Website of the fortnight: www.myfuture.gov.au. This fantastic site will assist you to build your career profile, explore ideas, consider options and develop your career plan. NOTE: Today a career is considered to be a continuous process of learning and development;...all life experiences can be relevant to employers, not just your formal qualifications.

Reminder: Veterinary Science Open Day: 10am-3pm, Sun 21 March, Uni. of Melbourne Veterinary Hospital, 250 Princes Hwy, Werribee; www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday

Peter Goddard - Editor

1. WHAT IS ENGINEERING ALL ABOUT?
Find out at the coming Engineering Expo. ‘Engineers Australia’ invites you to attend this free Expo which will include 60+ exhibitors, seminars, career advice, recruitment opportunities. When: 2-7pm, Thurs 25 March; Where: Etihad Stadium, Melbourne; Register: www.engineeringexpo.org.au.

DO YOU KNOW? Engineering can be studied at university and TAFE. An engineering degree at university will generally take 4 years; a TAFE diploma takes two years. Articulation from TAFE to university is available, giving credits from TAFE towards the university degree. Some universities require Year 12 applicants to apply to study the type of engineering that interests them (eg Swinburne, RMIT) while others have a general first year, exposing students to a variety of types of engineering (students choose a specialisation in second year (eg Monash)).

2. APPLYING FOR A MEDICAL-RELATED COURSE IN 2011?
If so, you may need to sit the Undergraduate Medicine & Health Sciences Admission Test on 28 July, 2010 (registrations open April). The UMAT is used in selecting students for some courses; eg medicine and physiotherapy at Monash Uni. use a combination of ENTER, UMAT and interview; pharmacy at Monash uses the ENTER and UMAT. The University of Melbourne's Bachelor of Oral Health uses the UMAT and ENTER. The UMAT 2010 Information Booklet will be available on line in late March. The UMAT 2009 Information Booklet and other information is at http://umatweb.acer.edu.au. NOTE: A number of short courses are on offer aimed at helping to prepare you for the UMAT; it is up to you to decide whether or not to complete one of these. Also consider applying interstate to increase your chance of securing a place in these competitive courses.

3. OPEN DAY DATES
Attending Open Days is a great way to find out more about universities and TAFE's; see facilities, find out about courses, collect information. Here are some dates for your diary. More information and dates as Open Days get closer.
  • Sat 31 July - Monash Uni (Berwick Gippsland and Peninsula campuses)
  • Sun 1 Aug - Monash Uni (Caulfield, Clayton and Parkville campuses)
  • Sun 8 Aug - Deakin Uni (Geelong); RMIT Uni/TAFE; Victoria Uni/TAFE (Footscray)
  • Sat 14 Aug - Holmesglen TAFE
  • Sun 15 Aug - Australian Catholic Uni (ACU) (Melbourne); Deakin Uni (Warrnambool); La Trobe Uni (Bendigo); Swinburne Uni/TAFE; Melbourne Uni; Sun 22 Aug - Box Hill TAFE; Deakin Uni (Melb); La Trobe Uni (Albury/Wodonga)
  • Sun 29 Aug - ACU (Ballarat); Ballarat Uni; La Trobe Uni (Bundoora)

Attending Open Days is really important, especially if you intend to apply for a course that requires an interview, folio presentation or audition. You will be at a disadvantage if you have never been to the institution involved.
4. WHAT IS A CAREERS EXPO?
They bring together in one place organisations related to choosing a course or career. Most Expos include University, TAFE, independent providers, employer groups, police force and defence force representatives. They are a great opportunity to collect information and talk to representatives at one location about a range of careers. Attending one is a great start to your career research. Some that are coming up during the year are (put one in your diary now!):

- The Age and VCE Careers Expo, Fri 23-Sun 25 April, Caulfield Racecourse (www.education.theage.com.au)
- The National Careers & Employment Expo, Fri 21-Sat 22 May, Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (www.eocexpo.com.au)
- The Herald Sun Careers Expo, Fri 30 July-Sun 1 Aug, Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (www.careerexpo.com.au)

5. WHAT IS TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS?

6. SO YOU WANT TO WORK WITH ANIMALS?
You might know what a vet or vet nurse does, but do you know how to become a vet or vet nurse? And...what other careers and courses are available? To become a veterinarian you have to study at university; the only Victorian university offering a veterinary course is Melbourne. It is a VERY competitive pathway. See: www.vet.unimelb.edu.au for details. To become a veterinary nurse you must first gain employment with a vet. Once you have employment you can enrol in TAFE to complete Cert. IV in Veterinary Nursing. This qualification involves on-the-job and off-the-job training (see: www.bhtafe.edu.au). Some other university courses which may lead to working with animals are: Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Biosciences (La Trobe), B. Agricultural Science (La Trobe and Melbourne) and the B. Wildlife and Conservation Biology (Deakin). It is also possible to study zoology in a science degree at Deakin, Melbourne and Monash universities. TAFE Institutes offer a variety of courses such as Cert II in Animal Studies - Veterinary Nursing, Cert III in Captive Animals, Cert III in Agriculture (Horse Breeding), Cert's III & IV in Companion Animal Services, Cert IV in Stud and Stable Supervision, Diploma of Animal Technology, Adv Dip of Horse Management and Adv Dip of Rural Business Management (see: www.tafe.vic.gov.au).

7. I WANT TO BE A JOURNALIST!
You can write clearly, have a good general knowledge, and are interested in the world around you. You follow the news, and want to search out stories, regardless of the time (day/night). You work to strict deadlines. If this sounds like you, then journalism may suit you. To become a journalist you first need to complete a university degree with a major study in journalism. Examples of courses: Deakin University B. Arts, B. Media and Communication or B. Professional Writing; La Trobe Uni B. Journalism or B. Media Studies; Monash Uni B. Arts; Swinburne Uni B. Arts (Journalism); RMIT B. Communication (Journalism) or B. Professional Communication, Victoria Uni B. Communication (Professional Writing, Public Relations and Digital Media).