

Newsletter 2: MIPs and VTAC

Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs) Appointments

By now all Year 11 and VCAL students should have completed their MIPs questionnaire and scheduled an appointment to come see me in the Careers office located in the library. If you have not completed a questionnaire or scheduled an appointment can you please do this as soon as you can. Appointment schedule sheets are posted on the noticeboard outside of my office. I am available on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday during periods 3&4.

Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)

VTAC acts on behalf of participating universities, TAFE institutions and Independent Tertiary Colleges (ITC) in processing applications and offer letters. Some Year 12 students are very keen to discuss tertiary course selection and pre-requisites as outlined in the VTAC Guide. The VTAC Guide for tertiary courses beginning in 2010 does not get released late July. You will be able to purchase a copy from your newsagent at this time for \$15. Until that time, previously published course information should be considered out-of-date.

I do encourage you to visit the VTAC website to browse the CourseSearch section to investigate course options as a guide only (<http://www.vtac.edu.au/courses/searchcourse.html>). There is also a copy of the VICTER 2010 guide in the Careers office which lists course pre-requisites as a general guide for current Year 12 students until the VTAC Guide 2010 is released. Please note that the inclusion of course information in VICTER 2010 does not guarantee that the course will be available in 2010, the course will be available at the published campus, or the course name will remain the same. You must wait for the VTAC Guide 2010 for this information. After the VTAC guide is published, course changes will be available via <http://www.vtac.edu.au/courses/coursechanges.html>. Other VTAC publications such as ABC of Applying, Choice, ABC of Scaling, ABC of Offers and SEAS Booklet are available at <http://www.vtac.edu.au/>.

Key VTAC dates:

July: SEAS Booklets available
Fri 24 July: VTAC Guide 2010 released
Mon 3 Aug: Applications open
Wed 30 Sep: Timely applications close
Fri 13 Nov: Late applications close
Fri 27 Nov: Early round offers
Fri 11 Dec: Very late applications close

Extra Requirements: STAT/DULSAT/UMAT/Folio

University and TAFE institutions are increasingly requiring VTAC applicants to submit extra requirements directly to them (and not to VTAC). Common extra requirements include the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT), Deakin University Law School Admissions Test (DULSAT – current Year 12 students exempt), UMAT (see below), and folios, design exercises and interviews for visual-based courses. Information regarding extra requirements will be available throughout the year. Students aiming to apply for visual-based courses are encouraged to develop their folio progressively throughout at the year to avoid end-of-year stress. Teachers of these subjects have been given Folio Preparation and Career Discovery Course material from RMIT University so please contact them for more information or visit <http://www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au>. Other test preparation material—such as becoming a pilot—is available in the Careers office.

UMAT

UMAT is an aptitude test used specifically to assist with the selection of students into the medicine, dentistry and health science degree programs at undergraduate level at the universities listed on the UMAT website. Prospective applicants to graduate-entry programs in medicine or dentistry must take the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT). Candidates registering for UMAT2009 should have already completed, or plan to COMPLETE their final year of secondary schooling in 2009 (ie Year 12 in Australia). Students whose current educational level is Australian Year 11 or lower are NOT eligible to take UMAT. This includes Year 11 students undertaking one or more Year 12 subjects. Registrations for UMAT2009 will open in April 2009. For more information please visit me and/or <http://umatweb.acer.edu.au/>.

PLEASE NOTE: Many companies offer UMAT preparation courses. These courses can cost hundreds of dollars. Please be very careful if signing up for one and research different options before committing.

Scholarships

Access and Equity Scholarships are for students experiencing financial difficulty with the costs of living and studying. These financial difficulties arise from having limited income to support full time study or having to incur significant expenses to attend university, for example moving home. Access and Equity scholarships include Commonwealth Scholarships which are funded by the Australian government and have minimum eligibility requirements that all institutions must abide by and institutional scholarships which are funded and governed by individual institutions. For more information please visit <http://www.goingtouni.gov.au>.

Institutional Merit Scholarships awarded to high achieving students. They are funded and governed by individual institutions. For further details and eligibility requirements for these scholarships refer to each institution's website.

For more information please visit <http://www.vtac.edu.au/scholarships.html>.

Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)

SEAS allows VTAC applicants to describe specific circumstances which have adversely affected their education. The information submitted on the SEAS application will be considered by course selection authorities at participating institutions when ranking applicants for selection to tertiary courses. Being eligible to apply for SEAS does not guarantee you an offer. SEAS Booklets will be available in July.

Access and Equity is open to applicants whose education has been affected by long-term disadvantage such as non-English speaking background, recognition as an Indigenous Australian, difficult family circumstances, disadvantaged socio-economic background, applicants from rural or isolated areas, women in non-traditional courses, personal disability or long-term medical condition, and refugee status. Year 11/12 Special Consideration is aimed at assisting those current Year 12 students who have experienced circumstances that can be demonstrated to have had an adverse impact on their performance in the final two years of secondary school. The following are the circumstances which may be considered under this scheme: health of a family member; personal health or trauma; death of a close family member or friend; divorce or separation of parents; adverse living conditions; excessive family responsibility; natural disaster; and refugee status. Evidence is required to support all submissions.

For more information please visit <http://www.vtac.edu.au/seas.html>.

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 like science, art, English, business or technology subjects? Is helping others important? Do you like being indoors/outdoors? Are you good with your hands? What sort of jobs did you enjoy as a younger child? Spend time using the **Job Guide** (available in the Careers office) 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.

There is also an online support service called CAREERSAdvice assisting senior level students find direction through online testing/counselling. It provides ongoing support to help you to meet goals and launch your career. For more information please visit <http://www.careersadvice.com.au>

Coffee School

If you are interested in becoming a barista so you can work part-time while studying next year, drop by the Careers office for information on Barista and Coffee Art short courses. For more information please visit <http://www.coffeeschool.com.au>.

Are you an International student?

The definition of an International student varies for secondary school and tertiary institutions. VTAC provides the following definition, as outlined by the Commonwealth Government:

A current Victorian VCE, VCAL or Victorian IB student who:

- Does not have either Australian or New Zealand Citizenship and has not been granted Permanent Residence status in Australia at the time they are attempting Year 12 students in Victoria.
- Does not hold an Australian permanent visa (including refugees and asylum seekers waiting for permanent residence visa).

You may be interested in International Education Week beginning on March 1. A calendar of events is available on the 'Study Melbourne' Victoria website located at <http://www.studymelbourne.com.au>

Exchange Programs

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program is arranged by Rotary clubs for Year 11 students to experience a year of education overseas, in a wide range of countries. If you are interested please check out the "Gap year, overseas exchange and volunteering" noticeboard or pick up a pamphlet in the Careers office. Preliminary applications close on March 31. Information for families wanting to become a host family is also available. For more information please visit

<http://rotaryexchange.org.au>

Another exchange organisation to check it is Education First. Over the past 42 years EF has helped more than 100,000 students spend up to six months or a year experiencing life and school in another culture. EF are running information sessions in Box Hill and Carlton. For more information please visit <http://ef.com/highschool>.

You may also check out Southern Cross Cultural Exchange via

<http://www.scce.com.au>.

Gap Year Activities

Are you thinking about doing a gap year activity in the USA? If so, check out the Cultural Care Au Pair poster on the "Gap year, overseas exchange and volunteering" noticeboard or pick up a pamphlet in the Careers office. For more information please visit <http://www.culturalcare.com.au>

Lattitude Global Volunteering (formally Gap Activity Projects) is a not-for-profit organisation supporting international volunteering for 17-25 year olds. Volunteer programs run in The Americas, Africa, Europe, Asia and Australia and the Pacific including Outdoor Education, Community, Education and Environment.

Applications close on Wednesday May 20. Early bird closing date for UK projects is Thursday April 30. For more information check out the "Gap year..." noticeboard or visit <http://www.lattitude.org.au>.

World Education Program (WEP) Australia is now offering gap year programs to the USA and countries in South America, Africa and Asia. For more information check out the "Gap year..." noticeboard or visit <http://www.volunteerabroad.com.au>.

Subject workshops

Biology

- Human Physiology: Living Space on Friday March 27 (10am-2.30pm) @ Victorian Space Science Education Centre (VSSEC). RSVP via Emily Barnes.
- Unit 3 Continuity and change workshop on Monday July 27 - Friday July 31 @ Swinburne University (Hawthorn campus) for \$19.80. RSVP via Emily Barnes. Booking subject to interest. <http://www.swinburne.edu.au/lss/events/2009/school2009.html>

Drama

- Unit 3: The Ensemble workshop on Monday March 23 - Wednesday March 25 (10am-3pm) @ Malthouse Theatre. Check out the poster on the admin building stairs. <http://www.malthousetheatre.com.au/page/education>
- Unit 3: Solo performance workshop on Monday July 13 – Tuesday July 28 (9.30am-3.30pm) @ Malthouse Theatre. Check out the poster on the admin building stairs. <http://www.malthousetheatre.com.au/page/education>
- Unit 3 Happy Days seminar on Thursday July 16 (10.30am-12pm, 1pm performance) and Tuesday July 21 (3.30pm-5pm, 6.30pm performance) @ Malthouse Theatre. Check out the poster on the admin building stairs. <http://www.malthousetheatre.com.au/page/education>

Food Technology

- Cupcake Decorating Skills Demonstration on Tuesday March 3-4 (10am-11.30am or 1pm-2.30pm) @ William Angliss Institute, 555 LaTrobe St, Melbourne for free. Ask Vivienne Hogan for more info or visit <http://www.angliss.vic.edu.au>
- Annual Schools Cook-off Championship on Thursday March 19 @ William Angliss Institute Building A, Level 5 Theatre, 555 LaTrobe St, Melbourne for free. Ask Vivienne Hogan for more info or visit <http://www.angliss.edu.au>

Physics

- Unit 1: Medical Physics workshop on Monday June 1 – Friday June 5 (9am-12pm & 1pm – 4pm) @ Swinburne University (Hawthorn campus) for \$16.50. RSVP via Mike McKenzie. Booking subject to interest. <http://www.swinburne.edu.au/lss/events/2009/school2009.html>

Psychology

- Unit 3: Imaging the Brain Lecture on Wednesday May 6 (2-3pm) @ Swinburne University (Hawthorn campus) for free. RSVP via Pheona Donohoe or Ria Gallos. Booking subject to interest. <http://www.swinburne.edu.au/lss/events/2009/school2009.html>
- Unit 3: States of Consciousness: Sleep Lecture on Wednesday May 6 (3.30-4.30pm) @ Swinburne University (Hawthorn campus) for free. RSVP via Pheona Donohoe or Ria Gallos. Booking subject to interest. <http://www.swinburne.edu.au/lss/events/2009/school2009.html>
- Unit 3: Psychology Awards Day - Lectures & Workshops (All Day) in early July at Swinburne University (Hawthorn campus) for free. Students are selected by their VCE Psychology teachers to take part. <http://www.swinburne.edu.au/lss/events/2009/school2009.html>

Theatre Studies

- Unit 3 seminar: Optimism on Tuesday May 26 and Tuesday June 2 (3.30pm-5pm, 6.30pm performance) @ Malthouse Theatre. Check out the poster on the admin building stairs. <http://www.malthousetheatre.com.au/page/education>
- Unit 4 on Thursday July 16 (10.30am-12pm, 1pm performance) and Tuesday July 21 (3.30pm-5pm, 6.30pm performance) @ Malthouse Theatre. Check out the poster on the admin building stairs. <http://www.malthousetheatre.com.au/page/education>
- Unit 4: The monologue workshop on Tuesday August 4 – Friday August 7 (10am-3pm) @ Malthouse Theatre. Check out the poster on the admin building stairs. <http://www.malthousetheatre.com.au/page/education>

TAFE/University Key Dates and Open Days

Open Days are one of the best ways to check out what the TAFE or University you are interested in attending next year has to offer. It is important that you visit institutions where you may wish to study. Some courses like art, design, music, drama and related courses can involve an audition, interview and/or folio presentation as part of the selection process, so attendance at Open Days is vital. During an interview you may be asked what you learned about the course at Open Day – a difficult question to answer if you didn't attend. Many Open Day dates have already been publicised – put them in your diary and treat them as a priority.

Australian Catholic University

- August 16: Open Day (Melbourne)
- August 30: Open Day (Ballarat)

Ballarat University

- August 30: Open Day

Box Hill Institute

- March 25: Parent Information evening (Elgar campus)
- August 23: Open Day
- For more information please visit <http://www.bhtafe.edu.au>

Deakin University

- August 9: Open Day (Geelong)
- August 16: Open Day (Warrnambool)
- August 23: Deakin University (Melbourne)

Gordon TAFE

- August 9: Open Day

Holmesglen TAFE

- August 15: Open Day

La Trobe University

- August 16: Open Day (Bendigo)
- August 23: Open Day (Albury/Wodonga)
- August 30: Open Day (Bundoora)

Monash University

- March 31: Science 'At Monash' seminar series (Clayton)
- April 1: Arts & Humanities 'At Monash' seminar series (Clayton)
- August 1: Open Day (some campuses – will be advised later)
- August 2: Open Day (some campuses – will be advised later)
- For more information please visit:
<http://www.monash.edu.au/study/events/atmonash>

RMIT University/TAFE

- March 13: 2010 Degree & TAFE Program Guide available
- August 9: Open Day
- For more information please visit <http://www.swinburne.edu.au>

Sunraysia TAFE

- August 16: Open Day (Swan Hill)

Swinburne University of Technology

- June 18: Apprenticeships and Traineeships Expo (Hawthorn campus)
- August 16: Open Day (Hawthorn, Lilydale, Prahran campuses)
- September 2: Parents information evening (Hawthorn campus)
- September 16: Parents information evening (Lilydale campus)
- September 23-25: Siemens Science Experience (Hawthorn campus)
- September 26: Swinburne walk and talk (Hawthorn, Lilydale, Prahran campuses)
- December 16: Change of preference expo (Hawthorn, Lilydale, Prahran campuses)
- For more information please visit <http://www.swinburne.edu.au>

University of Melbourne

- March 22: Veterinary Science Open Day
- March 25: Meet Melbourne information session (Mentone)
- May 5: Meet Melbourne information session (Glen Waverley)
- May 6: Meet Melbourne information session (St Albans)
- May 12: Meet Melbourne information session (Doncaster)
- May 13: Meet Melbourne information session (Glen Waverley repeat)
- August 16: Open Day
- For more information please visit <http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/meetmelbourne>

Victoria University/TAFE

- August 9: Open Day (Footscray)

Upcoming events for the diary

What: Hot Property @ Deakin

When: March 6 (9.45am-2.30pm)

Where: Deakin University, Burwood Campus, 221 Burwood Hwy, Burwood

How much: free

Other: For those interested in studying Property and Real Estate at Deakin University. Three interactive hands-on workshops and chat with current second year students. Registration has closed.

Web: <http://www.imvc.com.au>

What: Trial-a-Trade

When: March 14

Where: William Angliss Institute, 555 LaTrobe St, Melbourne

How much: \$35

Other: For those interested in a career in the foods or hospitality industries. Try out cookery, patisserie, baking, hospitality and confectionery.

Web: <http://www.angliss.edu.au>

What: Australian International Airshow and Aerospace & Defence Exposition

When: March 14-15 (10.30am-11.30am)

Where: Avalon Auditorium, Exhibition Hall A, Geelong

How much: free (with your purchase of any General Admission or Gold Pass Ticket)

Other: For those interested in a career in the aviation, aerospace and defence industries as well as Australian Defence Force.

Web: <http://www.airshow.com.au>

What: Transport and Logistics Career and Transition Program

When: March 17

Where: Port Melbourne

How much: tbc

Other: Career opportunities showcased include storepersons, pilots and air traffic controllers, clerks, customer service staff, freight forwarders, shops crew and officers, managers, accountants, IT technicians, etc.

Web: N/A

What: Veterinary Science Open Day (University of Melbourne)

When: March 22 (10am-4pm)

Where: The Veterinary Clinic and Hospital @ 250 Princes Highway Werribee

How much: free

Other: This is an opportunity to go behind the scenes at the University of Melbourne's State-of-the-art Veterinary Clinic and Hospital. You will have the chance to speak to veterinary staff, meet current students and take a tour of our outstanding facilities.

Web: <http://www.vet.unimelb.edu.au>

What: The National Careers & Employment Expo

When: March 27-28

Where: Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre (9am-4pm)

How much: free

Other: Master builders, career counselling, resume checking, seminars, stage activities, etc.

Web: <http://www.eocexpo.com.au>

What: Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine information session

When: April 6 (12.30pm-4pm)

Where: VIFM Lecture Theatre, Coronial Services Centre, 57-63 Kavanagh St, Southbank

How much: tbc

Other: Insights into various career options in forensic sciences. Registration essential.

Web: <http://www.vifm.org>

What: Art and Design Expo

When: April 7

Where: Swinburne University (Pahran Campus)

How much: tbc

Other: tbc

Web: <http://www.swinburne.edu.au>

What: Keeper for a Day

When: April 7, 8, 16; June 30; July 1, 7, 8; September 22, 23, 29, 30 (9.30am-2.45pm)

Where: Healesville Sanctuary

How much: \$99

Other: Spend a day in the school holidays working with zookeepers.

Web: http://www.zoo.org.au/Learning/Programs/Student_Conferences/Careers

What: Careers at the Zoo

When: April 8, 9, 16, 17, 23, 24 (9.30am-2.45pm)

Where: Werribee Open Range Zoo

How much: \$39.50 including admission, safari tour, morning tea

Other: Careers at the Zoo will provide opportunities for students to meet Zoo employees in a range of departments, explore the educational and career paths in the zoo industry and give you skills to help land the job of your dreams.

Web: <http://www.zoo.org.au/learning>

What: The Age VCE and Careers Expo 2009

When: April 24-26 (10am-5pm)

Where: Caulfield Racecourse, opposite Caulfield Station

How much: \$10 for 3 days (\$5 for groups of 5+) (some free passes outside Careers office!!!)

Other: Over 165 exhibitors, seminars on VCE subjects, tertiary courses, career and study advice. An Expo Visitor Guide will be published in The Age on Monday April 20.

Web: <http://www.education.theage.com.au>

What: WRICA Careers and Employment Expo

When: May 14-15

Where: tbc

How much: tbc

Other: tbc

Web: tbc

What: Apprenticeship & Trainee Expo

When: June 18

Where: Swinburne University (Wantirna campus)

How much: tbc

Other: tbc

Web: <http://www.swinburne.edu.au>

What: Electrical and Computer Engineering holiday program

When: June 30

Where: tbc

How much: tbc

Other: tbc

Web: tbc

What: Eastern TIS (Tertiary Information Service)

When: July 14-17

Where: Deakin University (Burwood Campus)

How much: free

Other: tbc

Web: <http://www.tis.org.au>

What: Herald Sun Melbourne Career Expo 2009

When: July 24-26 (10am-3/4pm)

Where: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Clarendon St, Southbank

How much: free

Other: View courses and job opportunities from over 100 exhibitors, and stage performances including celebrities, music and fashion parades. Free information and seminars, resume checking and career counselling workshops. Apprenticeship and traineeship options.

Web: <http://www.careerexpo.com.au>

What: Swinburne University Open Day

When: August 16

Where: Swinburne University (Hawthorn, Lilydale & Prahran campus)

How much: free

Other: tbc

Web: <http://www.swinburne.edu.au>

What: Box Hill Institute Open Day

When: August 23

Where: tbc

How much: free

Other: tbc

Web: <http://www.bhtafe.edu.au>

What: IELLEN Youth Pathways Forum

When: September 15

Where: tbc

How much: tbc

Other: tbc

Web: tbc