

UPNG-ANU Partnership: H2 2019 Six Monthly Progress Report

Summary table

Name of Organisation	Development Policy Centre, Australian National University
Project title	UPNG-ANU Partnership
Project objectives	Faculty strengthening, collaborative research and outreach, faculty and student exchanges and partnership management
Grant reference #	PGF-2016-0018
Grant Value	\$9,033,685.00
Reporting period	1 July 2019 – 31 December 2019
Budget for reporting period	\$ 1,056,369
Budget Spent for reporting Period	\$ 912,540
Budget spent over Grant	N/A

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Section 1: Overview

Selected achievements from 1 July 2019 – 31 December 2019

- **Eight ANU and ANU-supported staff members convened 11 courses, teaching 87 female and 275 male (362 total) students in the second half of 2019. Improved learning outcomes.** The annual ANU Economics exam was conducted in September 2019 for the 7th time. See [Annex 1](#). Results show continued progress with highest average score since the exams commenced: a third-year student achieved the highest score for any student in the history of the exam.
- **Blog Incentive Scheme.** Six blogs were published under this scheme, which is designed to attract more PNG authors. Our best read PNG blogs were mainly by PNG authors. For the first time, two undergraduate students (one female and one male) participated in the blog incentive scheme.
- **MEPP scholarships** Ten MEPP scholarships were provided by the Australian aid program in 2019 and increased the number of enrolment and improved gender balance in the program significantly. Another ten scholarships were arranged for 2020.
- **Teaching workshop** ANU conducted a tutor-induction workshop to UPNG tutors to improve teaching pedagogies and delivery.
- **Statistical analysis workshop** ANU, IFPRI, UPNG and INA co-organised a full-day STATA workshop for senior public servants on agriculture, nutrition and economic development in PNG.
- **Student Association** The Public Policy and Management Student Association (PPMSA) was successfully revived after being dormant for years. Funding will be continued in 2020.
- **Research collaboration** A range of collaborative research was undertaken, with a highlight being the ANU-UPNG-Unitech research into men's attitudes to violence against women.
- **Sustainability** Our first two scholarship students returned to UPNG and lectured. Our third scholarship student completed his studies at ANU in December 2019 and will now return to UPNG to teach in 2020.
- **Completion of MEPP** Mr Kenneth Tame, who enrolled into our MEPP program in 2018, has successfully completed all the required courses and become the first graduate of MEPP.
- **PNG Update** The 2019 PNG Update had the highest number of attendance in the history. For the first time, the keynote address was delivered by PNG's Prime Minister, who also returned on the second day of the conference. The conference was also attended by the Opposition Leader and High Commissioner of Australia.
- **PNG Economic Survey** The 2019 PNG economic survey, a research collaboration of ANU and UPNG academics, was successfully published in the Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies Journal.
- **One-year extension** The project extension was finalised in August to allow the project to continue to the end of 2020.

Executive Summary

Faculty strengthening

Eight ANU and ANU-supported staff members convened 11 courses, teaching 87 female and 275 male (362 total) students in the second half of 2019. Student evaluations continue to showcase high teaching quality in all courses. The ten extra Masters scholarships funded by the Australian aid program raised the enrolment number for the Master of Economics and Public Policy (MEPP) to 28 in 2019. The program also witnessed a significant improvement in gender balance, with 7 female students enrolled in 2019 compared to zero in 2018. ANU organised another tutor induction workshop for the UPNG teaching community and for the first time, it was attended by tutors beyond SBPP.

Collaborative research and outreach

The partnership continued to support significant PNG-related research in the second half of 2019 under a growing research program on a wide range of economic and public policy issues. The 2019 PNG economic survey, an annual economic report prepared by ANU and UPNG academics, was successfully published in Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies Journal. In addition, six blogs have been published under the UPNG Blog Incentive scheme in second half of 2019, which was introduced to encourage blog submission from UPNG staffs and students. For the first time, two UPNG undergraduate students (one female and male) participated in this scheme and their blogs were published on Devpolicy Blog.

Faculty and student exchanges

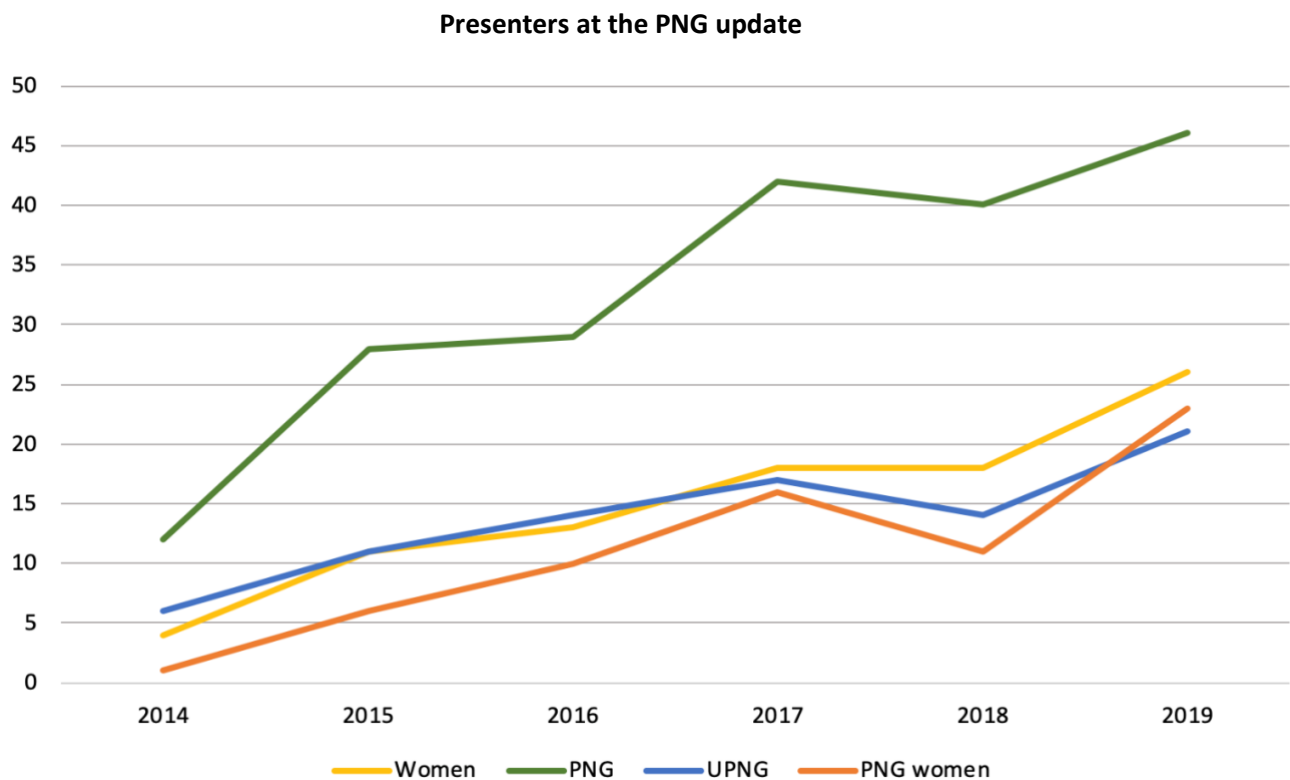
Plans and student selections were finalised for the third Summer School in January-February 2020. A UPNG scholarship holder completed his final semester of ANU Master's degree and will now return to teach at UPNG in 2020 to join two others who returned a year earlier and taught in 2019. The fourth student completed her second semester at ANU. Arrangements have been made for a fifth student to commence his first semester at ANU. A top-economic student has been selected to tutor at UPNG in 2020 academic year and will receive guidance from ANU staff. The Public Policy and Management Student Association (PPMSA) was successfully revived and co-organised three student activities with Economics Student Society (ESS) in second half of 2019. Both student groups will continue to be funded by the project in 2020.

Partnership management

The one-year extension was finalised in September to extend the project to end of 2020. Visas were renewed for staff in Port Moresby. Two academic staff and one administrative staff left the project in second half of 2019. Only one of the three was replaced due to budget cuts.

Examples of innovative approaches / collaborations

- **Policy impact** With the change in government, many of our recommendations regarding economic reform and labour mobility are now being pursued.
- **PNG Update.** Our analysis shows the success with the PNG Update in getting more PNG, more women, more PNG women, and more UPNG presenters



- **ANU-UPNG-Unitech-Femili PNG collaboration.** One of the strongest collaborations in our project brings together UPNG, Unitech and ANU researchers, working with a PNG NGO, Femili PNG, which the ANU also supports. This research project involved interviews with women in urban settlements about the subject of gender-based violence. The research was initiated by PNG urban researcher Dr Michelle Rooney of Devpolicy, together with ANU Pacific legal scholar Dr Miranda Forsyth and Dr Dora Kuir Aiyus from the Social Work Department of UPNG and Mary Aisi from Unitech. The research was made possible by the Development Policy Centre's links with all the organisations involved: UPNG, Unitech and Femili PNG. The research was presented at the 2019 PNG Update and then at the ANU as part of a research trip to Canberra. This synergistic, pathbreaking research will continue into 2020.
- **UPNG tariff policy research** Research by one of the UPNG new lecturers undertaken while at Canberra was completed and published in late 2019. It was widely disseminated in early 2020.
- **Devpolicy Blog** Six of our top seven blogs in 2019 were by PNG authors, including 2 UPNG lecturers. This illustrates the valuable role the ANU can play in providing an outlet for PNG research.

- **MEPP scholarships** By working collaboratively between PGF, ANU, UPNG, and AHC, ten scholarships were arranged for the Masters of Economics and Public Policy (MEPP) in 2019, thereby making this course more readily available to top PNG public servants, as well as more gender-balanced, while also protecting the future of the course itself.
- **PNG Update** The PNG Update continues to hit new highs, in terms of attendance and standards. Highlights of the 2020 Update include the new facilities, and the PM both opening and closing the conference.
- **First lecturers returning** It was definitely a highlight to see our first lecturers return and lecture, and to see the prospect of a stronger UPNG economics division in the future.

Cross-cutting issues (gender, disability, child protection and equity)

- Extensive research is being undertaken on gender as part of the partnership.
- The new MEPP scholarships have raised the number of female enrolment to 7.

Key challenges, gaps and lessons learned

- **Future of the project** The one-year extension has brought the end date of the project to end of 2020. Short extensions and budget cuts have also been difficult to manage. The project was always envisaged and presented as a multi-decade one so if it ends after just five years key gains will be jeopardised.
- **Lecturers' accessibility** In the new SBPP building, students were not given access to the lecturers' office due to security concerns. This makes after-class consultation very challenging for lecturers and students. Various work arounds have been put in place to deal with this.
- **Internet connection** Despite moving to the new building, internet connection on campus remains weak and unstable. Every ANU staff was allocated a wifi dongle with Digicel 4G Sim card to work in their UPNG office.

Risk Management

- **SBPP capacity** Inadequate UPNG capacity remains the program's most serious risk. Fiscal constraints prevented hiring in the last couple of years. Although some positions have been advertised, the selection process has moved slowly, and there is the risk that returned lecturers may move elsewhere.
- **Need for university reforms** There is a lack of progress on university-wide reforms (such as investing in PNG land for requiring greater financial return, requiring lecturers to undertake evaluations).

Section 2: Implementation progress

Implementation Progress: 1 July to 31 December 2019

Strategic output/outcome 1: Faculty Strengthening

Status of activity	On track
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Faculty changes

Once again, Associate Professor Martin Davies joined the project for the July - September period. Dr Marcel Schroder, former lecturer with the project, was also invited to teach a MEPP course in second trimester. In second half of 2019, two academic staff members – Dr Amanda Watson and Dr Bao Nguyen left the project. Dr Amanda Watson's position will be filled by Dr Michelle Rooney, existing research fellow with the project who will move from Canberra to Port Moresby. Dr Bao Nguyen will be replaced by Mr Luke McKenzie, who will be sharing the project coordinator role with Mr Dek Sum. Both Michelle and Luke are expected to depart for PNG in early 2020. Mr Rohan Fox, current research officer with the project, will be mobilised to PNG to convene Foundation of Economics in Semester 1, 2020.

Teaching

Five ANU lecturers and three ANU-supported lecturers taught 11 courses with 87 female and 275 male (362 total) students. A list of all courses taught is attached is provided below.

	Course	Lecturer	Year Level	Semester/Trimester	Students			
					F	M	Disabled	Total
1	Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy	Davies	PG1	T2	8	21	0	29
2	Economic Policy	Pandey	UG4	S2	7	22	0	29
3	Labour Economics	Pandey	UG4	S2	7	22	0	29
4	Quantitative Economics II	Nguyen	UG3	S2	4	29	0	33
5	Advanced Macroeconomics	Nguyen	UG3	S2	4	28	0	32
6	Principles of Macroeconomics	Sum	UG2	S2	25	66	0	91
7	Global Economic Policy and Issue	Schroder	PG2	T2	0	3	0	3
8	Qualitative Research Methods	Watson	PG1	T2	8	21	0	29
9	Issues in Public Sector Management	Bizhan	PG1	T2	8	21	0	29
10	Development Policy and Thinking	Bizhan	PG1	T3	8	27	0	29

11	Applied Cost and Benefit Analysis	Odhuno	PG1	T3	8	27	0	29
	TOTAL/AVERAGE				87	275	0	362

Note: MEPP T2 courses were also reported on in the last report, since they straddle the two half-years.

The average course evaluation score was 4.59. By comparison, ANU college averages for learning experience at ANU range from 3.6 to 4.2. Every course returned a score of 4.6 or more for quality of teaching, except applied cost and benefit analysis, which is an excellent performance. The average evaluation response rate was 77.5%, which is very high.

Initiatives to improve teaching

- Curriculum development** A new undergraduate course, Labour Economics was introduced in Semester 2, 2019 and taught by Dr Manoj Pandey. Two new courses, Monetary Economics and Public Economics, are being drafted and designed for delivery in 2020. Two current courses, Foundation of Economics and Cost Benefit Analysis, which were previously taught by UPNG staff, will be co-taught by ANU and UPNG lecturers in 2020. This will also require curriculum development. Foundation of Economics is one of the largest UPNG courses with at least 250 enrolments every year.
- Textbooks and SBPP librarian** The project funded SBPP to hire a librarian in 2018 and 2019 to establish and maintain a dedicated library in the new building. Good progress has been made and the new library is now open to all students including our MEPP students who often require after-hour access. The project will continue funding the librarian in 2020.
- New SBPP building** The new SBPP building was opened in April but classes only started to take place in the building in second semester. While there are some minor drawbacks in the design of the new lecture theatres, the modern audio-visual and IT equipment nonetheless improve teaching delivery and learning experience at SBPP.
- Tutor induction workshop** Mr Rohan Fox conducted the tutor induction workshop to first and second-years for the third time. The workshop was attended by tutors from other schools in UPNG.
- New way of teaching economics** Mr Dek Sum integrated some CoreEcon syllabus into his second-year economic course in second half 2019 to expose UPNG students to problem-solving and critical thinking skills. CoreEcon has been [dubbed](#) as a new way to learn economics.

Engaging students and building links

- Film discussion nights** Dr Nemat Bizhan stepped in to host the 'UPNG Inspired' film nights during Semester two at UPNG following Dr Amanda Watson's departure. In total, eight 'UPNG Inspired' nights were run, six with accompanying speakers. There continues to be interest in the film nights, with the [Facebook page](#) maintained by Mr Rohan Fox, and student volunteers and UPNG staff placing posters up around campus each week. The ANU, United States Embassy and Japanese

Embassy in PNG jointly hosted six screenings between July and October.

- **Student associations** The partnership has allocated a budget of up to 5,000 Kina per semester for the Economics Student Society (ESS) and the Public Policy Management Student Association (PPMSA). Under the guidance of Mr Dek Sum and Dr Amanda Watson, PPMSA which was previously dormant, revived by a group of fourth-year PPM students who participated in the 2019 summer school. Currently, Dr Nemat Bizhan serves as the patron of the association, providing strategic advice to the association. Funding is subject to the submission of a formal budget and the approval by the Dean SBPP. This year, the ESS and PPMSA co-organised the annual UPNG debate competition event from 1 September to 3 September. Undergraduates from each division in SBPP participated, and a total of 300 students, of whom 100 were female, attended the three-day event. A female student from SBPP's Human Resource division emerged as the best debater. They each hosted three students' events in second semester, 2019.
- **Research supervision** Dr Nemat Bizhan supervised two third-year undergraduates from Public Policy Management (PPM), Mr Raphael Yanka and Ms Mouna Narara in second half of 2019. Their research paper was later accepted and published on Devpolicy Blog. Two ANU-UPNG Scholarship recipients, Mr Kelly Samof and Ms Jollanda Mathews, received supervision from Dr Ryan Edwards to conduct research on PNG under the Centre's Greg Taylor Scholars program.
- **MEPP graduation** Mr Kenneth Tame became the first student to complete and graduate from our MEPP program. He was supervised by ANU lecturer, Dr Manoj Pandey.

Graduate outlook, outcomes and links

- The annual ANU Economics exam was conducted for the seventh time in September 2019. See [Annex 1](#). Results show continued progress with highest average score recorded in 2019: a third year student emerged as the top-scorer with the highest score for any student in the history of the exam.
- Our 2017/2018 Masters scholarship recipient, Mr Maho Laveil, who has returned to UPNG, was selected to participate in the inaugural PNG-Australia Emerging Leaders organised by Lowy Institute in November 2019. The selection process is highly competitive and merit-based.
- The project received positive feedback from Mr Rubayat Chowdhury, ODI fellow at Bank of Papua New Guinea (BPNG), acknowledging significant improvement among UPNG's economic graduates in BPNG in recent years. Similar feedback was provided by PNG Treasury as well.
- Four UPNG economic graduates, Ms Shekanah Babob, Mr Karo Tuva, Mr Pipson Wakinjambi and Ms Shirley Nandape, who recently completed their studies in December 2019, successfully secured job placements in Deloitte, Kina Bank and Oil Search respectively. This is a significant achievement for our students and a strong recognition to the project's impact considering PNG's current bleak economic climate.

Strategic output/outcome 2: Collaborative Research and Outreach

Status of activity	On track
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The PNG Project

The PNG Project is a wide ranging program of collaborative research on PNG. In the second half of 2019, academics continued working across 29 projects under the heading of: economics; governance and elections; service delivery, and gender.

Funding for PNG Project research comes from a variety of sources. In addition to the Moresby-based faculty, in H2 2019 the Partnership funded 100% of the costs of Research Fellow Dr Michelle Rooney (will be mobilised to PNG in 2020); 25% of the costs of Research Fellow Dr Terence Wood; 25% of the costs of Research Fellow Dr Grant Walton and 100% of a Research Officer Mr Rohan Fox.

PNG Project databases

- **PNG Elections Database website:** The database was completely updated with 2017 general election results data in the second half of 2019. The dataset was launched at the 2019 PNG Update. At the time of the launch meetings were held with DFAT staff in Port Moresby and the Papua New Guinea Electoral Commission to discuss the newly available data.
- **PNG Budget Database website:** The [PNG Budget Database](#) was updated for a fourth time in 2019.

Publications

Two PNG-related publications were supported by the partnership in this period (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

The PNG Update

The seventh annual PNG Update was held at the University of Papua New Guinea on 8 and 9 August in Port Moresby. The PNG Update is the premier forum for the discussion of research and analysis relating to contemporary economic and public policy issues in PNG. It was jointly organised by UPNG's School of Business and Public Policy (SBPP) and the ANU Development Policy Centre. For the first time, the opening address was delivered by the Prime Minister of PNG, the Hon James Marape, who also returned on the second day of the conference and spoke at the closing session. The Opposition Leader, The Hon Mr Patrick Pruaitch, delivered a plenary address. A total of 107 submission were received and 77 papers were presented at the Update. The livestream was viewed by more than 1000 Facebook users over 2 days. In a notable first for the PNG Update, MEPP student Mr Kenneth Tame presented a talk based on his MEPP research project, which was supervised by ANU's Dr Manoj Pandey. We once again asked participants to evaluate the PNG Update; 232 evaluation forms were received over the two days of the Update, the average survey scores were all above four out of five, meaning that most people rated each criterion as good or excellent.

Research work with PNG Treasury and IMF

From August to November 2019, Mr Rohan Fox was involved in the PNG's budget due diligence process and the preparation of supplementary budget, working alongside with senior officials from PNG's Treasury and IMF.

Research, policy and training workshops

On 12 June, the ANU, UPNG, International National Affairs (INA) and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) co-organised a full-day STATA workshop on agriculture, nutrition and economic development. The workshop was led by Dr Emily Schmidt, senior research analyst at IFPRI and attended by more than 20 senior public servants. Follow-up workshops will be held in first half of 2020.

PNG's Economic Survey

The 2019 PNG's economic survey, an annual report on PNG's economy jointly produced by ANU and UPNG academics, was successfully published in Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies in 2019 for the first time (see [here](#)).

Outreach

- **The Devpolicy Blog** Devpolicy.org is the online public outreach portal for the Development Policy Centre at the ANU. This website is used for communicating and discussing much of the development, economic and public policy research relating to PNG undertaken by ANU. The partnership grant supports editorial work on blog posts about PNG. In the second half of 2019, Devpolicy.org published 75 blog posts related to PNG, with 32 directly on PNG and 43 covering broader Pacific issues. 23 of these blogs were authored or co-authored by Papua New Guineans, and 44 by women. These blog posts are widely read in PNG, and often picked up by the PNG media. Six of the top seven blogs in terms of readership were written by PNG authors, including two by UPNG authors. The Blogs are also placed on Facebook for maximum exposure within PNG.
- **The UPNG Blog Incentive Scheme** was launched to encourage blog submissions from UPNG staff and students. The scheme offers 200 Kina for blogs written by UPNG staff and students that are published on the Devpolicy blog. For the first time, two UPNG students (one female and male) participated in this scheme and their blogs were published on Devpolicy blog, along with three other blogs from UPNG staffs in second half of 2019.
- **Engagement with media and other public outreach.** The project recorded 24 media engagements.
- **Other engagement** Project staff participated in an estimated 74 workshops and meetings with the government, donors, private sector, etc
- **The Devpolicy PNG Newsletter** provided regular PNG partnership related news every four weeks. Mr Rohan Fox coordinates this newsletter, which covers partnership related research and blogs, and provides general partnership related updates. The newsletter is now also [available online](#).

Strategic output/outcome 3: Faculty and Student Exchanges

Status of activity	On track
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Masters students

Mr Kelly Samof, recipient of 2018/19 ANU Master scholarship completed his final semester of study at ANU in Semester 2, 2019 and will now return to UPNG to take up teaching position. The fourth recipient, Ms Jollanda Matthews has completed her first year of Masters. Academic progress was satisfactory. Preparations were made for a fifth student, Mr Bobby Kunda to commence his scholarship at ANU in 2020.

Summer school

Preparations were made for 6 males and 4 females from fourth year UPNG economics and public policy division to participate in the 2020 Summer School. They will travel to Canberra for six weeks in January and February 2020. The process of obtaining identity documents and passports remained challenging but overcome by hard work and determination from ANU staff.

Staff exchanges

A number of ANU staff and other Australian researchers visited UPNG for research. And several UPNG staff participated in the Pacific Update (USP, Fiji) conferences.

Strategic output/outcome 4: Partnership management

Status of activity	On track
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Partnership management arrangements

Ms Shannon Young, the partnership officer of the project, left in September 2019 to pursue other career opportunities. Her responsibilities will be shared among existing colleagues and her position will not be filled. Mr Luke McKenzie has been recruited to replace Dr Bao Nguyen as an associate lecturer rather than a lecturer. He will be sharing the project coordinator responsibilities with Mr Dek Sum.

Contract extension

The contract extension was granted, and it is now estimated that the UPNG staffs will be funded to end of 2020.

Management priorities

The contract extension, a Phase II proposal, preparing for three new staff to move in 2020, contract and visa renewal, and adjusting to the budget cuts imposed on the 2020 year were management priorities in the second half of December 2019.

Section 3: Performance

1. Log frame / Theory of Change

- **The project takes a long-term approach.** Aid funding for this partnership may wax and wane (and we hope it waxes) but the project has been set up to be here for the long term, at least a decade. Of course, there is no guarantee it will last for a decade, but that is the intent: there is little point to setting up a shorter-term project.
- **The concept of partnership is critical.** Both parties have skin in the game. Both have made a long-term commitment to the partnership. Both are prepared to discuss and resolve issues in a transparent manner.
- **The benefits of the project are both direct and indirect.** Perhaps the most important, certainly the most tangible, benefits of the project are for the students who otherwise might receive no teaching, and certainly a lower quality of teaching. These are the future leaders of PNG after all. But there are also important indirect benefits – the systemic changes, the research and outreach. This dual approach serves as both a risk mitigation approach and as a way to maximize project value.
- **The project has and requires strong support from the highest levels.** Australia’s Minister for Foreign Affairs initiated the expansion of the project during a meeting in mid-2014 with the then ANU Vice Chancellor. It is strongly supported by ANU and UPNG at the highest levels. Given the difficulty of the project, this is critical for success.
- **The project has strong UPNG ownership.** The project is as much a UPNG initiative as an ANU one. It was the UPNG VC’s initiative to seek a new MOU with ANU, and it was his drive that brought that into fruition. The SBPP Dean plays a critical role in providing day-to-day support to the partnership and its various initiatives. Without this, the project would undoubtedly falter.
- **The project takes an adaptive, learning-by-doing, and adjusting-as-we-go approach.** This is the only approach that makes sense. We learn as we go, documenting what we learn along the way: for example, completing a “baseline report” in 2015 of the SBPP-Economics Division.
- **The project values continuity.** To develop good relationships, and to learn to be effective, staff need to be in place for as long as possible. Long-standing relationships between ANU and UPNG faculty are key to the success of the partnership. If project staff do well, we want them to stay for as long as possible.
- **The project is based on realistic expectations and seeks incremental gains.** It would be foolhardy to wish away the systemic challenges that UPNG faces in a range of areas. No external intervention can turn UPNG around, or even a part of the university. However, an external intervention can make a difference, and be judged a success, provided realistic expectations are maintained.

2. Reporting against Partnership Objectives

The partnership undertakes a number of M&E exercises. Evaluations are undertaken for every course (see summary table [here](#)) and show positive results. An economics exam is set annually to monitor student learning. The project also judges itself against a number of important indicators as set out in each annual plan. Performance against these using a “traffic light” rating system is summarised below.

Research and outreach		
Number of Discussion Papers and blogs produced on PNG		In the second half of 2019, 75 PNG-related blogs were published; 23 were by PNG co/authors. Apart from blogs, there were 2 publications.
Extent of participation by UPNG staff in partnership research activities and output		UPNG and ANU staff jointly presented and collaborated on a number of research projects.
Number of papers and attendance at PNG Update		The 2019 PNG Update successfully held in August. Record high number of attendance (more than 800 people each day). There were 107 submissions and 77 presentations.
Number of seminars/workshops at UPNG		1 seminars/workshops held
Presentations relating to PNG at ANU		2 conferences/seminar
Number of UPNG staff presenting at PNG Update		There were 27% presenters from UPNG at 2019 PNG Update, significantly higher than 18% in 2018.
Staff and student exchange		
Number of ANU staff visits to UPNG		ANU staff members made numerous visits to UPNG in the period.
Number of UPNG staff visits to ANU and USP		Several UPNG staff participated in the State Pacific Update (USP, Fiji) conferences
Progress of MEPP Students		Mr Kenneth Tame, our first cohort MEPP student has successfully graduated in 2019. He also presented his master's research paper at PNG update.
Successful 2019 summer school and planning for 2020		Planning is on track for the 2020 Summer School with all 10 successful candidates having passed their health checks and secured passports and visas to attend.
Program management		
Timely and comprehensive M&E and reporting		
Project able to acquit and report expenditure on a timely basis		All reports for 2019 have been submitted on time.
Visas and all logistics managed in a timely basis to visiting faculty (short- and long-term)		Visa renewals were required for the staff returning in 2020. These are all in progress and on track.
All required hiring undertaken in a timely manner, and staff turnover managed without excessive disruption		
Strong filing and documentation to reduce risks associated with staff turnover		Filing and documentation improved, and a variety of internal guidelines have been created to reduce risks

		associated with turnover.
Completion of no-cost extension to mid-2020		We ended up with a one year extension to December 2020; however, the longer term future of the project is in doubt.

3. Reporting Against Project Level Inputs and Performance

The table below provides quantitative data on project activities and outputs.

Ref #	Indicator	Value for 2019 H2	Comments
	FACULTY STRENGTHENING		
1.	Number of ANU lecturers teaching courses in Economics and Public Policy at the SBPP, UPNG	5	Dr Manoj Pandey, Dr Nemat Bizhan, Mr Dek Sum, Dr Amanda Watson (left in September 2019) and Dr Bao Nguyen (left in December 2019).
2.	Number of ANU-sponsored lecturers teaching	3	Associate Prof Martin Davies, Dr Marcel Schroder and Dr Francis Odhuno
3.	Number of courses (undergraduate and post graduate) taught by ANU lecturers at SBPP, UPNG	5 undergraduate courses during Semester 2; 4 postgraduate courses during Trimester 2, 2 during Trimester 3	This includes courses taught by ANU-sponsored lecturers. Note: T2 courses commenced in H1 2019.
4.	Number of students taught by an ANU lecturer (overall teaching load)	362 students, 275 male and 87 female 214 undergraduate students, 167 male, 47 female 148 postgraduate students, 108 male, 40 female	This includes courses taught by ANU-sponsored lecturers. Note: T2 courses commenced in H1 2019.
5.	Number of ANU and ANU-sponsored lecturers at SBPP who receive a rating of 4 or above from student evaluations.	7 out of 8	
6.	Percentage of courses taught by ANU and ANU-sponsored lecturers that receive a rating of 4 or above from student evaluations	10 out of 11	Except Applied Cost Benefit Analysis.
7.	Median result in the Economics Exam	3rd year students - 52% 4th year students – 55%	Exam was held in September 2019.
	COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH AND OUTREACH		
8.	Number of film nights.	8	See Section 1
9.	Number of presentations by ANU faculty and collaborators at conferences, workshops etc	16	

10.	Number of PNG Update presenters/co-authors	77	See Annex 2
11.	Number of female PNG Update presenters/co-authors	23	See Annex 2
12.	Average PNG Update evaluation rating	4.5	See Annex 2
13.	Number of Guest Lectures given or arranged by ANU faculty at SBPP	4	
14.	Number of conferences, seminars, workshops etc arranged/facilitated by ANU at UPNG	3	
15.	Number of PNG-related conferences, seminars, workshops etc arranged by ANU at ANU	4	
16.	Number of research projects underway	24	
17.	Number of research projects which include UPNG collaboration	All in some form, 4 with co-authorship	
18.	Number of research publications during the period	2	See Section 1
19.	Number of conferences, roundtables, workshops, meetings attended by ANU and SBPP faculty	76	
20.	Number of PNG blog posts posted on the Devpolicy Blog	32 on PNG; 43 on Pacific including PNG	
	STUDENT AND FACULTY EXCHANGES		
21.	Number of SBPP, UPNG Faculty visits to or arranged by ANU	1	Maho Laveil
22.	Number of ANU Faculty visits to UPNG	6	Stephen Howes, Stephen Howes, Michelle Rooney, Rohan Fox, Ashlee Betteridge, Shannon Young.
23.	Number and success of long-term scholarship recipients studying at ANU	3	Ani Rova, Maho Laveil, Kelly Samof
24.	Number of students and success in the Summer School at ANU	N/A (first half of year)	

Annex 1 ANU-UPNG economics exam report

This note reports on results from the latest ANU-UPNG economics exam held in October 2019.

The ANU has run an annual exam in economics at UPNG since 2013. Student participation in this exam is voluntary. Students who sit the exam are almost exclusively third or fourth year economics majors.

The purpose of the annual economics exam is threefold:

- assist with the ranking and selection of candidates for the annual ANU-UPNG Scholarship in Economics under the partnership program;
- provide an objective measure of the ability of a student cohort in a given year; and
- provide a measure of the effect of ANU's partnership with UPNG on student performance over time: since 2015, ANU lecturers have been teaching economics at UPNG.

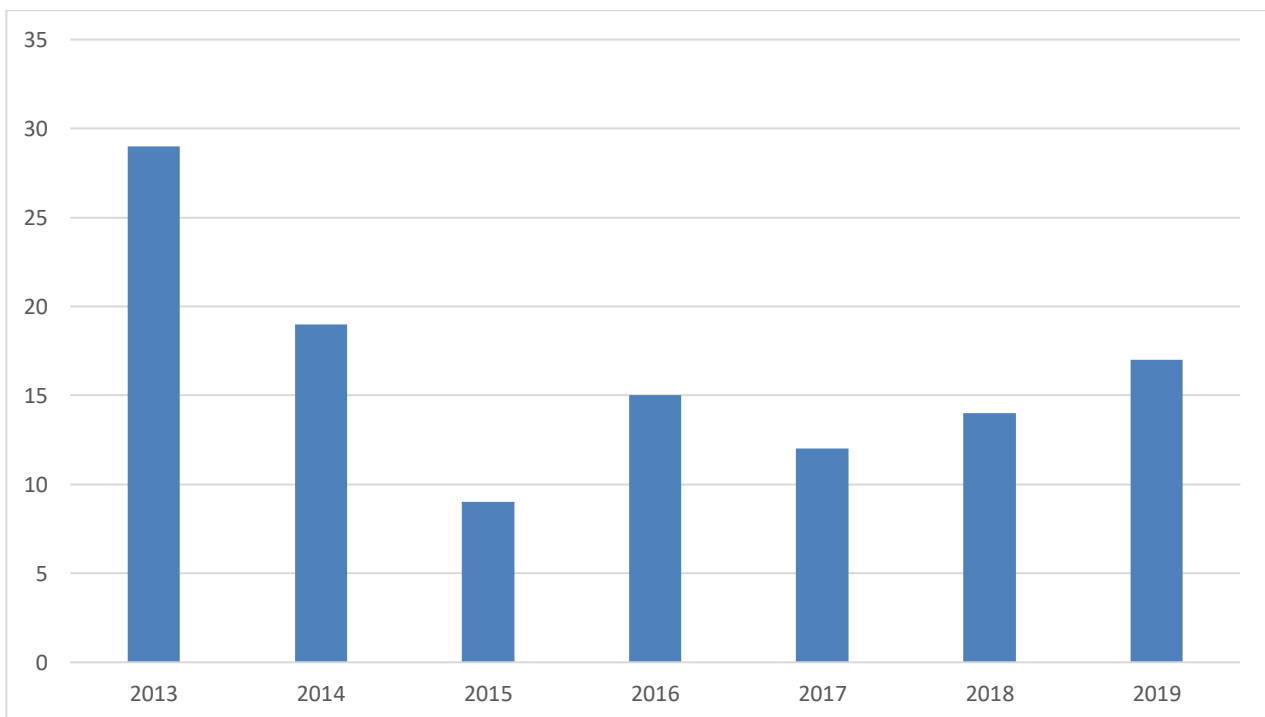
The exams test basic math, microeconomics, and macroeconomics. As of 2014, the exams have been designed to be comparable over time by retaining this structure of 'math, micro, macro' questions. The standard is roughly comparable to what would be expected of second year students at the ANU.

Overall the exam demonstrates continuing improvement in performance on the part of the UPNG SBPP students.

Comparisons to previous years

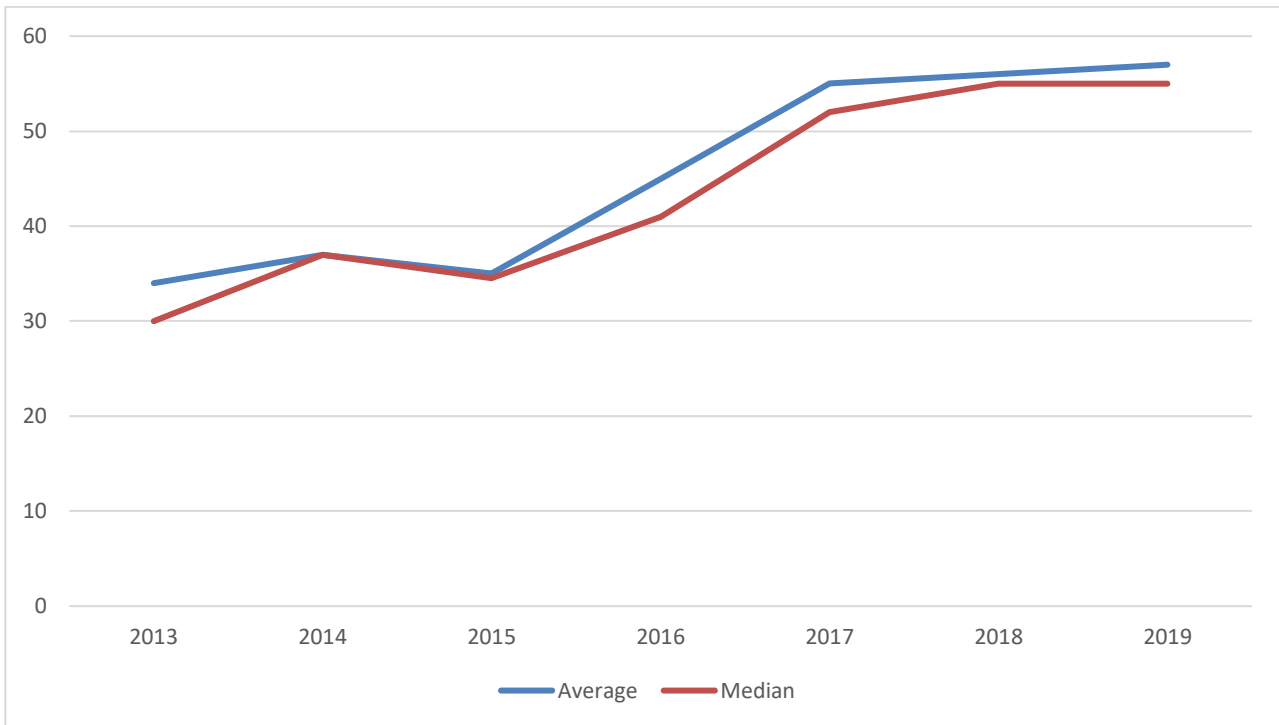
The graph below shows the total number of fourth-year exam participants since 2013.

Figure 1: 4th year exam participant numbers 2013-2019



The average score for fourth year students was 57 out of 100, up from 55 out of 100 the previous two years, and the highest average score since starting exams.

Figure 2: 4th year student average and median grade out of 100 2013-2019



The graph below shows the number of 3rd year exam participants since 2013.

Figure 3: 3rd year exam participant numbers 2013-2019

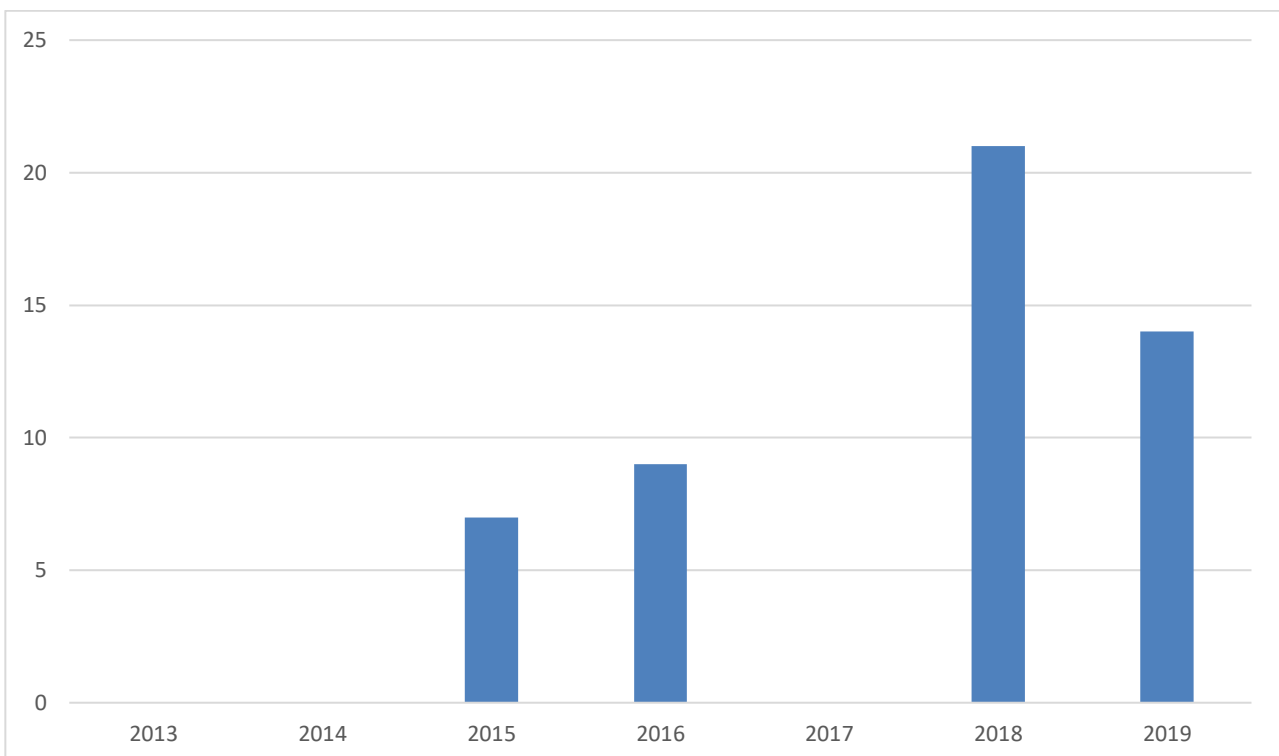


Figure 4 shows average ANU exam grades, by student year from 2013-2019 for both 3rd and 4th year students. There is a significant improvement in the performance of 3rd years compared with prior years, with the average rising from 47 in 2018 to 56 in 2019. Had the group in 2019 been as large as the group in 2018 the average may have fallen (as the best students are more likely to do the exam, and larger groups tend to include a higher proportion of lower performing students). That said, in 2019 the top score was from a 3rd year student. In addition, the 2019 attendance was the second highest for the exam.

In this context, obtaining the highest average grade is a significant achievement. It is also interesting that, as in 2015 and 2016, but not in 2018, the third year students did at least as well as the fourth year ones. This may reflect one or both of two things: there is a strong focus on maths in the third year, and the third year students may benefit from the freshness of this teaching; and/or there is a natural variability in cohort talent over time.

Figure 4: 3rd & 4th year exam average scores 2013-2019

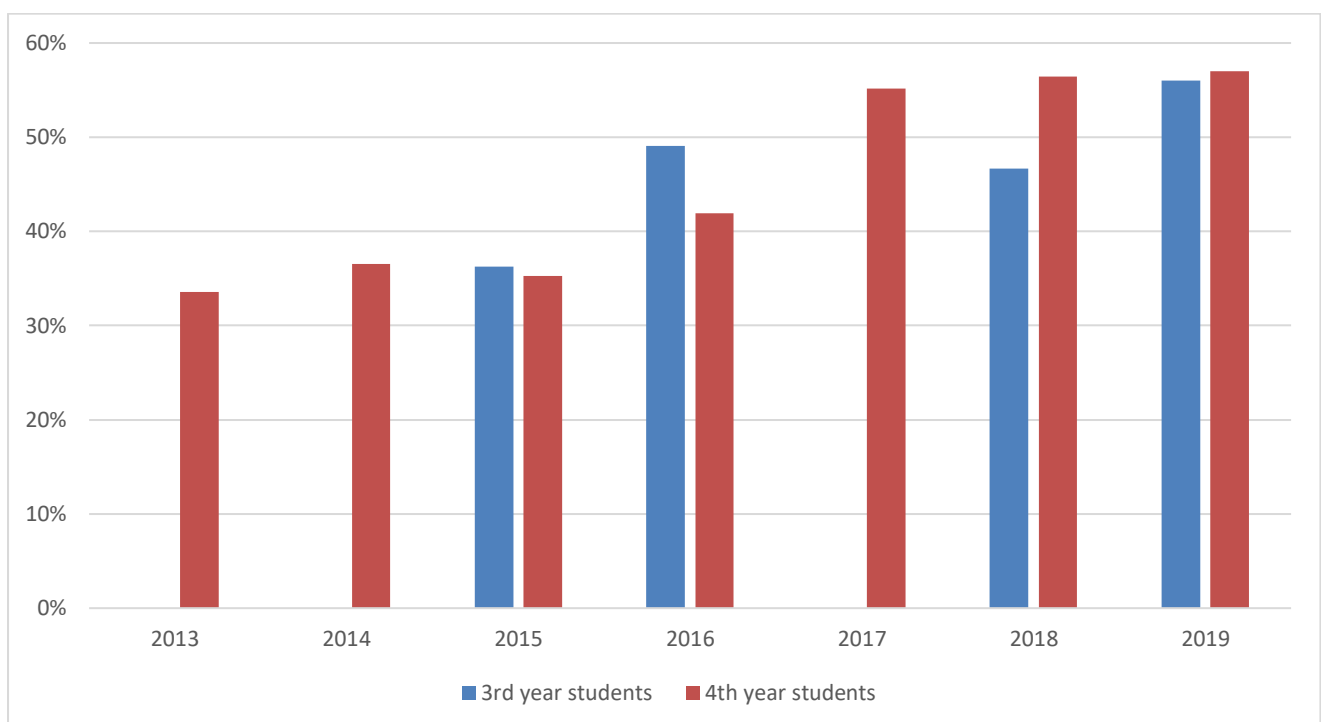
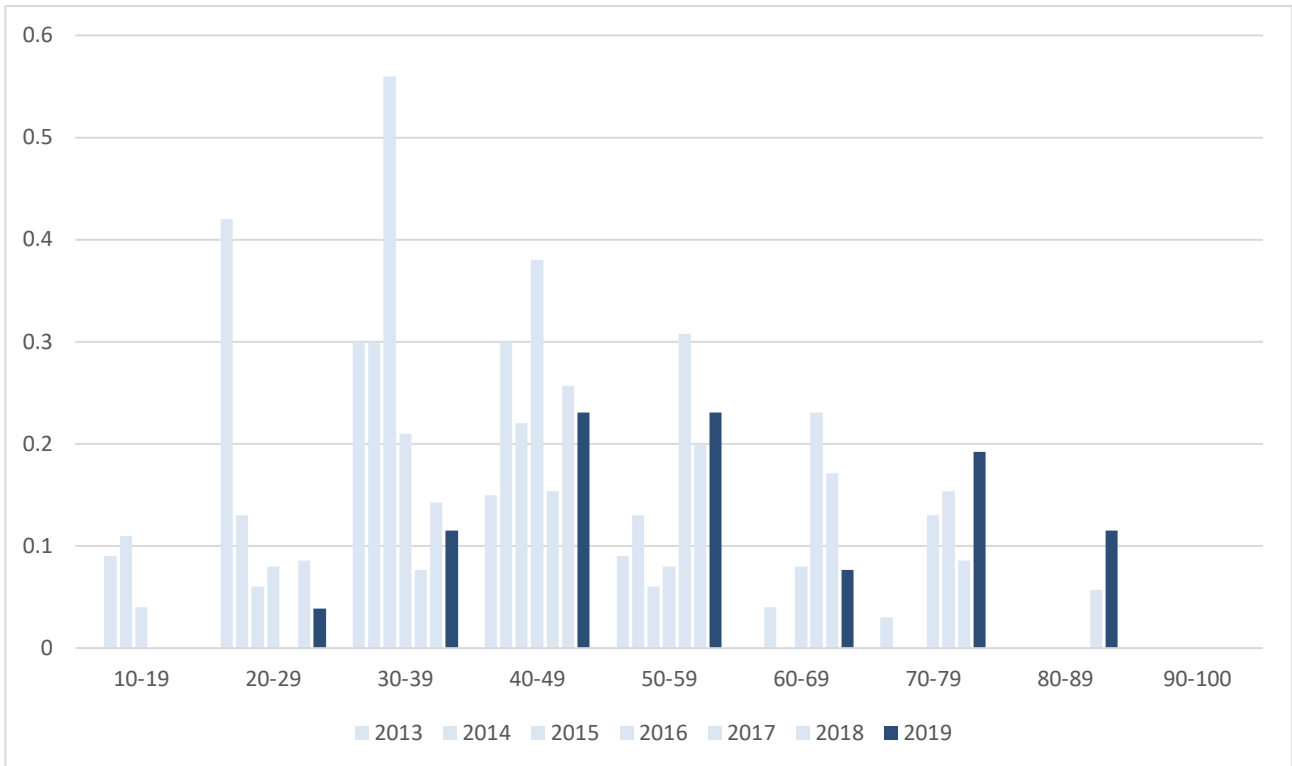


Table 1: Average and median by year group 2019

	Average	Median
3rd year students	56%	52%
4th year students	57%	55%

Moving from averages to looking at the overall distribution of scores, we see that more students than ever got distinction and high distinction grades, and for the first time, one student got a score of 90 out of 100.

Figure 5: Distribution of 3rd & 4th year candidate scores 2013 – 2019



The cohort of Summer School in general did very well. However unfortunately, one of the Summer School participants was the lowest scoring participant in the exam, with a score of 27 out of 100, substantially lower than her score in the previous ANU exam in 2018. There may (or may not) be external factors which contributed to this poor result.

If we exclude this poor result, the average score for Summer School students was 70 out of 100, much higher than the average, and higher than the Summer School student average score in 2018 (if we include the poor result then the average is 61 out of 100, still well above the average).

Conclusion

The fact that this exam is voluntary limits the representativeness and comparability of results. However, its main result of continued improvement is robust, and again shown by another year of results. This year, though the overall average was roughly the same as in 2018, there were the largest number of students with scores at distinction or high distinction level. Another feature of this year’s results is that it is also of interest to note that third year students performed excellently, they significantly outperformed their counterparts in prior years, and also had the top mark in this exam and all exams prior.

It is not feasible to make this exam compulsory – nor is there any guarantee that students forced to take the exam would put in significant effort. Despite its limitations, we think that the exam is a valuable evaluation tool, and plan to continue with it on an annual basis.

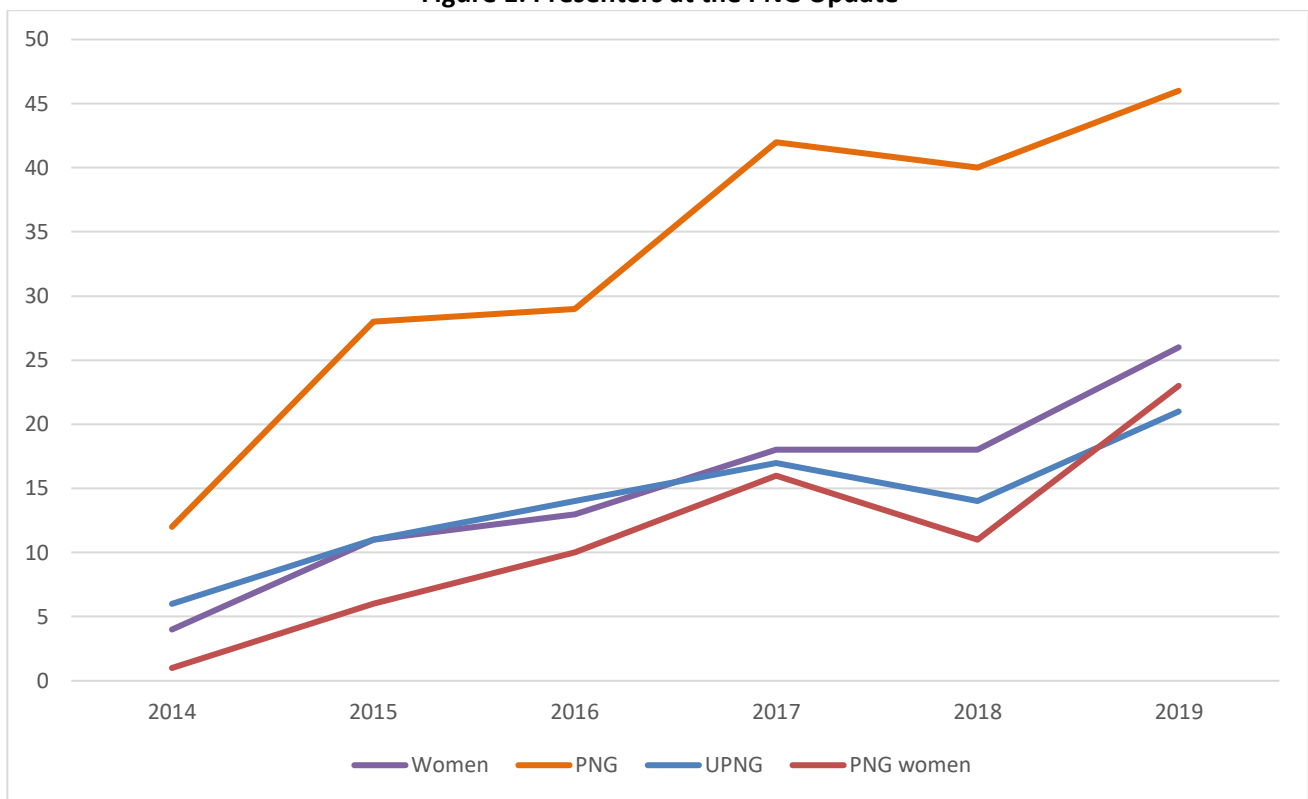
Annex 2 2019 PNG Update Report

The 2019 PNG Update: Development and Diversity was held on 8-9 August 2019. Around 1600 people attended the two day conference (800 per day).

Abstract submissions and total presentation numbers were similar to 2018. 2018 had 108 submissions and 77 presentations. 2019 had 107 submissions and 77 presentations. However, in 2019 the Update had more Papua New Guinean presenters, more female presenters, more UPNG presenters and more PNG women presenters.

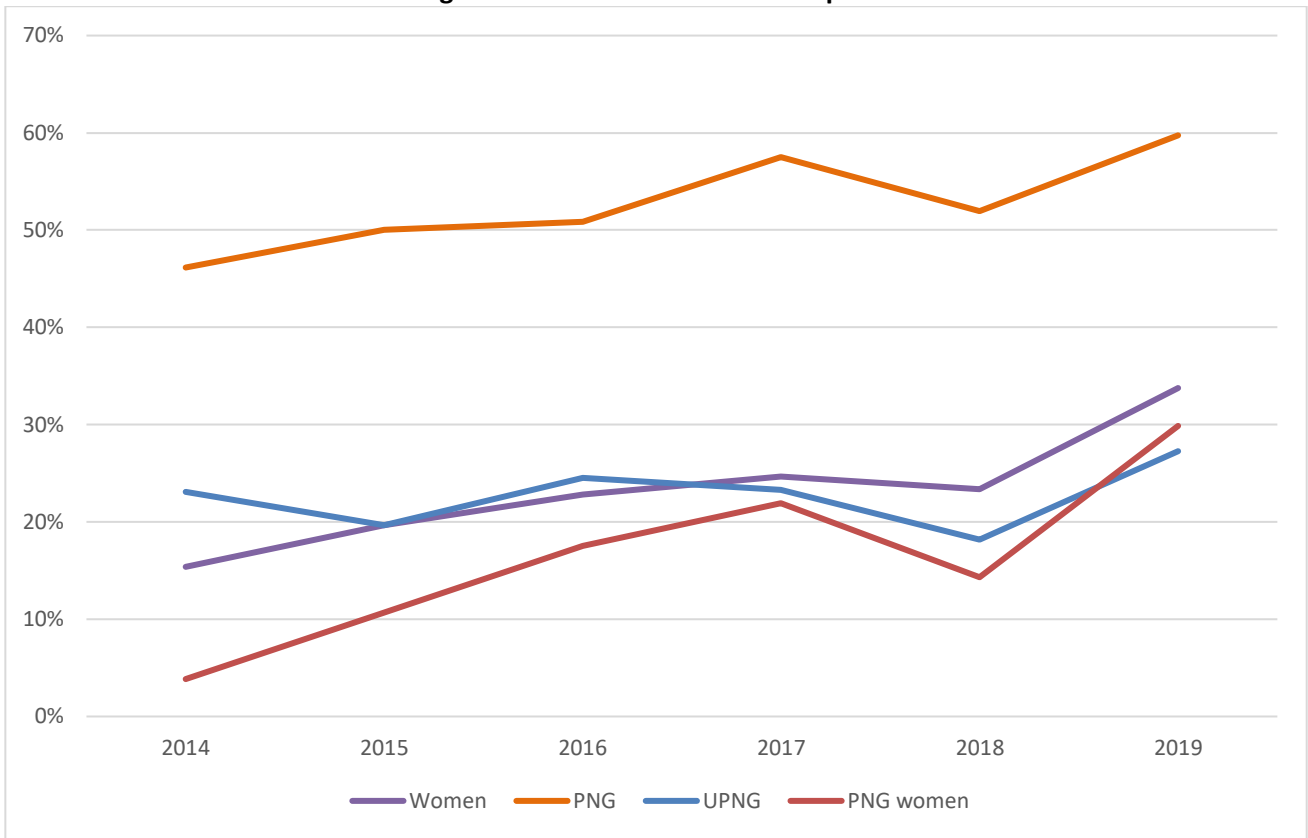
The increase in the number of PNG, female and UPNG presenters appears to be part of a positive trend since the first Update (of its current format) in 2014. As an example, at that initial Update, there was just one female Papua New Guinean presenter. By 2019, there were 23.

Figure 1: Presenters at the PNG Update



This trend is in-part due to larger Updates. In 2014, there were only 26 presenters in total; in 2018 and 2019 there were 77. The shares of papers presented by women, PNG nationals, PNG women and UPNG academics are also increasing, shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Presenters at the PNG Update



The share of presentations by Papua New Guineans reached 50% in 2015 and 2016 and increased to 60% by 2019. The share of PNG women presenting has gone up from 10 to 30%. UPNG academics have always been strong contributors to the Update, but their share has grown from about 20% to about 30%.

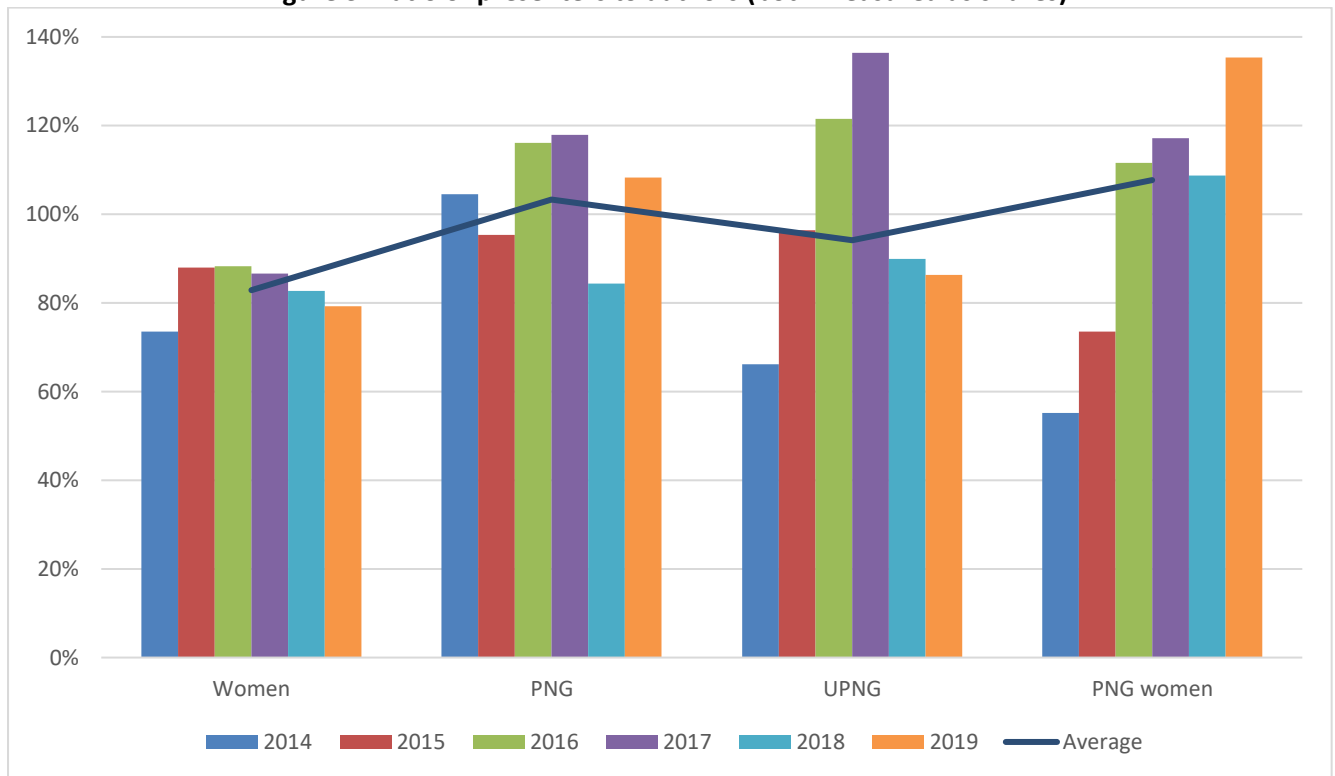
The number of presentations explicitly related to gender is also on the rise. 17 presentations (around 1 in 5) had a gender focus in 2019, up from 7 and 5 respectively in 2017 and 2018. These gender papers were not just in gender sessions, but were integrated throughout the conference, including in plenary sessions.



However, the lack of female Papua New Guinean leaders (political and otherwise) was apparent in the plenary sessions, in which a clear majority of speakers were male. The exception to this was the ANU-UPNG research showcase, in which four of the six authors whose work was presented were female – though, sadly, only one of those females was actually able to attend the Update and present.

Often presenters presents on behalf of a team. In 2019, we had 77 presenters speaking on behalf of 136 authors. Equity would seem to demand the same share of authors as of presenters. The final graph shows the ratio of the share of presenters to the share of authors for our different categories.

Figure 3: Ratio of presenters to authors (both measured as shares)



While these ratios move around year to year, we see parity on average for most categories, namely PNG nationals, UPNG academics and PNG women. The even better news is that we see an upward trend in the PNG female category, meaning that more PNG women are taking a leadership role, and standing up to talk. The anomaly is the general female category, where the average of shares of presenters to contributors is stuck at only 80%. This may be because women work in larger teams, which would not be a concern, or it may be because men tend to get chosen to represent teams of authors, which would be a concern.

For the first year the Update featured a speech by the Prime Minister of PNG. The PM also returned for the final session of the Update and sat in on the session on gender and society. Other keynote speakers were Australian High Commissioner, Bruce Davis, UPNG Council Member and former Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Gabriel Pepson, Opposition leader, Patrick Pruaitch, Chairman-CEO of NEFC, Hohora Suve, Vice-Chancellor of UPNG, Frank Griffin and Minister for Planning, Richard Maru.

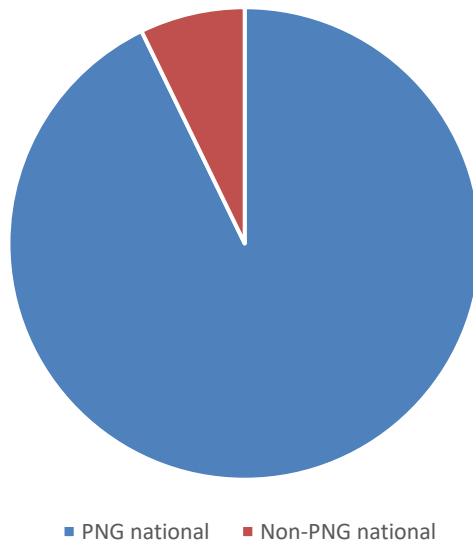
Three plenary speeches were ANU-UPNG research collaborations, the PNG Economic Survey 2018-2019, men and women’s perspectives on options to address family and sexual violence in Lae and 2017 election analysis.



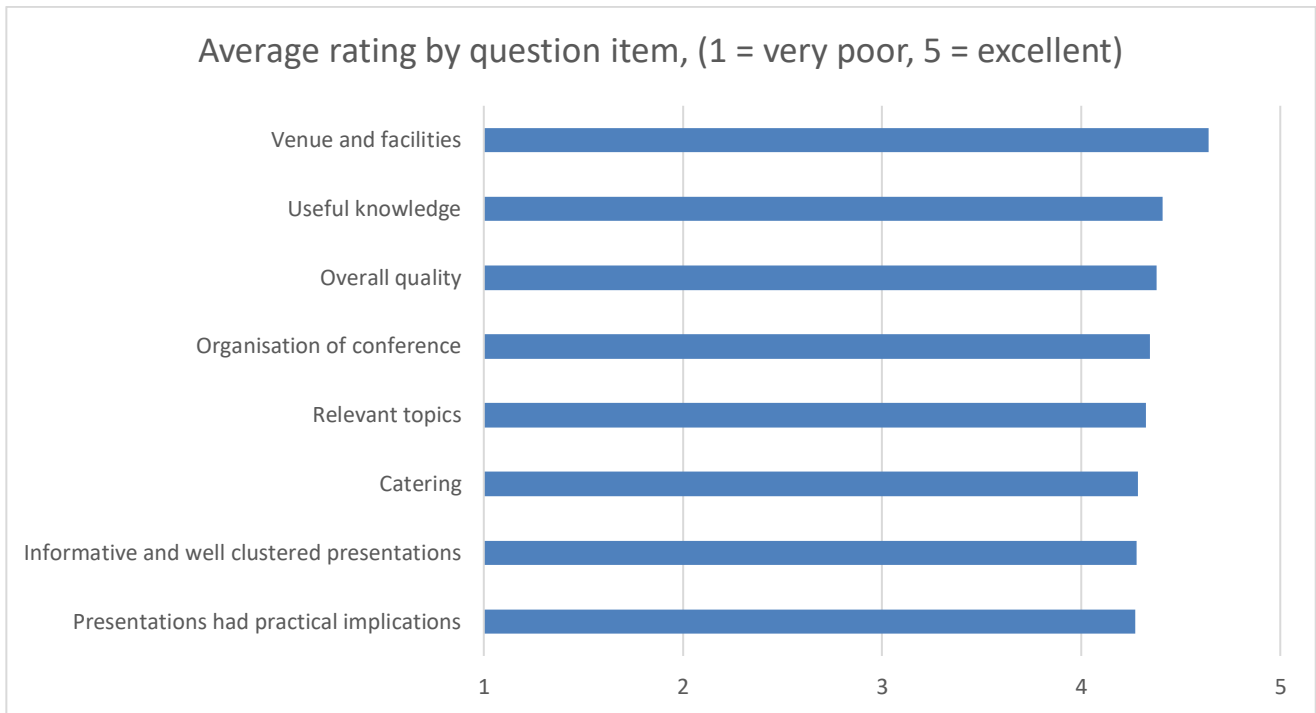
UPNG management organises most of the site logistics for the Update. 80 student volunteers assisted with the preparation and running of the Update. The Department of Hospitality and Tourism organises catering. The media and ICT team at UPNG record sessions and stream live to Facebook. The streamed sessions are all available to listen at any time on the UPNG Facebook site.

116 surveys were received at the end of the day on both days of the Update to ascertain the opinions of the attendees on various aspects of the conference. Of the respondents, 93% were Papua New Guinean, exactly the same rate as in 2018.

Attendee nationality



The average survey scores were all above four, meaning that most people rated each criterion as good or excellent.



Venue

The new School of Business building was opened by Australian High Commissioner to PNG in late 2018 and the full facilities were used for the first time. In previous years, surveys of Update attendees suggested that the state of facilities was the least valued parts of the conference. With the new building, the venue is now stated to be the most impressive aspect.

The Update was well-attended with the New Lecture Theatre and an overflow theatre full for the opening plenary, and there was standing room only in some parallel sessions. Over the two days it is estimated that approximately 1600 people attended the Update. This is a significant increase on the numbers from the year prior, which was about 1000. Most of the increase is likely resultant from the Update being held during term-time rather than in the holiday period. This meant that more students and staff attended. The higher number of attendees is one reason that the 2020 Update is also scheduled to occur in August.

Further improvement in all these areas of course cannot be taken for granted and will require continued effort from all interested parties. However, these trends are a good sign, and should be monitored carefully over the years to come.