

MONTMORENCY SECONDARY COLLEGE

CareerNewsNo1; FEBRUARY 2009

1. CAREER NEWS FOR 2009 – This career newsletter will be 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**.

2. 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**.

3. 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.

4. 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

5. 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.

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](http://vet.unimelb.custhelp.com), www.vet.unimelb.edu.au.