



Abstract and Paper Submission Guidelines

Conference Theme and Streams

The theme of the Samoa VPEC 2021 is “Re-imagining Pacific Education Together for the New and Sustainable Normal”. To imagine is to form a picture of something not present. What new voices, new perspectives and new stories need to be heard? What new visions need to be heard at this time? Who should lead the rethinking of Samoan education and schooling in these times and how well are we doing it as stewards of education? What new skills sets are required to adjust to a world that has changed as a result of Covid 19? How can we better prepare our students, teachers, families and villages for living and leading in a dynamic and changing Pacific and/or Oceania?

Presenters are invited to share their insights of what the ‘new normal’ is and how education is expected to adapt and adjust to these new circumstances, and how these perceptions would change teaching and learning in the areas of language, literacy, numeracy, assessment, ICT, and any other aspect of educational administration or teacher education in Samoa as well as the Pacific. Presenters are also expected to share their researches into adjustments and adaptations carried out especially in the processes of education as a result of the general lockdown modes as a consequence of Covid 19.

Sub-themes—Streams/sessions

The Conference will be organized according to three sub thematic areas which were generated to explain and explore epistemologies and the introduction of traditional knowledge creation and sharing platforms in Samoa and the Pacific. These are:

Fetufaa’iga 1: *Faatufugaga*

Faatufugaga is a Samoa word which refers to activity in the creation of visual, auditory or exercise patterns, showing the author's imaginative, thought-based, technical purpose and artistic talents. It includes methods, rules and procedures that feature the uniqueness of each discipline. This session provides an opportunity for participants to share techniques, pedagogies, methods or tools of delivery and research deemed appropriate to their own context.

Suggested format of delivery: Presentations may be in the form of workshops, exhibitions, or installations, performance such as skits, song, dance or poetry narrations, oratory or faleaitu. There is scope for the imagination to run riot.

Fetufaa'iga 2: Fāgogo

Fāgogo is a word in the Samoan language to describe a type of storytelling of the Samoan culture and historical experience. It is performing arts, a type of theatre, where people, events and tales and sagas are brought to life through the skills, voice and action of narrators or actors. This session provides opportunities for people to tell and hear stories that revive proverbial expressions, cultural and historical knowledge as well as traditional values.

Suggested format of delivery: Story telling/open space demonstration

Fetufaa'iga 3: Faafaletui

Every teacher has her or his own style of teaching. And as traditional teaching styles evolve with the advent of differentiated instruction, more and more teachers are adjusting their approach depending on their students' learning needs, context as well as relevance of education to the lives of students. This session focuses more on presentations of academic or scholarly research and findings.

Suggested format of delivery: Presentations will take the normal style of academic presentations using PowerPoint, visuals and video and include questions and answers as well as discussions.

Guidelines for Abstract

Essentially, your Samoa VPEC 2021 Abstract should tell the conference delegates what you are going to say, and make them interested in coming to hear you say it. All Abstracts should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Abstracts should be between 250—300 words long.
- Abstract/Paper title may be up to 15 words long. Titles should be as brief as possible but long enough to clearly indicate the nature of the presentation. The title will be used for printing in the final program.
- Each author must also provide a brief (2-3 lines) biographical note about themselves on the abstract Cover Page provided (attached herein). Return the Cover Page and Abstract on two separate, adjacent pages within one file.
- References are not required. If you wish to include them, they must be included in the body of your text and included in the word count.
- Do not use special symbols, tables or figures in your Abstract.
- Do not include authors' names, institution or other identifiers in your Abstract wording as all abstracts will be blind reviewed. (Only put your name and details on the Abstract Cover Sheet page prior to your Abstract.)
- Abstracts (with cover page) are to be emailed to Samoa VPEC 2021 Secretary f.leatuao@nus.edu.ws and must be received before the deadline of **29 October 2021**
- During the Abstract selection process, the following points are used as a guide, so it is recommended that authors ensure that their Abstracts satisfy these criteria:
 - Does the abstract capture the interest of potential presentation audience members by telling them what the presentation is about and why they should attend it?
 - Does the abstract title clearly indicate the topic/subject/research questions being discussed?
 - Does the abstract body clearly describe the work to be discussed in the paper?
 - Is the abstract well written in terms of language, grammar, etc.?
 - Does the abstract say how the research/initiative was/is being undertaken? (if applicable)
 - Does the abstract give a concise summary of the findings/outcomes/understandings?
 - Does the abstract indicate the value of the findings/outcomes/understandings to be shared in the presentation, and to whom they will be of use?
 - Does the abstract conform to the word limit?
 - Does the abstract contain a number of keywords or phrases that closely reflect the content of the paper?
 - Does the Abstract align clearly with one of the three Samoa VPEC 2021 streams/sessions and is it consistent with the overall theme of the Conference?
 - Was the Abstract received before the deadline?

Samoa VPEC 2021 – Abstract Cover Page

Title of Abstract	
Presentation Type (<i>presentation or Story telling/open space demonstration</i>)	
Preferred Stream/session	
Name and Organisation of all Co-Presenters and Co-Author	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
A brief biography of the Presenting Author/s	
AV Equipment required for your presentation	

IMPORTANT: Please copy and paste this Cover Page into the same Word file as your Abstract

Samoa VPEC 2021 – Abstract Writing Hints

Title (maximum 15 words, make it descriptive and interesting)

(body of the Abstract - up to 285 words. You may like to follow one of the outlines below)

- State the main ideas/messages/findings you want the audience to know.
- Provide some information about the context.

If your presentation is a discussion of your thoughts/learning on the stream topic you may wish to:

- Identify the topic/subject of your paper - the question/problem it raises.
- Locate the topic/subject in terms of a field of scholarship - who/what provides the intellectual context for the problem/question the paper raises.
- Emphasise your position/proposition - your central idea regarding the question/problem.
- Briefly outline your two/three points of argument in a way that makes the reader interested in coming along to hear it. Use words that are accessible to both specialists and non-specialists (this is a cross-disciplinary conference)
- Briefly discuss the practical importance of these findings to the conference theme and stream/session topic.

If your presentation is reporting on research you may wish to include:

- Statement of Objective/s
- Study Design, Settings, Participants
- Measurable outcomes/Analysis
- Results summary
- Conclusions supported by evidence reported
- Potential applications of results (Practical Importance) and relevance to the conference theme and stream/session topic.

If your presentation is reporting on a programme or initiative you may wish to include:

- Statement of Objective/s
- Use of Theory and Prior Research
- Target Audience
- Description of Program Intervention (including materials developed or used and/or teaching techniques)
- Description of Evaluation
- Conclusions Supported by Evidence Reported
- Potential Applications of Results (Practical Importance) and relevance to the conference theme and stream/session topic.

Here are a few of the many websites on writing conference abstracts and papers which may be useful:

- <http://academic-conferences.org/abstract-guidelines.htm>
- https://services.unimelb.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/471274/Writing_an_Abstract_Update_051112.pdf
- https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/education/pdf/Writing_an_abstract.pdf
- <https://tressacademic.com/write-paper-abstract/>
- <https://writing.wisc.edu/handbook/assignments/writing-an-abstract-for-your-research-paper/>

Guidelines for full Conference Papers

Your Abstract will be blind reviewed by the Conference Committee members. Once they have accepted your Abstract (you will be notified by email), the next step is to prepare and submit a full Paper write-up of your presentation content. This Paper will be included in the Conference Proceedings. We also invite you to submit the paper or a revised version of it for selection for an edited book publication to follow.

Papers must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Conference Papers should be between 3,000 and 3,500 words long, and preceded by an Abstract which follows the guidelines given previously.
- Presenters should submit an electronic copy (Microsoft Word file) of the Paper to Samoa VPEC 2021 Secretary, and ensure that they keep an electronic and a paper copy for themselves.
- Papers should be typed in standard size 12 font, Times New Roman font, left aligned, 1.5 line spacing
- Papers should follow the APA referencing conventions, and authors should consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Edition) to ensure that Papers conform to these guidelines for citations, references, tables, figures, etc.
- Papers should be interesting, coherent, well-written and free of grammatical, punctuation and typographical errors.
- Tables and Figures may be used. Each labeled Table/Figure should be submitted on a separate page from the body of the paper, with appropriate marker in the text to locate its position.
- Papers should adhere to the following format:
 - Presentation Title (as submitted prior, maximum 15 words)
 - Presenting Authors and Affiliations (not counted in word limits)
 - Abstract (as submitted prior, up to 285 words)
 - Text (maximum 3500 words including references, following the same general sequence of ideas as the suggested Abstract formats)
 - References (APA referencing conventions).
- Conference papers are to be emailed to the Samoa VPEC 2021 Secretary, Faaloua M. Leatuao, email f.leatuao@nus.edu.ws and must be received before the deadline of **19 November, 2021**.
- For ALL enquiries please contact Dean Faculty of Education Alo Dr Silia Pausisi Finau. Telephone 20072 ext. 381 or email: s.pausisi@nus.edu.ws

Conference Fees

Local Fees

- Presenter (SAT\$) 100.00
- Participant (SAT\$) 70.00
- University Student (SAT\$) 20.00