1. SOME THOUGHTS FROM ACU ABOUT REASONS YOU MAY WANT TO CHANGE YOUR PREFERENCES

Have you changed your mind? You may have decided you are interested in a new specialisation, a new university or a new career path. Whatever your motivation, it is important to make sure you take the time to explore your options and check entry cut-offs and closing dates for the courses you are listing.

Didn't do as well as expected? Some students may miss out on their preferred courses, but there are other options. At the ACU (and other institution) Change of Preference information sessions, students will be able to discuss these options.

Did better than expected? Some students will do much better than they expected and will suddenly have a much wider range of options open to them than they previously considered. Change of Preference is a great time for you to get further information about these courses and possibly add them in.

Whatever your situation, you can discuss options and get questions answered at the ACU information sessions: [http://life-less-ordinary.acu.edu.au/undergraduate/events/?cldee=Y2JvcmdAYW10a2VuY29sbGVnZS5iZHUUUXU%3d&utm_source=ClickDimensions&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2014%20Student%20Recruitment%20%7C%20Careers%20Advisors%20Newsletter%20VIC](http://life-less-ordinary.acu.edu.au/undergraduate/events/?cldee=Y2JvcmdAYW10a2VuY29sbGVnZS5iZHUUUXU%3d&utm_source=ClickDimensions&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2014%20Student%20Recruitment%20%7C%20Careers%20Advisors%20Newsletter%20VIC). Alternatively, you can contact ACU on 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228) or email any queries to: futurestudents@acu.edu.au.

2. CHANGING YOUR PREFERENCES: A GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Professor Jim Bright, a Professor of Career Education and Development at ACU, has put together a few statements and questions which might be useful for students during the change of preference period.

**Being useful and using your time wisely:** How can I best donate my time to activities (e.g. courses, projects and voluntary work) that are meaningful to me and matter to other people? How can I allocate my time best to make a meaningful contribution and support those who matter to me?

**Joy and engagement:** Think of an activity that you find challenging and in which you experience the feeling of being totally absorbed; so absorbed that you fail to notice that time is passing. What occupations might allow you to engage in similar tasks? How could you plan an entry route into such an occupation?

**Role models and heroes:** Who are your heroes? Who were your heroes when you were growing up? Why did you admire them? In what ways would you like to be like them? What does that tell you about your own desires and ambitions? What occupations might allow you to be more like your heroes?

**Wildest dreams:** What course in your wildest dreams would you like to do? Why do you like that course? What parts of that course would be the best and what parts would be less exciting? For the good parts you identified, what other occupations might share similar elements? These are all useful and thought provoking questions students can ask themselves at Change of Preference time and also throughout their career.

3. CHANGE OF PREFERENCE EXPO AT MONASH UNIVERSITY

The Monash Change of Preference Expo will provide Year 12 students with a final opportunity to investigate Monash courses, campuses and pathway options after the release of ATARs. Students can attend course specific information sessions and personally speak to staff regarding course options, scholarships, entry requirements, fees, alternative entry pathways and more. Visit the COP website to register: [www.monash.edu/cop](http://www.monash.edu/cop). The Monash COP Expo will take place on Wednesday 17th December, 3:00 – 7:00pm in Building H, ground floor, Caulfield campus. In addition Caulfield, Clayton and Peninsula campuses will offer one on one advice (15 minute sessions) to prospective students from course advisors at Caulfield, Clayton or Peninsula campuses on Thursday 18th December from.
10:00am – 3:00pm. Bookings are essential, book at: www.monash.edu/cop. There will also be extended hours for the 1800 MONASH hotline: Monday 15th - Friday 19th December: 8:00am – 6:00pm, Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st December: 10:00am – 2:00pm, Monday 22nd December: 8:00am – 5:00pm and Tuesday 23rd December: 9:00am – 5:00pm. Visit: www.monash.edu/cop for all the Monash change of preference activities and information.

4. HIGHLIGHTING ARTS COURSES AT MONASH IN 2015

B Global Studies (VTAC code 2800328751): This course suits students with an interest in humanitarian goals and the desire to make a change / have an impact on the global challenges we face. Study areas include International Relations, International Studies and Global Cultural Literacies. Students are required to study abroad.
B Journalism (VTAC code 28002272281): This course suits students who are interested in reporting current affairs and world issues. Brand new state of the art facilities worth $2 million are being built in 2015 including TV and radio studios and a news room. Students are encouraged to complete a journalism internship as part of the course.
B Music (VTAC code 2800328101): This course suits students who love music, performing, composing, music culture and history or creating music with technology. Performance students are given one on one tuition and learn from some of Australia’s most gifted and talented musicians.
B Arts (VTAC code 2800228131): This course offers students the utmost flexibility and scope. There are close to 40 areas of study to choose from, allowing students to continue with an interest or discover a new one. Studying abroad and internships are encouraged.
Double degrees: Monash Arts offers 25 double degree courses which allow students to broaden their career options, diversify their skills and gain a competitive edge in the job market.
For more information visit the Arts website: www.monash.edu/arts or contact Georgina Gibson via email: georgina.gibson@monash.edu or on 9902 0344.

5. NMIT / MELBOURNE POLYTECHNIC’S INFORMATION AND ENROLMENT NIGHTS

These will be held between 4:00pm and 7:00pm on the following dates: 11th December 2014, 22nd January 2015 and 5th February 2015. Information and enrolment Nights at all Melbourne Polytechnic campuses will be held at the following locations: Epping Campus – Library, Building M; Collingwood Campus – Library, Level 2 (street level); Fairfield Campus – Library, Building Q; Heidelberg Campus – Library, Building A; Preston Campus – Building F and Prahran Campus – Library, Building K. Please refer to the NMIT / Melbourne Polytechnic events calendar to see what activities are happening: http://www.melbournepolytechnic.edu.au/events/. By letting them know you are coming, staff can ensure all the information you require will be available on the night. It doesn’t matter if you are unsure of what course you want to do in 2015 – that’s what the NMIT / Melbourne Polytechnic staff are there for, to help you with your decision. You can RSVP here: https://nmit.hobsonsradius.com/crm/forms/G0A70wd6703Ex6700kBfq.

6. ON CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION: YARRA HOUSE FAIRFIELD (NMIT)


7. STUDY OPTIONS INFORMATION NIGHT / CHANGE OF PREFERENCE AT BOX HILL INSTITUTE

Whether you’re changing your course preferences or want to apply directly to Box Hill, come along to the Study Options Information Night to find out more about studying at Box Hill Institute. It will be held on Wednesday 17th December, 4:00 – 7:00pm. You can speak to the degree
experts if you are thinking of changing your preferences, talk to teachers from all course areas, map out your study pathway and discuss your options, book a free 15 minute session with a career advisor, discuss fees and payment options and enrol for a 2015 course. You can contact Box Hill on 1300 BOX HILL (1300 269 445). For more information visit: http://www.bhtafe.edu.au/news/Pages/study-options-2015.aspx.

8. LA TROBE UNIVERSITY CHANGE OF PREFERENCE

La Trobe staff are available when you need advice about preferences, when you get your exam results and when you start your first lecture. Take note of the upcoming Change of Preference events and be sure to attend the Advisory Days at the Melbourne: http://www.latrobe.edu.au/events/all/melbourne-advisory-day and Bendigo: http://www.latrobe.edu.au/events/all/change-of-preference-advisory-day-bendigo-campus2 campuses. La Trobe staff and students will be on hand to answer all your questions. There will be up to date information about courses, pathways and the world class La Trobe student experience. One on one specialist advice will also be available along with free entertainment and food. This event is perfect for those who are still unsure about what to study or are worried about their ATAR or meeting the required prerequisites. Staff will be available for extended hours during Change of Preference: Monday 15th December, 7:00am – 7:00 pm; Tuesday 16th December, 7:00am – 7:00 pm; Wednesday 17th December, 9:00am – 5:00pm; Thursday 18th December, 9:00am – 5:00pm; Friday 19th December, 9:00am – 5:00pm; Saturday 20th December, 10:00am – 3:00pm; Sunday 21st December, 10:00am – 3:00pm and on Monday 22nd December until Change of Preference closes at 12noon. You can also chat to the helpful La Trobe team about your future plans by requesting a real time chat session: http://latrobe.custhelp.com/app/chat/chat_launch.

9. LA TROBE UNIVERSITY PHYSIOTHERAPY SUBJECT BONUSES

For information about the VCE subjects and study scores which offer bonuses for Physiotherapy selection visit: http://latrobe.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/1590.

10. SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY AND TAFE CHANGE OF PREFERENCE

Swinburne will be hosting a range of events and services for students during the Change of Preference period. For more information and to register, visit: http://www.swinburne.edu.au/change-of-preference/. The Swinburne Change of Preference Expo will be held on Wednesday 17th December, 11:00am – 3:00pm, ATC101, Hawthorn campus. There will be extended Hotline hours (1300 275 794): Monday 15th December - Friday 19th December, 8:30am – 6:00pm, Saturday 20th December – Sunday 21st December, 10:00am – 2:00pm and Monday 22nd December, 8:30am – 12noon. One on one appointments (at the Hawthorn Campus) will be available Monday 15th December - Friday 19th December, 10:00am – 4:-00pm and Monday 22nd December, 8:00am – 10:00am.

11. DEAKIN UNIVERSITY FORENSIC SCIENCE COURSES AWARDED PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

Deakin is the first university in Australia, and the only university in the Asia-Pacific region, to offer professionally accredited forensic science courses, following the accreditation of its courses by the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences in the UK. Accreditation has been given to the B Forensic Science and the B Forensic Science (Honours). The accreditation recognises Deakin’s ongoing commitment to providing students with knowledge, skills and practical experience in the areas of interpretation, evaluation and presentation of evidence (IEPE), crime scene investigation (CSI) and laboratory analysis (LA). In awarding accreditation, the society also commended Deakin for the continuous enhancement of the programmes through advice from the Advisory Board (as a result of their involvement with the broad forensic science courses, pathways and services for students during the Change of Preference period. For more information and to register, visit: http://www.swinburne.edu.au/change-of-preference/.

community, with strategic objectives of state and federal organisations), student feedback and routine programme quality reviews, the incorporation of local professional practice, the promotion of forensic science to potential students and the general public through the Outreach Programme and wide media coverage by staff. Deakin’s forensic science courses are offered at the Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus where there is a purpose built crime scene training facility to give students a real life experience of working a crime scene. For more information about Deakin’s forensic science courses visit: www.deakin.edu.au/sebe/les/courses.

12. DEAKIN UNIVERSITY CHANGE OF PREFERENCE

This can be an extremely stressful time for students so Deakin encourages you to contact them for any support or advice you may need. Chat live: Monday 15th to Friday 19th December between 9:00am and 5:00pm at livechat.deakin.edu.au. Phone the Change of Preference hotline 1300 DEGREE (1300 334 733), Monday 15th to Sunday 21st December between 9:00am and 5:00pm and Monday 22nd December between 9:00am and 12noon. The Change of Preference website also includes valuable information to assist you during this period, including study areas, the ATAR calculator, FAQs, important dates and events. For more information visit: choose.deakin.edu.au

13. NEW EDUCATION COURSES AT SWINBURNE IN 2015


14. MY CAREER MATCH: ‘I WANNA B’ - NEW CAREER VIDEOS AND TV SHOW

‘I Wanna B’ is all about careers. Vibrant Student Edge presenters talk to the people who work in particular professions. ‘I Wanna B’ gives students information to research and help make wise career choices. The Student Edge videos explore training institutions and universities to find out just what it takes, from beginning to end, to become anything from a Police Officer to a School Teacher. To view ‘I Wanna B’, visit: http://www/wmymcareermatchcomau.cmail2.com /t/y-l-itudud-qahhhuih-d/.

15. CHANGE OF PREFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Change of Preference is an exciting and challenging time but you don’t need to navigate it alone. Staff at the University of Melbourne are here to help you understand the options available at Melbourne, so you can make the best decisions for your future. The new Change of Preference website: http://cop.unimelb.edu.au/ is packed with all the information you need during the Change of Preference period, including a handy explanation and example of how the VTAC preferencing system works, all the important dates you need to have at hand and essential information about the degrees, scholarships, student support and overseas opportunities at the University of Melbourne. Telephone 13 MELB (13 6352) or email: 13MELB@unimelb.edu.au for assistance. The Course Information Day will take place on Wednesday 17th December 2014, 10:00am – 2:30pm at the Sidney Myer Asia Centre, Parkville campus. Staff are happy to counsel
students one on one and answer any questions they have once they receive their ATAR. The day features information sessions about all the undergraduate courses and selected graduate pathways. There will also be sessions on Access Melbourne, the Chancellor’s Scholars Programme and a special session just for parents. Students can end their day with a tour of the campus and residential colleges. To register visit: http://cop.unimelb.edu.au/. If you can’t attend in person, you can go online. This year there is also an Online Course Information Day for students and parents. You can log in and receive personalised advice about undergraduate courses, pathways to graduate study, scholarships and special entry schemes. This will take place on Thursday 18th December, 11:00am – 9:00pm. To register visit: http://cop.unimelb.edu.au/

16. VCE SUMMER SCHOOL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

VCE Summer School is your chance to get a head start on your studies for next year. Held at the University of Melbourne, it is a full time, two week programme including classes, seminars and one on one tutorials in all VCE subjects. For each subject students are given a detailed subject booklet outlining the requirements of the subject as well as practical study hints and examples. There will also be a programme of activities, workshops and excursions in order to promote a healthy study - life balance. Tutors are current University of Melbourne students who can give you a fantastic insight into university life. Bursaries are available to students experiencing financial difficulty. Dates: 12th – 23rd January 2015. More information: umsu.unimelb.edu.au/jump-in/summerschool

17. WERRIBEE OPEN RANGE ZOO’S KEEPER FOR A DAY PROGRAMME

Are you interested in a career as a zoo keeper? Are you thinking of a career working with animals? Take part in a day of hands on experiences designed to provide you with an insight into the role of a zoo keeper. This is a great opportunity to discover first hand the skills and experience recommended to gain a position as a zoo keeper amongst a competitive field of applicants. The programme is suitable for students in Years 7 – 12. The cost is: $105 or $94.50 for zoo members. Bookings: 9285 9406 or www.zoo.org.au/werribee/whats-on/keeper-for-a-day

18. HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY’S VET FOR A DAY PROGRAMME

Aquatic animals have amazing adaptations. Come and work with the Healesville keepers to find out how they care for these amazing creatures including platypus, pelicans and turtles. Go behind the scenes to see how the staff help keep animals cool in summer. Keeper for a Day participants will work with Sanctuary staff, helping the keepers and learning about a very rewarding job. The activity is suitable for students in Years 9 - 12. The cost is $129 (and includes morning tea) or $116 for zoo members. Bookings: 9285 9406 or www.zoo.org.au/healesville/whats-on/healesville-sanctuary-vet-for-a-day

19. HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY’S KEEPER FOR A DAY PROGRAMME

Are you interested in becoming a vet? The Australian Wildlife Health Centre receives over 1,500 injured and orphaned wild animals each year. Come and work alongside the vets in a unique programme working with real life cases involving Healesville Sanctuary’s animal collection as well as injured wildlife brought to the hospital. This summer there is a focus on aquatic animals. Learn about how vets care for platypus, turtles and water birds. Vet for a Day allows participants to work in the vet hospital for the day, helping the vets and learning about this very rewarding job. The programme is suitable for students in Years 7 – 12. The cost is: $105 or $94.50 for zoo members. Bookings: 9285 9406 or www.zoo.org.au/healesville/whats-on/keeper-for-a-day

20. NEW JMC SONG WRITING COURSE
The new JMC song writing course will explore the fundamental song writing techniques and uncover the essential tools for writing music that will appeal specifically to music supervisors, music publishers, record labels and producers, across any number of different genres. JMC Academy are proud to announce that applications are now open for the new song writing course, commencing nationally in February 2015. Songwriters hold a vital place in the musical marketplace, even amongst the competing agendas of contemporary rock, indie and teen pop. Song writing is a skill that is rarely taught, and whether a relative beginner or an experienced songwriter, JMC Academy’s new course will teach students how to brainstorm ideas, overcome writer’s block and develop expressions more effectively in words and music. Combining technical principles with pure creative expression, this hands on course will help you find that inner voice, sharpen your craft and create songs which listeners will appreciate and remember. The field of song writing has grown exponentially over the past few years, providing a promotional launching pad (as well as a potentially lucrative income stream) for songwriters. JMC will offer both a diploma and bachelor degree. All the lecturers come from an industry background, so students will receive advice directly from someone who followed the same journey. For more information about the course visit: http://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/Course/Song writing.cfm.

21. FEDERATION UNIVERSITY INFO DAY

This will take place on 17th December, 11:00am – 2:00pm at the Mt Helen and Gippsland campuses. Info Day gives students the opportunity to learn more about the programmes, facilities and services, before the VTAC ‘change of preference’ period closes. Students can obtain one on one advice from an array of academic and support staff at the ’Starting Point’. Information sessions run throughout the day focusing on expert advice for prospective students. The format for Info Day includes information sessions, course information stands, application advice, employment and careers information, fee advice, student accommodation, student support services, alternative entry options and TAFE pathways and general campus tours. Students can register their attendance or find out more information at: federation.edu.au/infoday

22. OPEN ACCESS AT FEDERATION UNIVERSITY: HOW IT WORKS

If students have applied for an Open Access programme at FedUni their results will provide an indication as to whether they will receive a main round offer in January. For current Year 12 students this means that, provided they have met the prerequisites of the programme, ATAR is not a factor in FedUni’s decision to offer a place. Further information, including a list of Open Access programmes, is available on the website: federation.edu.au/openaccess. Offers are made subject to numbers.

23. 2016 UK GAP YEAR

Applications are now open for students who are planning a Gap Year in the UK, commencing January 2016. It may seem like a long way off, but UK boarding schools are now considering applications for gap places in 2016. More information can be found on the website UK Gap Year: http://www.ukgapyear.com.au/ where an Application Form can also be downloaded: http://www.vision6.com.au/download/files/44179/1826203/2016%20Gap%20Year%20Application%20Form.pdf. It is important to note that applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age at the start of the placement. Please contact Louise Brunner or Minetta Cox at Champion Travel (08 8239 0999) for more information.

24. SURVEY OF EMPLOYERS’ RECRUITMENT EXPERIENCES

New findings from the Department of Employment’s Survey of Employers’ Recruitment Experiences are now available online. The survey findings provide a useful source of insights about what employers are looking for in new employees and highlight
ways job seekers can find new employment opportunities. The findings are provided in six summary papers and cover topics such as reasons employers hire an apprentice or trainee, improving employment prospects for Indigenous Australians and finding pathways to employment. The findings also provide useful insights for workers facing redundancy. For the survey, the Department of Employment asked employers in regions with announced automotive redundancies what advice they would give to workers to improve their employment opportunities. The responses highlight the need to promote your adaptability, consider a wide range of job opportunities and act quickly. Read more at the Survey of Employers’ Recruitment Experiences: Improving Employment Prospects for Young Australians: http://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/RecruitmentAnalysis.

25. CHANGE OF PREFERENCE INFO SESSIONS AT ACU

If students are still exploring their options for 2015, or need advice on course preferences or pathways to university, they should come along to one of the ACU Change of Preference Information sessions. Academic staff and current students will be available to answer your questions and help you make a decision that is right for you. Sessions: Melbourne Campus; Tuesday 16th December, 12noon – 6:00pm, 8 - 18 Brunswick Street Fitzroy and Ballarat Campus, Wednesday 17th December 6:00 – 7:30pm, 1200 Mair Street, Connors Hall, Ballarat.

26. VET PATHWAYS INTO ACU VIA ACUCOM

Pathway qualifications are available at ACU through the pathway and VET provider ACUCom. ACUCom offer a range of pathways and study areas including Nursing, Exercise Science, Education Support, Training and Assessment, Aged Care and Management. The new ACUCom facilities on the Melbourne Campus boast modern and well equipped learning environments with shared facilities of ACU's library, computer facilities and fully equipped specialist Nursing practice rooms. All of ACUCom’s courses are offered from the Melbourne Campus as well as a select few being offered from the Ballarat Campus. See the full list and all relevant details of pathway courses through ACUCom at: http://elink.clickdimensions.com/c/1/?aId=31156163&requestId=b32014-04713cb1-bb4b-4bb2-82e0-d02a9bd602b9&rid=contact-1c588c84f79c311b6fcd89d6765b220-ef5a4ad08b794d999597a9f601d7e6ad&uId=7&ea=pobet%3Dn%3Dn%3Dnvxrapbyyrtr.rqh&Url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.acu.edu.au%2Fcourses%2F2015%2Fother_courses%2Fvocational_education_training_vet%3F_cldee%3DY2JvcmdAYWl0a2VuY29sbGVnZS5lUyU% 253d%26utm_source%3DClickDimensions%2 6utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign %3D2014%2520Student%2520Recruitment %2520%2520Careers%2520%2520%2520%2520Advisors%2520Newsletter%2520NOV%2520%2520V IC. ACU also has a number of credit transfer agreements with public and private providers, nationally and internationally, including TAFEs, colleges and other universities. Students may complete a certificate, diploma or advanced diploma in a field similar to the course they wish to study at ACU and are able to gain entry or apply for credit towards an ACU degree.

27. THE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS THERAPY

The Australian College of Sports Therapy (ACST), located on Level 6, 341 Queen Street, Melbourne, provides alternative pathways to physiotherapy, chiropractic and other health professions through their Certificate and Diploma courses in Sports Therapy (the Adv Dip Sports Therapy, Adv Dip Myotherapy, Dip Remedial Massage, Cert IV in Massage Therapy Practice and Certs III and IV in Fitness). Students who do not receive the ATAR required to study the health science course of their choice may find a course at ACST which will suit them. Applications are made through VTAC. Visit www.sportstherapy.edu.au for more information.

Compiled by: c. borg