Ballarat Christian College

Career News

Term 3

September 12, 2017

FOCUS ON VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Vocational education and training (VET) includes traineeships, apprenticeships and TAFE study.

4 out of 5 parents report that they would prefer their child to go to university than study VET, but it is crucial that both parents and students take the time to understand the VET sector, and that a preference for just university study may in some cases limit a young persons potential.

Between 20 – 30% of young people in Australia drop out of or change their university course within the first year. Many young people don't even consider studying a TAFE course due to incorrect perceptions or through lack of understanding of the sector.

It's no secret that employers love job applicants who have TAFE qualifications, including those who graduate from a university degree with a VET qualification.

VET graduates are considered to have 'job ready' skills and in the future labour market in Australia with 1 in every 2 young people expected to complete a Bachelor degree, it is more important than ever to have diverse skills, industry experience and more than one qualification (e.g., a Bachelor of Engineering with a TAFE Diploma in Project Management).

Did you know that 9/10 occupations predicted to have the most jobs growth by 2022 are in vocational training areas and in the industries with the most growth (e.g., health and community services, construction, and accommodation and food services)? Source: http://bit.ly/1mab7j7

Specific occupations with the biggest growth prediction include sales assistants, aged care workers, disability workers, enrolled nurses, electricians, chefs, and early childhood education workers etc.

FOCUS ON VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Current skills shortages are in occupations such as automotive trades, food trades, construction trades, and building professionals.

A report, titled: 'Perceptions Are Not Reality: myths, realities & the critical role of vocational education & training in Australia', was released by Skilling Australia Foundation this year, http://bit.ly/2vPBkPF

It revealed the following:

- VET graduates earn wages comparable to, if not exceeding, that of university graduates.
- VET graduates have a higher employment rate than university undergraduates. More than 78% of VET graduates are employed after training.
- VET courses have adapted more readily to changing workforce needs.

There are some occupations that require a university degree (e.g., medicine, social work, law).

It is advisable that students consider undertaking VET study during their gap year (e.g., gap year traineeship or TAFE course) and concurrently with their university studies (if time permits).

Other benefits of TAFE courses include:

- Higher level courses (e.g., Diploma) can provide a direct pathway into university courses with credit
- Can give you the opportunity to trial an industry or career area before you commit to university study
- Can give you a qualification you can use to gain part time work whilst undertaking university study.

FOCUS ON VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Did you know you can study a huge range of vocational courses at TAFE? TAFE provides students with the opportunity to:

- Undertake applied learning
- Gain 'industry ready' experience
- Learn about industries and careers
- Obtain a qualification in a relatively short time frame.

The following are example courses you could consider:

Jane knows she loves working with people, has excellent written and verbal communication skills, is creative, loves thinking outside the box, is highly organised and enjoys solving problems. She explores the following TAFE courses:

- Public Relations
- Marketing
- Advertising
- Professional Writing and Editing
- Broadcast Journalism
- Liberal Arts
- Library and Information Services

Sheridan loves sciences and health and is considering working in rehabilitation, medical sciences or allied health in the future. She explores the following courses:

- Dental Technology
- Nursing
- Massage and Myotherapy
- Allied Health Assistance
- Laboratory Technology
- Pathology Collection

Paul knows he loves helping people and that he would like to work in counselling, case management, or human services in the future. He explores the following courses:

- Community Services
- Youth Work
- Disability Services
- Mental Health
- Alcohol and other Drugs
- Aged Care

FOCUS ON VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Patrick enjoys legal studies and business, and has excellent research and written/verbal communication skills. He explores the following courses:

- Justice
- Legal Practice
- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Marketing
- Banking Services
- Real Estate
- Human Resources
- Financial Planning

To search for TAFE courses, use the following websites:

- Victorian Skills Gateway website - http://bit.ly/2cPZDUF
- TAFE NSW - http://bit.ly/1mgtM05
- MySkills (Australia wide) - http://bit.ly/2gWp25g
- Private Colleges Australia, http://bit.ly/2fd3Moe

It's important to note that many courses have optional or compulsory information sessions that run between now and the end of the year. You will need to ensure that you attend these sessions and also fulfil any portfolio or selection task requirements.

VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Work for ASIO straight after Year 12! The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) is currently recruiting for Information Management and Information Technology trainees. The pay and conditions are excellent and there is a post traineeship career pathway within the organisation. For information and to apply, go to http://bit.ly/2xria6Q

Cybersecurity careers are in high demand. This is an excellent article about cybersecurity, study pathways, example job titles and salaries and key websites, http://bit.ly/2wUTyk9

VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Interested in working in a vet clinic as a nurse or a technologist? You may find the following two courses interesting:

- **Bachelor of Veterinary Technology, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga:** You can specialise in practice management, large animal technology, or clinical technology and you can study the course on campus or via distance. You will also complete the Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing through Goulburn Ovens TAFE via distance, http://bit.ly/1BCc1w4

- **Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing, La Trobe University**: This course is offered by La Trobe and delivered at Melbourne Polytechnic, Epping and is the first course of its kind in Australia. The course has a heavy focus on industry experience, http://bit.ly/22jRuuA

Interested in studying a psychology degree in the future? You may have an idea of what type of psychology interests you, and what field you may like to specialise in the future. From 2018, Deakin University will be offering the Bachelor of Psychology with a choice of four professional streams. These include: Forensic, Health, Child and Family, and Organisational. During the first year of study, students will select the stream they would like to take. Information on the course can be found at this link - http://bit.ly/2wSuxs8

You may find the following websites helpful:

- How to become an accredited psychologist: http://bit.ly/1QvBbDK
- Psychology careers and specialisations, http://bit.ly/2wLNAof

Getting robots to do our dirty work: Did you know that over 40% of jobs are at risk of automation? New careers are being created in robotics and mechatronic engineers are paving the way. Mechatronic engineering is a combination of mechanical, electronic, computing and control engineering. Careers With STEM has written an excellent article about how robots are reshaping jobs and about mechanical engineering courses and key websites, http://bit.ly/2wViaL7

VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Robotics at Deakin University: Deakin offers Australia's first four-year Software Engineering course in Robotics and Smart Systems. Using the skills acquired throughout the course, graduates could be developing the next smart car, the next smart watch or a new form of artificial intelligence. The course has been designed in response to industry demand for innovative software engineers capable of designing and developing complex software systems for the modern world. For information, go to http://bit.ly/2cpCKJL

UPCOMING CAREER EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

19, 21: Deakin Accelerate Information Evening, Deakin University, Geelong Waurn Ponds (19), and Melbourne (21), http://bit.ly/2gxkoXL

16: Careers and Creativity Day, Monash Art, Design and Architecture Faculty, Monash University, Caulfield campus, http://bit.ly/2imDq7j

17: Law and Justice Open Day, Victoria University, http://bit.ly/2vYaENr

25 - 28: ConocoPhillips Science Experience, Federation University. Ballarat: 25 – 26 and Gippsland: 26 – 28, http://bit.ly/2ap3Cau

25, 26, 28: Campus Tours, Federation University, all campuses, http://bit.ly/1JxHraD

25, 26, 28: VCE Study Skills Day, Federation University, all campuses, http://bit.ly/1JxHraD

26, 27: Nuclear Medicine Workplace Visits, RMIT, http://bit.ly/2xFW4tF

26, 28: Keeper for a Day, Werribee Open Range Zoo, http://bit.ly/1vornA4

28: Science in City Lab Tour, RMIT, City, http://bit.ly/2wbb7gN

OCTOBER

2, 4: Keeper for a Day, Werribee Open Range Zoo, http://bit.ly/1vornA4