Reminders:
- **UMAT** Register by 5 June; Test Date: 29 July
- ‘At Monash’ – Engineering, 15 July - Business and economics (Collins St Melbourne); Information: 1800 666 274; Register: www.monash.edu/seminars.
- **Focus on Melbourne - Engineering** 11 June, IT 11 June, Music 24 June, and VCA 25 June. See: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events.
- Be You at VU – 8 July; Register/Information: www.vu.edu.au/be-you-at-vu.
- **Keeper/Vet for a Day** – Healesville & Werribee; Bookings: 1300 966 784; www.zoo.org.au/education/careers-programs
- Discover Deakin - 30 June (Burwood) & 1 July (Geelong); www.deakin.edu.au/discover-deakin.
- Experience ACU – 29 June (Melbourne) & 30 June (Ballarat); Info: 1300 275 228; Register: www.acu.edu.au/uni-experience.
- Experience La Trobe – 9 July (Bundoora); Register: www.latrobe.edu.au/experience.
- UniExperience at Melbourne - Year 11 students (rural/border regions, first in their family for tertiary study, Indigenous Australian/Torres Strait Islander); 9-10 July; See http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au.
- **Science in the RMIT City Lab Tours** - see laboratories; Mon 29 June; Info/registration: www.rmit.edu.au/appliedsciences/discover.

1. **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING SEMINAR FOR GIRLS** – Monash University is again running ENGenuITy, an event for girls interested in information technology and engineering. The aim is to inspire and encourage females to pursue a career in IT or engineering. Find out more about IT and engineering, connect with like-minded people, and discover the world if IT and engineering professionals. Be involved in hands-on activities that will expose you to the different fields of IT and engineering. **When:** 10am-4.30pm, Tues 30 June; **Where:** Monash Clayton; **Cost:** Free (incl morning tea and lunch); **Contact:** Melina Talanis ph 9902 0108, melina.talanis@monash.edu.

2. **YOU WANT TO BE AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST?** Austin Health is holding an information and demonstration evening for those interested in this career. Hear from OT’s experienced in spinal rehabilitation, hand therapy, mental health and neurology. When: 5pm (registration), 5.30-8pm (sessions) Thurs 16 July; **Where:** Education Precinct, Level 4 Austin Tower, Austin Hospital, Studley Rd, Heidelberg; **RSVP:** to Lucinda.russell@austin.org.au by 9 July; limited seats available.

3. **NEW FASHION FACILITIES AT RMIT** – RMIT has just launched as $8 million fashion hub at the Brunswick campus. It features new design studios, specialist machine rooms, an interactive lecture theatre and lounge spaces. RMIT Brunswick offers an Associate Degree in Fashion and Textiles Merchandising, Certificate IV in Fashion and Textiles Merchandising, an Associate Degree in Fashion Design and Technology, and the Bachelor of Fashion (Design Technology).

Check out the Brunswick campus and courses at RMIT Open Day on Sunday 9 August, 10am – 4pm. The 4-year B. Fashion Design is taught partly at the City campus and partly at the Brunswick campus. **NOTE:** Some similar fashion courses are available at Holmesglen (City campus), Box Hill Institute and Kangan Institute (Richmond campus).

4. **EARLY OFFER ‘ASPIRE’ PROGRAM AT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY** – The Aspire program, launched in 2014, saw 1,100 students receive early offers for courses at La Trobe for 2015. Many students work hard to make positive changes in their schools and communities through volunteering, and La Trobe wants to recognise these efforts. La Trobe has announced a working partnership with the Country Fire Authority and the Duke of Edinburgh program. These partnerships reflect the desire of La Trobe to collaborate with people and organisations that share the vision of making a positive difference, and will help recognise the impact students are making in their communities. More information about the Aspire program can be found on the La Trobe website. Online applications opened on Monday 1 June. See: www.latrobe.edu.au, search Aspire program.

5. **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (ACU)** has six campuses, two of which are in Victoria, in Melbourne (Fitzroy) and in Ballarat. It has over 33,000 students nationally, with over 10,000 in Melbourne. It offers
higher education courses and VET courses (through ACUcom).
In 2016 some new higher education degrees will be on offer. From 2016 the Bachelor of Biomedical Science will be offered in double degrees with B. Applied Public Health, B Laws and B. Business Administration. These will give students with broad interests the opportunity to study those interests, while potentially increasing career opportunities.
From 2016 the B. Exercise and Sports Science degree will be a pathway to the post graduate Masters in Clinical Exercise Physiology and Masters in High Performance in Sport. The former B. Sport and Health Science will be replaced with the B. Physical Activity and Health Science. This will be a pathway to the Masters in Teaching, or to the two Masters programs available from the B. Exercise and Sport Science (above).
As noted in a previous edition, ACU will offer the B. Physiotherapy at the Ballarat campus in 2017. Prerequisites are at least 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English and a study score of at least 25 in one of biology, chemistry or physics (to be confirmed). NOTE: EAL refers to English as an Additional Language (this usually relates to international students).
ACU offers the Early Achievers Program (EAP), recognising that students have more to offer than academic results. ACU will consider contributions made to the community through school or workplace, community organisations and cultural and/or religious groups. Applications open: Mon 19 August. See: www.acu.edu.au/early-achievers.

6. PUBLIC HEALTH CAREERS NIGHT - This is a great opportunity to get tips and advice from those already working in the field. The evening will consist of short presentations about the careers of various speakers, followed by a panel discussion and question time. The evening is put on by the Public Health Association of Australia, the Australian Health Promotion Association and the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine. When: 5.00-7.30pm, Mon 15 June; Where: Auditorium, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, 792 Elizabeth St, Melbourne; Registration/Information: www.phcareers.eventzilla.net.

7. BOX HILL INSTITUTE’S CERTIFICATE IV IN DISABILITY – Box Hill has partnered with AMAZE Victoria to co-deliver the Certificate IV in Disability. It is the only course that offers the Support individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder unit, an area which is growing in the industry. Negotiations are also in process to offer students the opportunity to undertake Sign Language (Auslan) Level 1 as a part of this course. The course provides access to industry, guest speakers and targeted skills development sessions (eg The Road to Empowerment – drama therapy techniques). The course is offered 2 full days per week. Job placement in the industry is high for graduates.

8. OBTAINING AN APPRENTICESHIP – Well and truly gone are the days when a 15 year old could easily obtain an apprenticeship. The employer would assist with transport to the work site, would teach the apprentice from scratch, and the apprentice would often leave school with little idea of what the trade involved. Nowadays, employers generally prefer the new apprentice to have completed Year 12 (either VCE or VCAL), be at least 18 years old, with a driver’s licence and a vehicle, and to have completed a pre-apprenticeship in the trade involved. Sometimes the apprentice will have completed the pre-apprenticeship at school in a VET program (eg VET Building and Construction), or alternatively they will have completed it at a VET provider after completing Year 12 (taking about four months). Pre-apprenticeship courses are available in many trades such as automotive, carpentry, electrotechnology, furniture making and plumbing.
Once these requirements have been met, the would-be apprentice must find an employer willing to take them on to complete the apprenticeship. These can sometimes be found among friends, relatives, sports associates and so on. Alternatively, Group Training Companies employ many apprentices. See: www.grouptraining.com.au. It is also interesting to note that many apprentices these days are well over 18 years; they are quite commonly well into their 20’s, after leaving another career.