Career decisions are some of the most important ones of your life, so getting help in making those decisions is vital. The Careers News supplement in the Newsletter and Timboon P12 Website is one source of information available to you. It is mainly aimed at Year 12 students and is a distillation of information that the Careers Coordinator receives.

Careers News will be published fortnightly throughout the year, providing information about how to choose a career, about information sessions being held on various courses and careers. Open Days at institutions where you might want to study, career expos, insights into a number of careers, and where you can get help. Students who do their research during Year 10-12 usually find it easier to make some career decisions at the end of Year 12. This information supplements the work on Pathways Investigations that Year 9 & 10 students do in their Home Group Sessions. This information is also provided to the Year 12 students as a hard copy in morning form assembly where key points in the document are highlighted. It would be a good idea to start a folder and keep all of the information for future reference. It is also important that Year 12 students come to their form assembly to get any information that is available to them.

HOW CAN I CHOOSE A CAREER? Many people say that basically they would like a job they enjoy, with the possibility of earning a reasonable income. So how do you choose that job? Firstly, keep in mind that there isn’t just one perfect job for you. There are several jobs that would suit you well, so you need to explore the possibilities.

First, think about what you enjoy doing. For example, is it sport-related, scientific, reading/writing-related, helping people, information technology-related?

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

What subjects do you excel in at school?

How important is it that you earn a lot of money?

Answering questions such as these will set you on a path to making some decisions. If you like science, what type of science do you prefer – physics, chemistry, biology? If you are creative, what is your speciality – music, drama, art, design? If it is geography, perhaps you could be interested in urban planning, mapping or surveying. If it is health, perhaps it is nursing, nutrition or public health. If it is physics and maths, perhaps engineering.

Don’t look too far ahead – you are not deciding on a life-time career. You will have several careers.

WHERE CAN I STUDY IN VICTORIA? After completing Year 12, there are many options. If you are considering university, hoping to get a degree, these are the universities available in Victoria:

- **Australian Catholic University** (ACU) with campuses in Melbourne (Fitzroy) and Ballarat
- **Deakin University** with campuses in Burwood, Geelong and Warrnambool
- **Federation University** with campuses in Ballarat and Gippsland
- **La Trobe University** with campuses in Melbourne (Bundoora), Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga, Mildura and Shepparton
- **Monash University** with campuses in Melbourne (Clayton, Caulfield, Berwick, Parkville)
- **RMIT University** with campuses in Melbourne (City, Brunswick, Bundoora)
- **Swinburne University** has a campus in Melbourne (Hawthorn)
- **University of Melbourne** in Melbourne (Parkville, Burnley, Southbank, Werribee), Creswick, Dookie and Shepparton
- **Victoria University** is in Melbourne (City, Footscray, St Albans, Melton, Sunshine)

You can check out their facilities and courses by attending their **Open Days**, usually held in August.

If you plan a VET course (pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, certificate, diploma and a limited number of degrees), institutes offering courses in the Melbourne area are:

- **Box Hill Institute**
- **Chisholm** (Dandenong, Frankston, etc)
- **Holmesglen** (Moorabbin, Chadstone)
- **Kangan** (Broadmeadows, Richmond, etc)
- **Melbourne Polytechnic** (formerly NMIT) (Collingwood, Epping, Preston, Prahran, etc)
- **RMIT** (City, Brunswick)
- **Swinburne** (Hawthorn, Croydon, Wantirna)
- **Victoria** (Footscray, City)
- **William Angliss** (City) and several others.
- **SW Tafe** (Warrnambool)
- **The Gordon** (Geelong)

There are also independent institutions offering degrees, diplomas and certificates. Examples are:

- **Academy of Design** (Port Melbourne)
Independent colleges are full-fee paying institutions, whereas the government generally offers financial assistance to study at universities and VET providers like Box Hill Institute. 

NOTE: The government will only fund courses of study that are at a higher level than what they have funded already. For example, if you have a bachelor’s degree, the government will not fund you to complete a VET diploma as it is at a lower level than the degree.

WHAT IS THE UNDERGRADUATE MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES ADMISSION TEST (UMAT)? Results from this test are used as part of the selection process for some Australian and New Zealand university degrees. In Victoria the only university degree now requiring this test for Year 12 selection is Medicine at Monash (Clayton). However, some interstate and NZ universities also use it. Registrations for UMAT2015 are now open, and close at 5pm (AEST) on Friday 5 June. The test will take place on Wednesday 29 July 2015. The UMAT Information Booklet is available from the UMAT website: www.umat.acer.edu.au.

NOTES:
- Practice materials are available through the UMAT website and can only be completed online. There are currently four practice tests available: UMAT Practice Test 1, UMAT Practice Test 2, UMAT Practice Test 3 and Additional Practice Questions. UMAT Practice Test 1 will be included with the UMAT2015 registration. In addition, candidates will have access to some free preparation videos once they complete their registration to sit UMAT2015.
- Candidates with a disability or other health-related needs and who wish to apply for special testing conditions must do so by Friday 19 June. This includes candidates who have diabetes and require food during the test.
- Some tutorials and a quiz are now available on the UMAT website. Candidates should watch these tutorials and complete the quiz questions before registering for the test.

WHAT KIND OF ENGINEER ARE YOU? Are you interested in engineering but not sure which type is the best fit for you? You can find out with the new RMIT online quiz at http://trueengineer.com.au.

‘AT MONASH’ SEMINAR SERIES – a great opportunity to find out about Monash degrees. More information in the next issue, but check out www.destination.monash/at-monash from Monday 16 Feb.

AVALON AIRSHOW – Students interested in a career in the aviation industry might wish to attend the Avalon Airshow. Among other things, you will be able to find out about RMIT’s flight training program, aerospace and mechanical engineering programs. When: 24 Feb – 1 Mar, 2015; Where: Avalon Airport; Info: www.airshow.com.au/airshow2015/.

VETERINARY NURSING ASSOCIATE DEGREE – Melbourne Polytechnic (formerly NMIT) (Epping campus) is offering a new 2-year associate degree, the first para-professional veterinary nursing qualification in Australia. It is designed to produce highly skilled clinicians with exceptional levels of practical skill, knowledge and in depth understanding gained through a stimulating exploration of the academic underpinnings of the field. Graduate employment will be in the private and public sectors, including veterinary practices as veterinary nurses and practice managers and in large organisations (veterinary pharmaceutical, veterinary nutrition companies and animal research facilities). Prerequisites: Successful completion of Year 12 VCE or recognised equivalent with a study score of at least 20 in any English and a study score of at least 20 in one of any Mathematics, Chemistry or Biology; OR successful completion of a Diploma course in Veterinary Nursing or a related area; OR at least two years of related industry experience.

ANU TUCKWELL SCHOLARSHIP – These Scholarships offer a transformational experience. The vision behind the Scholarship is all about helping you make an impact on your community and the world by offering unique educational opportunities and personal experiences. The Scholarship allows you to study any discipline offered at ANU for up to five years. Information night: When: 6-7.30pm, Wed 18 Feb; Where: ANU House, 52 Collins St, Melbourne; Enquiries: student.recruitment@anu.edu.au. Register to attend: http://www.anu.edu.au/study/events/anu-tuckwell-scholarship-roadshow-melbourne.

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