

2017 CareerNews No1;

Here's hoping you had a great holiday break, and that you are ready for a challenging school year, with lots of opportunities to check out the so many **career options** available. You need to be **informed, flexible, ready to re-train, with good communication and team-work skills** to assist you to build a sustainable career.

To help with this you will receive this careers newsletter fortnightly. Attending **career expos, Open Days, information sessions and career seminars will assist you in your career development process, and this newsletter will keep you informed.** Students who attend career functions, do research and talk to others about careers are usually **able to make wise decisions.**

1. WHAT IS A CAREERS EXPO? As a rule, career expos have representatives from **universities, TAFE's independent training providers and employer groups** (eg defence force) in attendance to provide information and an opportunity to ask your questions. There are a number held throughout the year, some large ones running for a few days (eg the **VCE and Careers Expo 4 May – 7 May @ Caulfield Racecourse**), while others are **smaller regional expos** (eg @ Lilydale). Career expos are of a **general nature and are a good starting point for some career exploration** - more information later.

2. WHAT IS AN OPEN DAY? Universities, TAFE's and some independent providers open their doors, usually once a year on Sundays in August, for the public to **see facilities, attend information sessions, talk to staff and current students, and to check out clubs and societies.** These are useful for obtaining a **more in-depth experience** of a particular institution and its courses. Dates will be published soon (for your diary).

3. WHAT IS A CAREERS SEMINAR, AND WHY ATTEND? Many institutions run **seminars about particular courses or careers**, often on week-nights or in school holidays. For example, **Monash** (see below) and the **University of Melbourne** (dates in next issue) run **evening seminars** on particular courses, while RMIT, La Trobe and Deakin run school holiday programs about their courses (note: this list is not exhaustive). In addition, seminars on studying **psychology, sport related careers, and on occupational therapy** have been run for many years. These programs give an in-depth picture of courses and career outcomes, and provide an opportunity to ask your questions. More information in later editions.

4. HOW DO I ACCESS UNIVERSITY COURSES? Many courses accept Year 12 graduates on the basis of their **ATAR** (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) and meeting **prerequisite subject requirements.** Some courses, however, have **additional requirements** (eg an audition, a folio presentation, a selection kit, attendance at an interview). You are advised to check these out on the **Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)** website (www.vtac.edu.au). Applicants for courses apply on the VTAC website, commencing in August each year. Up to eight courses can be applied for.

5. DEAKIN UNIVERSITY NEWS –

✚ GENERAL INFORMATION -

At a recent career practitioners conference at Deakin, delegates were informed that the university now has **54,000** students, 25% of whom are 'cloud' (online) students. Deakin has gained **excellent survey ratings** recently, such as having the most satisfied students for 7 years in a row for Victorian universities, rated in the top three Australian universities for graduate employment, and having the best Exercise and Nutrition Science School.



INDUSTRY TRENDS IN THE COMMERCE FIELD – at the conference a Deakin staff member talked about employers wanting to look at the **'whole package'** when searching for **employees.** It's no longer sufficient to have a **degree** and to have a **part-time job.** Employers want employees to have an understanding of **industry,** to be a **'cultural fit',** to have **soft skills,** broad life **experiences,** and **technical skills.** They need **transferable skills** and an ability to handle **diversity.**

Some **forecasts** suggest that today's graduate can expect to be **retrenched three times** in their working life, they will have **several careers,** and they will need **adaptability and flexibility** to remain employed. Jobs in the commerce field that are **disappearing** are in entry-level accounting, routine contract writing, financial planning entry level jobs and in routine data entry jobs. An **ability to interpret and analyse** will be important, and artificial intelligence will be used increasingly.

University students need to start **thinking and acting regarding employment in their first year**

at university, for example, seeking our opportunities to attend **interest days** run by **potential employers** at the university. These can lead to **further invitations** for involvement with these employers (known as pipelining) and eventually to employment.

All commerce students at Deakin must complete a **compulsory unit** help them present in the best possible way to potential employers. Students need to seriously consider **Work Integrated Learning (WIL)** as part of their course. Students need to understand early on that **they are responsible for their career,** and shouldn't wait till their third year at university to think about this.

6. ARE YOU INTERESTED IN AVIATION? The power of **military aviation** will take centre stage at



AIRSHOW 2017. See the latest heavy metal put through its high octane paces at this event. Combat jets, bombers, heavy lift aircraft, military display teams

and rotary winged warriors will be on show. There will also be **historic aircraft** from the classic years of aviation, with displays of **innovations** in aerospace, aviation and defence products. **When:** Public sessions: 10am-4.30pm, Fri 3 March – Sunday 5 March; **Where:** Avalon Airport Geelong; **Bookings and further information:** www.airshow.com.au.