T1, 2020 GRADE DISTRIBUTIONS (RESULTS)

The observation is that UBSS continues to mature in this all-important domain of grade distribution. In a recent Paper by Associate Professor Andrew West April 2020) this has become evident using the data from 9 trimesters. UBSS does not internally moderate results – that is we do not adjust (normalise) at the macro level to fit a formula or curve (unlike many Universities). *Rather*, we encourage staff to create sensible and appropriate assessment and mark accordingly. The moderation takes place through experienced staff (who teach at other like institutions), an external moderator who looks at our grade distributions and samples of assessment across the major programs (currently **Dr Lu, Jiao** – Macquarie University); a COPHE benchmarking activity that provides further external moderation; an extensive HEPP-QN benchmarking project (the bases for West's April 2020 paper); internal comparing where more than one teacher actually teaches a single subject; and through a careful national/international benchmarking exercise that currently compares our distributions with some 25-30 other HEPs and iHEPs. The moderation is thorough and appropriate.

The **Grades Review Committee** (*a sub-committee of the Academic Senate*) conferred on Monday, May 4, 2020 and considered the T1, 2020 grade distributions post final examinations.

Membership of this committee included –

Associate Professor Felix Stravens (Program Director, Bachelor of Business)

Assistant Professor Richard Xi (Postgraduate Coordinator)

Associate Professor Wayne Smithson (Program Director, Bachelor of Accounting)

Associate Professor Duncan Honore -Morris (Program Director, Master of Business Administration)

Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley (Executive Dean)

The outcomes continue to shape appropriately as evidenced in the tables and graphs provided below. The distributions are continuing to take on an appropriate shape and consistency with other like schools – despite our current policy of 'no adjustment to real results'. The aggregated progression rate for T1, 2020 is 79% (9% above Strategic Plan target). It is worth noting that the *Bachelor of Accounting* progression rate was 83% (13% above target); the *Bachelor of Business* progression rate was 77% (7% above target); and the *Master of Business Administration* progression rate was 77% (7% above target).

*The distributions for the three programs are presented in table form, graph form (**Associate Professor Wayne Smithson**) and then superimposed over a national/international benchmarking project conducted by **Professor Ian Bofinger** (UBSS Academic Senate) and **Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley** (UBSS) in Mannheim, Germany in late 2016 and continues to be updated with more recent input. A recent grade distribution benchmarking activity by HEPP-QN in which **Associate Professor Andy West** participated has also contributed to the comparative graph.*

We want to take this opportunity to thank all UBSS staff for a brilliant turnaround of results for T, 2020. This speedy marking and resolution has contributed to a very smooth ratification of grades, recording of outcomes and release of grades on Monday – May 4 (ahead of schedule).
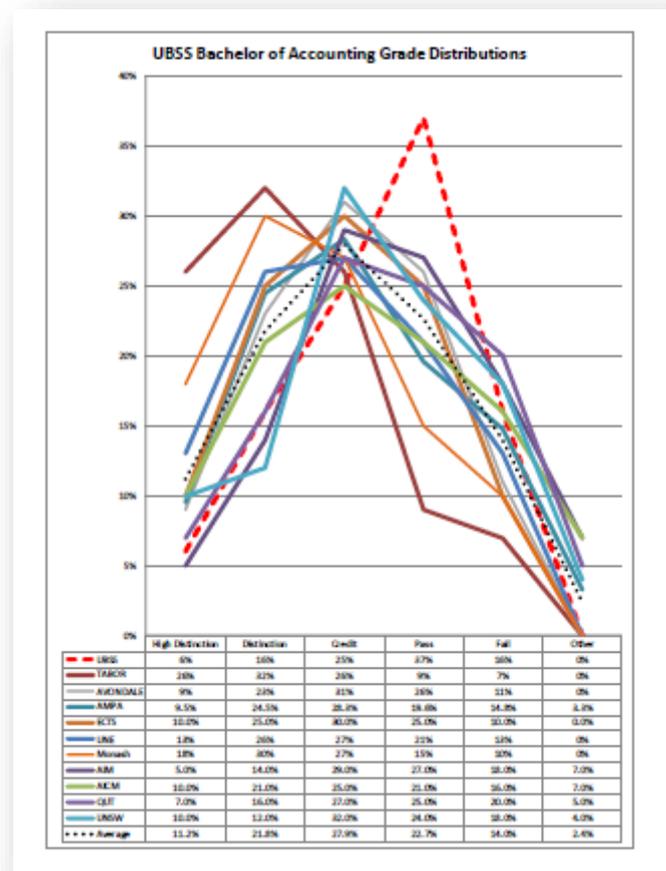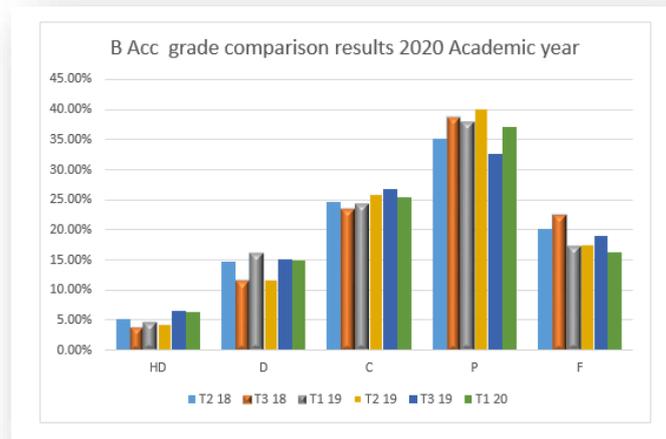
Great Effort! Great team work!

The T1, 2020 grade distributions are captured in a number of ways including –

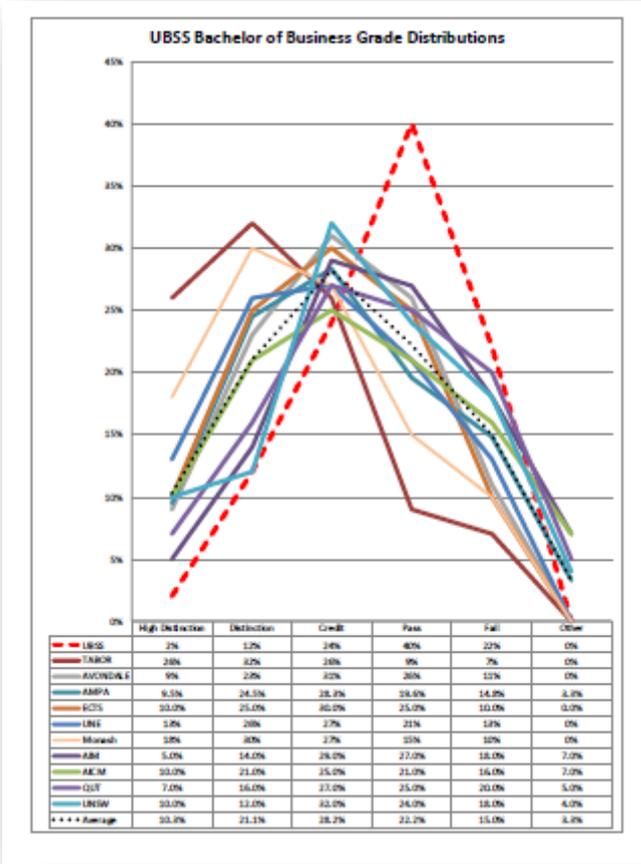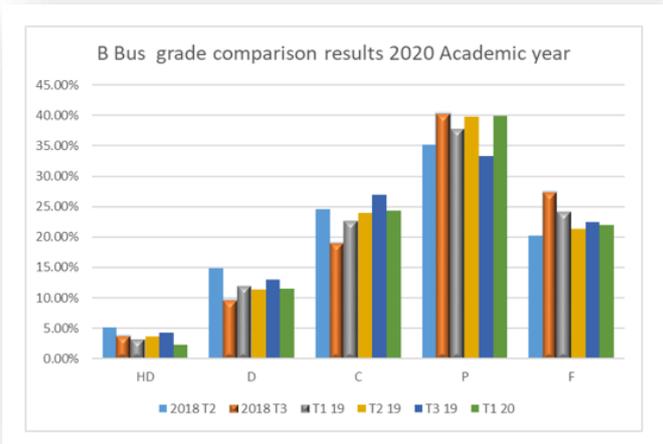| Grade	BACC	BBUS	MBA	UBSS
HD	6%	2%	9%	6%
D	16%	12%	13%	14%
C	25%	24%	24%	24%
P	37%	40%	31%	36%
F	16%	22%	23%	20%

A further graphic representation is provided below including a national/international comparison made possible by **Bofinger and Whateley** (2016+) and **West** (2017+) and an aggregated UBSS outcome -

Bachelor of Accounting (Comparison over 6 Trimesters)

B Acc grade comparison results 2020 Academic year

Legend: T2 18, T3 18, T1 19, T2 19, T3 19, T1 20

UBSS Bachelor of Accounting Grade Distributions

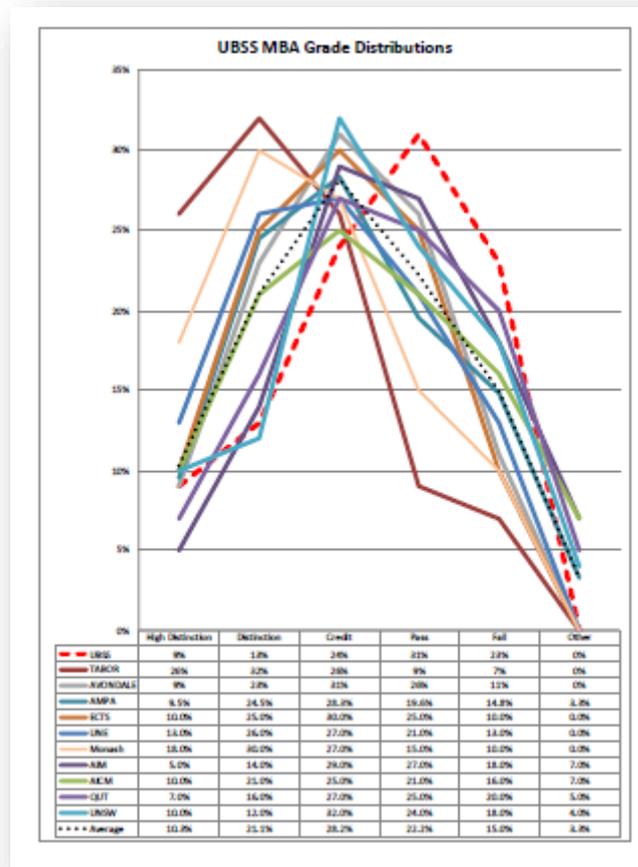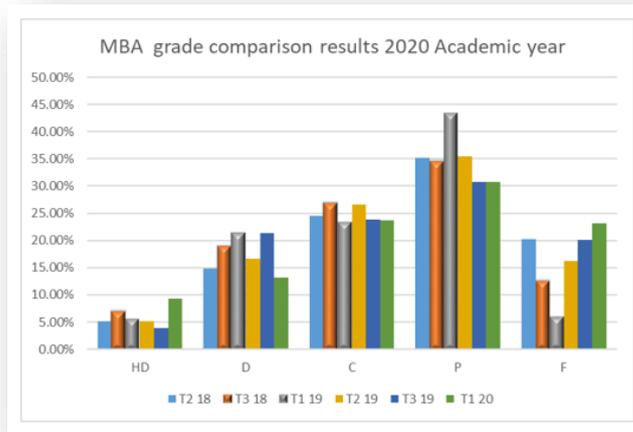|	High Distinction	Distinction	Credit	Pass	Fail	Other
UBSS	6%	16%	25%	37%	16%	0%
TABOR	26%	32%	26%	9%	7%	0%
AVONDALE	9%	23%	31%	26%	11%	0%
AMPA	9.5%	24.5%	28.2%	19.0%	14.8%	4.0%
ECTS	10.0%	25.0%	30.0%	25.0%	10.0%	0.0%
UNE	12%	26%	27%	21%	14%	0%
Monash	18%	30%	27%	15%	10%	0%
AIM	5.0%	14.0%	29.0%	27.0%	18.0%	7.0%
AICM	10.0%	21.0%	25.0%	21.0%	16.0%	7.0%
QUT	7.0%	16.0%	27.0%	25.0%	20.0%	5.0%
UNSW	10.0%	13.0%	32.0%	24.0%	18.0%	4.0%
Average	11.2%	21.8%	27.9%	22.7%	14.0%	2.4%

This indicates a Progression Rate of 83% (13% above target)

Bachelor of Business (Comparison over 6 Trimesters)

B Bus grade comparison results 2020 Academic year
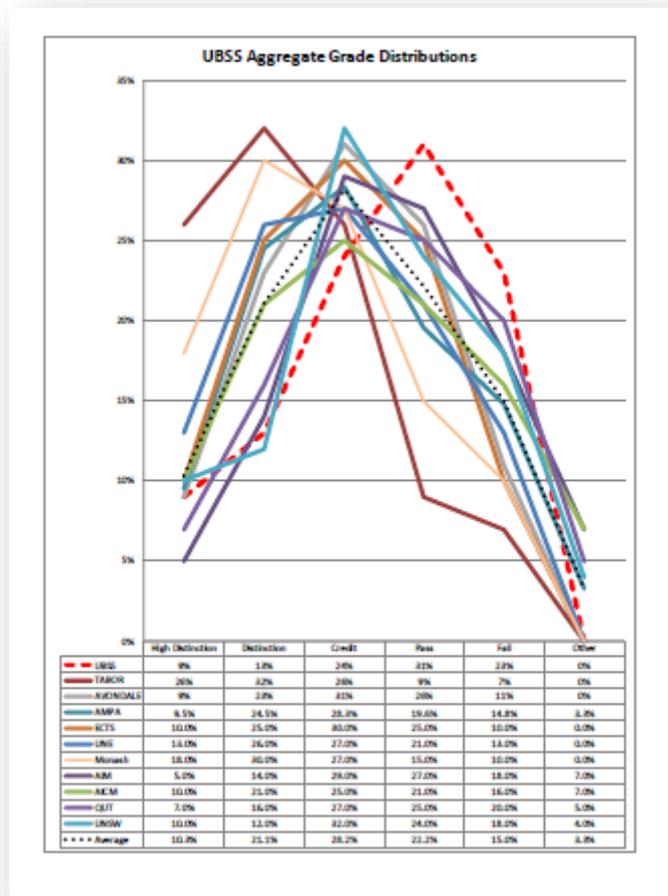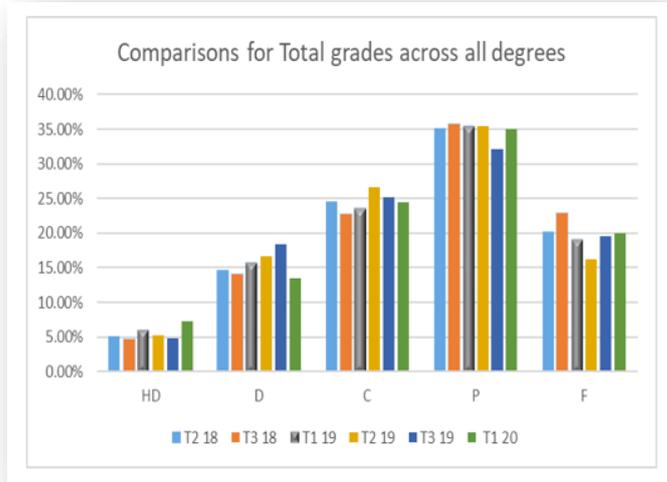

UBSS Bachelor of Business Grade Distributions

This indicates a Progression Rate of 77% (7% above target)

Master of Business Administration (Comparison over 6 Trimesters)

MBA grade comparison results 2020 Academic year

UBSS MBA Grade Distributions

	High Distinction	Distinction	Credit	Pass	Fail	Other
UBSS	9%	18%	24%	31%	18%	0%
TABOR	26%	32%	26%	9%	7%	0%
AVONDALE	9%	28%	31%	20%	11%	0%
AMPA	8.5%	14.5%	28.2%	19.6%	14.8%	2.8%
ECTS	10.0%	25.0%	30.0%	25.0%	10.0%	0.0%
UNE	13.0%	26.0%	27.0%	21.0%	13.0%	0.0%
Monash	18.0%	30.0%	27.0%	15.0%	10.0%	0.0%
AIM	5.0%	14.0%	29.0%	27.0%	18.0%	7.0%
AICM	10.0%	21.0%	25.0%	21.0%	16.0%	7.0%
QUT	7.0%	16.0%	27.0%	25.0%	20.0%	5.0%
UNSW	10.0%	12.0%	32.0%	24.0%	18.0%	4.0%
Average	10.3%	21.5%	28.2%	22.2%	15.0%	2.8%

This indicates a Progression Rate of 77% (7% above target)

An aggregated (benchmarked) grade distribution comparison for UBSS overall in T1, 2020 (Comparison over 6 Trimesters)

The aggregated progression rate for T1, 2020 is 79 % (9 % above target) and interestingly the same as T3, 2019 and T2, 2019.

Again, we extend our thanks to all involved in the process. This is an excellent set of outcomes. A special thankyou to **Associate Professor Wayne Smithson (Internal)** for data capture**, Professor Ian Bofinger** (External) for his work on the national/international comparative data presentation as well as **Associate Professor Andrew West** (Internal) for national data.

In addition, the work done by **Assistant Professor Richard Xi (postgraduate), Associate Professor Felix Stravens (undergraduate) Associate Professor Duncan Honore-Morris (postgraduate)** needs to be acknowledged and applauded.

This report will be presented to the next Academic Senate meeting on <u>Wednesday, May 6</u>.

Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley

Executive Dean, UBSS

Executive Director, GCA