

Weekly Career News

TERM THREE

Tuesday 28 July 2015

COOL COURSES & CAREERS

Meet Jacob Hampton: Jacob is studying the Joint Medical Program at the University of New England.



What is your course like? I have one year to go until I complete the degree. Medicine has been a fantastic course although it gets quite intense.

The years go on, your holidays become fewer and fewer. Our semesters go a lot longer than other courses, which can be very draining, but the content is fascinating! The first 3 years of the course are mainly lecture theatre and tutorial group study, with some exposure in the hospitals and GP practices.

The final 2 years are all clinical learning in the hospital. There is still a LOT of study outside of your hospital hours but the content feels extremely relevant when you are seeing it at the hospital every day.

What do you love about your course? The best parts of the course are the placements. Last year I was at Gosford Hospital full time for the year studying and this year I am mainly at the John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle. At the end of 3rd year, we got the opportunity to travel overseas and work in a place of health inequity. I travelled to the central highlands in India and worked in a rural missionary hospital for two months and it was an amazing experience.

I am also currently planning a 4-week placement in New York at the Lincoln Medical Centre, which is the busiest trauma centre in the United States. As students, we get placed on a trauma team and work along side the medical staff assisting in the traumas that come in through the door. There are always opportunities that arise while studying Medicine; you just need to take them.

COOL COURSES & CAREERS

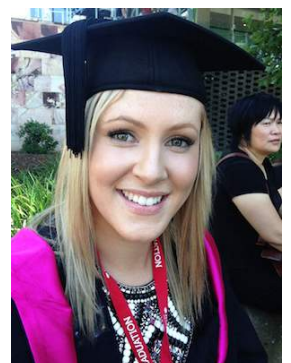
Meet Kate Robinson: Kate has completed the Bachelor of Nursing at RMIT and now works as a Grade 2 Registered Nurse on the haematology/medical oncology and bone marrow transplant wards at the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

What was your course like? My course was fantastic. I chose RMIT over some of the other Melbourne based universities as I felt they offered the most in depth subjects and the most variety in electives. The course itself comprised of lectures, compulsory practical classes in biology and nursing skills and a total of 800 hours clinical placement within metropolitan Melbourne.

What were some of the best parts of your course? The best parts of my course were clinical placements. The other part I enjoyed the most was RMITs "sim-man" which is a fully interactive dummy that we would use in mock emergency scenarios. This was extremely helpful when going into the workforce and in a real emergency situation.

What do you enjoy about your job? I enjoy continuing to learn about blood cancers and disorders as the Royal Melbourne receives patients from all over Victoria and Tasmania who have been diagnosed with rare or very aggressive diseases. I like that there are a lot of opportunities for further education and to progress into more senior roles and/or positions and that this is encouraged.

I enjoy the continuity of care and getting to know patients and their families and to support them through what is often the hardest time of their lives. I also enjoy getting to work with some amazing people in the nursing, medical and allied health teams. Cancer treatment unfortunately doesn't always work but having a great support system in my colleagues makes it easier!



COOL COURSES & CAREERS

Meet Lara Wojcik: Lara is studying the Bachelor of Languages/Bachelor of Asia Pacific Studies at Australia National University, Canberra.

What is your course like? My course is amazing. The Australia National University allows students to combine a number of degrees in a flexible double degree. I combined a Bachelor of Languages majoring in German with a Bachelor of Asia-Pacific Studies majoring in Japanese. The flexible double degree has allowed me to also study Linguistics and Cultural Studies.

What do you love about your course? I love the range of subjects and high level language courses I get to choose from every semester with my degrees; however, the best part of my degrees are the various opportunities to do exchange programs.

So far I have completed two short-term exchanges in Japan, a six-month exchange in Germany and will be leaving in September to participate in the 'Year in Asia' program in Tokyo. Furthermore, I have received financial support for all these exchanges including one fully paid trip in Japan.



FUTURE CAREERS- CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU

With subject selection and Open Days taking place over the next several weeks, it is time to start thinking about your future after school. What pathway are you interested in?

Employment? TAFE? Apprenticeship? Traineeship? University? Pretty straight forward really. It seems like it's just expected that you will make a decision and go from there.

- But have you sat down and really thought about the next 5 years? Even the next 2?
- Is the course or training area you are thinking about the right one for you?
- Have you developed a pathway plan? Or are you just traveling along in the passenger seat, hoping things will fall into place.

FUTURE CAREERS- CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU

Did you know?

- Between 20 – 30% of first year students drop out of or change their university course.
- About 50% of trainees drop out of their apprenticeship/traineeship.

Don't become a statistic- make sure you don't just fall into a course or job. You still have plenty of time to make the right decisions and put in the groundwork.

You will be making the wrong career choice if you base your decision-making solely on any of the following:

- **It looks cool on TV** (e.g., Boston Legal, CSI, Criminal Minds). This is NOT reality. People don't walk around crime scenes wearing the latest fashions, or work in labs with their hair falling about their shoulders. Nor do they receive crime scene test results overnight.
- If you want to watch a good program, watch a reality series like Border Security, Recruits, or Customs etc., or read autobiographies of people working in the industry you are interested in.
- **Your parents expect you to do it.** This is a tricky one. You want to study history, but your parents expect you to study law, medicine or dentistry because in their eyes it is 'more respectable', 'earns more money', or simply it is just an expectation in your family that you will study a certain course. Following your parents' guidance will make them happy, but it's important that **YOU** are happy and fulfilled in your life.
- **The job pays a lot of money.** We know occupations like Dentistry, Law and Mathematics pay well. But would you want to sit through four years of Law if your heart wasn't in it, and you didn't enjoy things like researching, debating, reading and analysing? And would you want to commit years of study to becoming a Dentist or Surgeon through taking subject after subject in sciences when your real passion is humanities?
- **Your parents/siblings/second cousin's neighbour does it.** Sure, your Aunty likes accounting, but how do you know you will?



FUTURE CAREERS- CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU

If you want to follow the path that will lead you to a satisfying career, there are a few things to think about.

You don't know what you don't know: There is a world of opportunity out there with an enormous range of career options. There are jobs that will suit you that haven't even been invented yet! How would you know that you would like to study biomedical engineering if you have only studied physics and mathematical methods at school? How would you know that you would love anthropology if you have only studied sociology at school?



Network: Do work experience. Even one or two days- you don't have to go for a whole week. Worried about missing school? Go through the school holidays. You won't be able to build up a realistic picture of an occupation is like by just reading a brochure



Be flexible and ready for change: You will change your career direction several times throughout your lifetime and you will work for different companies. You may also change your course or apprenticeship, drop out of study, work for a while, go back to study, drop out again, travel, pick up some TAFE study, work in different jobs....you don't know what lies ahead in your future but be prepared to be flexible and resourceful.

For many people of your generation, it's completely normal. Most importantly, speak to the people who know you best. They will be able to advise you well and support you throughout your journey

OPEN DAYS 1 & 2 AUGUST

- **Monash University:** Berwick and Peninsula campuses, Saturday 1st. Clayton, Caulfield and Parkville campuses, Sunday 2nd, <http://monash.edu/open-day>
- **Swinburne University/TAFE:** Hawthorn Campus, Sunday 2nd. Travel scholarships available for regional students, www.swinburne.edu.au/openday/
- **Deakin University:** Warrnambool campus, Sunday 2nd, <http://openday.deakin.edu.au/>

VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Interested in studying at Swinburne

University? The University has just announced an exciting new initiative called 'The Swinburne Advantage'. Starting in 2016, the Swinburne will be expanding access to their Work Integrated Learning opportunities. The following is a brief overview of changes:

- Introduction of nine new 'professional' degrees. Students will undertake 12 months of compulsory paid work experience, <http://bit.ly/1D59ErR>
- Increased access to professional placements, professional internships, industry-linked projects, industry study tours and accreditation placements
- The High Achievers Program will be available to all students receiving a Vice Chancellor's, Dean's, George Swinburne, or STEM scholarship.
- Many Bachelor degrees have been simplified so you can be flexible in how you choose your major and not be locked in to a particular specialisation straight away.

Many of the courses in the 2016 Swinburne Course Guide have been modified – please go to <http://bit.ly/1fzaa60> for up to date information.

The Swinburne Advantage

We turn knowing into know-how

Australian Defence Force news:

- Year 12 students: online applications for the Army and Air Force Gap Year programs close on Friday 31 July, <http://bit.ly/1dVvxxV>
- The Army One Year Roles have been discontinued.
- If you are planning to apply for the Defence Force and would like to start preparing for the Pre-Entry Fitness Assessment, you can download the ADF Active app from <http://bit.ly/1et6uCl>



Passionate about science and mathematics?

Read about the following four people studying interesting courses in Australia:

- **Lauren Power**, Geomatics graduate from RMIT. Now a Senior Spatial Analyst at Geoscience Australia.
- **Billy Murdoch**, Physics graduate from RMIT and PhD student as an industry partner with Agilent Technologies working on fabricating nanostructured optical coatings.
- **Danushi Peiris**, second year student, Bachelor of Science Advanced - Global Challenges (Hons), Monash University.
- **Jack Muir**, PhD student at Australia National University focusing on a field of Geophysics.

Read about these amazing young people here- <http://bit.ly/1lpt5fq>

Can't make it to the Victoria University Open Day on Sunday 23 August? You can undertake a virtual tour of the Footscray, Flinders Street, Queen Street, St Albans and Sunshine campuses online. You can watch the videos at this link- <http://bit.ly/1S73u14>

Year 9 Students - Be a Chemist for a Day:

Victoria University is running a program where Year 9 students can perform hands-on experiments that illustrate what real chemists do in their jobs. The experiments are designed to engage students via their senses. Students will be able to:

- Separate dyes in pen inks
- Make metals emit coloured light
- Remove oil from bird feathers with a magnet
- Convert aspirin into Dencorub
- Generate electricity from lemons
- Make a chemical clock.

The program will run between 3 – 21 August. For more information and register, go to <http://bit.ly/1IB7PFv>



The Indigenous Australian Engineering

Summer School will be held at the University of Sydney between 10th – 16th of January. This program is for Indigenous students who will be entering Years 11 or 12 in 2016. The program is fully funded and entries close Friday 16 October. For more information and apply, go to <http://sydney.edu.au/engineering/iaess/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

August Events

- **3 – 21: Be a Chemist for a Day**, Victoria University, Year 9 Students, <http://bit.ly/1IB7PFv>
- **18, 27: At Monash Seminar Series**, Theatre, Performance & Music (18) and Science (27), <http://bit.ly/1LbfvWR>
- **23: RMIT Flight Training Open Day**, Point Cook, <http://bit.ly/1fhzVrZ>
- **24, 25, 26: Charles Sturt University MyDay**, Engineering, Bathurst (24), Communication & Creative Industries, Wagga Wagga (25 & 26), www.csu.edu.au/go/myday

September Events

- **1, 3, 8, 17: At Monash Seminar Series**, Teaching (1, 3, 8) and Engineering (17), <http://bit.ly/1LbfvWR>
- **8: Industrial Design for 2020 and Beyond**, Engineering and Design Information Evening, Deakin University, Geelong Waurm Ponds campus, sebe-events@deakin.edu.au
- **9: Architecture and Built Environment Information Evening**, Deakin University, Geelong Waurm Ponds campus, sebe-events@deakin.edu.au
- **14 – 16: The Swinburne-ConocoPhillips Science Experience**, Year 9 and 10 students, Hawthorn Campus, <http://tinyurl.com/kno5vhm>

