

STUDENT PATHWAYS AT MESC
CAREER NEWS No.7
AUGUST 2009

FIRSTLY, A HUGE APOLOGY FOR THE LACK OF CONSISTENT "CAREER NEWS" PUBLICATIONS IN THIS PAST TERM. When Term 3 comes around the activity centred around the Student Pathways office reaches a peak! Nonetheless, all important notices have been published in the College Newsletter and many notices have been emailed directly to students in years 10,11 and 12.

Year 10 CAREER DISCOVERY PROGRAM - All year 10 students should have completed a work experience placement with our final group out earlier this term. Overall it has been a very successful program with students engaging in some very interesting work in numerous sectors of the community and covering a full range of available industries.

In the first week of term all year 10 students participated in a Career Discovery Day where they visited a venue of interest to them that related to a potential future pathway. In all 180 students were out and about on trains and trams for venues up towards Melbourne, and on buses for local tours.

Course Counselling for Senior Programs has been the focus of much of our work with year 10 students this term. Our Parent Information Evening on August 10 was very well attended and the Senior School pathways into either VCE or VCAL were well explained. The addition of a VET, Vocational Education and Training Program, to either program was also explained. During this week year 10 students will attend an individual Course Counselling session to discuss their pathway and the appropriate Senior School program and subjects to provide access to that pathway.

On Tuesday August 18th year 10 students were given the option of attending the local Mornington Peninsula Shire Careers and Jobs Expo. There will be approximately 40 students attending and they will have access to a broad range of information about pathways into University, TAFE, Apprenticeships & Traineeships, and Employment.

Year 11 COURSE COUNSELLING - Students at year 11 sat down with a Senior School Coordinator or member of the Pathways Team last week to check that they were on track in relation to subjects selected for their final year at school.

Year 12 VTAC APPLICATION ROUND 2009 - 2010 - The VTAC Applications for University and TAFE places in 2010 opened on August 3 and close late September, for timely applications costing \$23. Applications submitted after this date but prior to 13 November are considered "Late Applications" and cost increases to \$82. Finally for "Very Late" applications between 13 November and 12 December the cost is \$106. So there are many good reasons to apply as early as possible. Year 12 students, the majority of whom have attended an individual Pathways appointment, have been encouraged to make their application prior to August 14 and they have been given information to assist them with doing so.

It is strongly recommended that all year 12 students put in an application for a course at TAFE or University that will enable them to undertake further education and training in 2010. Even in the case of students who are planning to undertake an apprenticeship, it is a good idea to have the option of a course as a fall back position. A TAFE course can provide an excellent introduction to Tertiary study with, generally, smaller campuses and, certainly, lower fees. Two years spent at TAFE completing a Diploma sometimes provides access to a University degree with credit for one year of study and entry straight into the second year. This is a well worn path for students who do not achieve the final ENTER score required.

While on the topic of the ENTER - from December 2010 will be known as the ATAR - AUSTRALIAN TERTIARY ADMISSIONS RANK. It is a change in name only with no change to the calculation and it will have no effect on students' ranking or the selection process. The ATAR will be in place with the 2010 release of results

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

THERE IS A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PLAYING TO WIN AND PLAYING NOT TO LOSE!
ALWAYS PLAY TO WIN!!!

1. SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY Wednesday 2 September

Parent and VCE Student Information Evening

6.30pm - 7.30pm

Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn campus

A student's perspective on going on to further study; general information about entry, fees, scholarships and pathways; transition tips

Friday 25 September

Walk N Talk, Hawthorn Campus

Presentation on Swinburne's Offerings, followed by a campus tour and the option to participate in a workshop from various discipline areas including: Product Design Engineering and Mechatronics and Robotics

2. CAREERS IN PSYCHOLOGY INFORMATION NIGHT

Each year the Student Committee of the Australian Psychological Society (Melbourne Branch) runs a "Careers in Psychology" information session for aspiring psychologists. The purpose of the evening is to offer secondary and undergraduate psychology students an insight into several specialist areas of psychology. This event is important in the process of vocational selection for students, and also broadens their understanding of the role of psychologists in the community.

WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 6.15 - 10 pm; Prince Phillip Theatre, Building 133 University of Melbourne, Parkville campus. Any queries please email melbapsstudents@gmail.com

11. QANTAS APPRENTICESHIPS - Qantas Engineering offers a variety of apprenticeships to enable people to train and become qualified tradespeople within the aircraft industry. You must have at least Year 10 with passes in maths, science and English. Several trade streams are available such as avionics, mechanical and structures. **Expressions of interest and applications:** <http://www.careers.qantas.com.au>.

12. MELBOURNE UNI MUSIC - Two Bachelor degrees: The **B. Music** is for those pursuing a specialisation in performance, composition, musicology or ethnomusicology and those wishing to extend their education through graduate training to be music educators or music therapists. The **B. Music Performance** is for those pursuing a specialisation in improvisation and who might aspire to further graduate study. **Info:** 9685 9419, vcam-info@unimelb.edu.au or http://www.vcam.unimelb.edu.au/school_music.html.

13. WHAT ABOUT A CAREER IN MINING? In Year 10 or 11 (2009) and want to find out about earth and environmental sciences, geology, mining and minerals engineering and exploration? Then don't miss this opportunity. Applications are open for the 2010 University of NSW (UNSW) **Minerals Summer School**, a 4 day, fully residential and supervised event. Find out about **careers** and opportunities, investigate university **courses**, join **workshops**, visit **underground/surface mines**, mine **rehabilitation** sites. Commence at the University of NSW and travel to the Hunter Valley with male and female supervisors and share good quality accommodation. You should be studying subjects like chemistry, physics, maths or biology and have a genuine interest in careers in the mining industry. **When:** Mon 11 - Thurs 14 January, 2010; **Cost:** \$220 (subsidised); **Apply:** Forms in Careers Room; **Info:** www.mining.unse.edu.au, (02) 9385 5006.

14. MINDSHOP EXCELLENCE PROGRAM - MOUNT ELIZA STUDENTS SPEND A WEEK AT MONASH UNIVERSITY WORKING ON THE SOLUTION TO A REAL ISSUE.

Mindshop Excellence is a one week work experience program where the students act as a consultancy team to solve a real issue of concern to the host employer. The students are trained in interpersonal and problem-solving skills and apply these to the issue, reporting back to the company, the school and their parents on their final day. Recently a team of 7 students from Mount Eliza SC completed the Mindshop program with their host, Monash University. The students were given the issue of how to increase the number of local young people who go on to university. They surveyed secondary and tertiary students and presented their recommendations. They worked with mentors from the business sector who guided them in their use of several useful problem solving techniques but were left to work on their own as a team and use the time they had as they needed. Congratulations to the following students: Jessica Rennison, Ben Page, Freya Bennett, Tom Bowen, Michelle Roberts, Bianca Sandri and Ella-Maree Raworth. This team, ably led by Jessica, completed the program in July 2009.



The students on the final day of the program when their findings were presented (Bianca Sandri was absent) with Mindshop facilitator Chris Mason and Katherine Lock, Campus Manager, Peninsula, Monash University



Career development

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

See Mrs. Batt or Ms. Prosser for assistance.