1. THE AITKEN COLLEGE CAREER NEWSLETTER

The Career News is written to inform students (and their parents) of events and activities which may assist with planning a direction post secondary school. It is published to encourage students to think about their future, to assist them to make informed decisions and to provide help with their career and course research. For our Year 12 students in particular, it will be a very busy year academically and socially, but it must also be a year where time is set aside for thinking about the future. Career News is one way of prompting these thoughts. It is not just for Year 12 students, however. Students in Years 10 and 11 will also make big decisions about the subjects they will choose for the following year, and this in turn opens up or shuts down particular pathways. It is important that these decisions and choices are made thoughtfully and after conducting thorough career research. This newsletter will keep students up to date with events which may support and enhance your career research. Don’t forget that Ms Gibbs and Mrs Borg are also available to help with this process. Please come and see us in Room B21 at the Careers Centre or telephone us on 9333 1866 or email your concerns or queries to careers@aitkencollege.edu.au. Good luck to every one for a happy and productive 2014.

2. USEFUL WEBSITES

In Year 10 Careers classes, students received a handout with a list of useful websites. Don’t forget to refer back to this to help you with your career research. If you have misplaced this list come to the Careers Centre for a new one. A very handy website with which to start your career research is myfuture: www.myfuture.edu.au. The Careers Centre also has a handout to help you access the information on this site and to navigate your way around it. (Current Year 10 students will receive this information in their Careers classes as part of the Term 2 Lifeskills program.) Other useful sites are: http://www.jobguide.education.gov.au/; http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/StudyAssist/ and www.jobsearch.gov.au/joboutlook.

3. TAFE VERSUS UNIVERSITY

During Term 3, our Year 12 students will be making important decisions about what they would like to do when they leave secondary school. Many will choose to continue with more study and attend either a TAFE or university. In general, TAFE courses are vocational, practical and hands on in nature and are designed to make you work ready. Often they will have close links with industry and employers. ATARs for TAFE courses are lower than for university and sometimes students are selected via an interview and / or folio presentation process. Course fees are lower at TAFE and the length of courses is shorter than at university – varying from 6 months to 2 ½ years depending on the qualification. University courses tend to be more theoretical in their content and will take a minimum of 3 years to complete – sometimes 4 or 5 years, depending on the course. It is also possible to articulate from a TAFE course into a university degree. Some careers are only accessible via a university pathway such as doctor, solicitor, veterinarian, optometrist, physiotherapist, kindergarten, primary or secondary teacher, dentist, architect or town planner. Some university courses require the attainment of a very high ATAR in order to gain a place, so it is important to think carefully about your interests and abilities before deciding your study pathway and it is essential to have a safety net (or Plan B) in place in case the course you are aiming for is initially not within your reach.

4. UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE VETERINARY SCIENCE AND HOSPITAL OPEN DAY

The University of Melbourne Veterinary Science Open Day is an opportunity for future students and the community to go behind the scenes at the state of the art University of Melbourne Veterinary Hospital in Werribee.
Visitors will be able to speak with veterinary staff, meet current students and tour the facilities. Course and career advice will be available throughout the day, giving prospective students and their parents the opportunity to learn about the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine graduate programme. Veterinary and community groups will be providing information about pet care and other special interests. This event will take place on Sunday 16th March, 2014, 10:00am — 3:00pm at the University of Melbourne Veterinary Hospital, 250 Princes Highway Werribee, Victoria (Faculty of Veterinary Science, Werribee campus). For more information visit: vet.unimelb.edu.au/events.

5. YEAR 12 CLASS OF 2013

Congratulations to the Class of 2013. All of our Year 12 students successfully completed their VCE or VCAL programmes. Approximately 82% of the cohort will be heading off to university and 17% to TAFE in 2014, with the remainder of the class starting full time work / apprenticeships, attending Bible College or taking a gap year. 104 of our Class of 2013 students received an offer through VTAC to study at a TAFE or university. Of these students, 86% received their first, second or third preference. This is an outcome with which we are delighted. In 2014 Aitken students will be undertaking further study at university or TAFE in a wide range of fields, including architecture and building, creative and performing arts, education, engineering, health, humanities, information technology, science, commerce, law and criminology, psychology and exercise science and human movement. Well done to all our Class of 2013 students!

6. B FASHION MERCHANDISING: A NEW DEGREE AT BOX HILL INSTITUTE

Are you seeking a career in the world of fashion merchandising, retailing, or marketing? Would you like to travel the world as a fashion buyer, create exciting merchandising displays, develop a fashion website or market a fashion brand using social media? If you are creative, enjoy using social media and technology and are business minded the B Fashion Merchandising course at Box Hill will inspire you to pursue your ultimate fashion retail career. Have a look at the YouTube clips below for some inspiration: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RII0nU9C0ps and: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVXe4Cgs_jw&list=UU_LweUp25BxY7NcaNTK8aNg

7. HUME MULTIVERSITY

Are you looking for a pathway to a university degree? It’s not too late at Hume Global Learning Centre Craigieburn in 2014. Deakin At Your Doorstep currently offers 3 courses: the Associate Degree of Arts, Business and Sciences (a pathway to a Deakin degree with up to 18 months credit, study 1 day per week, entry not based on prerequisites or ATAR) B. Early Childhood Education and B Psychological Sciences. To find out more you can attend an Information Night at the Hume Multiversity, Hume Global Learning Centre, 75 – 95 Central Park Avenue, Craigieburn on Thursday 13th February, 12noon – 1:00pm or 6:00 – 7:00pm. For more information visit deakin.edu.au/doorstep or telephone: 1300 753 680.

8. NEW COURSE AT NMIT FOR 2014: B AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

New in 2014, NMIT will be offering a B Agriculture and Technology. This unique three year degree programme offers majors in Agribusiness, Agronomy, Aquaculture and Viticulture and Winemaking. Graduates will be encouraged to pursue careers in diverse areas such as: conservation, farming, agribusiness, aquaculture, winemaking journalism, agronomy, export and domestic marketing and viticulture. For more information visit: http://melbournepolytechnic.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-agriculture-and-technology-5.

Compiled by: c. borg