatie. Beter zeggen dat er geen wi-fi is en dat er dan opeens toch af en toe wi-fi blijkt te zijn, dan zeggen dat er zeker wi-fi is en dan van een koude kermis thuiskomen.

De communicatie over de duur van de Fall School was wat ambivalent, het leek in eerste instantie tot en met zaterdag te duren.. Overigens vond ik vijf dagen ietwat aan de lange kant, de laatste dag werd de spanningsboog beduidend korter.

De postersessies, een aparte zaal/gang/ruimte speciaal voor de posters, zodat die langere tijd kunnen blijven hangen en bekeken kunnen worden door mensen die niet bij de presentatie waren.

- I like most the informal talking with other researchers about our research projects, this make me more aware of the broader context of education in many different institutions and other countries. second, I could see the clearest benefit for me in the very inspiring and fruitful discussion during and after my paper presentation. I really appreciated that the discussant really devoted a lot of effort to think along with me on how to improve my paper. In the workshops, we were also introduced to some very interesting new research methods, which could be very helpful in my future research if not for the current project.

one small suggestion about the poster session, that I think it is quite a challenge for the audience to read the poster from distance :), it would be very nice if we could walk around a little bit.
the shower in the first day was a bit cold, but it worked very well in the rest a few days, and the food is very nice.

- Far to expensive, organisation in need of improvement (e.g. no Wifi, no meeting point 18, no map or clear labeling of rooms), many rooms were inappropriate for the presentations and workshops (to small, walk-through rooms, to cold or to hot, awful acoustic), technical equipment was lacking (e.g. remote control presenters), sleeping facilities were a catastrophe
- I would like to receive more information of:
The discussions, results, themes of the different workshops
A final presentation (a dialogue) on the most common tendencies observed during the event (and related to better learning).
In the ICO page, more information on the background of the teachers. It should be especially useful for all the persons from Spanish universities that were not familiar with them and their field of research.
The wifi connection can be better....
Please send me information on the events related to ICO... I am sure that everybody likes this idea.
- - Het was spijtig dat het programma zo laat bekend was. Hierdoor was ik pas om middernacht thuis (er was mij gezegd dat er zaterdagvoormiddag nog programma zou zijn)
- de organisatie was over het algemeen nogal chaotisch: lokalen onduidelijk, late mails, geen naamkaartjes voor de meeste mensen,... Hierdoor was de helft van de mensen van mijn round table 10 min te laat en hadden ze mijn presentatie gemist. Dit kon beter.
- postief dat er zoveel docenten waren! Openheid van de docenten en de organisatoren
- prachtige lokatie!
- veel variatie in de workshops
Zou zo opnieuw deelnemen.
- Workshops should be on the topic that was proposed. Our a1 workshop should have been on how to write a grant or research proposal. I thought it was focused on informal and formal learning. Feedback by discussants was not always meant as an advice or a learning moment. Do all "teachers" know that ICO is about learning?
- I liked the atmosphere, the exchange between PhD's and between PhD's and experts a lot. The workshops were interesting and I enjoyed them a lot and found them to be informative. Further, of course, it is great that everybody was presenting his or her research and that we could discuss and that experts had - mostly - prepared themselves seriously for discussing it. This last thing I probably enjoyed most.
The sleeping facilities were problematic. If you expect people to use their brain for a week, network with colleagues and present and discuss their own research (which, I found out, is extremely intensive) you need to pay close attention to the sleeping situation. This doesn't have to mean that you sleep alone (or that it is luxurious) but I found 15 people in one room, to be too many (especially if you tend to be a bit of a problematic sleeper).
Another problem was the temperature of the workshop/presentation halls. A third was the wifi.

It might be a good idea to separate round tables from paper presentations as the latter tend to draw more people. My session on Thursday especially was orphaned. It was squeezed in between a

shortened lunch and the trip to Girona. The net result was that only the discussant and the chair were present. Apart from separating papers and round tables, it also seems important that sessions are planned in logical places (thursday 13:35 - 14:45) was not logical. For instance on tuesday there had been an immense amount of time off. An extra session there wouldn't have been a bad idea. Then, everybody was still fresh. Fortunately, I received good feedback, so it was worth it...

The posters had a separate session and they were very well participated.

On the whole I found the week inspiring, motivating, very social and intense!

- I know that ICO is also facing strong budget cuts, understandably the venue has been chosen to accomodate for this. Yet if getting a better sleeping facility would mean we would have to pay an extra fee ourselves, I would have gladly done so. Right now, while typing this reflection, I'm doing so under the 'blanket' of a nice flu, which started at El Collell.

On the other side the people and the atmosphere were outstanding, something that is really worth commenting. For me, this was one of the reasons to join ICO and enroll in the Fall-school.

Furthermore, the insights that I have gained are worth catching this cold I have, it helped me position my research and gain confidence in my academic competencies and skills.

- The workshops were great, but... all in all, it was way too expensive! Most of the time, no warm water, no toilet paper, no drinks during the day, spartan accomodation...
- The organisation was very good and reliable! As i mentioned in Spain, i would recommend a poster-design workshop.
- El Collell isn't a suitable location for a) a fall school b) at this time of the year. Probably, I liked the last keynote and Friday evening best.
Improvements:
Make sure the meeting point does exist. Try to find a location which matches the requirements better (e.g. beamer and laptop on chairs is not suitable for a paper presentation, no room to move is not suitable for a poster presentation, heatings int the rooms are necessary in March as well as in November).
- I liked the atmosphere very much. I got lot of new ideas for my own study. The room was ok, but the collective shower in the corridor wasn't good. First it was a shock, but quite quickly I got used to it. So, finally, it was ok too. Thank you very much for ICO Fall school
- I would suggest a better, clearer and at least useful communication. Who ever may have tried to organize this Fall School, did allot of good work, but failed completely to communicate and failed to be present, as an organizer at the Fall School it self.
- The Fall School is a good experience. You meet new colleagues in the same field of interest, you can share ideas and you receive useful feedback on a presentation. The Fall School has contributed to a renewed energy to work on my PhD!

- Bedankt voor de leuke en leerzame week!
- some improvements:
 - I had a hard time choosing a workshop, I would have liked to gain some insight in the others as well, maybe shorten the workshops a bit and ask leaders to prepare a presentation as well. That way you can take part in two workshops and attend four lectures as well.
 - maybe ask workshop leaders to give some more info. Now most was done by the students and commented on by the workshop leaders. I missed overviews of the field: some history of the field, main players, what are current topics/ debates/ dilemmas?
- As always, I really liked the degree to which discussants read your work and provide you with feedback - it is incredibly helpful to my research and my own articles. I do have some more negative comments - specifically about the venue. For the location, I really did not like the sleeping facilities (there was no room for sitting, you could only sit on your bed - so if you wanted to read something, you had to do so in an uncomfortable position), the cold shower on the first day, the fact that only one out of 4 toilets was decent (meaning with a lock and a toilet seat) and the WiFi was very unstable. And I would recommend the next fall school to only last from Monday to Thursday - I think everyone was very very tired on Friday. Nonetheless, I enjoyed my stay and thanks for organizing it!
- Although the surrounding was very nice, the facility did not fit the requirements for a fall school. The acoustic in several course rooms was quite bad, thus it was hard to listen to presentations. It is also problematic to do a poster presentation in a room in which you can walk around.
- Please do not change the start and end time of the program at such a late time, we could have chosen other flights if we'd known this earlier.
- Great atmosphere, great opportunity to meet new people.
Social program is nice, but next time maybe reduce this to make it more efficient, this was a bit too much. There is enough time for social networking during lunches/dinner/party anyway.
Location was beautiful but 2 major disadvantages: internet connection was very very bad and the venue could not be reached by public transport / far away from airport. Next time I would opt for a location that avoids these disadvantages.
Next time do not plan a keynote immediately after arrival. A drink and some time to freshen up would have been nice after a 10 hour journey.
- venue and workshops were the best. sleeping place was worst.
- I enjoyed the atmosphere of the fall school, it was a pleasant week.
I also really liked the fact that workshop leaders (at least my own!) were really involved and offered all kinds of help and support, also for after the fall school.

Personally, I liked my workshops very much. I did a more content related workshop that unexpectedly became interesting as an 'control variable' in my own condition. However, I can imagine that content related workshops are not for every one interesting. You just have to be lucky with the topics and the extent to which it goes in depth of the topic.

On the other hand, methodological workshops almost always are applicable to your own research. If only to become aware of different methods of data-analysis that could maybe become an option on your own data set. If it were up to me, I would have liked more different choices of methodological

workshops.

With respect to the discussants, some did brilliant! Others were harsh and did not really seem to understand the concept of given feedback. I understand that people differ with respect to this quality, but for some presenters, presenting at fall school was not an experience that stimulated them in their confidence to present at such an event.

Also it feels unsatisfying that you have to hand in a full paper and only receive 2 small questions about it. If the discussant has read the paper carefully, it would be nice to receive some written notes, for example just the notes that he or she made in the paper.

- I really liked the area and the trip to Girona. Also, the eye tracking workshop was inspiring.

I think the facilities were pretty basic. Especially the absence of heaters and the toilet and showers. Additionally, we were informed about WIFI availability, however the connection was really bad and problematic. I would really suggest better wifi facilities!

Concerning the workshops, I would have liked a little more input from the experts, especially in the second workshop (the first was quite lecture-like). Of course, a workshop means you need to work, but I think it was a pity that we had to write assignments and proposals ourselves, while we got little input from the experts. For next year, maybe organize more lecture like programs? I come to fallschool to learn about new subjects (this was my personal goal), so I really appreciate to learn new things from people that know all about it.

Anyway, thank you very much for organizing fallschool!

- Like best: informal meetings with educational researchers from all over Europe, so keep in the extended time for lunch, diner and the social programme.
Suggestions: more informal poster-sessions; this was too formalized (sitting and listening, not chances to talk one-to-one about your poster). I understand why (so that each phd-student gets feedback from a discussant) but would recommend a more informal setting.
Improvement: some discussants were discussing the presented research in a non-constructive way by claiming that methods were simply wrong or theoretical grounds were lacking; as a phd-student I really disliked this way of providing feedback to other phd-students that were halfway their phd and explicitly asked for constructive feedback that could improve their paper (not my discussant by the way).
- I really enjoyed the people and the workshops. I did not like anything about El Collell except the mountain view.
- I really enjoyed being in Spain. The atmosphere was great and the professors tried to give feedback to everyone.
Points for improvement: I was on the second bus that arrived in El Collell. Next time it would be nice if the key note would not be planned on the same day as the arrival. Everyone was really exhausted and hungry.
- I liked best that we were isolated from the rest of the world so everyone was involved the whole time.
Improvements: bed, shower, toilet, heating (it was so cold...).

Suggestions:

Short presentations of, f.e. 1 hour, by the professors/ teachers on hot issues in their country or their expertise. So a bit more 'shopping' combined with 'working' during the workshops, presentations/ papers/posters.

- I thought the venue was cool, but a little more detail on the sleeping arrangements, facilities might have been nice ahead of time. We were instructed to bring a sleeping bag and pillow but the beds were made when we arrived. I really enjoyed the trip into Girona.

In terms of the workshops, I found both to be really useful. In A4, I felt there could have been a little more involvement of the leaders. I really liked that there was so much participation on our part, but it would have been interesting to hear the leaders views on transfer and how they defined it in their work. Overall, a really thought-provoking workshop. For B7, there was a lot in those few hours and the leaders went really quite quickly. The exercise they provided was extremely helpful, and they were amazingly helpful in answering questions and clarifying information.

One thing I felt was missing was peer-review of each other's papers. A system kind of like JURE has would be interesting - where within a presentation session, each presenter is responsible for reviewing and providing feedback for another presenter. It would be especially helpful if there was one discussant for that particular session who read everyone's papers and there could be a quick 15-minute meeting after the presentation session to discuss reviewing papers. I thought there were lots of interesting presentations but that they weren't always grouped in a logical way and so I had difficulties choosing between sessions that had papers I really wanted to see.

- Ik denk dat we er allemaal meer uit hadden kunnen halen als de slaapfaciliteiten beter waren geweest. Nu was het dubbel zo vermoeiend, omdat er te weinig nachtrust mogelijk was om bij te tanken...

Aangezien wij als aio's zelf ook moeten meebetalen per nacht, vond ik het jammer dat het zo spartaans was. Ik had graag meer betaald voor een fatsoenlijke, eigen kamer.

- I really appreciate the extensive feedback that is given on papers/presentations. However, the facilities in the building (internet, room, showers, toilets) were too basic and it was cold.
- + the accommodation (I don't think it bad beds and cold showers are a problem! It good for the social cohesion :-))
+ the adventure park was really fun!
+ getting to know all these new people
+ the workshops (especially the multilevel workshop).

- the poster presentation sessions were not what I expected. This should be organized differently next time: more time for the audience to watch the poster (more like a 'real' poster session). And it would be nice to show the posters in a hall (for example the dinner room) the whole week.

- I liked the two workshops I attended, but a more 'demand-driven' procedure in selecting the workshops would be more convenient: first ask what requests PhD-students have. I heard were workshops for 3 or 4 people now following a workshop with 2 workshop leaders.

- I really liked the variety of the total program (it did not get boring for a second :-). Also the feedback (and time spend on it) of the senior researchers on the individual research projects was really, really great (however, sometimes the feedback could have been a little more encouraging in the way it was

presented to the PhD students). What I did not like where the (sleeping) facilities. For me it was not possible to get a good night of sleep (too many noises, bad mattresses, too warm at night) and this in combination with a full program was exhausting. There was too little privacy in the bathrooms (too little facilities for the amount of people). I think a venue with a bathroom per room would be much preferable for the next fall school.

- There was a good programme, there was an equally distribution between presentation sessions, workshops and spare time. It was a good idea to include some spare time after lunch, because of the 'after-lunch-dip'. I really enjoyed both workshops in which there was a lot of discussion time. In workshop A4 I maybe wanted to have a lecture as well, to get more expertise from the teachers. In the next programme there could be maybe more time included for the workshops, because I really found them interesting. I also liked it that there was enough time for the speakers and their discussants to give a lot of useful feedback. The only thing that I did not like that much in the programme was the fact that we had to hurry during lunch and during the presentation session on Thursday afternoon because we had to go to Girona (which I liked, although!). All in all, I think this was a great week. Thanks a lot for the organization!