

The International School for Young Astronomers has organised since its creation in 1967, 42 schools in 27 countries. We collect a feedback report from the attending alumni right after the school, and also 5 years afterwards.

In 2015 the ISYA was held in Honduras. The school enrolled 30 students. A 5-year feedback questionnaire was launched at the end of 2020 and half of the students replied to it. Although none of them are IAU members yet, 6 are undertaking a PhD degree and 3 have completed a master thesis. Those nine students are active researchers with ORCID numbers, working on topics like, astronomical instrumentation, stellar evolution, exoplanets, cosmology, computational astrophysics and outreach. While most of the students are located in their home countries, several are studying abroad in countries such as Belgium, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, and United States.

When asked “What do you value the most from the ISYA experience?” the answers included:

- To build a network of students and astronomers from Latin America.
- To better understand the different research areas of astronomy.
- Confidence to apply to other programmes and get an extra good mark in my CV.
- Added valuable knowledge that allowed me to carry out research in my country.
- Inspiration to pursue a career in astronomy.

## 5.4

### The International School for Young Astronomers: call for feedback reports

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Networking - Response distribution (%)	Yes	No
I remain in contact with some fellow ISYA alumni, other than those at my own country	100%	0%
I remain in contact with some ISYA directors	30.8%	69.2%
I remain in contact with some ISYA lecturers	46.2%	53.8%
I found a tutor/mentor among the lecturers at ISYA	8.3%	91.7%
I started collaborations with other alumni from the ISYA I attended	16.7%	83.3%
I started collaborations with some lecturers from the ISYA I attended	16.7%	83.3%
I have received announcements on education/training opportunities from ISYA directors or lecturers	80%	20%
I would like to remain or be added to the ISYA e-mail distribution list for announcements on studentships and specialized schools	85.7%	14.3%
I feel I can contact former lecturers or ISYA directors to ask for career guidance/reference/mentoring, if ever need it	71.4%	28.6%

# 5 IAU Offices

We present three tables which summarise the results. We would like to highlight that the vast majority of the students who participated in the feedback report remain in contact with their peers, intend to undertake a PhD and do research in astronomy and feel that the ISYA improved their knowledge of astronomy and also computer science. The programme for this cohort was, therefore, highly successful.

We are now launching a general survey to all alumni from generations 1967–2014, through a web-based platform. If you are an alumnus/a, please contribute at <https://nettskjema.no/a/isya> and invite others to do so as well.

Aim - Response distribution (%)	Yes	No
Complete a graduate program (PhD)	81.8%	18.2%
Find a postdoc position or another temporary training job	77.8%	22.2%
Find a technical assistant job in a laboratory or observatory	63.6%	36.4%
Find a research/teaching position (tenured or tenure track) in a university or observatory	88.9%	11.1%
Find a job in a primary/secondary/pre-university school	25%	75%
Find a job in outreach	50%	50%
Find an administrative/policy making job in the government	22.2%	77.8%
Find a job in the industry	33.3%	66.7%
Create my own company	25%	75%

Impact - Response distribution (%)	1	2	3	4	5
Through the ISYA I acquired a broader view of current astronomy topics	6.7%	0%	6.7%	33.3%	53.3%
Through the ISYA I acquired a broader view of current astronomy methods	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%	26.7%	53.3%
The ISYA helped me to better identify and understand my interests in astronomy	0%	20%	0%	13.3%	66.7%
The ISYA contributed to strengthen my research and education in astronomy	0%	13.3%	13.3%	6.7%	66.7%
The ISYA helped me to strengthen and develop an outreach career in astronomy	7.1%	7.1%	21.4%	14.3%	50%
Attending the ISYA helped me having access to a graduate school	13.3%	6.7%	33.3%	26.7%	20%
Attending the ISYA helped me having access to a scholarship/fellowship	13.3%	6.7%	33.3%	26.7%	20%
Attending the ISYA helped me to improve my software and computational skills	6.7%	6.7%	20%	53.3%	13.3%

1 (strongly disagree), 2 (I somewhat disagree), 3 (I do not agree nor disagree), 4 (somewhat agree), 5 (strongly agree)