

ICA 2010

Evaluation of the Singapore ICA Conference



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Conference evaluation

Each year ICA conducts an evaluation survey among delegates who attended the annual conference. To ensure comparability across conferences, each year's survey is closely based on that of previous years. The survey was administered online, this year using the online survey tool Tradewinds. The web survey did not collect any personal, IP or other identifying information.

The ICA office emailed all delegates at the Singapore conference a request to complete the survey on [DATE]. Two follow-up emails were sent to everyone on [DATE] and [DATE]. The web survey was available for completion from [DATES].

Attendance

Despite the location, the Singapore conference was very well attended. With a total of 1691 registered participants, it was the second biggest ICA conference outside North America, following the 2006 Dresden Conference.

Year and Location	Attendance	Survey N	Response Rate
2010 Singapore	1691	404	24
2009- Chicago	2197	475	22
2008 – Montreal	2108	559	27
2007 – San Francisco	2134	730	34
2006 – Dresden	1888	730	39
2005 – New York	2238	716	32
2004 – New Orleans	1814	127	6
2003 – San Diego	1854	754	41
2002 – Seoul, Korea	1159	251	22
2001 – Washington	1677	318	28
2000 – Acapulco	1118	284	15
1999 – San Francisco	1581	158	10
1998 – Jerusalem	857	195	23
1997 – Montreal	1339	287	22
1996 – Chicago	1404	--	--
1995 – Albuquerque	1329	--	--
1990 – Dublin	1250	--	--

Survey implementation

While the number of respondents was lower than in the past three years: 404 people responded to the web survey, the response rate of 24% was slightly higher than last year's survey..

While the response rate was not high, the make-up of the respondents seemed to echo that of the conference attendees. In contrast to the previous year, only 44% of respondents were from North America, and Asia/Pacific and Australia/New Zealand together accounted for 27% (for details see question 20 of the survey).

Data were transferred to and analyzed in Excel. The report follows the order of the survey questions (see Appendix B for the full questionnaire) and compares the answers with those of the past three conferences (Chicago, Montreal, San Francisco). Introduced last year was the ability to distinguish not only between students and faculty but between senior and junior faculty. In relevant questions we analyzed the differences across professional ranking, comparing the responses of students, senior faculty and junior faculty.

Overall evaluation

Q1. How much did you enjoy each of the following aspects of the conference?

(7 point scale from 1=not at all to 7=very much)

	Singapore	Chicago	Montreal	SF
Location	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.2
Organization, preparation and information	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.9
Overall quality of all sessions**	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.3
Social atmosphere, meeting with colleagues	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6
Social program, events and outings	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.9
Accessibility and convenience of travel to the conference city and hotel	5.7	6.2	5.6	6.0
Accessibility of AV equipment in all rooms	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.7
Average	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.7

Overall evaluations seem quite consistent with previous conferences, with respondents particularly favorable in their ratings of the conference organization, preparation and information, which was ranked higher than in any of the previous three years.

Q2. When you decided to attend the Singapore conference, how important were the following motivations for you personally? (7 point scale from 1-not at all to 7-very important)

	Singapore	Chicago	Montr eal	SF
Improve my academic record	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.5
Job market	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.4
Keep up with recent research	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.8
Seek opportunities for research cooperation	5.2	4.8	4.9	4.9
Meet or socialize with colleagues, friends	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.8
Travel to an interesting place	5.4	4.5	5.2	5.1

The pattern of motivations for attending seems to be quite stable, and this year was no exception. As might be expected, Singapore was viewed as an interesting place to visit, certainly in comparison with Chicago. The job market continues to be the least cited motive for attending the conference, while keeping up with recent research remains the top choice, slightly edging out socializing and meeting with friends. As you would expect, the motives vary by the individual respondent category, with predictable differences among the categories of student, junior, and senior faculty.

Motivations for attending the conference by professional rank

	Students*	Junior Faculty**	Senior Faculty***
Improve my academic record through paper presentation or other activities	6.2	6.2	5.0
Job market (i.e., get in touch with potential employers/employees/colleagues)	4.6	3.3	2.0
Keep up with recent research	5.9	6.0	5.8
Seek opportunities for research cooperation	5.0	5.6	5.1
Meet or socialize with colleagues, friends	5.5	6.0	6.0
Travel to an interesting place	5.2	5.7	5.3

*n=129-131; **n=109-110; ***n=117-122

Role at the conference

Q3. Which of the following roles did you play in the Singapore conference? (check all that apply)

	Singapore	Chicago	Montreal	SF
Award winner	9%	9%	9%	7%
Chair	22%	22%	20%	21%
Discussant	12%	12%	12%	14%
Divisional/Interest Group/ICA officer, committee or Board Member	9%	8%	9%	8%
Paper Reviewer	35%	33%	30%	26%
Preconference (organizer, presenter)	11%	9%	10%	6%
Presenter (paper, panel, poster; includes non-presenting co-author)	83%	79%	77%	78%
Volunteer (student, staff)	3%	2%	1%	1%
Attendee (any sessions or meetings, but not any of the prior roles)	6%	34%	27%	32%
Other (please specify)	---	2%	1%	2%

Even more than in previous conferences, presenting research was the major role played by the participants. There was an increase in the percentage of reviewers, but a vast drop in the number of conference attendees who did not play any other role; which may be due to the need to be on the program in order to receive travel funding.

Attendance and Enjoyment of Events

Q4. Which of the following events at the Singapore conference did you attend (other than those for which you had a formal role such as presenter/committee member)? (check all that apply)

	Singapore	Chicago	Montreal	SF
Divisional/interest group panel	72%	74%	70%	74%
Theme panel (not a plenary)	17%	54%	44%	57%
Opening plenary session (not including Poster session or ICA Business meeting)**	30%	22%	14%	40%
Mini-plenaries	22%	25%	12%	---
Cross-unit sessions	---	23%	---	---
Plenary poster session	49%	26%	39%	28%
ICA Business meeting with presidential address	23%	20%	21%	19%
Affiliate organizational panel	7%	5%	9%	7%
Division/interest group business meeting	57%	54%	54%	51%
Division/interest group reception	6%	54%	52%	50%
University/institutional reception	23%	34%	38%	39%
First night's ICA reception	26%	51%	51%	49%
Pre-conference workshop	18%	8%	19%	16%
Neighborhood tours	14%	6%	---	---
New members' orientation	2%	5%	7%	4%
Internet (Wireless) Cafe	---	29%	---	---
Closing reception	23%	14%	---	---
Closing Plenary	15%	13%	---	---

Most survey respondents attended divisional/interest group panels, followed by division/interest group business meetings. Notable this year was the turnout for the Plenary Poster Session. The percentage of respondents who reported attending the opening plenary session and the closing plenary sessions increased over last year, although the opening reception drew fewer participants.

Q5. How much did you enjoy each of the following events offered at the conference?

(7 point scale from 1-not at all to 7-very very much)

	Singapore	Chicago	Montreal	SF
Divisional/interest group panel	5.5	6.1	6.0	6.0
Theme panel (not a plenary session)	5.1	5.8	5.9	5.9
Opening plenary session (not including Poster session or ICA Business meeting)	4.6	5.2	4.6	5.6
Mini-plenaries	4.7	5.8	5.3	---
Cross-unit sessions	---	5.9	---	---
Plenary poster session	4.5	5.3	5.3	5.2
ICA Annual Awards Ceremony, with presidential address	4.7	5.3	6.0	5.1
Affiliate organizational panel	4.4	5.1	5.3	5.4
Division/interest group business meeting	5.0	5.7	5.9	5.6
Division/interest group reception	5.4	5.9	6.0	5.9
University/institutional reception	5.0	5.9	6.0	6.1
Opening reception	5.2	5.7	5.2	5.7
Pre-conference workshop	4.6	5.9	5.6	5.8
Neighborhood tours	4.4	5.0	---	---
New members' orientation	4.0	4.6	4.9	4.9
Internet (Wireless) Café	---	5.4	---	---
Closing reception	4.8	5.7	---	---
Closing Plenary	4.4	5.8	---	---

The top five ranked events that participants enjoyed were divisional/interest group panels, divisional/interest group receptions, the university/institutional receptions, theme panels and divisional/interest group business meetings. The least enjoyed event continues to be the

new members' orientation. Again, there are differences between member categories of student, junior, and senior faculty:

Enjoyment and attendance of events by professional rank

	Students	Junior Faculty	Senior Faculty
Divisional/interest group panel	5.5 (110)*	5.5 (97)	5.6 (103)
Theme panel (not a plenary session)	5.0 (85)	5.0 (62)	5.2 (79)
Opening plenary session (not including poster session or ICA Business meeting)	4.5 (74)	4.6 (61)	4.5 (64)
Mini-plenaries	4.5 (69)	4.5 (52)	5.0 (49)
Cross-unit sessions	-----	-----	-----
Plenary poster session	4.4 (88)	4.4 (71)	4.7 (70)
ICA Annual Awards Ceremony, with presidential address	4.5 (62)	4.5 (56)	5.3 (58)
Affiliate organizational panel	4.0 (54)	4.4 (48)	4.7 (37)
Division/interest group business meeting	4.7 (86)	5.0 (81)	5.3 (90)
Division/interest group reception	5.1 (95)	5.4 (86)	5.7 (82)
University/institutional reception	4.7 (72)	5.2 (63)	5.1 (51)
Opening reception	4.9 (81)	5.2 (75)	5.7 (81)
Pre-conference workshop	4.5 (61)	5.1 (49)	5.0 (49)
Neighborhood tours	4.5 (58)	4.1 (49)	4.6 (41)
New members' orientation	4.0 (54)	4.1 (41)	4.2 (29)
Internet (Wireless) Cafe	-----	-----	-----
Closing reception	4.4 (61)	4.7 (55)	5.3 (57)
Closing Plenary	4.3 (57)	4.4 (49)	4.8 (42)

* The number in parenthesis represents the number of respondents in each sub-group that attended and rated the events.

Q6. Were there events at the Singapore conference that you did not attend but that you wish you had attended? (check all that apply)

	Singapore	Chicago	Montreal	San Francisco
Divisional/interest group panel	10%	16%	11%	15%
Theme panel (not a plenary or miniplenary session)	14%	9%	10%	13%
Opening plenary session (not including Poster session or ICA Business meeting)**	26%	20%	24%	16%
Mini-plenary (Friday and Saturday, noon-1:15 pm)**	9%	13%	10%	---
Cross-unit sessions	---	10%	---	---
Plenary poster session	8%	12%	12%	15%
ICA Business meeting with presidential address	27%	22%	21%	16%
Affiliate organizational panel	5%	4%	4%	5%
Division/interest group business meeting	14%	18%	22%	22%
Division/interest group reception	14%	15%	19%	23%
University/institutional reception	13%	13%	11%	18%
First night's ICA reception	16%	17%	31%	26%
Pre-conference workshop	21%	14%	21%	18%
Neighborhood tours	19%	17%	---	---
New members' orientation	15%	7%	16%	16%
Internet (Wireless) Café	---	6%	---	---
Closing reception/dinner	30%	30%	---	---
Closing Plenary	22%	20%	---	---

The closing reception/dinner was the event that most respondents said they would have liked to attend, followed by ICA business meeting, the opening plenary session, the closing plenary, and the preconferences.

Divisions and Interest Groups: Attendance and Membership

Q7. Please indicate the divisions or interest groups whose sessions you attended in any role (check all that apply):

	Singapore*	Chicago	Montreal	San Francisco
Information Systems	15%	15%	14%	15%
Interpersonal Communication	12%	12%	14%	17%
Mass Communication	35%	41%	42%	47%
Organizational Communication	15%	12%	17%	19%
Intercultural Communication	23%	9%	9%	17%
Political Communication	31%	31%	31%	34%
Instructional and Developmental Communication	6%	4%	7%	7%
Health Communication	24%	18%	19%	22%
Philosophy of Communication	13%	18%	17%	18%
Communication and Technology	37%	32%	29%	27%
Popular Communication	14%	19%	17%	17%
Public Relations	12%	9%	12%	13%
Feminist Scholarship	9%	11%	12%	12%
Communication Law and Policy	12%	10%	8%	8%
Language and Social Interaction	7%	8%	10%	8%
Visual Studies	10%	9%	10%	9%
Journalism Studies	27%	25%	22%	24%
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies	6%	5%	4%	6%
Intergroup Communication	6%	4%	4%	6%
Ethnicity and Race in Communication	11%	8%	11%	12%
Game Studies	12%	10%	10%	11%
Global Communication and Social Change	22%	15%	17%	---
Communication History	6%	12%	7%	---

* n=453

The Communication and Technology division passed the Mass Communication division as the most well attended division at the Singapore conference, followed by, Political Communication, Journalism Studies, Health, Intercultural. And Global Communication. The most significant decreases were in Mass Communication, History, and Philosophy of Communication.

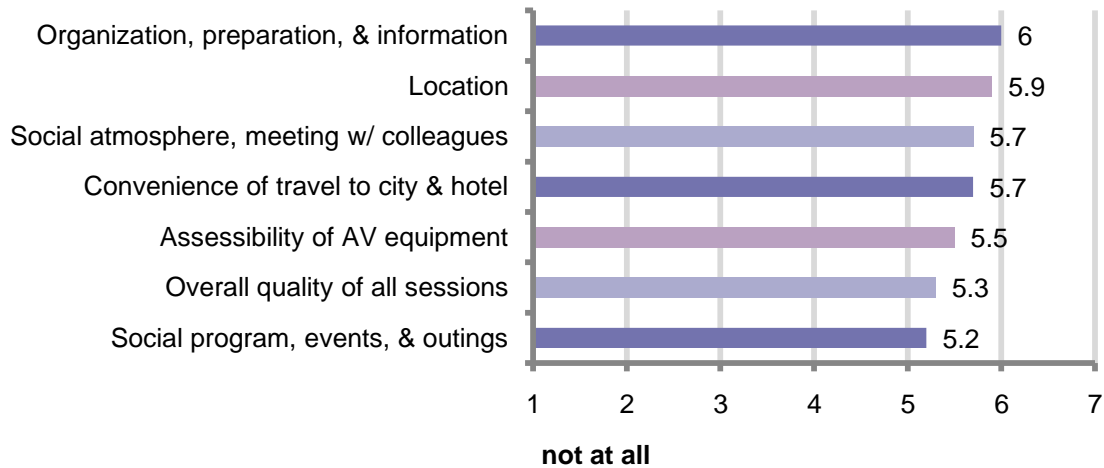
Responses to the question, Q13. ICA is experimenting with ideas for different types of programming. To what extent would you be interested in attending the following types of programming?" also varied by professional rank:

Interest in attending various types of future programming by professional rank

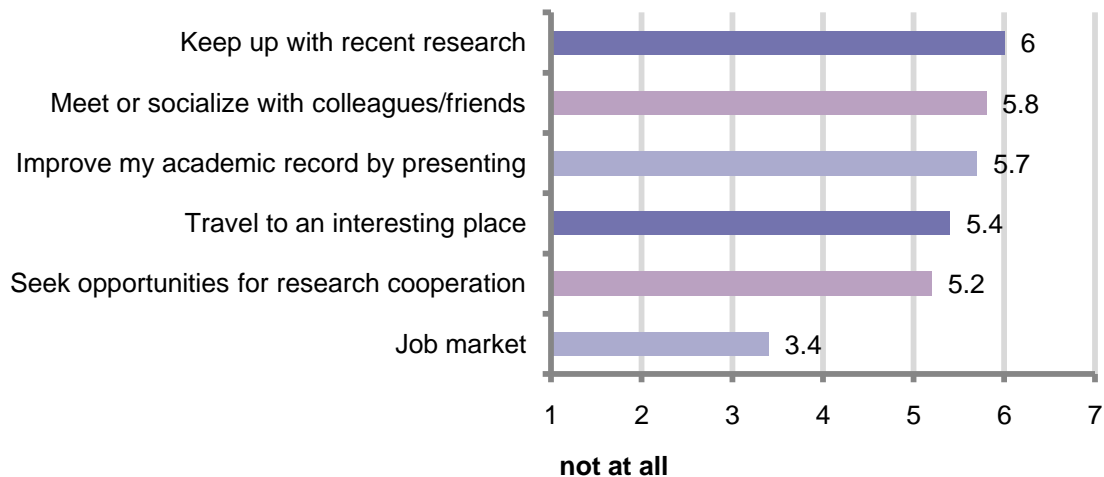
	Students*	Junior Faculty**	Senior Faculty***
Cross-divisional/interest group programming, discussing topics of shared interest	2.6	2.6	2.5
Programming devoted to academic professionalism	2.3	2.3	1.9
Programming devoted to developing media skills for academics	2.0	1.9	1.6
Programming devoted to fellowship opportunities	2.4	2.2	2.0
Programming devoted to grant-making opportunities	2.4	2.5	2.2
Programming devoted to junior career opportunities	2.7	2.3	1.3

*n= 120-125; **n= 97-106; ***n= 99-112

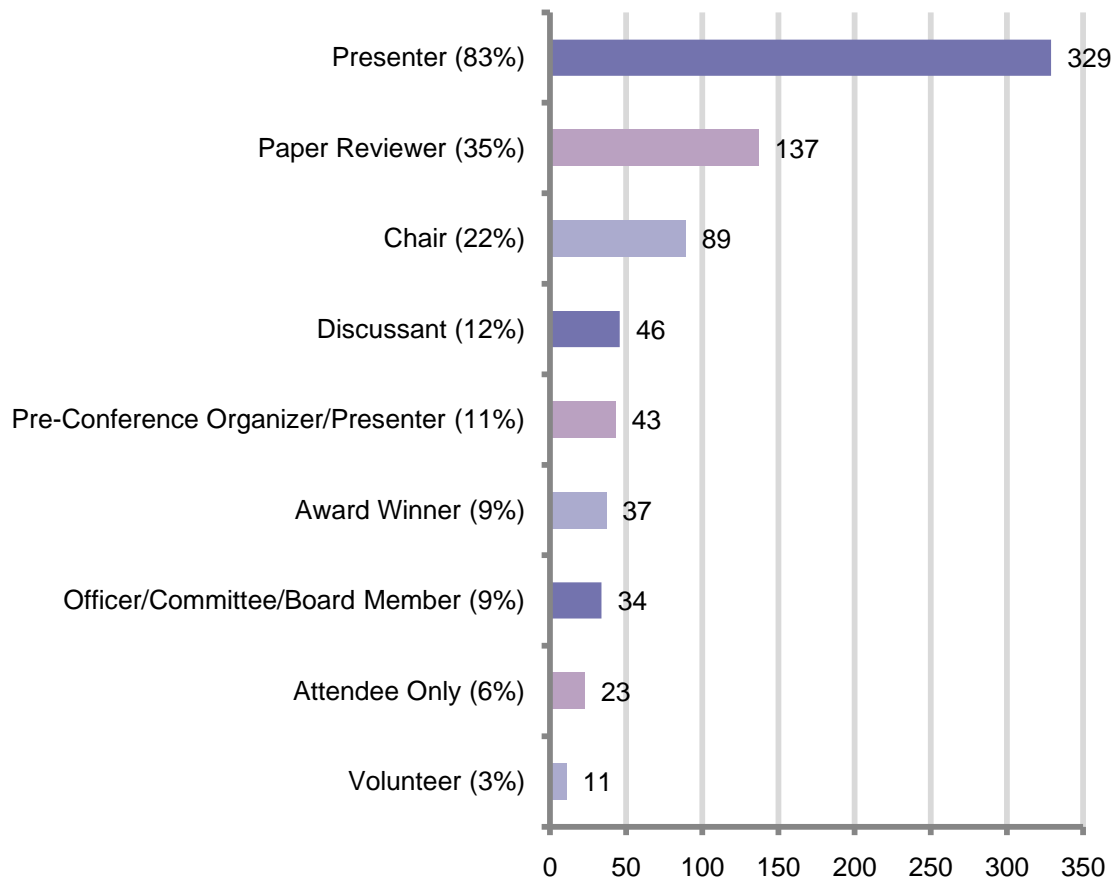
1. How much did you enjoy each of the following aspects of the conference? (N=380-395)



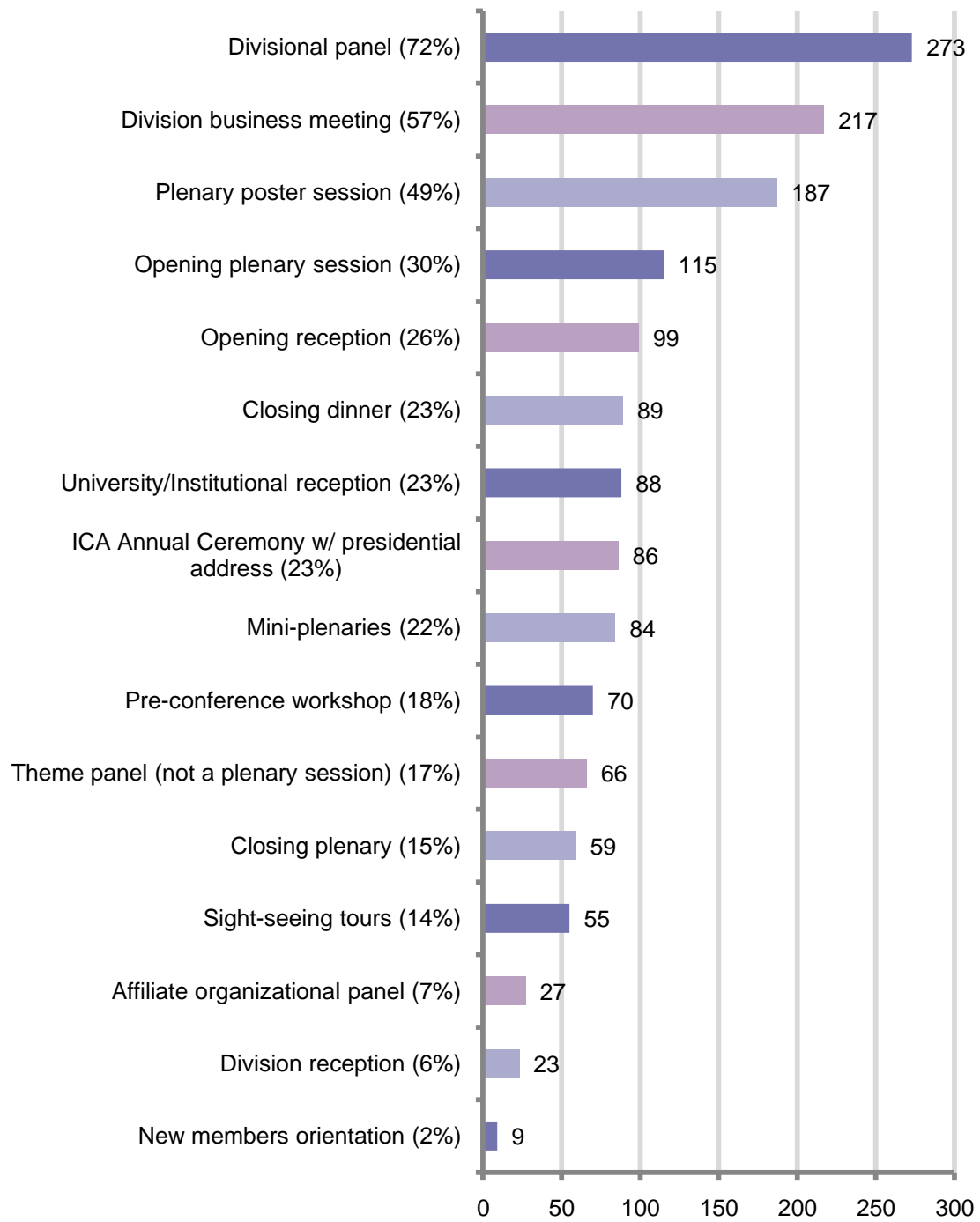
2. When you decided to attend the conference, how important were the following motivations? (N=391-398)



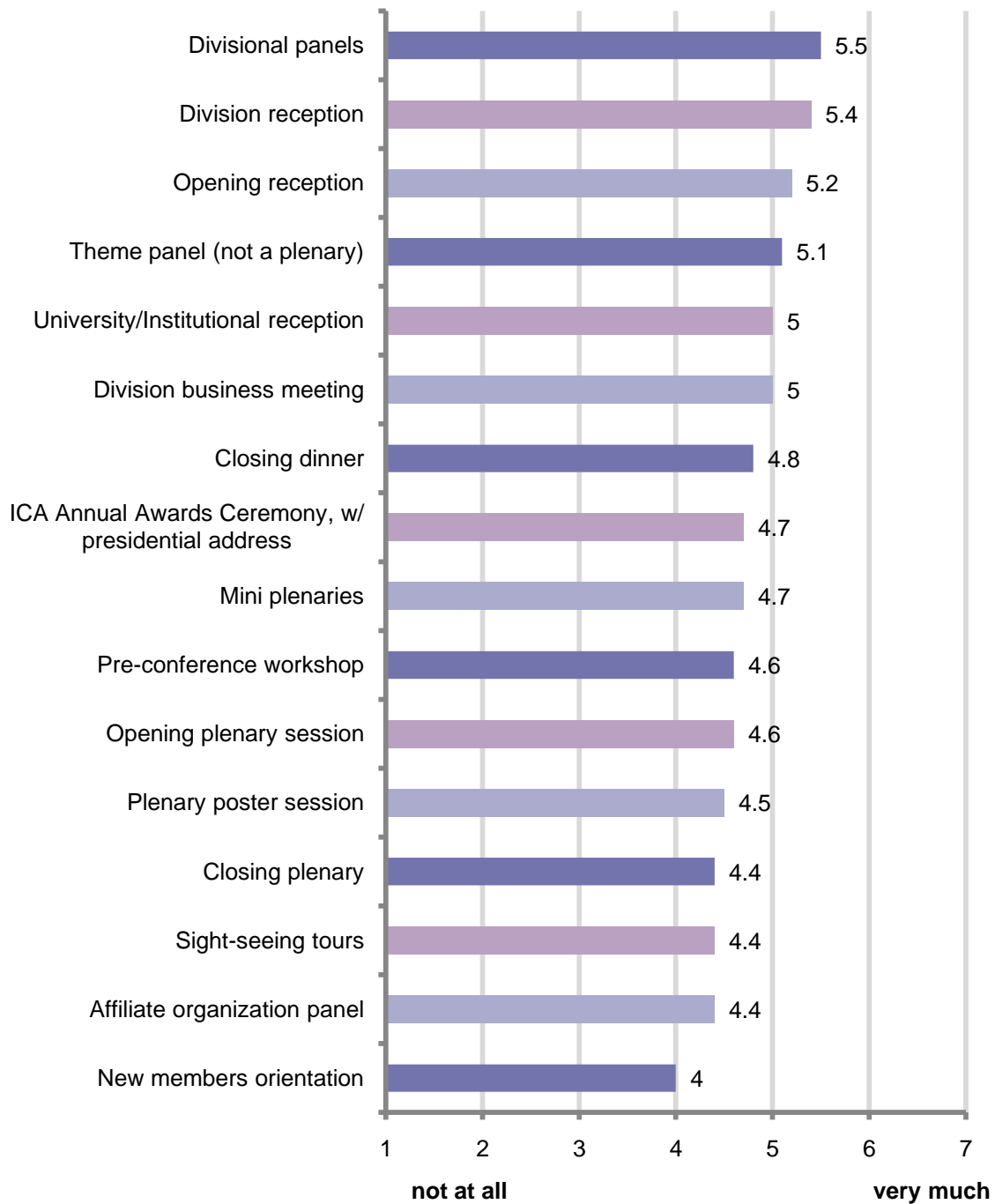
3. Which of the following roles did you play? (N=396)



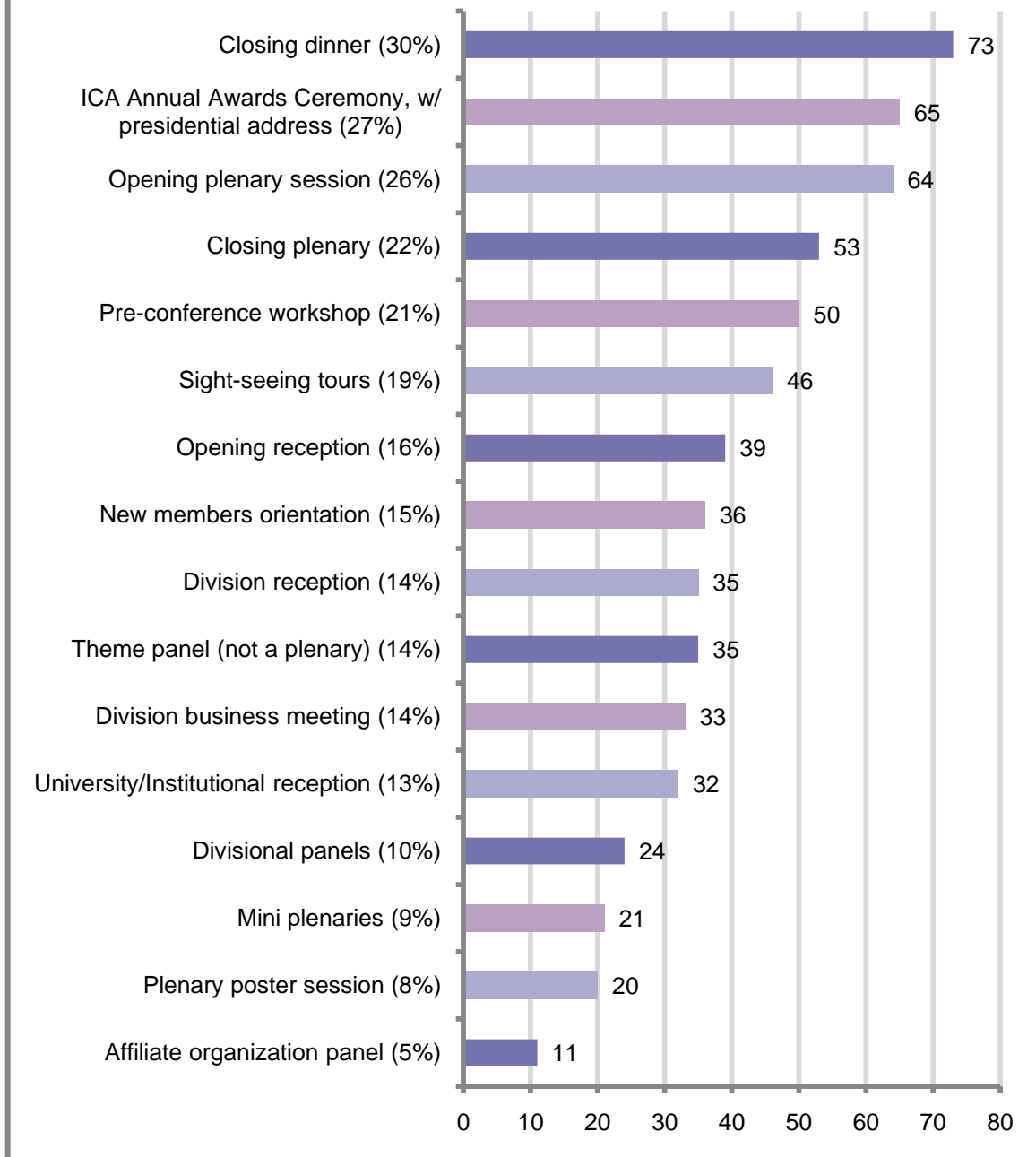
4. Which events did you attend? (N=381)



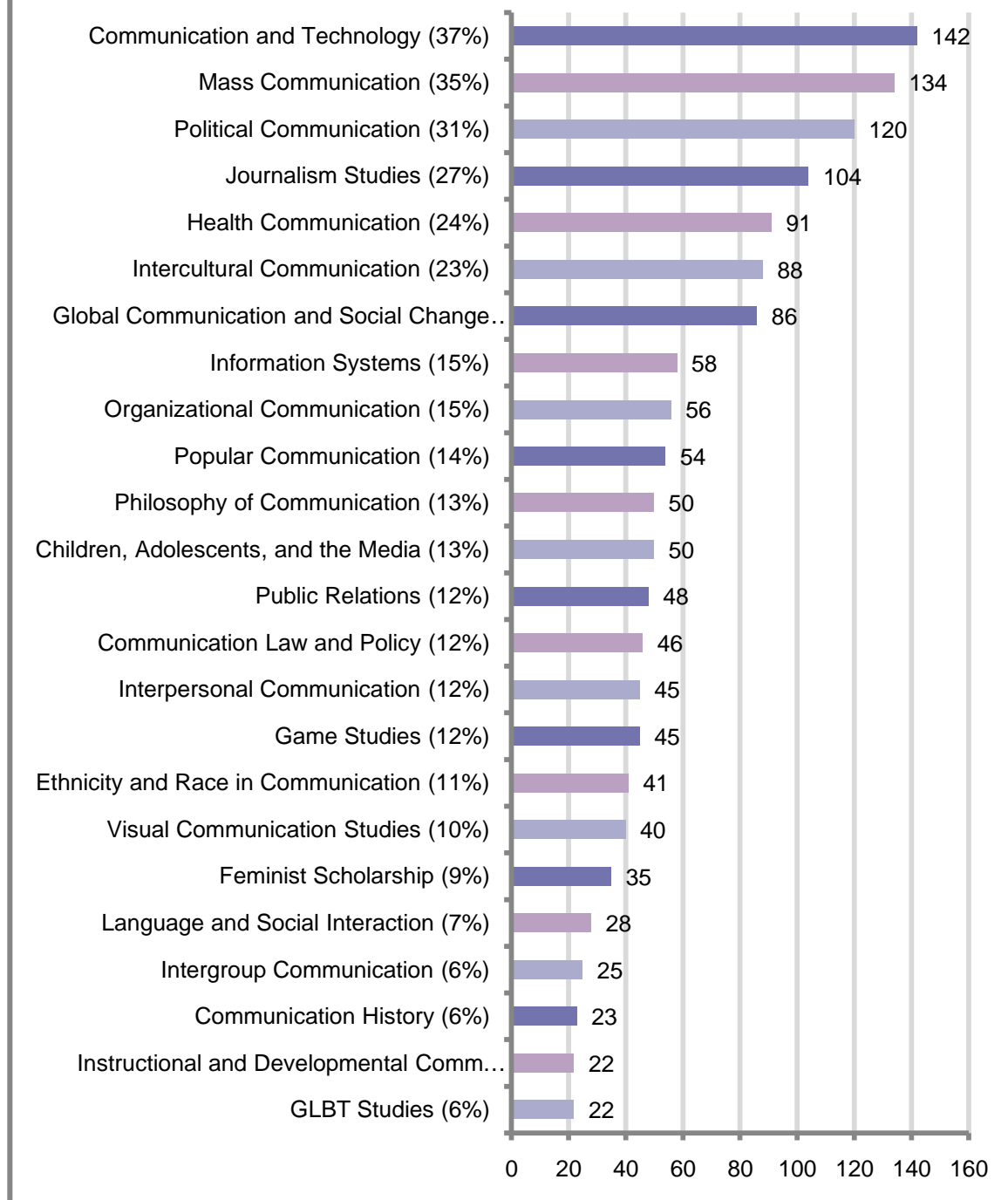
5. How much did you enjoy each of the following events? (N=134-335)



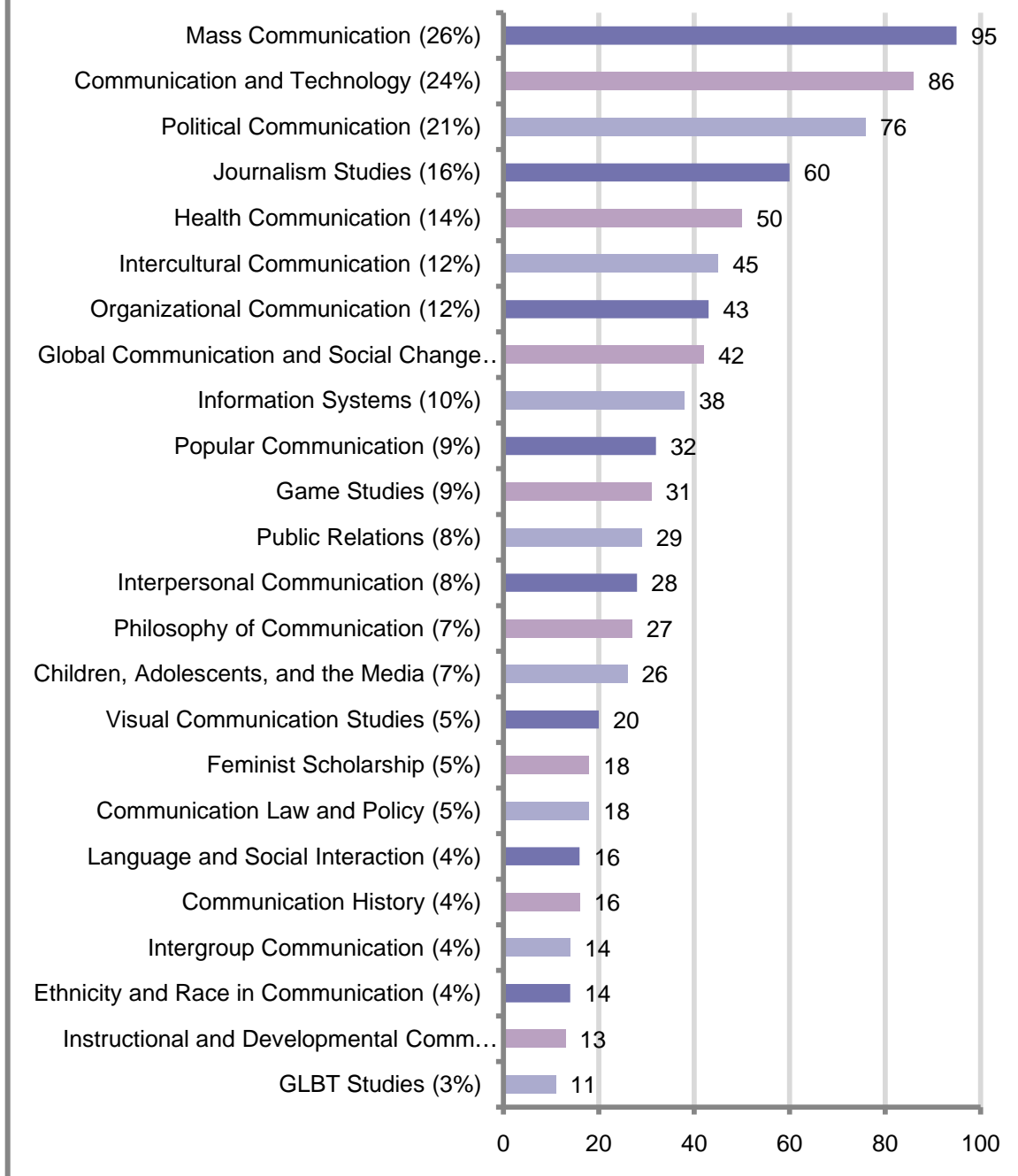
6. Were there events that you did not attend but that you wish you had attended? (N=243)



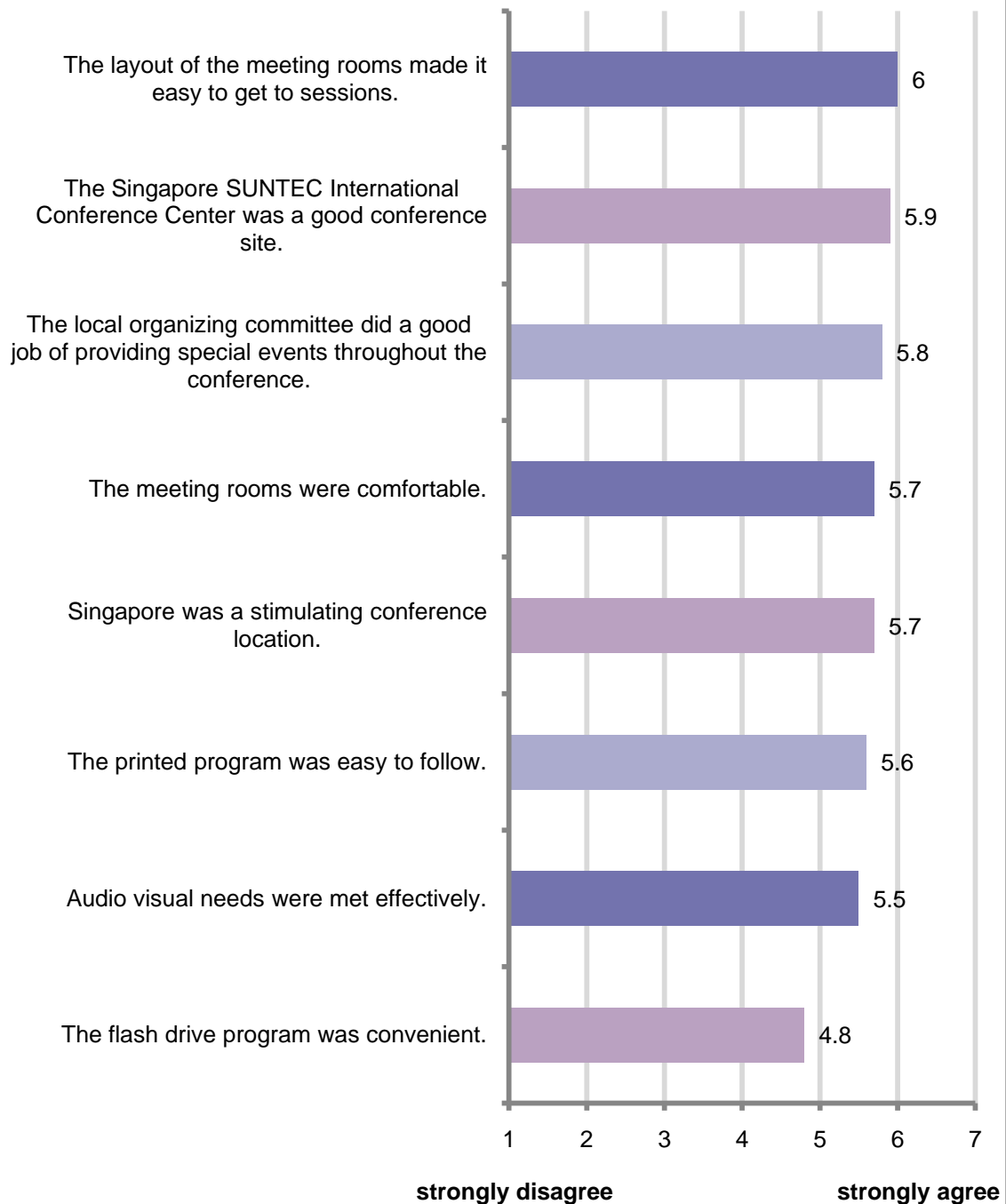
7. Please indicate the divisions or interests groups whose sessions you attended in any role. (N=385)



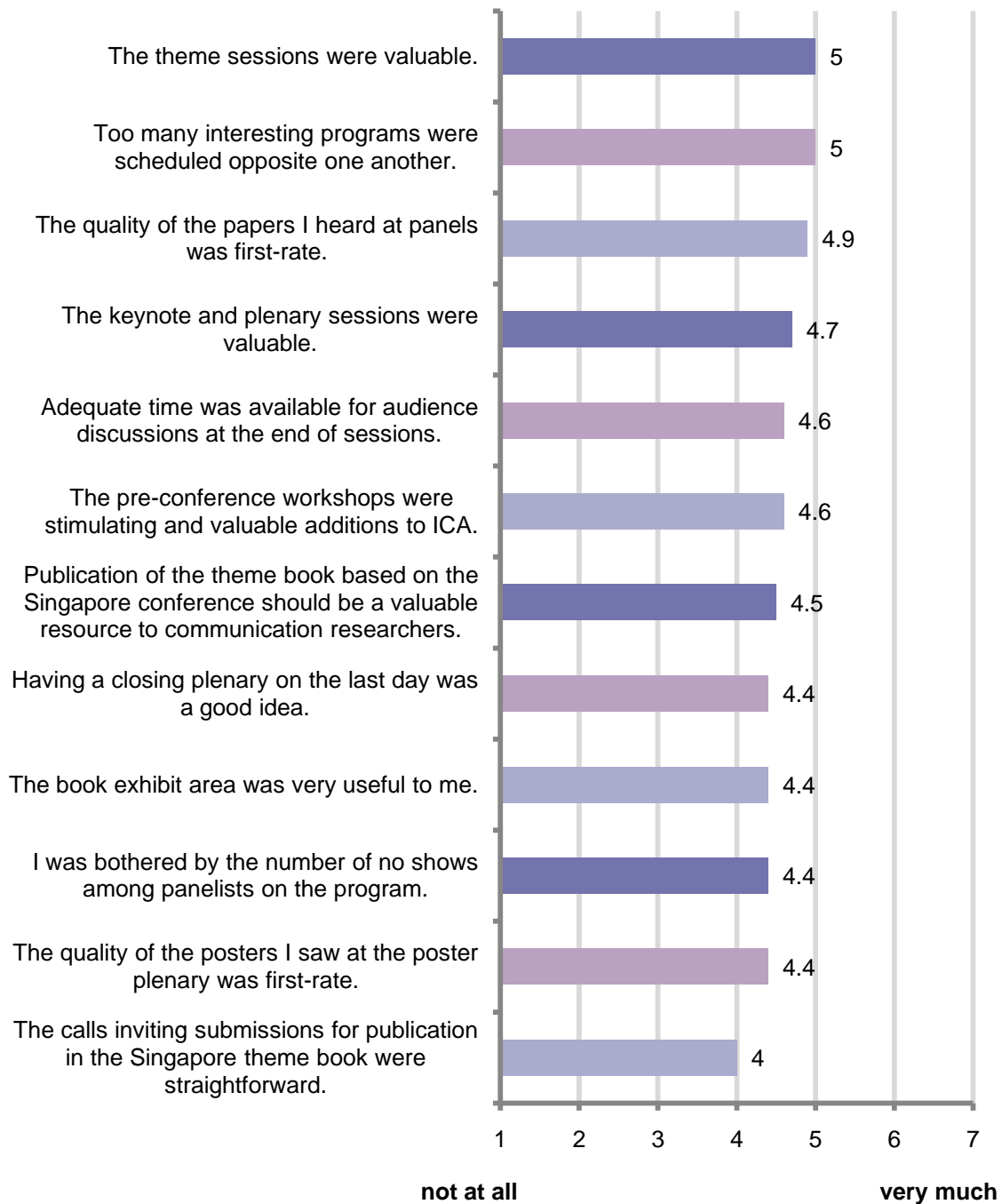
8. Please indicate the divisions or interest groups of which you are a member. (N=364)



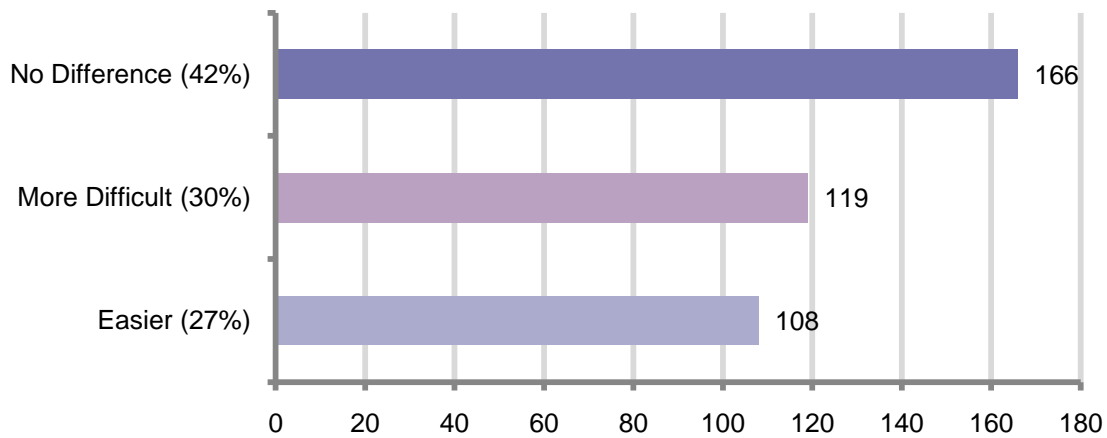
9. How much do you agree with the following descriptions of logistics? (N=346-392)



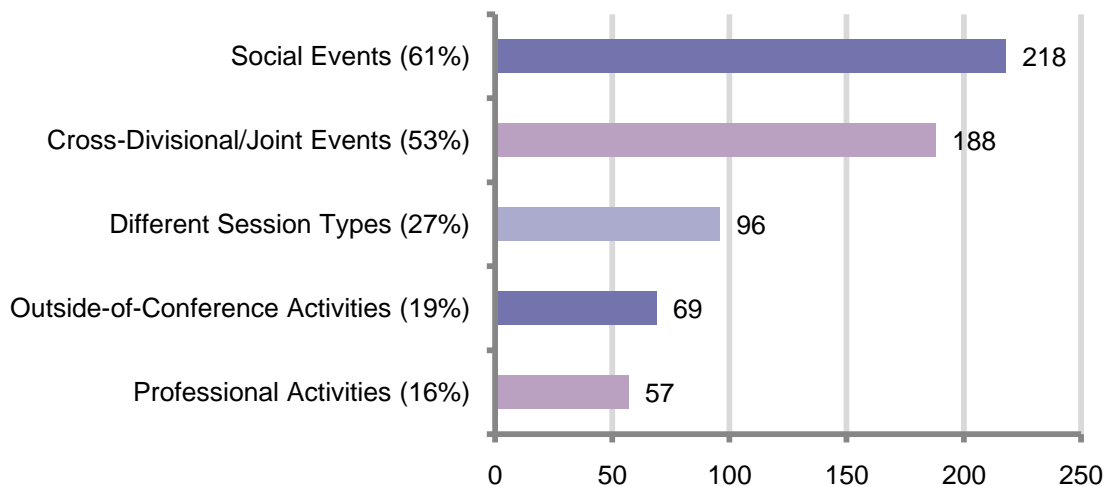
10. How much do you agree with the following descriptions of events at the Singapore conference? (N=281-380)



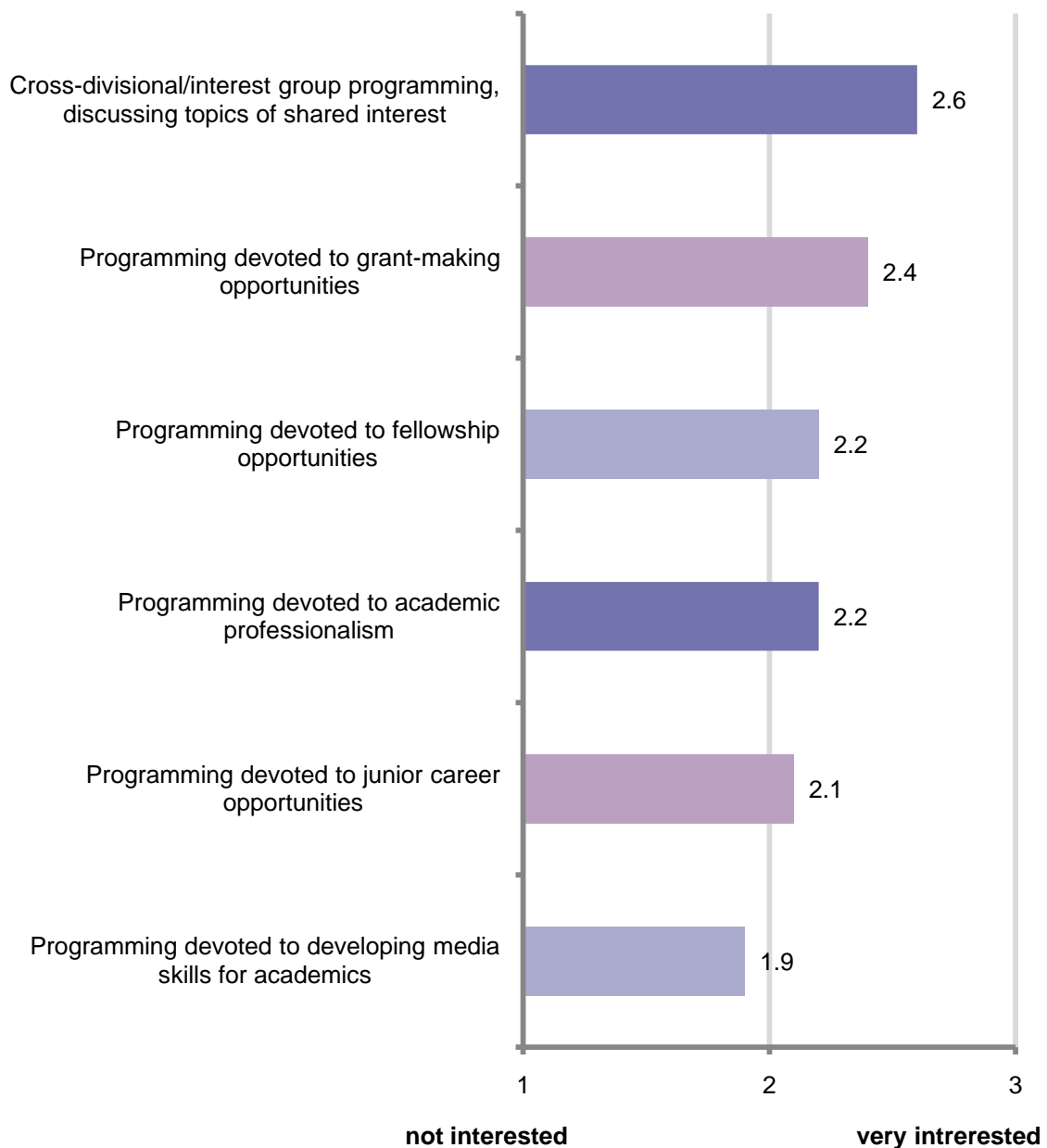
11. Has the fact that the 2010 conference took place in Singapore, made it easier for you to participate, more difficult, or did it make no difference compared with previous conferences? (N=389)



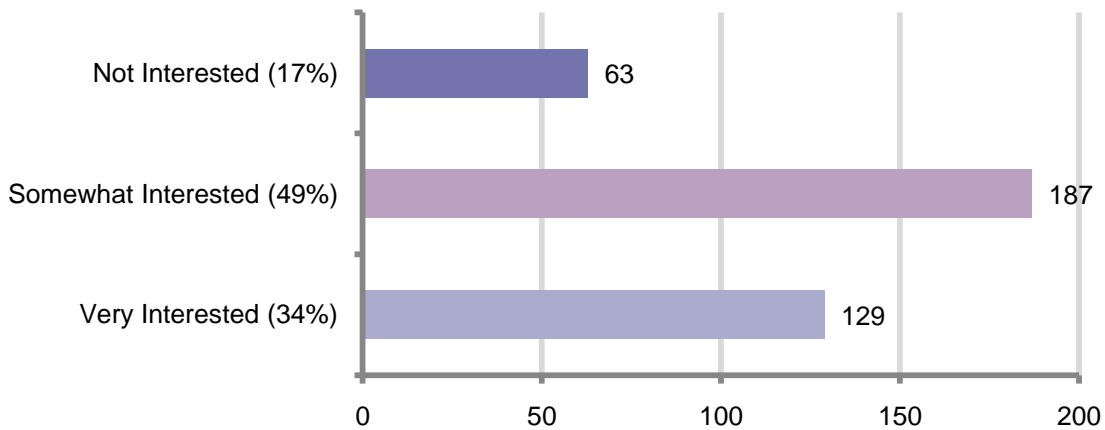
12. Which activities and services would you like to see more of? (N=357)



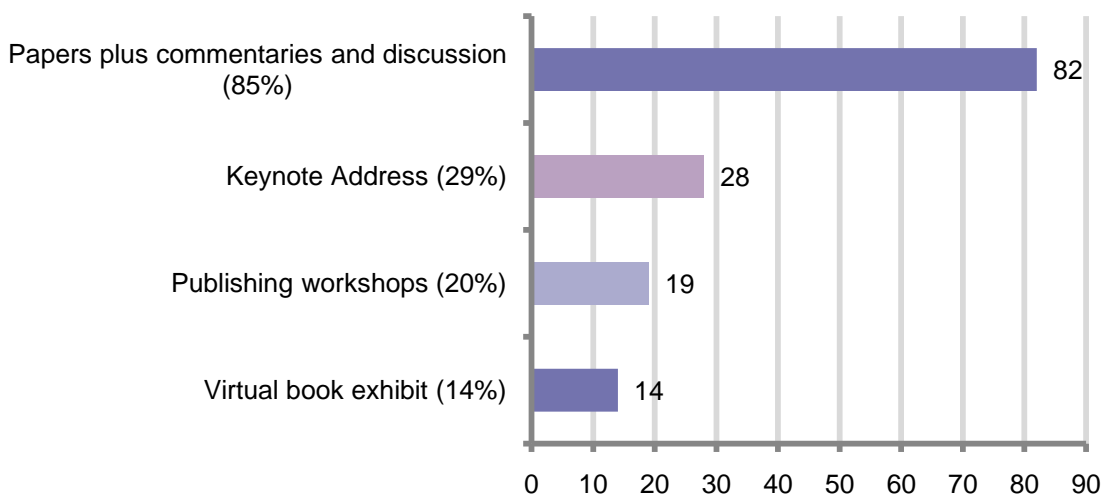
13. ICA is experimenting with ideas for different types of programming. To what extent would you be interested in attending the following types of programming? (N=350-371)



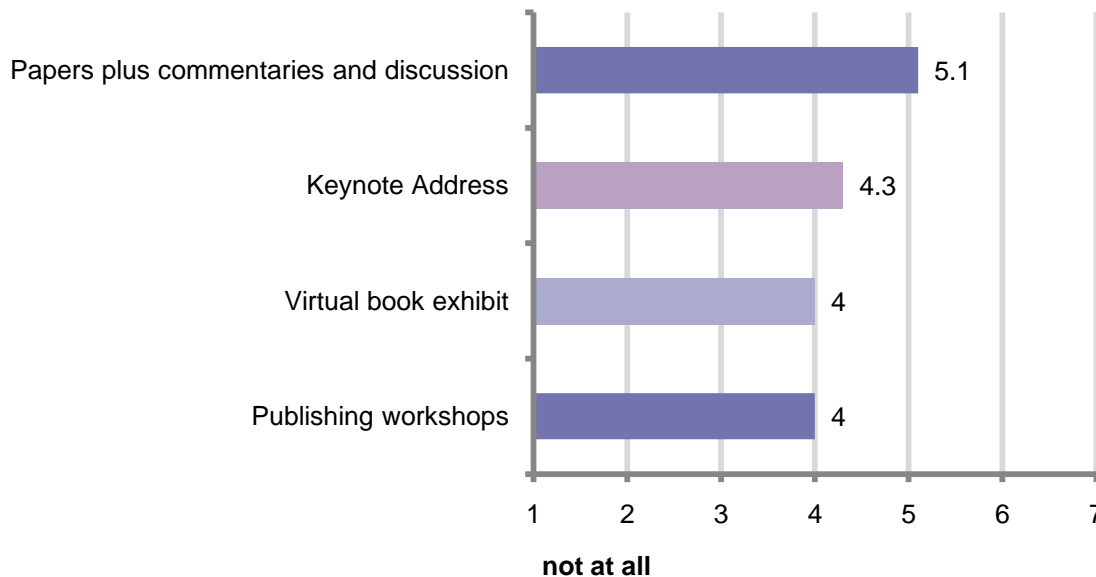
14. I would be interested in attending pre-conference workshops on these topics. (N=379)



15. Which of the following components of the online conference did you check out (other than those for which you had a formal role, such as presenter/committee member)? (N=97)



16. How much did you enjoy each of the following components of the virtual conference? (N=101-142)



17. Are there other types of programming that you would like to see in future conferences?

Some outside speakers (such as media or political consultants, network research staff, etc.) and way fewer grad student papers. There are too many bad student presentations and it really demotivates attendance and enthusiasm. Get more people to present who count; sometimes this means inviting people who don't necessarily have a finished paper to submit.

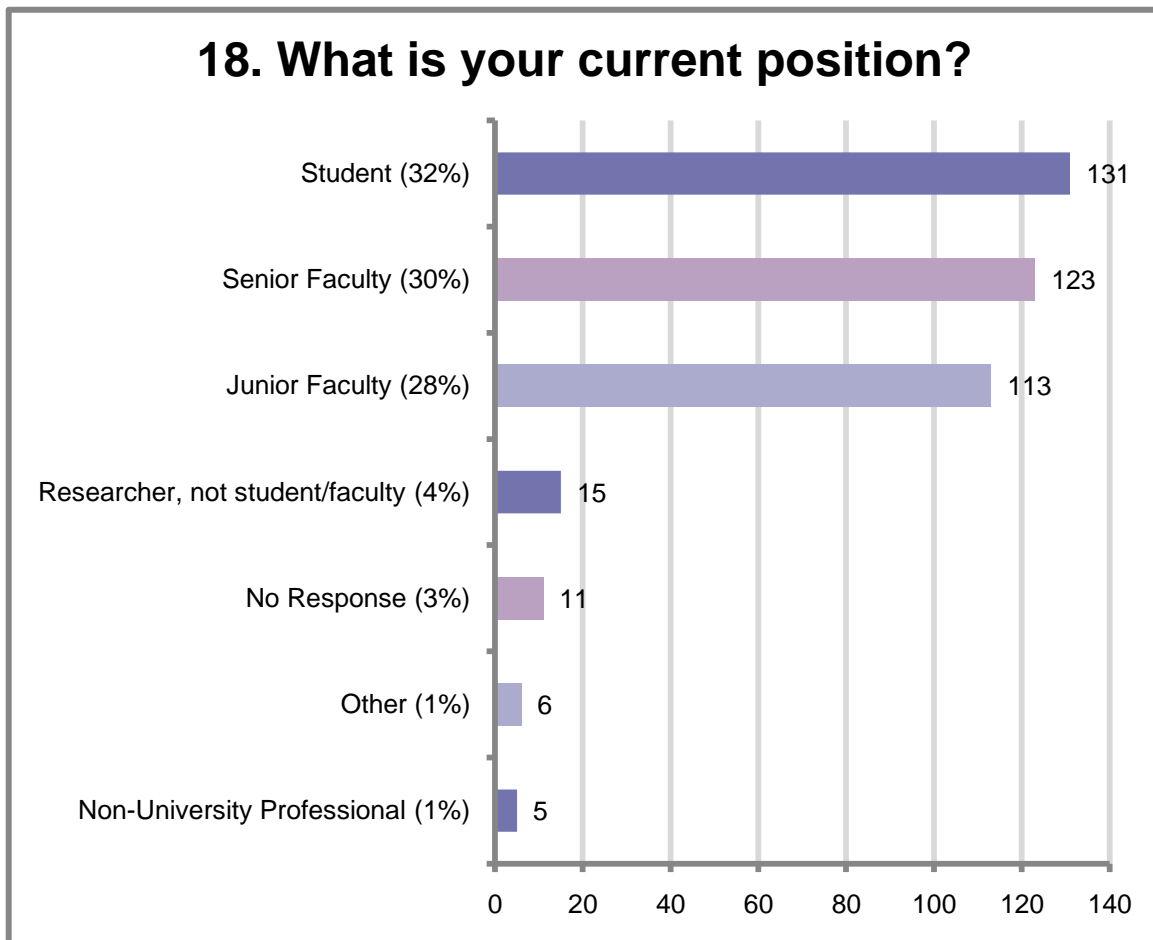
new media research methods. Streaming TV (network) programs & research, a focus of my studies.

More room for discussion and networking

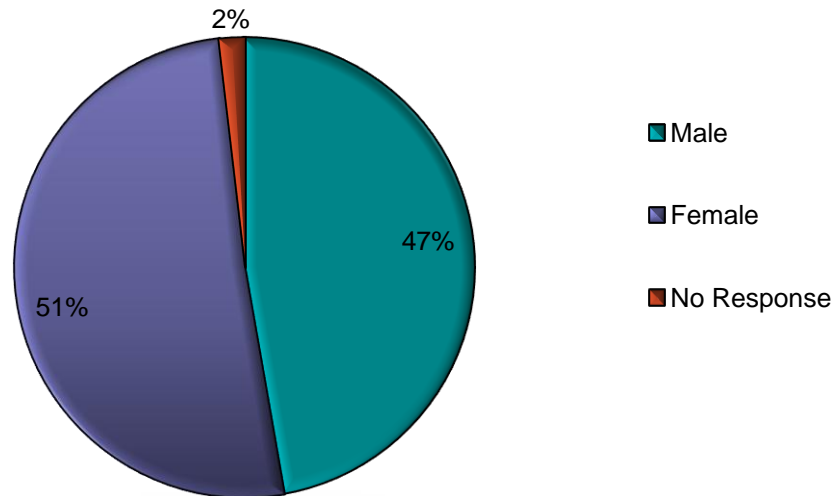
Updating or upgrading research skills, such as: using particular software; quantitative skills for primarily qualitative researchers (and vice versa); statistics refresher courses; advanced statistical techniques.

when we say virtual conference, attendees would expect to watch or participate in a conference face-to-face synchronously. as well, the promise was a bit misleading since the notice says "all papers" were downloadable and yet only five were officially published. perhaps, it would be good to think about how a virtual conference per se should be conducted. this would entail cost in terms of delivery that the committee should think about.
Mentoring for junior scholar. Workshop for soliciting grant.
multilingual paper presentations or panel sessions
Mainly NOT scheduling similarly-themed sessions for the same division at the same time
Communication in interpersonal, intercultural, health, professional and layperson interactions
More time for discussion and feedback after paper presentations.
Too many sessions were papers and presentations without much variety. Need more premiere sessions--debates, discussions, engaging audience.
I was not aware of the Virtual Conference
The whole online conference thing was not very intuitive or clear.
There are quite a few possibilities. The options listed above are extremely narrow in scope and do not capture any of the innovation that existed in the past and that other conferences of other professional associations are employing. You need some fresh ideas and they are readily available with just a little bit of historical and current research.
I am checking on whether there are audio recordings for the panels I couldn't attend.
presenters should have more time-- 10-12 minutes is too short
round tables on issues (perhaps as symposia)
I think the virtual conference was a great idea - it just didn't work for me this year.
Better pre-conferences. I was excited about the Popular Culture research methods pre-conference but it was a giant dud. The papers were not good (most of them not even written), the roundtable discussion was next to useless, and there was very little opportunity for those who were attending to hear the others to participate or learn. Most insulting, maybe four of the twenty papers actually dealt with research methods. I may never do a pre-conference again due to this ego-driven debacle.
Sessions that give more time for real discussion about RQs that are relevant for the field, that is, not presented papers are central but RQs that are waiting for answers, or evaluations of theories of models on which communication scientists disagree. I think that presenting papers is largely a ritual that does not really bring the field further.
I wasn't aware of Virtual book exhibit.
Events connected to history, resources, and organizations in host city.
Interdisciplinary Sessions / Review of the Literature & Future of the field Discussion Sessions
yes more representation from Global South countries
A panel on the situation of communication per area: Asian Communication, European Communication, Middle-Eastern Communication, etc.

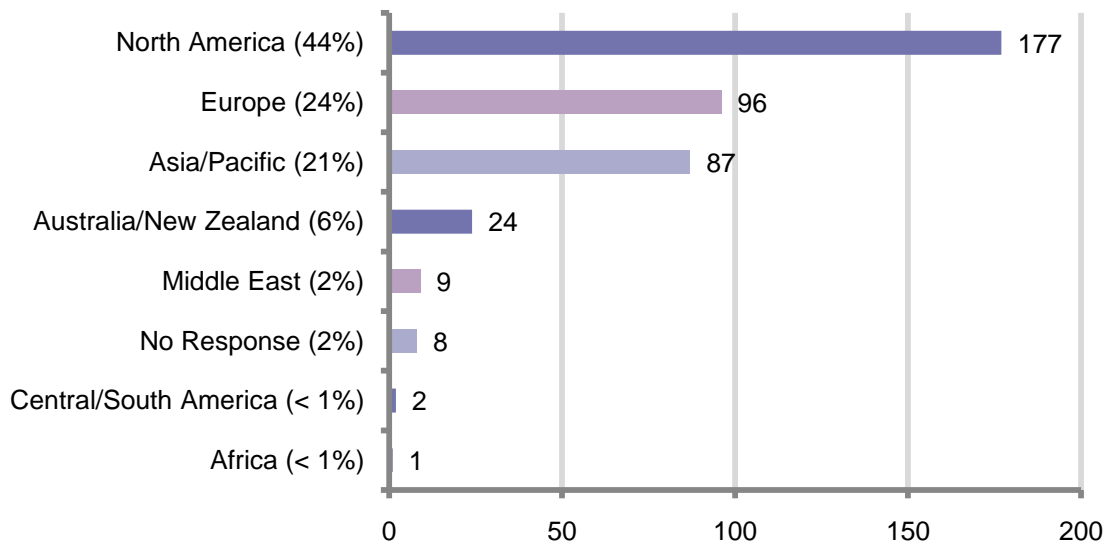
There is already too much choice, keep it simple.
The online conference is a great idea, hope there will one next year.
Whatever they had in the conference was good.
Personal Bias - Poster sessions seem pointless. They only serve as a means for doctoral (and maybe other) students to get their faces "out there" and to add to their CV.
junior faculty mentoring
I think it would be nice to have online contact before the sessions and continuing (online) debate after the sessions.



19. What is your gender?



20. Where do you currently reside?



21. Please add any additional comments you have about the conference and/or suggestions about other types of programming you'd like to see at future conferences.

ICA made a mistake holding the annual meeting at a cavernous convention center, simultaneously with two other conferences, rather than a dedicated conference hotel. Also, a country like Taiwan or Japan would have been much more interesting than Singapore, which is too clamped down and political repressive.

I loved Singapore and thought it was great we had a conference there. It was wonderful overall and I think the conference organizers did a great job. The only issue I had with ICA is that once again the Game Studies and Mass Communication panels were scheduled concurrently with each other. In addition, panels were scheduled at the same time as the business meetings, as well as at the same time as each other, so one had to choose which to support. In my case, I attended neither as I was presenting at a (understandably) poorly attended panel scheduled at the same time as both business meetings (the panel was on entertainment in media and games and equally relevant to both divisions). This was really frustrating. I understand it is amazingly difficult to schedule an event like ICA and you can never please everyone. Please know this comment stems from my disappointment more than anything else! The only other complaint was the lack of accessible wireless. All the technological savvy in the world doesn't help me watch the online sessions if I can't access the Internet from my top-notch computer and smart phone :) Apart from these minor issues the conference was very well planned and executed. Thank you so much for your hard work!

Internet access wi-fi. Easier to follow events that were organized. I felt the conference web site was not clear to follow and therefore I missed several events that I would have likely participated in.

I find it very discouraging that so many papers are not available to download. This is particularly true with panels that were submitted as panels rather than as individual papers. There should be a mechanism for uploading these papers--indeed it should be required. Also, many papers were never updated to include the author's name and full citations, and that makes them much less useful once they are downloaded.

Venues should have free wireless access as part of the package. It's pretty standard to have wireless in this day and age. There was a lot of grumbling about the lack of Internet, and I agree with them.

The venue was freezing! I look forward to the virtual overlay option proposed for next year.

Please avoid such hot and humid climates for conferences. Walking outside was most oppressive and it took two hours to cool off once inside Suntec, and even after that minor physical movements produced overheating. Air conditioning in conference rooms was not adequate. Lack of free wireless in conference rooms was very undesirable. Money that was spent on food and beverages should have instead been spent on wireless access. Sponsors should have been sought for wireless access. Electrical outlets in the conference rooms were no plentiful enough for recharging laptops. Multiple outlet extensions should have been placed in each room. CyberCafe access alone is most inadequate for a positive conference experience. Every future conference should have free wireless in the conference facilities. Developing online aspects to the

<p>conference while not having wireless capabilities, even though the online activities may not be overlapping in time is a major public relations problem. On the other hand, getting sponsors for wireless and publicizing this before and during the conference would increase good will toward ICA.</p>
<p>ICA and/or the local host should do everything they can to help participants get their visas. Very frustrating!</p>
<p>The conference location was very appealing. The meals provided at no extra cost was very much appreciated. The environment was also very conducive for the conference. The only problem was they made the rooms too cold, but I am sure that could be addressed. Hope the next location is equally good. I am looking forward.</p>
<p>I enjoyed it very much.</p>
<p>- it would be useful to have a board at the reception desk, where people can read the programme for the day and any other useful information. - the printed version of the programme is a waste of paper. i don't think anyone really takes it home or keeps it longer and it's also pretty complicated to follow. why not make only a digital version and save some trees? - people who apply for the travel grant do that because they need the money. maybe it is better if they can have it in the first days, cash or something similar. most of the people applying for these grants cannot cash a Bank of America check.</p>
<p>it provided my three graduate courses for a platform for additional material for communication theory, communication and culture, and educational communication technology. it would be good to have more time to interact with communication theorists.</p> <p>The cost of dining out at even modest restaurants in Singapore was extremely high and it will be as high, if not higher, in London. Perhaps attendees at the London conference will be reduced to dining on picnic food in Hyde Park. The ICA hierarchy should understand that, in general, university professors are not corporate titans traveling on lavish expense accounts or politicians whose travel is fully funded at the taxpayer's expense. The costs associated with dining and lodging should be taken into account explicitly when selecting conference venues, not merely the "deal" the organization receives from host sponsors. Traveling 9,000 miles to pay \$40.00+/person for extremely modest dinners, without wine, in very ordinary restaurants is patently ridiculous. The same dinners could have been purchased for at least 50% less in most parts of the US and other non-US locations, e.g., Korea.</p>
<p>I was disappointed by the conference center. It was hard to get from one side to the other because you weren't allowed to walk the back way through the lunch room after the first day of the conference. There were no places to sit. Also, I was very disappointed by the lack of internet access. That made it difficult to coordinate meetings with people that I met. Worst of all, the few computers that had been available were completely removed on the last day of the conference. The book exhibition was also gone. It seemed like a ghost town. It felt very disrespectful to those people whose presentations were scheduled for the last day how little of the conference infrastructure remained. I do like getting the program on a flash drive, rather than wasting paper. However, it would be useful to have more places show the daily schedule printed, so that we can check room numbers. It would also be helpful to have the daily sessions for a particular room posted outside that room's door.</p>
<p>Panel sessions should be longer.</p>
<p>Need free and full wi-fi/internet access at the convention hotel. This concern should be seriously addressed for an international conference focusing on "communication" in an Internet age.</p>

- There were too many panel sessions at the same time - Conference rooms were too cold, too much energy was wasted
Was a challenging location and my expectations were exceeded.
Was a challenging location and my expectations were exceeded.
It's always more challenging to coordinate meetings with academic contacts, colleagues, and friends in a foreign country, but not having wireless made it that much more difficult. I did appreciate the 8 or so wired computers you had on the top floor of the conference center, but that wasn't enough. Further, I thought it was sad that a COMMUNICATION association in one of the most technologically-advanced countries in the world didn't have wireless communication capabilities.
Reminders about deadlines (particularly for cheaper airfares, I missed the deadline for Sing). The paper newsletter with highlights of the online one is wasteful expenditure.
The ICA director did an exceptional job negotiating reasonable room rates and hotel amenities (including free internet and breakfast!), and catered meals and snack breaks at the conference. The walking tours were also a pleasure. I was VERY impressed! Traveling to Singapore from the U.S. was arduous, but being there was sheer pleasure! I can't imagine how ICA will ever be able to top this conference!
The conference should require better public speeches from it's presenters. To be honest, the presentations were really ill prepared, tangential, and clearly in need of some basic public speaking training. If ICA was to be one of the top associations in communication, they might ask the presentors to be prepared. Or even have them qualify the speaker's speeches prior. I think, the expectations for speeches are so low, that it's clearly reflected in what is seen. Further, the conference planners might consider what does it mean to be a professional "communication" association. I think part of that must mean in practice that the presenters are good communicators. Set a higher expectation, require it and you'll see great presenters emerge, and ultimately our field to better communicate our variables. Best of luck with the planning, please don't hesitate to forward this to your executive planning committee.
I liked having lunch included. I thought the hotels were great. The problem with the thumb drive is that you have to carry your computer around with you so you always need to be near power. There was too little space to walk and interact at the poster sessions in the third floor. Thanks for a great conference.
Some division heads need to better assess panel respondents/discussants and moderators; my session had poor panel turn out and poor discussant/respondent feedback and poor moderator. Therefore, I did not get quality feedback on my work. Lunch was great! Rooms were too cold but spacious and otherwise comfortable. No central place for social gathering.
I would prefer full internet access for the whole conference, not only the opportunity to login at one point.
Great ideas for sightseeing tours, but most of them were parallel to the panel sessions - please offer more tours on the day before the main programme start, on saturday afternoon etc. This makes it easier to combine the academic program with a short leisure part, especially if traveling from overseas anyway.

I was hoping for some more discussion about the conference venue. After all, going to an authoritarian state is at least a bit problematic for an organization like ICA.
This was the first conference I can recall that had a component of Media Arts that was interesting, provocative, and political. I think it was called Open Space. They were all terrific and were the most diverse, non-white panels, of more than a dozen I attended. Congrats for mounting this.
Local organizing committee did a great job organizing the email access at the conference site and the food they served was always truly delicious
The rooms were freezing at the conference site. Why? The meals were really wonderful in quality but the amount seemed excessive - who ate all that food? Why are so many business meetings whose memberships obviously overlap scheduled at the same time every year? This really has to be addressed if we are to generate active member involvement in divisions. Thanks to the ICA staff for such a smooth conference. I also appreciated the graciousness of local hosts and the attention to most details (except those cold meeting rooms).
SIN was well organized and very user friendly.
The rooms are always much much much too cold. For all of us just sitting in the chairs, this is very uncomfortable and so unnecessary! Especially in a hot location where clothing needs to be cooler, it is very frustrating to have to carry a jacket just for the room. Please please turn down the air conditioning!
As always, I'm stunned by the ways that ICA seeks to figure out who its members are with survey questions about faculty status, gender, and region ... but nothing about race or ethnicity. Though perhaps I shouldn't be. Even in Singapore, after all, this was a very, very white crowd. *sigh*
The physical book exhibit was very disappointing with only a small handful of publishers in attendance.
The virtual conference was too minimal to bother with this time. If more were available I might make more use of it.
Thank you for an interesting and productive conference.
The actual meeting rooms were damp and too cold at times. Very good programming, for the most part. I enjoyed the tours offered by local students--great idea. It was an expensive trip, but well-worth it. I also liked the free lunches.
The proximity and accessibility of my hotel (Pan Pacific) to the convention center was great. The proximity of session rooms to each other (rather than different hotels) was also a great convenience.
Overall, I liked the conference but the convention center did not have adequate places for people to sit and talk except the food court, and that involved buying food. Also, something really needs to be done about no-shows. I chaired a panel and was on a separate panel in which only one person aside from me showed up. This is rude. I think is this happens the people should not be allowed to present the next year unless they made arrangements ahead of time. We know they are reporting the conference on their CVs as accepted papers...so they are getting credit for it...which is academic fraud!
the poster session place was too small; should allow enough space for poster display

Singapore was a great site for organizing ICA. I will always go to present my work there. A wonderful place.
The convention center had no central location other than the book exhibits. It was hard to run into people and visit at the site.
The presentations were not as good this year. There is a too-strong emphasis on quantitative methods. I want to know the results of research, and maybe the method. I am not interested in a diagrammatic "model" generated by the research methodology.
The luncheons together provided an amazing number of conversations. Thank you to the university sponsor.
The amount of space allocated to the poster sessions were very inadequate. It was like being in a packed shopping bazaar as the crowds made it very difficult to walk through and spend time with any of the posters at any one time.
fantastic organization, venue, food
The SUNTEC people were everything one expects of monopolists--greedy and inefficient. In contrast, our NTU hosts were fantastic and the ICA staff solid as ever.
With the exception of the (ICA-connected)travel agent for Singapore airlines who was disorganized and late in getting tickets out, the conference was excellent and Singapore was enjoyable to visit.
I wish there was more to it for undergraduate students. I personally am an undergraduate student and I had a hard time meeting undergraduate student at the conference. I don't know if it's because of the location. Because some professor told me that there are some undergraduate students but not a lot this time because it's not within the US or Europe area where they don't need to travel a lot. So if get to go to next ICA conference, I hope more students are encouraged to join. and also, I hope they put the price down for students.
The conference location was too cold due to air-conditioning
Pre conference workshops/programs were too expensive for me to attend.
It was a good conference and I liked meeting new people and catching up with old friends and acquaintances. Having it back to back with AMIC was a good idea because I could attend both. I did not know of any university functions or get to attend any, which was different from when I attended ICA in the past in the US. Would like to see ICA held in a more diversity of cities in N America. I have been to almost all of the ones ICA plans to go next.
Provide several public computers devoted only to those who want to view the program using their ICA flash drive; more visible signages. Good work!
Conference centre did an excellent job with meals, but opportunities for casual social interchange/relaxation were disappointingly non-existent. There was simply nowhere to sit down and talk; antiquated setting in many respects. Also, technical facilities were dreadful: quite the worst I've encountered in a substantial history of international conferences: no laptops in situ, ludicrously small lecterns, outdated/non-compliant power boards. This was early-1990s technology and ambience.

<p>Some presentations were fabulous in view of content - but none of the presentations I saw was groundbreaking or at least on the current level of presentation techniques (as opposed to, for instance, Howard Rheingold's). Also surprising: Some presenters got away with poor content - very polite audiences! I wondered about the ToRs of the chairs - most of whom I saw limited themselves to managing the time. The keynote speaker at the closing session would have been sacked had he been a German President - incredible that he used the word 'garbage' in reference to a human being (his mother), among other "verbal mishaps" ... please accept my apologies should I have misunderstood his remarks.</p>
<p>The provision of lunch was very good. The air conditioning was at points unbearably cold. This totally spoiled my conference experience. Sometimes I could not wait for the panel to be over because I felt I was freezing (despite wearing long sleeves jacket). Why wasting so much energy in making indoor environments so unnecessarily and unpleasantly cold? If ICA wants really to me more "green" it should consider these issues.</p>
<p>Presentation time of 10 Minutes is too short. There should be a limitation of the numbers of papers per session.</p>
<p>Once again, the conference rooms were freezing cold due to too extensive air conditioning!</p>
<p>Size of audience in the panels was shockingly low. In 8am sessions and during the last days some panels were visited by the panelists only! I would suggest to reduce number of sessions too attract guests. Also, the quality of presentations was poor. Even top researchers did not seems to spend a lot of time on their presentation.</p>
<p>it was definitely too cold in the session rooms ;)</p>
<p>I have the personal and professional resources to attend a conference like this and I am sure that it drew numerous participants from Asia. However the more and more frequent these very expensive locations are (in time and in money) the more likely that ICA's appeal to young professional (Grad students and young faculty) will be eroded. It won't happen today but it will over time. Also as teh organization expands and expands it will inevitably create centrifugal forces as sub groups spin off to create their own entities. Of this I am convinced. Again perhaps not today or tomorrow but on the horizon. While expanding the ICA must remain aware of its core mission and core constituency, not to reduce expansion but to avoid ignoring their needs and desires.</p>
<p>I thought this was an extremely well run conference. The food was excellent, the conference was well planned, and the location was terrific. I also was provided with a travel grant for which I am most thankful. All and all a great conference.</p>
<p>It was expensive to travel to Singapore, but it put the "I" in ICA. I'm studying Asian media and it was invaluable. The hosts seemed really psyched, too. Lots of good energy.</p>
<p>Great conference, but lack of wifi at conference center was a big problem, especially since most many people's mobile phones did not work.</p>
<p>The SunTec Convention Center, while very nice and clean, did a poor job of providing a welcoming space for people to meet and sit. The handful of chairs sitting areas that were available were not adequate for a conference of this size. The Singapore conference from the previous year had a MUCH more welcoming lounge area where people could meet, chat, and collaborate. Considering that there were vast, wide-open spaces available to do this, I feel that this aspect was poorly planned if not overlooked entirely. To close on a positive note, I did appreciate all of the things that ICA furnished for its members. The lunches and refreshments were outstanding. Kudos to the planners for going above and beyond. It is things like this that will continue to make me prioritize ICA over any other large conferences in the future.</p>

The organizers did a superb job-- thank you very much!
I prefer the month of May to June...
Although it did not affect me this year (see note below), I would like to see the organizing committee (or ICA HQ) consider the possibility of providing some type of childcare services for conference attendees who require such services. I understand that baby-sitting services were available at some hotels (at least this is what I heard), however, it seems that it would be more beneficial to pool such resources and offer such services for those conference attendees who (a) have had papers accepted and intend on going to the conference; (b) are willing to pay for such services. I think that if such services were available at this particular conference, I would have definitely used them instead of leaving my 5-year-old at home with his grandparents. (That was no problem, but it would have been nice to have him come with me.) I truly realize that this may be beyond the scope of the services that ICA HQ could provide, but would it be possible to have some type of association facilitation assistance in this regard? Even just offering to connect people who demonstrate an interest in this service would be a welcome addition and a great option, I believe. That being said, I loved the conference, the organization, and the venue. It was my first ICA, and I fully intend on submitting proposals from here on in! Thank you so much for a very very educational, enriching, and stimulating conference!
In paper sessions, if you became the chair of a session, you need to check who brings his/her computer for the session. This did not happen in my session and went a bit odd.
Hotel rates are too expensive for poorly-paid professors. The travel grant program was symbolically helpful. Continue that.
so far so good, however i would recommend that the meals need to be provided for the next conference in boston.
WIFI ACCESS!!!!!!
Congratulations to the planning team on an excellent conference
Find a way to screen pre-conferences so that they don't suck. :)
Great conference, well-organised and fun. Suggest ICA provide thumbdrive and hardcopy of program.
I am very disappointed that many of the papers are not available online. This seems to apply particularly to panel sessions, where people (if they came at all) have presented their 'paper', but apparently not written a paper, or at least not bothered to post it online. It may not be possible to do much about it, but even by putting up a list 'for public information' of the papers that have *not* been uploaded may help to 'name and shame' to a certain extent. At the very least would save people the trouble of looking for the papers.
My complaints about AV provision were not about AV as such, but lack of internet access in the presentation rooms. This made it very difficult for some presenters
Way too many no shows on panels. Need to find some means to control this.
I would love love love an iPhone app of the conference program for next year. The usb meant that I was always having to pull out my laptop. I went to a conference (CHI) that had an app for

<p>their conference program. It was amazing! I could search by keyword, name, division, time/day. We should definitely do this!</p>
<p>The conference center had no spaces to sit and socialize. That was a big downside.</p>
<p>I would like something to be done about the poor attendance at talks. Often it is the speakers and only one or two others in the audience.</p>
<p>The acoustics in the conference rooms were very poor, to a large part due to the loudness of the AC. The rooms were not that large, but discussions were hard to follow and presenters were forced to use a microphone</p>
<p>Although I have no complaints about the conference itself and thoroughly enjoyed myself, arranging my flights with the official ICA travel agent was a very frustrating experience. It seemed as though the agency selected was too small to confidently handle the number of travelers to ICA. I spent hours dealing with flight arrangements, miscommunications occurred, and an important request of mine was not honored (my return date). The agent, Joseph Chen, seemed harried and overwhelmed and I didn't feel completely confident about the arrangements until I had finally received my official confirmation from Singapore Airlines. At one point I had wanted to take my business elsewhere but had already paid for my flight. I had begun the process in January and did not receive a complete confirmation of my flights until 1 week before the trip. I think in the future it would be important for ICA to consider the agency's size and capabilities of planning travel for such a large number of people.</p>
<p>A wi-fi internet connection available to everyone would have been very much appreciated</p>
<p>The buffet breakfasts and lunches at the conference were wonderful as a way to conveniently grab meals and meet (or accidentally bump into) colleagues. I realize that these are typically cost prohibitive but still maybe something to think about (on a lesser scale) at future conferences.</p>
<p>We were always in the same room for CAM talks. The room was freezing and very uncomfortable. The equipment did not work during some of the sessions. There were problems...</p>
<p>The Little India tour was not a tour. We apparently paid for a chartered bus to take us to a location we could have taken a cab or train to more quickly and cheaply. The alleged guide on the bus talked about himself the entire time we were en route, saying nothing about our surroundings. We were led like cattle to eat in a cafeteria setting that was not comfortable or conducive to collegiality. The food was mediocre, and while I like Indian food, I think it was too hot for people new to the food. After eating, we were chaotically gathered outside and told we were to tour around on our own, or could be accompanied by a student, then we were to reconvene at the Mustafa Center. A few of us meandered around in the dark and just barely found our way to the meeting point at the Mustafa center. Once there, we were told we could shop there on our own. When I inquired as to where we were meeting the bus, the faculty leader said we were to take a cab or walk back to the hotel. This was the first we heard of this. In sum, this "tour" was a waste of money and time and handled in an inconsiderate, and perhaps unsafe, manner. As a result of this experience, I refrained from going on any other conference-run tours, and instead toured the city on my own on foot and train, which I suspect was not the most efficient way to see the city, but I did not trust the tours.</p>
<p>Singapore was a great city, but it was a little too hot and humid to enjoy it fully. Perhaps this is a factor to be considered when choosing conference sites.</p>
<p>- I liked the sightseeing tours which were guided by students. - There could have been more</p>

social activities of the GLBT group. - More ICA conferences should be held in Asian or Latin American countries. ICA focuses too much on the U.S.
A Communications Conference without available wireless Internet connection? That was, in my opinion, one of the down points of Singapore and SUNTEC city as the place for the conference.
I couldn't believe Suntec didn't provide wi-fi or enough computer access at the site. It made things very difficult for me and many of my colleagues.
The suntec centre was wonderful for ease of access, quality of rooms/lunches etc and close to shops. Ver well organised, and I'll be sure to check the next ICA conference
It was wonderful to attend a conference that fully catered for someone who is a gluten free vegetarian.
The location was awesome
I attended a preconference and participated in a sessions as a discussant and presenter. I was unable to stay for the rest of the conference as I had to return to work (as this conference was held during the marking and exam period in Australia). This meant that I paid over \$400 Australian dollars (not including travel and accomodation) for what was effectively a one day conference, and due to the lack of set up in the room and provision of catering on the day before the official conference started, i.e. minimal a/v was provided (presenters had to use their own laptops), no coffee or tea or snacks were available at morning and afternoon break, and we had to print our own pre-conference programs. I understand that the preconferences are a very small part of what must be a huge organisational challenge, but I feel that this should then be reflected in the pricing structure (for example, non-ICA members should be able to attend/present). Funding for my (and colleagues') attendance at this pre-conference came from a very limited resource: project funding which could have also been spent on other budget lines such as salaries or travel for research assistants. I hope that you take these comments as a constructive critique, as the format and engagement at the preconference was excellent, and all credit should go its organisers.
ICA should strive to hold its annual conference in various parts of the world in order to be really international. It is largely parochial in its attitude.
*There were not much sessions that I wanted to attend while the location (Suntec) was a good choice. *Some studies presented there were not done based on any theories nor had any hypotheses. I doubt that those kinds of studies were good enough to be presented in ICA. *I would like to see more joined sessions (e.g. info system & game interest group) if they have similar topics. This way would make the conference more attractive I think.
too many parallel sessions with often only few participants (2-5 in some panels!); furthermore, the poster session on Friday afternoon attracted many people so that the parallel sessions were even more neglected... more interdisciplinary sessions from different divisions would be very valuable!
The meeting rooms were extremely cold!
the airco in the rooms was too cold
The air-conditioning in the conference center was way too low. Compared to the tropical heat outside, it was freezing inside.

<p>This was my first ICA conference. Unfortunately, it was the most disappointing conference as compare to previous conferences I attended. 1. The conference venue did not provide enough seating places for participants. Many times we had to stand while talking. 2. The rooms were freezing. 3. This was the first conference that did not provide wifi access to the Internet. 4. The number of poor presentations was far more than I expected.</p>
<p>The conference atmosphere at Singapore I believe was effected negatively by the meeting venue. The plaza was nice and well-equipped in all sense, but the "shopping mall" ambience all around has created strong distraction for attendees. Not much opportunity to meet colleagues other than lunch time. Internet access in meeting room is key. Wifi access should be a requirement in choosing a conference location.</p>
<p>This conference has been AMAZING. Thank you for the local organizer! I really wish ICA would consider hosting at the various other international places, which would be true to its associations' name and mission!</p>
<p>Would be nice if conference provided laptops, especially for international locations -- tough to bring laptop on international travel. Conference hotels were quite expensive. More city tours would be nice. More networking between divisions would be great. Review process could be stricter, especially for top papers. Conference rooms were way too cold!</p>
<p>Getting to Singapore was hard (half over the world) and expensive, but a great experience. I actually loved that this time the conference was not an event with a mostly US-(or Euro-) emphasis/approach.</p>
<p>cooperation research discussion.</p>
<p>Congratulations. It was an outstanding conference: I learned a great deal and finally met several professors whom I had long looked forward to meeting. Thank you very much.</p>
<p>mobile and telecom communication</p>
<p>Lower prices at preconference.</p>
<p>Conference center access to the hotels was somewhat cumbersome.</p>
<p>The area given to the poster session was FAR too small and cramped. It serious;y hindered both circulation and discussion.</p>
<p>Everything was fine but the meeting rooms were so cold that it was nearly impossible to stay for the whole session at a time without leaving the building to warm up! The idea of having lunch at the venue was brilliant though.</p>
<p>it was more organized and the people were more diverse than being a US centric conference just like before.</p>
<p>I was very impressed with my particular session (Organizational Comm), both the chair kept time well, and especially with my discussant, who had taken a great effort to provide comments (written & which were subsequently emailed to me as well). However, I was disappointed that this was not uniform across all divisons (some discussants hardly bothered to provide constructive criticism), and some chairs did not manage time properly, so there was no time for discussions at the end. Also, some rooms were too big for panels, so there was a situation where 10 audience</p>

members were spread out across a huge auditorium - not only is this dissuading for a presenter, but also inconvenient and doesn't harbour discussions.
I totally enjoyed ICA 2010. The organizing committee (Nanyang Technological Univ.) has done a fantastic job. Stronger-than-ever presence of European scholars was also terrific. It felt like ICA was becoming truly "International."
I was disappointed at the quality of the papers I attended. With the exception of the Feminist Scholarship strand (and with a few exceptions), papers seemed to overly focus on methodology to the detriment of actual engagement with the findings on a critical level. As this was my first ICA conference, I found this level of engagement very disappointing.
interesting sessions were all cross-scheduled. Poster session was too crowded. Food was excellent- should have let people know that food was being provided. Internet connection was terrible. Maybe create divisional lounges (or "corners") for networking?
I greatly enjoyed Singapore! It was a lovely city. I also appreciated the wonderful luncheon buffets we had every day. Thanks for a great conference!
My friends and I (all are graduate students) arrived the first day of the Singapore conference. The first thing we did is going to the SUNTECT conference site. No one told us that there are free lunch buffet and free snacks and tea and coffee during the conference. We did not know that until the last day of conference. Therefore we spent quite a lot money on eating at the restaurants, which actually could be saved if we knew that ahead. We hope such information could be passed out in the future conference. We are in a world of communication. Please let us know that.
It was a great conference, as is typical of most ICAs!
I think that more should be done to help faculty and students make the long international trip because many did not come due to difficulties with financing, child care, etc. Overall the conference seemed to be less well-attended than previous years, and it was a shame to go have done all the travel to find empty panels and limited networking. I went to more than one panel where the panelists and chairs were scrambling to find a computer because some did not know about the lack of computer availability. Other chairs did not show up for their panels but had not told the panelists. It was wonderful to see the conference provide breakfast, coffee and lunch for participants; this really was a wonderful touch and helpful for those traveling on a budget. Most importantly, this is the first time I used the ICA-provided travel agency and it was one of the WORST experiences I have had in my entire life of international travel. He was unprofessional, hard to get a hold of, did everything at the last minute (he did not send me my ticket until the day before I left the country) and did give me and others illogical itineraries. I would have much preferred to make my own travel arrangements and was so surprised to have such a difficult and frustrating experience a licensed travel agent.
Great arrangement for food/coffee breaks. Downside: at least one presentation room had paper-thin walls, so all the dishwashing in adjacent room was noisy and disruptive.
as you already know - internet access. The flight bookings were a little wacky too. Mine turned out ok in the end but we didn't have tickets until very late.
Singapore was an excellent choice. It was also good that we were not all jammed into one hotel. The way things were spread out made it very efficient. Great choice of both venue and country. Only negative - could have been more AV staff and better Audio Visual support.

The hosting university did a great job.
There were quite a few sessions where moderators or chairs did not appear. If any of those could not participate, there should be a notice to presenters or audiences....
Great food (complimentary lunches) and hospitality The organizer should make people easy to access the paper presented in all session at least in soft copy.
Much appreciated lunch being included in the fee, one could concentrate on the conference. Besides, the food was great! All in all the conference organizers did a great job.
rooms were way too cold, air conditioning was really horrible too many panels, it happened that I attended panels with 5 persons (3 presentators included) ...this is frustrating!
There were too many no show presentations, and it would be better if the conference or at least the chair of the panel would know at least a bit earlier than the presentation time.
A-V problem was that Windows were supported but not Mac devices for projectors. In future conferences, both types of connectors should be available.
It may be worth considering to record no shows of panelists and panel chairs (!). In my view this was a severe problem throughout the conference.
The Executive Board of the ICA should refrain from seeking to set artificial, self-righteous, and uninformed standards for site selection. [This relates to the early discussions about the viability of Singapore and the recent discussions of Phoenix.] The majority of the Board seems to have pre-conceived North American values of what a community/country is. They appear to be unaware that the U.S. seldom makes it into the top 20 countries for freedom of the press - when international standards are applied. Shallow, hollow preconceptions should have no place in what is supposed to be an "international" professional organization. Singapore Rocks!
Francois Cooren & Peng Ang did a great job!
It would be nice if the venue had wifi access all throughout (not available through select computer terminals). Additionally, opportunities of gathering for those looking to network for research or employment opportunities would be useful.
The Internet connection at the conference site (SUNTEC) was very disappointing. For a technologically advanced country like Singapore, I was amazed that there was no WIFI for personal computers and the official computers were terribly slow!
I thought that the communication for the pre conferences was poor.
The organization of poster section was very very bad. not enough facilities and very small space. it is not worthy i had spend much time and money to prepare my poster. overall, the organizers of this poster section is totally irresponsible.