DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 17th March, University of Melbourne Veterinary Science and Veterinary Hospital Open Day, Werribee campus
- Engineering Australia Expo, Thursday 21st March, 11am – 7pm, Etihad Stadium
- The Age VCE Course and Careers Expo, Caulfield Racecourse, Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th May

1. CHANGES AT SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY

2012 was a significant year for Swinburne, with announcements of a review of the university’s strategic direction, a physical restructuring of campus locations and staff and the development of a renewed vision for the future. In 2014 all the degree programmes will be taught at the Hawthorn campus, with new and streamlined course offerings and a range of pathway programmes and vocational studies. The new Advanced Manufacturing and Design Centre will be completed later this year, ready for the design courses to move back to Hawthorn in 2014. This will add to the cross discipline study options available and the exposure all students get to world class applied research and researchers. The Wantirna campus continues to grow as a comprehensive study venue and the Croydon campus is the specialist trades centre, supported with excellent training facilities.

2. PLACES STILL AVAILABLE AT SWINBURNE FOR 2013

Any 2012 VCE graduates not yet placed in higher education or training can still apply directly to Swinburne for a Semester 1 commencement. Swinburne can provide options for any ATAR, including degrees, pathways and vocational programmes at TAFE. Students can do last minute research at: http://www.future.swinburne.edu.au/apply/ or book in for a one on one appointment with a course adviser.

3. UNILINK PATHWAY AT SWINBURNE

Students who missed out on the ATAR required for direct entry to the degree they preferred, can apply to complete an eight month UniLink degree transfer programme at Swinburne. Upon successful completion of the programme they can obtain guaranteed entry to the second year of a degree at Swinburne. UniLink diplomas are available in Business, Design, Engineering or Information Technology.

4. HANDS ON ACTIVITIES AT THE ENGINEERING LAB

Find out what it’s like to be an engineer at Swinburne’s Engineering Lab, part of the Engineers Australia Expo on Thursday 21st March, 11:00am – 7:00pm at Etihad Stadium. Swinburne's hands on interactive displays will show you what types of projects engineers work on and the real world problems they solve. Activities include: learn why physics matters with tablet PC activities and test your physics skills, build and destroy different kinds of bridges to see which is the strongest, participate in mock labs to see engineering principles in action, test them and understand why they occur, test your reaction time with a little help from electrical engineers and design, build and race model cars powered by artificial light. Find out more by visiting the Engineers Australia Expo website: https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/engineering-expo.

5. ANTIPODEANS ABROAD

The Antipodeans Abroad is a gap year programme which allows students to take time out from study and experience another
cultural background before commencing tertiary studies. Placements are available in Africa, Asia, North America, South America and Europe. There will be an Information Night for interested students and parents on Monday 18th March, at Batman’s Hill on Collins Hotel, 623 Collins St, Melbourne, 6:30 – 7:30pm. For more information: visit: www.antipodeans.com.au.

6. NEW COURSE AT KANGAN: CERT IV IN HEALTH SCIENCE FOUNDATIONS

This course is designed for students who would like to pursue further studies in a health science related field but need more preparation. The course will suit students who did not study Science or Maths at secondary school and who now wish to work in the Health Science field. Students will study basic anatomy, mathematics, physics, chemistry, human biology and literacy. There are no set prerequisites for this course. The course is 6 months studying 2 or 3 days per week. It is located at the Moonee Ponds campus. The next intake is in July. Visit: www.kangan.edu.au for more information.

7. NEW COURSE AT KANGAN: CERT III IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MEDICAL)

This course is designed to assist students to develop the specialist skills necessary when working in a medical environment such as a medical centre or doctor’s surgery and is delivered in conjunction with the Cert III in Business which develops office, administration and computer skills. Apply direct to this course: www.kangan.edu.au or telephone: 13 8233 for an application form. The course is 6 months and is based at the Broadmeadows campus.

8. JOB CRAFT – A PROGRAMME DEVELOPED BY THE MARIBRYNONG AND MOONEE VALLEY LLEN

If you are leaving school and will be looking for work you can stay connected by joining JobCraft – local jobs, local training and local support. JobCraft can also help if you are a little unsure of what to do next and is focussed on getting young people linked to the right place for employment. Telephone or text: 0435 097 568, email: jobcraft@mmvllen.org.au or visit Facebook: /pages/JobCraft45714676436301.

9. ONE ON ONE COURSE ADVICE APPOINTMENTS AT SWINBURNE

Following the success of these one on one appointments during the change of preference period in 2012, Swinburne will continue to offer these free appointments in 2013. Students can book a time with a course adviser to receive course advice, ask questions and obtain assistance with their application. Further information is available at: http://www.swinburne.edu.au/study-at-swinburne/events/.

10. PROJECTS ABROAD

This is an overseas volunteer programme which can be part of a gap year or undertaken during the summer period at the end of Year 12. Projects are available in teaching, conservation and environment, culture and community, human rights and law, medicine and healthcare, journalism, building, sports, archaeology, animal care and business. An Open Day will be held on Saturday 9th March, 1:00 – 5:00pm at the Northcote Town Hall, 189 High Street, Northcote. Visit: www.projects-abroad.com.au for more information.

11. PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

A Pharmacist is concerned with the health and wellbeing of people in the community. Pharmacists provide advice on the safe and effective use of medicine. They are actively involved in patient care in hospitals and the community. As medicine experts, they often also work in government, industry, research and clinical trial roles. For those students

Pharmaceutical scientists are experts in the chemistry, biology and biotechnology required to design and develop medicines. They play a key role in improving human health and wellbeing by researching and developing reliable, accessible and effective treatments. They understand the impact of medicines on the body and diseases and are also experts in bringing safe and effective products to market. Students who enjoy solving problems, love chemistry or biology and want to improve human health may be interested in studying the B. Pharmaceutical Science. This course equips students to work in the pharmaceutical science and biomedical fields. The B. Pharmaceutical Science is offered at Monash University: http://www.monash.edu.au/study/coursefinder/course/2894/ and RMIT University: http://www.rmit.edu.au/programs/bp184.

12. GAP MEDICS

These programmes offer students interested in healthcare a genuine insight into the hospital work of doctors and nurses in Tanzania, Zanzibar, Thailand and the Czech Republic. Gap Medics offer exciting projects for students wishing to apply for university courses in medicine, nursing, dentistry or midwifery. Gap Medics is a provider of short term healthcare work experience placements abroad. Although based in the UK, its programmes are open to students from all around the world. This organisation is dedicated to arranging hospital work experience placements for students who are applying to medical or nursing schools in particular. During weekdays, students shadow highly skilled doctors in their day to day work on a fully supervised hospital placement. Students will also have the benefit of clinical teaching, safe and secure accommodation, food, transfers in Tanzania or Thailand, local orientations, 24/7 support from Gap Medics support teams overseas and in the UK and lots of help with preparation for their trip too. Visit http://www.gapmedics.com/ to find out more.

13. GAP YEAR THROUGH TUTORS WORLDWIDE

There are many different ways in which a GAP Year can be organised. Tutors Worldwide offers students the opportunity to work in an overseas school environment at either preparatory or secondary school level. Currently Tutors Worldwide recruits for (both senior and junior) schools in the UK, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa and from among students in the same countries, incorporating personal visits to all countries. For more information or to download the application form, visit: http://www.tutorsworldwide.org/. Applications close 11th April, 2013.

14. VOLUNTEER ABROAD WITH WEP

World Education Program (WEP) Australia is now offering a range of international programs for people over the age of 18. Programmes include volunteer and conservation projects, work and travel and internships, teaching English overseas, international language study and language and volunteer packages. WEP’s GAP programmes bring together volunteers from all over the world to help communities in need. Volunteers learn to work through the various challenges of adapting to a new culture, mature, gain more confidence and develop greater self awareness and gain a better understanding of the world and international relations. Find out more by visiting: www.volunteerabroad.com.au or telephone: 1300 884 733.

15. STUDY TIPS FROM THE DEAKIN FACULTY OF HEALTH

Study is exciting and challenging. There is going to be a lot of information presented to you this year and this can be overwhelming at times. You might begin to feel bogged down by your responsibilities and study
priorities. We all have lives outside school; work, friendships and family. It can be hard to balance your life responsibilities with your study. But have hope: here are some helpful study tips:

• Set daily and weekly study goals that are realistic, attractive and achievable. Break your learning down into small chunks of information and get to know each chunk so well you don’t need to look up the answer.

• Eat a balanced breakfast. Breakfast is the most important meal as it fuels your body and mind well into the day.

• Avoid watching television after studying. Research shows TV interrupts the transfer of learned information into the long term memory.

• Go with the grains. Grains are the fuel to power you through your hectic day and provide needed nutrients and fibre.

• Sleep is essential. Avoid changing your sleep patterns during exams. You need at least 7 – 8 hours sleep a night. Missing out on sleep not only affects your mood, it reduces your brain’s capacity to function effectively.

• Before an exam, go for protein foods rather than carbohydrate foods as they can help keep your mind more alert.

Remember, the main thing is to enjoy your time. A great way to do this is to avoid the stress caused by cramming study into the last minute. Join a sporting group; research shows that engaging as many senses during study or directly afterwards, can assist in remembering the information. For more helpful study tips, please visit: deakin.edu.au/health/current-students.

16. FACULTY OF ARTS AND EDUCATION AT DEAKIN – CHANGES TO VCE PREREQUISITES

The Faculty of Arts and Education has changed some of the VCE prerequisites for its Arts degrees. Applicants for most Arts courses now need to have successfully completed VCE, or equivalent, including Units 3 and 4 – a study score of at least 25 in English (ESL) or 20 in any other English. This is a change from previous years. There are several exceptions to this, for example the arts / law combined degree still requires 35 in English (ESL) or 30 in any other English, while the B. Arts (Professional and Creative Writing) and the B. Arts (Public Relations) require 30 (ESL) or 25 in any other English. Keep up to date with this information and any other changes by visiting: www.deakin.edu.au/courses. The Faculty also advises that the B. Early Childhood Education is now open to school leavers (current Year 12s) as well as those with the prerequisite TAFE diploma – see www.deakin.edu.au/arts-ed/BECE for extensive information about this change.

17. NEW MAJORS IN HEALTH AT DEAKIN

Health and sustainability: Are you concerned about the environment and how it affects our health? Would you like to seek solutions? Are you interested in being at the cutting edge of public health and health promotion in dealing with climate change and other sustainability issues? Then the health and sustainability major may suit you. Climate change is an emerging major concern for human health and all populations are vulnerable. Increasing climate change will exacerbate these impacts dramatically. Future health workers will need to understand the impacts of climate change and strategies which can ameliorate its worst effects. Employment opportunities may include roles in a variety of community based and professional settings including local, state and federal governments, non government agencies and health and community services.

Environmental health: A safe and healthy environment is crucial to our survival. With globalisation being a current way of life, the risks of exposure to disease are increasing. Diarrhoea and vector borne diseases such as malaria, have been identified as being highly sensitive to climate change (WHO 2009) and together with food, water and airborne diseases, need ongoing research to find solutions. The importance of environmental health workers is paramount in identifying risks and ensuring these are minimised. Employment opportunities may include roles in a variety of professional settings including
local, state and federal governments, private agencies, and research services.

Medical biotechnology: Do you enjoy reading about and /or watching programmes about medical research and innovation? Do you have an inquisitive mind? Are you curious about how the human body works and how it can be improved? Do you enjoy laboratory prac? Then the medical biotechnology major may be for you. Biotechnology is one of the fastest growing areas of human knowledge. Medical biotechnology is an area of medical science specialising in the prevention, treatment and management of disease and disability, including pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, vaccines, and other medical innovations. The medical biotechnology major can lead you to a career in: health and medical research, clinical trials, research and development in the areas of pharmaceuticals, medical devices, vaccines, sales in pharmaceuticals, medical devices, vaccines, health related education, higher research degrees such as entry into graduate entry programmes, such as the B Medicine / B Surgery. For more information contact: at Geelong – Stacie 5227 2854 or at Burwood – Aimee / Tin 9244 6085 or email: health-hsd@deakin.edu.au.

18. EXPLORE COURSES AND CAREERS AT RMIT

Back by popular demand in 2013 is a range of 'Experience Day' holiday programmes at RMIT for students in Years 10 - 12. Obtain a hands on and interactive experience of some of the courses on offer at RMIT and learn more about careers in accounting, engineering, fashion, justice, medical sciences, media, advertising, environment, IT and art and design. To register your interest and to be notified when events are occurring visit: www.rmit.edu.au/experiencedays.

19. A USEFUL CAREERS WEBSITE

You may find this site helpful: www.education.vic.gov.au/victorianskillsgate way

20. WHERE CAN I STUDY FASHION?

Are you interested in studying Fashion? There are many courses to consider, with University, TAFE and private providers offering various qualifications. RMIT University (City campus) offers a 4 year B. Design (Fashion). Note that of the 2012 Year 12 students who applied for this course, 63 were offered a place, as you can see, entry is very competitive. Another 41 non Year 12s were also offered a place in the course. RMIT TAFE (Brunswick campus) offers the 2 year Associate Degree in Fashion Design and Technology and courses in Fashion Merchandising. Many aspiring fashion designers complete a TAFE course first and this is a great way to start your training. Box Hill Institute, The Gordon (Geelong), Holmesglen (City), Kangan (Richmond) and RMIT TAFE (Brunswick) offer various courses such as the Cert IV, Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses in Applied Fashion Design and Technology. Holmesglen also offers the 3 year B. Fashion (Apparel Engineering and Design) and Box Hill the B. Fashion Design (these are full fee courses). Private colleges: Whitehouse Institute of Design (City) offers a 3 year B. Design (Fashion), Billy Blue College of Design (City) offers the B. Fashion and Business, while the Australian Academy of Design (Port Melbourne) offers the B. Design Arts (Fashion Design). These are all full fee courses. Also available is the 1 year Diploma of Costume for Performance (wardrobe for film, TV and entertainment) at Swinburne TAFE. Applications for these courses almost invariably includes an interview and a folio presentation as part of the selection criteria. It is essential, therefore, that you study a VCE subject(s) to help develop a suitable folio so that you can demonstrate a suitable level of creativity to Selection Officers. It is also essential you attend Open Days. It is difficult to explain at an interview why you want to study a particular course if you have never been to the campus....

Compiled by: c. borg and m. walker