

## From the Career Desk.

### Subject selections for Yr 8 – 11

All students from Yr 8 to 11 should now have their subject selection forms and are madly trying to consider subjects for next year. All subject selection forms are due back to the homeroom teachers by 29<sup>th</sup> August.

**Yr 8** students have the opportunity to choose some elective subjects that they enjoy or would like to explore more about. However, as mentioned in previous newsletter articles we would hope that students who are talented and capable in studying French continue to so or at least consider it seriously before dropping it.

**Yr 9** students first need to choose what maths they would like to do next year. Students should speak to their maths teacher to get advice about what the three courses available to Yr 10's are about and to which one they would be capable of doing.

**Yr 9** students should also consider the VET courses that are available to them for next year. It is a fantastic opportunity to complete a VET course while a student is in Yr 10 and 11 as upon completion students gain a certificate which is equivalent to a Yr 12 subject and gain employable skills which will hopefully help them find either full time or part time employment. For further information students should see Mrs Fisher.

**Yr 10** students should be meeting with their mentors to discuss all the options that are available to them for next year. The first decision the students need to make is to what certificate (VCE or VCAL) that they want to complete. If students want to know more about a VCAL certificate then they should catch up with Ms Campbell.

**Yr 11** students should be discussing with their individual teachers about the possibility of them continuing with the current subjects next year. If they wish to pick up a subject that they are currently not doing they need to see the Learning Area Co-ordinator to find out more about the subject and discuss what extra work may need to be completed prior to entering the subject.

**Yr 11** students who have completed two Units  $\frac{3}{4}$  subjects this year are not automatically allowed to only complete four subjects (including English) next year. If a student thinks that they should only complete four subjects they need to meet with Mr Rovetto to discuss this matter.

### VTAC Registration and Applications

Hopefully by now all Yr 12 students who are considering going onto further studies next year have gone onto the vtac website ([www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au)) and registered their name, student number and pin number. This is a new process for 2008 and needs to be done before students enter their preferences.

Once students have registered their name they can apply for up to 12 courses that they are interested in for 2009. Students have until the 30<sup>th</sup> September to complete their on-line application for tertiary courses for next year.

If students need assistance in this process they can make an appointment with one of us and we are only too happy to help where we can. We will also be running lunchtime sessions in the library over the next few weeks.

### Things to consider when applying

- Don't apply for courses **you really don't wish to do** simply to fill the twelve choices
- Look at **all options** – often the required ENTER at a rural campus is lower than a city one for a similar course; if you are looking at this option, apply for accommodation early and visit on Open Day
- Check **clearly-in data from last year** for courses you are applying for and be realistic

- Consider applying **interstate**; we have interstate course guides in the career office.
- Apply for **both university and TAFE** – remember you can ‘articulate’ from many TAFE courses to university (two years at TAFE often equals one year at university)
- If you are unsure what to apply for **consider a generalist degree** (eg Arts, Science). You can specialise later.
- **Don’t think too long-term.** You are likely to have around six careers in your lifetime, so thinking about what you are ‘going to do with the rest of your life’ is unrealistic. Thinking about what you will do for the next five or so years is more realistic.
- Some new courses receive **accreditation too late** for them to be included in the Guide. Check the vtac website for any new courses and for deleted courses.
- If you have **questions about a course** you can: attend Open Day and ask; email the institution; phone the institution. Email and phone no’s are provided at the beginning of each institution’s entry in the VTAC Guide.

### **Early Entry Schemes**

ACU, Victoria University and University of Ballarat all have early entry schemes that Assumption Students can apply for. These schemes ask the students to provide the institutions with additional information (such as samples of work, references, statements about contributions made to the school community etc) that are used in the selection of a student for a course instead of solely relying on the ENTER ranking. Students may receive more information from the individual institution’s websites or from the career office. It should be noted that these applications take time to prepare and should be left to the last minute.

### **Deferring a Course**

We are often asked about deferring and taking a GAP year for various reasons. Our advice is that if you are considering having a year off from study in 2009, you should still apply for a course in 2008 and defer acceptance of any offer you receive. This means that the university holds a place for you for 12 months and if you change your mind next year than you can turn it down next year. **Most** university courses can be deferred (check this for individual courses); TAFE does not allow deferral. You would have to apply again the following year. **SPECIAL NOTE:** The University of Melbourne is undergoing changes to its undergraduate programs and as a result it will not be possible to defer some courses in 2009 (see p 414 – Deferment). To find out the policy for other universities read the entry at the beginning of each university’s section in the Guide (eg RMIT, p 321).

### **Full Fee University courses in 2009**

The Commonwealth Government has announced the phasing out undergraduate domestic fee-paying courses from 1 Jan, 2009 (previously VTAC Type 2 courses). This means there will be no full fee courses for 2009 admissions (exceptions include arrangements for continuing and deferred students, for students who enrol in employer-reserved places, and for those who have used their Student Learning Entitlement). The government has announced that funding will be provided for up to 11,000 new Commonwealth-supported places by 2011 to replace Fee places.

### **What is a National Priority Course?**

It is a field identified by the Commonwealth Government to ensure an adequate supply of qualified graduates. **Education and nursing** have been National Priorities for some time, but **maths and science** have been added. From 1 Jan 2009 Commonwealth-supported place contributions for new students in maths and science will be reduced. This could mean a **reduction in contributions of more than \$3,000** in one year. Graduates, who take up employment in related occupations, including teaching maths and science subjects in secondary schools, would also receive reductions in HECS-HELP repayments and debts (see [www.goingtouni.gov.au](http://www.goingtouni.gov.au)).

## **Physiotherapy at La Trobe University**

La Trobe's Bachelor of Health Sciences and Master of Physiotherapy Practice at **Bendigo campus** has been omitted from the 2009 VTAC Guide. However, this course IS available (see VTAC website). **Code** is 24491. **Info:** 9479 5815, [physiotherapy@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:physiotherapy@latrobe.edu.au).

## **Are you interested in applying to the VCA?**

Students are reminded that if they are applying to the VCA for Dance or for Film and Television that the timely application date is 31<sup>st</sup> August. This is 4 weeks earlier than all other VTAC courses.

## **What is Myotherapy?**

RMIT's School of Life and Physical Sciences is conducting introductory workshops for students interested in studying the Advanced Diploma of Remedial massage (Myotherapy). Each two day weekend workshop has a 'hands on' approach, teaching participants basic massage and myotherapy techniques and providing a real insight into what this field of study involves. **Dates:** 30–31 Aug or 6-7 Sept; **Where:** Building 51, RMIT City Campus, 80-92 Victoria St, Carlton Sth; **Cost:** \$250; **Info:** Priya Atkinson, 9925 4212, [priya.atkinson@rmit.edu.au](mailto:priya.atkinson@rmit.edu.au).

## **What about studying in Tasmania?**

The University of Tasmania (UTAS) has around 20,000 students and offers over 100 undergraduate degrees. If you achieve an ENTER of 90 or above UTAS guarantees you a place in law, engineering, architecture, marine science, psychology, as well as advanced honours programs in arts and in science for the 2009 intake.. Many scholarships are also on offer. **For info:** 1300 363 864, [Info@utas.edu.au](mailto:Info@utas.edu.au), [www.utas.edu.au/futurestudents](http://www.utas.edu.au/futurestudents).

## **Engineering at Monash**

Monash University are holding an evening for prospective students and their families, giving you chance to talk to course advisers and faculty staff and tour the facilities after a formal presentation. **When:** 7-9.30pm, Wed 3 Sept; **Where:** Lecture Theatre C1, Building 63, Clayton Campus; **Reg'n:** [www.eng.monash.edu.au](http://www.eng.monash.edu.au) or 9905 3404.

## **Get practical at the Swinburne Prahran Campus**

If you are interested in **advertising, marketing, public relations, event management, hospitality, real estate or retail management** don't miss these practical workshops. They will provide information about courses at Prahran and include a visit to the virtual advertising agency 'Generator' and training kitchen and restaurant 'Mecanix'. **When:** 10am-3.30pm, Sat 30 Aug; **Where:** Swinburne, Prahran, 144 High St; **Registration:** [www.future.swinburne.edu.au/sampleday](http://www.future.swinburne.edu.au/sampleday); **Information:** Simon Cochaud, 9214 6823, [smcochaud@swinburne.edu.au](mailto:smcochaud@swinburne.edu.au).

## **Hair and Beauty Careers Expo**

Victoria University is offering this Expo covering beauty therapy, natural spa therapy, hairdressing, make-up for theatre and special events and modelling. **When:** 10am-3pm, Sat 30 Aug; **Where:** 225 King St, Melbourne; **Info:** [www.vu.edu.au/visitvu](http://www.vu.edu.au/visitvu); Campus tours every hour.

## **September Holiday Programs**

Victoria University are offering short courses during the September holidays for brick laying (5 days), RSA and Waiting Skills (3 days) and Personal Grooming (3 days) if students would like more information about costs and venues they need to visit the career office.

Werribee Zoo is also conducting school holiday programs for budding zoo keepers. The cost of the program is \$55 and registration is essential. To register please contact [jgoonan@zoo.org.au](mailto:jgoonan@zoo.org.au) For further information visit the career room or [www.zoo.org.au/education](http://www.zoo.org.au/education)

If parents have any questions about career information you can now email us on [careers@assumption.vic.edu.au](mailto:careers@assumption.vic.edu.au)

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Career Coordinators.