Welcome to all of our new international students on campus as well as our returning students. We hope you enjoy this newsletter edition which gives lots of information about events and activities planned over the coming weeks not just on campus but around Ballarat. The International Student Support office is located in the Albert Coates Building, above the Hub. U117. Our door is always open – so call in if you have any problems or just want to say hi! We hope you enjoy your FedUni experience in 2015!

Kate & Bek
(International Student Support team)

Welcome

CHAT CLUB
Every Friday
11-12pm
Come and practice your English and indulge in FREE morning tea

February/March Important dates
18th February - International new student orientation
19th February - 1st March - Chinese New Year
20th February - World Harmony Day
23rd - 28th February - FedUni Orientation week
1st March - Clean up Australia Day
9th March - Labour Day (Long weekend)
31st March - Census Date

Make sure you like us on facebook for upcoming events, prizes and all things International!

https://www.facebook.com/FedUniInternationalStudents
**Murder Mystery Night**

‘A Knight to die for’
Kryal Castle

Journey throughout the Kryal Castle walls to question suspects, discover clues and assist the High Inquisitor and solve the murder before the evidence runs cold.

Murder Mystery Nights includes a 3-course dinner glass of mead on arrival.

Cost: $79

Time: 7:45pm

Location: Kryal Castle, 121 Forbes Road, Leigh Creek

Ph: (03) 5334 7388

www.kryalcastle.com.au

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**Do I need car insurance?**

YES, in Australia if you cause an accident while driving your car – **YOU** have to pay to have the other person’s car repaired. Insurance coverage such as Third Party Property, Fire & Theft insurance is essential as it protects the other person’s property and means that you do not have to pay repair bills which may come to many thousands of dollars.

**How much is the excess?**

Excesses can range from $500 upwards depending on the company that you insure with. It is always a good idea to shop around and find the best deal for you.

For more information about what you need to know before buying a used car, go to this link: Buying a used car - Consumer Affairs Victoria; and insurance Car insurance - Consumer Affairs Victoria

**Car Insurance - It is necessary!**

**What is Third Party, Fire & Theft insurance?**

This type of insurance covers you for damage you cause to someone else’s car or property, as well providing additional fire and theft protection for your own car.

**What is the excess charge?**

Excess charge is an amount of money you are required to pay upfront towards a claim you make on your car insurance policy. This amount is generally less than what it would cost to repair the damage to another vehicle or property in an accident.

**Why are we telling you this?**

Last year, International students in Ballarat had to find thousands of dollars to cover the cost of damage to other people’s cars. Avoid this distress and embarrassment - get car insurance!
As an international student studying in Australia, it is very important that you are on the correct visa and visa subclass and that you are aware of the date that your visa expires. If your visa is going to expire and you are still studying, you must apply for a new student visa before it expires, not after it has already expired.

For most students, this can be done online through the Department of Immigration and Border Protection website.

For more information on visas and the conditions attached, please see the Department of Immigration and Border Protection website.

www.immi.gov.au
Volunteering is worth more annually to the Australian economy than the entire mining industry (Over $200bn), but the word can often conjure up images that really don’t appeal to everyone. Picking up litter and serving tea to the elderly are incredibly important contributions to society, but there is a lot more to volunteering and community impact than that.

What about:

- Organising (or performing at) a charity music festival?
- Joining (or starting) a march or protest about something you feel is unfair?
- Teaching a friend to cook or change a tyre.

All these things make the world a better place and we want you to think about the ways in which you can have an impact on society during 2015. We’re asking all FedUni students and staff to pledge to do something new this year - to take action (big or small) that benefits others. If you’d like to take the pledge, grab a slip, fill it in, cut it out and drop it into the box outside the Student Experience Office (Above the Hub)

Or if just prefer to do it online: just take a photo/scan & e-mail to L.icely@federation.edu.au or visit http://bit.ly/FedTakeThePledge

We’ll then get in touch to let you know what support is available for you through the Leadership & Volunteer Program (With zero commitment/pressure to sign up!)
My name is Sufiyan Memon. I’m from Mumbai, India; the land of Bollywood and authentic spicy food. I came to the city of gold, Ballarat, in 2012 to pursue Master of Commerce (Professional Accounting) at Federation University Australia, formerly known as University of Ballarat.

My career journey so far has been exciting. My first job in Australia was at Sovereign Hill Museum as a Mine Guide. I still work there on the weekends. This job has helped me improve my communication skills; get familiar with local slang, and has provided me with an opportunity to learn about Australian culture and traditions. Recently, I have accepted an accounting position at a local firm to utilize the knowledge of accounting that I have gained as a graduate of Ballarat.

The main things that I believe helped me get the job as an Accounting graduate were confidence, dedication, communication, and excellent academic records.

How did FedUni Careers & Employment help?

Career Service (Career Hub) at Fed. Uni. is one of the great ways to look for any job. When I first started looking for a temporary job, career hub website was fairly new. It has grown since and they have a lot more employers than two years ago.

Counsellors working at Career Service are well trained and they give students a good guidance on job search, cover letter, resumes, and selection criteria, etc. They helped me a lot with job search, guiding me how to write cover letter, resume, and selection criteria as and when required. Sometimes they provide additional information regarding the employer which will give you an edge over other applicants. This is one of the best services at Fed Uni. hence make the best use of it.

My advice to all the students is to give their best, study hard, and do not quit. You will have rejections but each rejection is a step forward and will push you closer to achieving your desired and well-deserve success. I recommend starting with smaller firms because there is better learning opportunities compared to a large corporation. Get the experience which will give you a strong foundation in your field of expertise and later on determine the shape of your career. Keep knocking on doors, build your network, and use the career service available at the university.

As Eddie Cantor said, “It takes 20 years of hard work to become an overnight success.” So, keep trying, believe in yourself, have patience, and you’ll have it.

Good luck!

Sufiyan – FedUni International graduate
STUDY SKILLS

The Study Skills Website is your place to find a great range of information on referencing, writing assessment and other aspects that may help you with your study here at university. Topics include essays, exams, library basics, academic writing and how to get it right, how to reference including some of the different formats and managing your time plus a huge amount more! The information is presented in an easy to read format and includes some great short video clips sharing student’s thoughts and tips on study.

http://studyskills.federation.edu.au

ASK BLOG:
askstudents.edublogs.org
Subscribe to the blog on the site, so that updates are regularly sent to your email.
Sahaj Marg, meaning the Natural Path, takes us on a journey into the heart, towards the highest expression of our inner self.

It is a refined and simplified form of raja yoga that includes three elements - meditation, cleaning and prayer. These elements combine to create a complete and effective system, bringing inner transformation.

Meditation trains the mind to look within, to discover the Self. This is facilitated by an ancient yogic technique called pranahuti or transmission. Starting the day with meditation brings a different quality to the whole day. The practice of cleaning in the evening removes impressions and complexities - the impediments on our inner journey - in much the same way that taking a bath cleans the body. Cleaning results in lightness of being and simplicity.

Prayer creates an attitude of wonder and acceptance, and deepens our inner awareness of the Self. Sahaj Marg is especially suited to modern-day family and working life. It is in the family that human values are perfected, complementing the spiritual practice.

The teacher, also known as the guru, is at the heart of Sahaj Marg. The present teacher is Shri Kamlesh D. Patel. He is an example of someone who balances the material and spiritual aspects of life, having mastered both and integrated them.

Sahaj Marg can best be known through practical, personal experience. We invite you to try it sincerely for a few months to test its efficacy in your own life.

Contact Vijaya T 0497 799 871 Ballarat
Harsh K 0425 482 947 Melbourne
Ref: http://www.sahajmarg.org/seeker/practice

A research study is being conducted by a Doctoral student with the Faculty of Education and Arts, Federation University Australia. This research aims to explore second language development in the study abroad context. A recent pilot study associated with this project found that the students involved were able to reflect on how they were learning English and reported improved English communication skills.

Are you from Mainland China?
Are you over 18 years of age?
Have you recently enrolled in a Business degree at Federation University Australia?
If you answered YES to these questions then you could be just the person we are looking for!

If you are interested please contact:
Professor Georgina Tsolidis,
School of Education and Arts
5327 9721 or email: g.tsolidis@federation.edu.au
Grampians Getaway

DATE: 18th — 19th April 2015

TIME: Bus will depart Mount Helen campus at 8am on 18th April and return 4pm on the 19th April

LOCATION: Halls Gap — Grampians, Victoria (approx. 2 hours from Ballarat)


COST: Students to pay for own accommodation ($30). Transport and some meals will be supplied.

GET INVOLVED
MEET NEW FRIENDS
MAKE SOME MEMORIES

Lounge Lizards games afternoon

Date: 19th March
Time: 2-5pm
Where: Student Lounge, Albert Coates Building