



Graduate School USA



Association of Pacific
Islands Public Auditors

32nd Annual Conference Report



August 23 to September 3, 2021



Acting American Samoa Territorial Auditor, Tofa Sualauvi H. Su'a, delivers opening remarks to the APIPA 2021 conference.

I. Background

The Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors (APIPA) completed its 32nd annual conference from August 23 – September 3, 2021. American Samoa hosted the virtual conference. A welcoming ceremony, streamed live from the Governor’s Office in Pago Pago, included a choir performance and speeches from officials:

- Acting Governor of American Samoa, Talauega E. V. Ale, spoke to the importance of governance and transparency during the pandemic – and after.
- Representing the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs, Director of Technical Assistance Charlene Leizear added Interior’s welcome to the conference, pointing to the many time zones and governments represented by conference attendees and the need for continued focus on accountability across the region.
- American Samoa’s Acting Territorial Auditor Tofa Sualauvi H. Su’a welcomed attendees, stressing the unique nature of the conference, as well as the many opportunities it presents for professional growth. “Our accountability profession needs to maintain its core competence as we serve our public and serve our governments,” he said.

APIPA 2021 provided training for auditing and financial accountability officials. Participants were given the opportunity to receive up to 40 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) credits, required by government auditing standards for auditors to maintain their professional competency. Twenty-three (23) two-hour and four-hour courses were delivered during the conference as plenary sessions and in Audit and Finance tracks.

The conference was funded through the Office of Insular Affairs’ technical assistance program and provided by the Graduate School USA’s Pacific and Virgin Islands Training Initiatives (PITI-VITI).

II. Participants

Six hundred and eighty-eight (688) participants attended the 2021 APIPA conference, slightly fewer than the 699 participants who attended the 2020 APIPA Conference. Participation in recent years is shown in the table and graphic below, highlighting increased attendance for the virtual conferences from 2020-2021.

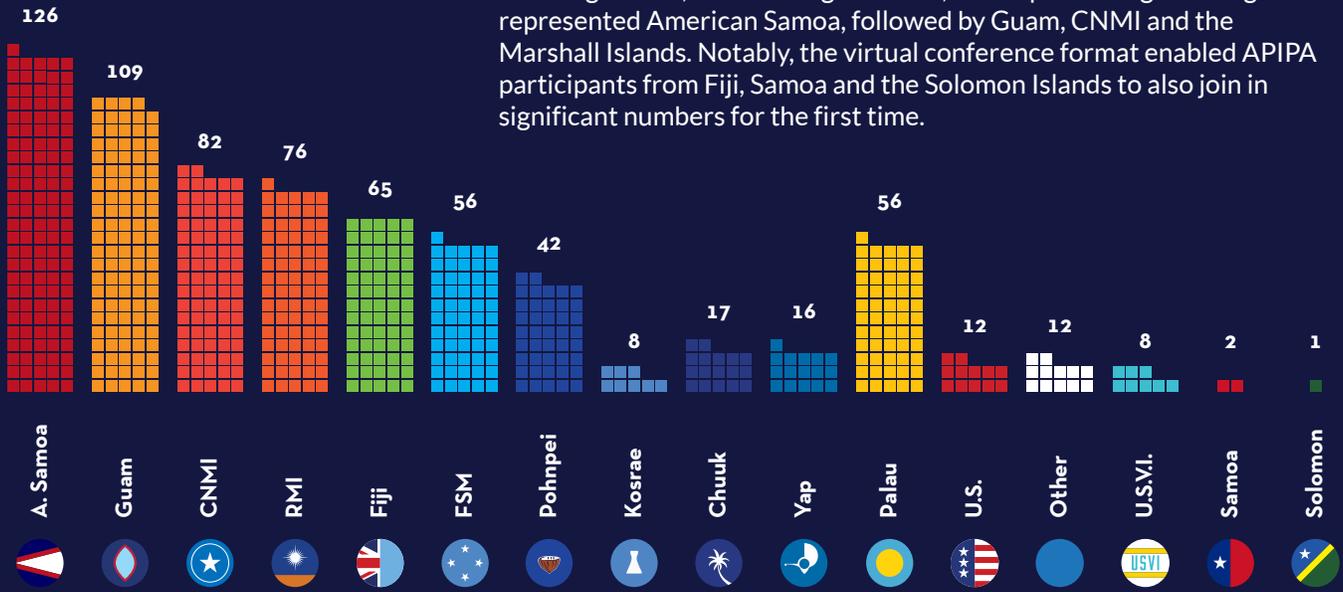
APIPA 2021 participants primarily represented the public sector, working either for central insular governments or state-owned enterprises. Only 12 percent of participants represented non-profits and private businesses.

| Year | Location | # of Participants |
|------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2004 | Majuro, RMI | -- |
| 2005 | Koror, Palau | -- |
| 2006 | Pohnpei, FSM National Office | -- |
| 2007 | American Samoa | 111 |
| 2008 | Saipan, CNMI | 200 |
| 2009 | Guam | 323 |
| 2010 | Pohnpei State, FSM | 337 |
| 2011 | Majuro, RMI | 299 |
| 2012 | Koror, Republic of Palau | 290 |
| 2013 | Saipan, CNMI | 277 |
| 2014 | American Samoa | 94 |
| 2015 | Guam | 339 |
| 2016 | Pohnpei State, FSM | 325 |
| 2017 | Majuro, RMI | 334 |
| 2018 | Koror, Republic of Palau | 337 |
| 2019 | Guam | 452 |
| 2020 | Virtual (CNMI) | 699 |
| 2021 | Virtual (American Samoa) | 688 |

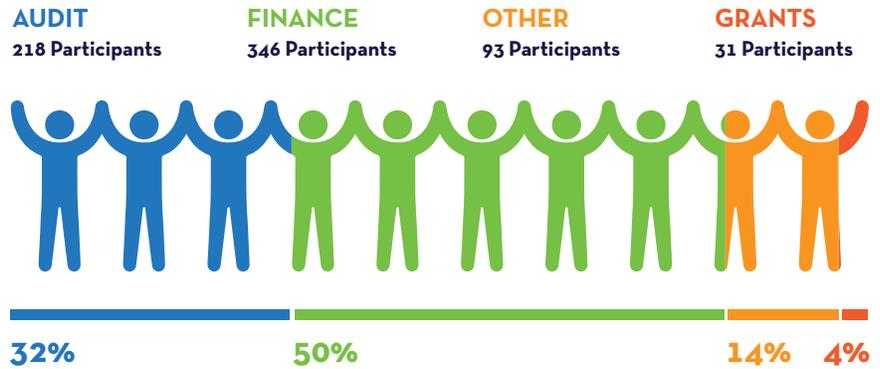


Note: Attendance in 2014 and 2007 was lower than other years primarily because most potential participants find it significantly more time consuming and expensive to travel to American Samoa compared to the other conference sites.

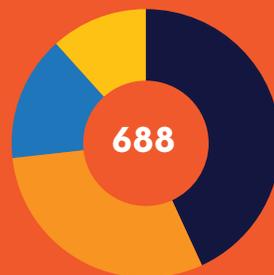
APIPA 2021 participants came from American Samoa, Chuuk, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Fiji, Guam, Kosrae, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, New Zealand, Palau, Pohnpei, Samoa, Washington DC, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Yap. The largest delegation represented American Samoa, followed by Guam, CNMI and the Marshall Islands. Notably, the virtual conference format enabled APIPA participants from Fiji, Samoa and the Solomon Islands to also join in significant numbers for the first time.



While 32 percent of participants came from audit offices, the remaining 68 percent represented finance offices, grants management offices, or other offices.



Based on survey data, 44 percent of APIPA 2021 participants indicated that this was their first APIPA conference, while an additional 30 percent of participants indicated this was their second or third conference. The high number of new participants confirms the need to continue to offer introductory courses on finance and audit topics. 15 percent of participants have attended 4-6 APIPA conferences, while 12 percent have attended 7 or more conferences.



- 44% **1st APIPA Conference Attended**
303 Participants
- 30% **2nd or 3rd APIPA Conference**
209 Participants
- 15% **4th, 5th or 6th APIPA Conference**
106 Participants
- 11% **7th (or more) APIPA Conferences**
82 Participants

III. Plenary Sessions and Keynote Instructors

Following welcoming remarks by Acting Governor of American Samoa, Talauega E. V. Ale, U.S. Department of the Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs Director of Technical Assistance, Charlene Leizear, and American Samoa’s Acting Territorial Auditor Tofa Sualauvi H. Su’a, APIPA participants attended a two-part opening plenary session.

Mr. Mark Funkhouser, the former City Auditor and Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, and publisher of *Governing* magazine, delivered an opening plenary session on “Government Finance and Audit in the New, New Normal.” Mr. Funkhouser highlighted several major challenges of the last decade, including the global pandemic, social protests, and economic distress. These challenges will have lasting implications, Mr. Funkhouser argued, especially on public sector service delivery. Following Mr. Funkhouser, Ms. Margie Bastolla discussed “Appreciative Leadership,” encouraging participants to use the tool of appreciation to build more satisfying relationships in the workplace.

The APIPA 2021 closing plenary featured recent audit findings and recommendations from island government audit offices, including ten reports ranging from COVID assistance to public utilities and from trust funds to passport issuance. Mr. Drummond Kahn facilitated the session, which highlighted:

- The Koror-Airai Sanitation Project (Palau Office of the Public Auditor)
- Coronavirus Relief Funds and Hotel Procurement (Guam Office of Public Accountability)
- The FSM Trust Fund; the Pacific Island Regional Oceanscape Program (PROP) (FSM Office of the Public Auditor)
- State Government Component Unit Audit & Investigation (Office of the Pohnpei State Auditor)
- Yap Health Services Collections (Office of the Yap State Public Auditor)
- RMI Passport Audit (RMI Office of the Auditor General)
- CNMI Government Vehicle Inventory Audit (CNMI Office of the Public Auditor)
- Fiji COVID Assistance (Fiji Office of the Public Auditor)

Following the plenary session, American Samoa closed APIPA 2021 from the Lee Auditorium in Pago Pago, with keynote addresses from the Acting Governor and the Acting Territorial Auditor. Over 120 local APIPA participants joined the closing ceremony.



IV. Instructors and Courses

Twelve instructors led training sessions throughout the week: Margie Bastolla, Michael Binder, Frank Crawford, Mark Funkhouser, Drummond Kahn, Kip Memmott, Christopher Pembroke, Skip Polson, Martin Ruben, David Rykken, Elizabeth Schubert, and Jeanne Yamamura. Twenty-three courses were provided during the conference in plenary sessions and in Audit and Finance training tracks. The instructors, course titles and number of participants attending each course are shown in the table below.



**Margie
P. Bastolla**



**Michael
Binder**



**Frank
Crawford, CPA**



**Mark
Funkhouser**



**Drummond
Kahn**



**Kip R.
Memmott**



**Chris
Pembroke**



**Skip
Polson**



**Martin
Ruben**



**David
Rykken**

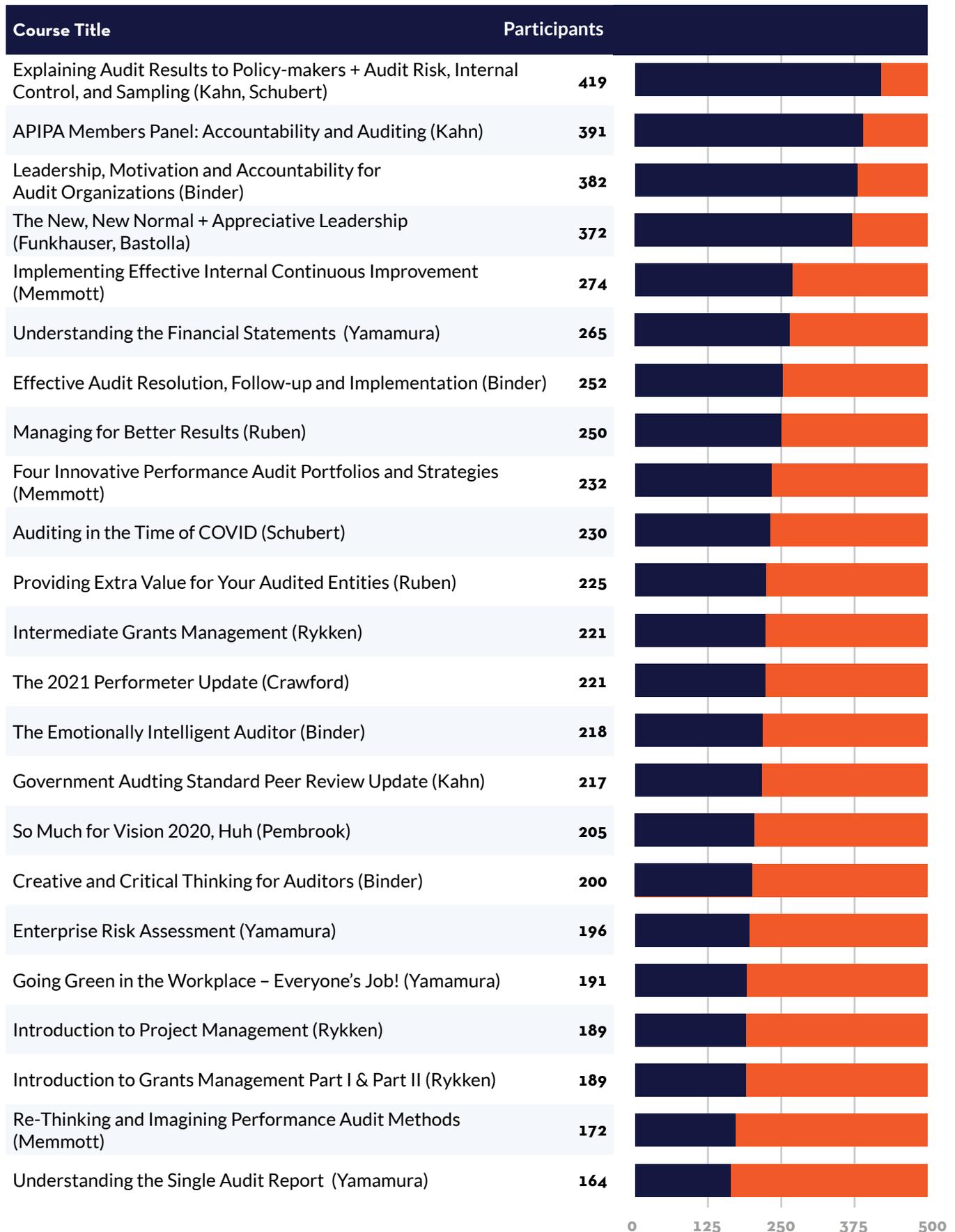


**Beth
Schubert**



**Jeanne Yamamura,
CPA, Ph.D.**

APIPA 2021 Participants by Course





5,675
course certificates
were awarded for



16,590
CPE
credit hours.

The 2021 APIPA Virtual Conference reflected consistently high attendance, with nearly 700 participants joining courses. During the sessions, participants expanded their skills in audit report writing, root cause analysis, grants management, leadership, internal controls, and quality assurance. In total, 5,675 course certificates were awarded for 16,590 CPE credit hours.

V. APIPA Executive Meeting

An APIPA Executive Meeting was held virtually on Friday, September 24, 2021. Attendees included all APIPA principals or their proxies and other contributing staff members from the various island public audit offices, and PITI-VITI Senior Program Manager Jason Aubuchon. Comprehensive minutes from the meeting will be made available through the APIPA Secretariat. Of note:

- Each of the APIPA Principals provided a brief update on recent activities with their offices.
- Jason Aubuchon provided an overview of the APIPA 2021 conference, sharing disaggregated participant information by government, sector, and frequency of attendance. Mr. Aubuchon also summarized the results of course evaluations and feedback received through the conference survey.
- Additional discussion topics included training plans for the remainder of this PITI-VITI program cycle, a review of the APIPA Peer Review schedule.



VI. Notes and Observations

The APIPA website (www.apipa2021.org) remains a key tool for planning, organizing and administering the conference, and was closely tied to PITI-VITI's Learning Management System. The APIPA website provided comprehensive background on courses, instructors, and schedules. Participants were able to complete all conference logistics tasks virtually – from registering and selecting classes, to obtaining course handouts and materials, to completing course evaluations and receiving course completion certificates.

The staff of the American Samoa Territorial Audit Office provided substantial support and logistics to the conference, including hosting the opening and closing plenary sessions, introducing speakers, and collaborating on conference topics and the schedule. Their efforts are greatly appreciated, as is the ongoing support of the U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, for funding the training element of the program via the Pacific and Virgin Islands Training Initiative (PITI-VITI).



VII. Course Evaluations

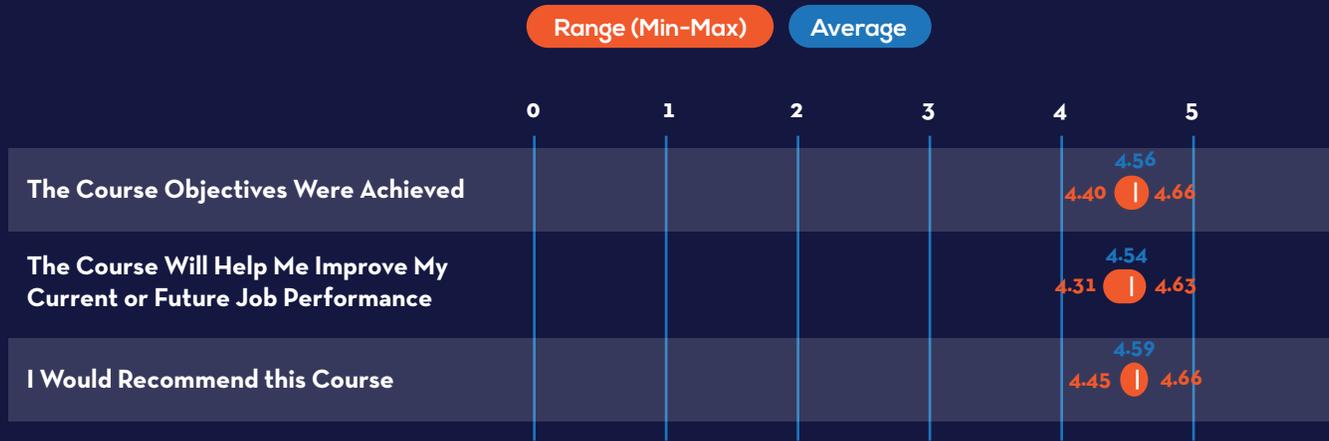
The Graduate School USA's PITI-VITI program conducts routine surveys and post-training evaluations to monitor and improve the overall quality of course delivery. Following each course, conference participants were asked to complete a course evaluation. Participants rated course content, the instructor, and their experience participating in a virtual conference. Participants were also asked to assess their knowledge of course materials before and after the course.

The APIPA Secretariat selected three representative questions to summarize course evaluations:

1. The course objectives were achieved.
2. The course will help me improve my current/future job performance.
3. I would recommend this course to others.

23 total courses were offered at APIPA 2021. On a scale of 1-5, with 1 representing "strongly disagree" and 5 representing "strongly agree", respondents rated the 2021 courses highly, ranging from 4.4 to 4.6, with an average of 4.6. Overall ratings were consistent with prior years, with vast majorities of participants recommending APIPA to colleagues and planning to attend future conferences.

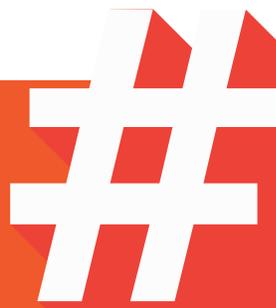
The course evaluations, as well as this conference report, will be shared with APIPA Principals and the APIPA 2022 Planning Committee to inform future conferences.



A breakdown of the individual course scores for each of the 23 courses delivered as part of the APIPA 2021 Conference can be found below.

| Course Title | Overall Rating | The Course Objectives were Achieved | The Course will Help My Performance | I Would Recommend this Course |
|--|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | - 1 2 3 4 5 | - 1 2 3 4 5 | - 1 2 3 4 5 | - 1 2 3 4 5 |
| The New, New Normal + Appreciative Leadership (Funkhauser, Bastolla) | 4.42 | 4.40 | 4.42 | 4.45 |
| Creative and Critical Thinking for Auditors (Binder) | 4.61 | 4.61 | 4.58 | 4.63 |
| Understanding the Single Audit Report (Yamamura) | 4.59 | 4.56 | 4.56 | 4.64 |
| Auditing in the Time of COVID (Schubert) | 4.59 | 4.60 | 4.56 | 4.61 |
| Understanding the Financial Statements (Yamamura) | 4.57 | 4.56 | 4.55 | 4.61 |
| Government Auditing Standards Peer Review Update (Kahn) | 4.58 | 4.58 | 4.56 | 4.59 |
| Introduction to Grants Management Part I & Part II (Rykken) | 4.56 | 4.52 | 4.55 | 4.59 |
| Implementing Effective Internal Continuous Improvement (Memcott) | 4.55 | 4.54 | 4.54 | 4.57 |

| | Overall Rating | The Course Objectives were Achieved | The Course will Help My Performance | I Would Recommend this Course |
|--|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | - 1 2 3 4 5 | - 1 2 3 4 5 | - 1 2 3 4 5 | - 1 2 3 4 5 |
| Effective Audit Resolution, Follow-up and Implementation (Binder) | 4.57 | 4.55 | 4.56 | 4.58 |
| The 2021 Performer Update (Crawford) | 4.52 | 4.56 | 4.43 | 4.58 |
| Re-Thinking and Imagining Performance Audit Methods (Memcott) | 4.42 | 4.45 | 4.31 | 4.49 |
| Explaining Audit Results + Audit Risk, Internal Control, and Sampling (Kahn, Schubert) | 4.57 | 4.58 | 4.55 | 4.59 |
| Leadership, Motivation and Accountability for Audit Organizations (Binder) | 4.62 | 4.60 | 4.63 | 4.63 |
| Providing Extra Value for Your Audited Entities (Ruben) | 4.53 | 4.53 | 4.52 | 4.53 |
| So Much for Vision 2020, Huh (Pembrook) | 4.54 | 4.55 | 4.51 | 4.57 |
| Enterprise Risk Assessment (Yamamura) | 4.58 | 4.56 | 4.56 | 4.60 |
| Managing for Better Results (Ruben) | 4.57 | 4.58 | 4.57 | 4.57 |
| Intermediate Grants Management (Rykken) | 4.60 | 4.59 | 4.57 | 4.66 |
| Going Green in the Workplace – Everyone’s Job! (Yamamura) | 4.62 | 4.66 | 4.58 | 4.63 |
| The Emotionally Intelligent Auditor (Binder) | 4.63 | 4.63 | 4.60 | 4.65 |
| Introduction to Project Management (Rykken) | 4.61 | 4.60 | 4.60 | 4.64 |
| Four Innovative Performance Audit Portfolios and Strategies (Memcott) | 4.54 | 4.53 | 4.53 | 4.56 |
| APIPA Members Panel: Accountability and Auditing (Kahn) | 4.59 | 4.60 | 4.57 | 4.60 |



#APIPA2021

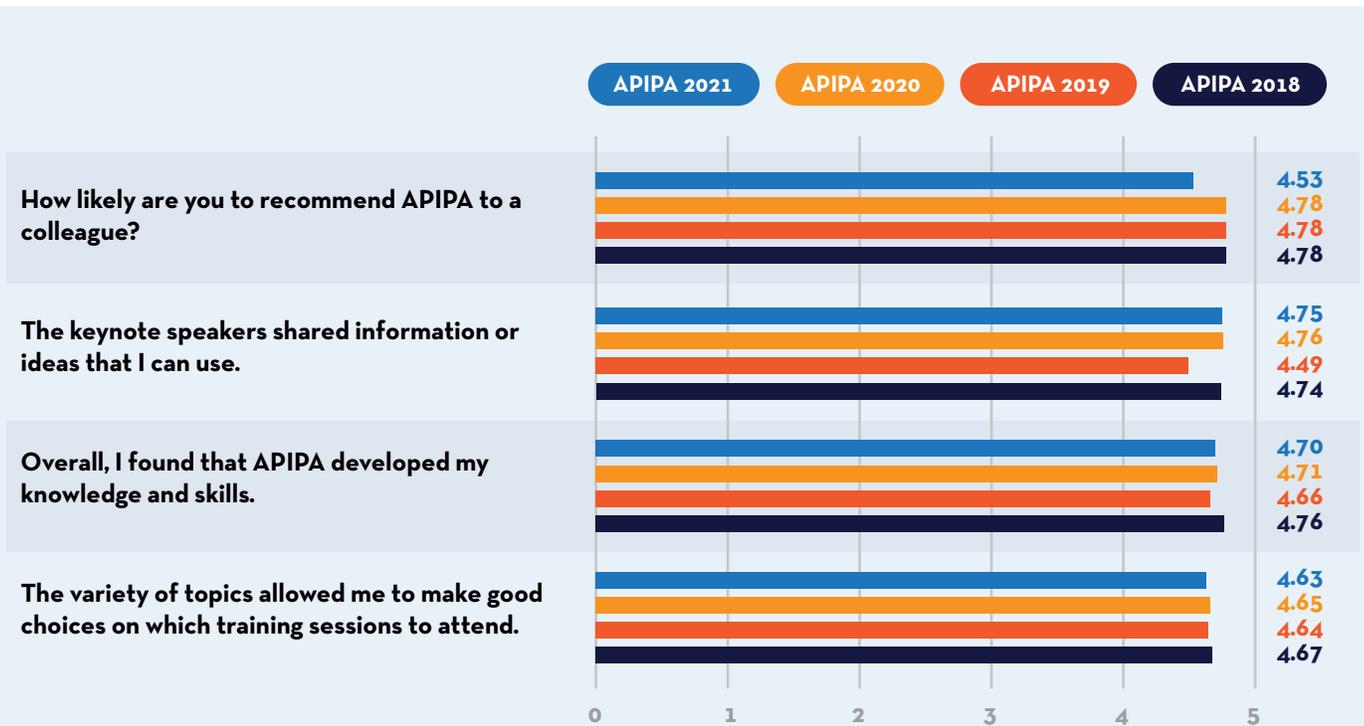
APIPA 2021 participants used the hashtag #apipa2021 to post photos and share stories from the virtual conference. The photos throughout this report reflect their shared posts.



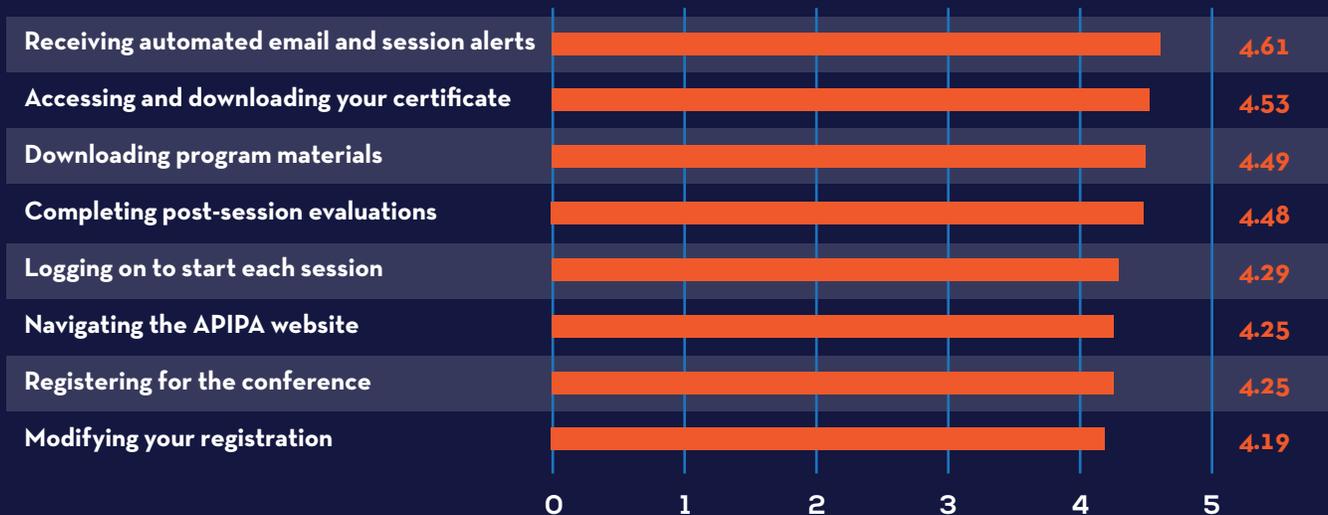
VIII. Survey Results

Following the 2021 APIPA Conference, participants were invited to complete an optional electronic survey to provide feedback on the APIPA Conference as a whole. 390 participants completed the survey, for a response rate of 57 percent. The survey was distributed electronically and geographical survey participation was consistent with overall conference registration numbers.

Participants were asked to answer a series of conference-related questions on a scale of 1-5, with 1 indicating strong disagreement, and a 5 indicating strong agreement. Four representative questions, and their comparative answers from previous APIPA Conferences, are listed below.



In addition, participants were asked to rate their experience registering for the conference via the APIPA 2021 website, and utilizing the PITI-VITI Learning Management System which supported the conference.



Finally, participants were asked to provide comments and feedback to improve future APIPA conferences. These comments have been organized thematically below.

Positive Feedback

Great Conference thoroughly enjoyed the courses and topics covered.

Great presentation - Thanks to the organizer/committee. The closing remarks/messages was also moving.

It was great, thank you for the experience and look forward to future sessions.

I would like to sincerely thank the APIPA Secretariat, the Graduate School USA and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs. Thank you so much for the APIPA Conference.

It was overall a great fruitful conference. Looking forward to more trainings in future.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the US Graduate School, PITI-VITI, USDOJ-OIG for their support and assistance to make this 2021 APIPA virtual conference a very information and successful conference.

Thank you all for making this a reality, especially making sure that we have access to all this excellent information and sessions to better serve our governments or employers. Keep up the excellent work.

I learned many things from the APIPA training. Thank you so much for this great opportunity.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this conference. Much appreciated and looking forward to future engagements with APIPA.

I am so appreciative of the wealth of knowledge that I had gained from participating in this conference. I look forward for next year's APIPA Conference.

Thanks for the chance to attend such an online friendly session together with the CPE hours that comes with it.

The trainings were amazing and very helpful. Gave really good insight to help us with auditing and what to do to prepare ourselves for audit and save time in the future.

It would be nice to have another conference like this again.

I have enjoyed the conference and of course, since this is an annual event, I'm always looking forward on some additional points and materials per every courses. Thank you APIPA to this wonderful opportunity and hopefully in 2022, we will all be seeing each other face to face attending these classes and sharing knowledge and expertise in our each jurisdictions.

Thank you for the knowledge shared!

This was my first time attending any APIPA Conferences/Courses. And I must say I have learnt so much. My only wish is that there was more time between the courses. I am not an Auditor, but I do work in our Government's Finance Department of Treasury as a staff accountant. The courses I've attended in the past two weeks with APIPA has added more understanding that will help me with work. Thank again and hope I will get the opportunity to attend more future APIPA courses.

The only feedback that I have is that I enjoyed every single session. I learned a lot and was very open minded to most topics that was discussed.

So far, this APIPA course has been a great opportunity for some of us.

Keep up the great work APIPA!!!

Great Conference, good job everyone. Hopefully we can be in person next year!

None. It was my first APIPA conference, very well coordinated as a virtual meeting

Thank you APIPA 2021 ! Job well done ! Hope to see everyone's faces in APIPA 2022 :)

Great work, APIPA Coordinators!! Thank you DOI-OIA for funding all the APIPAs

I think the APIPA conference is improved.

Secretariat thank you for your hard work, you did an excellent job for the conference 2021. From us here in RMI everything was on time to start.

Overall, a great conference during these challenging times. Thank you to all who made this conference a great success!

The 2021 APIPA was very well organized and conducted and provided a lot of very useful information. Look forward to future conferences face to face when possible.

Thank you so much for a wonderful and hectic 2 weeks of APIPA. great time of learning and networking (virtually).

Big Thank you to all the instructors, APIPA principals, the graduate's School/PITIVITI, and the US government for providing us this great platform of learning opportunity!

I find this conference training very helpful and challenging

Overall, this APIPA conference was EXCELLENT. Thank you for the opportunity.

Great Conference. Keep up the good work

This is my first APIPA conference and I had fun learning new skills. thank you.

Thanks to all the participant and the host the American Samoa, komoltata!! for the 2021 APIPA Conference. As a first attendant, the two weeks training was fantastic. I really enjoyed listening and learning from all participant across the Pacific and the instructors and the Graduation Students Big Komoltata.

The conference is perfect.

Overall, the delivering of topics by the instructors and hosts were effective and efficient and conducive to learning.

Great presentations and Host. Love seeing and interacting with other Regions.

I could only say Keep up the great service and work. Thank you!

Just wanted to thank Chairman Sua from American Samoa for inviting me to take part in this year's APIPA Conference. APIPA keep up the awesome work that you provide during the Conferences and a great big Fa'amalo lava to the Secretariat and everyone involved in making these Conferences possible. Fa'afetai, Fa'afetai, Fa'afetai tele lava!!

There are no comments from my side, just want to thank APIPA for giving me the opportunity to learn new field of learnings.

Thank you. I may not have full understanding of the classes, but I have learned the basics and general ideas. I wish to take the same classes again next year.

Thank you for this year sessions it is very challenging and motivated

Instructors and Course Content

I would like to thank all the Course Instructors for a well informed and efficient presentation delivered to us the participants. Really learned a lot and grasped so many concepts that I can apply at work. I'm also not forgetting those from the Graduate school for the administration support throughout the conference. Thank you!

So far so good and my hats off to the instructors and those who made it possible for us. Thank you!

Some courses that were offered have been offered previously.

A few of the instructors are relatively new to teaching. We want to see quality in their teaching.

If more activities could be used so participants could participate but overall this APIPA has helped me learn a lot.

I find that if presentations are too lengthy, participants tend to lose focus.

All the materials are very informative and will be used as guidance and references.

The conference with the instructors were very professional in conducting the courses. Just the last part on the presentations which it wasn't very clear, maybe the set up of the microphones or something else but everything was perfect...Thank You!

I like the presentation of different types of audits, why don't we also have like a collaboration on the same type of audit through the pacific, for meetings of the minds through the pacific islands that are under OIT.

Some of us trainers are physical and visual learners. So there are times that will be difficult to get in contact with zooming sessions. Plus emailing the person in charge of signing in took a long time to respond to our email.

I did not like the breakout rooms. there was no proctor and made the waiting time to begin seem longer.

Some of the sessions did not give an opportunity for interactive participation between the presenter and the audience. Also, chat messages among participants during plenary presentations are distracting. If plenary discussions are meant to be interactive, that should be decided upon beforehand and disclosed in the course descriptions per session.

Sharing of audit works with the OPAs is the most interesting part of the conference by learning and identifying the challenges of the offices and how they go through with realizing the somehow we are all experiencing the same.

Job well done to all instructors, materials and sessions were all well organized and well taught. BRAVO!

I learned a lot from the conference and only suggestions is including above topics in the future conferences

Change up the courses. They're basically the same, year after year after year.

The APIPA overall was very well executed and organized. I would like to suggest however, there should be more group exercises/discussion where we participants are separated into groups.

All session was well presented and It was interested as this is my 1st time. Hopefully I will gain much more understanding if this will do again in the near future.

I think the conference was a success overall. There are minor areas, such as the availability of presentations during some of the courses, that may need to improve but overall, it was a job well done by the APIPA Secretary, all the presenters and the APIPA support staff.

Everything was well organized and pretty well said by the Instructors that taught the courses I took.

Some trainings are more targeted towards the management level but in my country hardly any management staff attend. To make a difference in the organization top management involvement is crucial, while they already have the knowledge of the content of the course a refresher or attending the course again is a very good reminder to be able to steer an organization in the right direction. I would appreciate if the top management courses can be listed in an electronic invitation letter and all the pacific Auditor General offices top management invited to attend the courses. We at lower levels are not able to make much impact and the generation gap does not seem to be minimizing.

This was my first conference and I had a lot of fun interacting with everyone and the instructor.

I think the APIPA program was a great a experience for me. Although it would have been better to have more time to go through the slides instead of skimming or skipping through. I say this because I think that every information is important and some of the participants are not familiar with audits.

Course Duration, Breaks and Timing

Like the breakout of 2 hours with the one hour break. However doing this over 2 weeks rather long. Don't need to have all the 40 hours of CPEs done at one time. Many are getting CPEs throughout the year.

My suggestions to improve future conferences is to extend the days and time, if we can have uniform during the conferences would be nice. Everything else is great about the APIPA Conference.

Need to hold future conference more often to improve service and skills in finance report.

If time could be increased from 2 to 3 hours for 2 hour sessions as some instructors had to skip some topics due to time limited time.

I'd appreciate it if the presenters stayed within their time limits. My colleagues and I rushed through lunch as it was often cut short by presenters going over time.

Brilliant idea to have an hour break between 2-hr sessions...

Giving a little bit more time per courses to help with auditing and finance.

The APIPA was very improve however, what I am suggesting that the virtual zoom should have take 3 weeks most. Komoltata.

Materials presented during this years APIPA was to voluminous for the time allotted

Two hours is not enough time for the instructors as most of them had to rush their presentations. I prefer the fours hours of presentation, like last year.

The duration of the course was too long for me

Some of the sessions had heavy content and was hard to absorb and it felt like we were missing out on contents that were being skipped over.

If the schedule of the courses are available perhaps 1 month prior to the actual conference dates is better so we can plan ahead. thank you.

System and Connectivity Issues

Appreciate the conferences available and via Zoom method making it easy for those that can't attend physically. No other improvements just continue the great work that you all do and the courses offered. They are very impactful both with information and the Instructors who Present. Love them.

Having the APIPA 2021 Conference available via Zoom was great. More from our Island were able to make it.

In one of the courses, I had been logged out due to unstable connectivity issues. Later on, I was not able to join the meeting as the course was at its full capacity of participants. Hence, I had to wait for a while before I could be allowed in the meeting.

I would really appreciate if APIPA make it easier on registering to classes or maybe more specific on what we should do to improve way of registration.

I had a difficult time trying to cancel some of my courses when I took ill after the 3rd day

Whoever gets the part to speak on a subject make sure there bandwidth is sufficient to avoid freezing or lagging

To have easy access in registering to certain course.

Received about a third of the email reminders regarding starting times for sessions. Once logged in to site seems redundant to enter user name and password again to complete evaluations.

Registration was completed a few weeks before the start of APIPA. However, on the first day of the conference, upon clicking on the link provided in the email received, I was brought to a page that asked me to register for APIPA. I had to re-register in order to be able to get into the course. Also, the courses offered had too much material to go over within a short period of time. I think instructors should select key topics for the subject to be presented instead of a wide variety of topics for the specific subject.

I was disappointed I missed the Zoom practice sessions, because for some reason I didn't get a reminder. I would like the option to view the recording of the sessions I partially attended, just for the information. My issues with completing the evaluations were technological glitches, and Monique was very responsive to my inquiries.

Opening presentations made by the hosts were inconsistent - specifically the request to change the Zoom screen name for each class. It would alternate between first and last name, and registration - first name. Additionally, it was strange to log in through the APIPA website first and then have to log in again to the PITI-VITI website to complete the sign-in and the evaluation. Lastly, it seems like the hosts were not very good at raising questions in the chat to the attention of the instructor. It was a little frustrating to see people who would ask questions in the chat, but would ultimately be ignored. Some instructors were good at monitoring the chat for questions, but it would've been better for the host to be more involved in that process as was promised at the start of each course.

I really enjoyed the virtual workshops, however i had faced alot of internet connection due to my network provider, hence missed on certain days, so will be switching to a more stable connection next time :)

We love and willing to attend the conference but our sites have internet connection problem.

Unclear schedule due to different time zone

The only issue I had with the conference was in terms of the schedule of classes, I wasn't able to get the email reminders daily to get into the classes more easily

Please fix the website, login, and general ease of use because it was very frustrating navigating through the website when things could have been more streamlined.

The sign in process to login to zoom and complete the evaluations were often frustrating as I had to log in several times in a row just to finally access what I needed.

Having virtual APIPA is more effective than in person.

I wish to recommend that we still stay on with the virtual conference even though the travel restriction is lifted.

Would appreciate having the zoom sessions opened earlier. It took a long time for the host to let everyone in so although you logged in 20-30 minutes early, you were still late. Thank you.

I think you should consider posting the recordings so that folks can go back to the recording as a memory jogger, ie, with regard to GASB Leases

COVID Impact on Learning

Virtual has conquered the world like covid-19. It has a positive impact to improve the lives of individuals unlike covid. Good Job PITI-VITI and thank you for all you do and keep safe!

It was a great conference, If only COVID didn't happened I am sure it would have been a more fun and good experience. However, I am just so happy and glad to have joined and able to learn and hopefully apply what I have learned here at my work too. Thank you to all the instructors and everyone that have put together this conference. Thanks for having me. Hope to see you all again next year. Take Care, stay safe.

Overall it was okay. Prefer face to face conference for better learning. Questions can be answered and get good feedback.

I hope next year it will possible to organize a live event.

The next one should be a face to face training.

It was fun attending the APIPA virtually but I believe it will be more fun when we all are in the same room. I can not wait to meet everyone and learn more on the up-coming APIPA.

Everything were effective and helpful and hopefully next time we will be able to do face to face. Thank you!

I would love to attend the next conference in-person so here's to hoping for a better year next year!

Can't wait to do in person APIPA on another island besides here.

no comments, hoping this conference will return to its normal setting next year for an effective learning and instructions.

face to face next time in person.

Hope this COVID will end.

I hope that COVID will be gone next year so that we can all meet together in person.

My only sincerely suggestions is; "See you all in person other than virtual" in addition, APIPA should considered the essential and are needed to have a pass clearance even we are dealing with C19. Overall all class sessions are most helpful. KOMOLTATA APIPA's friends





APIPA 2021 Conference Report

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