What APIC Graduates Say About Their Courses at APIC September 2009

The following chart shows the views of the most recent graduates who completed their MBA (Project and Program Management) Course at Asia Pacific International College:

As seen, the majority of the graduates were well satisfied with the quality and experience of their course. All graduates agreed or strongly agreed that they had developed a range of new skills that will further their personal and career growth in the future. This then confirms one of the tenets of APIC’s educational design, viz. transformative development.

The following weights were applied to convert the scores into a single measure:

- Strongly Agree: 5
- Agree: 3
- Somewhat Agree: 1
- Disagree: -3
- Strongly Disagree: -5
The result for each question in terms of performance from +5 to -5 is captured in the following bar chart:

As noted, APIC graduates generally rated the quality of their education very highly. All aspects of their experience were generally positive across the board. They felt that APIC had definitely helped them acquire new capabilities and confidence that were highly relevant to today’s turbulent business and social environment.

More than 95% of graduates stated that they found APIC Tools (Online Learning System, UOS, PHC and CAT) as well as general information posted on APIC website helped them manage their performance in the program effectively.

This result is pleasing because APIC has invested a substantial amount of efforts and funds in creating unique systems and tools that underpin and support its various delivery modes and are an integral part of the total learning experience offered to students.

The following additional comments were offered by a few graduates:

“The most valuable advantage for me was the fact that it gave me some practical competencies in an active manner. It means, now, I feel more confident, especially in real professional situations which one needs more agility and competency.”

“The program approach of professional development was really beneficial. Tools such as individual competency assessment and project/program health check indicated the path toward excellence. By the end of the program I really felt competent in all course areas even those which were unfamiliar to me before the commencement of the course.”
“I want to thank APIC for your perfect educational courses. Also, I want to thank Professor Jaafari for being a nice, kind and professional professor.”

“In my opinion the program was very useful indeed and was very up-to-date so when finishing the program our mind is very illuminated with different new ideas. I would like to thank very much the APIC team especially Dr Professor Jaafari for initiating this program. I hope I could be useful in distributing this science and helping APIC in this regard and I would be happy to be volunteer to be an agent for APIC.”

“I would like to use the opportunity to thank the APIC team and particularly Professor Jaafari for the splendid way of training which of course was beyond my previous experiences and helped me to improve my practical knowledge of management in many ways. I am very proud of completing the course in this College, and I would be very grateful if the relations with the College continues and would be pleased if I could be part of any of APIC’s programs. I have many opinions about making APIC better in many ways (I have taken notes during the course which I will gather in a structured way) and will send it when ready.”

There were some suggestions for improvement, viz.

“In the current system, except the seminar, for each training course just the written exam is done individually. In the MBA course I have graduated, for each training module (SBM), four assignments were considered to be done by each group, of course it has its advantages, but based on this experience, I would like to suggest that in APIC education system more marks and more values could be assigned to individual effort....”

“Pre-Assignment might be useful for students to get familiar with the UOS overall before workshop and absolutely raise training efficiency.”

It is worth noting that all the graduates surveyed are already gainfully employed, some with significant responsibility. They are contributing to projects, programs and organisations across the spectrum, from government endeavours thorough to large complex projects in infrastructure, oil and gas, IT and services.