1. SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ACCOUNTANT? Becoming an accountant includes completing a major in accounting at university. Several degrees offer accounting ‘majors’ such as a Bachelor of Accounting, a Bachelor of Business or a Bachelor of Commerce (check the majors available in any degree you consider, to see that it has the majors that interest you). Further exams after completion of university study can lead on to registration as a chartered accountant. It is also possible to study for a Diploma in Accounting at a TAFE Institute, however, to become an accountant you would need to complete university-level study. Often two years at TAFE are equivalent to one year at university.

WHAT ATAR WILL I NEED TO ACCESS A COURSE? ATARs always depend on the number of places available in the course, the number of applicants for those places, and the ATARs of those applicants. For the 2011-2012 period, the following are examples:

- Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Melbourne: 95.45
- Bachelor of Commerce at Monash University (Clayton): 90.30; Bachelor of Business (Accounting)(Caulfield): 83.50
- Bachelor of Accounting at RMIT: 84.15
- Bachelor of Commerce at Deakin Melb: 75.95

- Bachelor of Accounting at La Trobe (Bundoora): 70.15
- Bachelor of Accounting at Swinburne (Hawthorn): 68.30; (Lilydale): 51.40
- Bachelor of Accounting at Victoria Uni (Footscray Park): 57.50

*NOTE: Monash University offers a SCHOLARSHIP in a Bachelor of Accounting at the Clayton campus. It is a joint industry-university initiative involving industry sponsored scholarships. Selection uses the ATAR, a form to be completed and an interview. The program includes periods of industry-based learning.

* ACCOUNTING CADETSHIPS A number of large accounting firms offer CADETSHIPS. These provide the opportunity to gain practical experience while studying at university. For example, at Ernst & Young cadets work full-time and study part-time for two years, then two years is undertaken full-time at university. On successful completion of the degree, cadets have the opportunity to return to full-time employment with Ernst & Young at a higher level than their graduating peers.

Applications for these cadetships open on 21 May at www.ey.com/au/careers. EY is holding an information session 5.30-7.30pm, on 7 and 13 June where you can find out more; Where: 8 Exhibition St, Melbourne. Several other firms also offer cadetships – some to check out are at KPMG, Deloitte, PriceWaterhouse Coopers, for example.

2. DO YOU WANT TO WORK WITH ANIMALS? Careers working with animals are many and varied, from veterinary surgeon, to farmer, to animal carer and so many more. Melbourne University offers the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine which is completed following a science degree with the required prerequisites subjects having been undertaken. This is the only course in Victoria offering qualifications to work as a vet.

However, in addition to this qualification, other university degrees are available:

- Deakin University offers the Bachelor of Zoology and Animal Science and the Bachelor of Wildlife and Conservation Biology
La Trobe University offers the B. Animal and Veterinary Biosciences, the B. Agricultural Science and the B. Wildlife and Conservation Biology.

Melbourne University offers the B. Agriculture.

Monash University offers the B. Veterinary Biosciences.

In addition, many university science degrees offer zoology as a major study.

Some TAFE Institutes offer a range of courses such as animal care and management, animal studies, animal technology, companion animal services, horse management and equine studies.

For those interested in animal studies, RSPCA in conjunction with Victoria University is offering the Cert 2 in Animal Studies in a learning environment developed to provide young people wanting to work in animal care to improve skills and knowledge with no disruption to normal school commitments. The course takes 10 weeks with practical sessions and guaranteed work placements, held at RSPCA Burwood East. Applications for the latest course close on 14th May (others to follow). See: http://www.rspcavic.org/services/education/cert-ii/.

3. BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS AND BACHELOR OF MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE – The Bachelor of Fine Arts is offered at the Southbank campus, 234 St Kilda Rd, while the Bachelor of Music is offered at the Parkville campus. Currently the Bachelor of Fine Arts covers Contemporary Music, Dance, Film and Television, Music Theatre, Production, Theatre Practice and Visual Arts. Find out more information and how to apply at: www.vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/future_students.

4. VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NEWS – OPEN DAY COMING UP SOON! VU Open Day is on Sunday 24 June (earlier than most). Open Day will give you a taste of what VU student life is like, a chance to be taken on a campus tour and provide the opportunity to chat to lecturers and current students. With student bands playing, it should be a fun-filled event. When: 10am-4pm.