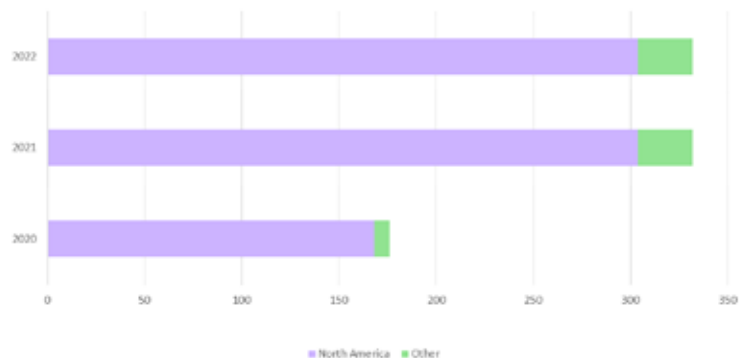
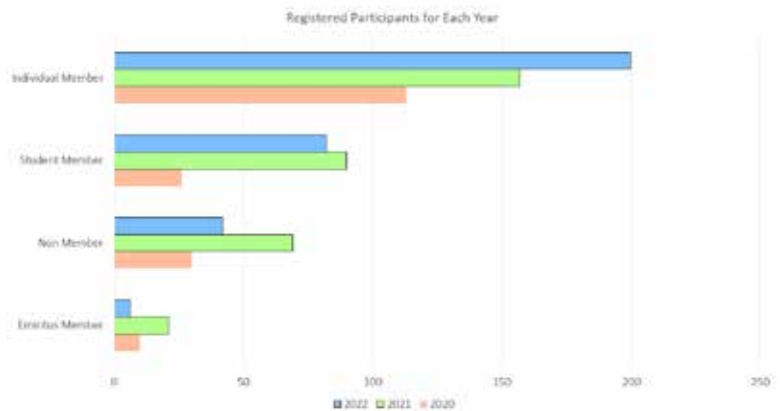


FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL — THE INCREASED INVOLVEMENT IN THE ASPRS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the shift towards virtual events drastically changed the way conferences are conducted. With physical gatherings no longer being a viable option, virtual events became the primary means for professional and academic exchange, leading to an unprecedented surge in registrations. According to the registrations for the 2021 and 2022 ASPRS Virtual Conferences, the number of registrations in the student and individual membership levels has increased. These virtual conferences have been particularly beneficial for students, especially those from developing countries who previously faced barriers to attending international conferences due to travel and financial constraints. With virtual events, international students are now able to participate and network with professionals from around the world without incurring the costs of travel.

While virtual events offer many benefits, in order to ensure a seamless and engaging experience for participants, there are technical challenges that must be addressed. However, with careful planning and preparation, these challenges can be effectively overcome. Conference organizers have successfully navigated these obstacles by implementing strong technical infrastructure, providing clear guidelines and technical support for participants, and adopting innovative solutions to improve the virtual event experience. These efforts have resulted in successful ASPRS virtual conferences with high levels of participant engagement and satisfaction.

The results of these conferences have been overwhelmingly positive, with total registrations more than doubling compared to the previous year. This is a clear indication of the growing popularity and success of virtual events, particularly given that the 2020 conference was initially planned as an in-person event. One of the most notable outcomes of the virtual format is the increased participation from participants from all over the world. It was thrilling to see such a diverse group of attendees from countries such as Brazil, the UK, Norway,



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Spain, France, Germany, Nigeria, Egypt, Australia, New Zealand, the UAE, Iran, India, China, Pakistan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Korea, and Taiwan. This broad representation highlights the global reach of virtual events and the opportunities they provide for cross-cultural exchange and collaboration.

Another trend observed in the increased conference registration numbers is the dominance of participants from the United States, despite an increase in participants from other countries. Although the virtual format has made it easier for individuals from diverse locations to join in, the majority of participants still come from North America. This highlights the importance of continuing to expand our outreach and encourage participation from a wider range of countries. To encourage participation, we are delighted to announce that the call for abstracts for the 2023 ASPRS International Technical Symposium is open for submissions. More information can be found on the ASPRS website, www.asprs.org or at <https://my.asprs.org/2023Symposium/2023-Symposium/Call-for-Abstracts.aspx>.

It is also important to mention that in 2021 and 2022, ASPRS gave out \$5000 worth of student presentation grants that included the conference registrations and if a registrant became a member, it also covered the cost of one-year membership to ASPRS. More information about the student grant for 2023 can be found at <https://my.asprs.org/2023Symposium/2023-Symposium/Student-Grants.aspx>.

In conclusion, the shift towards virtual events due to the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a significant increase in virtual participation, particularly among students. This shift has opened up new opportunities for students and professionals alike, breaking down barriers to participation and allowing individuals to connect and engage with their professional communities from anywhere in the world. While physical events will undoubtedly make a comeback, the virtual event trend is here to stay and is likely to continue to play an important role in the world of conferences and professional development.

NEW ASPRS MEMBERS

ASPRS would like to welcome the following new members!

Andrew Aceves	Justinn J. Jones
Gazali Oluwasegun Agboola	Jimmie Lee Kenyon, Jr.
Itiya P. Aneece	Adrienne E. Kicker
Lorilei Angle	Julie Lazor
Mostafa Arastounia, Ph.D., PE	Gary McKissick
Edwin Oluoch Awino	William Nadal
Amir Ayyash	Neil Pinto
Ray E. Barnes, III	Stephen Rector
Megan Blaskovich	Danny Roark
Daira Brayley	Michelle Roberts
Marc A. Canas	Andrew Schwartz
Jeremy Dancer	Miguel Antonio Silva
Jacob Davenport	Faezeh Soleimani Vostikolaei
Brett Edwards	Victoria Gyameraah Tanoh
Taylor Engel	George Varghese
Taylor Frye	Andrew Verville
Anthony Gaskill	Eden Tsehay Wasehun
Pedro Grijalba	Jun Yu
Peaceibisia Jack	

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ASPRS MEMBERSHIP, VISIT
[HTTP://WWW.ASPRS.ORG/JOIN-NOW](http://www.asprs.org/join-now)

PE&RS Correction

The title of the January 2023 Feature Article contained an error.

A Different Point-of-View Using Aerial Imagery to Build Stronger Cities

By Shelly Carroll, Vice President and General Manager,
Public Sector, Nearnmap

When it comes to aerial imagery, city governments often make do with sporadically updated captures that fail to provide the most up-to-date information about the changing landscape of their urban areas. While they understand and appreciate the value of collecting this data, the update cadence is often too infrequent to reveal vital changes. As a result, information that is essential to successful planning and ongoing operations can go unrecorded and unanticipated.

This era of cities having to “make do” with self-collected aerial data may be coming to an end, thanks to new and enhanced photogrammetric products and possibilities. Increasingly, municipalities are realizing that frequently refreshed and consistent aerial imagery is a requirement if they are to keep pace with fast-growing and quickly evolving communities.

To see the full article, visit <https://doi.org/10.14358/PERS.89.1.5>.