

**AI, DATA SCIENCE: SKEMA Business School Launches
its Global Augmented Intelligence Laboratory in Montreal**

MONTREAL, September 10, 2019 – International Business School SKEMA announced today at a press conference that Montreal was chosen as the location for its new AI Laboratory, the SKEMA Global Lab in AI. Because AI gives rise to a significant transformation of society and businesses with new technologies, SKEMA, which trains and educates tomorrow's leaders and managers on a new global model, wants to prepare students for these changes and opportunities.

The growth of Artificial Intelligence would create 58 million new jobs in the coming years according to the *World Economic Forum* (WEF). With the technological developments we are experiencing, SKEMA has undertaken a strategic shift towards Data Science and AI to better meet the companies' needs in terms of growth and train its students in new skills and professions.

SKEMA will develop both its research and the AI platform created in Montreal on its other campuses in Africa, the United States, Brazil, China and France, making it the first laboratory to develop AI practices and tools worldwide.

Shape the next generation of managers

Thanks to the SKEMA Global Lab in AI, the Business School provides its students with a toolkit, new knowledge and skills that will enable them to lead 21st century companies and access new jobs. SKEMA's new training and career paths will allow students to understand and develop management projects that are strongly involved in AI, find new business solutions for companies, as well as new sources of more sustainable performance.

A Professor of Data Science applied to companies, and the creator of an international data visualization platform in Montreal (Mondo International), Thierry Warin joined SKEMA earlier this year to create and manage the Laboratory. "The SKEMA Global Lab in AI will help shape a new generation of managers ready to lead today and tomorrow's companies with tools and analytical thinking that meet the challenges of our society," he says.

The Laboratory's methodological approach is multidisciplinary in nature. The objective is to cross-reference the new methodologies of Data Sciences with the academic fields of Management Sciences in order to meet the challenges of our societies.

"It will be a unique Laboratory on several levels: its international nature from the start, its cutting-edge methods between Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, and its fields of study that include finance, international business, and strategy. With this global research laboratory in augmented intelligence, we are giving ourselves a head start on what comes after fundamental research in Artificial Intelligence," says Thierry Warin.



A state-of-the-art research centre based on the SKEMA Quantum Studio platform

With an initial budget of nearly CAN\$5 million, the Laboratory will act as an accelerator in research and in the digital transformation of teaching through the use of a state-of-the-art platform, called SKEMA Quantum Studio.

Thanks to this unique platform, students and professors will have access to one of the most powerful analytical tools in higher education institutions. Using Data Science and Artificial Intelligence within the platform, new theories, methods and concepts will be developed in order to study globalization, innovation and digital transformation.

SKEMA is building a strong network around AI in Montreal

Today, Montreal ranks second in the world in Artificial Intelligence research. That's why SKEMA chose Montreal to launch its new Global Lab in AI.

"Being in Montreal, SKEMA asserts its position in a knowledge-driven economy to become one of the very first laboratories in the world to create and apply AI methods and tools for the benefit of companies and students around the world," said Alice Guilhon, Managing Director and Dean of SKEMA Business School.

SKEMA will be an integral part of Montreal's flourishing ecosystem by building a network around AI. The School therefore engages into a partnership with the Institute for Data Valorization (IVADO) to strengthen the network of the two organizations at the international level and to increase the number of students trained in Data Science and Augmented Intelligence. Underlining the importance of an ethical approach, SKEMA is also signing today the Montreal Declaration for Responsible Development of Artificial Intelligence and a research partnership agreement with the International Observatory on the Societal Impacts of AI and Digital Technologies. Finally, SKEMA has begun a collaboration with Bleu Blanc Tech to help Montreal-based companies access qualified people, particularly through internships.

Watch the video presenting the SKEMA Quantum Studio platform:

<https://youtu.be/fLc0V0ISVDc>

-30-

About SKEMA Business School

With 8,500 students of 120 nationalities and 45,000 graduates in 145 countries, SKEMA Business School is a higher education institution that, through research, 50 teaching programmes and its international multi-site structure, trains and educates the people needed by 21st century companies. The school is now located on 7 sites: 3 campuses in France (Lille, Sophia-Antipolis, Paris), 1 in China (Suzhou), 1 in the United States (Raleigh), 1 in Brazil (Belo Horizonte) and 1 in South Africa (Cape Town). SKEMA has triple accreditation from [EQUIS](#), [AACSB](#) and [AMBA](#). www.skema-bs.fr. Follow us on Twitter : [@SKEMA_BS](#)

Media contact : Raphaël Rochette

rrochette@zonefranche.ca

(514) 317 5715 poste 211

(514) 923 9092