



### ***Dear Readers:***

Welcome to the Fall 2022 Issue of the ICUAS Association Newsletter. This is the last Newsletter issue as we move to an *eMagazine*, effective January 2023. To begin with, the *eMagazine* will be a quarterly publication (four issues per year) with the aim to eventually publish it bimonthly (six issues per year). The main new feature of the *eMagazine* is that it will include submitted and reviewed articles. We are confident that the *eMagazine* will be useful to our readers, conference participants, the technical society and aviation industry, as well as to end-users and practitioners.

In this issue, it is our great pleasure to present the results of the survey that took place during the period June 28 to August 18, 2022, with focus on the annual conference. The survey questions were created by Dr. Nikos Vitzilaios, University of South Carolina. Nikos was also responsible for studying and analyzing the results, which are shown below.

### **UPDATE ON ICUAS 2023**

ICUAS 2023 is on a roll. We have received techni-

cal co-sponsorship from IEEE CSS and RAS, we have received the Letter of Acquisition (LOA) for the proceedings to be acquired by CSS and appear on IEEE Xplore. Moreover, we have secured collaboration with four major hotels in Warsaw, which have provided special rates for conference attendees. We also plan on having four keynote addresses during the conference. For all recent updates and details, including how to travel to Warsaw and for Tourist Information, see the conference web, [www.uasconferences.com](http://www.uasconferences.com).

### **SURVEY**

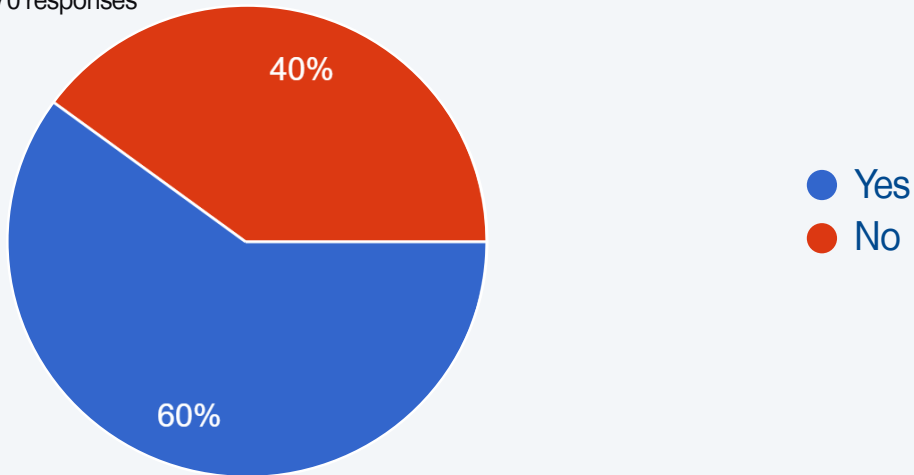
As previously stated, to better serve you and to better organize our annual conference, we have asked for your opinion and feedback about ICUAS. In what follows, we provide your responses and comments. We are pleased that, overall, you have a very positive opinion about ICUAS, and we are committed to capitalize on our experience and rectify any wrongdoing. After all, the objective is to serve you, the participants and registrars, and our technical society.

### SURVEY INFORMATION

- ONLINE SURVEY FROM JUNE 28 – AUGUST 18, 2022
- 13 QUESTIONS IN TOTAL
  - | 9 questions with specific pre-set answer options (answer required)
  - | 2 open-ended questions to provide comments (answer optional)
  - | 2 questions to fill name and email (answer optional)
- RECEIVED 70 RESPONSES
  - | 53 anonymous responses
  - | 24 provided comments

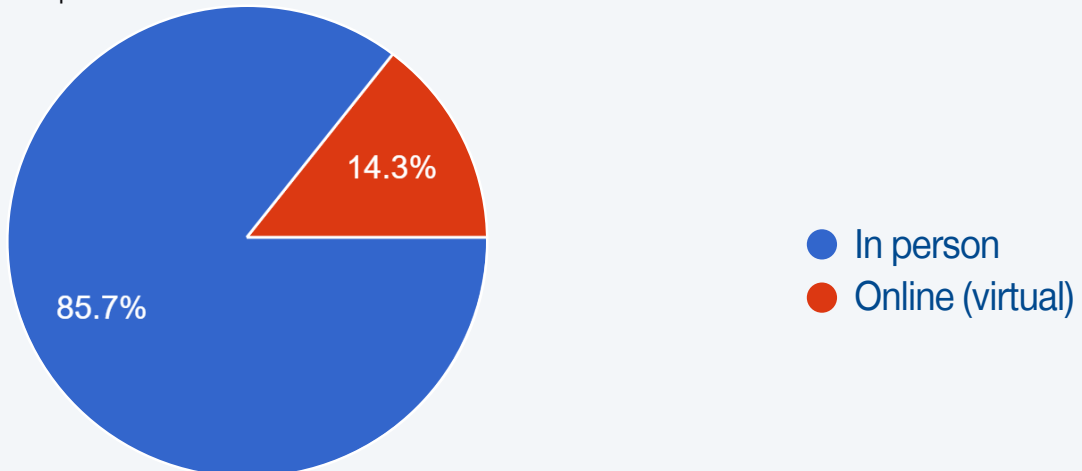
#### Is this the first time you attend the ICUAS conference?

70 responses



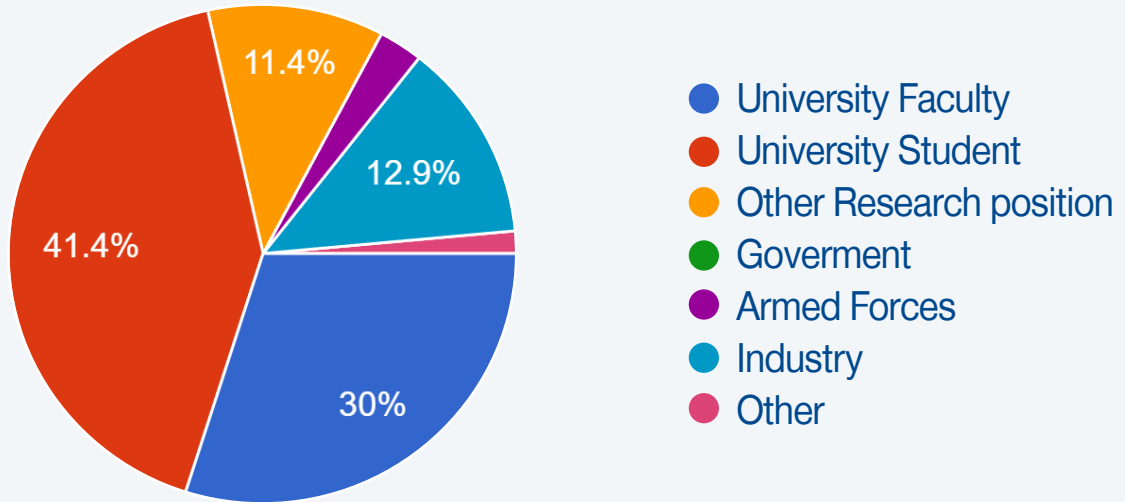
#### How did you attend ICUAS 2022?

70 responses



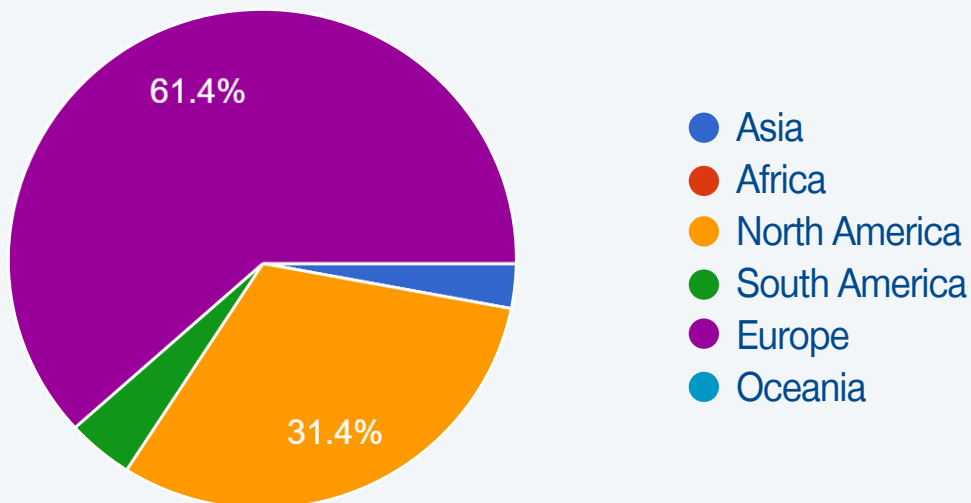
### Job Focus

70 responses

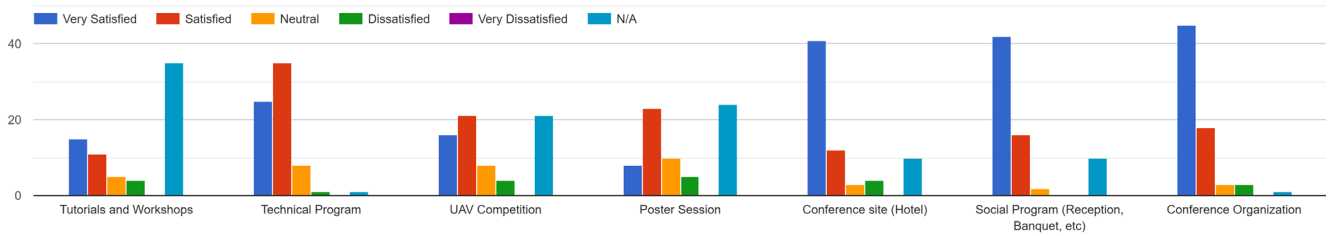


### Affiliation Location

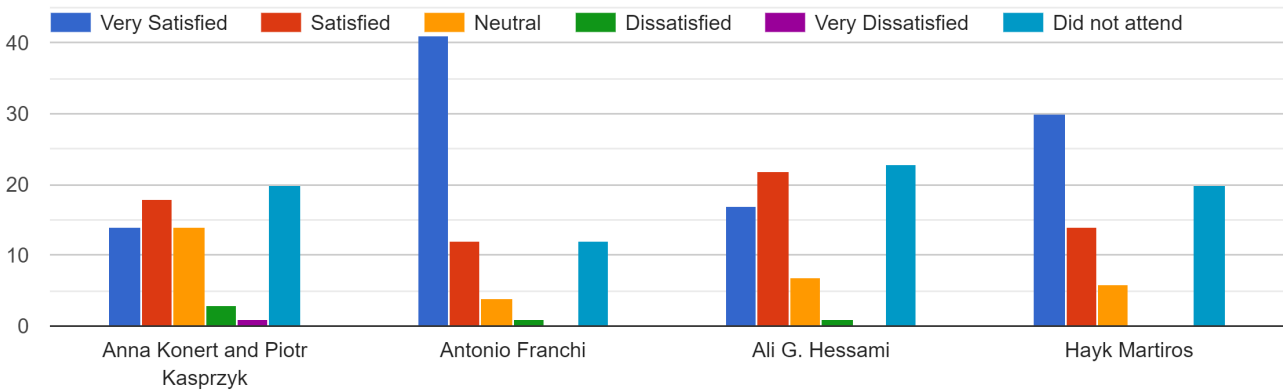
70 responses



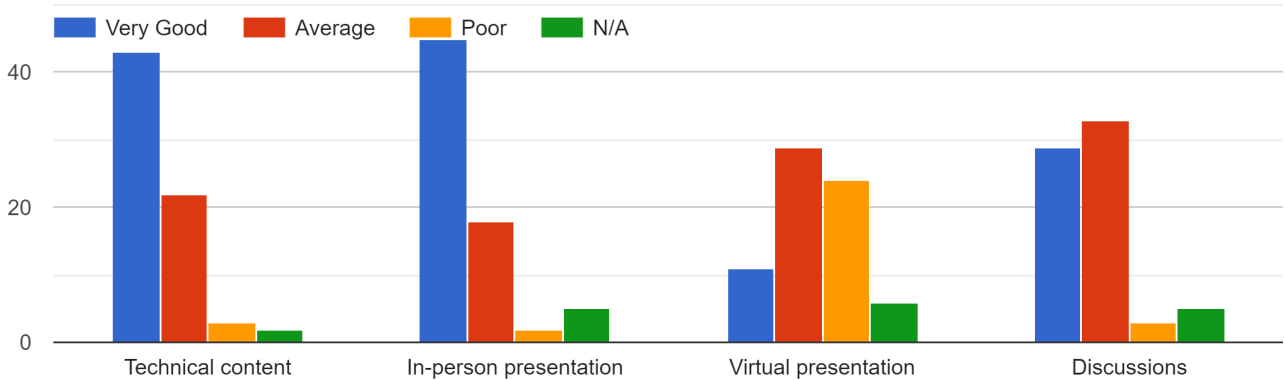
## How satisfied were you with:



## Plenary Lectures



## What is your opinion about the presented papers?



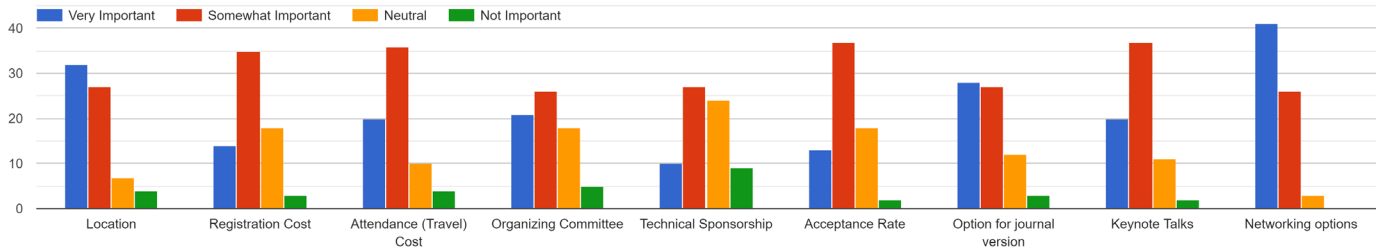
## Provide any comments you would like to share about ICUAS 2022

- Absolutely wonderful experience
- Excellent organization, perfect place. I will remember this conference for years!
- The evening events should have been better announced and informed about. For first-time attendants, it was hard to know if there would be food and/or drinks at the welcome reception and young professionals meetup. The drone competition was a very good idea, but was not appealing to spectators. The rules and current standings should have been displayed on posters / live scoreboard in the room to be more attractive.
- Virtual presentation support needs to be better organized. Technical difficulties effectively made some presentations impossible to follow (no/low audio, missing chat window visibility, etc.)
- I feel like information about social activities came late/ not easy to find or know about!
- It was difficult to hear the virtual presentations from the rooms that did not have a pair of speakers connected to the PC. It would also be good to leave a couple of minutes between presentations so that the attendees would had enough time to move to other rooms without interruption.
- I think some of the accepted papers should not be accepted. I saw some poor papers.
- The conference was well organized!
- Please make water and ideally also coffee available at all times, not just during coffee breaks.
- Please make sure the online session is properly accessible from the onsite people. Most of the time it was not possible to hear and interact with the online participants. A solution could be to get rid of the online option, actually :)
- Thank you for putting on a great conference.
- Missing refreshment during the day. At least water would be nice available during the whole day. Also, please make sure to have at least water available during the lunch!
- I joined for the workshops session on Tuesday and the workshops I had signed up for were canceled due to low participation. This is ok and I understand it can happen, but this should have been communicated few days in advance, so that people could organize their travel schedule and potentially join one day later. It was not nice to arrive there and discover on the same day that my workshops were canceled.
- The chairs could motivate more questions and discussions during presentation.
- The events outside of the technical proceedings could have been communicated better beforehand, such as being included in the conference handout. The virtual presenta-

tions were not fulfilling primarily because the rooms were not well equipped with sound systems that allowed me to properly hear the conversations.

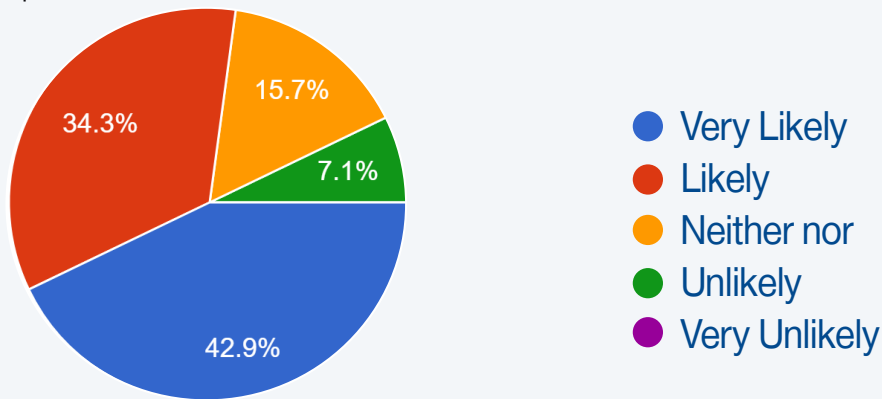
- Please provide certificate of presentation for the presenter
- Posters could be presented during the coffee break for having more people!
- As a session chair, I had the opportunity to read the papers in my session. I found that two of the papers in the session were very lacking, both in presentation and content. I found things such as incoherent and/or unfinished sentences and questionable scientific merit. As an attendee, I noticed similar issues, especially that many submissions did not compare their contribution versus previous state of the art, or had little to no scientific merit. I would advocate for a more rigorous review process next year. Additionally, some sessions had a collection of mixed subjects (e.g., controllers and pathfinding) which resulted in the audience moving in and out of sessions and/or sitting through a talk that they were not interested in. I would advocate for stronger alignment of talks to the session topics.
- I would have much preferred the UAV competition to be held as an evening event so people would watch and cheer for their teams without missing any of the technical sessions. I was only able to see one, and wished I could have seen more. (More hype for the event?)
- I wish the program stated which presentations were in-person so that I could prioritize my time. The pre-recorded videos were lacking in many ways. For these, I'd rather just read the published papers than sit through a "lecture" that involves no discussion.
- In general, it is a good conference. I enjoy it even remotely. The plenary talk of Hayk Martiros was very difficult because I did not see the videos, there was a problem with the transmission, not only for me. In my talk, due to previous delays, I was rush by the chair to end before, even when it was an already recorded video. I felt like my talk was not well accepted.
- Very good organization (Croatia team thank you so much!), bad choice of the hotel (high prices for the stay, extra fees for drinks to lunches, warm cola on farewell cocktail is not suitable for a 4 star hotel, localization far from the city centre, too short time for banquets), great atmosphere of technical meetings, good idea with poster session.
- I feel like the videos for the virtual presentations caused many authors not to attend the conference virtually so in many cases the video was played and there was no chance to ask questions to the author.
- Moving the deadline earlier for recorded presentation twice made upload process difficult.

## How important is each factor in selecting the conference to attend?



## How likely are you to attend ICUAS 2023?

70 responses



## What would you like to see in a future ICUAS conference?

- Greater participation of representatives of humanities and social sciences, not only engineers.
- More sponsors, better UAV Competition
- More exhibitions and booths showing prototypes, maybe some organized activity in the city center
- More industry presence for networking possibilities.
- A plenary session with a demonstration of a UAV flying and doing something. For example, A SkyStudio UAV to modelize a part of the hotel with a live demonstration. (Well, it should be a hell organization problem haha)
- Better quality papers
- I think the 2022 format should be kept.
- Networking, open discussions, interactions
- More sponsors
- Better technical setup, with higher quality projectors and better audio in conference rooms.
- Continue Student competitions

- Would like to see the competition continue
- Continued in person presentation of research.
- The competition was a nice touch, if not leaving something to be desired. Given the field and that it is possible, I would like to see more technical demonstrations or competitions in the future.
- Improvement in the UAS competition.
- An invitate section with the research group worldwide that work/research with UAVs. It could improve the networking.
- Greater participation from industry experts.
- I would like to see a hashtag for social media and sharing (e.g. #ICUAS, #droneflight etc. for researchers and the younger generation to publicize their research)
- I would like to see more conferences (as this was my first).
- A marking in the program for that talks that are in person.
- It is fine as it is
- Pre Recorded Videos are fine but having the authors still be present would be nice.
- The 5 highest ranked papers during the review process to be presented in the same session. Then a committee (or the full audience if possible) decides who gets the best paper award.

## SUMMARY

### • ICUAS 2022

- Overall, very high satisfaction, successful event
- Much lower satisfaction for the virtual presentations, incl. technical problems, hard to attend\follow\interact
- Communications about social events could be better

### • Future ICUAS events

- Most important factors: Location, journal option, and networking options
- Improve paper quality, organize session with best paper award finalists
- Keep\improve UAV or other student competitions, technical demonstrations
- More in person presentations and networking options

## ICUAS ASSOCIATION NEWS

To better serve you, we have upgraded our website and we have made it more reader friendly. We still encourage you to submit information about your projects, laboratory, research findings, etc., which will be uploaded under the “External Projects” entry. You also may submit a write up on project results, or a link that summarizes your research activities, a video of a successful flight, or any other accomplishment. Please submit the information to [kvalavanis@gmail.com](mailto:kvalavanis@gmail.com)

## ICUAS - CONTACT US

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