

**STUDENT PATHWAYS AT MESC
CAREER NEWS No.2
2009**

I hope that you enjoyed the first edition of Career News and the associated competition. See the Student Daily Bulletin for the competition related to Number 2! Email your answer to dbatt@mesc.vic.edu.au There will be three prizes - one at each sub school - Junior, Middle and Senior. Remember this career newsletter is published fortnightly throughout the year, giving you news of career events, open days, information sessions, new courses and so on. Do yourself a favour and read it regularly to keep yourself informed and to assist you in your career decision-making.

The VET year has commenced smoothly with over 60 students enrolled in programs offered across the Peninsula VET network of schools and providers. Many VET students doing VCE or VCAL are attending CHISHOLM INSTITUTE OF TAFE located at Frankston and participating in a variety of programs such as Engineering, Electrotechnology, Hospitality, Laboratory Skills, Community Recreation and Sport and Recreation Outdoor Recreation. Other students are travelling to local schools to do Multimedia; Clothing and Fashion; Dance; Hairdressing; Beauty Services; Building & Construction and Community Services Work (Children's Services / Aged Care / Disability). We are very proud of the Class of 2008 with 81% of students receiving an offer of a University or TAFE place in the first and second rounds of VTAC offers. 56% of students obtained an offer for either their first or second preference, a good indicator that they are investigating their options thoroughly or making realistic judgements about their pathways.

Year 10 students have been allocated to Pre-Senior Classes that will include a strong Career Development component throughout the year including a Work Experience placement. The Year 10 Work Experience program will take place in four different blocks during terms one, two and three. Students are allocated to one of these blocks according to the Pre-Senior class they have selected. These are as follows:

TEAM	PRE-SENIOR CLASSES	INDUCTION SESSION	WORK EXPERIENCE
1	2 groups ALD & KJN	25 th February	Term 1 16 - 20 March
2	3 groups HPI; SKK; JCT	29 th April	Term 2 18 - 22 May
3	3 groups MCR; NDD; RBS	6 th May	Term 2 1 - 5 June
4	2 groups APO & IKG	17 th June	Term 3 20 - 24 July

Once students know the dates of their placement they can begin to actively search for a position in an Industry area that they are interested in obtaining more information about. It is advisable that students use this opportunity to investigate possible future options and not simply work full time in their current part time or casual employment. The Careers office can provide support and possible contacts for students who have difficulty obtaining a placement.

Year 12 "PATHWAY SEMINARS" are due to commence early March with all year 12 students allocated to groups based on the Study block in their timetable. During the Seminar they will be given information regarding post secondary pathways into either further education at University or TAFE; Apprenticeships or Traineeships; and Job Search skills. These are compulsory for all year 12 students and will be followed with individual interviews with appointments made on the day of the Seminar.

Some of the information in this newsletter has been compiled by Martin Walker

**VALUE YOUR RESOURCES!
Especially...TIME, INFORMATION, PEOPLE**

1. HOW DO I CHOOSE A CAREER? Think about what you **enjoy** doing; what you are **good at**; what school **subjects** you enjoy most; what you **value** most; what **interests** you. Considering these things will give you valuable clues as to careers that will suit you. For example, do you enjoy science? art? English? business subjects? technology? Is helping others important? Do you like being indoors/outdoors? Are you good with your hands? What sort of activities did you enjoy as a younger child? Spend time using the **Job Guide** researching jobs that fit with your interests/abilities. **Remember**, you are not choosing a **job for life**. Think in terms of the next few years only. Technology is rapidly changing various aspects of the job world, and we can't anticipate what we might be doing in 10 or 15 years' time.

2. INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN SPORTS MEDICINE? Sandringham Sports Medicine is offering **FREE Careers Sessions!** There is an opportunity here to visit the Sandringham Sports Medicine Centre and meet with practitioners from various fields, participate in workshops and have your questions answered by experienced therapists. Each student is invited to select 3 workshops to attend. Workshops available include Sports Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Osteopathy and Remedial Massage Therapy. Student can apply online at www.sportsphysio.com.au or collect an application form from the Careers Office. Further information from either Helen Wilkie or Brandon Kam on 9583 5248

3. SKI INSTRUCTOR INTERNSHIPS IN THE USA & CANADA Educating Adventures is a company that offer certified ski instructor courses during the northern hemisphere winter. It could be an opportunity for you to obtain this qualification while travelling overseas as part of a GAP year arrangement. Visit the website to fill out an online application form. **DO THIS SOON AS THERE ARE LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE FOR THE 2009/ 2010 SEASON.** www.educatingadventures.com Australian contact phone number: 02 8011 4981. See flyer on the Study Centre Careers noticeboard for more information.

4. WHERE WILL I STUDY AFTER YEAR 12? If you are in Year 12, no doubt you have begun to think about where you will study in 2010. Your choices include universities, Technical and Further Education (TAFE) Institutes and independent colleges.

- There are several universities in Victoria: Australian Catholic University, Ballarat, Charles Sturt (a NSW uni with a campus at Albury-Wodonga), Deakin, La Trobe, Melbourne, Monash, Swinburne, RMIT and Victoria. They offer degrees.
- TAFE's are located throughout Victoria, with most areas well served. Some TAFE's are linked with a university (eg RMIT, Swinburne and Victoria) while others stand alone (eg Box Hill, Chisholm, and Kangan Batman). They offer pre-apprenticeships, certificates, diplomas and sometimes degrees.
- There are many specialist independent colleges such as Australian College of Natural Medicine, Australian College of Sports Therapy and Photographic Imaging College, offering certificates, diplomas and degrees.

Undergraduate university degree courses are subsidised by the government with Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP), except for international students who pay full fees; most TAFE places are also subsidised (fees are under review), while independent colleges require the payment of full course fees. There are government loan arrangements available for many fee-paying courses; to find out about payment for courses, and a lot of other information, see www.goingtouni.gov.au. NOTE: If you have a CSP you will be required to pay a portion of the fees; this payment, however, can be deferred until you are earning about \$40,000pa (currently) and re-paid through the tax system.

You need to find the most suitable alternative; you can get assistance in this process by attending Open Days (mainly Sundays in August), going to seminars, reading course information, talking to friends/relatives and by meeting with the school career counsellor.

5. SOME ADVICE IN CHOOSING A COURSE -

- Make sure that you have the pre-requisite subjects for the course
- Don't choose a course just because it has a high ENTER; you need to enjoy and be suited to the course. If your ENTER is higher than necessary to get into your chosen course it will probably mean that you will achieve very well.
- Don't choose a course because someone else thinks it's what you should do - it's your life!
- Take time in making your decisions
- Consider applying for a course and then taking a year off from study to work/volunteer/travel, particularly if you are very unsure (ie defer your offer of a place)
- Go to Open Days (August) to check out the institutions you are considering
- Don't assume that you will be able to transfer to a preferred course after first year - check what is required for this to happen

6. FOLIO PREPARATION COURSES AT RMIT - Folio preparation and career discovery courses are held at City/Brunswick campuses on weeknights, Saturdays and school holidays. Designed for Year 11/12's, they give insights into particular design industries, study options, and selection procedures. Apply for an early program as ones later in the year fill quickly. Some folio preparation areas covered: graphic design, digital media, multimedia, interior design, visual merchandising, 3D product design, fashion drawing, textiles and in visual/fine art. Contact: RMIT Training P/L on 9925 8111, www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au.

7. WHAT ABOUT HOSPITALITY? Trial-a-Trade is a fun and affordable opportunity for you to learn new skills and explore a range of career options in the foods and hospitality industries. It will give a feel for the working life of a chef, baker, butcher, waiter, barista, confectioner or patissier as you collaborate with others to prepare a shared luncheon. When: Sat 14 March; Where: William Angliss TAFE Institute, 555 La Trobe St, Melbourne; Cost: \$35 (\$25 for parents, public attending lunch only); Bookings/Info: 9606 2111, info@angliss.edu.au, www.angliss.edu.au.

8. WANT TO BE A VET? If so, you may wish to attend VET-DAY, the Veterinary Science Open Day. This is a chance for future students to go behind the scenes at the Uni of Melbourne Veterinary Clinic and Hospital. Talk to staff, meet current students and tour facilities. When: 10am-4pm, Sun 22 March (lectures for Year 10 and above students will be held at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm); Where: 250 Princes Hwy, Werribee (Mel 206, G5); Enquiries: 8344 7357, email via <http://vet-unimelb.custhelp.com>, www.vet.unimelb.edu.au.

9. WANT TO STUDY FORENSIC MEDICINE? A career information session is being held for Years 10-12's by the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine. It will provide insights into various **career options in forensic sciences**. **When:** 12.30-4.00pm, Mon 6 April; **Where:** VIFM Lecture Theatre, Coronial Services Centre, 57-63 Kavanagh St, Southbank; **Registration (do it soon):** complete the form available at: www.vifm.org (for the form see: Job Opportunities, then Careers Information). **Info:** 9684 4313. A second session will be held later.

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE! FOR ALL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR COURSES IN MEDICINE AND OTHER HEALTH SCIENCE CAREERS.

Students interested in pursuing medicine, and other health science careers need to sit the UMAT on JULY 29, 2009. Preparation programs exist to help students perform at their best and will be advertised in the Career News as information is received. THE UMAT (UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES ADMISSION TEST) IS ADMINISTERED BY ACER - PLEASE VISIT THEIR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS REGARDING ENROLLING FOR THIS YEAR'S TEST AND RESOURCE MATERIALS AVAILABLE. <http://umat.acer.edu.au> Phone: 9277 5746 / 5502 or email: umat@acer.edu.au

Career development

helping students at MESC manage their life, learning and work!

SEE MRS. BATT OR MS. PROSSER IN THE CAREERS OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



Mount Eliza
Secondary College